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# ZOOS, PARKS AND GARDENS INDUSTRY

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Graham Boxsell on Canberra 02 6252 5633, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

# NOTES

## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents results, in respect of the 1996–97 financial year, from the first Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) census of organisations engaged in the operation of zoological gardens and aquaria, botanic gardens, and national and recreational parks.

The scope of the census was all employing businesses and statutory authorities classified to Class 9231, Zoological and Botanic Gardens and Class 9239, Recreational Parks and Gardens of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC). In addition, the botanic gardens, national parks and recreational parks and gardens activities of Commonwealth, State and local government authorities were included in the census even though these organisations are defined to another class of ANZSIC.

The publication has three parts, the first part presents data about zoological gardens and aquaria, the second about botanic gardens and the third national parks and recreational parks and gardens.

The publication is one of a series to be issued in respect of 1996–97 covering cultural industries, which were partially funded by the Cultural Ministers' Council. Other publications in this series are:

- *Commercial Art Galleries, Australia, 1996–97* (Cat. no. 8651.0)
- *Film and Video Production and Distribution, Australia, 1996–97* (Cat. no. 8679.0)
- *Libraries and Museums, Australia, 1996–97* (Cat. no. 8649.0)
- *Motion Picture Exhibition, Australia, 1996–97* (Cat. no. 8654.0)
- *Performing Arts Industry, Australia, 1996–97* (Cat. no. 8697.0)
- *Radio and Television Services, Australia, 1996–97* (Cat. no. 8680.0)
- *Sound Recording Studios, Australia, 1996–97* (Cat. no. 8555.0)

## COMMENTS ON THIS PUBLICATION

The ABS welcomes comments and suggestions from users recommending industries and data items for inclusion in future service industries surveys. These comments should be addressed to the Director, Service Industries Surveys, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT, 2616.

## SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
n.a.	not available
n.p.	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable
..	not applicable

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

T.J. Skinner  
Acting Australian Statistician

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## SECTION **1**

## ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS AND AQUARIA .....

### INTRODUCTION

This part of the publication presents information about zoological gardens and aquaria. The information relates to employing private sector businesses and statutory authorities whose main activity was the operation of a zoological garden or aquarium. These businesses and organisations are classified to Class 9231 (Zoological and Botanic Gardens) of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification.

### SIZE OF INDUSTRY

At the end of June 1997, there were 65 businesses in this industry comprising 53 zoological gardens and 12 aquaria. These businesses operated from 69 separate locations covering an area of 3,631 hectares.

### NUMBER OF PAID ADMISSIONS

During 1996–97, there were almost 8 million paid admissions to zoological gardens and aquaria. The number of paid admissions represented 0.43 visits per person for 1996–97 based on the Australian population of 18.5 million at the end of June 1997.

The average admission price to a zoological garden or aquarium during 1996–97 was \$8.70.

### SOURCES OF INCOME

Businesses in the zoological gardens and aquaria industry generated a total of \$142 million in income during 1996–97. Admissions income of \$69 million accounted for 49% of total income. Other major sources of income were from the sale of goods (\$29 million) and government funding (\$26 million).

During 1996–97, zoological gardens and aquaria received \$6 million (4% of total income) from the private sector in the form of donations and bequests (\$3 million) and sponsorships (\$3 million).

### EXPENSES

The major expense item for zoological gardens and aquaria during 1996–97 was labour costs of \$58 million which accounted for 46% of total expenses and represented \$29,700 per person employed.

Other major expense items included the purchase of goods and materials (\$20 million), depreciation and amortisation (\$10 million), advertising, marketing and promotional expenses (\$6 million) and repair and maintenance expenses (\$5 million). Other operating expenses such as stationery expenses, accounting and audit fees, and government rates, which were not separately itemised in the survey, accounted for \$16 million.

## OPERATING SURPLUS

The industry recorded an operating surplus of \$16 million for 1996–97. The eight largest organisations (i.e. those with employment of 50 persons or greater) which were generally statutory authorities established and partially funded by government, had an operating surplus in 1996–97 of \$15 million. Small businesses (i.e. those with employment less than 20 persons) had an operating surplus of \$0.8 million.

## EMPLOYMENT

There were 1,946 persons employed in the zoological gardens and aquaria industry at the end of June 1997. Full-time employees accounted for 65% (1,268) of total employment. There was a relatively even distribution in employment of males (986) and females (960), but females comprised 68% of the persons working on a part-time basis.

Curatorial and maintenance staff (769) comprised 40% of employment, 83% of whom worked on a full-time basis. Other major employment groupings in the industry included managerial and administrative staff (410) and retail sales staff (258).

A further 1,591 persons worked for zoological gardens and aquaria on a volunteer basis during June 1997. The majority of these volunteers (75%) worked as guides and information officers.

## BUSINESS SIZE

At the end of June 1997, there were eight businesses in the industry with employment of 50 persons or greater. These large businesses dominated the industry in that they accounted for 70% of industry employment (1,352), contributed 78% (\$111 million) to total income of the industry and accounted for 68% of paid admissions.

These eight large businesses averaged 251 hectares for each location they operated compared to the industry average of 53 hectares per location.

There were 49 businesses in the industry (75% of all businesses) with employment of less than 20 persons at the end of June 1997. However, these businesses only accounted for 17% (338) of employment, 20% (1.6 million) of admissions and contributed 10% (\$14 million) to total industry income.

## SPECIES AND SPECIMENS

At the end of June 1997, there were 62,467 animal specimens held by organisations in the zoological gardens and aquaria industry, of which 46,867 were vertebrates and 15,600 were invertebrates. The eight largest organisations accounted for 41% of the vertebrate specimens. Of the 46,867 vertebrate specimens, 67% were labelled. The extent of labelling or identification of vertebrate specimens varied from 85% for the eight largest organisations to 40% for those businesses with employment of less than 20 persons.

At 30 June 1997, each organisation in the industry had an average of 90 different animal species on display. The number of species on display varied according to the size of the organisation with the eight largest organisations having an average of 292 animal species while small organisations (i.e. employment of less than 20 persons) had an average of 56 species on display.

**1.1 KEY AGGREGATES**

	<i>Value</i>
Organisations at end June	
Zoological gardens (no.)	53
Aquaria (no.)	12
<i>Total (no.)</i>	65
Locations at end June (no.)	69
Hectares at end June (ha)	3 631
Paid admissions ('000)	7 979
Employment at end June	
Full-time (no.)	1 268
Part-time (no.)	677
<i>Total (no.)</i>	1 946
Volunteers during month of June (no.)	1 591
Income	
Admissions income (\$m)	69.2
Other income (\$m)	73.2
<i>Total (\$m)</i>	142.4
Expenses	
Labour costs (\$m)	57.8
Other expenses (\$m)	69.1
<i>Total (\$m)</i>	126.9
Operating surplus (\$m)	16.3
Industry gross product (\$m)	74.4

**1.2 SOURCES OF INCOME**

	<i>Organisations at end June</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Proportion of total income</i>
	no.	\$m	%
Sales of goods and services			
Admissions income	64	69.2	48.6
Sales of goods	59	29.0	20.4
Income from education programs	10	0.8	0.6
Rent, leasing and hiring income	27	4.7	3.3
Other operating income	22	4.0	2.8
<i>Total</i>	64	107.8	75.7
Other income			
Government funding	21	25.5	17.9
Funding from non-government organisations and/or individuals			
Donations/bequests	11	2.6	1.8
Sponsorships	10	3.6	2.5
<i>Total</i>	16	6.2	4.3
Non-operating income	33	2.9	2.0
<i>Total</i>	44	34.6	24.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>142.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 1.3 ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE

	Proportion of total expenses	
	Value \$m	%
<b>Labour costs</b>		
Wages and salaries	52.7	41.5
Employer contributions to superannuation funds	3.4	2.7
Workers' compensation costs	1.7	1.3
<i>Total</i>	57.8	45.5
<b>Selected expenses</b>		
Freight and cartage expenses	0.1	0.1
Electricity, gas and water charges	3.2	2.5
Cleaning expenses	0.9	0.7
Telecommunication expenses	1.0	0.8
Advertising marketing and promotional expenses	5.6	4.4
Repair and maintenance expenses	5.1	4.0
Motor vehicle running expenses	1.2	1.0
Rent, leasing and hiring expenses	1.7	1.3
Other operating expenses	15.8	12.4
<i>Total</i>	34.6	27.3
<b>Other costs</b>		
Purchases of goods and materials	19.8	15.6
Depreciation and amortisation	9.9	7.8
Interest expenses	3.5	2.8
Insurance premiums	1.2	1.0
<i>Total</i>	34.5	27.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>126.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 1.4 CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS WORKING

	FULL-TIME.....			PART-TIME.....			TOTAL.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Employees</b>									
Managerial/administrative	160	162	323	15	72	87	176	234	410
Curatorial/maintenance staff	433	205	638	74	57	131	507	262	769
Education staff	8	14	23	7	20	27	16	34	50
Specialist/research staff	36	18	54	7	11	18	43	29	72
Retail sales staff	24	56	80	21	157	178	45	213	258
Other employees	109	43	152	91	145	236	200	188	387
<i>Total</i>	770	499	1 268	216	461	677	986	960	1 946
<b>Volunteers during month of June</b>									
Guides/information officers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 194
Horticultural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Other	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	381
<i>Total</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 591



**1.5 KEY CHARACTERISTICS, By Organisation Size**

	EMPLOYMENT SIZE CATEGORY.....			Total
	0-19 persons	20-49 persons	50 or more persons	
Organisations at end June (no.)	49	8	8	65
Employment at end June (no.)	338	255	1 352	1 946
Percentage contribution (%)	17.4	13.1	69.5	100.0
Volunteers during month of June (no.)	172	159	1 259	1 591
Percentage contribution (%)	10.8	10.0	79.1	100.0
Wages and salaries (\$m)	4.4	5.6	42.8	52.7
Percentage contribution (%)	8.3	10.6	81.1	100.0
Paid admissions ('000)	1 568.9	1 022.3	5 387.6	7 978.8
Percentage contribution (%)	19.7	12.8	67.5	100.0
Total income (\$m)	14.1	16.9	111.4	142.4
Percentage contribution (%)	9.9	11.9	78.2	100.0
Total expenses (\$m)	13.3	16.3	97.3	126.9
Percentage contribution (%)	10.5	12.8	76.7	100.0
Operating surplus (\$m)	0.8	0.7	14.7	16.3

**1.6 PERFORMANCE RATIOS, By Organisation Size**

	EMPLOYMENT SIZE CATEGORY.....			Total
	0-19 persons	20-49 persons	50 or more persons	
Labour costs per person employed (\$'000)	14.0	23.8	34.8	29.7
Labour costs to total expenses (%)	35.6	37.3	48.3	45.6
Admissions income per paid admission (\$)	5.8	9.6	9.3	8.7
Admissions income to total income (%)	64.8	58.3	45.1	48.6
Government funding to total income (%)	n.p.	n.p.	22.7	17.9
Hectares per location (ha)	11.8	4.8	251.0	52.5

## 1.7 SPECIES AND SPECIMENS, By Organisation Size

	<i>Mammals</i>	<i>Birds</i>	<i>Reptiles</i>	<i>Amphibians</i>	<i>Fish</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>	<i>Proportion of specimens labelled</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
0–19 PERSONS							
Organisations at end June	34	38	28	10	11	47	31
Average species per organisation	18	35	14	4	24	56	..
Specimens	4 044	7 845	2 503	281	2 931	17 604	40.4
20–49 PERSONS							
Organisations at end June	8	5	8	3	5	8	8
Average species per organisation	15	50	14	6	40	87	..
Specimens	650	1 240	709	54	7 587	10 239	80.1
50 OR MORE PERSONS							
Organisations at end June	8	7	8	7	7	8	8
Average species per organisation	73	141	46	9	48	292	..
Specimens	4 518	5 574	1 611	424	6 897	19 024	85.2
TOTAL							
Organisations at end June	50	50	43	20	22	63	47
Average species per organisation	26	51	20	6	37	90	..
Specimens	9 212	14 659	4 823	758	17 415	46 867	67.1

(a) There are an additional 15,600 invertebrates specimens not included in the total.

## SECTION 2

## BOTANIC GARDENS .....

### INTRODUCTION

This part of the publication presents information about botanic gardens, herbaria and arboreta. The information relates to employing businesses and statutory authorities whose main activity was the operation of a botanic garden, herbarium or arboretum. These businesses and organisations are classified to Class 9231 (Zoological and Botanic Gardens) of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC).

In addition, botanic garden activities of local government authorities which employ staff to operate and maintain botanic gardens were included in the survey, even though local government authorities are defined to another class of ANZSIC. However, non-employing businesses and organisations operating botanic gardens were excluded from this survey.

### SIZE OF INDUSTRY

At the end of June 1997, there were 53 employing organisations operating botanic gardens. These organisations operated 92 separate locations, of which 64 were mainly botanic gardens, 8 were arboreta and 20 were herbaria.

The operations of these organisations covered an area of 2,971 hectares, of which 2,905 hectares were botanic gardens and 66 hectares were arboreta. The average area per location was 41 hectares, with the 6 largest botanic gardens (i.e. those employing 50 or more persons) averaging 75 hectares per location.

### SOURCES OF INCOME

Botanic gardens were very dependent on government funding for their operations with 86% (\$71 million) of their income accruing from this source. Other sources of income were from rent, leasing and hiring (\$4 million) and private sector donations and sponsorship (\$2 million). Only 16 organisations charged admission during 1996-97, with admission income totalling almost \$1 million.

### EXPENSES

During 1996-97, botanic gardens had total expenses of \$70 million. The major expense item was labour costs of \$41 million (58% of total expenses), which represented an average labour cost per employee of \$36,100.

Other major expenses were depreciation and amortisation (\$8 million), repair and maintenance (\$4 million) and purchases of goods and materials (\$3 million). Other operating expenses such as stationery, accounting fees and other administrative costs were not separately itemised in the survey and totalled \$8 million.

## EMPLOYMENT

There were 1,129 persons employed in botanic gardens at the end of June 1997. A further 2,074 persons worked on a volunteer basis during June 1997 resulting in a total workforce in botanic gardens of 3,203 in June 1997.

The majority of employees (84%) worked on a full-time basis and 65% (735) of employees were males.

The main employment groupings of these employees were curatorial and maintenance (598 persons), managerial and administrative (206 persons) and specialist and research staff (171 persons). Guides and information officers mainly worked as volunteers and totalled 427 persons during June 1997.

## ORGANISATION SIZE

There were six organisations involved in the operation of botanic gardens which had employment of 50 persons or more at the end of June 1997. These six organisations were dominant, accounting for 67% of employment, 74% of total income and 78% of plant specimens.

Of the 53 organisations providing botanic garden services, 42 organisations (79%) had employment of less than 20 persons. These organisations accounted for only 20% of employment and 15% of total income. These smaller organisations were much more reliant on volunteers, having a ratio of nearly six volunteers to each employee, while the larger organisations had a ratio of less than one volunteer per employee.

## SPECIES AND SPECIMENS

At the end of June 1997, there were 6.5 million plant specimens in botanic gardens. Of these 6.5 million plant specimens just over 1 million were living plants and the remainder were preserved plants. The six largest organisations accounted for 49% of living plant specimens and 84% of the preserved plant specimens.

At the end of June 1997, the organisations operating botanic gardens had an average of 2,488 living plant species and 25,714 preserved plant species. The number of species held varied according to the size of the organisation. The six largest organisations had an average of 10,494 living plant species and 66,333 preserved plant species, while the small organisations (i.e. those with employment of less than 20 persons) had an average of 1,061 living plant species and 3,520 preserved plant species.

## 2.1 KEY AGGREGATES

	<i>Value</i>
Organisations at end June (no.)	53
Locations at end June	
Botanic gardens (no.)	64
Arboreta (no.)	8
Herbaria (no.)	20
<i>Total (no.)</i>	92
Hectares at end June	
Botanic gardens (ha)	2 905
Arboreta (ha)	66
<i>Total (ha)</i>	2 971
Employment at end June	
Full-time (no.)	948
Part-time (no.)	182
<i>Total (no.)</i>	1 129
Income	
Government funding (\$m)	70.9
Other income (\$m)	11.8
<i>Total (\$m)</i>	82.6
Expenses	
Labour costs (\$m)	40.7
Other expenses (\$m)	29.5
<i>Total (\$m)</i>	70.2
Industry gross product (\$m)	48.2

## 2.2 SOURCES OF INCOME

	<i>Organisations at end June</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Proportion of total income</i>
	no.	\$m	%
Government funding	51	70.9	85.8
Sales of goods	23	1.6	1.9
Admissions income	16	0.9	1.1
Rent, leasing and hiring income	9	3.6	4.4
Funding from non-government organisations and/or individuals	26	2.2	2.7
Other operating income	11	2.2	2.6
Other non-operating income	29	1.2	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 2.3 ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE

	Proportion of total expenses	
	Value \$m	%
<b>Labour costs</b>		
Wages and salaries	36.2	51.5
Employer contributions to superannuation funds	3.3	4.7
Workers' compensation costs	1.3	1.8
<i>Total</i>	40.7	58.0
<b>Selected expenses</b>		
Freight and cartage expenses	0.1	0.2
Electricity, gas and water charges	2.4	3.4
Cleaning expenses	0.6	0.8
Telecommunication expenses	0.4	0.6
Advertising marketing and promotional expenses	0.5	0.7
Repair and maintenance expenses	4.3	6.2
Motor vehicle running expenses	0.4	0.6
Rent, leasing and hiring expenses	0.6	0.8
Other operating expenses	8.5	12.0
<i>Total</i>	17.9	25.4
<b>Other costs</b>		
Purchases of goods and materials	3.4	4.9
Depreciation and amortisation	7.9	11.2
Interest expenses	0.2	0.2
Insurance premiums	0.2	0.3
<i>Total</i>	11.6	16.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 2.4 CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS WORKING

	FULL-TIME.....			PART-TIME.....			TOTAL.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Employees</b>									
Managerial/administrative	88	90	178	13	15	28	101	105	206
Curatorial/maintenance staff	438	104	542	32	24	56	470	128	598
Education staff	n.p.	n.p.	15	n.p.	n.p.	23	n.p.	n.p.	38
Specialist/research staff	105	44	149	5	17	22	110	61	171
Sales staff	n.p.	n.p.	6	n.p.	n.p.	24	n.p.	n.p.	30
Other employees	33	24	58	8	20	29	42	45	86
<i>Total</i>	670	277	948	65	117	182	735	394	1 129
<b>Volunteers during month of June</b>									
Guides/information officers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	427
Horticultural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	547
Other	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 101
<i>Total</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 074

**2.5 KEY CHARACTERISTICS, By Organisation Size**

	EMPLOYMENT SIZE CATEGORY.....			Total
	0-19 persons	20-49 persons	50 or more persons	
Organisations at end June (no.)	42	5	6	53
Employment at end June (no.)	230	148	751	1 129
Volunteers during month of June (no.)	1 290	112	672	2 074
Wages and salaries (\$m)	6.0	3.8	26.4	36.2
Total income (\$m)	12.8	8.7	61.1	82.6
Total expenses (\$m)	10.5	7.4	52.3	70.2

**2.6 PERFORMANCE RATIOS, By Organisation Size**

	EMPLOYMENT SIZE CATEGORY.....			Total
	0-19 persons	20-49 persons	50 or more persons	
Labour costs per person employed (\$000)	29.5	29.9	39.3	36.1
Labour costs to total expenses (%)	64.7	59.5	56.4	58.0
Volunteers to total workforce (%)	84.9	43.1	47.2	64.8
Admissions income to total income (%)	n.p.	n.p.	1.0	1.1
Government funding to total income (%)	90.3	95.7	83.4	85.8
Hectares per location (ha)(a)	34.2	24.0	74.7	41.2

(a) Hectares per location excludes herbaria.

## 2.7 SPECIES AND SPECIMENS, By Organisation Size

	<i>Living plants</i>	<i>Preserved plants</i>	<i>Threatened plants</i>
	no.	no.	no.
0–19 PERSONS			
Organisations at end June	40	8	20
Average species per organisation	1 061	3 520	n.p.
Specimens	444 885	735 273	n.a.
20–49 PERSONS			
Organisations at end June	5	3	5
Average species per organisation	5 894	3 659	n.p.
Specimens	75 716	161 158	n.a.
50 OR MORE PERSONS			
Organisations at end June	5	6	5
Average species per organisation	10 494	66 333	537
Specimens	501 046	4 538 912	n.a.
TOTAL			
Organisations at end June	50	17	30
Average species per organisation	2 488	25 714	319
Specimens	1 021 647	5 435 343	n.a.



## SECTION 3

# NATIONAL PARKS AND RECREATIONAL PARKS AND GARDENS .....

### INTRODUCTION

This part of the publication presents information about national parks and recreational parks and gardens. The information relates to employing private sector businesses and statutory authorities whose main activity was the operation of parks and gardens such as flora and fauna reserves, national parks, tourist caves or wild-life sanctuaries. These businesses and organisations are classified to Class 9239 (Recreational Parks and Gardens) of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC).

In addition, some Commonwealth and State government departments and local government authorities also employ staff to operate and maintain parks and gardens and these organisations were included in the survey even though they are defined to another class of ANZSIC.

### SIZE OF INDUSTRY

At the end of June 1997, there were 684 private and government organisations operating national parks and recreational parks and gardens. These organisations operated 462 individual national parks, 52,164 separate recreational parks and gardens, 270 wildlife sanctuaries, 42 tourist caves and 24 marine parks at the end of June 1997.

The operations of these organisations covered an area of 72 million hectares. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park accounted for 34 million hectares of this total area. Of the remaining 38 million hectares, national parks comprised 26 million hectares (i.e. 56,000 hectares per national park).

### SOURCES OF INCOME

The operations of national parks and recreational parks and gardens are very reliant on government funding and the \$1,197 million of government funding in 1996-97 represented 89% of the total income of the industry. A total of 144 organisations (21% of all organisations) charged admission to at least one of their parks or gardens during 1996-97, for which \$56 million was received in admission income.

Other income such as donations, camping ground entry and permit fees were not separately itemised in the survey and totalled \$72 million.

### EXPENSES

During 1996-97, national parks and recreational parks and gardens had total expenses of \$1,120 million. The major expense item was labour costs of \$528 million which represented 47% of total expenses. The average labour cost per employee was \$31,700.

Another major expense was repair and maintenance expenses of \$170 million, which represented 15% of total expenses. Other operating expenses such as vehicle and plant expenses, consultant and contract expenses, and telecommunication services expenses were not separately itemised in the survey and totalled \$340 million.

## EMPLOYMENT

There were 16,646 persons employed by organisations in the industry at the end of June 1997. A further 10,679 persons worked as volunteers during June 1997 resulting in a total workforce of 27,325 in June 1997.

Full-time employees (15,035) comprised 90% of all employees in the industry at the end of June 1997. There were 13,769 male employees which represented 83% of all employees.

At the end of June, the majority of employees (71%) worked as curatorial or maintenance staff. Males dominated this occupation even more heavily with 10,456 (88%) of the 11,885 curatorial or maintenance staff.

## ORGANISATION SIZE

There were 19 organisations involved in operating national parks and recreational parks and gardens which had employment of 100 or more persons at the end of June 1997. These 19 larger organisations were mainly involved in the operation of national parks and represented 3% of all organisations, 38% of the employment and 52% of the industry income.

Generally, the larger the organisation, the greater number of volunteers working in the organisation. These large organisations had 6,336 volunteers (59% of all volunteers) which represented 333 volunteers per organisation. In contrast, the 502 organisations with less than 20 persons employed had 1,627 volunteers which represented an average of 3 volunteers per organisation.

## KEY CHARACTERISTICS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES

The proportion of national parks and recreational parks and gardens activities in each State and Territory was not necessarily consistent with the population distribution. For example, New South Wales contained 38% and Victoria 20% of locations compared to their Australian population proportions of 34% and 25% respectively.

In addition, distortions in size of State and Territory contributions occurred in:

- hectares for Queensland, as it was impacted by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park which contributed the majority of the 46 million hectares of national parks and recreational parks and gardens in Queensland; and
- government funding for the Australian Capital Territory, as part of the government funding of \$82 million was for the maintenance of national parks and recreational parks and gardens operated by the Commonwealth Government in external Australian Territories.

## 3.1 KEY AGGREGATES

	<i>Value</i>
Organisations at end June (no.)	684
Locations at end June	
National parks (no.)	462
Recreational parks and gardens (no.)	52 164
Wildlife sanctuaries (no.)	270
Tourist caves (no.)	42
Marine parks (no.)	24
<i>Total (no.)</i>	52 963
Hectares at end June	
National parks (ha)	25 964 351
Recreational parks and gardens (ha)	3 386 354
Wildlife sanctuaries (ha)	81 970
Tourist caves (ha)	8 454
Marine parks (ha)	42 605 725
<i>Total (ha)</i>	72 046 854
Employment at end June	
Full-time (no.)	15 035
Part-time (no.)	1 611
<i>Total (no.)</i>	16 646
Volunteers during month of June (no.)	10 679
Income	
Government funding (\$m)	1 197.4
Other income (\$m)	149.5
<i>Total (\$m)</i>	1 346.9
Expenses	
Labour costs (\$m)	528.3
Other expenses (\$m)	591.6
<i>Total (\$m)</i>	1 119.9
Industry gross product (\$m)	542.9

## 3.2 SOURCES OF INCOME

	<i>Organisations at end June</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Proportion of total income</i>
	no.	\$m	%
Government funding	668	1 197.4	88.9
Sales of goods	88	9.2	0.7
Admissions income	144	55.9	4.1
Rent, leasing and hiring income	31	7.9	0.6
Funding from non-government organisations and/or individuals	17	5.0	0.4
Other income	285	71.7	5.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>1 346.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 3.3 ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE

	Proportion of total expenses	
	Value \$m	%
<b>Labour costs</b>		
Wages and salaries	470.2	42.0
Employer contributions to superannuation funds	39.9	3.6
Workers' compensation costs	18.3	1.6
<i>Total</i>	528.3	47.2
<b>Selected expenses</b>		
Electricity, gas and water charges	32.2	2.9
Repair and maintenance expenses	170.2	15.2
Other operating expenses	339.9	30.4
<i>Total</i>	542.2	48.4
Other non-operating expenses	49.3	4.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 119.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 3.4 CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS WORKING

	FULL-TIME.....			PART-TIME.....			TOTAL.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Employees</b>									
Managerial/administrative	1 631	887	2 518	145	184	329	1 776	1 070	2 847
Curatorial/maintenance staff	9 844	1 141	10 985	611	288	900	10 456	1 429	11 885
Other employees	1 319	213	1 532	218	164	383	1 537	377	1 915
<i>Total</i>	12 794	2 241	15 035	975	636	1 611	13 769	2 877	16 646
Volunteers during month of June	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 679

## 3.5 KEY CHARACTERISTICS, By Organisation Size

Organisation size	Organisations at end June....		Employment at end June.....		Volunteers during month of June.....		Wages and salaries.....		Total income.....		Total expenses....	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	\$m	%	\$m	%	\$m	%
0–4 persons	258	37.7	582	3.5	702	6.6	10.5	2.2	48.3	3.6	44.9	4.0
5–19 persons	244	35.7	2 295	13.8	925	8.7	42.1	8.9	125.8	9.3	99.3	8.9
20–49 persons	103	15.1	3 199	19.2	1 452	13.6	74.1	15.8	195.5	14.5	163.9	14.6
50–99 persons	60	8.8	4 201	25.2	1 264	11.8	108.3	23.0	282.5	21.0	220.6	19.7
100 or more persons	19	2.8	6 369	38.3	6 336	59.3	235.1	50.0	694.9	51.6	591.1	52.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>16 646</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10 679</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>470.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1 346.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1 119.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 3.6 KEY CHARACTERISTICS, By States And Territories

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT(a)	Aust.
Organisations at end June (no.)(b)	192	92	132	90	137	31	9	2	684
Locations at end June (no.)	20 065	10 769	9 754	5 185	4 640	1 552	482	516	52 963
Hectares at end June ('000)(c)	4 173	2 596	45 766	6 288	6 331	1 385	5 372	135	72 047
Employment at end June (no.)	5 571	2 722	2 847	1 693	1 951	713	388	762	16 646
Volunteers during month of June (no.)	4 285	2 817	1 357	809	1 158	n.p.	n.p.	150	10 679
<b>Income</b>									
Government funding (\$m)	384.6	257.2	169.1	100.1	108.8	41.7	53.4	82.4	1 197.4
Other income (\$m)	72.0	24.9	11.0	11.5	13.1	3.3	8.1	5.7	149.5
<b>Total (\$m)</b>	<b>456.6</b>	<b>282.1</b>	<b>180.1</b>	<b>111.6</b>	<b>121.8</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>88.1</b>	<b>1 346.9</b>
<b>Expenses</b>									
Labour costs (\$m)	182.4	94.4	86.9	46.6	46.2	14.2	23.2	34.5	528.3
Other expenses (\$m)	179.3	148.7	74.3	31.4	50.1	18.4	31.8	57.6	591.6
<b>Total (\$m)</b>	<b>361.7</b>	<b>243.2</b>	<b>161.2</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>96.3</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>92.1</b>	<b>1 119.9</b>

(a) Includes some income, expenses and employment of national parks in external territories operated by the Commonwealth Government.

(b) Multi-state organisations are counted in each State in which they operate. Hence the counts of organisations for States and Territories do not sum to the total for Australia.

(c) Includes 34 million hectares of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

## 3.7 PERFORMANCE RATIOS, By Organisation Size

## EMPLOYMENT SIZE CATEGORY.....

	0-4 persons	5-19 persons	20-49 persons	50-99 persons	100 or more persons	Total
Total income per person employed (\$000)	82.9	54.8	61.1	67.2	109.1	80.9
Total expenses per person employed (\$000)	77.2	43.3	51.2	52.5	92.8	67.3
Labour costs per person employed (\$000)	20.1	21.1	26.2	29.6	40.8	31.7
Labour costs to total expenses (%)	26.1	48.7	51.2	56.4	44.0	47.2
Volunteers to total workforce (%)	54.6	28.7	31.2	23.1	49.9	39.1
Admissions income to total income (%)	1.6	3.0	1.7	3.2	5.6	4.2
Government funding to total income (%)	92.7	87.6	95.4	85.4	88.5	88.9

## EXPLANATORY NOTES .....

### INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents results in respect of the 1996–97 financial year from a census of organisations engaged in the operation of zoological gardens, aquaria, botanic gardens, and national parks and recreational parks and gardens.

### SCOPE

**2** There were three parts to the census.

**3** The scope of the zoological gardens census was all employing private sector businesses and statutory authorities whose main activity was the operation of a zoological garden or aquarium. These businesses and organisations were classified to Class 9231 (Zoological and Botanic Gardens) of the Australian and New Zealand Industrial Classification (ANZSIC).

**4** The scope of the botanic gardens census was:

- all employing businesses and statutory authorities whose main activity was the operation of a botanic garden, herbarium or arboretum. These businesses and organisations were classified to ANZSIC Class 9231 (Zoological and Botanic Gardens); and
- botanic garden, herbarium and arboretum operations of Commonwealth and State government departments and local government authorities which employed staff to maintain these gardens.

**5** The scope of the national parks and recreational parks and gardens census was:

- all employing organisations, private sector businesses and statutory authorities whose main activity was the operation of parks and gardens such as flora and fauna reserves, national parks, tourist caves or wild-life sanctuaries. These businesses and organisations were classified to ANZSIC Class 9239 (Recreational Parks and Gardens); and
- the national parks and recreational parks and gardens operations of Commonwealth and State government departments and local government authorities which employed staff to maintain the parks and gardens.

### IMPROVEMENTS TO COVERAGE

**6** Data for national parks and recreational parks and gardens in this publication have been adjusted to allow for lags in processing new businesses to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) business register, and the omission of some businesses from the business register. The majority of businesses affected and to which the adjustments apply are small in size.

**7** Adjustments have been made to include new businesses in the estimates in the periods in which they commenced operations, rather than when they were processed to the business register. Adjustments of this type will continue to be applied in future periods.

**8** Further adjustments have been made for businesses which had been in existence for several years, but, for various reasons, were not previously added to the ABS register. The ABS is remedying these omissions.

IMPROVEMENTS TO COVERAGE *continued*

**9** For more information on these adjustments, please refer to the ABS publication *Information Paper: Improvements to ABS Economic Statistics, 1997* (Cat. no. 1357.0).

## STATISTICAL UNIT

**10** The unit for which non-government sector statistics were reported in the census was the management unit. The management unit is the highest-level accounting unit within a business or organisation, having regard for industry homogeneity, for which accounts are maintained. In nearly all cases it coincides with the legal entity owning the business (i.e. company, partnership, trust, sole operator, etc.). In the case of large diversified businesses, however, there may be more than one management unit, each coinciding with a 'division' or 'line of business'. A division or line of business is recognised where separate and comprehensive accounts are compiled for it.

**11** For Commonwealth and State government organisations, the statistical unit generally equated to the relevant department, i.e. those departments whose main responsibility was the provision of botanic garden, national park or recreational park services. Where a department had responsibility for other activities the unit was defined to be only those activities associated with the provision of botanic garden, national park or recreational park services. For local government authorities, the unit was defined to be only those activities associated with the provision of botanic garden or recreational park services.

## RELIABILITY OF DATA

**12** As the information in this publication has been compiled from a census of all businesses classified to the industries, the data are not subject to sampling variability. However, other inaccuracies collectively referred to as non-sampling error may affect the data. These non-sampling errors may arise from a number of sources, including:

- errors in the reporting of data by respondents;
- errors in the capturing or processing of data;
- estimation for missing or mis-reported data; and
- definition and classification errors.

**13** Every effort has been made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design and testing of questionnaires, efficient operating procedures and systems, and appropriate methodology.

## REFERENCE PERIOD

**14** Data contained in the tables in this publication relate to all organisations operating zoological gardens, botanic gardens, national parks, and recreational parks and gardens within the survey scope (see paragraphs 2–4) during the year ended June 1997. Counts of businesses and organisations include only those that were operating at 30 June 1997.

## BUSINESSES CEASED DURING THE YEAR

**15** A very small number of organisations ceased operations during the 1996–97 reference period. As is normal ABS procedure, the contributions of these organisations were included in the survey output.

## GLOSSARY .....

<b>Admissions income</b>	This item includes the regular charges made for admission to zoological gardens, aquaria, and other parks and gardens. It also includes charges for special exhibitions and camping fees.
<b>Advertising, marketing and promotional expenses</b>	This item includes advertising payments to TV, print media and outdoor advertising, payments to advertising agencies, and other costs incurred in the promotion of an organisation and its goods or services.
<b>Amphibians</b>	Amphibians are any animal of the type Amphibia. Typically, they lay eggs that hatch in water and the young go through a fishlike or larval stage (e.g. tadpoles), later metamorphosing into lung-breathing quadrupeds.
<b>Arboreta</b>	These are plots of land where different trees or shrubs are grown for scientific study.
<b>Birds</b>	Birds are a class of warm-blooded vertebrates having a body more or less covered with feathers, and the forelimbs so modified as to form wings by means of which most species fly.
<b>Botanic gardens</b>	These are scientific institutions established as large gardens to collect, study, exchange and display plants from many lands for research, and the education and enjoyment of the public.
<b>Cleaning expenses</b>	Cleaning expenses are costs incurred when the organisation's premises are cleaned by an external business.
<b>Curatorial/maintenance staff</b>	These are employees who are involved in the research, development, promotion and maintenance of scientific collections. Also included zoo-keepers, park/wildlife officers and archaeologists.
<b>Depreciation and amortisation</b>	These are the financial charges made to the accounts to reflect that part of the value of the asset which may be regarded as having been used up in producing revenue in a particular accounting period.
<b>Donations/bequests</b>	This is income derived from gifts by individuals or businesses/organisations either directly or as a result of the distribution of a deceased estate.
<b>Education staff</b>	Education staff are those employees involved in the development and presentation of public educational programs.
<b>Electricity, gas and water charges</b>	These charges relate to the consumption of electricity, gas and water during the normal operations of a business/organisation.
<b>Employer contributions to superannuation funds</b>	These are the contributions by the employer to superannuation funds, including the employer productivity contribution.
<b>Employment at end June 1997</b>	This item includes full-time and part-time employees, employees absent on paid or unpaid leave, managerial and executive employees, permanent, temporary and casual employees, consultants who are employees, and working proprietors and partners. This item excludes non-salaried directors, subcontractors, persons paid solely by commission without a retainer and volunteers.



<b>Fish</b>	Fish are cold-blooded, completely aquatic vertebrates, having gills, commonly fins, and typically an elongated body covered with scales.
<b>Freight and cartage expenses</b>	Freight and cartage expenses are the costs charged to a business/organisation for the transport and delivery of goods by rail, air, road and/or sea.
<b>Full-time employees</b>	Full-time employees are those working 35 hours or more per week.
<b>Funding from non-government</b>	This is a source of income from non-government organisations and/or individuals, such as corporations, philanthropic trusts and 'friends' groups, and includes donations, bequests and sponsorships.
<b>Government funding</b>	This item consists of project or program payments made by the Commonwealth Government, State, Territory, and local governments in the form of operational funds for ongoing operations and capital funds to purchase equipment or property.
<b>Government funding to total income</b>	The amount of income received from government funding as a proportion of the total of all income items.
<b>Guides/information officer volunteers</b>	These are volunteers who provide guided tours or general information to the public.
<b>Hectares at end June 1997</b>	Total area of land on which organisations operated a zoological garden, aquaria, botanic garden or other parks and gardens at the end of June 1997.
<b>Herbaria</b>	These are, generally, specially constructed buildings in which collections of preserved plant specimens are maintained for research and scientific study.
<b>Horticultural volunteers</b>	Horticultural volunteers are engaged in activities associated with the cultivation of fruit, vegetables and flowers, including berries, grapes, vines and nuts.
<b>Income from education programs</b>	Income from the provision of educational lectures and other programs to the public.
<b>Industry gross product (IGP)</b>	IGP is a measure of the value of unduplicated gross product of businesses. For 'market' units it is generally defined as sales of goods and services plus government subsidies plus closing stocks minus opening stocks minus purchases and selected expenses. For 'non-market' units such as 'not for profit' organisations predominantly funded by government it is generally defined as wages and salaries, employer contributions to superannuation funds, workers' compensation costs and depreciation.
<b>Insurance premiums</b>	Insurance premiums are expenses incurred by a business/organisation in respect of different types of insurance policies but excluding workers' compensation and compulsory third party motor vehicle insurance.
<b>Interest expenses</b>	These expenses include all forms of interest related to the cost of borrowing money other than that capitalised as an acquisition cost.
<b>Invertebrates</b>	Invertebrates are animals without a backbone.
<b>Labour costs</b>	These include wages and salaries, provision expenses for employee entitlements, employer contributions to superannuation funds and workers' compensation costs.

<b>Labour costs to total expenses</b>	The total expenditure on labour costs as a proportion of total expenses.
<b>Living plants</b>	These are collections of live species and specimens of plants maintained for scientific study and the enjoyment of the public.
<b>Locations at end June 1997</b>	This is the number of locations operated by organisations at the end of June 1997.
<b>Mammals</b>	These are a class of vertebrates whose young feed upon milk from the mother's breast.
<b>Managerial/administrative employees</b>	These employees are engaged in providing managerial or administrative support for the operations of businesses/organisations.
<b>Marine parks</b>	Marine parks are parks of national significance. The intention of establishing marine parks is to manage the natural environment and ensure its preservation.
<b>Motor vehicle running expenses</b>	Motor vehicle running expenses are the costs incurred in using 'on-road' motor vehicles for business purposes.
<b>National parks</b>	National parks are parks of national significance which have been declared such under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1975</i> . The intention of establishing national parks is to manage the natural environment to ensure the preservation of local flora and fauna. National parks are generally accessible to the public.
<b>Non-operating income</b>	This item includes dividends received, interest income, income from net profit(loss) on the sale of fixed tangible assets, and net profit (loss) on foreign loans as a result of variations in foreign exchange rate/transactions.
<b>Operating surplus</b>	This is a measure of surplus before extraordinary items are brought to account and prior to the deduction of income tax and other distributions.
<b>Other costs</b>	This item includes purchases of goods and materials, depreciation and amortisation, interest expenses and insurance premiums.
<b>Other employees</b>	These are employees involved in providing general support for the operations of a business/organisation. For government recreational parks and gardens this item excludes managerial/administrative and curatorial/maintenance employees. For all other businesses/organisations this item excludes managerial/administrative, curatorial/maintenance, education, specialist/research and retail sales employees.
<b>Other expenses</b>	This item includes land tax and land rates; postal, mailing and courier services; legal, audit and other accounting expenses; paper, printing and stationery expenses; training services provided by other businesses; contract, subcontract and commission expenses; fringe benefits tax and payroll tax; and other management and administrative services. For national parks and recreational parks and gardens, it also includes motor vehicle running expenses; freight and cartage expenses; and cleaning services provided by other businesses.

<b>Other income</b>	For zoological gardens and aquaria this item includes government funding; funding from non-government organisations and/or individuals; sales of goods; income from education programs; rent, leasing and hiring income; interest income; and other operating and non-operating income. For botanic gardens, national parks and recreational parks and gardens this item includes funding from non-government organisations and/or individuals; admissions income; sales of goods; income from education programs; rent, leasing and hiring income; interest income; and other operating and non-operating income.
<b>Other non-operating income</b>	This item includes net profit (loss) on the sale of fixed tangible assets; dividend income; net profit (loss) on share trading and on foreign loans as a result of variations in foreign exchange rates/transactions; and interest income. This item excludes extraordinary profit (loss), i.e. not associated with the normal operations of the business/organisation and of a non-recurring nature.
<b>Other operating expenses</b>	For zoological gardens, aquaria and botanical gardens this item includes bad and doubtful debts; waste management and environmental protection expenses; contract, subcontract and commission expenses; land tax and land rates; legal, audit and other accounting expenses; paper, printing and stationery expenses; postal, mailing and courier services; training services provided by other businesses; travelling, accommodation and entertainment expenses; other management and administrative services; and fringe benefits and payroll taxes. For national parks and recreational parks and gardens this item also includes repair and maintenance expenses; electricity, gas and water charges; motor vehicle running expenses; freight and cartage expenses; telecommunication services; rent, leasing and hiring expenses; advertising, marketing and promotional expenses; and cleaning services provided by other businesses.
<b>Other operating income</b>	This item includes management fees/charges; subscription and membership income; consultancies; and income from fundraising.
<b>Other volunteers</b>	These are volunteers involved in providing general support for the operations of a business/organisation.
<b>Paid admissions</b>	The number of people paying a fee for admittance during 1996–97.
<b>Part-time employees</b>	Part-time employees are those who work less than 35 hours per week.
<b>Preserved plants</b>	These comprise scientific collections of dried preserved plant specimens used for the accurate classification and identification of plants and plant material and for taxonomic studies.
<b>Proportion of animal specimens labelled</b>	The proportion of animal specimens on display which are labelled.
<b>Purchases of goods and materials</b>	These are the purchases of goods and materials used in the production of the final output of the organisation, and include non-capitalised equipment and goods purchased for resale.
<b>Recreational parks and gardens</b>	These are areas established with the intention of preservation of local flora and fauna and/or to provide recreational facilities (e.g. playground equipment, barbecues) for the general public (excluding recreational sporting fields).

<b>Rent, leasing and hiring income</b>	Rent, leasing and hiring income is revenue derived from the rent, leasing or hiring of assets such as land, buildings, vehicles or equipment to other businesses or individuals.
<b>Rent, leasing and hiring expenses</b>	Rent leasing and hiring expenses are the costs for the rent, leasing and hiring of vehicles, land, buildings, machinery, equipment and any other property to other businesses or individuals.
<b>Repair and maintenance expenses</b>	Repair and maintenance expenses are costs associated with work undertaken on plant and machinery etc. to maintain normal business operations.
<b>Reptiles</b>	Reptiles are a class of cold-blooded vertebrates including lizards, snakes, and turtles.
<b>Retail sales staff</b>	These are employees who are involved in the sales of merchandise.
<b>Sales of goods</b>	Receipts derived from the sales of goods in the ordinary course of business operations, including the sales of books and income from merchandising activities.
<b>Sales of goods and services</b>	This item includes income from admissions, sales of goods, educational programs, rent leasing and hiring income, and other operating income.
<b>Selected expenses</b>	This item includes repair and maintenance expenses; electricity, gas and water charges; motor vehicle running expenses; freight and cartage expenses; telecommunication expenses; rent, leasing and hiring expenses; advertising, marketing and promotional expenses; paper, printing and stationery expenses; travel expenses; cleaning services provided by other businesses; security services; waste management expenses; and other operating expenses not included elsewhere.
<b>Specialist/research staff</b>	These are employees, generally with appropriate tertiary qualifications, who are involved in the preservation and propagation of species.
<b>Species</b>	The basic category of biological classification intended to designate a single kind of animal or plant.
<b>Specimens</b>	A specimen is an individual plant or animal taken to represent the whole population.
<b>Sponsorships</b>	This is income derived from businesses/organisations involved in the public support/promotion of sporting, arts or cultural activities.
<b>Telecommunication expenses</b>	This includes charges on fixed and mobile phones, facsimiles and leased lines for computers.
<b>Tourist caves</b>	A cave which is open for public exhibition. Generally, guided tours are provided.
<b>Volunteers</b>	Volunteers provide assistance in the forms of time, labour and/or skills, and receive no payment, either monetary or in kind, in return.
<b>Volunteers to total workforce</b>	The number of volunteers as a proportion of the total workforce (i.e. total employment plus total volunteers).

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<b>Wages and salaries</b>	This item includes severance, termination and redundancy payments, and provision expenses for employee entitlements. It excludes drawings of working principals and partners of unincorporated businesses.
<b>Wildlife sanctuaries</b>	Areas of land where live animals are protected but not fed or actively managed. The primary purpose is to preserve the native habitat and the species endemic to it. Many are open for public viewing.
<b>Workers' compensation costs</b>	These include insurance premiums/levies and non-payroll costs incurred by a business and not reimbursed by an insurance company.
<b>Zoological gardens</b>	Businesses and organisations which are primarily engaged in the breeding, preservation, study and display of live animals, generally from a range of countries, which are kept in captivity.





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