



DWELLING UNIT COMMENCEMENTS WESTERN AUSTRALIA
REPORTED BY APPROVING AUTHORITIES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) MON 27 JULY 1998

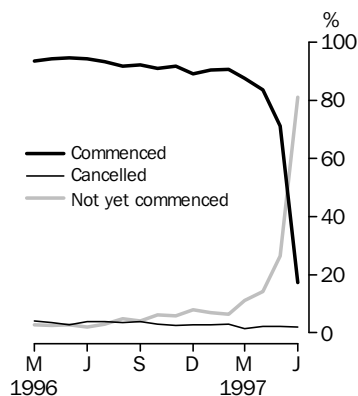
JUNE KEY POINTS

ORIGINAL

- Dwelling commencements numbering 15,925 were recorded for the 1996–97 financial year. This comprised 13,784 houses and 2,141 dwellings in other residential buildings.
- There was greatest activity in the Northern Metropolitan Statistical Subdivision (SSD) with 3,274 dwellings followed by the South West Metropolitan SSD (2,697) and the South East Metropolitan SSD (2,385).
- Major growth areas outside of the Perth Statistical Division were at Mandurah, Busselton and Kalgoorlie/Boulder.
- Between 89.2% and 95.5% of houses approved in any one month of 1995 and 1996 were commenced, whilst cancellations accounted for up to 5.8% of approvals (refer graphs).

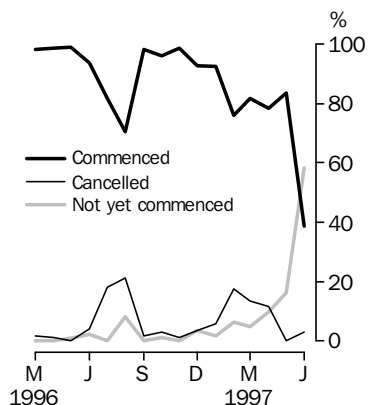
Status of houses approved

At June 1997



Status, other dwelling approved

At June 1997



- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Merv Leaker on Adelaide 08 8237 7585, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

No amendments have been made to commencements data for previously released data prior to July 1996. Any dwellings approved prior to this date that subsequently have been found to have been commenced and not released are included in the value for July 1996.



SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
C	City
S	Shire
T	Town
—	nil or rounded to zero

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Colin Nagle
Regional Director
Western Australia

**TABLE 1— NUMBER OF NEW DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED BY OWNERSHIP
AND TYPE OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDING**

<i>Period</i>	<i>Private sector</i>			<i>Public sector</i>			<i>Total</i>		
	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Other residential buildings</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Other residential buildings</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Other residential buildings</i>	<i>Total</i>
PERTH STATISTICAL DIVISION									
1994-95	10,775	4,160	14,935	259	518	777	11,034	4,678	15,712
1995-96	7,178	2,410	9,588	154	513	667	7,332	2,923	10,255
1996-97	9,489	1,477	10,966	214	185	399	9,703	1,662	11,365
<i>1996—</i>									
March quarter	1,783	652	2,435	42	127	169	1,825	779	2,604
June quarter	1,798	460	2,258	38	194	232	1,836	654	2,490
September quarter	3,355	377	3,732	30	54	84	3,385	431	3,816
December quarter	2,011	303	2,314	62	32	94	2,073	335	2,408
<i>1997—</i>									
March quarter	1,814	466	2,280	68	32	100	1,882	498	2,380
June quarter	2,309	331	2,640	54	67	121	2,363	398	2,761
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
1994-95	15,111	5,164	21,748	448	758	1,172	15,525	5,662	21,187
1995-96	10,802	2,964	13,766	248	723	971	11,050	3,687	14,737
1996-97	13,295	1,759	15,054	489	382	871	13,784	2,141	15,925
<i>1996—</i>									
March quarter	2,797	880	3,677	45	133	178	2,842	1,013	3,855
June quarter	2,751	538	3,289	74	256	330	2,825	794	3,619
September quarter	4,421	449	4,870	106	155	261	4,527	604	5,131
December quarter	2,774	377	3,151	123	73	196	2,897	450	3,347
<i>1997—</i>									
March quarter	2,674	514	3,188	126	64	190	2,800	578	3,378
June quarter	3,426	419	3,845	134	90	224	3,560	509	4,069

TABLE 2— DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED IN STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS, AS AT JUNE 1997

Statistical local area, statistical subdivision and statistical division	Commenced during June qtr 97			Commenced during 96-97			Not yet Commenced (a)		
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total
PERTH STATISTICAL DIVISION									
Cambridge (T)	18	15	33	106	17	123	6	—	6
Claremont (T)	6	—	6	38	7	45	9	—	9
Cottesloe (T)	10	2	12	39	2	41	1	—	1
Mosman Park (T)	19	21	40	77	23	100	5	—	5
Nedlands (C)	29	—	29	132	6	138	14	—	14
Peppermint Grove (S)	1	—	1	3	—	3	1	—	1
Perth (C) — Inner	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Perth (C) — Remainder	1	24	25	12	139	151	—	—	—
Subiaco (C)	15	2	17	45	12	57	6	5	11
Vincent (T)	18	—	18	78	113	191	9	2	11
<i>Central Metropolitan (SSD)</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>530</i>	<i>319</i>	<i>849</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>58</i>
Bassendean (T)	10	11	21	76	15	91	8	—	8
Bayswater (C)	54	5	59	181	14	195	28	2	30
Kalamunda (S)	45	3	48	145	3	148	41	—	41
Mundaring (S)	45	—	45	261	—	261	61	10	71
Swan (S)	268	22	290	1,436	29	1,465	205	8	213
<i>East Metropolitan (SSD)</i>	<i>422</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>463</i>	<i>2,099</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>2,160</i>	<i>343</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>363</i>
Stirling (C) — Central	82	26	108	320	149	469	42	10	52
Stirling (C) — Coastal	71	29	100	267	101	368	88	16	104
Stirling (C) — South-Eastern	16	27	43	66	65	131	8	7	15
Wanneroo (C) — Central Coastal	158	4	162	554	29	583	77	4	81
Wanneroo (C) — North-East	96	—	96	365	4	369	56	—	56
Wanneroo (C) — North-West	127	30	157	443	92	535	83	12	95
Wanneroo (C) — South-East	98	2	100	330	6	336	54	—	54
Wanneroo (C) — South-West	93	61	154	337	146	483	52	4	56
<i>North Metropolitan (SSD)</i>	<i>741</i>	<i>179</i>	<i>920</i>	<i>2,682</i>	<i>592</i>	<i>3,274</i>	<i>460</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>513</i>
Cockburn (C)	165	16	181	680	56	736	115	42	157
East Fremantle (T)	9	—	9	31	23	54	5	—	5
Fremantle (C) — Inner	—	6	6	—	6	6	—	—	—
Fremantle (C) — Remainder	40	39	79	112	96	208	13	—	13
Kwinana (T)	41	—	41	175	—	175	26	—	26
Melville (C)	120	2	122	418	63	481	116	6	122
Rockingham (C)	229	11	240	994	43	1,037	191	10	201
<i>South West Metropolitan (SSD)</i>	<i>604</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>678</i>	<i>2,410</i>	<i>287</i>	<i>2,697</i>	<i>466</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>524</i>
Armadale (C)	47	—	47	171	22	193	18	—	18
Belmont (C)	31	5	36	197	15	212	28	—	28
Canning (C)	129	12	141	541	86	627	115	—	115
Gosnells (C)	156	—	156	697	16	713	150	—	150
Serpentine-Jarrahdale (S)	18	—	18	82	2	84	8	—	8
South Perth (C)	75	21	96	203	132	335	23	9	32
Victoria Park (T)	23	2	25	91	130	221	21	5	26
<i>South East Metropolitan (SSD)</i>	<i>479</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>519</i>	<i>1,982</i>	<i>403</i>	<i>2,385</i>	<i>363</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>377</i>
Total	2,363	398	2,761	9,703	1,662	11,365	1,683	152	1,835

TABLE 2— DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED IN STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS, AS AT JUNE 1997 —continued

Statistical local area, statistical subdivision and statistical division	Commenced during June qtr 97			Commenced during 96-97			Not yet Commenced (a)		
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total
SOUTH WEST STATISTICAL DIVISION									
Boddington (S)	1	—	1	20	4	24	1	—	1
Mandurah (C)	140	23	163	515	79	594	85	—	85
Murray (S)	19	—	19	80	2	82	10	—	10
Waroona (S)	12	—	12	42	—	42	4	—	4
Dale (SSD)	172	23	195	657	85	742	100	—	100
Bunbury (C)	77	—	77	247	14	261	33	—	33
Capel (S)	20	—	20	72	—	72	6	—	6
Collie (S)	6	—	6	16	—	16	3	—	3
Dardanup (S)	44	—	44	135	—	135	15	—	15
Donnybrook-Balingup (S)	5	—	5	23	—	23	8	—	8
Harvey (S)	71	—	71	190	—	190	32	—	32
Preston (SSD)	223	—	223	683	14	697	97	—	97
Augusta-Margaret River (S)	57	—	57	172	6	178	31	—	31
Busselton (S)	110	7	117	400	13	413	95	2	97
Vasse (SSD)	167	7	174	572	19	591	126	2	128
Boyup Brook (S)	1	—	1	12	—	12	1	—	1
Bridgetown-Greenbushes (S)	8	—	8	49	—	49	10	—	10
Manjimup (S)	13	2	15	73	2	75	10	—	10
Nannup (S)	3	—	3	14	—	14	1	—	1
Blackwood (SSD)	25	2	27	148	2	150	22	—	22
Total	587	32	619	2,060	120	2,180	345	2	347
LOWER GREAT SOUTHERN STATISTICAL DIVISION									
Broomehill (S)	2	—	2	4	—	4	2	—	2
Gnowangerup (S)	—	—	—	—	3	3	4	—	4
Jerramungup (S)	3	—	3	8	—	8	—	—	—
Katanning (S)	3	—	3	12	—	12	2	—	2
Kent (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kojonup (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tambellup (S)	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	2
Woodanilling (S)	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pallinup (SSD)	8	—	8	26	3	29	10	—	10
Albany (T)	21	—	21	92	33	125	18	—	18
Albany (S)	28	—	28	105	—	105	14	—	14
Cranbrook (S)	3	—	3	4	—	4	6	—	6
Denmark (S)	20	—	20	74	17	91	12	—	12
Plantagenet (S)	8	—	8	51	—	51	9	—	9
King (SSD)	80	—	80	326	50	376	59	—	59
Total	88	—	88	352	53	405	69	—	69

TABLE 2— DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED IN STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS, AS AT JUNE 1997—continued

Statistical local area, statistical subdivision and statistical division	Commenced during June qtr 97			Commenced during 96-97			Not yet Commenced (a)		
	Other residential		Total	Other residential		Total	Other residential		Total
	Houses	buildings		Houses	buildings		Houses	buildings	
UPPER GREAT SOUTHERN STATISTICAL DIVISION									
Brookton (S)	1	—	1	5	—	5	—	—	—
Cuballing (S)	4	—	4	4	—	4	1	—	1
Dumbleyung (S)	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Narrogin (T)	2	—	2	23	—	23	2	—	2
Narrogin (S)	2	—	2	4	—	4	—	—	—
Pingelly (S)	1	—	1	4	—	4	—	—	—
Wagin (S)	2	—	2	3	—	3	1	—	1
Wandering (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Arthur (S)	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—
Wickepin (S)	1	—	1	3	4	7	2	—	2
Williams (S)	2	—	2	3	—	3	3	—	3
Hotham (SSD)	15	—	15	53	4	57	9	—	9
Corrigin (S)	1	—	1	4	—	4	—	—	—
Kondinin (S)	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Kulin (S)	—	—	—	5	12	17	—	—	—
Lake Grace (S)	2	—	2	7	10	17	—	—	—
Lakes (SSD)	3	—	3	17	22	39	1	—	1
Total	18	—	18	70	26	96	10	—	10
MIDLANDS STATISTICAL DIVISION									
Chittering (S)	9	—	9	41	—	41	9	—	9
Dandaragan (S)	8	—	8	29	—	29	7	2	9
Gingin (S)	23	—	23	78	—	78	21	—	21
Moora (S)	3	—	3	13	—	13	3	—	3
Victoria Plains (S)	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Moore (SSD)	44	—	44	162	—	162	40	2	42
Beverley (S)	5	—	5	16	—	16	7	—	7
Cunderdin (S)	1	—	1	4	—	4	—	—	—
Dalwallinu (S)	—	—	—	4	—	4	2	—	2
Dowerin (S)	4	—	4	7	—	7	1	—	1
Goomalling (S)	1	—	1	4	—	4	—	—	—
Koorda (S)	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Northam (T)	10	—	10	22	3	25	6	—	6
Northam (S)	13	—	13	47	3	50	6	—	6
Quairading (S)	1	—	1	3	—	3	—	—	—
Tammin (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Toodyay (S)	14	—	14	43	—	43	10	—	10
Wongan-Ballidu (S)	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—
Wyalkatchem (S)	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	1
York (S)	11	—	11	34	—	34	—	—	—
Avon (SSD)	61	—	61	189	6	195	33	—	33
Bruce Rock (S)	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Kellerberrin (S)	5	—	5	8	—	8	1	—	1
Merredin (S)	18	—	18	28	—	28	1	—	1
Mount Marshall (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mukinbudin (S)	1	4	5	7	4	11	—	—	—
Narembeen (S)	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Nungarin (S)	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Trayning (S)	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Westonia (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yilgarn (S)	1	—	1	10	—	10	4	—	4
Campion (SSD)	26	4	30	58	4	62	7	—	7
Total	131	4	135	409	10	419	80	2	82

TABLE 2— DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED IN STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS, AS AT JUNE 1997 —continued

Statistical local area, statistical subdivision and statistical division	Commenced during June qtr 97			Commenced during 96-97			Not yet Commenced (a)		
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total
SOUTH EASTERN STATISTICAL DIVISION									
Coolgardie (S)	1	—	1	5	2	7	1	—	1
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (C)	85	29	114	320	96	416	40	6	46
Laverton (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leonora (S)	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—
Menzies (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ngaanyatjarraku (S)	5	—	5	39	—	39	—	—	—
Lefroy (SSD)	91	29	120	365	100	465	41	6	47
Dundas (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Esperance (S)	28	—	28	85	3	88	13	19	32
Ravensthorpe (S)	4	—	4	5	—	5	—	—	—
Johnston (SSD)	32	—	32	90	3	93	13	19	32
Total	123	29	152	455	103	558	54	25	79
CENTRAL STATISTICAL DIVISION									
Carnarvon (S)	—	—	—	7	—	7	2	—	2
Exmouth (S)	17	—	17	25	—	25	2	—	2
Shark Bay (S)	1	—	1	4	—	4	2	2	4
Upper Gascoyne (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gascoyne (SSD)	18	—	18	36	—	36	6	2	8
Cue (S)	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Meekatharra (S)	—	—	—	7	2	9	—	—	—
Mount Magnet (S)	1	—	1	4	—	4	—	—	—
Murchison (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sandstone (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wiluna (S)	—	—	—	2	—	2	3	—	3
Yalgoo (S)	4	—	4	4	—	4	—	—	—
Carnegie (SSD)	5	—	5	18	2	20	3	—	3
Carnamah (S)	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—
Chapman Valley (S)	—	—	—	5	—	5	1	—	1
Coorow (S)	2	—	2	7	—	7	1	—	1
Geraldton (C)	15	30	45	51	64	115	2	—	2
Greenough (S)	38	—	38	142	—	142	22	—	22
Irwin (S)	19	—	19	59	10	69	5	—	5
Mingenew (S)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Morawa (S)	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Mullewa (S)	—	—	—	3	—	3	1	—	1
Northampton (S)	10	—	10	21	6	27	—	—	—
Perenjori (S)	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Three Springs (S)	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Greenough River (SSD)	86	30	116	295	80	375	32	—	32
Total	109	30	139	349	82	431	41	2	43

TABLE 2-DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED IN STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS, AS AT JUNE 1997—continued

Statistical local area, statistical subdivision and statistical division	Commenced during June qtr 97			Commenced during 96-97			Not yet Commenced (a)		
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total
PILBARA STATISTICAL DIVISION									
East Pilbara (S)	—	—	—	10	2	12	—	—	—
Port Hedland (T)	50	8	58	77	14	91	19	—	19
De Grey (SSD)	50	8	58	87	16	103	19	—	19
Ashburton (S)	1	—	1	35	—	35	—	—	—
Roebourne (S)	42	4	46	91	11	102	50	2	52
Fortescue (SSD)	43	4	47	126	11	137	50	2	52
Total	93	12	105	213	27	240	69	2	71
KIMBERLEY STATISTICAL DIVISION									
Halls Creek (S)	10	—	10	39	4	43	8	—	8
Wyndham-East Kimberley (S)	12	4	16	27	29	56	5	—	5
Ord (SSD)	22	4	26	66	33	99	13	—	13
Broome (S)	24	—	24	100	16	116	11	—	11
Derby-West Kimberley (S)	2	—	2	7	9	16	2	—	2
Fitzroy (SSD)	26	—	26	107	25	132	13	—	13
Total	48	4	52	173	58	231	26	—	26
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
Western Australia	3,560	509	4,069	13,784	2,141	15,925	2,377	185	2,562

(a) Dwellings approved since January 1995 and not yet commenced. Excludes cancelled approvals.

TABLE 3 — HOUSES APPROVED BY MONTH OF APPROVAL AND COMMENCEMENT STATUS, AS AT JUNE 1997

<i>Month of approval</i>	<i>Commenced</i>		<i>Cancelled</i>		<i>Not yet commenced</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i> dwellings</i>	<i> percent</i>	<i> dwellings</i>	<i> percent</i>	<i> dwellings</i>	<i> percent</i>	<i> dwellings</i>	<i> percent</i>
<i>1995—</i>								
January	1,038	94.4	57	5.2	5	0.5	1,100	100.0
February	1,115	93.3	69	5.8	11	0.9	1,195	100.0
March	1,181	93.8	64	5.1	14	1.1	1,259	100.0
April	896	94.1	48	5.0	8	0.8	952	100.0
May	1,300	95.1	54	4.0	13	1.0	1,367	100.0
June	1,221	93.9	57	4.4	23	1.8	1,301	100.0
July	822	93.1	49	5.5	12	1.4	883	100.0
August	1,136	95.5	45	3.8	8	0.7	1,189	100.0
September	1,059	95.3	42	3.8	10	0.9	1,111	100.0
October	958	95.0	36	3.6	14	1.4	1,008	100.0
November	1,017	93.5	53	4.9	18	1.7	1,088	100.0
December	779	95.1	30	3.7	10	1.2	819	100.0
<i>1996—</i>								
January	781	94.4	27	3.3	19	2.3	827	100.0
February	1,057	94.8	37	3.3	21	1.9	1,115	100.0
March	1,029	93.5	43	3.9	29	2.6	1,101	100.0
April	869	94.3	31	3.4	22	2.4	922	100.0
May	1,120	94.7	32	2.7	31	2.6	1,183	100.0
June	913	94.5	36	3.7	17	1.8	966	100.0
July	1,086	93.2	44	3.8	35	3.0	1,165	100.0
August	1,041	91.8	40	3.5	53	4.7	1,134	100.0
September	1,022	92.2	42	3.8	44	4.0	1,108	100.0
October	1,053	91.1	33	2.9	70	6.1	1,156	100.0
November	1,078	91.7	28	2.4	69	5.9	1,175	100.0
December	923	89.2	29	2.8	83	8.0	1,035	100.0
<i>1997—</i>								
January	935	90.4	28	2.7	71	6.9	1,034	100.0
February	729	90.8	23	2.9	51	6.4	803	100.0
March	909	87.5	16	1.5	114	11.0	1,039	100.0
April	1,220	83.8	30	2.1	206	14.1	1,456	100.0
May	981	71.3	31	2.3	364	26.5	1,376	100.0
June	198	17.2	21	1.8	932	81.0	1,151	100.0
Total	29,466	89.2	1,175	3.6	2,377	7.2	33,018	100.0

**TABLE 4 — OTHER RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS APPROVED BY MONTH OF APPROVAL AND COMMENCEMENT STATUS,
AS AT JUNE 1997**

<i>Month of approval</i>	<i>Commenced</i>		<i>Cancelled</i>		<i>Not yet commenced</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i> dwellings</i>	<i> percent</i>	<i> dwellings</i>	<i> percent</i>	<i> dwellings</i>	<i> percent</i>	<i> dwellings</i>	<i> percent</i>
<i>1995—</i>								
January	426	98.8	5	1.2	—	—	431	100.0
February	376	98.2	7	1.8	—	—	383	100.0
March	460	92.7	36	7.3	—	—	496	100.0
April	222	100.0	—	—	—	—	222	100.0
May	405	95.1	21	4.9	—	—	426	100.0
June	476	97.3	5	1.0	8	1.6	489	100.0
July	312	98.7	4	1.3	—	—	316	100.0
August	376	94.2	21	5.3	2	0.5	399	100.0
September	280	95.6	11	3.8	2	0.7	293	100.0
October	237	93.7	16	6.3	—	—	253	100.0
November	269	94.1	17	5.9	—	—	286	100.0
December	164	96.5	2	1.2	4	2.4	170	100.0
<i>1996—</i>								
January	368	89.8	42	10.2	—	—	410	100.0
February	316	92.4	17	5.0	9	2.6	342	100.0
March	356	98.3	6	1.7	—	—	362	100.0
April	241	98.8	3	1.2	—	—	244	100.0
May	225	99.1	—	—	2	0.9	227	100.0
June	213	93.8	9	4.0	5	2.2	227	100.0
July	136	81.9	30	18.1	—	—	166	100.0
August	96	70.6	29	21.3	11	8.1	136	100.0
September	125	98.4	2	1.6	—	—	127	100.0
October	196	96.1	6	2.9	2	1.0	204	100.0
November	185	98.9	2	1.1	—	—	187	100.0
December	180	92.8	7	3.6	7	3.6	194	100.0
<i>1997—</i>								
January	125	92.6	8	5.9	2	1.5	135	100.0
February	181	76.1	42	17.6	15	6.3	238	100.0
March	135	81.8	22	13.3	8	4.8	165	100.0
April	128	78.5	19	11.7	16	9.8	163	100.0
May	163	83.6	—	—	32	16.4	195	100.0
June	40	38.8	3	2.9	60	58.3	103	100.0
Total	7,412	92.8	392	4.9	185	2.3	7,989	100.0

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains details of the number of new dwelling units reported by approving authorities as having commenced.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

2 The statistics were compiled from information provided by local and other government authorities, of commencements of new houses and new other residential buildings for which:

- building permits were issued by local government or other government authorities in areas subject to building control by those authorities; and
- contracts were let or day labour work was authorised by Commonwealth, State, semi-government and local government authorities.

3 Major dwelling unit commencements in areas not subject to the normal administrative approval processes (e.g. buildings on remote mine sites) are also included.

4 The number of dwelling units created by alterations and additions to existing buildings and through the construction of new non-residential buildings is not included.

COMPARABILITY OF STATISTICS

5 Because of the difference in data sources, collection methodologies and timing of notification of commencements care should be exercised in comparing quarterly data derived from these dwelling unit commencement statistics with the quarterly dwelling unit commencement statistics from the Building Activity Survey.

DEFINITIONS

6 A *dwelling unit* is defined as a self-contained suite of rooms, including cooking and bathing facilities and intended for long term residential use. Units (whether self-contained or not) within buildings offering institutional care, such as hospitals, or temporary accommodation e.g. motels, hostels and holiday apartments, are not defined as dwelling units.

7 A *residential building* is defined as a building predominantly consisting of one or more dwelling units. Residential buildings can be either *houses* or *other residential buildings* as follows:

- A *house* is defined as a detached building predominantly used for long term residential purposes and consisting of only one dwelling unit. Thus, detached 'granny flats' and detached dwelling units (such as caretakers' residences) associated with non-residential buildings are defined as houses for the purpose of these statistics.
- An *other residential building* is defined as a building which is predominantly used for long term residential purposes and which contains (or has attached to it) more than one dwelling unit (e.g. includes townhouses, duplexes, apartment buildings etc.).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

DEFINITIONS *continued*

8 *Commencements*. For the purposes of this statistical series, a dwelling unit is regarded as being commenced on the date when:

- the residential building is first inspected by a building inspector or surveyor, whether the work is passed or not. In general the first inspection is undertaken at the foundations or footings stage of construction; or
- the residential building is determined as commenced by a building inspector or surveyor.

9 *Ownership of a building* is classified as either Public Sector or Private Sector according to the sector of the intended owner of the completed building as evident at the time of approval. Residential buildings being constructed by private sector builders under government housing authority schemes whereby the authority has contracted, or intends to contract, to purchase the buildings on or before completion, are classified as public sector.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION (ASGC)

10 Area statistics are now being classified to the *Australian Standard Geographical Classification, 1996 Edition* (Cat no. 1216.0), effective from 1 July 1996, and ASGC terminology has been adopted in the presentation of building statistics.

UNPUBLISHED DATA AND RELATED PUBLICATIONS

11 The ABS can also make available certain dwelling unit commencement data which are not published. Where it is not practicable to provide the required information by telephone, data can be provided in the following forms: photocopy, computer printout, floppy disk and clerically extracted tabulation. A charge may be made for providing unpublished information in these forms.

12 Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

Building Activity, Australia: Dwelling Unit Commencements, Preliminary (Cat. no. 8750.0) — issued quarterly

Building Activity, Western Australia (Cat. no. 8752.5) — issued quarterly

Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0) — issued monthly

Building Approvals, Western Australia (Cat. no. 8731.5) — issued monthly

Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8762.0) — issued quarterly

13 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

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