



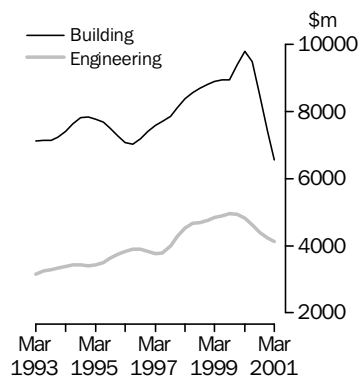
# CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE

AUSTRALIA  
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 31 MAY 2001

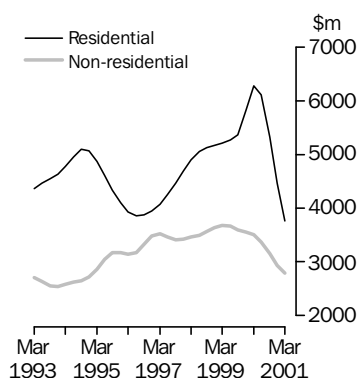
## Value of construction work done

Volume terms  
Trend estimates



## Value of building work done

Volume terms  
Trend estimates



- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Tony Bammann on Adelaide 08 8237 7316, or the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

## MARCH QTR KEY FIGURES

| TREND ESTIMATES (a) | Mar qtr 01<br>\$m | Dec qtr 00 to<br>Mar qtr 01<br>% change | Mar qtr 00 to<br>Mar qtr 01<br>% change |
|---------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| Value of work done  |                   |   |   |
| Building            | 6 563.4           | -11.4                                   | -33.0                                   |
| Residential         | 3 758.3           | -15.9                                   | -40.2                                   |
| Non-residential     | 2 795.3           | -4.8                                    | -20.4                                   |
| Engineering         | 4 130.0           | -2.5                                    | -14.3                                   |
| Total construction  | 10 665.0          | -8.4                                    | -27.0                                   |

| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (a) | Mar qtr 01<br>\$m | Dec qtr 00 to<br>Mar qtr 01<br>% change | Mar qtr 00 to<br>Mar qtr 01<br>% change |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| Value of work done      |                   |   |   |
| Building                | 7 188.6           | 2.6                                     | -24.9                                   |
| Residential             | 4 280.5           | 2.2                                     | -30.4                                   |
| Non-residential         | 2 908.1           | 3.1                                     | -15.2                                   |
| Engineering             | 4 135.9           | 0.4                                     | -15.0                                   |
| Total construction      | 11 324.5          | 1.7                                     | -21.6                                   |

(a) Chain volume measures, reference year 1998-99.

## MARCH QTR KEY POINTS

### VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE, VOLUME TERMS

#### TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend estimate of building work done fell by 11.4% in the March quarter 2001, following a 12.7% fall in the December quarter 2000. The latest fall was mainly the result of a fall of 15.9% in the residential sector. Residential work done (\$3,758.3m) has continued to decline, down 40.2% on the level of a year earlier.
- Engineering work done was down 2.5% in the latest quarter and 14.3% on the level of a year earlier.
- Total construction work done fell by 8.4%. There was a 10.7% fall in work done for the private sector.

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
This publication now includes preliminary data from the Engineering Construction Survey. See data notes on page 2.

#### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- The seasonally adjusted estimate of building work done rose by 2.6% in the March quarter 2001 to \$7,188.6m. This follows falls of 26.9% and 10.2% in the September and December quarters of 2000. Total residential building work done rose 2.2% in the latest quarter to \$4,280.5m, with non-residential up by 3.1% to \$2,908.1m.
- Engineering work done rose by a marginal 0.4% to \$4,135.9m, following a 9.3% fall in the December quarter.
- Total construction work done rose 1.7% to \$11,324.5m, down 21.6% on a year ago.

## NOTES

### FORTHCOMING ISSUES

| <i>ISSUE (Quarter)</i> | <i>RELEASE DATE</i> |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| June 2001              | 6 September 2001    |
| September 2001         | 28 November 2001    |

### ABOUT THIS ISSUE

This publication provides an early indication of trends in building and engineering construction activity. The data are estimates based on a response rate of approximately 85% of the value of building work done and 80% of the value of engineering work done during the quarter. More comprehensive and updated results will be released in *Building Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8752.0) on 19 July 2001 and in *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8762.0) on 18 July 2001.

### CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This publication now includes preliminary figures on engineering construction activity and some additional series on building work done. There has been some reformatting of the table layout to accommodate these additional series.

### DATA NOTES

#### **Treatment of the Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

ABS statistical series are being impacted to varying degrees as a result of The New Tax System (TNTS), introduced in Australia from 1 July 2000. TNTS included the removal of Wholesale Sales Tax and the introduction of a GST, and as a result, a wide range of ABS data series will reflect significant immediate and subsequent impacts.

Users should exercise caution in analysing movements in the value series as the series may be affected by the 'bringing forward' of building activity prior to 1 July 2000, and the introduction of the GST and the abolition of the Wholesale Sales Tax.

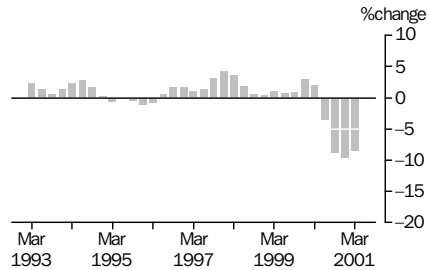
Dennis Trewin  
Australian Statistician

# CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE: Chain volume measures(a)

## TREND PERCENTAGE CHANGE

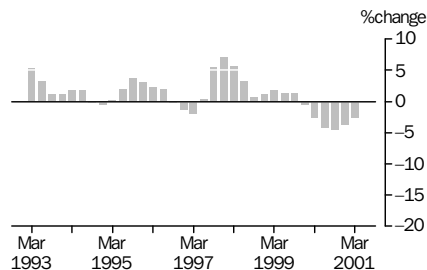
NOTE: Trend estimates are subject to revisions. See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 28.

### TOTAL CONSTRUCTION



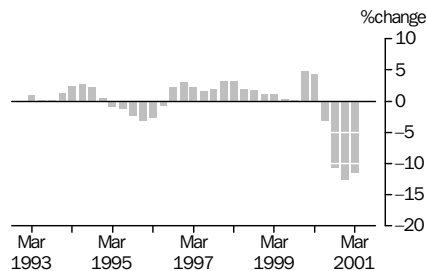
The value of total construction work done has fallen for the past four quarters. The 8.4% fall in the March quarter however, reflected a slight moderation in the rate of decline.

### Engineering



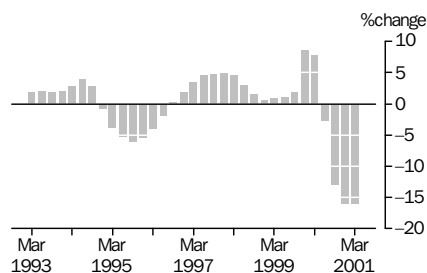
Engineering construction work done has continued to fall over the past six quarters; however, the rate of decline has eased over the past two quarters.

### Building



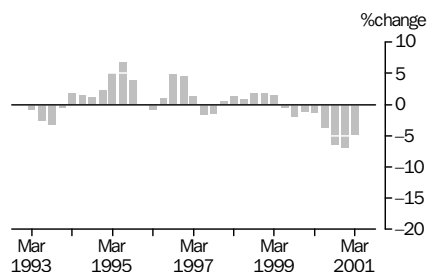
The fall in the trend estimate eased slightly in the March quarter 2000.

### Residential



The trend estimate for the March quarter fell by 15.9%.

### Non-residential



Having now fallen for eight quarters, the rate of decline eased in the March quarter.

(a) Reference year 1998-99.

| Period                    | BUILDING<br>WORK DONE..... |         |          | ENGINEERING<br>WORK DONE(b)..... |          |          | CONSTRUCTION<br>WORK DONE..... |          |          |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
|                           | Private                    | Public  | Total    | Private                          | Public   | Total    | Private                        | Public   | Total    |
| ORIGINAL (\$m)            |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| <b>1997-98</b>            | 28 784.5                   | 4 217.1 | 33 000.6 | 7 375.4                          | 10 013.3 | 17 390.5 | 36 154.6                       | 14 226.4 | 51 635.2 |
| <b>1998-99</b>            | 30 979.2                   | 4 309.5 | 35 288.8 | 8 425.3                          | 10 758.6 | 19 183.9 | 39 404.5                       | 15 068.1 | 54 472.6 |
| <b>1999-00</b>            | 34 263.3                   | 4 134.8 | 38 398.1 | 7 440.3                          | 11 813.9 | 19 254.2 | 41 703.6                       | 15 948.7 | 57 652.3 |
| <b>1999</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 8 453.8                    | 1 064.1 | 9 517.9  | 2 038.0                          | 3 016.5  | 5 054.6  | 10 491.8                       | 4 080.6  | 14 572.5 |
| <b>2000</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 7 937.9                    | 888.7   | 8 826.6  | 1 656.1                          | 2 955.8  | 4 611.9  | 9 594.0                        | 3 844.6  | 13 438.5 |
| Jun qtr                   | 9 587.6                    | 1 133.0 | 10 720.7 | 1 624.9                          | 3 275.7  | 4 900.6  | 11 212.6                       | 4 408.7  | 15 621.3 |
| Sep qtr                   | 6 976.5                    | 988.3   | 7 964.8  | 1 601.6                          | 2 683.7  | 4 285.2  | 8 578.1                        | 3 671.9  | 12 250.0 |
| Dec qtr                   | 6 450.3                    | 948.6   | 7 398.9  | 1 624.1                          | 2 519.6  | 4 143.7  | 8 074.4                        | 3 468.1  | 11 542.5 |
| <b>2001</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 5 715.2                    | 900.6   | 6 615.9  | 1 459.0                          | 2 449.7  | 3 908.7  | 7 174.2                        | 3 350.4  | 10 524.6 |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (\$m) |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| <b>1999</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 7 981.4                    | 1 051.5 | 9 011.8  | 1 943.4                          | 3 069.4  | 5 012.8  | 9 924.8                        | 4 120.8  | 14 024.6 |
| <b>2000</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 8 527.9                    | 959.0   | 9 574.5  | 1 801.5                          | 3 062.4  | 4 863.9  | 10 329.4                       | 4 022.4  | 14 438.4 |
| Jun qtr                   | 9 654.4                    | 1 048.1 | 10 680.1 | 1 666.9                          | 2 804.4  | 4 471.3  | 11 321.2                       | 3 851.8  | 15 151.4 |
| Sep qtr                   | 6 817.4                    | 1 013.4 | 7 802.9  | 1 526.4                          | 3 017.6  | 4 544.0  | 8 343.8                        | 4 032.7  | 12 346.8 |
| Dec qtr                   | 6 120.6                    | 927.9   | 7 008.9  | 1 545.9                          | 2 575.1  | 4 120.9  | 7 666.4                        | 3 505.6  | 11 129.9 |
| <b>2001</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 6 149.8                    | 965.2   | 7 188.6  | 1 583.8                          | 2 552.1  | 4 135.9  | 7 733.6                        | 3 520.8  | 11 324.5 |
| TREND ESTIMATES (\$m)     |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| <b>1999</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 8 351.7                    | 1 030.6 | 9 386.7  | 1 939.2                          | 3 000.3  | 4 939.5  | 10 292.2                       | 4 031.1  | 14 324.9 |
| <b>2000</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 8 753.2                    | 1 018.6 | 9 793.4  | 1 796.3                          | 3 020.5  | 4 816.8  | 10 547.9                       | 4 039.1  | 14 613.7 |
| Jun qtr                   | 8 481.6                    | 1 008.1 | 9 492.7  | 1 657.9                          | 2 955.4  | 4 613.3  | 10 139.5                       | 3 964.0  | 14 106.0 |
| Sep qtr                   | 7 506.0                    | 994.1   | 8 480.6  | 1 573.7                          | 2 825.2  | 4 399.4  | 9 081.0                        | 3 820.5  | 12 884.7 |
| Dec qtr                   | 6 446.4                    | 969.7   | 7 407.0  | 1 546.1                          | 2 688.2  | 4 234.6  | 7 992.9                        | 3 660.3  | 11 643.7 |
| <b>2001</b>               |                            |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 5 590.7                    | 945.2   | 6 563.4  | 1 552.4                          | 2 583.2  | 4 130.0  | 7 140.1                        | 3 533.8  | 10 665.0 |

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1998-99. See paragraphs 29-32 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Engineering work done is classified by the sector of intended owner.

| Period   | BUILDING<br>WORK DONE..... |        |       | ENGINEERING<br>WORK DONE(b)..... |        |       | CONSTRUCTION<br>WORK DONE..... |        |       |
|--|----------------------------|--------|-------|----------------------------------|--------|-------|--------------------------------|--------|-------|
|  | Private                    | Public | Total | Private                          | Public | Total | Private                        | Public | Total |
| ORIGINAL (% change from preceding period)            |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| <b>1997-98</b>                                       | 11.9                       | 1.4    | 10.5  | 27.9                             | 3.3    | 12.4  | 14.9                           | 2.7    | 10.8  |
| <b>1998-99</b>                                       | 7.6                        | 2.2    | 6.9   | 14.2                             | 7.4    | 10.3  | 9.0                            | 5.9    | 5.5   |
| <b>1999-00</b>                                       | 10.6                       | -4.1   | 8.8   | -11.7                            | 9.8    | 0.4   | 5.8                            | 5.8    | 5.8   |
| <b>1999</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Dec qtr  | 2.0                        | 1.4    | 2.0   | -3.9                             | 17.6   | 7.8   | 0.8                            | 12.9   | 3.9   |
| <b>2000</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | -6.1                       | -16.5  | -7.3  | -18.7                            | -2.0   | -8.8  | -8.6                           | -5.8   | -7.8  |
| Jun qtr  | 20.8                       | 27.5   | 21.5  | -1.9                             | 10.8   | 6.3   | 16.9                           | 14.7   | 16.2  |
| Sep qtr  | -27.2                      | -12.8  | -25.7 | -1.4                             | -18.1  | -12.6 | -23.5                          | -16.7  | -21.6 |
| Dec qtr  | -7.5                       | -4.0   | -7.1  | 1.4                              | -6.1   | -3.3  | -5.9                           | -5.6   | -5.8  |
| <b>2001</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | -11.4                      | -5.1   | -10.6 | -10.2                            | -2.8   | -5.7  | -11.1                          | -3.4   | -8.8  |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (% change from preceding period) |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| <b>1999</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Dec qtr  | -1.5                       | -2.3   | -1.3  | -4.2                             | 6.7    | 2.2   | -2.0                           | 4.2    | -0.1  |
| <b>2000</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | 6.8                        | -8.8   | 6.2   | -7.3                             | -0.2   | -3.0  | 4.1                            | -2.4   | 3.0   |
| Jun qtr  | 13.2                       | 9.3    | 11.5  | -7.5                             | -8.4   | -8.1  | 9.6                            | -4.2   | 4.9   |
| Sep qtr  | -29.4                      | -3.3   | -26.9 | -8.4                             | 7.6    | 1.6   | -26.3                          | 4.7    | -18.5 |
| Dec qtr  | -10.2                      | -8.4   | -10.2 | 1.3                              | -14.7  | -9.3  | -8.1                           | -13.1  | -9.9  |
| <b>2001</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | 0.5                        | 4.0    | 2.6   | 2.5                              | -0.9   | 0.4   | 0.9                            | 0.4    | 1.7   |
| TREND ESTIMATES (% change from preceding period)     |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| <b>1999</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Dec qtr  | 5.4                        | -2.4   | 4.8   | -5.0                             | 2.7    | -0.5  | 3.2                            | 1.3    | 3.0   |
| <b>2000</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | 4.8                        | -1.2   | 4.3   | -7.4                             | 0.7    | -2.5  | 2.5                            | 0.2    | 2.0   |
| Jun qtr  | -3.1                       | -1.0   | -3.1  | -7.7                             | -2.2   | -4.2  | -3.9                           | -1.9   | -3.5  |
| Sep qtr  | -11.5                      | -1.4   | -10.7 | -5.1                             | -4.4   | -4.6  | -10.4                          | -3.6   | -8.7  |
| Dec qtr  | -14.1                      | -2.5   | -12.7 | -1.8                             | -4.8   | -3.7  | -12.0                          | -4.2   | -9.6  |
| <b>2001</b>  |                            |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | -13.3                      | -2.5   | -11.4 | 0.4                              | -3.9   | -2.5  | -10.7                          | -3.5   | -8.4  |

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1998-99. See paragraphs 29-32 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Engineering work done is classified by the sector of intended owner.

| Period                    | BUILDING<br>WORK DONE(a)..... |         |          | ENGINEERING<br>WORK DONE(b)..... |          |          | CONSTRUCTION<br>WORK DONE(a)..... |          |          |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|
|                           | Private                       | Public  | Total    | Private                          | Public   | Total    | Private                           | Public   | Total    |
| ORIGINAL (\$m)            |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| <b>1997-98</b>            | 27 990.1                      | 4 077.4 | 32 067.6 | 7 278.1                          | 9 949.8  | 17 227.9 | 35 268.3                          | 14 027.2 | 49 295.5 |
| <b>1998-99</b>            | 30 979.2                      | 4 309.5 | 35 288.7 | 8 425.3                          | 10 758.0 | 19 183.3 | 39 404.5                          | 15 067.6 | 54 472.1 |
| <b>1999-00</b>            | 35 958.4                      | 4 283.4 | 40 241.9 | 7 786.0                          | 12 121.6 | 19 907.5 | 43 744.4                          | 16 405.0 | 60 149.4 |
| <b>1999</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 8 774.6                       | 1 097.9 | 9 872.5  | 2 127.6                          | 3 075.5  | 5 203.1  | 10 902.2                          | 4 173.4  | 15 075.6 |
| <b>2000</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 8 392.7                       | 925.6   | 9 318.3  | 1 736.5                          | 3 037.4  | 4 773.9  | 10 129.2                          | 3 963.0  | 14 092.2 |
| Jun qtr                   | 10 301.9                      | 1 188.0 | 11 489.8 | 1 727.2                          | 3 410.5  | 5 137.7  | 12 029.0                          | 4 598.5  | 16 627.6 |
| Sep qtr                   | 8 006.4                       | 1 052.0 | 9 058.3  | 1 712.7                          | 2 812.3  | 4 525.0  | 9 719.1                           | 3 864.3  | 13 583.4 |
| Dec qtr                   | 7 399.7                       | 1 010.9 | 8 410.6  | 1 747.8                          | 2 662.3  | 4 410.2  | 9 147.5                           | 3 673.3  | 12 820.8 |
| <b>2001</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 6 577.3                       | 959.9   | 7 537.3  | 1 582.3                          | 2 607.6  | 4 189.9  | 8 159.6                           | 3 567.5  | 11 727.2 |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (\$m) |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| <b>1999</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 8 362.4                       | 1 051.7 | 9 414.1  | 2 022.7                          | 3 135.9  | 5 158.6  | 10 385.1                          | 4 187.6  | 14 572.7 |
| <b>2000</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 9 094.1                       | 1 054.2 | 10 148.3 | 1 883.1                          | 3 156.6  | 5 039.7  | 10 977.2                          | 4 210.8  | 15 188.0 |
| Jun qtr                   | 10 304.3                      | 1 081.3 | 11 385.6 | 1 766.1                          | 2 930.2  | 4 696.3  | 12 070.4                          | 4 011.5  | 16 081.9 |
| Sep qtr                   | 7 786.6                       | 1 061.0 | 8 847.6  | 1 631.6                          | 3 152.8  | 4 784.5  | 9 418.3                           | 4 213.8  | 13 632.1 |
| Dec qtr                   | 7 055.9                       | 965.2   | 8 021.0  | 1 663.0                          | 2 713.3  | 4 376.2  | 8 718.8                           | 3 678.5  | 12 397.3 |
| <b>2001</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 7 122.8                       | 1 083.1 | 8 205.9  | 1 716.9                          | 2 709.4  | 4 426.3  | 8 839.8                           | 3 792.5  | 12 632.2 |
| TREND ESTIMATES (\$m)     |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| <b>1999</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 8 395.4                       | 1 051.0 | 9 446.4  | 2 013.6                          | 3 066.4  | 5 080.0  | 10 409.1                          | 4 117.3  | 14 526.4 |
| <b>2000</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 8 593.0                       | 1 054.4 | 9 647.3  | 1 885.7                          | 3 117.9  | 5 003.6  | 10 478.7                          | 4 172.3  | 14 650.9 |
| Jun qtr                   | 8 453.6                       | 1 041.9 | 9 495.5  | 1 753.7                          | 3 075.3  | 4 829.0  | 10 207.3                          | 4 117.1  | 14 324.5 |
| Sep qtr                   | 7 952.4                       | 1 030.9 | 8 983.3  | 1 681.2                          | 2 961.7  | 4 642.9  | 9 633.6                           | 3 992.6  | 13 626.2 |
| Dec qtr                   | 7 359.2                       | 1 028.0 | 8 387.2  | 1 665.0                          | 2 833.4  | 4 498.5  | 9 024.2                           | 3 861.4  | 12 885.6 |
| <b>2001</b>               |                               |         |          |                                  |          |          |                                   |          |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 6 787.2                       | 1 037.4 | 7 824.6  | 1 680.2                          | 2 719.0  | 4 399.2  | 8 467.3                           | 3 756.4  | 12 223.8 |

(a) From the September quarter 2000 data is inclusive of the non-deductible GST payable on residential buildings.

(b) Engineering work done is classified by the sector of intended owner.

## 4

CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE, Current prices: **All series**—Percentage change

| Period   | BUILDING<br>WORK DONE(a)..... |        |       | ENGINEERING<br>WORK DONE(b)..... |        |       | CONSTRUCTION<br>WORK DONE(a)..... |        |       |
|--|-------------------------------|--------|-------|----------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|
|  | Private                       | Public | Total | Private                          | Public | Total | Private                           | Public | Total |
| ORIGINAL (% change from preceding period)            |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| <b>1997-98</b>                                       | 14.3                          | 5.0    | 13.0  | 29.3                             | 4.4    | 13.6  | 17.1                              | 4.5    | 13.2  |
| <b>1998-99</b>                                       | 10.7                          | 5.7    | 10.0  | 15.8                             | 8.1    | 11.4  | 11.7                              | 7.4    | 10.5  |
| <b>1999-00</b>                                       | 16.1                          | -0.6   | 14.0  | -7.6                             | 12.7   | 3.8   | 11.0                              | 8.9    | 10.4  |
| <b>1999</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Dec qtr  | 3.4                           | 2.4    | 3.3   | -3.1                             | 18.4   | 8.6   | 2.0                               | 13.7   | 5.0   |
| <b>2000</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | -4.4                          | -15.7  | -5.6  | -18.4                            | -1.2   | -8.2  | -7.1                              | -5.0   | -6.5  |
| Jun qtr  | 22.7                          | 28.3   | 23.3  | -0.5                             | 12.3   | 7.6   | 18.8                              | 16.0   | 18.0  |
| Sep qtr  | -22.3                         | -11.4  | -21.2 | -0.8                             | -17.5  | -11.9 | -19.2                             | -16.0  | -18.3 |
| Dec qtr  | -7.6                          | -3.9   | -7.2  | 2.0                              | -5.3   | -2.5  | -5.9                              | -4.9   | -5.6  |
| <b>2001</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | -11.1                         | -5.0   | -10.4 | -9.5                             | -2.1   | -5.0  | -10.8                             | -2.9   | -8.5  |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (% change from preceding period) |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| <b>1999</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Dec qtr  | 1.3                           | -2.4   | 0.9   | -3.3                             | 7.6    | 3.0   | 0.4                               | 4.9    | 1.6   |
| <b>2000</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | 8.8                           | 0.2    | 7.8   | -6.9                             | 0.7    | -2.3  | 5.7                               | 0.6    | 4.2   |
| Jun qtr  | 13.3                          | 2.6    | 12.2  | -6.2                             | -7.2   | -6.8  | 10.0                              | -4.7   | 5.9   |
| Sep qtr  | -24.4                         | -1.9   | -22.3 | -7.6                             | 7.6    | 1.9   | -22.0                             | 5.0    | -15.2 |
| Dec qtr  | -9.4                          | -9.0   | -9.3  | 1.9                              | -13.9  | -8.5  | -7.4                              | -12.7  | -9.1  |
| <b>2001</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | 0.9                           | 12.2   | 2.3   | 3.2                              | -0.1   | 1.1   | 1.4                               | 3.1    | 1.9   |
| TREND ESTIMATES (% change from preceding period)     |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| <b>1999</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Dec qtr  | 3.2                           | -1.6   | 2.6   | -3.6                             | 3.7    | 0.7   | 1.8                               | 2.3    | 1.9   |
| <b>2000</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | 2.4                           | 0.3    | 2.1   | -6.4                             | 1.7    | -1.5  | 0.7                               | 1.3    | 0.9   |
| Jun qtr  | -1.6                          | -1.2   | -1.6  | -7.0                             | -1.4   | -3.5  | -2.6                              | -1.3   | -2.2  |
| Sep qtr  | -5.9                          | -1.1   | -5.4  | -4.1                             | -3.7   | -3.9  | -5.6                              | -3.0   | -4.9  |
| Dec qtr  | -7.5                          | -0.3   | -6.6  | -1.0                             | -4.3   | -3.1  | -6.3                              | -3.3   | -5.4  |
| <b>2001</b>  |                               |        |       |                                  |        |       |                                   |        |       |
| Mar qtr  | -7.8                          | 0.9    | -6.7  | 0.9                              | -4.0   | -2.2  | -6.2                              | -2.7   | -5.1  |

(a) From the September quarter 2000 data is inclusive of the non-deductible GST payable on residential buildings.

(b) Engineering work done is classified by the sector of intended owner.

| Period                    | NEW RESIDENTIAL..... |          | ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO RESIDENTIAL BUILDING..... |         | TOTAL RESIDENTIAL..... |          | NON-RESIDENTIAL..... |          | TOTAL BUILDING..... |          |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------|--|---------|------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
|                           | Private              | Total    | Private  | Total   | Private                | Total    | Private              | Total    | Private             | Total    |
| ORIGINAL (\$m)            |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| <b>1997-98</b>            | 15 696.9             | 16 090.2 | 2 976.4  | 3 063.3 | 18 673.7               | 19 153.8 | 10 111.8             | 13 851.0 | 28 784.5            | 33 000.6 |
| <b>1998-99</b>            | 16 999.0             | 17 504.9 | 3 155.5  | 3 249.4 | 20 154.6               | 20 754.3 | 10 824.7             | 14 534.4 | 30 979.2            | 35 288.8 |
| <b>1999-00</b>            | 20 116.2             | 20 539.7 | 3 571.4  | 3 679.1 | 23 687.6               | 24 218.9 | 10 575.7             | 14 179.3 | 34 263.3            | 38 398.1 |
| <b>1999</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 758.0              | 4 875.2  | 908.6  | 925.9   | 5 666.5                | 5 801.1  | 2 787.2              | 3 716.8  | 8 453.8             | 9 517.9  |
| <b>2000</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 4 807.0              | 4 898.8  | 809.0  | 831.3   | 5 616.0                | 5 730.0  | 2 321.9              | 3 096.6  | 7 937.9             | 8 826.6  |
| Jun qtr                   | 5 991.5              | 6 079.1  | 1 002.0  | 1 034.7 | 6 993.5                | 7 113.9  | 2 594.1              | 3 606.8  | 9 587.6             | 10 720.7 |
| Sep qtr                   | 4 062.5              | 4 166.3  | 633.9  | 658.0   | 4 696.4                | 4 824.3  | 2 280.1              | 3 140.4  | 6 976.5             | 7 964.8  |
| Dec qtr                   | 3 590.1              | 3 683.4  | 687.5  | 707.3   | 4 277.6                | 4 390.7  | 2 172.7              | 3 008.2  | 6 450.3             | 7 398.9  |
| <b>2001</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 3 277.0              | 3 359.8  | 598.8  | 624.8   | 3 875.8                | 3 984.7  | 1 839.5              | 2 631.2  | 5 715.2             | 6 615.9  |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (\$m) |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| <b>1999</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 557.4              | 4 671.4  | 834.5  | 852.1   | 5 391.9                | 5 523.5  | 2 589.5              | 3 488.4  | 7 981.4             | 9 011.8  |
| <b>2000</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 5 065.3              | 5 241.3  | 883.3  | 905.7   | 5 948.6                | 6 147.1  | 2 579.3              | 3 427.4  | 8 527.9             | 9 574.5  |
| Jun qtr                   | 5 977.6              | 6 043.1  | 1 008.1  | 1 038.3 | 6 985.8                | 7 081.4  | 2 668.6              | 3 598.6  | 9 654.4             | 10 680.1 |
| Sep qtr                   | 4 010.2              | 4 081.1  | 630.3  | 655.1   | 4 640.5                | 4 736.2  | 2 176.9              | 3 066.7  | 6 817.4             | 7 802.9  |
| Dec qtr                   | 3 466.1              | 3 536.4  | 636.0  | 652.1   | 4 102.1                | 4 188.6  | 2 018.5              | 2 820.4  | 6 120.6             | 7 008.9  |
| <b>2001</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 3 455.4              | 3 599.8  | 651.7  | 680.7   | 4 107.1                | 4 280.5  | 2 042.8              | 2 908.1  | 6 149.8             | 7 188.6  |
| TREND ESTIMATES (\$m)     |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| <b>1999</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 814.7              | 4 931.2  | 872.6  | 898.4   | 5 686.6                | 5 829.6  | 2 668.3              | 3 557.3  | 8 351.7             | 9 386.7  |
| <b>2000</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 5 227.5              | 5 349.0  | 909.3  | 934.0   | 6 135.7                | 6 283.0  | 2 615.2              | 3 509.6  | 8 753.2             | 9 793.4  |
| Jun qtr                   | 5 134.9              | 5 232.8  | 858.9  | 883.3   | 5 993.8                | 6 116.1  | 2 487.8              | 3 376.6  | 8 481.6             | 9 492.7  |
| Sep qtr                   | 4 472.9              | 4 547.3  | 749.9  | 774.1   | 5 223.4                | 5 323.6  | 2 283.4              | 3 156.5  | 7 506.0             | 8 480.6  |
| Dec qtr                   | 3 709.6              | 3 794.5  | 650.7  | 673.6   | 4 360.7                | 4 469.7  | 2 086.5              | 2 937.4  | 6 446.4             | 7 407.0  |
| <b>2001</b>               |                      |          |  |         |                        |          |                      |          |                     |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 3 035.2              | 3 192.7  | 589.8  | 612.8   | 3 613.5                | 3 758.3  | 1 948.6              | 2 795.3  | 5 590.7             | 6 563.4  |

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1998-99. See paragraphs 29-32 of the Explanatory Notes.



| Period  | NEW RESIDENTIAL... |       | ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO RESIDENTIAL BUILDING..... |       | TOTAL RESIDENTIAL... |       | NON-RESIDENTIAL... |       | TOTAL BUILDING..... |       |
|---|--------------------|-------|--|-------|----------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
|   | Private            | Total | Private  | Total | Private              | Total | Private            | Total | Private             | Total |
| ORIGINAL (% change from preceding period)             |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| <b>1997-98</b>  | 20.6               | 19.1  | 16.1   | 16.4  | 19.9                 | 18.7  | -0.8               | 0.5   | 11.9                | 10.5  |
| <b>1998-99</b>  | 8.3                | 8.8   | 6.0  | 6.1   | 7.9                  | 8.4   | 7.0                | 4.9   | 7.6                 | 6.9   |
| <b>1999-00</b>  | 18.3               | 17.3  | 13.2   | 13.2  | 17.5                 | 16.7  | -2.3               | -2.4  | 10.6                | 8.8   |
| <b>1999</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Dec qtr   | 4.3                | 4.0   | 6.7  | 4.4   | 4.7                  | 4.1   | -3.0               | -1.1  | 2.0                 | 2.0   |
| <b>2000</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Mar qtr   | 1.0                | 0.5   | -11.0  | -10.2 | -0.9                 | -1.2  | -16.7              | -16.7 | -6.1                | -7.3  |
| Jun qtr   | 24.6               | 24.1  | 23.9   | 24.5  | 24.5                 | 24.2  | 11.7               | 16.5  | 20.8                | 21.5  |
| Sep qtr   | -32.2              | -31.5 | -36.7  | -36.4 | -32.8                | -32.2 | -12.1              | -12.9 | -27.2               | -25.7 |
| Dec qtr   | -11.6              | -11.6 | 8.5  | 7.5   | -8.9                 | -9.0  | -4.7               | -4.2  | -7.5                | -7.1  |
| <b>2001</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Mar qtr   | -8.7               | -8.8  | -12.9  | -11.7 | -9.4                 | -9.2  | -15.3              | -12.5 | -11.4               | -10.6 |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (% change from preceding quarter) |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| <b>1999</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Dec qtr   | 0.9                | 1.9   | -1.3   | -3.5  | 0.6                  | 1.0   | -5.4               | -4.8  | -1.5                | -1.3  |
| <b>2000</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Mar qtr   | 11.1               | 12.2  | 5.9  | 6.3   | 10.3                 | 11.3  | -0.4               | -1.7  | 6.8                 | 6.2   |
| Jun qtr   | 18.0               | 15.3  | 14.1   | 14.6  | 17.4                 | 15.2  | 3.5                | 5.0   | 13.2                | 11.5  |
| Sep qtr   | -32.9              | -32.5 | -37.5  | -36.9 | -33.6                | -33.1 | -18.4              | -14.8 | -29.4               | -26.9 |
| Dec qtr   | -13.6              | -13.3 | 0.9  | -0.5  | -11.6                | -11.6 | -7.3               | -8.0  | -10.2               | -10.2 |
| <b>2001</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Mar qtr   | -0.3               | 1.8   | 2.5  | 4.4   | 0.1                  | 2.2   | 1.2                | 3.1   | 0.5                 | 2.6   |
| TREND ESTIMATES (% change from preceding quarter)     |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| <b>1999</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Dec qtr   | 9.0                | 8.9   | 6.9  | 6.7   | 8.5                  | 8.6   | -0.9               | -1.1  | 5.4                 | 4.8   |
| <b>2000</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Mar qtr   | 8.6                | 8.5   | 4.2  | 4.0   | 7.9                  | 7.8   | -2.0               | -1.3  | 4.8                 | 4.3   |
| Jun qtr   | -1.8               | -2.2  | -5.5   | -5.4  | -2.3                 | -2.7  | -4.9               | -3.8  | -3.1                | -3.1  |
| Sep qtr   | -12.9              | -13.1 | -12.7  | -12.4 | -12.9                | -13.0 | -8.2               | -6.5  | -11.5               | -10.7 |
| Dec qtr   | -17.1              | -16.6 | -13.2  | -13.0 | -16.5                | -16.0 | -8.6               | -6.9  | -14.1               | -12.7 |
| <b>2001</b>   |                    |       |  |       |                      |       |                    |       |                     |       |
| Mar qtr   | -18.2              | -15.9 | -9.4   | -9.0  | -17.1                | -15.9 | -6.6               | -4.8  | -13.3               | -11.4 |

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1998-99. See paragraphs 29-32 of the Explanatory Notes.

## 7

VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, Current prices: **All series**

| Period                    | NEW RESIDENTIAL(a).... |          | ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO RESIDENTIAL BUILDING(a)..... |         | TOTAL RESIDENTIAL(a)... |          | NON-RESIDENTIAL..... |          | TOTAL BUILDING(a)..... |          |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------|---|---------|-------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|
|                           | Private                | Total    | Private   | Total   | Private                 | Total    | Private              | Total    | Private                | Total    |
| ORIGINAL (\$m)            |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| <b>1997-98</b>            | 15 343.4               | 15 728.3 | 2 925.1   | 3 010.7 | 18 268.5                | 18 738.9 | 9 721.6              | 13 328.7 | 27 990.1               | 32 067.6 |
| <b>1998-99</b>            | 16 999.0               | 17 504.9 | 3 155.5   | 3 249.4 | 20 154.6                | 20 754.3 | 10 824.7             | 14 534.4 | 30 979.2               | 35 288.7 |
| <b>1999-00</b>            | 21 217.0               | 21 658.8 | 3 779.4   | 3 892.9 | 24 996.4                | 25 551.7 | 10 962.0             | 14 690.1 | 35 958.4               | 40 241.9 |
| <b>1999</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 950.7                | 5 072.2  | 946.0   | 964.1   | 5 896.7                 | 6 036.3  | 2 877.8              | 3 836.2  | 8 774.6                | 9 872.5  |
| <b>2000</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 5 108.8                | 5 205.7  | 863.6   | 887.3   | 5 972.4                 | 6 093.0  | 2 420.3              | 3 225.3  | 8 392.7                | 9 318.3  |
| Jun qtr                   | 6 480.9                | 6 574.5  | 1 095.1   | 1 130.6 | 7 576.0                 | 7 705.1  | 2 725.8              | 3 784.7  | 10 301.9               | 11 489.8 |
| Sep qtr                   | 4 836.4                | 4 958.1  | 760.9   | 789.8   | 5 597.3                 | 5 748.0  | 2 409.0              | 3 310.4  | 8 006.4                | 9 058.3  |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 272.0                | 4 381.0  | 825.3   | 849.1   | 5 097.3                 | 5 230.1  | 2 302.4              | 3 180.5  | 7 399.7                | 8 410.6  |
| <b>2001</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 3 906.2                | 4 003.0  | 721.1   | 752.7   | 4 627.2                 | 4 755.7  | 1 950.1              | 2 781.5  | 6 577.3                | 7 537.3  |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (\$m) |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| <b>1999</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 733.9                | 4 839.8  | 867.8   | 888.6   | 5 588.5                 | 5 723.5  | 2 671.8              | 3 597.1  | 8 362.4                | 9 414.1  |
| <b>2000</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 5 371.2                | 5 598.0  | 941.6   | 968.6   | 6 426.5                 | 6 583.1  | 2 687.0              | 3 566.2  | 9 094.1                | 10 148.3 |
| Jun qtr                   | 6 449.3                | 6 555.4  | 1 100.1   | 1 136.8 | 7 579.4                 | 7 695.2  | 2 802.8              | 3 772.2  | 10 304.3               | 11 385.6 |
| Sep qtr                   | 4 776.5                | 4 866.8  | 756.9   | 786.4   | 5 511.3                 | 5 644.8  | 2 297.5              | 3 231.6  | 7 786.6                | 8 847.6  |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 126.4                | 4 179.6  | 763.9   | 783.0   | 4 829.5                 | 4 957.7  | 2 136.7              | 2 981.0  | 7 055.9                | 8 021.0  |
| <b>2001</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 4 120.9                | 4 304.3  | 785.2   | 820.1   | 4 977.6                 | 5 137.3  | 2 163.3              | 3 073.2  | 7 122.8                | 8 205.9  |
| TREND ESTIMATES (\$m)     |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| <b>1999</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 916.9                | 4 846.8  | 893.3   | 925.5   | 5 616.2                 | 5 740.8  | 2 753.8              | 3 668.9  | 8 395.4                | 9 446.4  |
| <b>2000</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 5 272.1                | 5 015.4  | 932.4   | 953.1   | 5 801.0                 | 5 928.6  | 2 724.9              | 3 652.0  | 8 593.0                | 9 647.3  |
| Jun qtr                   | 5 283.1                | 5 001.4  | 907.6   | 918.6   | 5 753.0                 | 5 889.9  | 2 611.4              | 3 538.8  | 8 453.6                | 9 495.5  |
| Sep qtr                   | 4 874.7                | 4 762.0  | 840.5   | 853.6   | 5 460.8                 | 5 605.4  | 2 409.0              | 3 325.6  | 7 952.4                | 8 983.3  |
| Dec qtr                   | 4 359.8                | 4 445.5  | 777.4   | 799.9   | 5 104.1                 | 5 249.0  | 2 208.1              | 3 103.7  | 7 359.2                | 8 387.2  |
| <b>2001</b>               |                        |          |   |         |                         |          |                      |          |                        |          |
| Mar qtr                   | 3 888.7                | 4 130.6  | 736.6   | 772.2   | 4 767.6                 | 4 906.7  | 2 053.0              | 2 926.5  | 6 787.2                | 7 824.6  |

(a) From the September quarter 2000 data is inclusive of the non-deductible GST payable on residential buildings.

| Period  | NEW RESIDENTIAL(a) |       | ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO RESIDENTIAL BUILDING(a)..... |       | TOTAL RESIDENTIAL(a) |       | NON-RESIDENTIAL.. |       | TOTAL BUILDING(a)..... |       |
|---|--------------------|-------|---|-------|----------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|
|   | Private            | Total | Private   | Total | Private              | Total | Private           | Total | Private                | Total |
| ORIGINAL (% change from preceding period)             |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| <b>1997-98</b>  | 22.0               | 20.5  | 16.9  | 17.2  | 21.2                 | 20.0  | 3.3               | 4.5   | 14.3                   | 13.0  |
| <b>1998-99</b>  | 10.8               | 11.3  | 7.9   | 7.9   | 10.3                 | 10.8  | 11.3              | 9.0   | 10.7                   | 10.0  |
| <b>1999-00</b>  | 24.8               | 23.7  | 19.8  | 19.8  | 24.0                 | 23.1  | 1.3               | 1.1   | 16.1                   | 14.0  |
| <b>1999</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Dec qtr   | 5.9                | 5.5   | 8.2   | 5.8   | 6.2                  | 5.6   | -2.1              | -0.2  | 3.4                    | 3.3   |
| <b>2000</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Mar qtr   | 3.2                | 2.6   | -8.7  | -8.0  | 1.3                  | 0.9   | -15.9             | -15.9 | -4.4                   | -5.6  |
| Jun qtr   | 26.9               | 26.3  | 26.8  | 27.4  | 26.8                 | 26.5  | 12.6              | 17.3  | 22.7                   | 23.3  |
| Sep qtr   | -25.4              | -24.6 | -30.5   | -30.1 | -26.1                | -25.4 | -11.6             | -12.5 | -22.3                  | -21.2 |
| Dec qtr   | -11.7              | -11.6 | 8.5   | 7.5   | -8.9                 | -9.0  | -4.4              | -3.9  | -7.6                   | -7.2  |
| <b>2001</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Mar qtr   | -8.6               | -8.6  | -12.6   | -11.4 | -9.2                 | -9.1  | -15.3             | -12.5 | -11.1                  | -10.4 |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (% change from preceding quarter) |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| <b>1999</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Dec qtr   | 2.3                | 2.7   | 0.1   | -2.1  | 2.3                  | 2.0   | -4.5              | -3.9  | 1.3                    | 0.9   |
| <b>2000</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Mar qtr   | 13.5               | 15.7  | 8.5   | 9.0   | 15.0                 | 15.0  | 0.6               | -0.9  | 8.8                    | 7.8   |
| Jun qtr   | 20.1               | 17.1  | 16.8  | 17.4  | 17.9                 | 16.9  | 4.3               | 5.8   | 13.3                   | 12.2  |
| Sep qtr   | -25.9              | -25.8 | -31.2   | -30.8 | -27.3                | -26.6 | -18.0             | -14.3 | -24.4                  | -22.3 |
| Dec qtr   | -13.6              | -14.1 | 0.9   | -0.4  | -12.4                | -12.2 | -7.0              | -7.8  | -9.4                   | -9.3  |
| <b>2001</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Mar qtr   | -0.1               | 3.0   | 2.8   | 4.7   | 3.1                  | 3.6   | 1.2               | 3.1   | 0.9                    | 2.3   |
| TREND ESTIMATES (% change from preceding quarter)     |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| <b>1999</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Dec qtr   | 7.7                | 3.5   | 6.4   | 6.1   | 3.8                  | 3.5   | 0.1               | -0.2  | 3.2                    | 2.6   |
| <b>2000</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Mar qtr   | 7.2                | 3.5   | 4.4   | 3.0   | 3.3                  | 3.3   | -1.0              | -0.5  | 2.4                    | 2.1   |
| Jun qtr   | 0.2                | -0.3  | -2.7  | -3.6  | -0.8                 | -0.7  | -4.2              | -3.1  | -1.6                   | -1.6  |
| Sep qtr   | -7.7               | -4.8  | -7.4  | -7.1  | -5.1                 | -4.8  | -7.8              | -6.0  | -5.9                   | -5.4  |
| Dec qtr   | -10.6              | -6.6  | -7.5  | -6.3  | -6.5                 | -6.4  | -8.3              | -6.7  | -7.5                   | -6.6  |
| <b>2001</b>   |                    |       |   |       |                      |       |                   |       |                        |       |
| Mar qtr   | -10.8              | -7.1  | -5.3  | -3.5  | -6.6                 | -6.5  | -7.0              | -5.7  | -7.8                   | -6.7  |

(a) From the September quarter 2000 data is inclusive of the non-deductible GST payable on residential buildings.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication contains preliminary estimates of building and engineering construction work done during the quarter. The estimates of building work done are from the quarterly Building Activity Survey and are based upon a response of approximately 85% of the value of work done during the quarter. The estimates of engineering work done are from the quarterly Engineering Construction Survey and are based upon a response of approximately 80% of the value of work done during the quarter. More comprehensive and updated results will be available shortly in *Building Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8752.0) and *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8762.0).

## SCOPE AND COVERAGE

**2** The scope of the Building Activity Survey, is building activity which includes construction of new building and alterations and additions to existing buildings. Value of building activity includes the costs of materials fixed in place, labour, and architects fees. It excludes the value of land and landscaping and non-building components such as fencing, paving, roadworks, tennis courts, outdoor pools and car parks.

**3** The building statistics were compiled on the basis of returns collected from builders and other individuals and organisations engaged in building activity. The quarterly survey consists of two components:

- a sample survey of private sector jobs involving new house construction or alterations and additions valued at \$10,000 or more to houses
- a complete enumeration of jobs involving construction of new residential buildings other than private sector houses, all alterations and additions to residential buildings (other than private sector houses) with an approval value of \$10,000 or more, and all non-residential building jobs with an approval value of \$50,000 or more.

**4** The Engineering Construction Survey aims to measure the value of all engineering construction work undertaken in Australia. For the Engineering Construction Survey all management units recorded on the ABS central register of businesses and classified to the construction industry and all other units known to be undertaking engineering construction work (from trade journals, newspapers, etc.), are included in the survey framework.

**5** The cost of land and the value of building construction is excluded from the scope of the Engineering Construction Survey. Where projects include elements of both building and engineering construction every effort is taken to exclude the building component from the engineering construction statistics. Repair and maintenance activity is also excluded as are the value of any transfers of existing assets, the value of installed machinery and equipment not integral to the structure and the expenses for relocation of utility services. A contract for the installation of machinery and equipment which is an integral part of a construction project is included.

### RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

**6** Data on the value of work done on the construction of new residential buildings, alterations and additions to residential buildings, private sector non-residential buildings and the value of total and new engineering construction activity are the major sources of data which are used to compile the national accounts estimates for private gross fixed capital formation on dwellings, and other buildings and structures. However, there are some adjustments to the survey data which are made in the process of compiling these national accounts series. Allowances are made for the value of building activity which is out of scope of the Building Activity Survey and the Engineering Construction Survey. Such activity includes work done on projects which fall below the size cut-offs used for the surveys and also the value of work done which is undertaken without obtaining a building permit, either because such a permit is not required or because the requisite permit is not obtained. The national accounts estimates also make allowances for purchases (less sales) of buildings and other structures from (to) the public sector.

### TREATMENT OF THE GST

**7** Statistics on value of work (current prices) show residential building work done on a GST inclusive basis and non-residential work and engineering construction work done on a GST exclusive basis. This approach is consistent with that adopted in the Australian National Accounts which is based on the conceptual framework described in the 1993 edition of the international statistical standard System of National Accounts (SNA93).

**8** SNA93 requires value added taxes (VAT), such as the GST, to be recorded on a net basis where:

- (a) both outputs of goods and services and imports are valued excluding invoiced VAT;
- (b) purchases of goods and services are recorded including non-deductible VAT.

Under the net system, VAT is recorded as being payable by purchasers, not sellers, and then only by those purchasers who are not able to deduct it. Almost all VAT is therefore recorded in the SNA93 as being paid on final uses—mainly on household consumption. Small amounts of VAT, may however, be paid by businesses in respect of certain kinds of purchases on which VAT may not be deductible.

**9** The ABS records value of work done inclusive of GST in respect of residential construction and exclusive of GST in respect of non-residential construction and engineering construction. Purchasers of residential structures are unable to deduct GST from the purchase price. For non-residential structures and engineering construction, the reverse is true in most circumstances.

**10** Total construction work is derived by adding total building work and total engineering construction work. To derive total building activity it is appropriate to add the residential and non-residential components. Valuation of the components of the total is consistent, since, for both components, the value of work done is recorded inclusive of non-deductible GST paid by the purchaser. As such, total building activity and total construction includes the non-deductible GST payable on residential building.

**11** As estimates for engineering work are provided on a GST exclusive basis, and the majority of construction materials used were exempt from Wholesale Sales Tax, the introduction of the GST has had little direct effect on the estimates of engineering construction.

### DEFINITIONS

**12** A *building* is defined as a rigid, fixed and permanent structure which has a roof. Its intended purpose is primarily to house people, plant, machinery, vehicles, goods or livestock. An integral feature of a building's design, to satisfy its intended use, is the provision for regular access by persons.

**13** 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 such as motels, hostels and holiday apartments, are not defined as dwelling units. The value of units of this type is included in non-residential building.

**14** 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*:

- 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, blocks of flats, apartment buildings, etc.).

**15** A *non-residential building* is primarily intended for purposes other than long term residential purposes.

**16** *Alterations and additions* refer to building activity carried out on existing building. It includes adding to or diminishing floor area, altering the structural design of a building and affixing rigid components which are integral to the functioning of the building.

**17** The *value of engineering work done for the private sector* consists of the value of work done on prime contracts, plus speculative contracts, plus work done on own account.

**18** The *value of building and engineering work done during the period* represents the estimated value of work actually carried out during the quarter on jobs which have commenced.

### CLASSIFICATION: OWNERSHIP

**19** The ownership of a building is classified as either *private sector* or *public sector*, according to the sector of the intended owner of the completed building or project as evident at the time of approval.

**20** Engineering projects are classified as either *private sector* or *public sector* according to the expected ownership of the project at the time of completion.

### RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

**21** The estimates of engineering activity in this publication are based on a sample survey as are the estimates of the building activity concerning private sector houses (including alterations and additions to private sector houses). A complete enumeration of other building activity is done. Because data are not collected for all engineering jobs and private sector house building jobs, the published estimates are subject to sampling variability. Relative standard errors give a measure of this variability and therefore indicate the degree of confidence that can be attached to the data.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES *continued*

**22** Relative standard errors for the value of work done in the March quarter 2001 are given below. There is 67% confidence that the actual value would be within one standard error of the sample estimate, and 95% confidence that it lies within two standard errors.

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
|                                    | %          |
| New private residential building   | 0.9        |
| Total private residential building | 0.8        |
| Total private building             | 0.6        |
| Total residential building         | 0.8        |
| <b>Total building</b>              | <b>0.5</b> |
| Engineering for the private sector | 3.1        |
| <b>Total engineering</b>           | <b>2.7</b> |

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

**23** In the seasonally adjusted series, account has been taken of normal seasonal factors and the effect of movement in the date of Easter which may, in successive years, affect figures for different quarters. Details regarding the methods used in seasonally adjusting the series are available on request.

**24** Since seasonally adjusted statistics reflect both irregular and trend movements, an upward or downward movement in a seasonally adjusted series does not necessarily indicate a change of trend. Particular care should therefore be taken in interpreting individual quarter-to-quarter movements. Each of the component series shown has been seasonally adjusted independently. As a consequence, while the unadjusted components in the original series shown add to the totals, the adjusted components may not add to the adjusted totals.

**25** As happens with all seasonally adjusted series, the seasonal factors are reviewed annually to take account of each additional year's data. The results of the latest review are shown in the December quarter issue each year for the Building Activity Survey and in the June quarter issue each year for the Engineering Construction Survey.

### TREND ESTIMATES

**26** Seasonally adjusted series can be smoothed to reduce the impact of the irregular component in the adjusted series. This smoothed seasonally adjusted series is called a trend estimate.

**27** The trend estimates are derived by applying a 7-term Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. The 7-term Henderson average (like all Henderson averages) is symmetric but, as the end of a time series is approached, asymmetric forms of the average are applied. Unlike weights of the standard 7-term Henderson moving average, the weights employed here have been tailored to suit the particular characteristics of individual series.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### TREND ESTIMATES *continued*

**28** While the smoothing technique described in paragraphs 26 and 27 enables trend estimates to be produced for recent quarters, it does result in revisions to the estimates for the most recent three quarters as additional observations become available. There may also be revisions because of changes in the original data and as a result of the re-estimation of the seasonal factors. For further information, see *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring Trends: an Overview* (Cat. no. 1348.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on Canberra 02 6252 6076.

### CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES

**29** Chain volume estimates of the value of work done are presented in original, seasonally adjusted and trend terms.

**30** While current price estimates of value of work done reflect both price and volume changes, chain volume estimates measure changes in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated and therefore only reflect volume changes. The direct impact of the GST is a price change, and hence is removed from chain volume estimates. The deflators used to revalue the current price estimates in this publication are derived from the same price data underlying the deflators compiled for the dwellings and new other building components, and the new engineering construction component, of the national accounts aggregate 'Gross fixed capital formation'.

**31** The chain volume measures of work done appearing in this publication are annually reweighted chain Laspeyres indexes referenced to current price values in a chosen reference year (currently 1998–99). The reference year is updated annually in the June quarter publication. Each year's data in the value of work done series are based on the prices of the previous year, except for the quarters of the latest incomplete year which are based upon the current reference year (i.e. 1998–99). Comparability with previous years is achieved by linking (or chaining) the series together to form a continuous time series. Further information on the nature and concepts of chain volume measures is contained in the ABS *Information Paper: Introduction of Chain Volume Measures in the Australian National Accounts* (Cat. no. 5248.0).

**32** The factors used to seasonally adjust the chain volume series are identical to those used to adjust the corresponding current price series.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**33** ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.



## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### RELATED PRODUCTS

**34** Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from ABS Bookshops:

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

*Building Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8752.0)—issued quarterly

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

*Private Sector Construction Industry, Australia, 1996–97* (Cat. no. 8772.0)

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

*House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities* (Cat. no. 6416.0)—issued quarterly

*Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia* (Cat. no. 5609.0)—  
issued monthly

*Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six  
State Capital Cities* (Cat. no. 6407.0)—issued quarterly

*Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities*  
(Cat. no. 6408.0)—issued quarterly

**35** Current publications and other products 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 products to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

### ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**36** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

### SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

|      |                                 |
|------|---------------------------------|
| ABS  | Australian Bureau of Statistics |
| n.a. | not available                   |
| ..   | not applicable                  |
| —    | nil or rounded to zero          |

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





## FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
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- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

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