

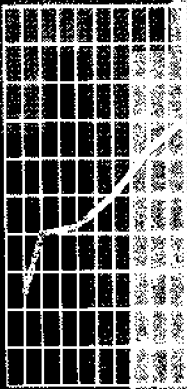


September Quarter 1997

EMBARGO: 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 12 NOV 1997

# Manufacturing Production

## Australia



# NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
December quarter 1997	11 February 1998
March quarter 1998	13 May 1998
June quarter 1998	12 August 1998

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## IN THIS ISSUE

This publication presents quarterly estimates of selected major indicators of manufacturing production for Australia.

This issue of the publication is the first in the new quarterly series, whereby a significantly reduced number of data items is collected and published as quarterly data series. Some additional manufacturing production data items are collected by the ABS and are available to users as a special data service, as are monthly series for a limited number of the data items contained in this publication. These data items are listed in paragraph 18 of the Explanatory Notes on page 8. In addition, production data for some other commodities are collected annually. Summary data for these commodities will be published in the June quarter publication each year.

Trend and seasonally adjusted estimates of production have been revised, as a result of new seasonal factors being calculated (refer to paragraphs 12–15 of the Explanatory Notes, on page 7). Therefore, these series have been shown collectively as 'revised'.

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## EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

Estimates of change shown in this publication have been calculated using unrounded estimates and may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded estimates.

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## SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

—	nil or rounded to zero
n.p.	not publishable
n.y.a.	not yet available
r	figure or series revised since previous issue

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## INQUIRIES

For information about other ABS statistics and services, please refer to the back of this publication.

For further information about these statistics, contact John Ridley on Sydney (02) 9268 4541 or by email through the Internet to [john.ridley@abs.gov.au](mailto:john.ridley@abs.gov.au).

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No.	Item and unit/Series	1995..... 1996..... 1997.....								Percentage changes between latest quarter shown and....		
		Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	prev. quarter	same quarter prev. year
<b>1</b>	<b>Red meat</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	658	664	669	661	633	669	675	r744	717	-3.6	13.3
	Seasonally adjusted	662	660	681	655	637	656	708	728	717	-1.4	12.7
	Trend	661	665	675	658	639	660	707	727	718	-1.2	12.4
<b>2</b>	<b>Chicken meat</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	120	121	122	118	123	127	122	125	133	6.1	8.3
	Seasonally adjusted	121	119	122	120	123	125	122	127	133	4.1	7.7
	Trend	118	120	121	120	123	125	123	128	132	3.7	7.4
<b>3</b>	<b>Cheese</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	58 121	91 928	66 327	48 063	54 341	90 496	r70 002	49 851	n.y.a.	-28.8	3.7
	Seasonally adjusted	66 904	65 333	63 676	70 215	62 629	64 370	67 220	72 568	n.y.a.	8.0	3.4
	Trend	64 616	66 044	66 264	65 807	64 957	65 224	67 463	70 949	n.y.a.	5.2	7.8
<b>4</b>	<b>Butter</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	25 101	55 871	39 838	24 608	31 580	57 604	r34 968	21 290	n.y.a.	-39.1	-13.5
	Seasonally adjusted	32 378	34 992	38 258	41 867	40 706	36 107	33 641	36 114	n.y.a.	7.4	-13.7
	Trend	32 866	35 250	38 615	40 764	39 743	37 047	35 106	34 599	n.y.a.	-1.4	-15.1
<b>5</b>	<b>Beer</b> (megalitres)											
	Original	416	520	409	398	398	507	432	398	406	2.0	2.0
	Seasonally adjusted	444	443	422	432	424	428	451	433	433	0.2	2.2
	Trend	443	437	431	425	427	434	438	438	435	-0.7	1.9
<b>6</b>	<b>Tobacco and cigarettes</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	6 137	4 739	4 275	5 239	6 293	5 575	4 802	5 523	5 708	3.3	-9.3
	Seasonally adjusted	5 462	4 772	4 768	5 302	5 544	5 641	5 453	5 575	4 987	-10.6	-10.0
	Trend	4 736	4 889	5 006	5 187	5 494	5 623	5 542	5 378	5 185	-3.6	-5.6
<b>7</b>	<b>Newsprint</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	108	112	115	111	111	102	104	105	104	-0.6	-6.7
	Seasonally adjusted	111	116	112	108	112	106	101	102	107	5.0	-4.7
	Trend	113	113	112	111	109	106	103	103	104	1.5	-4.1
<b>8</b>	<b>Wood pulp</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	253	247	242	244	231	244	239	235	233	-0.8	1.0
	Seasonally adjusted	256	246	242	241	234	244	239	232	236	1.9	1.1
	Trend	258	248	242	239	239	239	238	236	234	-0.7	-2.0
<b>9</b>	<b>Undressed sawn timber(b)</b> ('000 m <sup>3</sup> )											
	Original r	951	840	807	846	925	809	777	878	n.y.a.	13.0	3.8
	Seasonally adjusted	898	851	855	839	872	821	821	872	n.y.a.	6.2	3.9
	Trend	891	863	851	850	845	837	838	846	n.y.a.	1.0	-0.5
<b>10</b>	<b>Hardwood woodchips</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	1 334	1 203	1 163	1 128	1 128	1 128	1 106	1 325	1 402	5.8	24.3
	Seasonally adjusted	1 287	1 212	1 205	1 117	1 094	1 135	1 143	1 311	1 363	3.9	24.6
	Trend	1 282	1 225	1 177	1 131	1 103	1 117	1 188	1 276	1 359	6.5	23.2
<b>11</b>	<b>Automotive gasoline</b> (megalitres)											
	Original	4 570	4 551	4 553	4 682	4 596	4 378	4 455	4 655	n.y.a.	4.5	-0.6
	Seasonally adjusted	4 489	4 611	4 552	4 663	4 515	4 455	4 506	4 634	n.y.a.	2.8	-0.6
	Trend	4 504	4 569	4 607	4 591	4 530	4 500	4 520	4 572	n.y.a.	1.1	-0.4
<b>12</b>	<b>Fuel oil</b> (megalitres)											
	Original	643	529	394	431	433	422	455	485	n.y.a.	6.7	12.6
	Seasonally adjusted	610	540	401	437	411	433	461	491	n.y.a.	6.5	12.3
	Trend	604	518	450	413	415	437	460	483	n.y.a.	5.0	16.8
<b>13</b>	<b>Aviation turbine fuel</b> (megalitres)											
	Original	1 196	1 292	1 264	1 129	1 259	1 383	1 412	1 230	n.y.a.	-12.9	8.9
	Seasonally adjusted	1 195	1 235	1 255	1 192	1 262	1 321	1 399	1 296	n.y.a.	-7.4	8.7
	Trend	1 204	1 230	1 229	1 229	1 266	1 319	1 349	1 343	n.y.a.	-0.4	9.3
<b>14</b>	<b>Automotive diesel oil</b> (megalitres)											
	Original	2 970	3 086	2 982	3 164	3 075	3 277	3 362	3 253	n.y.a.	-3.3	2.8
	Seasonally adjusted	2 974	3 037	3 017	3 161	3 090	3 212	3 471	3 244	n.y.a.	-6.5	2.6
	Trend	2 960	3 023	3 062	3 086	3 159	3 253	3 322	3 347	n.y.a.	0.7	8.4

(a) Users should note that most seasonally adjusted and trend estimates shown have been revised and should refer to the Notes section on page 2. See also paragraphs 12-15 of the Explanatory Notes on page 7.

(b) Data have been revised to correct provider misreporting.

No.	Item and unit/Series	1995..... 1996..... 1997.....								Percentage changes between latest quarter shown and...		
		Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	prev. quarter	same quarter prev. year
<b>15</b>	<b>Portland cement</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	1 733	1 545	1 526	1 593	1 706	1 699	1 511	1 785	1 826	2.3	7.0
	Seasonally adjusted	1 628	1 533	1 670	1 576	1 587	1 666	1 678	1 765	1 700	-3.7	7.1
	Trend	1 622	1 593	1 594	1 600	1 610	1 645	1 697	1 723	1 731	0.4	7.5
<b>16</b>	<b>Clay bricks</b> (million)											
	Original	417	370	310	358	379	369	330	390	416	6.7	9.8
	Seasonally adjusted	397	369	339	345	360	365	368	376	392	4.4	9.0
	Trend	401	366	347	346	355	364	370	378	388	2.6	9.4
<b>17</b>	<b>Ready mixed concrete</b> ('000 m <sup>3</sup> )											
	Original	3 954	3 561	3 473	3 568	3 911	3 946	3 491	4 046	4 195	3.7	7.3
	Seasonally adjusted	3 744	3 465	3 802	3 557	3 703	3 843	3 820	4 034	3 971	-1.6	7.2
	Trend	3 676	3 621	3 624	3 657	3 708	3 784	3 890	3 957	4 006	1.2	8.0
<b>18</b>	<b>Basic Iron, spiegeleisen and sponge iron</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	1 911	1 912	1 876	1 854	1 917	1 734	1 804	1 891	1 966	4.0	2.6
	Seasonally adjusted	1 860	1 912	1 914	1 850	1 834	1 760	1 840	1 890	1 924	1.8	4.9
	Trend	1 868	1 894	1 902	1 862	1 814	1 799	1 831	1 879	1 924	2.4	6.1
<b>19</b>	<b>Blooms and slabs of iron or steel</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	2 028	2 023	1 944	1 956	1 996	1 877	1 948	1 954	2 108	7.8	5.6
	Seasonally adjusted	1 976	2 012	1 989	1 968	1 948	1 872	1 989	1 969	2 059	4.6	5.7
	Trend	1 972	1 994	1 998	1 964	1 931	1 922	1 949	1 995	2 040	2.3	5.6
<b>20</b>	<b>Alumina</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	3 348	3 297	r3 319	r3 348	r3 341	3 341	3 201	3 370	n.y.a.	5.3	0.7
	Seasonally adjusted	3 299	3 315	3 327	3 342	3 304	3 315	3 279	3 363	n.y.a.	2.6	0.6
	Trend	3 305	3 318	3 327	3 330	3 314	3 304	3 312	3 332	n.y.a.	0.6	0.1
<b>21</b>	<b>Zinc</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	82	85	81	82	82	81	77	79	n.y.a.	2.6	-3.7
	Seasonally adjusted	81	85	84	80	81	81	80	78	n.y.a.	-2.8	-3.6
	Trend	82	84	83	82	81	80	79	78	n.y.a.	-1.2	-4.2
<b>22</b>	<b>Silver</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	89	75	90	97	84	85	84	87	n.y.a.	3.6	-10.3
	Seasonally adjusted	90	80	90	90	85	91	83	81	n.y.a.	-3.4	-10.2
	Trend	85	86	87	88	89	87	85	83	n.y.a.	-2.5	-6.5
<b>23</b>	<b>Copper</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	78	63	r62	r82	r84	83	r62	76	n.y.a.	22.6	-7.3
	Seasonally adjusted	71	65	67	81	77	86	67	74	n.y.a.	10.7	-7.6
	Trend	64	66	71	76	80	78	75	72	n.y.a.	-3.7	-5.6
<b>24</b>	<b>Lead</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	57	56	54	56	44	50	52	56	n.y.a.	7.7	—
	Seasonally adjusted	61	54	54	55	47	48	52	55	n.y.a.	7.1	0.1
	Trend	55	56	55	52	49	49	51	54	n.y.a.	4.7	3.5
<b>25</b>	<b>Tin</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	165	160	90	135	100	135	160	175	n.y.a.	9.4	29.6
	Seasonally adjusted	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
	Trend	150	148	129	103	121	146	155	152	n.y.a.	-2.3	47.3
<b>26</b>	<b>Gold</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	75	75	85	83	81	81	85	80	n.y.a.	-5.9	-3.8
	Seasonally adjusted	74	78	84	82	79	84	84	79	n.y.a.	-6.0	-3.8
	Trend	75	79	81	82	82	82	82	82	n.y.a.	-0.9	-0.5
<b>27</b>	<b>Electricity</b> (million kWh)											
	Original	43 894	40 452	41 076	42 122	43 742	40 761	40 966	42 901	45 521	6.1	4.1
	Seasonally adjusted	41 677	41 593	42 345	41 927	41 568	41 885	42 238	42 697	43 276	1.4	4.1
	Trend	41 642	41 877	41 987	41 918	41 784	41 837	42 248	42 727	43 190	1.1	3.4
<b>28</b>	<b>Gas</b> (petajoules)											
	Original	181	145	133	162	184	146	135	171	183	7.1	-0.2
	Seasonally adjusted	154	156	158	154	157	157	161	163	156	-4.0	-0.2
	Trend	156	156	156	156	156	158	160	160	159	-0.6	2.1

(a) Users should note that most seasonally adjusted and trend estimates shown have been revised and should refer to the Notes section on page 2. See also paragraphs 12–15 of the Explanatory Notes on page 7.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents quarterly estimates of production of selected major manufacturing commodities for Australia.

## SCOPE AND COVERAGE

**2** Data presented in this publication are collected from a number of different sources. The prime source is the ABS surveys of manufacturing production. Data are also obtained from surveys undertaken by the Department of Primary Industries and Energy (DPIE), the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE), the Australian Dairy Corporation (ADC) and from ABS agriculture collections. Scope and coverage varies slightly depending on the source of the information.

**3** Where production statistics are collected by the ABS manufacturing production surveys, they are not collected from single establishment manufacturing businesses with less than four persons employed nor from establishments predominantly engaged in non-manufacturing activities but which may carry out some manufacturing in a minor way. However, in general, the contribution of these small producers to statistical aggregates is only marginal and data contained in this publication provide reliable information for the evaluation of movements in commodity production.

**4** The statistics on meat production include data collected from abattoirs and other major slaughtering establishments and include estimates of animals slaughtered on farms and by country butchers and other small slaughtering establishments for human consumption. Further information about this series, including more detail, is available in the monthly publication *Livestock Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 7215.0).

**5** The statistics on chicken meat have been collected from commercial poultry slaughtering establishments. Producers in Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory and the very small producers are excluded from the collection. Further information about this series, including more detail, is available in the monthly publication *Livestock Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 7215.0).

**6** Data on the production of base metals and sawn timber are obtained from the ABARE publication *Mineral Statistics* and as unpublished data.

**7** Data on the production of fuels are obtained from the DPIE Petroleum and Fisheries Division publication *Australian Petroleum Statistics*, from July 1996. Previously, these data were obtained from ABARE.

**8** Data on the production of cheese and butter are obtained from the ADC publication *Dairystats*.

## COMPARABILITY WITH OTHER ESTIMATES

**9** The ABS publishes quarterly estimates of constant price manufacturing production in the publication *Indexes of Industrial Production, Australia* (Cat. no. 8125.0). These estimates are shown as index numbers and are derived mainly from estimates of manufacturers' sales and stocks. Details of manufacturers' sales and stocks are published quarterly in *Stocks and Sales, Selected Industries, Australia* (Cat. no. 5629.0).

**10** The production statistics referred to in paragraph 1 account, in total, for less than one quarter of the output of the manufacturing sector. For information on general trends in the manufacturing sector, refer to the publication referred to in paragraph 9.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### COMPARABILITY WITH OTHER ESTIMATES *continued*

**11** Details for the annual manufacturing collection are published in *Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (Cat. no. 8221.0) and corresponding State publications.

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATES

**12** In the seasonal adjustment process, account has been taken not only of normal seasonal factors, but also where appropriate, of 'working day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the quarter) which may, in successive years, affect figures for different quarters. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these series are available on request.

**13** Seasonal adjustment procedures do not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular quarter, such as the non-systematic effect of strikes, holiday shutdowns, providers' inconsistent reporting periods (where, for example, a 'quarter' may variously represent 13 or 14 weeks production), or other factors which vary with the prevailing demand for products. Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after seasonal adjustment. Seasonally adjusted estimates of production for the series 12 Fuel oil, 21 Zinc, and 26 Gold are more volatile than other series. Seasonally adjusted estimates for 25 Tin are not sufficiently reliable to be published.

**14** The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to create trend estimates is a means of reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates have been derived by applying a 7-term moving average to the quarterly seasonally adjusted series. The 7-term Henderson averages (like all Henderson averages) are symmetric but, as the end of a time series is approached, asymmetric forms of the average are applied. Unlike the weights of the standard 7-term Henderson moving average, the surrogate weights employed with the quarterly data have been tailored to suit the particular characteristics of individual series.

**15** While the asymmetric weights enable trend estimates for recent quarters to be produced, it does result in revisions to the estimates for the most recent quarters as additional observations become available. Generally, subsequent revisions become smaller and after 2 quarters have little impact on the series. There will also be revisions as a result of changes to the original estimates and annual reviews of seasonal and 'working day' factors.

**16** Users may wish to refer to the ABS Information Paper *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring 'Trends', an overview* (Cat. no. 1348.0) for more detailed information on smoothing of seasonally adjusted time series data.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**17** Other ABS publications which may be of interest are:

- *Australian Mining Industry* (Cat. no. 8414.0) issued annually
- *Indexes of Industrial Production, Australia* (Cat. no. 8125.0) issued quarterly
- *Information Paper: Availability of Statistics Related to Manufacturing, 1997* (Cat. no. 8205.0), expected to be released shortly
- *International Trade, Australia: FASTTRACCS Service — Hardcopy Reports* (Cat. no. 5461.0)
- *Livestock Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 7215.0) issued monthly
- *Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (Cat. no. 8221.0) issued annually
- *Manufacturing Industry, Australia. Preliminary* (Cat. no. 8201.0) issued annually
- *Manufacturing Production, Australia: Principal Commodities Produced, 1993-94* (Cat. no. 8365.0), released on 6 August 1997
- *Manufacturing Production, Australia: Principal Commodities Produced, 1995-96* (Cat. no. 8365.0), to be released in early 1998
- *Stocks and Sales, Selected Industries, Australia* (Cat. no. 5629.0) issued quarterly

### UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

**18** Additional manufacturing production data are collected by the ABS through user funded surveys and are available to users as a special data service. These series are:

audio cassette tapes  
audio compact discs  
beer  
brass bars, rods and sections  
cars and station wagons  
clay bricks  
clothes drying machines  
concrete blocks, bricks and pavers  
domestic clothes washing machines  
domestic cooking stoves, ovens and ranges  
domestic deep-freezers  
domestic refrigerators  
gas  
hosiery  
malt  
mowers  
Portland cement  
ready mixed concrete  
rigid PVC tubes, pipes and hoses  
roofing tiles  
space heaters  
starches, wheat gluten and glucose  
textile floor coverings  
unlaminated particle board  
water heaters

For further information, please call John Ridley on Sydney (02) 9268 4541 or by email through the Internet to [john.ridley@abs.gov.au](mailto:john.ridley@abs.gov.au).



# EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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## CURRENT PUBLICATIONS

**19** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

## APPENDIX CLARIFICATION OF TERMS

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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Red meat                                  | Includes veal, pork and buffalo.  |
| 2 Chicken meat                              | Expressed in the dressed weight of whole birds, pieces and giblets.   |
| 3 Cheese                                    | Includes fresh cheeses such as ricotta, cottage, cream and quark.   |
| 4 Butter                                    | Includes direct butter oil.   |
| 5 Beer                                      | Includes ale and stout; excludes low alcohol beer containing less than 1.15% but more than 0.5%, by volume of alcohol.  |
| 6 Tobacco and cigarettes                    | Includes those containing tobacco substitutes.  |
| 7 Newsprint                                 | Excludes directory paper, mechanical and printing paper.  |
| 8 Wood pulp                                 | Expressed as air-dried weight.  |
| 9 Undressed sawn timber                     | Expressed in terms of green off saw volumes.  |
| 10 Hardwood woodchips                       | Expressed as greenweight; excludes chips which are not sold or are used in own works.   |
| 11 Automotive gasoline                      | Produced by Australian refineries from imported and indigenous petroleum.   |
| 12 Fuel oil                                 | Oils derived from the distillation of petroleum which are generally used for domestic heating or fuelling furnaces; produced by Australian refineries from imported and indigenous petroleum. |
| 13 Aviation turbine fuel                    | Produced by Australian refineries from imported and indigenous petroleum.   |
| 14 Automotive diesel oil                    | Produced by Australian refineries from imported and indigenous petroleum.   |
| 15 Portland cement                          | Includes blended Portland cement. Excludes both Portland cement clinker and Portland cement used to make blended Portland cement in-house.  |
| 16 Clay bricks                              | Saleable bricks (of all sizes) removed from kiln; excludes firebricks and bricks for other than structural purposes.  |
| 17 Ready mixed concrete                     | Excludes production used or for use within the same business.   |
| 18 Basic iron, spiegeleisen and sponge iron | In pigs, blocks and other primary forms; includes pig iron. This item comprises production of BHP Steel only.   |
| 19 Blooms and slabs of iron or steel        | Continuous cast; includes steel in the molten state. This item comprises production of BHP Steel only.  |
| 20 Alumina                                  | Aluminium oxide.  |
| 21 Zinc                                     | Primary origin only.  |
| 22 Silver                                   | Refined.  |
| 23 Copper                                   | Primary origin only.  |

**APPENDIX CLARIFICATION OF TERMS** *continued*

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- 24 **Lead** Includes lead content of lead from primary sources.
- 25 **Tin** Primary origin only.
- 26 **Gold** From primary and secondary sources.
- 27 **Electricity** Excludes purchases or transfers in of electricity.
- 28 **Gas** Gas (including natural gas) available for issue through mains. From September quarter 1996, includes gas production for distribution via natural gas pipelines which service a single user.

## For more information . . .

The ABS publishes a wide range of statistics and other information on Australia's economic and social conditions. Details of what is available in various publications and other products can be found in the ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products available from all ABS Offices.

### ABS Products and Services

Many standard products are available from ABS bookshops located in each State and Territory. In addition to these products, information tailored to the needs of clients can be obtained on a wide range of media by contacting your nearest ABS Office. The ABS also provides a Subscription Service for standard products and some tailored information services.

### National Dial-a-Statistic Line

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*Steadycom P/L: premium rate 25c/20 secs.*

This number gives 24-hour access, 365 days a year, for a range of important economic statistics including the CPI.

### Internet

<http://www.abs.gov.au>

A wide range of ABS information is available via the Internet, with basic statistics available for each State, Territory and Australia. We also have Key National Indicators, ABS product release details and other information of general interest.

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