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**STUART JACKSON
DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN**

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Preface

I have much pleasure in introducing the 1994 edition of the *Victorian Year Book*.

The mission of the Australian Bureau of Statistics is to assist and encourage informed decision-making, research and discussion within governments and the community by providing a high-quality and responsive statistical service. The *Victorian Year Book* is an integral part of this mission because it provides a comprehensive statistical profile of the social, demographic and economic structure of the State - in one volume.

In a book the size of the Year Book, however, it is impossible to present the vast wealth of information that the ABS has about Victoria - and other parts of Australia. In this respect, the Yearbook can be viewed as the tip of an information iceberg and readers are encouraged to access more detailed information by utilising the bibliographies at the end of each chapter.

Similarly, readers can also make use of the regular updates of information - and other statistical services - provided by the ABS, to keep abreast of the changes that are influencing all aspects of the Victorian community. Full details are available in the ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products, available from any ABS Office.

Of particular interest in this - the 107th edition of the Year Book - is a special article on Building in Victoria. The article provides a historical perspective over the last one hundred and sixty years. Various influences such as the availability of materials, climate, government and fashion are examined to see the roles they played in shaping Building in Victoria.

To produce a yearbook requires input from a lot of people - I'd like to express my thanks to all the ABS staff involved in its preparation, in particular to Ron Turner, and to all those individuals and organisations who have supplied material for inclusion in this edition.

Stuart Jackson
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician
July 1994

General Information

Symbols

The following symbols mean:

- cr. credit
 - dr. debit
 - n.a. not available
 - n.c.c. not elsewhere classified
 - n.e.i. not elsewhere included
 - n.e.s. not elsewhere specified
 - n.p. not available for publication, but included in totals where applicable
 - n.y.a. not yet available
 - p preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
 - r figure or series revised since previous issue
 - .. not applicable
 - nil or rounded down to zero
 - break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)
 - * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
- M, males; F, females; T, total

Other forms of usage

The following abbreviations are used for the titles of the Australian States and Territories and Australia: NSW (New South Wales), Vic. (Victoria), Qld (Queensland), SA (South Australia), WA (Western Australia), Tas. (Tasmania), NT (Northern Territory), ACT (Australian Capital Territory), and Aust. (Australia).

Yearly periods shown as, e.g. 1991 refer to the year ended 31 December 1991. Those shown as, e.g. 1990-91 refer to the year ended 30 June 1991. Other yearly periods are specifically indicated.

Values are shown in Australian dollars (\$) or cents (c) unless another currency is specified.

All data are presented in metric terms.

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

Availability of ABS publications

The Victorian Office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) maintains an Information Consultancy Service, which provides advice on what products are available to best meet users needs, as well as a library in which all publications of the ABS are available for reference. Business people, government officers, students, and members of the public are invited to make use of these services.

Information regarding the availability of ABS publications can be obtained from the Information Services Section, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Box 2796Y, G.P.O., Melbourne, 3001, phone (03) 615 7000. All publications issued by the ABS are contained in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0) which is available from any ABS Office.