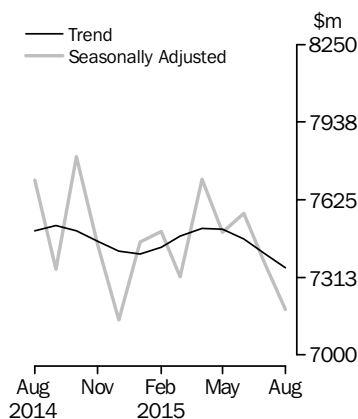


LENDING FINANCE

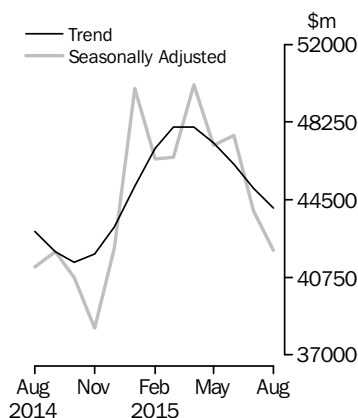
AUSTRALIA

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Personal Finance



Commercial Finance



INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

KEY FIGURES

	Jul 2015	Aug 2015	Jul 2015 to Aug 2015
	\$m	\$m	% change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation(a)	19 645	20 017	1.9
Personal finance	7 409	7 351	-0.8
Commercial finance	45 046	44 113	-2.1
Lease finance	570	580	1.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation(a)	19 591	20 795	6.1
Personal finance	7 371	7 184	-2.5
Commercial finance	43 958	42 037	-4.4
Lease finance	900	601	-33.2

(a) Excludes alterations and additions

KEY POINTS

AUGUST 2015 COMPARED WITH JULY 2015:

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

- The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions rose 1.9% in trend terms, and the seasonally adjusted series rose 6.1%.

PERSONAL FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total personal finance commitments fell 0.8%. Fixed lending commitments fell 0.9% and revolving credit commitments fell 0.5%.
- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments fell 2.5%. Revolving credit commitments fell 5.0% and fixed lending commitments fell 0.9%.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell 2.1%. Revolving credit commitments fell 2.5% and fixed lending commitments fell 1.9%.
- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell 4.4%. Revolving credit commitments fell 8.7% and fixed lending commitments fell 3.1%.

LEASE FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total lease finance commitments rose 1.6% in August 2015 and the seasonally adjusted series fell 33.2%, after a rise of 60.8% in July 2015.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
September 2015	13 November 2015
October 2015	11 December 2015
November 2015	19 January 2016
December 2015	16 February 2016
January 2016	11 March 2016
February 2016	13 April 2016

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REVISIONS

In this issue revisions have been made to the original series as a result of improved reporting of survey and administrative data. These revisions have affected the following:

- Owner occupied housing values for periods December 2012 to July 2015.
- Commercial Finance values for periods December 2012 to July 2015.
- Personal Finance values for the periods December 2012 to July 2015.
- Investment housing for the periods December 2012 to July 2015.

Previous issues of this publication included trend breaks in some series due to a major lender revising their reported data back to December 2014. In this issue, the ABS has backcast the impacted series for the periods December 2012 to November 2014. The trend breaks that were applied to December 2014 for the series mentioned below are removed this month:

- Secured Housing Finance - Alterations and additions series published in Tables 1 and 8.
- Personal Finance - Fixed loans series published in Tables 1 and 50.
- Personal Finance - Revolving credit series published in Tables 1 and 50.
- Personal Finance - Total series published in Tables 1 and 50.

These revisions include improved reporting of commercial fixed loans by a significant lender from July 2015. Although breaks were not required to any of the trend series, periods prior to July 2015 will be subject to revisions in future issues of this publication.

PRIVACY

The *ABS Privacy Policy* outlines how the ABS will handle any personal information that you provide to the ABS.

David W. Kalisch
Australian Statistician

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TIME SERIES DATA

TIME SERIES DATA

Data available free on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> include:

- longer time series of tables in this publication, and
- the following tables:

13. Lending Finance Seasonal Factors and Forward Factors for 12 months, By Purpose: Australia (from January 1985)
14. Commercial finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
15. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
16. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
17. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans by industry
18. Commercial finance commitments, revolving credit by industry
- 19 to 26. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
27. Lease finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
28. Lease finance commitments by purpose
29. Lease finance commitments by purpose and lender
30. Lease finance commitments by industry
- 31 to 38. Lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
39. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose
40. Operating lease finance commitments by lender
41. Operating lease finance commitments by industry
- 42 to 49. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
50. Personal finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
51. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
52. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
- 53 to 60. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions rose 1.9% in trend terms and the seasonally adjusted series rose 6.1%.

Further detail can be found in Table 1 on the downloads tab of this release and in the PDF.

For further information, please refer to Housing Finance, Australia Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0), which was released on Friday 9 October 2015.

PERSONAL FINANCE

The trend series for the value of total personal finance commitments fell 0.8% in August 2015 compared with July 2015. Fixed lending commitments fell 0.9% and revolving credit commitments fell 0.5%.

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments fell 2.5%. Revolving credit commitments fell 5.0% and fixed lending commitments fell 0.9%.

Further detail can be found in Tables 1 and 4 on the downloads tab of this release and in the PDF.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

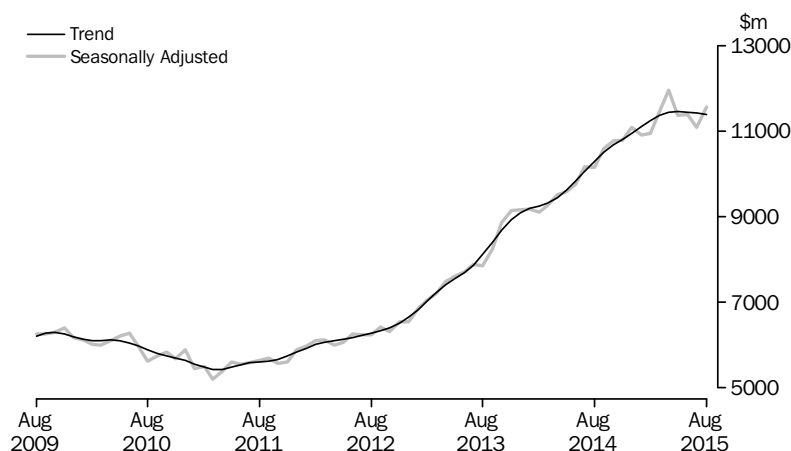
The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell 2.1% in August 2015 compared with July 2015. Revolving lending commitments fell 2.5% and fixed lending commitments fell 1.9%.

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell 4.4% in August 2015, following a fall of 7.7% in July 2015. Revolving lending commitments fell 8.7%, following a fall of 20% in the previous month. Fixed lending commitments fell 3.1%, following a fall of 3.4% in the previous month.

The value of commitments for the purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (trend) fell 0.3% in August 2015 and the seasonally adjusted series rose 4.3%.

Further detail can be found in Tables 1 and 8 on the downloads tab of this release and in the PDF.

PURCHASE OF DWELLINGS BY INDIVIDUALS FOR RENT OR RESALE



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

LEASE FINANCE

The trend series for the value of total lease finance commitments rose 1.6% in August 2015 and the seasonally adjusted series fell 33.2%, after a rise of 60.8% in July 2015.

Further detail can be found in Table 1 on the downloads tab of this release and in the PDF.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Summary

Month	SECURED HOUSING(a)		PERSONAL(b)			COMMERCIAL			LEASE
	Construction and purchase of dwellings(c)	Alterations and additions	Fixed loans(d)	Revolving credit(e)	Total	Fixed loans(d)	Revolving credit(e)	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2014									
August	16 209	289	4 275	2 846	7 121	28 828	10 552	39 380	526
September	17 631	318	4 413	2 890	7 303	30 544	10 383	40 927	550
October	18 930	319	4 783	3 429	8 212	32 121	9 607	41 729	528
November	17 786	299	4 282	2 793	7 075	27 817	9 337	37 154	499
December	19 218	275	4 375	2 974	7 349	38 886	14 367	53 252	503
2015									
January	14 539	235	3 636	2 928	6 564	28 902	10 401	39 303	418
February	15 838	298	3 972	3 214	7 185	28 171	9 797	37 968	495
March	19 347	340	4 698	2 943	7 640	39 131	10 485	49 615	616
April	17 883	303	4 502	2 639	7 141	34 000	9 259	43 259	474
May	18 379	321	4 862	2 803	7 665	35 876	11 692	47 568	554
June	20 030	360	5 428	3 316	8 744	44 016	15 894	59 910	687
July	20 631	359	4 520	3 294	7 814	34 862	10 023	44 885	916
August	20 165	344	4 094	2 680	6 774	31 428	8 776	40 203	567
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2014									
August	16 439	303	4 521	3 183	7 704	30 253	10 983	41 236	556
September	17 113	312	4 404	2 942	7 346	31 441	10 524	41 965	553
October	17 476	298	4 578	3 219	7 797	30 960	9 793	40 753	534
November	17 330	302	4 440	3 006	7 447	28 812	9 466	38 278	520
December	17 898	276	4 306	2 834	7 140	31 827	10 338	42 165	438
2015									
January	17 723	297	4 285	3 170	7 455	35 035	14 818	49 853	529
February	18 010	306	4 313	3 185	7 498	34 736	11 741	46 478	549
March	18 433	310	4 427	2 889	7 316	36 474	10 058	46 532	546
April	19 164	319	4 776	2 930	7 706	39 227	10 826	50 053	533
May	17 854	308	4 569	2 925	7 494	34 858	12 265	47 124	542
June	19 261	340	4 631	2 940	7 571	35 415	12 204	47 619	560
July	19 591	346	4 409	2 961	7 371	34 193	9 765	43 958	900
August	20 795	358	4 371	2 813	7 184	33 121	8 915	42 037	601
TREND									
2014									
August	16 965	311	4 440	3 061	7 501	31 440	11 543	42 982	548
September	17 083	306	4 465	3 057	7 522	31 114	10 867	41 981	537
October	17 235	300	4 447	3 054	7 501	30 940	10 542	41 482	523
November	17 451	296	4 405	3 052	7 457	31 263	10 617	41 880	513
December	17 692	294	4 370	3 050	7 419	32 209	10 982	43 191	510
2015									
January	17 916	296	4 370	3 037	7 407	33 700	11 441	45 141	513
February	18 095	300	4 413	3 020	7 434	35 251	11 742	46 993	521
March	18 283	307	4 479	3 000	7 479	36 212	11 784	47 997	533
April	18 540	315	4 537	2 973	7 510	36 447	11 562	48 010	544
May	18 864	325	4 563	2 943	7 505	36 050	11 197	47 247	553
June	19 241	334	4 552	2 914	7 466	35 398	10 817	46 215	562
July	19 645	342	4 521	2 888	7 409	34 670	10 376	45 046	570
August	20 017	350	4 479	2 873	7 351	33 997	10 116	44 113	580

(a) For owner occupation.

(d) Includes refinancing (see Glossary).

(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

(e) New and increased credit limits during the month. Includes credit

(c) Includes refinancing across lending institutions (see Glossary).

cards.

HOUSING AND PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Lender: **Original**

Month	HOUSING FINANCE(a)					PERSONAL FINANCE(b)				
	Banks	Permanent building societies	Wholesale lenders n.e.c.	Other lenders	Total	Banks	Credit co- operatives	Finance companies	Other lenders	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014										
August	14 983	183	415	628	16 209	5 966	np	np	760	7 121
September	16 265	233	355	777	17 631	6 099	np	np	790	7 303
October	17 465	301	359	804	18 930	6 959	np	np	795	8 212
November	16 485	297	253	751	17 786	5 870	np	np	765	7 075
December	17 751	330	443	694	19 218	6 076	np	np	768	7 349
2015										
January	13 366	202	390	582	14 539	5 178	np	np	873	6 564
February	14 542	217	389	690	15 838	5 963	np	np	746	7 185
March	17 826	290	408	823	19 347	6 600	np	np	784	7 640
April	16 516	276	368	723	17 883	6 214	149	76	702	7 141
May	17 018	274	368	719	18 379	6 682	156	88	739	7 665
June	18 667	297	365	701	20 030	7 600	178	102	864	8 744
July	19 224	308	371	728	20 631	6 713	166	86	850	7 814
August	18 917	194	367	686	20 165	5 631	153	102	888	6 774

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Secured finance for owner occupation. Excludes alterations and additions.
(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

COMMERCIAL AND LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Lender: **Original**

Month	COMMERCIAL FINANCE					LEASE FINANCE				
	Banks	Money market corporations	Finance companies	Other lenders	Total	Banks	General financiers	Finance companies	Other lessors	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014										
August	36 447	np	490	np	39 380	91	173	np	np	526
September	37 196	np	536	np	40 927	92	169	np	np	550
October	38 247	np	np	np	41 729	72	165	np	np	528
November	34 264	202	499	2 160	37 154	74	143	np	np	499
December	49 573	323	573	2 691	53 252	59	165	np	np	503
2015										
January	36 624	np	429	np	39 303	52	116	np	np	418
February	34 131	np	496	np	37 968	64	140	np	np	495
March	46 308	np	571	np	49 615	153	158	np	np	616
April	39 761	np	760	np	43 259	76	124	np	np	474
May	44 758	np	751	np	47 568	95	166	np	np	554
June	56 292	np	np	2 641	59 910	135	161	np	np	687
July	41 583	np	820	np	44 885	100	501	np	np	916
August	37 294	np	823	np	40 203	99	163	138	167	567

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Purpose (Fixed Loans): **Original**

	<i>New motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Used motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Total motor vehicles(a)</i>	<i>Individual residential blocks of land</i>	<i>Unsecured finance for owner occupa- tion(b)</i>	<i>Debt consolidation</i>	<i>Refinancing</i>	<i>Other(c)</i>	Total
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014									
August	569	442	1 134	574	48	583	1 081	855	4 275
September	597	452	1 173	605	47	630	1 078	880	4 413
October	581	444	1 155	673	54	736	1 181	983	4 783
November	533	390	1 036	584	53	668	1 038	903	4 282
December	616	410	1 157	565	40	639	1 068	907	4 375
2015									
January	603	400	1 133	393	41	506	810	753	3 636
February	568	401	1 093	442	36	630	966	806	3 972
March	632	420	1 190	505	47	794	1 212	951	4 698
April	548	381	1 055	524	40	762	1 245	876	4 502
May	606	401	1 138	561	42	884	1 291	947	4 862
June	767	437	1 362	669	41	np	np	1 031	5 428
July	652	432	1 225	551	46	np	np	948	4 520
August	615	421	1 180	546	31	np	np	964	4 094

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Includes motorcycles and other motor vehicles.

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

(c) Includes boats, caravans and trailers, household goods, travel and holidays and other purposes.

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Revolving Credit Stocks and Flows: **Original**

<i>Month</i>	NEW AND INCREASED CREDIT LIMITS			CANCELLATIONS AND REDUCTIONS <i>Total(a)</i>	CREDIT AT END OF MONTH	
	<i>Secured</i>	<i>Unsecured</i>	<i>Total</i>		<i>Total limits(a)</i>	<i>Credit used</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014						
August	999	1 847	2 846	2 770	273 034	105 049
September	1 023	1 868	2 890	3 438	271 466	104 473
October	1 474	1 954	3 429	4 108	270 451	104 127
November	869	1 923	2 793	3 122	269 624	104 452
December	1 176	1 798	2 974	3 059	269 836	103 949
2015						
January	1 010	1 918	2 928	2 495	270 273	102 974
February	1 362	1 852	3 214	2 398	271 042	103 075
March	922	2 021	2 943	3 261	270 779	103 144
April	860	1 779	2 639	3 271	267 189	101 806
May	914	1 889	2 803	2 829	267 231	101 571
June	1 168	2 148	3 316	3 715	266 836	102 173
July	1 318	1 977	3 294	3 110	269 795	100 888
August	797	1 884	2 680	3 799	268 728	100 483

(a) These figures sometimes reflect a rebasing of the data by one or more lenders without adjustment to earlier periods' commitments or cancellations.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Purpose (Fixed Loans): **Original**

	Construction finance	Purchase of real property	Wholesale finance	Purchase of plant and equipment	Refinancing	Other	Total	Commitments not drawn at end of month
Month	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014								
August	1 652	12 779	1 651	1 924	4 095	6 727	28 828	50 561
September	2 541	13 466	1 910	2 193	2 291	8 144	30 544	50 933
October	1 696	14 136	1 772	2 208	3 012	9 297	32 121	48 910
November	1 628	13 004	1 535	1 977	2 226	7 447	27 817	48 228
December	2 811	16 370	2 780	2 633	3 655	10 636	38 886	53 984
2015								
January	2 022	11 285	1 395	1 599	2 387	10 214	28 902	53 735
February	1 876	11 928	1 454	1 960	3 358	7 595	28 171	51 204
March	1 656	15 309	np	2 293	3 428	np	39 131	53 361
April	1 921	14 583	2 021	2 449	3 023	10 004	34 000	51 939
May	2 134	15 367	1 540	2 772	2 461	11 602	35 876	55 495
June	2 030	17 041	1 720	3 324	5 795	14 106	44 016	56 408
July	1 711	15 278	1 985	2 627	3 685	9 577	34 862	55 783
August	2 181	14 140	1 425	2 451	2 698	8 533	31 428	57 414

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

LEASE AND REVOLVING COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, BY STOCK: AUSTRALIA, ORIGINAL (\$M)

LEASE FINANCE			COMMERCIAL REVOLVING CREDIT			
Total commitments	Commitments not drawn at end of month		New and increased credit limits	Cancellations and reductions	Total credit limits at end of month	Credit used at end of month
\$m	\$m		\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014						
August	526	np	10 552	9 167	331 984	193 865
September	550	np	10 383	8 197	335 065	195 991
October	528	np	9 607	8 567	336 190	196 445
November	499	np	9 337	7 582	338 675	197 636
December	503	np	14 367	11 186	322 083	187 371
2015						
January	418	np	10 401	7 263	326 023	189 041
February	495	np	9 797	8 144	329 282	191 434
March	616	np	10 485	8 807	331 365	193 509
April	474	np	9 259	7 741	331 588	193 273
May	554	np	11 692	8 051	336 245	194 923
June	687	np	15 894	10 194	342 016	195 501
July	916	np	10 023	9 724	343 467	194 934
August	567	np	8 776	9 025	343 940	196 649

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Housing (Owner Occupation and Commercial)

Month	OWNER OCCUPATION (SECURED FINANCE)				OWNER OCCUPATION (UNSECURED FINANCE)	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(a)			ALL HOUSING FINANCE
	Construction of dwellings	Purchase of new dwellings	Purchase of established dwellings	Alterations and additions	Total(b)	Construction of dwellings for rent and resale	Purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (c)	Purchase of dwellings by others for rent or resale	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2014									
August	1 760	955	13 494	289	48	853	9 668	1 089	28 156
September	1 919	960	14 752	318	47	908	10 565	1 191	30 661
October	1 988	1 023	15 918	319	54	778	11 251	1 006	32 337
November	1 729	1 042	15 014	299	53	658	10 755	860	30 410
December	1 873	1 079	16 266	275	40	1 378	11 882	1 241	34 034
2015									
January	1 365	718	12 456	235	41	586	8 799	938	25 138
February	1 574	859	13 405	298	36	650	9 342	943	27 107
March	1 775	1 049	16 523	340	47	876	12 072	1 378	34 060
April	1 724	962	15 197	303	40	1 008	11 580	1 106	31 919
May	1 815	1 011	15 553	321	42	1 081	12 203	1 291	33 317
June	1 911	1 079	17 040	360	41	1 092	12 948	1 451	35 922
July	1 844	1 191	17 595	359	46	1 122	11 627	1 454	35 239
August	1 781	1 132	17 252	344	31	806	10 778	1 155	33 278
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2014									
August	1 731	991	13 718	303	51	851	10 146	1 116	28 907
September	1 832	961	14 320	312	46	785	10 587	1 092	29 936
October	1 891	947	14 637	298	50	768	10 760	1 010	30 362
November	1 819	985	14 527	302	50	714	10 775	829	30 000
December	1 837	948	15 112	276	43	1 101	11 091	1 069	31 477
2015									
January	1 772	905	15 046	297	50	837	10 903	1 318	31 128
February	1 771	967	15 272	306	40	817	10 944	1 093	31 210
March	1 725	998	15 710	310	42	936	11 459	1 279	32 459
April	1 833	1 019	16 313	319	42	1 017	11 952	1 221	33 715
May	1 711	1 006	15 137	308	38	1 019	11 358	1 235	31 813
June	1 698	1 045	16 518	340	40	1 009	11 375	1 276	33 301
July	1 692	1 131	16 768	346	44	1 065	11 077	1 478	33 600
August	1 739	1 165	17 891	358	33	830	11 556	1 178	34 751
TREND									
2014									
August	1 812	977	14 176	311	48	697	10 289	1 057	29 366
September	1 822	972	14 289	306	48	768	10 502	1 041	29 749
October	1 828	962	14 445	300	48	817	10 669	1 031	30 100
November	1 826	952	14 672	296	48	849	10 808	1 038	30 490
December	1 817	948	14 926	294	47	868	10 942	1 072	30 914
2015									
January	1 802	951	15 163	296	45	887	11 093	1 120	31 357
February	1 781	960	15 354	300	43	918	11 242	1 176	31 774
March	1 762	978	15 543	307	42	950	11 358	1 225	32 165
April	1 748	1 005	15 788	315	41	974	11 431	1 256	32 557
May	1 735	1 037	16 091	325	40	989	11 453	1 274	32 944
June	1 724	1 071	16 447	334	40	995	11 441	1 290	33 341
July	1 715	1 104	16 827	342	39	992	11 419	1 301	33 739
August	1 708	1 131	17 178	350	38	976	11 386	1 317	34 085

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

(c) Includes refinancing (See Glossary)

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Motor Vehicles: **Original**

	PERSONAL FINANCE(a)					COMMERCIAL FINANCE(a)	LEASE FINANCE	ALL VEHICLE FINANCE
	New motor cars and station wagons	Used motor cars and station wagons	Motorcycles	Other motor vehicles	Total	Total	Total	Total
Month	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014								
August	569	442	25	98	1 134	989	369	2 493
September	597	452	27	97	1 173	1 116	378	2 667
October	581	444	31	99	1 155	1 072	375	2 602
November	533	390	26	87	1 036	1 002	348	2 386
December	616	410	27	105	1 157	1 151	341	2 648
2015								
January	603	400	22	107	1 133	855	297	2 285
February	568	401	24	100	1 093	1 029	343	2 465
March	632	420	29	108	1 190	1 228	391	2 809
April	548	381	26	100	1 055	1 018	352	2 425
May	606	401	30	101	1 138	1 126	394	2 657
June	767	437	39	120	1 362	1 568	490	3 420
July	652	432	36	104	1 225	1 156	427	2 808
August	615	421	39	105	1 180	1 131	390	2 701

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Motor Vehicles: **Original**

Month	MOTOR CARS AND STATION WAGONS		LIGHT TRUCKS		HEAVY TRUCKS		OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES	ALL VEHICLES
	New	Used	New	Used	New	Used	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014								
August	184	62	62	np	8	np	np	369
September	216	64	70	np	np	np	np	378
October	221	60	67	11	11	2	2	375
November	208	55	58	np	14	np	np	348
December	200	56	59	np	11	np	np	341
2015								
January	173	54	54	9	5	—	2	297
February	200	57	62	np	np	np	np	343
March	228	68	65	12	np	np	np	391
April	211	61	54	9	8	np	np	352
May	237	66	65	np	9	np	np	394
June	280	79	84	13	16	3	14	490
July	259	68	67	12	13	np	np	427
August	221	64	66	13	17	np	np	390

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

COMMERCIAL AND LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Plant and Equipment(a): **Original**

<i>Month</i>	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(b)			LEASE FINANCE	ALL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT FINANCE
	<i>Transport equipment</i>	<i>Other plant and equipment</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014					
August	193	741	935	157	1 092
September	190	887	1 077	173	1 250
October	203	933	1 136	154	1 290
November	180	795	976	151	1 127
December	252	1 230	1 482	162	1 645
2015					
January	130	615	744	122	866
February	197	734	931	152	1 083
March	217	848	1 064	226	1 290
April	379	1 052	1 431	122	1 552
May	528	1 118	1 646	160	1 807
June	375	1 381	1 756	197	1 953
July	219	1 252	1 471	489	1 960
August	184	1 136	1 320	177	1 497

(a) Excludes motor vehicles (see tables 9 and 10).

(b) Excludes revolving credit.

LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Plant and Equipment: **Original**

	<i>Transport equipment (a)</i>	<i>Construction and earthmoving equipment</i>	<i>Agricultural machinery and equipment</i>	<i>Manu- facturing equipment</i>	<i>Electronic data processing equipment</i>	<i>Office machines</i>	<i>Shop and office furniture, fittings and equipment</i>	<i>Other goods</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2014									
August	np	np	np	np	26	29	7	np	157
September	np	29	np	np	37	29	6	np	173
October	np	25	7	1	53	27	15	np	154
November	3	26	np	np	41	36	10	12	151
December	3	41	np	np	40	34	7	22	162
2015									
January	np	31	np	np	40	np	np	np	122
February	np	np	np	np	51	27	9	np	152
March	np	80	14	3	40	59	8	np	226
April	np	19	7	2	38	30	7	np	122
May	—	45	6	4	37	39	13	16	160
June	np	41	18	1	50	41	17	np	197
July	np	26	4	1	np	53	np	np	489
August	np	np	np	2	43	42	14	np	177

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Excludes motor vehicles (see tables 9 and 10).

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable,
unless otherwise indicated

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1** This publication presents statistics on finance commitments made by significant lenders for the purposes of secured housing finance for owner occupation, other personal finance, commercial finance and lease finance.
- 2** *Secured housing finance for owner occupation* is secured finance to individuals for the purchase or construction of dwellings for owner occupation, and for alterations and additions to existing owner occupied dwellings. Refinancing involving a change of lender is also included, while refinancing with the same lender is excluded from all estimates.
- 3** *Personal finance*, other than secured housing finance for owner occupation, is finance provided to individuals for their personal, non-business, use. Both fixed loans and revolving credit finance are included.
- 4** *Commercial finance* is finance provided to individuals and corporations for business or investment purposes, including for the construction or purchase of dwellings for rental or resale. Fixed loans, revolving credit and commercial hire purchase are included.
- 5** *Lease finance* includes finance leases and excludes operating and leverage leases. Operating lease finance statistics are provided separately as spreadsheets on the Downloads tab of this issue.

SCOPE

- 6** Finance commitments made by the following types of lenders are included:
 - Banks
 - Permanent building societies
 - Credit unions/cooperative credit societies
 - Life or general insurance companies
 - General government enterprises
 - Superannuation funds
 - Securitised mortgage assets (wholesale lenders) which provide funds to borrowers through a retail intermediary (e.g. mortgage originators)
 - Registered Financial Corporations (RFCs).

COVERAGE

- 7** Until the statistics in this publication were derived from returns submitted to the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) (see paragraph 10), the statistics covered all bank commitments, and all commitments for secured housing finance for owner occupation made by permanent building societies. Of the remaining commitments, the largest lenders for each of secured housing finance for owner occupation, other personal finance, commercial finance and lease finance were covered, so that when calculated separately for each of the four broad categories of purpose finance, at least 95% of Australia-wide finance commitments and at least 90% of each state's finance commitments were covered. While many lenders other than banks were not covered, at least 70% coverage was maintained for all published lender types (including the Other Lenders series and Other Lessors series).
- 8** When APRA commenced the collection, lending commitments by Non-Banks with total assets of \$50 million or more were covered. All banks' lending commitments were covered.
- 9** From January 2014 a monthly reporting threshold was introduced for Non-Banks to provide 95 per cent asset coverage of the non-bank sector. Non-banks with assets below the \$200m asset threshold ceased reporting from January 2014 while other Non-Banks with assets above the threshold started reporting to APRA from January 2014. The lending commitments of those which started reporting in January 2014 were excluded from the January 2014 to January 2015 published statistics pending assessment of seasonal impacts of those non-banks' commitments on seasonally adjusted and trend series estimates. Issues of this publication from February 2015 include finance commitments from January 2014 reported by Non-Banks above the reporting threshold.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COVERAGE *continued*

A trend break in January 2014 was added to the Lease Finance series published in Tables 1 and 27, due to this change in coverage.

SOURCES

10 For banks, credit cooperatives, building societies and RFCs, the statistics in this publication are currently derived from returns submitted to the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA). The *Financial Sector (Collection of Data) Act 2001* facilitates the collection of statistical data from the financial sector, with APRA established as the central point for collection of both prudential and statistical data. In October 2001, APRA implemented new reporting forms for building societies and credit cooperatives. New reporting forms were implemented for banks in March 2002, and for RFCs in March 2003. APRA commenced collecting loan commitments data from banks, credit cooperatives and building societies in July 2002, and from RFCs in March 2003.

11 Secured housing finance commitments for owner occupied housing from banks, building societies and credit cooperatives are derived from *ARF 392.0 Housing Finance* form collected by APRA. Personal finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the *ARF 394.0 Personal Finance* form. Commercial finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the *ARF 391.0 Commercial Finance* form and from the *ARF 394.0 Personal Finance* form for fixed loans for personal investment purposes. Lease finance commitments are sourced from the *ARF 393.0 Lease Finance* form.

12 Finance commitments for RFCs are collected on the *RRF 391.0 Commercial Finance* (commercial finance commitments), *RRF 392.0 Housing Finance* (secured housing finance commitments for owner occupied housing), *RRF 393.0 Lease Finance* (lease finance commitments) and *RRF 394.0 Personal Finance* (personal finance commitments and commercial finance commitments).

13 Electronic versions of the forms and instructions for ADIs are available on the APRA website at <http://www.apra.gov.au/adi/reportingframework/pages/adi-reporting.aspx>. For RFCs, these are available at: <http://www.apra.gov.au/NonReg/Pages/Registered-Financial-Corporations.aspx>.

14 All other institutions, including securitisation vehicles, are collected directly by the ABS.

REVISIONS

15 Revisions to previously published statistics are included in the publication as they occur.

16 Changes in the classification of lenders (e.g. the conversion of a permanent building society to a bank) are reflected in the Lender series from the month of the change. Data for earlier periods for such lenders are not reclassified. Details of the establishment of new banks are recorded in the 'Series breaks' tabs of Statistical Tables B and D on the Reserve Bank of Australia's website: RBA Statistical Tables.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

17 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation and 'trading day effects'. A 'trading day effect' reflects the varying amounts of activity on different days of the week and the different number of days of the week in any month (i.e. the number of Sundays, Mondays, etc.). This effect may be partly caused by the reporting practices of the lenders. Adjustment is also made for Easter which may affect the March and April estimates differently. Trading day effects are removed from the original estimates prior to the seasonal adjustment process. Seasonal adjustment does not remove the effect of irregular or non-seasonal influences (e.g. a change in interest rates) from the seasonally adjusted series.

18 Estimation of seasonal adjustment and trading day factors that reflect the full effect of recent developments is not possible until a sufficient number of years of data have been collected. When changes are occurring in the seasonal patterns, larger revisions to the seasonally adjusted series can be expected at the time of the biennial (once every

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

two years) seasonal reanalysis. Accordingly, the trend estimate data provide a more reliable indicator of underlying movement in housing finance commitments. (See paragraphs 21 and 22 for further information on trend estimates).

19 The lending finance series uses a concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology to derive the seasonal adjustment factors. This means that original estimates available at the current reference month are used to estimate seasonal factors for the current and previous months. As a result of this methodology, the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for earlier periods can be revised each month. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the previous month and the same month a year ago.

20 Autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) modelling can improve the revision properties of the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. ARIMA modelling relies on the characteristics of the series being analysed to project future period data. The projected values are temporary, intermediate values, that are only used internally to improve the estimation of the seasonal factors. The projected data do not affect the original estimates and are discarded at the end of the seasonal adjustment process. The lending finance collections use an individual ARIMA model for the majority of the series in this publication. The ARIMA model is assessed as part of the biennial reanalysis. The next reanalysis is scheduled for the December 2016 issue. For more information on ARIMA modelling see *Feature article: Use of ARIMA modelling to reduce revisions* in the October 2004 issue of *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat. no. 1350.0).

TREND ESTIMATES

21 Smoothing seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series and creates trend estimates. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13 term Henderson-weighted moving average to all but the last six months of the respective seasonally adjusted series. Trend series are created for the last six months by applying surrogates of the Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. For further information, refer to *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series – Monitoring Trends: An Overview* (cat. no. 1349.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on Canberra (02) 6252 6345 or by email at time.series.analysis@abs.gov.au.

22 While the smoothing technique described in paragraph 21 enables trend estimates to be produced for the latest few months, it does result in revisions to the trend estimates as new data become available. Generally, revisions become smaller over time and, after three months, usually have a negligible impact on the series. Changes in the original data and re-estimation of seasonal factors may also lead to revisions to the trend.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

23 Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Published changes in dollar value and percentage terms are calculated using unrounded data and may differ slightly from, but are more accurate than, changes calculated from the rounded data presented in this publication.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

24 Estimates for months prior to those shown in this publication and more detailed series are available in spreadsheet format from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) website. For more information, contact the ABS National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

25 Users may also wish to refer to the following ABS releases:

- *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0)
- *Assets and Liabilities of Australian Securitised* (cat. no. 5232.0.55.001) – issued quarterly.
- *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0) – issued monthly.
- *Dwelling Unit Commencements, Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 8750.0) – issued quarterly (final issue June 2012).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

continued

- *Building Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8752.0) – issued quarterly.
- *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia* (cat. no. 5625.0).
- *Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia* (cat. no. 9314.0).

26 In addition, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) produces the Bulletin, the tables of which are available on the RBA web site <http://www.rba.gov.au>. The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) also publishes a range of finance statistics on its website <http://www.apra.gov.au>.

27 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the Statistics View. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the ABS website <http://www.abs.gov.au> which details products to be released in the week ahead.

ABBREVIATIONS

\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADI	Authorised Deposit-taking Institution
APRA	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority
ARIMA	autoregressive integrated moving average
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
RBA	Reserve Bank of Australia
RFC	Registered Financial Corporation

GLOSSARY

Agricultural machinery and equipment	Includes tractors, tillage implements, seeding, planting and fertilising equipment, agricultural mowers, harvesters, etc.
Alterations and additions	Comprises all structural and non-structural changes which are integral to the functional and structural design of a dwelling. Examples are garages, carports, pergolas, reroofing, recladding, etc. Alterations and additions do not include swimming pools, ongoing repairs, or maintenance and home improvements which do not involve building work.
Commitment	Is a firm offer of finance. It either has been, or is normally expected to be, accepted. Commitments accepted and cancelled in the same month are included. Commitments to non-residents are excluded.
Construction and earth moving equipment	Includes concrete mixers and pumpers, dozers, graders, mobile cranes, crawler tractors, dumpers, road rollers, earth packers, scarifiers, rippers, etc.
Construction of dwellings	For owner occupation, comprises commitments made to individuals to finance, by way of progress payments, the construction of owner occupied dwellings. For commercial finance construction of dwellings for rental or resale, comprises commitments made to corporations to finance the construction of dwellings to be occupied by persons other than the owner(s).
Debt consolidation	For personal finance, comprises commitments whose principle purpose is to consolidate and pay out amounts owing by the borrower to third parties.
Dwelling	Is a single self-contained place of residence such as a detached or semidetached house, a terrace house, a flat, home unit, town house, etc. which includes bathing and cooking facilities.
Electronic data processing equipment	Includes computers, computer peripherals, data entry devices, word processing machines, etc.
Established dwelling	Is a dwelling that has been completed for 12 months or more prior to the lodgement of a loan application, or has been previously occupied.
Finance lease	Refers to the leasing or hiring of tangible assets under an agreement, other than a hire purchase agreement, which substantially transfers from the lessor to the lessee all the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the asset without transferring the legal ownership.
Fixed loans	Generally involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ a commitment for a fixed amount for a fixed period for a specific purpose ■ a schedule of repayments over a fixed period ■ repayments which reduce the liability of the borrower but do not act to make further finance available.
Heavy trucks	Comprises all vehicles with a gross combination mass rating in excess of 3.5 tonnes, including prime movers registered without trailers.
Light trucks	Comprises vehicles constructed primarily for the carriage of goods which do not exceed 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass such as utilities, panel vans, trucks, cab-chassis, forward control vans and four-wheel drives used to carry goods.
Manufacturing equipment	Includes all plant and equipment used in the manufacture of goods except motor vehicles such as forklifts, work trucks and tractors.
Motor cars and station wagons	Includes cars, station wagons, four-wheel drive and forward control passenger vehicles with up to nine seats (including the driver).
Motorcycles	Includes two and three wheeled motorcycles and mopeds, scooters and motorcycles with side cars.
New dwelling	Is a dwelling that has been completed within 12 months of the lodgement of a loan application, and the borrower will be the first occupant.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Office machines	Includes telephone systems (including PABX equipment), facsimile machines, cash registers, photocopiers, etc.
Purpose	Of the loan is that specified by the borrower. Where possible multiple purpose loans are split and each component is reported in the appropriate purpose category. Otherwise the whole loan is classified to the major purpose.
Real Property	Comprises both residential and non-residential land, buildings and fixed structures.
Refinancing	For personal and commercial finance, represents a commitment to refinance an existing loan. For secured housing finance, only those loans where the refinancing lender is a different lender and the security is unchanged are included. The refinancing of a loan to fund a change of residence is treated as a new lending commitment.
Revolving credit	<p>Generally has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ a commitment for a credit or borrowing limit is given for a specific period after which the commitment is reviewed ■ the extent of the borrowing used at any time during the period may be for any amount up to the authorised limit ■ repayments (other than of charges and interest) made during the period reduce the extent of the borrowing used and thereby increase the amount of unused credit available up to the authorised limit. Examples include credit cards, lines of credit and approved overdrafts.
Secured credit limits	Includes overdrafts, lines of credit, credit cards, etc. backed by a mortgage or other assets owned by the borrower.
Secured housing finance	Comprises all secured commitments to individuals for the construction or purchase of dwellings for owner occupation, regardless of type of security. Commitments for housing that will be occupied by persons other than the owner(s) are excluded.
Total credit limits at end of month	Comprises total approved credit limits available at the end of the reference month. In principle, this can be derived by adding new and increased lending commitments during the month less cancellations and reductions of credit limits during the month to the balance of credit limits at the end of the previous month. In practice, however, revisions and other adjustments (such as the transfer of an existing fixed credit facility) will mean that such a derivation is inexact.
Wholesale finance	Comprises finance for the purchase of goods by retailers and wholesalers.
Wholesale lenders	A wholesale lender provides funds to borrowers through a retail intermediary which may then also be responsible for the ongoing relationship with the borrower. The Wholesale Lenders n.e.c. series almost exclusively comprises securitisation vehicles (typically special purpose trusts) established to issue mortgage backed securities. It excludes funds provided where a bank or permanent building society, acting as a wholesale provider of funds, remains the lender on the contract. Those commitments are published as bank or permanent building society commitments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

INTERNET **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS website is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

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