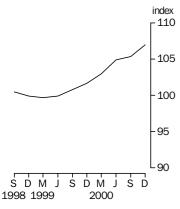


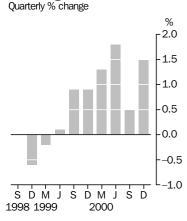
STAGE OF PRODUCTION PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) MON 22 JAN 2001

Final Stage Base: 1998-99 = 100.0



Final Stage



 For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information Service on 1300 135 070 or Lee Taylor on Canberra 02 6252 8100.

DECEMBER QTR KEY FIGURES

STAGE OF PRODUCTION	% change Sep Qtr 2000 to Dec Qtr 2000	% change Dec Qtr 1999 to Dec Qtr 2000
Final (Stage 3) commodities (excl exports)	1.5	5.2
Domestic	0.7	4.1
Imports	5.6	10.6
Intermediate (Stage 2) commodities	2.6	8.4
Domestic	1.7	6.4
Imports	8.5	21.8
Preliminary (Stage 1) commodities	2.9	10.3
Domestic	1.9	7.6
Imports	8.8	27.1

DECEMBER QTR KEY POINTS

FINAL (STAGE 3) COMMODITIES

- The Final (Stage 3) index rose by 1.5% in the December quarter primarily due to increases in the prices of imported commodities.
- The Final (Stage 3) Imports index rose 5.6% with price increases across all industries due to the depreciation of the Australian dollar against the major trading currencies.
- The Final (Stage 3) Domestic index rose 0.7% with slight increases in the prices of food, general construction and machinery & equipment.

INTERMEDIATE (STAGE 2) COMMODITIES

- The Intermediate (Stage 2) index rose 2.6% in the December quarter, largely as a result of price rises for imported commodities.
- The Intermediate (Stage 2) Imports index rose 8.5%. This was mainly attributable to price increases for crude oil and petroleum products, and machinery and equipment.
- The Domestic component of the Intermediate (Stage 2) index rose 1.7% mainly due to price increases for crude oil and petroleum products, agricultural products, and property and business services.

PRELIMINARY (STAGE 1) COMMODITIES

- The Preliminary (Stage 1) index rose 2.9% in the December quarter, mainly due to price increases in imported commodities.
- The Imported component of the Preliminary (Stage 1) index rose 8.8%, due mainly to price increases for crude oil and petroleum products, and machinery and equipment.
- The Preliminary (Stage 1) Domestic index rose 1.9% mainly due to price increases for crude oil and petroleum products, and property and business services.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	ISSUE (Quarter)	RELEASE DATE
	March 2001	20 April 2001
RELATED STATISTICS	For more information al	pout statistics in this publication and the availability of related
	unpublished statistics, c	ontact Lee Taylor on fax (02) 6252 7060, or email
	lee.taylor@abs.gov.au	
	• • • • • • • • • • • •	
ABBREVIATIONS		
	ANZSIC Australian ar	nd New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
	c.i.f. cost, insurar	nce and freight
	f.o.b. free on boar	d
	n.e.c. not elsewhe	re classified

Dennis Trewin Australian Statistician

	PRELIMIN	ARY	• • • • •	INTERMED	DIATE	••••	FINAL(b)		
Period	Domestic	Imports	Total	Domestic	Imports	Total	Domestic	Imports	Total
• • • • • • • • • • •	•••••	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •				• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	
1998–99	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1999–00	104.1	107.1	104.5	103.4	104.4	103.6	104.3	95.7	102.6
1998									
September	100.9	103.3	101.2	100.6	102.8	100.9	99.7	103.5	100.5
December	100.2	101.0	100.3	100.0	101.2	100.2	99.5	101.7	99.9
1999									
March	98.7	97.6	98.6	99.3	98.4	99.2	99.9	99.2	99.7
June	100.2	98.2	99.9	100.1	97.6	99.8	100.9	95.6	99.9
September	102.1	100.1	101.8	101.5	99.1	101.2	102.4	94.2	100.8
December	103.4	103.6	103.4	102.7	101.9	102.6	103.3	95.0	101.7
2000									
March	104.1	108.6	104.7	103.7	105.1	103.9	105.0	94.7	103.0
June	106.9	116.2	108.2	105.7	111.6	106.5	106.4	98.9	104.9
September	109.2	121.0	110.8	107.5	114.4	108.4	106.8	99.5	105.4
December	111.3	131.7	114.0	109.3	124.1	111.2	107.5	105.1	107.0

(a) Base of each index: 1998-99=100.0.

(b) Excluding exports.

.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE, by Stage and Source

Period	Domestic	Imports	Total	Domestic	Imports	Total	Domestic	Imports	Tota
• • • • • • • • • • •		PERCEN	TAGE CI	HANGE FR	OM PRE	VIOUS Y	EAR		• • • • •
1998–99									
1999–00	4.1	7.1	4.5	3.4	4.4	3.6	4.3	-4.3	2
									• • • • •
	ł	PERCENT	AGE CH	ANGE FRO	OM PREV	IOUS PE	RIOD		
1998									
September									
December 1999	-0.7	-2.2	-0.9	-0.6	-1.6	-0.7	-0.2	-1.7	-C
March	-1.5	-3.4	-1.7	-0.7	-2.8	-1.0	0.4	-2.5	-0
June	1.5	0.6	1.3	0.8	-0.8	0.6	1.0	-3.6	(
September	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5	-1.5	(
December	1.3	3.5	1.6	1.2	2.8	1.4	0.9	0.8	(
2000									
March	0.7	4.8	1.3	1.0	3.1	1.3	1.6	-0.3	1
June	2.7	7.0	3.3	1.9	6.2	2.5	1.3	4.4	2
September	2.2	4.1	2.4	1.7	2.5	1.8	0.4	0.6	(
December	1.9	8.8	2.9	1.7	8.5	2.6	0.7	5.6	1
									• • • •
	INTAGE (CHANGE	FROM C	ORRESPO	NDING F	PERIOD	OF PREVIC	JUS YEAR	R
1998									
September			••			••		••	
December 1999	••	••	••		• •	••		••	
March									
June	••					• •		••	
September	 1.2	 -3.1	 0.6	 0.9	 –3.6	 0.3	 2.7	 -9.0	(
December	3.2	2.6	3.1	2.7	-3.0	2.4	3.8	-5.0 -6.6	
2000	0.2	2.0	0.1	2.1	0.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	-
March	5.5	11.3	6.2	4.4	6.8	4.7	5.1	-4.5	3
June	6.7	18.3	8.3	5.6	14.3	6.7	5.5	3.5	Ę
September	7.0	20.9	8.8	5.9	15.4	7.1	4.3	5.6	4
December	7.6	27.1	10.3	6.4	21.8	8.4	4.1	10.6	F

.. not applicable

(a) Excluding exports.

DOMESTIC(b) IMPORTS TOTAL(b) Total Period Consumer Capital Consumer Capital Total Consumer Capital Total 1998-99 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 1999-00 103.6 104.9 104.3 96.6 94.6 95.7 102.2 103.0 102.6 1998 September 100.5 98.9 99.7 102.9 104.1 103.5 101.0 99.9 100.5 December 99.6 99.4 102.2 99.9 99.9 99.5 101.2 101.7 99.9 1999 March 99.6 100.1 99.9 99.1 99.4 99.2 99.5 99.9 99.7 100.2 101.6 100.9 96.7 94.4 95.6 99.5 100.3 99.9 June September 102.2 102.5 102.4 95.2 93.2 94.2 100.8 100.8 100.8 December 102.6 104.1 103.3 95.8 94.0 95.0 101.2 102.2 101.7 2000 104.0 105.9 105.0 95.8 93.4 94.7 102.4 103.6 103.0 March 105.7 97.9 98.9 104.5 104.9 107.1 106.4 99.7 105.3 June September 106.2 107.4 106.8 101.4 97.3 99.5 105.3 105.5 105.4 December 106.7 108.3 107.5 106.6 103.3 106.7 107.4 107.0 105.1

(a) Base of each index: 1998-99=100.0.

(b) Excluding exports.

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PERCENTAGE CHANGE, Final Commodities—by Source & Destination

	DOMESTIC								
Period	Consumer	Capital	Total	Consumer	Capital	Total	Consumer	Capital	Tota
• • • • • • • • • •		PERCE	ENTAGE	CHANGE FR	OM PREV	IOUS YE	A R		• • • • •
1998–99									
1999–00	3.6	4.9	4.3	-3.4	-5.4	-4.3	2.2	3.0	2.
• • • • • • • • • •				HANGE FRO		AND DED			• • • • •
		TERCE	IAUL C			JUSILI	100		
1998									
September December	 –0.9	 0.5	 -0.2	-1.7	 –1.8	 –1.7	 –1.1		-0
1999	-0.9	0.5	-0.2	-1.7	-1.0	-1.7	-1.1	_	-0
March	_	0.7	0.4	-2.1	-2.7	-2.5	-0.4	_	-0
June	0.6	1.5	1.0	-2.4	-5.0	-3.6	_	0.4	0
September	2.0	0.9	1.5	-1.6	-1.3	-1.5	1.3	0.5	0
December	0.4	1.6	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.4	1.4	0
2000									
March	1.4	1.7	1.6	_	-0.6	-0.3	1.2	1.4	1
June	1.6	1.1	1.3	4.1	4.8	4.4	2.1	1.6	1
September	0.5	0.3	0.4	1.7	-0.6	0.6	0.8	0.2	0
December	0.5	0.8	0.7	5.1	6.2	5.6	1.3	1.8	1
DFD		СНАМС		CORRESPO				S VEAD	• • • • •
L998	ULNIAGL	UNANG		OURREOF OF			TREVIOU	0 ILAN	
September									
December									
L999									
March									
June								••	
September	1.7	3.6	2.7	-7.5	-10.5	-9.0	-0.2	0.9	0
December	3.0	4.7	3.8	-5.3	-8.0	-6.6	1.3	2.3	1
2000 Marab	A A	FO	E 1	2.2	6.0	4 5		2.7	2
March	4.4 5.5	5.8 5.4	5.1 5.5	-3.3 3.1	-6.0 3.7	-4.5 3.5	2.9 5.0	3.7 5.0	3 5
June September	5.5 3.9	5.4 4.8	5.5 4.3	6.5	3.7 4.4	3.5 5.6	5.0 4.5	5.0 4.7	5
December	3.9 4.0	4.8 4.0	4.3 4.1	11.3	4.4 9.9	5.6 10.6	4.5 5.4	4.7 5.1	4 5

.. not applicable

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Excluding exports.

INDEX NUMBERS(a), Final Commodities—by Source & Destination: Including Exports

	DOMESTIC		••••	• • • • • •	IMPORTS	••••	••••	TOTAL .		• • • • • • •
Period	Consumer	Capital	Exports	Total (incl. exports)	Consumer	Capital	Total	Consumer	Capital	Total (incl. exports)
		••••			• • • • • • • • • •				• • • • • • • •	
1998–99 1999–00	100.0 103.6	100.0 104.9	100.0 103.4	100.0 104.0	100.0 96.6	100.0 94.6	100.0 95.7	100.0 102.2	100.0 103.0	100.0 102.8
1998	105.0	104.9	103.4	104.0	30.0	54.0	33.1	102.2	103.0	102.8
September	100.5	98.9	105.2	101.3	102.9	104.1	103.5	101.0	99.9	101.6
December	99.6	99.4	100.8	99.9	101.2	102.2	101.7	99.9	99.9	100.1
1999										
March	99.6	100.1	98.0	99.3	99.1	99.4	99.2	99.5	99.9	99.3
June	100.2	101.6	96.0	99.5	96.7	94.4	95.6	99.5	100.3	98.9
September	102.2	102.5	96.9	100.8	95.2	93.2	94.2	100.8	100.8	99.8
December	102.6	104.1	101.0	102.7	95.8	94.0	95.0	101.2	102.2	101.5
2000										
March	104.0	105.9	105.0	105.0	95.8	93.4	94.7	102.4	103.6	103.5
June	105.7	107.1	110.7	107.6	99.7	97.9	98.9	104.5	105.3	106.3
September	106.2	107.4	112.6	108.5	101.4	97.3	99.5	105.3	105.5	107.1
December	106.7	108.3	119.7	111.0	106.6	103.3	105.1	106.7	107.4	110.1
• • • • • • • • • • •		• • • • • • •			• • • • • • • • • •					

(a) Base of each index: 1998-99=100.0.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE, Final Commodities—by Source & Stage: Including Exports

Period	Consumer	Capital	Exports	Total (incl. exports)	Consumer	Capital	Total	Consumer	Capital	Total (incl. export
		Р	ERCENTA	GE CHAN	NGE FROM	PREVIOUS	S YEAR			
.998–99 .999–00	 3.6	 4.9	 3.4	 4.0	-3.4	 -5.4	-4.3	 2.2	 3.0	2
• • • • • • • • • •		•••••		• • • • • • • •		• • • • • • • •		•••••		
		PE	RCENTAG	GE CHANO	GE FROM P	REVIOUS	PERIOD			
.998										
September										
December	-0.9	0.5	-4.2	-1.4	-1.7	-1.8	-1.7	-1.1	—	-1
.999		0.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4		
March		0.7	-2.8	-0.6	-2.1	-2.7	-2.5	-0.4		-(
June September	0.6 2.0	1.5 0.9	-2.0 0.9	0.2 1.3	-2.4 -1.6	-5.0 -1.3	-3.6 -1.5	 1.3	0.4 0.5) (
December	2.0 0.4	0.9 1.6	0.9 4.2	1.3	-1.8 0.6	-1.3 0.9	-1.5 0.8	1.3 0.4	0.5 1.4	((
000	0.4	1.0	4.2	1.9	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.4	1.4	-
March	1.4	1.7	4.0	2.2		-0.6	-0.3	1.2	1.4	2
June	1.6	1.1	5.4	2.5	4.1	4.8	4.4	2.1	1.6	2
September	0.5	0.3	1.7	0.8	1.7	-0.6	0.6	0.8	0.2	(
December	0.5	0.8	6.3	2.3	5.1	6.2	5.6	1.3	1.8	2
	PERCENTA	AGE CH	ANGE FF	ROM COR	RESPONDIN	IG PERIO	D OF PR	EVIOUS Y	EAR	
998										
September										
December										
.999										
March										
June										
September	1.7	3.6	-7.9	-0.5	-7.5	-10.5	-9.0	-0.2	0.9	-1
December	3.0	4.7	0.2	2.8	-5.3	-8.0	-6.6	1.3	2.3	2
000										
March	4.4	5.8	7.1	5.7	-3.3	-6.0	-4.5	2.9	3.7	4
June	5.5	5.4	15.3	8.1	3.1	3.7	3.5	5.0	5.0	7
September	3.9	4.8	16.2	7.6	6.5	4.4	5.6	4.5	4.7	7

. . not applicable

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- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION	1 This publication presents producer price index numbers for the supply of commodities to the Australian economy in a "stage of production" (SOP) framework. As such, the indexes cover both domestically produced and imported commodities, individually and in aggregate. They represent an alternative arrangement of largely existing ABS producer price index series. The indexes are calculated on the reference base 1998-99 = 100.0.
	2 These indexes are compiled within the statistical framework outlined in the 1997 ABS <i>Information Paper: An Analytical Framework for Price Indexes in Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6421.0) and are designed to support the study of inflation.
THE SOP CONCEPT	 3 A more detailed explanation of the SOP concept than that provided in this publication is contained in the ABS <i>Information Paper: Producer Price Index Developments</i> (Cat. no. 6422.0), released on 25 March 1999. The index numbers in this current publication cannot be directly compared with the experimental index numbers in the Information Paper because: the coverage of the series has been expanded to include selected service and construction industries (see paragraphs 14 and 15); and the weighting patterns of the indexes have been updated to 1994-95 and the reference base of the indexes has been updated to 1998-99 = 100.0. 4 The indexes are compiled using the SOP concept. Under this concept flows of commodities are categorised according to their economic destination on a sequential basis along the production chain. The basis for the categorisation is the the table of 100 (20). The second construction is the table of 100 (20). The second construction is the table of 100 (20).
	the Australian Input-Output tables (1994-95). The primary categorisation is between final commodities (i.e. commodities destined for final consumption, capital formation or export) and non-final commodities (i.e. commodities that flow into intermediate consumption for further processing).
	5 This initial breakdown of the commodity flows into final and non-final represents a useful economic dissection of producers' transactions. However, the non-final commodities can flow into the production of both final and other non-final commodities. Therefore, to aid analysis, the non-final commodity flows have been divided on a sequential basis between Stage 1 (or preliminary) commodities and Stage 2 (or intermediate) commodities as illustrated below. This approach results in three separate stages of production.
	Non-final
	Stage 1 Preliminary → Stage 2 Intermediate → Stage 3 Final

6 In order to avoid multiple counting of transactions, the three stages are not aggregated.

7 Under this framework, preliminary (Stage 1) commodities are used in the production of intermediate (Stage 2) commodities; in turn intermediate (Stage 2) commodities flow into the production of final (Stage 3) commodities.

8 The framework allows for analyses of price change as commodities flow through production processes. Price changes for earlier stages of production may be indicators of possible future price changes for later stages.

9 The ABS has adopted a transaction flow approach in disaggregating commodity supply into the various production stages. This approach means that the assignment of a commodity to a stage is based on the proximity of its use in final demand.

TRANSACTION FLOW

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

TRANSACTION FLOW APPROACH continued	10 Alternative <i>degree of fabrication</i> or <i>principal destination</i> approaches are employed by statistical agencies in some other countries. These approaches result in the allocation of particular commodities to one, and only one, stage. This would present particular problems for Australia due to the openness of the economy, with exports (and imports) equivalent to about 20% of gross domestic product. Commodities such as wheat, wool, and iron ore are exported in large volumes as well as being further processed locally. The allocation of such commodities to a single stage would, by necessity, be very arbitrary.
	11 Adopting the transaction flow approach means, for example, that exported wheat and domestically used wheat are treated as different commodities for index construction purposes. Under this approach commodity transactions can therefore be allocated to more than one stage. Exported wheat is treated as a Final (Stage 3) commodity while wheat used domestically to make the flour used in bread production is considered to be a Preliminary (Stage 1) commodity. Similarly, commodities such as energy and containers appear under all three categories.
SCOPE AND COVERAGE	12 Producer price indexes conventionally relate to the output of domestic industries, at basic prices, either inclusive or exclusive of exports. As the main focus is on domestic inflation, exports are excluded from the "headline" series, "Final (Stage 3) commodities", as presented in the key figures on the front page and in Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4. Tables 5 and 6 present index series for Final (Stage 3) commodities <i>including</i> exports.
	13 Imports have also been incorporated within the framework, recognising that they represent an important potential source of inflationary pressures.
Services	 14 In concept, the SOP indexes incorporate all flows of goods and services. However, there are limitations on the availability of price indexes for services. Price indexes are available for most Transport and Storage Services (Division I of ANZSIC) and Property and Business Services (Division L of ANZSIC). Accordingly, indexes for these services have been included in the SOP framework. However price series for most Final (Stage 3) consumer services are not currently available on a sufficiently timely basis to allow for their inclusion in the indexes. This has the effect of decreasing the apparent relative weight of consumer items versus capital items in the final stage. It is intended to introduce additional services price series as they become available, along with the consequential weight changes.
Construction	 15 There are similar limitations on the availability of price indexes for Construction (Division E of ANZSIC). Being capital in nature, construction contributes to the Final (Stage 3) index only. Index coverage is currently limited to the output of the following ANZSIC classes: 4111 House construction; 4112 Residential building construction n.e.c.; 4113 Non-residential building construction; 4121 Road and bridge construction. 16 For reasons of data availability the House construction indexes are lagged one quarter. As with services, it is intended to introduce further construction price series as they become available.
COMPOSITION AND WEIGHTS	17 The indexes are fixed weights indexes. The items included in the indexes reflect the values of commodity flows, for both domestic supply and imports, allocated to stages based on an analysis of detailed 1994-95 Input-Output tables.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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continued	The index structures and weighting patterns for the SOP indexes are shown in the June quarter issue of this publication.
PRICE SERIES	 18 The component price series used in compiling the SOP indexes are sourced from other ABS price indexes as follows: Domestically produced series are sourced from: Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industries; Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries; Export Price Index; Consumer Price Index; and Producer Price Indexes for Selected Service Industries. Imported series are sourced from the Import Price Index.
PRICING BASIS	19 In concept the valuation basis of the SOP indexes is basic prices, i.e. prior to the imposition of indirect taxes (less subsidies) on products and any transport and trade margins. However, the use of component series from existing ABS price collections in some cases results in the pricing basis diverging from this ideal. For example, imports are priced on an f.o.b. basis, not c.i.f. (which approximates basic prices).
INDEX NUMBERS	20 Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the relevant quarterly index numbers.
ANALYSIS OF INDEX CHANGES	21 Care should be exercised when interpreting quarter-to-quarter movements in the indexes as short-term movements do not necessarily indicate changes in trend.
COMPARISONS WITH CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	 22 Final (Stage 3) indexes are presented for consumer commodities. It should be noted that this index is not directly comparable with the Consumer Price Index. The two indexes differ significantly in concept and coverage. The major differences are: the pricing basis for the Final (Stage 3) consumer index is basic prices (see paragraph 19 above). The Consumer Price Index, however, measures changes in purchasers' prices, i.e. the actual retail prices paid by households for products, inclusive of taxes on products, such as the GST, and any transport and trade margins. the coverage of the two indexes differs. Currently the Final (Stage 3) consumer index mainly measures changes in the prices of goods; i.e. most services are currently excluded from the index. The CPI covers both goods and services. the indexes have different weighting bases. The weighting pattern for the Final (Stage 3) consumer index is based on the 1994-5 Input-Output tables, while the Consumer Price Index weighting pattern is based on the 1998-99 Household Expenditure Survey.
FURTHER INFORMATION	 23 Further information on recent price index developments in the ABS is presented in the following publications: An Analytical Framework for Price Indexes in Australia (Cat. no. 6421.0) Producer Price Index Developments (Cat. no. 6422.0) (Comprises detailed discussion of Stage of Production concept and detail of selected Service Industries indexes.) Review of the Import Price Index and Export Price Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6424.0) Price Indexes and The New Tax System (Cat. no. 6425.0)
RELATED PUBLICATIONS	 24 Users may also wish to refer to the following Producer Price Index publications, which are available from ABS bookshops: <i>Export Price Index, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6405.0)

EXPLANATORY NOTES continued

RELATED	PUBLICATIONS	

continued

- Import Price Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6414.0)
- Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6407.0)
- Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6408.0)
- Price Index of Copper Materials, Australia (Cat. no. 6410.0)
- Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia (Cat. no. 6411.0)
- Price Indexes of Materials Used in Coal Mining, Australia (Cat. no. 6415.0)
- Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia (Cat. no. 6412.0)
- Producer Price Indexes for Selected Service Industries, Australia (Cat. no. 6423.0)
- **25** Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:
- Balance of Payments and International Investment Position, Australia (Cat no. 5302.0)
- Consumer Price Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6401.0)
- Wage Cost Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6345.0)
- Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0)
- Australian National Accounts: Input-Output Tables (Cat. no. 5209.0)

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27 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Lee Taylor on 02 6252 8100.

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