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ECONOMIC INDICATORS, QUEENSLAND, FEBRUARY 1994

MAIN FEATURES

- During January the \$A appreciated 6.3% on a trade weighted index against the currencies of Australia's major trading partners, by 3.0% against the Japanese yen and by 5.0% against the \$US. The provisional trend estimate for the December 1993 current account deficit was \$1,430m, an increase of \$64m, or 5% on the provisional trend estimate for November 1993. This was the fourth consecutive monthly rise in the deficit. A major factor in the deficit was an increase in imports and decrease in exports.
- Queensland's main economic indicators continue to point to continued growth in the Queensland economy. In trend estimate terms, for the 12 months ending September quarter 1993, Queensland's state final demand increased 5.6% from \$16,202m to \$17,109m. Over the same 12 month period the trend estimate for gross fixed capital expenditure increased 8.2%.
- The all groups Brisbane CPI increased 0.3% between the September and December quarters 1993, resulting in an annual increase (December quarter 1993 on December quarter 1992) of 1.9%. The Brisbane price index for materials used in house building decreased 0.4% from October to November 1993. This was the first decline recorded since September 1991.
- The trend estimate for retail turnover in Queensland has recorded relatively strong growth since July 1993, although the November and December 1993 increase of 0.9% and 0.8% respectively, indicate a slight easing of growth in retail activity.
- Total dwelling unit approvals, in trend estimate terms, in Queensland remained relatively stable between November 1993 and December 1993 but were 16.2% higher for the year ending December 1993. The value of all buildings approved has increased 62.9% in the 12 months from December 1992 to December 1993.
- The finance sector remains considerably stronger than the corresponding period in 1992. In the 12 months November 1992 to November 1993, housing finance for owner occupation increased 21.9%, total personal finance commitments 12.7% and lease finance commitments 26.1%.
- The January 1994 Queensland labour market indicators continue to show signs of improvement. The trend estimate unemployment rate fell for the fourth consecutive month. In January 1994, it was 10.3% compared with 10.7% in January 1993. The total number of employed persons, trend estimate, has risen from 1,362,200 in January 1993 to 1,409,900 in January 1994, an increase of 3.5%.

Statistics shown in this publication are the latest available at the date of preparation. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues. Reference should therefore always be made to the latest issue, or to the statistical publication on the specific subject when figures are not shown.

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For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific publications which are listed in this issue.

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18 February 1994

INQUIRIES

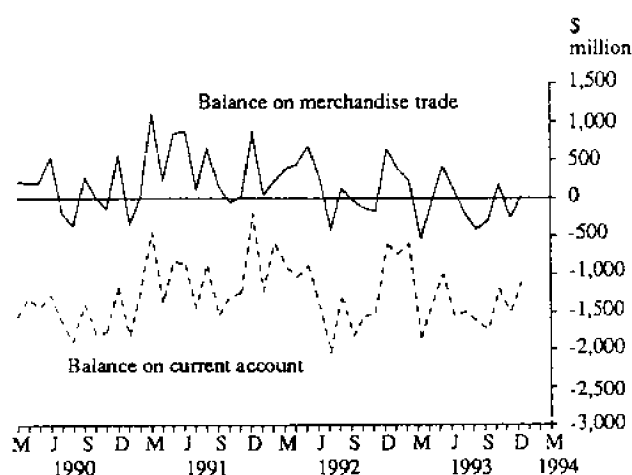
- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Information Inquiries on Brisbane (07) 222 6351.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services write to Information Inquiries, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), GPO Box 9817, Brisbane Q 4001.

AGGREGATE INDICATORS

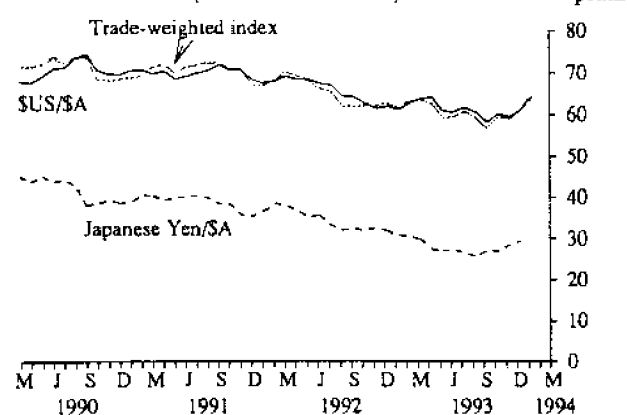
Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year	
			One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago			
	1993							
Balance of payments, Australia							%	
Exports	\$m	December	5,329	5,447	5,745	5,405	5,431	-1.9
Imports	\$m	December	5,297	5,697	5,559	5,698	4,780	+10.8
Balance on merchandise trade	\$m	December	32	-250	186	-293	651	..
Balance on goods and services	\$m	December	12	-236	40	-652	429	..
Net income and unrequited transfers	\$m	December	-1,121	-1,270	-1,240	-1,103	-1,038	..
Balance on current account	\$m	December	-1,109	-1,506	-1,200	-1,755	-609	..
Trade and foreign investment								
Foreign trade, Queensland								
Exports	\$m	December	965.4	1,065.9	1,225.5	961.3	1,090.2	-11.4
Imports	\$m	December	563.2	640.9	599.4	568.9	540.4	+4.2
Foreign investment in Australia								
Official	\$m	Sept. qtr	2,305	5,417	-984	1,656	5,377	..
Non-official	\$m	Sept. qtr	5,433	2,991	513	-347	1,917	..
Export Price Index: All groups (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)	Index No.	November	93.5	93.4	94.8	93.2	94.7	-1.3
Import Price Index: All groups (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)	Index No.	November	118.2	118.9	119.3	116.7	112.2	+5.3
National accounts, Australia, (current prices, trend)								
Final consumption expenditure								
Private	\$m	Sept. qtr	63,814	63,171	62,513	61,881	61,347	+4.0
Government	\$m	Sept. qtr	19,127	19,050	18,826	18,463	18,116	+5.6
Gross fixed capital expenditure	\$m	Sept. qtr	20,112	20,131	20,028	19,770	19,367	+3.8
Exports of goods and services	\$m	Sept. qtr	19,583	19,255	18,957	18,674	18,225	+7.5
Imports of goods and services	\$m	Sept. qtr	20,440	19,881	19,404	19,063	18,602	+9.9
Gross Domestic Product (Income)	\$m	Sept. qtr	103,433	102,113	100,817	99,639	98,825	+4.7
State accounts, Queensland, (current prices, trend)								
Final consumption expenditure	\$m	Sept. qtr	13,110	12,968	12,848	12,720	12,505	+4.8
Gross fixed capital expenditure	\$m	Sept. qtr	4,000	3,947	3,880	3,803	3,697	+8.2
State final demand	\$m	Sept. qtr	17,109	16,915	16,728	16,523	16,202	+5.6
Gross State Product (Income)	\$m	Sept. qtr	16,517	16,397	16,223	15,949	15,619	+5.7
	1994							
Exchange rate levels at end of period (a)								
US/\$A		January	0.7112	0.6771	0.6586	0.6661	0.6786	+4.8
Yen/\$A		January	78.11	75.80	71.77	72.17	84.42	-7.5
Trade-weighted index of value of \$A (Base: May 1970 = 100.0)		January	54.0	50.8	49.1	49.4	51.6	+4.7

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. .. not applicable

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, AUSTRALIA



MOVEMENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR AGAINST SELECTED CURRENCIES AND IN THE TRADE-WEIGHTED INDEX (Base: Dec. 1979=100)

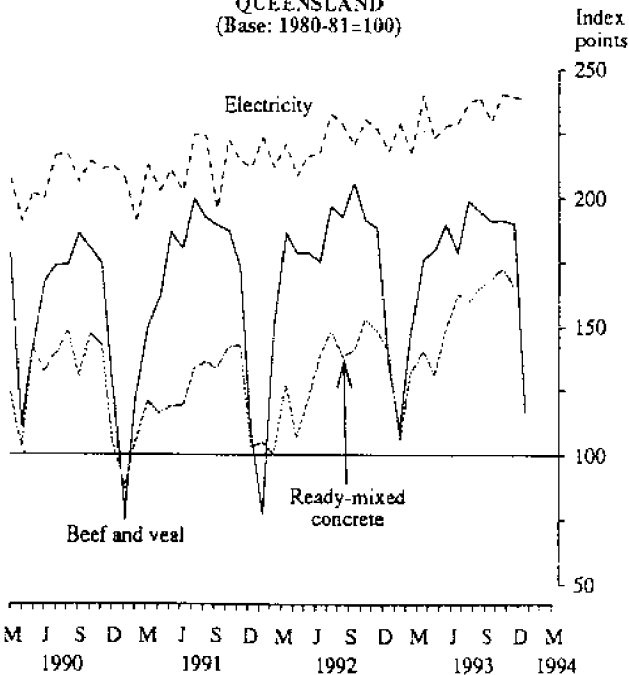


PRODUCTION

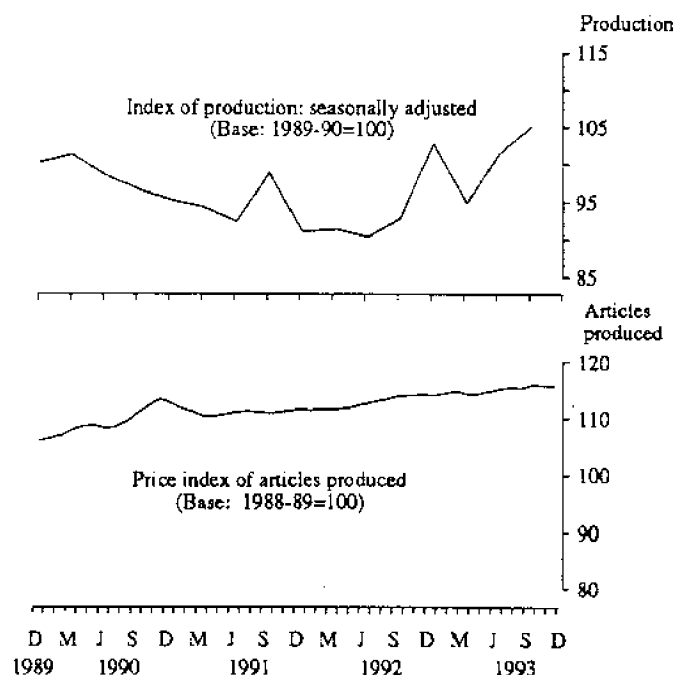
Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year	
			One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago			
	1993							
Selected production statistics, <i>Queensland</i>								
Black coal (saleable) (a)	'000 tonnes	Sept. qtr	22,408	20,162	21,904	21,055	22,179	+1.0
Log timber processed (b)	'000 cu m	Dec. qtr	402.4	453.7	410.2	371.4	368.6	+9.2
Wheaten flour	tonnes	October	17,802	19,412	19,364	18,817	18,138	-1.9
Clay bricks	'000	November	30,586	29,719	31,071	30,274	27,254	+12.2
Ready-mixed concrete	'000 cu m	November	393.3	409.5	401.9	392.9	352.9	+11.4
Electricity generated	m kWh	December	2,662.0	2,668.9	2,683.5	2,565.3	2,430.8	+9.5
Beef and veal	'000 tonnes	December	42.3	68.8	69.3	69.2	49.4	-14.2
Quarterly index of manufacturing production, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)								
Food, beverages and tobacco	Index No.	Sept. qtr	114.9	112.0	106.6	119.7	109.5	+4.9
Chemicals, petroleum and coal products	Index No.	Sept. qtr	109.7	104.2	104.5	104.8	104.5	+5.0
Basic metal products	Index No.	Sept. qtr	112.9	110.6	99.5	105.2	102.4	+10.3
Transport equipment	Index No.	Sept. qtr	103.8	97.7	83.4	86.3	86.3	+20.3
Total manufacturing	Index No.	Sept. qtr	105.2	101.5	94.8	102.7	98.9	+6.4
Price indexes of articles produced by manufacturing industry, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1988-89 = 100.0)								
Food, beverages and tobacco	Index No.	November	120.6	120.6	121.6	120.2	116.3	+3.7
Basic metal products	Index No.	November	100.1	99.9	100.9	100.7	100.9	-0.8
Transport equipment	Index No.	November	118.6	118.8	118.5	117.8	115.0	+3.1
Other machinery and equipment	Index No.	November	109.8	109.9	110.1	109.9	108.9	+0.8
All groups	Index No.	November	115.8	115.9	116.0	115.4	114.2	+1.4
Price indexes of materials used in manufacturing industry, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1984-85 = 100.0)								
Imported	Index No.	November	135.2	135.8	135.5	133.3	131.2	+3.0
Home produced	Index No.	November	121.1	123.2	124.3	123.9	126.2	-4.0
All materials	Index No.	November	126.0	127.6	128.1	127.1	127.9	-1.5

(a) Source: Queensland Coal Board. Periods vary: March and September quarters, 12 weeks; June and December quarters, 14 weeks. (b) Source: Queensland Forestry Service.

INDEX OF VOLUME PRODUCED: SELECTED PRODUCTS, QUEENSLAND (Base: 1980-81=100)



INDEXES OF MANUFACTURING, AUSTRALIA

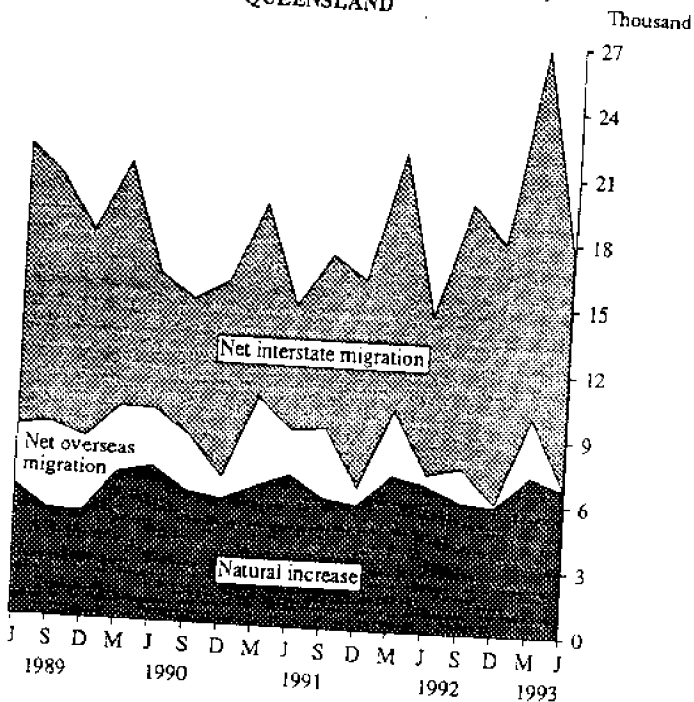


POPULATION, VITAL AND LABOUR STATISTICS, QUEENSLAND

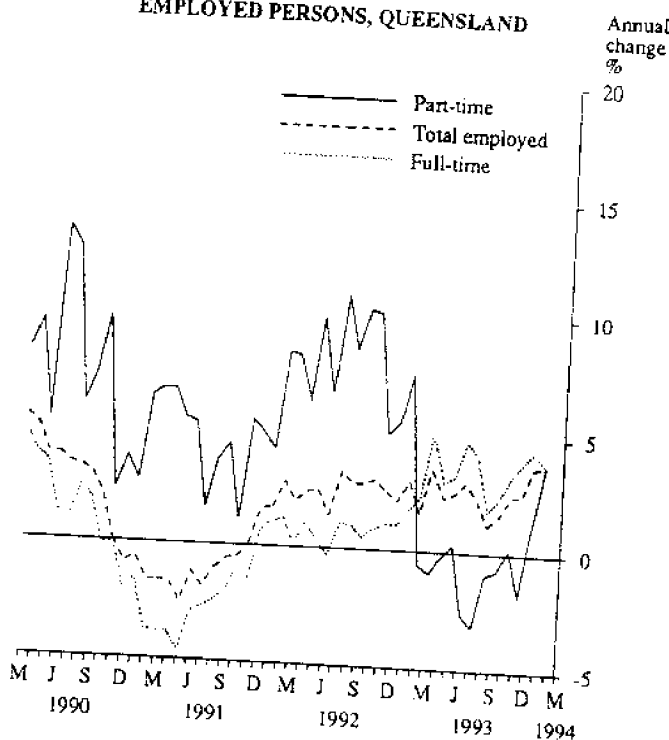
Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
			One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
Estimated resident population at end of period	'000 June qtr 1993	3,112.6	3,095.0	3,068.1	3,050.2	3,030.5	% +2.7
Population increase during period	No. June qtr	6,775	7,314	5,880	6,040	6,731	+0.7
Natural increase	No. June qtr	10,781	16,876	11,890	12,079	7,260	+48.5
Net estimated interstate migration	No. June qtr	34	2,727	156	1,589	499	-93.2
Net estimated overseas migration	No. June qtr	17,590	26,917	17,926	19,708	14,490	+21.4
Total							
Short-term overseas movement							
Arrivals	'000 October	105.3	93.1	102.3	101.4	97.1	+8.4
Departures	'000 October	90.3	103.8	107.5	92.0	79.8	+13.1
	1994						
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000 January	2,457.5	2,452.3	2,446.7	2,441.1	2,389.9	+2.8
Persons in the labour force	'000 January	1,563.6	1,584.3	1,545.7	1,545.0	1,520.0	+2.9
Employed persons	'000 January	1,394.5	1,425.1	1,390.5	1,399.1	1,343.7	+3.8
Full-time	'000 January	728.2	739.7	731.4	729.2	699.6	+4.1
Males	'000 January	350.7	356.7	333.1	332.7	340.0	+3.1
Females	'000 January	91.1	81.8	78.9	86.6	81.6	+11.6
Part-time	'000 January	224.5	246.9	247.2	250.6	222.5	+0.9
Males	'000 January	169.1	159.2	155.2	145.9	176.3	-4.1
Females	'000 January	102.4	92.9	88.1	85.7	112.7	-9.1
Unemployed persons	'000 January	66.7	66.4	67.1	60.2	63.6	+4.9
Males							
Females							
Unemployment rate	% January	11.1	10.2	9.8	9.5	12.6	..
Males	% January	10.4	9.9	10.4	9.4	10.2	..
Females	% January	10.8	10.1	10.0	9.4	11.6	..
Persons	% January	24.5	24.7	20.2	19.8	23.4	..
Persons aged 15 to 19 years							..

not applicable

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION INCREASE, QUEENSLAND



EMPLOYED PERSONS, QUEENSLAND

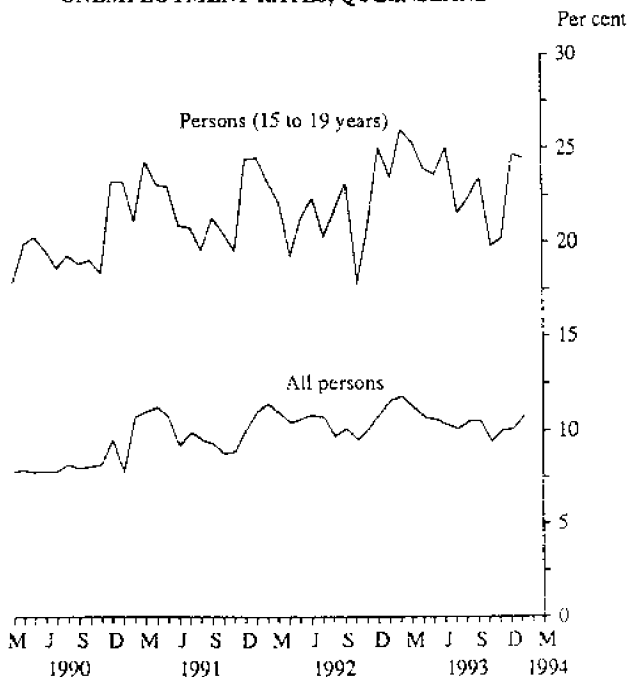


LABOUR STATISTICS, QUEENSLAND—continued

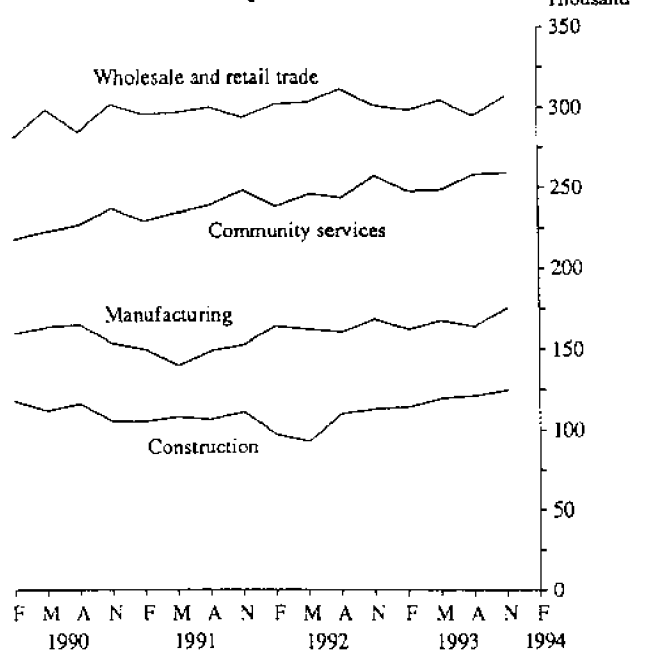
Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
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	1994						
Labour participation rate							%
Males	% January	75.7	75.3	74.1	74.6	75.5	..
Females	% January	51.8	54.1	52.4	52.2	51.9	..
Persons	% January	63.6	64.6	63.2	63.3	63.6	..
	1993						
Industry of employed persons (a)							
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000 November	86.9	82.5	80.4	82.3	78.4	+10.8
Mining	'000 November	16.4	15.3	19.3	18.1	18.1	-9.4
Manufacturing	'000 November	175.1	164.2	167.8	162.3	168.6	+3.9
Electricity, gas and water	'000 November	13.8	13.9	13.4	13.1	14.2	-2.8
Construction	'000 November	125.0	121.6	119.9	114.7	113.4	+10.2
Wholesale and retail trade	'000 November	307.1	294.7	304.6	298.1	301.1	+2.0
Transport and storage	'000 November	73.2	75.0	75.2	71.4	70.7	+3.5
Communication	'000 November	17.0	15.1	16.8	16.0	17.1	-0.6
Finance, property and business services	'000 November	137.1	129.1	131.3	142.0	139.7	-1.9
Public administration and defence	'000 November	65.6	68.9	55.2	59.9	60.7	+8.1
Community services	'000 November	259.2	258.4	248.5	247.8	257.7	+0.6
Recreation, personal and other services	'000 November	114.1	121.8	130.2	120.1	116.8	-2.3
Total	'000 November	1,390.5	1,360.5	1,362.6	1,345.9	1,356.5	+2.5
Employed wage and salary earners							
Private	'000 June	660.5	661.9	658.4	666.2	642.8	+2.8
Government	'000 June	282.1	280.2	277.8	288.3	273.0	+3.3
Commonwealth	'000 June	46.8	47.1	46.9	56.3	48.0	-2.5
State	'000 June	199.8	197.8	196.1	197.4	193.4	+3.3
Local	'000 June	35.5	35.3	34.8	34.6	31.6	+12.3
Job vacancies (a)	'000 November	6.2	7.0	5.0	4.9	4.8	+29.3
Overtime, average hours per employee (a)	No. November	1.21	1.02	1.17	0.98	1.11	+9.4
Industrial disputes: Working days lost	'000 October	6.6	32.9	24.2	13.2	6.3	..

(a) Figures collected in a quarterly survey conducted in February, May, August and November. .. not applicable

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, QUEENSLAND



EMPLOYED PERSONS BY SELECTED INDUSTRY DIVISION, QUEENSLAND

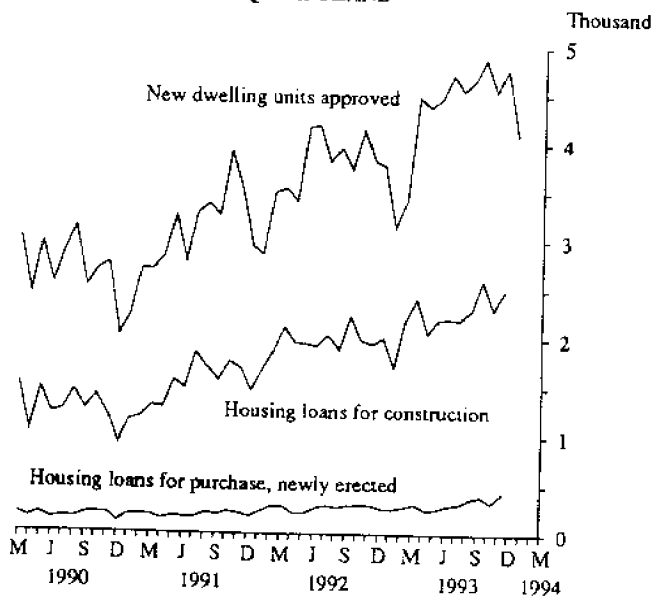


BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

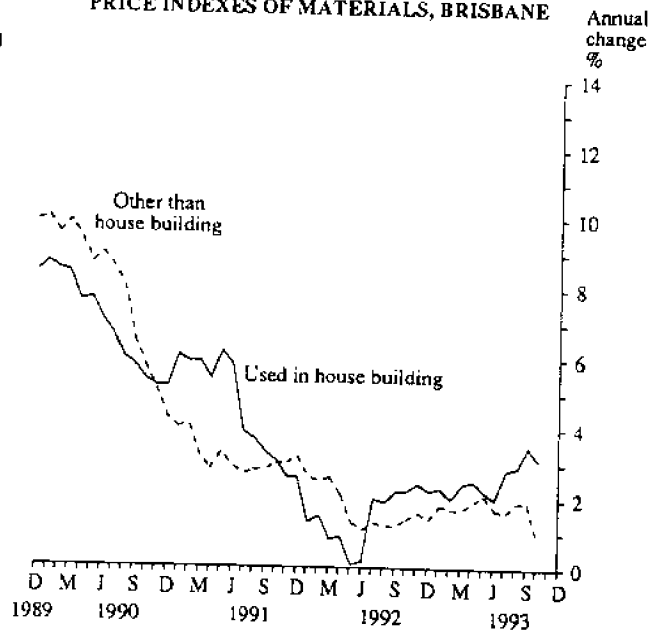
Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year	
			One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago			
1993								
Selected building statistics, Queensland								
Value of all building approved	\$m	December	664.6	508.9	485.3	683.3	407.9	+62.9
Dwelling units approved								
New houses	No.	December	2,780	3,047	3,261	3,377	2,573	+8.0
New other residential buildings	No.	December	1,310	1,733	1,276	1,492	1,185	+10.5
Total dwelling units	No.	December	4,090	4,780	4,537	4,869	3,758	+8.8
Total dwelling units (trend estimate)	No.	December	4,497	4,494	4,484	4,487	3,869	+16.2
Dwelling units commenced								
New houses	No.	Sept. qtr	9,329	8,629	7,497	8,908	8,482	+10.0
New other residential buildings	No.	Sept. qtr	4,760	4,463	2,909	2,574	3,523	+35.1
Value of all building commenced	\$m	Sept. qtr	1,520.7	1,631.5	1,393.5	1,309.1	1,334.0	+14.0
Housing finance for owner occupation								
All banks	\$m	November	622.7	587.7	694.1	587.3	491.5	+26.7
Permanent building societies	\$m	November	123.1	108.3	114.7	109.4	98.6	+24.9
Other lenders	\$m	November	16.4	17.7	16.7	16.1	35.1	-53.2
Total	\$m	November	762.2	713.6	825.5	712.9	625.2	+21.9
Interest rates on new housing loans:								
All banks (a)	%	December	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	10.00	..
Price indexes, Brisbane								
Materials used in house building (Base: 1985-86 = 100.0)								
All groups	Index No.	November	151.8	152.4	152.0	150.8	147.2	+3.1
Materials used in building other than house building (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)								
Ready-mixed concrete	Index No.	November	113.4	114.1	115.0	115.0	119.9	-5.4
Structural steel	Index No.	November	116.4	115.6	116.2	116.2	110.9	+5.0
All groups	Index No.	November	109.7	109.8	110.2	110.0	108.8	+0.8

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. .. not applicable

NEW DWELLINGS AND LOANS APPROVED, QUEENSLAND



PRICE INDEXES OF MATERIALS, BRISBANE

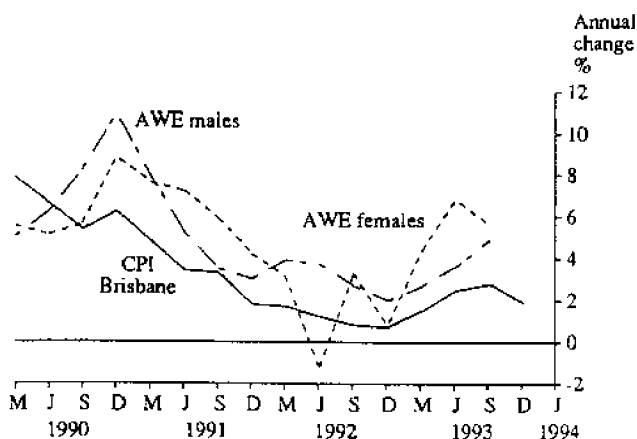


PRICES, WAGES AND CONSUMER SPENDING

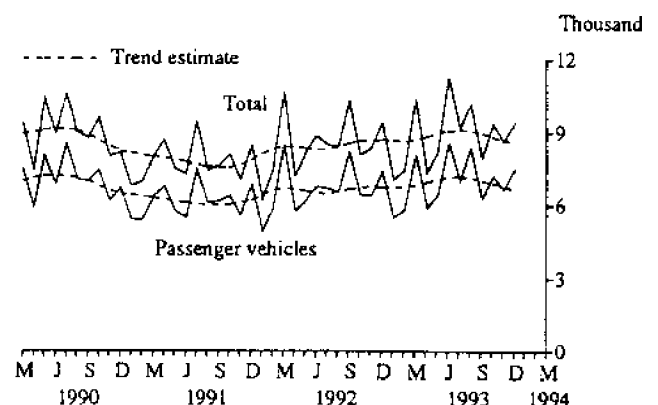
Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year	
			One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago			
	1993						%	
Consumer Price Index, <i>Brisbane</i> (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)								
Food	Index No.	Dec. qtr	110.1	109.4	108.7	109.4	107.2	+2.7
Housing	Index No.	Dec. qtr	99.8	100.4	100.5	100.0	99.0	+0.8
Transportation	Index No.	Dec. qtr	112.3	111.8	111.4	110.6	110.1	+2.0
All groups (a)	Index No.	Dec. qtr	110.2	109.9	109.7	109.1	108.1	+1.9
Average weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time), <i>Queensland</i> (b)								
Males	\$	August	603.40	601.90	590.80	586.20	575.00	+4.9
Females	\$	August	511.90	501.40	502.90	483.70	484.90	+5.6
Index of weekly award rates of pay, <i>Queensland</i> (Base: June 1985 = 100.0)								
Full-time adult employees								
Males	Index No.	November	139.9	139.8	139.8	139.7	138.7	+0.9
Females	Index No.	November	141.4	141.0	141.0	140.7	139.1	+1.6
Retail trade, <i>Queensland</i>								
Current prices								
Original series	\$m	December	2,008.5	1,521.8	1,500.7	1,472.0	1,882.2	+6.7
Trend estimate	\$m	December	1,504.0	1,492.0	1,478.9	1,464.0	1,431.9	+5.0
Short-term accommodation, <i>Queensland</i>								
Licensed hotels, motels, etc. with facilities								
Rooms available	'000	Sept. qtr	40.0	40.0	39.9	39.8	39.4	+1.6
Room nights occupied	'000	Sept. qtr	2,419	2,076	2,013	2,104	2,218	+9.1
Room occupancy rate	%	Sept. qtr	65.7	57.1	56.0	57.6	61.2	..
Takings from accommodation	\$m	Sept. qtr	195.5	167.3	167.0	176.6	174.4	+12.1
Self-contained units, flats and houses								
Units available	'000	Sept. qtr	16.2	15.8	15.8	15.7	15.7	+3.1
Unit nights occupied	'000	Sept. qtr	1,063	727	811	853	963	+10.3
Unit occupancy rate	%	Sept. qtr	71.3	50.5	57.0	59.0	66.6	..
Takings from accommodation	\$m	Sept. qtr	57.5	38.2	49.5	47.7	50.8	+13.2
New motor vehicle registrations, <i>Queensland</i>								
Passenger vehicles (c)	No.	December	7,500	6,608	7,230	6,224	7,376	+1.7
Total (d)	No.	December	9,421	8,585	9,397	7,921	9,433	-0.1
Seasonally adjusted								
Passenger vehicles (c)	No.	December	6,424	7,017	7,278	5,411	6,358	+1.0
Total (d)	No.	December	8,317	8,971	9,324	7,114	8,430	-1.3
Trend estimate								
Passenger vehicles (c)	No.	December	6,612	6,744	6,866	6,997	6,718	-1.6
Total (d)	No.	December	8,500	8,658	8,789	8,933	8,665	-1.9

(a) Including also: clothing; household equipment and operation; tobacco and alcohol; health and personal care and recreation and education. (b) The last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the month shown. (c) Formerly 'Cars and station wagons'. (d) Excluding motor cycles, mobile equipment and trailers. .. not applicable

PRICES AND EARNINGS, QUEENSLAND



NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED, QUEENSLAND



BANKING AND FINANCE, QUEENSLAND

Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
			One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
	1993						%
All banks (a)							
Total deposits	\$m November	29,664	29,388	29,047	28,323	28,286	+4.9
Term deposits (b)	\$m November	13,445	13,244	13,111	12,755	13,435	+0.1
Other deposits	\$m November	16,219	16,144	15,936	15,568	14,851	+9.2
Other lending (c)	\$m November	33,449	32,708	31,933	31,406	27,042	+23.7
Building societies							
Lending operations							
Loans advanced	\$m November	136.6	132.1	135.8	128.9	109.2	+25.1
Lending commitments unused	\$m November	205.5	190.8	192.1	193.2	152.7	+34.6
Borrowing operations							
Receipts	\$m November	1,623.6	1,629.7	1,654.2	1,624.8	1,475.5	+10.0
Withdrawals	\$m November	1,511.9	1,574.0	1,582.7	1,556.0	1,462.6	+3.4
Personal finance commitments							
All banks	\$m November	244.3	261.3	267.2	234.5	214.2	+14.1
Credit cooperatives	\$m November	34.4	31.0	30.2	30.2	29.8	+15.5
Finance companies	\$m November	94.0	82.1	83.2	87.4	84.7	+11.0
Other	\$m November	10.0	14.6	10.4	9.4	10.9	-8.2
Total	\$m November	382.8	389.1	390.9	361.5	339.6	+12.7
Commercial finance commitments							
All banks	\$m November	768.6	699.0	766.4	881.3	620.1	+23.9
Finance companies	\$m November	125.7	95.1	134.9	110.6	139.8	-10.1
Other	\$m November	56.9	57.5	55.3	67.6	36.8	+54.7
Total	\$m November	951.1	851.6	956.6	1,059.5	796.6	+19.4
Lease finance commitments	\$m November	101.6	91.0	100.1	103.8	80.6	+26.1

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (b) Including certificates of deposit. (c) Excluding public sector securities held by banks and commercial lending through intermediaries.



