

BUILDING ACTIVITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA MARCH QUARTER 1994

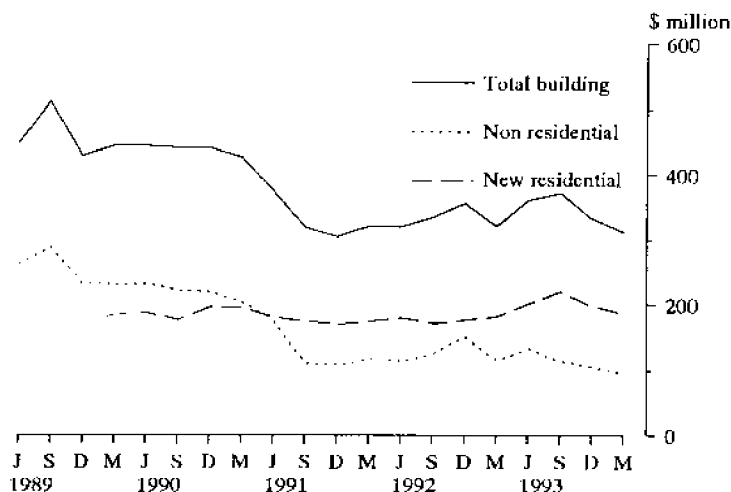
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Value of building work done at average 1989-90 prices, seasonally adjusted

	Percentage change on	
	Dec. quarter 1993	March quarter 1993
New residential building	-6.8	1.8
Alterations and additions to residential buildings	0.3	20.4
Non-residential building	-8.8	-15.9
Total building	-6.0	-2.8

- Expressed in seasonally adjusted average 1989-90 prices the total value of building work done for the March quarter 1994 was \$312.3 million which was 6.0% lower than the \$332.4 million recorded for the December quarter 1993 and the lowest value since the December quarter of 1991.
- For the March quarter 1994 the value of non-residential building work reached a new low by dropping 8.8% to \$95.5 million from the December quarter 1993 figure of \$104.7 million. The December figure had previously been the low point for this statistical series which began with the September quarter 1980.
- The value of new residential building work fell for the third successive quarter, down 6.8% from \$198.8 million to be \$185.2 million for the March quarter 1994. This was still slightly higher than the figure achieved for the same quarter last year. Residential alterations and additions remained virtually unchanged at \$31.3 million.

VALUE OF WORK DONE
AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



INQUIRIES

- for more information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Colin Speecheley on Adelaide (08) 237 7495 or any ABS State Office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Adelaide (08) 237 7100, call at 55 Currie Street, Adelaide, or write to Information Services, ABS, GPO Box 2272, Adelaide SA 5001.

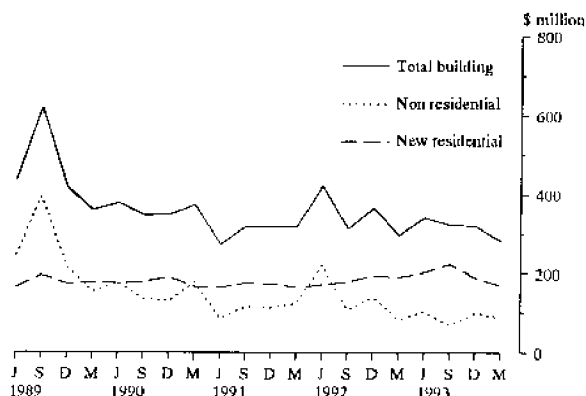
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – continued

Value of building work commenced at average 1989–90 prices

	Percentage change on	
	Dec. quarter 1993	March quarter 1993
New residential building	-10.3	-11.3
Alterations and additions to residential buildings	-18.1	15.9
Non-residential building	-11.5	5.9
Total building	-11.4	-4.4

- Expressed in average 1989–90 prices (but not seasonally adjusted) the total value of building work commenced during the March quarter 1994 was \$283.5 million which was 11.4% less than the previous quarter's figure and the lowest level since the \$272.3 million recorded for the June quarter 1991.
- The value of non-residential building work decreased by 11.5% to be \$87.7 million for the March quarter 1994. This was entirely the result of an \$11.9 million fall in private sector building. The value of public sector building rose slightly.
- For new residential building the March quarter 1994 figure of \$169.5 million was 10.3% less than the \$188.9 million reported for the December quarter 1993. This was due to a \$26.2 million fall in the value of house commencements which was only partially offset by an increase of \$6.8 million to \$30.7 million for other residential buildings. Residential alterations and additions were \$26.3 million for the March quarter 1994, down from \$32.1 million the previous quarter.

VALUE OF WORK COMMENCED AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES

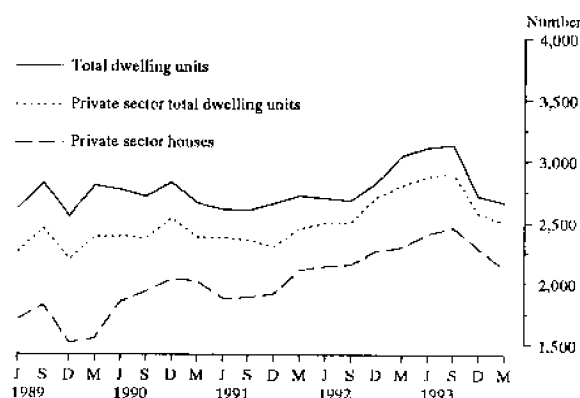


Number of dwelling units commenced, seasonally adjusted

	Percentage change on	
	Dec. quarter 1993	March quarter 1993
Private sector houses	-7.0	-7.6
Private sector dwelling units	-3.1	-11.1
Total dwelling units	-2.0	-12.6

- In seasonally adjusted terms the estimate of the total number of dwelling units commenced during the March quarter 1994 was 2,662, not significantly lower than the December quarter 1993 figure of 2,715 but 12.6% less than the March quarter of the previous year.
- Commencements of private sector houses and private sector dwelling units fell by 7.0% and 3.1% respectively. For houses the March quarter figure was 2,123, down from 2,284 while for dwelling units it was 2,496, down from 2,575.

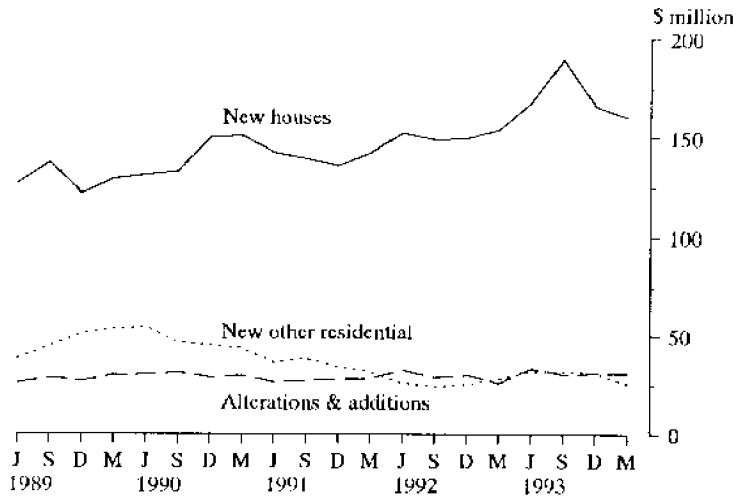
NEW DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



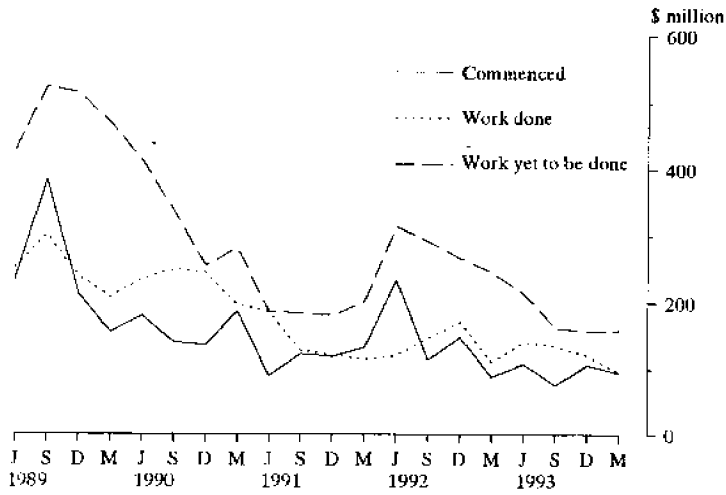
Original unadjusted data

- The total value of building work commenced (unadjusted at current prices) during the March quarter 1994 was \$312.0 million. Of this, \$187.9 million was for new residential building resulting in 2,549 dwelling units.
- The total value of work done during the March quarter was \$328.6 million while the value of work yet to be done on jobs under construction at the end of the quarter was \$336.9 million.

**VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL WORK DONE
AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**



VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING



VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL WORK DONE

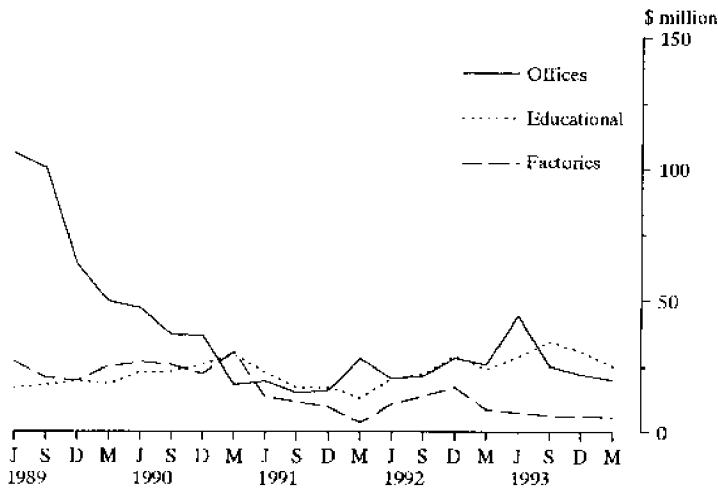


TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Period	New residential building				Non-residential building										Total building				
	Houses				Other residential buildings		Value (\$m)												
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Hôtels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious		Health	Entertainment and recreational	Miscellaneous	Total
COMMENCED																			
1990-91	8,177	580.7	2,644	146.8	10,821	727.5	118.2	15.0	103.4	75.4	90.4	72.9	90.1	5.0	32.8	29.4	39.5	553.9	1,399.6
1991-92	8,344	599.7	2,327	127.5	10,671	727.2	125.1	12.8	51.1	47.8	117.8	102.0	92.3	6.4	86.1	56.7	34.7	607.8	1,460.2
1992-93	9,416	685.3	2,219	130.9	11,635	816.2	122.4	5.4	53.8	22.9	99.8	53.4	117.6	6.1	50.3	13.5	35.8	458.7	1,397.2
1992 Dec. qtr	2,356	174.4	551	32.0	2,907	206.4	32.3	2.2	6.4	5.4	43.8	8.0	47.4	2.9	14.5	5.0	12.7	148.2	386.9
1993 Mar. qtr	2,204	160.1	706	43.3	2,910	203.4	23.9	0.4	5.9	5.5	12.8	6.5	40.6	1.6	3.2	3.9	7.9	88.1	315.5
June qtr	2,504	185.6	520	30.7	3,024	216.3	38.2	1.7	4.9	5.3	26.8	15.8	9.2	1.1	29.0	2.4	12.2	108.4	363.0
Sept. qtr	2,776	208.5	478	29.9	3,254	238.4	30.9	1.5	11.2	4.2	13.2	10.3	15.3	0.4	8.3	4.1	6.7	75.3	344.5
Dec. qtr	2,395	179.6	403	25.8	2,798	205.4	35.6	2.2	15.6	6.6	10.8	8.7	30.9	0.6	17.7	5.5	8.1	106.6	347.7
1994 Mar. qtr	2,023	154.7	526	33.2	2,549	187.9	29.5	1.3	11.6	4.8	25.3	5.5	31.8	0.7	9.3	2.1	2.1	94.6	312.0
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD																			
1990-91	3,004	248.6	1,288	75.2	4,292	323.9	52.1	4.7	371.4	39.6	29.3	29.4	82.4	3.3	79.4	13.7	51.7	704.8	1,080.8
1991-92	2,891	236.3	921	53.1	3,812	289.4	57.6	9.0	45.3	42.8	78.9	73.0	81.5	5.2	93.9	38.7	49.5	517.8	864.8
1992-93	3,563	289.5	1,162	74.9	4,725	364.4	56.4	3.7	12.8	32.5	75.1	53.6	141.8	5.3	95.5	13.7	64.5	498.6	919.3
1992 Dec. qtr	3,153	256.6	1,054	62.2	4,207	318.8	54.2	5.4	28.5	45.9	123.6	54.9	125.5	5.4	80.5	36.2	55.5	561.5	934.5
1993 Mar. qtr	3,212	260.2	1,210	75.7	4,422	335.8	51.3	4.4	15.9	31.8	122.6	48.6	152.7	5.9	79.4	19.7	55.6	536.7	923.8
June qtr	3,563	289.5	1,162	74.9	4,725	364.4	56.4	3.7	12.8	32.5	75.1	53.6	141.8	5.3	95.5	13.7	64.5	498.6	919.3
Sept. qtr	3,811	311.5	1,123	73.8	4,934	385.3	55.8	4.3	10.3	28.0	61.5	59.0	136.1	5.0	95.9	11.5	43.1	454.9	896.0
Dec. qtr	3,714	305.0	880	60.2	4,594	365.2	53.3	3.8	15.1	7.3	65.9	11.9	125.6	3.7	107.3	12.5	46.4	399.7	818.2
1994 Mar. qtr	3,541	290.5	1,036	69.6	4,577	360.2	55.5	4.1	21.6	9.9	81.8	10.0	129.0	4.1	112.5	7.8	33.9	414.6	830.3
COMPLETED																			
1990-91	8,308	595.7	3,538	212.5	11,846	808.2	128.0	76.3	60.9	120.5	223.4	124.6	72.2	4.9	53.3	90.0	41.4	867.4	1,803.7
1991-92	8,432	616.0	2,670	149.6	11,102	765.6	121.5	8.6	378.9	44.9	63.7	59.5	91.3	5.3	71.0	32.1	38.3	793.7	1,680.9
1992-93	8,708	637.7	1,938	110.4	10,646	748.1	126.9	10.8	85.8	35.8	110.4	66.0	59.1	6.4	46.5	40.4	19.1	480.3	1,355.3
1992 Dec. qtr	2,507	185.2	420	23.8	2,927	209.0	37.8	4.2	46.5	5.8	14.3	23.6	12.4	1.0	29.4	6.0	4.1	147.3	394.1
1993 Mar. qtr	2,139	158.0	546	30.0	2,685	188.0	27.6	1.3	18.6	19.2	13.3	10.9	15.0	1.2	1.3	21.5	8.3	110.7	326.2
June qtr	2,146	158.2	542	32.2	2,688	190.4	33.0	2.4	7.7	4.2	73.3	10.9	20.3	1.8	14.1	9.3	3.7	147.7	371.1
Sept. qtr	2,528	188.4	510	31.5	3,038	219.9	32.2	0.7	13.8	8.9	27.2	7.9	22.9	0.9	8.1	6.4	30.5	127.2	379.4
Dec. qtr	2,487	187.6	640	40.0	3,127	227.6	38.3	2.7	10.8	26.9	12.1	55.9	39.1	2.0	8.6	4.4	6.1	168.7	434.6
1994 Mar. qtr	2,190	171.3	370	24.6	2,560	195.9	29.0	1.1	5.7	2.1	9.6	6.9	29.1	0.5	4.9	7.0	15.2	82.2	307.1

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA - continued

Period	New residential building				Non-residential building										Total building				
	Houses		Other residential buildings		Total		Value (\$m)												
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious		Health	Recreational	Miscellaneous	Total
VALUE OF WORK DONE DURING PERIOD																			
1990-91	..	600.2	..	182.1	..	782.3	122.0	42.7	257.3	91.5	111.2	100.8	100.8	4.8	56.6	68.0	42.9	876.6	1,780.8
1991-92	..	607.5	..	141.0	..	748.5	125.1	9.1	89.4	34.9	79.1	68.3	67.5	7.1	52.6	37.1	38.9	484.1	1,357.6
1992-93	..	660.9	..	119.7	..	780.6	127.1	8.6	62.6	46.6	119.7	82.1	103.7	4.6	65.8	34.7	42.4	570.9	1,478.6
1992 Dec. qtr	..	166.3	..	28.5	..	194.8	34.7	2.4	21.2	17.0	28.1	25.0	29.0	1.3	21.0	10.8	15.7	171.4	400.9
1993 Mar. qtr	..	157.2	..	32.2	..	189.4	25.6	0.5	10.6	8.6	25.8	13.4	23.9	1.5	11.9	7.9	7.2	111.3	326.3
June qtr	..	176.6	..	35.2	..	211.8	35.9	2.7	4.8	7.4	44.5	18.5	28.6	1.0	16.8	6.5	10.2	140.9	388.7
Sept. qtr	..	203.8	..	31.9	..	235.7	32.3	1.3	11.2	6.2	25.1	18.3	34.7	1.9	18.6	4.7	12.7	134.7	402.8
Dec. qtr	..	187.6	..	35.3	..	222.9	36.5	2.6	11.1	6.2	22.2	12.7	30.7	0.9	20.6	4.4	8.3	119.6	378.9
1994 Mar. qtr	..	171.4	..	29.9	..	201.3	32.1	1.4	8.6	5.6	20.1	5.7	25.2	0.9	15.0	5.3	7.3	95.2	328.6
VALUE OF WORK YET TO BE DONE																			
1990-91	..	107.5	..	37.5	..	145.0	22.4	1.8	50.7	12.8	16.0	14.7	29.3	1.4	28.7	5.5	26.5	187.3	354.7
1991-92	..	105.0	..	25.8	..	130.8	24.4	5.6	14.1	26.1	50.3	49.6	54.6	1.5	61.6	25.4	24.4	313.2	468.3
1992-93	..	136.8	..	39.0	..	175.8	23.1	2.6	4.9	5.0	37.1	14.2	70.8	3.3	53.6	6.1	16.2	213.7	412.6
1992 Dec. qtr	..	120.5	..	30.7	..	151.2	21.7	3.7	9.6	10.9	69.2	25.4	71.7	2.9	47.9	12.3	12.6	266.4	439.3
1993 Mar. qtr	..	125.0	..	42.7	..	167.8	20.8	3.6	5.0	7.5	55.8	16.9	89.9	3.2	40.1	9.3	13.8	245.1	433.6
June qtr	..	136.8	..	39.0	..	175.8	23.1	2.6	4.9	5.0	37.1	14.2	70.8	3.3	53.6	6.1	16.2	213.7	412.6
Sept. qtr	..	144.6	..	37.7	..	182.3	22.8	2.6	4.9	3.3	25.6	9.3	53.2	2.0	43.5	5.6	12.6	162.7	367.7
Dec. qtr	..	138.3	..	28.9	..	167.2	22.2	2.3	9.5	3.3	20.0	5.4	51.1	1.8	43.0	6.6	13.7	156.7	346.0
1994 Mar. qtr	..	123.9	..	33.0	..	156.8	21.3	2.2	13.0	2.6	25.4	4.9	58.5	1.7	38.0	3.5	9.1	158.8	336.9

NOTE: The number of self-contained dwelling units commenced as part of the construction of non-residential building and alterations and additions to existing buildings (including conversions to dwelling units) are excluded from this table. There were 7 such dwelling units commenced in the March quarter 1994.

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDING ACTIVITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Period	New residential building				Non-residential building											Total building			
	Houses		Other residential buildings		Total		Value (\$m)												
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Business premises	Educational	Religious	Health		Recreational	Miscellaneous	Total
COMMENCED																			
1990-91	7,863	562.7	1,810	106.2	9,673	668.9	117.5	12.5	104.5	61.9	66.7	42.3	21.0	5.0	25.1	18.7	13.3	367.0	1,153.4
1991-92	8,036	584.1	1,572	91.9	9,608	676.0	124.1	12.2	46.8	46.4	94.9	45.7	18.7	6.4	35.5	30.5	7.4	344.5	1,144.6
1992-93	9,122	668.6	1,759	109.8	10,881	778.4	119.7	5.2	41.6	19.6	33.5	36.1	19.3	6.1	25.3	7.0	11.9	205.5	1,103.6
1992 Dec. qtr	2,325	172.9	477	28.9	2,802	201.8	32.3	2.2	6.0	5.4	13.3	6.7	1.3	2.9	14.1	3.9	0.8	56.5	290.5
1993 Mar. qtr	2,136	156.5	568	36.3	2,704	192.8	23.6	0.4	4.7	5.3	7.7	5.6	5.7	1.6	2.8	1.6	2.5	37.8	254.1
June qtr	2,369	176.8	426	26.2	2,795	203.0	36.0	1.5	4.5	4.4	6.2	13.7	3.3	1.1	5.2	0.5	5.9	46.3	285.3
Sept. qtr	2,611	199.0	376	24.4	2,987	223.3	30.9	1.2	10.9	4.2	6.3	5.6	5.0	0.4	4.3	1.8	2.7	42.6	296.8
Dec. qtr	2,336	175.1	336	21.2	2,672	196.2	35.5	1.6	14.6	4.2	7.0	7.7	4.1	0.6	14.0	4.7	2.6	60.9	292.7
1994 Mar. qtr	1,977	152.0	429	27.4	2,406	179.3	28.9	0.5	11.0	4.7	13.8	5.2	4.0	0.7	5.6	1.9	0.9	48.2	256.4
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD																			
1990-91	2,850	240.1	850	53.2	3,700	293.3	51.4	3.1	369.1	30.6	23.0	14.0	9.7	3.3	31.4	7.3	11.1	502.6	847.3
1991-92	2,740	229.2	569	36.0	3,309	265.2	57.5	8.9	45.3	42.8	67.6	22.4	11.3	5.2	34.8	13.9	4.6	256.8	579.5
1992-93	3,388	279.1	914	62.6	4,302	341.7	55.9	3.5	12.5	31.7	33.4	14.7	10.1	5.3	30.7	7.4	6.9	156.1	553.7
1992 Dec. qtr	3,069	252.4	794	50.7	3,863	303.1	54.2	5.4	20.4	45.9	82.0	14.6	11.9	5.4	36.6	9.4	3.6	235.3	592.7
1993 Mar. qtr	3,100	254.4	920	61.6	4,020	315.9	50.9	4.4	15.5	31.8	88.0	10.8	10.7	5.9	35.2	8.2	3.4	206.0	572.9
June qtr	3,388	279.1	914	62.6	4,302	341.7	55.9	3.5	12.5	31.7	33.4	14.7	10.1	5.3	30.7	7.4	6.9	156.1	553.7
Sept. qtr	3,571	298.2	897	61.9	4,468	360.1	55.6	4.2	10.0	27.1	38.5	15.3	9.8	5.0	28.1	8.5	8.9	147.5	563.2
Dec. qtr	3,561	295.7	733	51.2	4,294	346.9	53.1	3.8	14.0	5.8	35.1	10.6	9.3	3.7	35.4	10.9	8.5	137.1	537.1
1994 Mar. qtr	3,433	283.9	865	59.1	4,298	343.0	54.6	4.0	20.9	8.4	45.6	8.9	8.5	4.1	38.1	6.5	7.3	152.3	549.9
COMPLETED																			
1990-91	7,892	572.4	2,458	161.9	10,350	734.3	125.3	74.5	60.4	95.4	192.6	85.7	19.8	4.9	32.5	36.2	17.4	619.4	1,479.0
1991-92	8,121	598.9	1,829	109.0	9,950	707.9	119.9	6.4	372.3	34.2	45.6	35.9	16.9	5.3	32.3	24.3	13.1	586.3	1,414.0
1992-93	8,438	624.4	1,374	84.5	9,812	708.8	124.5	10.7	73.9	33.1	74.8	41.2	18.8	6.4	26.7	13.3	9.6	308.6	1,142.0
1992 Dec. qtr	2,431	181.8	297	18.7	2,728	200.5	37.7	4.0	46.4	3.4	6.5	11.1	5.6	1.0	13.8	5.7	3.7	101.2	339.4
1993 Mar. qtr	2,099	156.1	438	25.5	2,537	181.6	27.5	1.3	9.7	19.0	9.0	7.7	6.0	1.2	1.1	2.8	2.8	60.6	269.7
June qtr	2,074	154.0	406	26.0	2,480	179.9	30.9	2.4	7.3	4.2	52.9	9.8	3.7	1.8	10.6	1.3	2.4	96.3	307.1
Sept. qtr	2,428	181.9	386	25.5	2,814	207.5	31.9	0.3	13.5	8.9	31.9	5.0	5.4	0.9	7.0	0.7	0.8	52.4	291.8
Dec. qtr	2,341	178.9	494	32.5	2,835	211.4	38.3	2.1	10.7	25.1	7.8	12.0	4.6	2.0	7.1	2.1	2.7	76.3	326.0
1994 Mar. qtr	2,099	166.0	297	20.2	2,396	186.2	29.0	0.3	4.5	2.0	3.5	6.7	4.5	0.5	2.9	6.4	2.2	33.5	248.6

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDING ACTIVITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA - continued

Period	New residential building										Non-residential building														
	Houses					Other residential buildings					Total					Other business premises					Total				
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Alterations and additions to residential buildings (\$m)	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Educational	Religious	Health	Recreational	Miscellaneous	Total	Value (\$m)							
VALUE OF WORK DONE DURING PERIOD																									
1990-91	..	578.3	..	135.3	..	713.6	119.9	40.9	256.1	68.5	85.2	69.1	21.0	4.8	31.8	30.4	14.1	621.9	1,455.4						
1991-92	..	591.5	..	101.9	..	693.4	123.8	7.6	83.5	30.2	60.2	39.0	15.5	7.1	33.7	22.5	10.9	310.3	1,127.5						
1992-93	..	647.2	..	96.6	..	743.8	124.5	8.4	50.7	43.8	70.8	35.7	20.8	4.6	40.7	12.9	9.6	297.9	1,166.3						
1992 Dec. qtr	..	163.3	..	22.6	..	185.9	34.7	2.3	18.5	15.6	20.6	9.1	4.9	1.3	12.8	4.2	2.3	91.5	312.1						
1993 Mar. qtr	..	155.0	..	27.7	..	182.7	25.3	0.5	7.4	8.4	16.9	4.5	4.5	1.5	8.1	2.7	1.4	56.0	264.1						
June qtr	..	171.3	..	29.2	..	200.6	33.8	2.6	4.7	7.3	17.8	10.3	4.1	1.0	9.9	1.5	3.1	62.3	296.6						
Sept. qtr	..	197.3	..	26.7	..	224.0	32.2	0.9	10.8	5.6	14.6	9.5	3.9	1.9	8.6	1.2	2.7	59.7	315.9						
Dec. qtr	..	178.8	..	29.6	..	208.4	36.4	2.0	10.1	4.3	11.5	7.6	4.4	0.9	7.9	3.5	2.4	54.6	299.4						
1994 Mar. qtr	..	166.6	..	24.7	..	191.3	31.5	0.6	7.9	4.9	8.8	5.3	5.5	0.9	7.3	4.8	2.6	48.7	271.5						
VALUE OF WORK YET TO BE DONE																									
1990-91	..	103.4	..	26.0	..	129.4	22.1	0.9	49.0	9.9	12.8	5.3	3.7	1.4	17.6	1.8	6.5	108.9	260.4						
1991-92	..	101.3	..	17.6	..	118.8	24.3	5.5	14.1	26.1	42.9	10.7	6.7	1.5	19.5	10.1	2.3	139.4	282.5						
1992-93	..	130.1	..	32.9	..	163.0	22.9	2.4	4.6	4.2	12.6	8.8	3.9	3.3	11.1	4.1	4.6	59.6	245.5						
1992 Dec. qtr	..	118.7	..	25.7	..	144.3	21.7	3.7	7.6	10.9	34.1	5.8	4.7	2.9	19.6	6.2	0.6	96.1	262.2						
1993 Mar. qtr	..	121.8	..	35.1	..	156.9	20.6	3.6	4.9	7.5	24.7	5.4	4.9	3.2	15.0	5.1	1.8	75.5	253.1						
June qtr	..	130.1	..	32.9	..	163.0	22.9	2.4	4.6	4.2	12.6	8.8	3.9	3.3	11.1	4.1	4.6	59.6	245.5						
Sept. qtr	..	134.9	..	31.3	..	166.2	22.7	2.5	4.8	3.1	4.8	5.0	5.2	2.0	7.0	4.7	4.8	43.8	232.7						
Dec. qtr	..	132.8	..	23.6	..	156.3	22.1	2.3	9.3	2.6	5.7	4.7	4.8	1.8	13.5	5.8	4.7	55.2	233.6						
1994 Mar. qtr	..	120.4	..	27.0	..	147.4	21.1	2.1	12.9	2.3	10.9	4.5	3.0	1.7	11.8	3.0	3.1	55.1	223.7						

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SECTOR BUILDING ACTIVITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Period	New residential building				Non-residential building											Total			
	Houses		Other residential buildings		Alterations and additions to residential buildings					Other business premises							Enter-tainment and recreational buildings		Total
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious	Health		Miscellaneous		
COMMENCED																			
1990-91	314	18.0	834	40.6	58.6	0.7	2.6	2.9	13.5	23.6	30.7	69.1	--	--	7.6	10.7	26.3	186.9	246.2
1991-92	308	15.6	755	35.7	51.2	1.0	0.6	4.3	1.4	22.9	56.3	73.6	--	--	50.6	26.3	27.3	263.4	315.6
1992-93	294	16.7	460	21.1	37.8	2.7	0.3	12.2	3.4	66.3	17.3	98.4	--	--	25.0	6.5	23.9	253.3	293.7
1992 Dec. qtr	31	1.5	74	3.1	4.6	--	0.1	0.4	--	30.5	1.3	46.1	--	--	0.3	1.1	11.9	91.8	96.4
1993 Mar. qtr	68	3.6	138	7.1	10.7	0.4	--	1.2	0.2	5.1	0.9	34.9	--	--	0.4	2.3	5.3	50.4	61.4
June qtr	135	8.8	94	4.5	13.3	2.2	0.2	0.4	0.9	20.7	2.1	5.9	--	--	23.8	1.8	6.3	62.1	77.6
Sept. qtr	165	9.5	102	5.5	15.0	--	0.3	0.2	--	6.9	4.7	10.3	--	--	4.0	2.3	4.0	32.7	47.7
Dec. qtr	59	4.6	67	4.6	9.2	--	0.5	1.0	2.4	3.8	1.0	26.9	--	--	3.7	0.8	5.6	45.7	55.0
1994 Mar. qtr	46	2.7	97	5.8	8.5	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.1	11.5	0.3	27.8	--	--	3.7	0.2	1.2	46.4	55.6
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD																			
1990-91	154	8.5	438	22.0	30.5	0.7	1.6	2.3	8.9	6.3	15.4	72.7	--	--	48.0	6.4	40.6	202.2	233.5
1991-92	151	7.0	352	17.1	24.2	0.1	0.1	--	--	11.3	50.7	70.2	--	--	59.1	24.8	44.8	261.0	285.3
1992-93	175	10.4	248	12.3	22.7	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.8	41.7	38.9	131.8	--	--	64.8	6.3	57.6	342.5	365.7
1992 Dec. qtr	84	4.2	260	11.5	15.7	--	--	8.1	--	41.6	40.3	113.6	--	--	43.9	26.8	51.9	336.1	341.8
1993 Mar. qtr	112	5.8	290	14.1	19.9	0.4	--	0.4	--	42.6	37.8	142.0	--	--	44.2	11.5	52.3	330.7	350.9
June qtr	175	10.4	248	12.3	22.7	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.8	41.7	38.9	131.8	--	--	64.8	6.3	57.6	342.5	365.7
Sept. qtr	240	13.4	226	11.8	25.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.8	31.1	43.7	126.3	--	--	67.8	3.0	34.2	307.4	332.8
Dec. qtr	153	9.3	147	9.0	18.3	0.3	0.1	1.2	1.5	30.8	1.3	116.3	--	--	71.9	1.7	37.9	262.5	281.1
1994 Mar. qtr	108	6.7	171	10.5	17.2	0.8	0.1	0.7	1.5	36.2	1.0	120.5	--	--	74.4	1.3	26.6	262.3	280.3
COMPLETED																			
1990-91	416	23.3	1,080	50.7	74.0	2.7	1.8	0.5	25.1	30.8	38.9	52.4	--	--	20.8	53.8	24.0	248.1	324.8
1991-92	311	17.2	841	40.6	57.8	1.7	2.2	6.6	10.7	18.2	23.6	74.4	--	--	38.7	7.9	25.3	207.4	266.9
1992-93	270	13.4	564	25.9	39.3	2.3	0.2	11.9	2.7	35.6	24.8	40.2	--	--	19.8	27.1	9.5	171.7	213.2
1992 Dec. qtr	76	3.4	123	5.1	8.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.4	7.8	12.5	6.8	--	--	15.6	0.3	0.4	46.1	54.7
1993 Mar. qtr	40	2.0	108	4.5	6.5	--	--	8.9	0.2	4.3	3.3	9.0	--	--	0.2	18.7	5.4	50.0	56.5
June qtr	72	4.2	136	6.3	10.5	2.1	--	0.4	0.1	20.4	1.1	16.6	--	--	3.5	8.0	1.3	51.4	63.9
Sept. qtr	100	6.5	124	6.0	12.5	0.3	0.4	0.2	--	17.5	2.9	17.4	--	--	1.1	5.6	29.7	74.8	87.6
Dec. qtr	146	8.7	146	7.5	16.2	--	0.6	0.2	1.8	4.2	43.9	34.5	--	--	1.5	2.2	3.5	92.4	108.6
1994 Mar. qtr	91	5.3	73	4.4	9.7	0.1	0.8	1.2	0.1	6.1	0.2	24.7	--	--	2.0	0.6	13.0	48.7	58.4

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SECTOR BUILDING ACTIVITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA—continued

Period	New residential building										Non-residential building										Total building
	Houses					Other residential buildings					Total					Other residential building					
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Business premises	Educational	Religious	Health	Recreational	Miscellaneous	Total		
VALUE OF WORK DONE DURING PERIOD																					
1990-91	..	21.9	..	46.8	..	68.6	2.1	1.9	1.2	23.0	26.0	31.7	79.8	—	24.7	37.6	28.9	254.8	325.5		
1991-92	..	16.1	..	39.0	..	55.1	1.3	1.5	6.0	4.7	18.9	29.3	52.0	—	18.9	14.6	27.9	173.8	230.2		
1992-93	..	13.7	..	23.1	..	36.9	2.5	0.2	11.9	2.8	49.0	46.4	82.9	—	25.1	21.8	32.8	273.0	312.3		
1992 Dec. qtr	..	3.0	..	5.8	..	8.9	—	0.1	2.7	1.4	7.4	15.8	24.0	—	8.3	6.6	13.4	79.9	88.8		
1993 Mar. qtr	..	2.2	..	4.5	..	6.7	0.2	3.1	0.2	8.8	8.9	19.4	—	—	3.7	5.2	5.8	55.3	62.2		
June qtr	..	5.3	..	5.9	..	11.2	2.2	0.1	0.1	26.6	8.2	24.5	—	—	6.9	5.0	7.2	78.7	92.1		
Sept. qtr	..	6.5	..	5.3	..	11.8	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.5	10.5	8.9	30.8	—	9.9	3.5	10.0	75.0	86.9		
Dec. qtr	..	8.8	..	5.7	..	14.5	0.1	0.6	0.9	1.9	10.7	5.1	26.2	—	12.7	0.9	5.9	65.0	79.5		
1994 Mar. qtr	..	4.8	..	5.2	..	10.0	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	11.3	0.4	19.6	—	7.7	0.6	4.7	46.5	57.1		
VALUE OF WORK YET TO BE DONE																					
1990-91	..	4.1	..	11.5	..	15.6	0.2	0.9	1.6	3.0	3.2	9.4	25.6	—	11.1	3.7	20.0	78.4	94.3		
1991-92	..	3.8	..	8.2	..	12.0	—	0.1	—	—	7.4	38.9	47.9	—	42.1	15.3	22.0	173.8	185.8		
1992-93	..	6.7	..	6.1	..	12.9	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.8	24.4	5.4	66.9	—	42.5	2.1	11.5	154.1	167.1		
1992 Dec. qtr	..	1.8	..	5.0	..	6.8	—	—	2.0	—	35.2	19.6	67.0	—	28.4	6.1	12.0	170.3	177.1		
1993 Mar. qtr	..	3.2	..	7.6	..	10.8	0.2	—	0.1	—	31.6	11.5	85.0	—	25.1	4.3	12.1	169.6	180.6		
June qtr	..	6.7	..	6.1	..	12.9	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.8	24.4	5.4	66.9	—	42.5	2.1	11.5	154.1	167.1		
Sept. qtr	..	9.7	..	6.4	..	16.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	20.9	4.3	48.0	—	36.6	0.9	7.8	118.9	135.1		
Dec. qtr	..	5.5	..	5.4	..	10.9	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	14.2	0.7	46.2	—	29.5	0.8	9.0	101.5	112.4		
1994 Mar. qtr	..	3.5	..	5.9	..	9.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	14.5	0.5	55.5	—	26.3	0.5	6.0	103.7	113.2		

**TABLE 4. NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS BY STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION, SOUTH AUSTRALIA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES**

Period	Houses				Total			
	Private sector		Total		Private sector		Total	
	Commenced	Completed	Commenced	Completed	Commenced	Completed	Commenced	Completed
1992 Dec. qtr	2,269	2,302	2,296	2,349	2,701	2,583	2,820	2,740
1993 Mar. qtr	2,297	2,250	2,361	2,324	2,807	2,666	3,045	2,898
June qtr	2,407	2,121	2,553	2,187	2,880	2,490	3,112	2,619
Sept. qtr	2,462	2,348	2,620	2,450	2,909	2,826	3,132	3,106
Dec. qtr r	2,284	2,216	2,339	2,331	2,575	2,685	2,715	2,931
1994 Mar. qtr	2,123	2,247	2,162	2,377	2,496	2,511	2,662	2,753

**TABLE 5. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES
(\$ million)**

Period	New residential building			Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building		Total building
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total		Private sector	Total	
1992 Dec. qtr	159.8	27.8	188.7	32.2	86.4	165.0	383.7
1993 Mar. qtr	163.6	30.5	193.7	27.7	61.2	123.2	344.3
June qtr	178.7	35.0	214.6	35.6	61.0	144.6	388.0
Sept. qtr	201.8	35.0	235.2	32.8	59.7	124.3	400.9
Dec. qtr r	180.3	34.5	216.1	33.8	51.4	115.2	362.7
1994 Mar. qtr	178.3	28.2	205.8	34.8	53.3	105.3	346.2

**TABLE 6. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK COMMENCED, AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES (a), SOUTH AUSTRALIA
(\$ million)**

Period	New residential building			Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building		Total building
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total		Private sector	Total	
1990-91	558.2	139.6	697.8	113.4	349.7	528.2	1,339.4
1991-92	562.7	119.5	682.2	117.6	325.4	574.2	1,374.0
1992-93	645.2	122.4	767.6	115.7	193.2	431.2	1,314.5
1992 Dec. qtr	164.4	30.0	194.4	30.4	53.2	139.6	364.4
1993 Mar. qtr	150.5	40.6	191.1	22.7	35.5	82.8	296.6
June qtr	174.8	28.6	203.4	36.1	43.3	101.4	340.9
Sept. qtr	195.6	27.8	223.4	28.9	39.7	70.2	322.5
Dec. qtr r	165.0	23.9	188.9	32.1	56.6	99.1	320.1
1994 Mar. qtr	138.8	30.7	169.5	26.3	44.7	87.7	283.5

(a) See paragraphs 24 and 25 of the Explanatory Notes. Constant price estimates are subject to revision each quarter as more up to date information on prices and commodity compositions becomes available.

**TABLE 7. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES (a), SOUTH AUSTRALIA
ORIGINAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES
(\$ million)**

Period	New residential building			Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building		Total building
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total		Private sector	Total	
ORIGINAL							
1990-91	577.2	171.9	749.1	117.5	583.8	822.8	1,689.4
1991-92	570.3	130.0	700.3	117.6	286.1	446.4	1,264.3
1992-93	621.0	110.4	731.4	119.4	274.1	525.3	1,376.1
1992 Dec. qtr	156.1	26.1	182.2	32.6	84.3	157.9	372.7
1993 Mar. qtr	148.1	29.8	177.9	24.0	51.6	102.5	304.4
June qtr	166.3	32.4	198.7	33.9	57.2	129.5	362.1
Sept. qtr	191.4	29.4	220.8	30.3	54.5	122.9	374.0
Dec. qtr r	172.9	32.2	205.1	33.6	49.6	108.6	347.3
1994 Mar. qtr	154.0	27.2	181.2	28.8	44.2	86.4	296.4
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED							
1992 Dec. qtr	149.9	25.5	176.5	30.3	79.6	152.0	356.7
1993 Mar. qtr	154.1	28.2	182.0	26.0	56.4	113.5	321.2
June qtr	168.2	32.3	201.3	33.6	56.0	132.9	361.5
Sept. qtr	189.6	32.2	220.3	30.7	54.5	113.4	372.3
Dec. qtr r	166.2	31.4	198.8	31.2	46.7	104.7	332.4
1994 Mar. qtr	160.3	25.7	185.2	31.3	48.3	95.5	312.3

(a) See paragraphs 24 to 26 of the Explanatory Notes. Constant price estimates are subject to revision each quarter as more up to date information on prices and commodity compositions becomes available.

TABLE 8. NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS BY OWNERSHIP,
CLASS OF BUILDER AND STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Period	Private sector				Public sector			Total			
	Houses			Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total
	Contractor-built	Other	Total								
COMMENCED											
1990-91	6,788	1,075	7,863	1,810	9,673	314	834	1,148	8,177	2,644	10,821
1991-92	6,723	1,313	8,036	1,572	9,608	308	755	1,063	8,344	2,327	10,671
1992-93	7,502	1,620	9,122	1,759	10,881	294	460	754	9,416	2,219	11,635
1992 Dec. qtr	1,863	461	2,325	477	2,802	31	74	105	2,356	551	2,907
1993 Mar. qtr	1,692	444	2,136	568	2,704	68	138	206	2,204	706	2,910
June qtr	1,991	378	2,369	426	2,795	135	94	229	2,504	520	3,024
Sept. qtr	2,225	386	2,611	376	2,987	165	102	267	2,776	478	3,254
Dec. qtr	2,137	200	2,336	336	2,672	59	67	126	2,395	403	2,798
1994 Mar. qtr	1,584	393	1,977	429	2,406	46	97	143	2,023	526	2,549
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD											
1990-91	1,781	1,068	2,850	850	3,700	154	438	592	3,004	1,288	4,292
1991-92	1,663	1,077	2,740	569	3,309	151	352	503	2,891	921	3,812
1992-93	2,206	1,183	3,388	914	4,302	175	248	423	3,563	1,162	4,725
1992 Dec. qtr	1,899	1,170	3,069	794	3,863	84	260	344	3,153	1,054	4,207
1993 Mar. qtr	1,903	1,198	3,100	920	4,020	112	290	402	3,212	1,210	4,422
June qtr	2,206	1,183	3,388	914	4,302	175	248	423	3,563	1,162	4,725
Sept. qtr	2,340	1,332	3,571	897	4,468	240	226	466	3,811	1,123	4,934
Dec. qtr	2,481	1,080	3,561	733	4,294	153	147	300	3,714	880	4,594
1994 Mar. qtr	2,243	1,191	3,433	865	4,298	108	171	279	3,541	1,036	4,577
COMPLETED											
1990-91	6,753	1,139	7,892	2,458	10,350	416	1,080	1,496	8,308	3,538	11,846
1991-92	6,835	1,286	8,121	1,829	9,950	311	841	1,152	8,432	2,670	11,102
1992-93	6,943	1,495	8,438	1,374	9,812	270	564	834	8,708	1,938	10,646
1992 Dec. qtr	1,998	433	2,431	297	2,728	76	123	199	2,507	420	2,927
1993 Mar. qtr	1,698	401	2,099	438	2,537	40	108	148	2,139	546	2,685
June qtr	1,674	401	2,074	406	2,480	72	136	208	2,146	542	2,688
Sept. qtr	2,078	350	2,428	386	2,814	100	124	224	2,528	510	3,038
Dec. qtr	2,011	330	2,341	494	2,835	146	146	292	2,487	640	3,127
1994 Mar. qtr	1,823	276	2,099	297	2,396	91	73	164	2,190	370	2,560

TABLE 9. NUMBER AND VALUE OF NEW HOUSES BUILT BY CONTRACT BUILDERS FOR PRIVATE OWNERSHIP, BY COMPLETION VALUE RANGE AND STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Period	Commenced				Under construction at end of period				Completed			
	Less than \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$59,999	\$60,000 and over	Total	Less than \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$59,999	\$60,000 and over	Total	Less than \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$59,999	\$60,000 and over	Total
	NUMBER											
1990-91	504	2,405	3,879	6,788	79	487	1,216	1,781	530	2,463	3,760	6,753
1991-92	307	2,084	4,332	6,723	30	485	1,147	1,663	365	2,068	4,402	6,835
1992-93	261	2,430	4,811	7,502	31	564	1,611	2,206	282	2,358	4,303	6,943
1992 Dec. qtr	55	517	1,292	1,863	17	462	1,420	1,899	73	683	1,243	1,998
1993 Mar. qtr	76	578	1,038	1,692	39	512	1,351	1,903	67	548	1,083	1,698
June qtr	55	651	1,284	1,991	31	564	1,611	2,206	62	592	1,019	1,674
Sept. qtr	104	686	1,435	2,225	72	622	1,645	2,340	55	670	1,353	2,078
Dec. qtr	55	659	1,423	2,137	45	686	1,751	2,481	83	608	1,320	2,011
1994 Mar. qtr	27	496	1,061	1,584	26	642	1,575	2,243	53	533	1,236	1,823
VALUE (\$m)												
1990-91	17.3	119.8	337.4	474.5	2.5	24.3	119.5	146.3	18.4	123.3	339.6	481.3
1991-92	10.5	105.6	368.0	484.0	1.0	24.7	110.4	136.1	12.5	104.8	377.2	494.5
1992-93	8.7	123.5	413.2	545.5	1.0	29.0	150.7	180.8	9.5	119.3	372.7	501.4
1992 Dec. qtr	1.8	26.4	109.6	137.7	0.6	23.9	133.3	157.9	2.4	34.3	108.5	145.2
1993 Mar. qtr	2.6	29.3	91.1	123.0	1.3	26.3	131.0	158.7	2.4	27.6	93.1	123.1
June qtr	1.7	33.5	111.2	146.4	1.0	29.0	150.7	180.8	2.0	30.3	90.6	122.9
Sept. qtr	3.6	35.2	127.3	166.0	2.6	32.0	161.8	196.4	1.8	34.7	115.8	152.3
Dec. qtr	1.9	34.6	121.8	158.3	1.5	35.8	170.2	207.6	2.9	31.4	115.0	149.2
1994 Mar. qtr	1.0	25.4	90.8	117.2	0.9	33.1	149.9	183.9	1.9	27.9	112.8	142.6

**TABLE 10. SUMMARY OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA
RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS (PER CENT)
MARCH QUARTER 1994**

Ownership and stage of construction	New residential building				Value	
	Houses		Total		Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Total building
	Number	Value	Number of dwelling units	Value		
PRIVATE SECTOR						
Commenced	3.2	3.3	2.7	2.8	8.5	2.2
Under construction at end of period	3.1	3.1	2.5	2.5	7.4	1.7
Completed	4.4	4.6	3.8	4.1	10.2	3.3
Value of work done	..	2.8	..	2.4	6.3	1.9
Value of work yet to be done	..	3.8	..	3.1	9.8	2.2
TOTAL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS						
Commenced	3.2	3.2	2.5	2.6	8.4	1.8
Under construction at end of period	3.0	3.0	2.3	2.4	7.3	1.2
Completed	4.2	4.5	3.6	3.9	10.2	2.7
Value of work done	..	2.7	..	2.3	6.2	1.5
Value of work yet to be done	..	3.7	..	2.9	9.8	1.5

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains detailed results from the quarterly Building Activity Survey. Users should note that data for the latest quarter is subject to revision.

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

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

3. From the September quarter 1990, only non-residential building jobs (both new and alterations and additions) with an approval value of \$50,000 or more are included in the survey. For the September quarter 1985 to June quarter 1990, the cut-off for inclusion was \$30,000 or more and prior to that it was \$10,000 or more. Care should be taken in interpreting data for specific classes of non-residential building.

4. The use of sample survey techniques in the Building Activity Survey means that reliable estimates of private sector house building activity, including alterations and additions to houses, are available only at the State/Territory and Australia levels with the exception of the Northern Territory. However, dwelling unit commencement data for regions below State level are shown in the monthly series of dwelling unit commencements compiled by State offices of the ABS. Data from this series, unlike those compiled from the Building Activity Survey, are based on information reported by local and other government authorities.

Scope and coverage

5. The statistics relate to *building* activity which includes construction of new buildings and alterations and additions to existing buildings. Construction activity not defined as building (e.g. construction of roads, bridges, railways, earthworks, etc.) is excluded.

6. Building jobs included in each quarter in the Building Activity Survey comprise those building jobs selected in previous quarters which have not been completed (or commenced) by the end of the previous quarter and those building jobs newly selected in the current quarter. The population list from which building jobs are selected for inclusion comprises all approved building jobs which were notified to the ABS up to but not including the last month of the reference quarter (e.g. up to the end of August in respect of the September quarter survey). This introduces a lag to the statistics in respect of those building jobs notified *and* commenced in the last month of the reference quarter (e.g. for the month of September in respect of the September quarter survey). For example, building jobs which were notified as approved in the month of June and which actually commenced in that month are shown as commencements in the September quarter. Similarly, building jobs which were notified in the month of September and which actually commenced in that month are shown as commencements in the December quarter.

Definitions

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

8. A *dwelling unit* is defined as a self-contained suite of rooms, including cooking and bathing facilities and intended for *long-term* residential use. Units (whether self-contained or not) within buildings offering institutional care, such as hospitals, or temporary accommodation such as motels, hostels and holiday apartments, are not defined as dwelling units. The value of units of this type is included in the appropriate category of non-residential building.

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

(a) A *house* is defined as a detached building predominantly used for long-term residential purposes and consisting of only one dwelling unit. Thus, detached 'granny flats' and detached dwelling units (such as caretakers' residences) associated with non-residential buildings are defined as houses for the purpose of these statistics.

(b) An *other residential building* is defined as a building which is predominantly used for long-term residential purposes and which contains (or has attached to it) more than one dwelling unit (e.g. includes town-houses, duplexes, apartment buildings, etc.).

10. The number of dwelling units created by alterations and additions to existing buildings, and through the construction of new non-residential buildings, is not included in the tables but is shown as a footnote to Table 1.

11. *Commenced*. A building job is regarded as commenced when the first physical building activity has been performed on site in the form of materials fixed in place and/or labour expended (this includes site preparation but excludes delivery of building materials, the drawing of plans and specifications and the construction of non-building infrastructures such as roads).

12. *Under construction*. A building job is regarded as being under construction at the end of a period if it has been commenced but has not been completed, and work on it has not been abandoned.

13. *Completed*. A building job is regarded as completed when building activity has progressed to the stage when the building can fulfil its intended function. In practice, the ABS regards buildings as completed when notified as such by respondents to the survey.

Valuation of building jobs

14. The value series in this publication are derived from estimates reported on survey returns as follows.

- (a) *Value of building commenced or under construction* represents the anticipated completion value based, where practicable, on estimated market or contract price of building jobs excluding the value of land and landscaping. Site preparation costs are included. Where building jobs proceed over several quarters,

the anticipated completion value reported on the return for the first (commencement) quarter may be amended on returns for subsequent (under construction) quarters as the job nears completion.

- (b) *Value of building completed* represents the actual completion value based, where practicable, on the market or contract price of building jobs including site preparation costs but excluding the value of land and landscaping.
- (c) *Value of building work done during the period* represents the estimated value of building work actually carried out during the quarter on building jobs which have commenced.
- (d) *Value of building work yet to be done* represents the difference between the anticipated completion value and the estimated value of work done on building jobs up to the end of the period.

Building classification

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

16. *Builder type.* Houses are classified according to the type of builder as follows.

- (a) *Contractor-built houses* are those constructed by a private recognised building contractor, either under contract, or in anticipation of sale or rental.
- (b) *Houses built by other than contract builders* are those constructed by an owner (other than a recognised building contractor) or under the owner's direction, without the services of a single contractor responsible for the whole job. Houses built by businesses (other than recognised building contractors) and public sector organisations are also included in this category.

17. *Functional classification of buildings.* A building is classified according to its intended major function. Hence, a building which is ancillary to other buildings or forms a part of a group of related buildings is classified to the function of the building and not to the function of the group as a whole. An example of this can be seen in the treatment of building work approved for a factory complex. In this case a detached administration building would be classified to Offices, a detached cafeteria building to Shops, while factory buildings would be classified to Factories. An exception to this rule is the treatment of group accommodation buildings where, for example, a student accommodation building on a university campus would be classified to Educational.

18. Examples of the types of buildings included under each main functional heading are shown in the following list.

- (a) *Houses.* Includes cottages, bungalows, detached caretakers'/managers' cottages, rectories.
- (b) *Other residential buildings.* Includes blocks of flats, home units, attached townhouses, villa units, terrace houses, semi-detached houses, maisonettes.
- (c) *Hotels, etc.* Includes motels, hostels, boarding houses, guesthouses, holiday apartment buildings.

- (d) *Shops.* Includes retail shops, restaurants, cafes, taverns, dry cleaners, laundromats, hair salons, shopping arcades.
- (e) *Factories.* Includes paper mills, oil refinery buildings, brickworks, foundries, powerhouses, manufacturing laboratories, workshops as part of a manufacturing process.
- (f) *Offices.* Includes banks, post offices, council chambers, head and regional offices.
- (g) *Other business premises.* Includes warehouses, storage depots, service stations, transport depots and terminals, electricity substation buildings, pumping station buildings, telephone exchanges, mail sorting centres, broadcasting stations, film studios.
- (h) *Educational.* Includes schools, colleges, kindergartens, libraries, museums, art galleries, research and teaching laboratories, theological colleges.
- (i) *Religious.* Includes churches, chapels, temples.
- (j) *Health.* Includes hospitals, nursing homes, surgeries, clinics, medical centres.
- (k) *Entertainment and recreational.* Includes clubs, theatres, cinemas, public halls, gymnasiums, grandstands, squash courts, sports and recreation centres.
- (l) *Miscellaneous.* Includes law courts, homes for the aged (where medical care is not provided as a normal service), orphanages, gaols, barracks, mine buildings, glasshouses, livestock sheds, shearing sheds, fruit and skin drying sheds, public toilets, and ambulance, fire and police stations.

Reliability of the estimates

19. Since the figures for private sector house building activity (including alterations and additions) are derived from information obtained from a sample of approved building jobs, they are subject to sampling error; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained if information for all approved jobs for the relevant period had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of approved jobs was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all approved jobs had been included and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of sampling variability is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The relative standard errors of estimates provide an indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and are shown in Table 10.

20. An example of the use of relative standard errors is as follows. Assume that the estimate of the number of new private sector houses commenced during the latest quarter is 2,000 (for actual estimate see Table 2) and that the associated relative standard error is 2.5 per cent (for actual percentage see Table 10). There would then be about two chances in three that the number which would have been obtained if information had been collected about all approved private sector house jobs would have been within the range 1,950 to 2,050 (2.5 per cent of 2,000 is 50) and about nineteen chances in twenty that the number would have been within the range 1,900 to 2,100.

21. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the relative standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of inadequacies in the source of building approval information, imperfections in reporting by respondents, and errors made in the coding and processing of data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling error, and may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by the careful design of questionnaires, efforts to obtain responses for all selected building jobs, and efficient operating procedures.

Seasonal adjustment

22. Seasonally adjusted building statistics are shown in Tables 4, 5 and 7. In the seasonally adjusted series, account has been taken of normal seasonal factors and trading day effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the quarter) and the effect of the movement in the date of Easter which may, in successive years, affect figures for different quarters. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting the series are given in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, Australia* (1308.0).

23. Since seasonally adjusted statistics reflect both irregular and trend movements, an upward or downward movement in a seasonally adjusted series does not necessarily indicate a change of trend. Particular care should therefore be taken in interpreting individual quarter to quarter movements. Each of the component series shown has been seasonally adjusted independently. As a consequence, while the unadjusted components in the original series shown add to the totals, the adjusted components may not add to the adjusted totals. Further, the difference between independently seasonally adjusted series does not necessarily produce series which are optimal or even adequate adjustments of the similarly derived original series. Thus the figures which can be derived by subtracting seasonally adjusted private sector dwelling units from the seasonally adjusted total should not be used to represent seasonally adjusted public sector dwelling units.

Estimates at constant prices

24. Estimates of the value of commencements and work done at average 1989-90 prices are shown in Tables 6 and 7. Constant price estimates measure changes in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated. The deflators used to revalue the current price estimates in this publication are derived from the same price data underlying the deflators compiled for the dwellings and non-dwelling construction components of the national accounts aggregate 'Gross fixed capital expenditure'.

25. Estimates at constant prices are subject to a number of approximations and assumptions. Further information on the nature and concepts of constant price estimates is contained in Chapter 4 of *Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (5216.0).

26. The factors used to seasonally adjust the constant price series are identical to those used to adjust the corresponding current price series.

Unpublished data and related publications

27. The ABS can also make available certain building approvals and activity data which are not published. Where it is not practicable to provide the required information by telephone, data can be provided in the following forms: microfiche, photocopy, computer printout, floppy disk and clerically extracted tabulation. Inquiries should be made to the contact shown at the front of this publication.

28. Users may also wish to refer to the following building and construction publications which are available on request:

Building Approvals, Australia (8731.0) – monthly (\$13.50)

Building Approvals, South Australia (8731.4) – monthly (\$11.00)

Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, South Australia (8741.4) – monthly (\$11.00)

Building Activity, Australia: Dwelling Unit Commencements, Preliminary (8750.0) – quarterly (\$11.00)

Building Activity, Australia (8752.0) – quarterly (\$14.50)

Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (8762.0) – quarterly (\$11.00)

Construction Activity at Constant Prices, Australia (8782.0) – quarterly (\$11.00)

29. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

.. not applicable
 — nil or rounded to zero
 r figure or series revised since previous issue

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

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