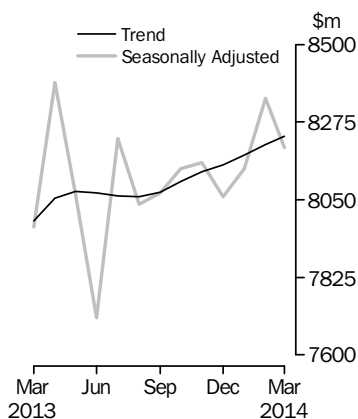


LENDING FINANCE

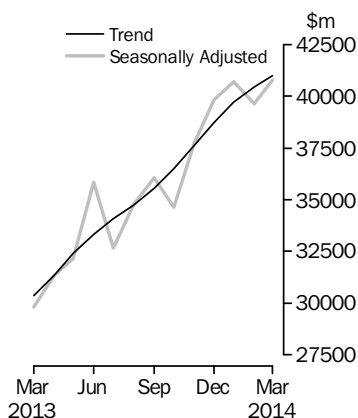
AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 16 MAY 2014

Personal Finance



Commercial Finance



INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Mohammad Mustafa on Sydney (02) 9268 4378.

KEY FIGURES

	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Feb 2014 to Mar 2014
	\$m	\$m	% change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation(a)	16 717	16 740	0.1
Personal finance	8 211	8 235	0.3
Commercial finance	40 437	40 985	1.4
Lease finance	433	440	1.7
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation(a)	16 849	16 640	-1.2
Personal finance	8 345	8 201	-1.7
Commercial finance	39 637	40 754	2.8
Lease finance	428	453	5.9

(a) Excludes alterations and additions

KEY POINTS

MARCH 2014 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2014:

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

- The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions rose 0.1% in trend terms, while the seasonally adjusted series fell 1.2%.

PERSONAL FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total personal finance commitments rose 0.3%. Fixed lending commitments rose 0.2% and revolving credit commitments rose 0.3%.
- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments fell 1.7%. Revolving credit commitments fell 4.2%, while fixed lending commitments rose 0.3%.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose 1.4%. Revolving credit commitments rose 2.3% and fixed lending commitments rose 1.0%.
- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose 2.8% in March 2014, after a fall of 2.6% in February 2014. Revolving credit commitments rose 14.5%, after a fall of 5.2% in the previous month. Fixed lending commitments fell 0.7%, following a fall of 1.8% in the previous month.

LEASE FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total lease finance commitments rose 1.7% and the seasonally adjusted series rose 5.9%, following a rise of 1.2% in February 2014

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
April 2014	13 June 2014
May 2014	14 July 2014
June 2014	11 August 2014
July 2014	12 September 2014
August 2014	13 October 2014
September 2014	12 November 2014

REVISIONS

In this issue revisions have been made to the original series as a result of improved reporting of survey and administrative data. These revisions have impacted on:

- Owner occupied housing values for the periods December 2011 to February 2014
- Personal finance values for the periods December 2011 to February 2014
- Commercial finance values for the periods January 2012 to February 2014

Seasonally adjusted and trend series are revised as a result of revisions to the original series, the incorporation of estimates for the latest month and the revision of seasonal factors due to the concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology.

ABBREVIATIONS

\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADI	Authorised Deposit-taking Institution
APRA	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority
ARIMA	autoregressive integrated moving average
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
RBA	Reserve Bank of Australia
RFC	Registered Financial Corporation

Jonathan Palmer
Acting Australian Statistician

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TIME SERIES DATA

TIME SERIES DATA

Data available free on the ABS web site <http://www.abs.gov.au> include:

- longer time series of tables in this publication, and
- the following tables:

13. Lending Finance Seasonal Factors and Forward Factors for 12 months, By Purpose and Lender: Australia (from January 1985)
14. Commercial finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
15. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
16. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
17. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans by industry
18. Commercial finance commitments, revolving credit by industry
- 19 to 26. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
27. Lease finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
28. Lease finance commitments by purpose
29. Lease finance commitments by purpose and lender
30. Lease finance commitments by industry
- 31 to 38. Lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
39. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose
40. Operating lease finance commitments by lender
41. Operating lease finance commitments by industry
- 42 to 49. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
50. Personal finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
51. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
52. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
- 53 to 60. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

(Table 1)

The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions rose 0.1% in trend terms, while the seasonally adjusted series fell 1.2%.

For further information, please refer to *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0), which was released on 13 May 2014.

PERSONAL FINANCE

(Tables 1 & 4)

In trend terms, the value of total personal finance commitments rose 0.3% in March 2014 compared with February 2014. Fixed lending commitments rose 0.2% and revolving credit commitments rose 0.3%.

In seasonally adjusted terms, the value of total personal finance commitments fell 1.7%. Revolving credit commitments fell 4.2%, while fixed lending commitments rose 0.3%.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

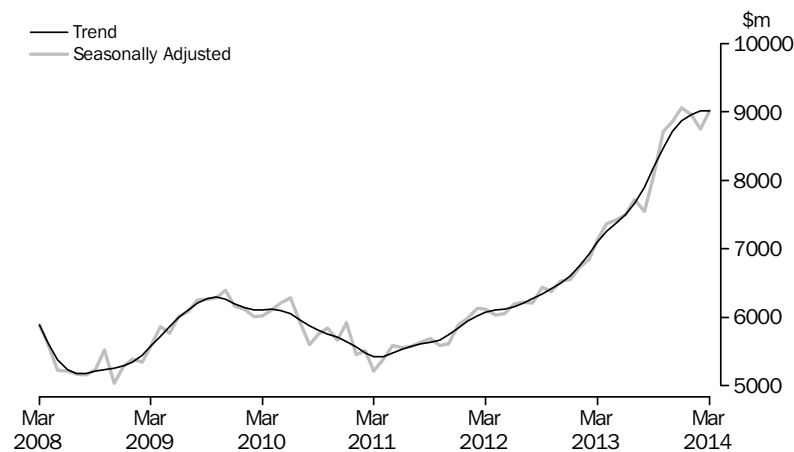
(Tables 1 & 8)

The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose 1.4% in March 2014 compared with February 2014. Revolving credit commitments rose 2.3% and fixed lending commitments rose 1.0%.

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose 2.8% in March 2014, after a fall of 2.6% in February 2014. Revolving credit commitments rose 14.5%, after a fall of 5.2% in the previous month. Fixed lending commitments fell 0.7%, following a fall of 1.8% in the previous month.

The value of commitments for the purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (trend) was flat in March 2014 and the seasonally adjusted series rose 3.0%.

PURCHASE OF DWELLINGS BY INDIVIDUALS FOR RENT OR RESALE



LEASE FINANCE

(Table 1)

The trend series for the value of total lease finance commitments rose 1.7% and the seasonally adjusted series rose 5.9%, following a rise of 1.2% in February 2014.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Summary

Month	SECURED HOUSING(a)		PERSONAL(b)			COMMERCIAL			LEASE
	Construction and purchase of dwellings(c)	Alterations and additions	Fixed loans(d)	Revolving credit(e)	Total	Fixed loans(d)	Revolving credit(e)	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2013									
March	14 074	353	4 597	3 110	7 707	21 797	7 068	28 865	508
April	14 720	333	4 613	3 553	8 166	20 468	6 859	27 327	472
May	16 899	403	5 218	3 525	8 743	27 466	6 955	34 421	490
June	14 848	336	4 691	3 396	8 088	29 370	12 103	41 473	573
July	16 294	343	4 689	4 218	8 907	24 499	8 273	32 772	477
August	15 240	349	4 429	3 275	7 704	28 015	7 872	35 887	310
September	15 591	326	4 391	3 403	7 794	25 993	9 283	35 276	350
October	17 289	349	4 722	3 774	8 496	26 706	8 285	34 991	401
November	17 825	355	4 727	3 332	8 059	29 898	8 624	38 523	400
December	16 896	341	4 686	3 472	8 158	37 425	13 122	50 547	450
2014									
January	14 194	288	4 136	3 143	7 279	25 147	7 326	32 472	349
February	14 735	349	4 400	3 502	7 903	24 543	7 778	32 321	379
March	16 554	353	4 733	3 589	8 323	29 872	10 782	40 655	493
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2013									
March	14 689	346	4 792	3 178	7 970	22 556	7 260	29 817	489
April	14 726	340	4 676	3 714	8 390	23 427	7 911	31 338	489
May	15 062	347	4 605	3 462	8 066	24 977	7 180	32 158	455
June	15 415	347	4 440	3 268	7 708	24 925	10 931	35 856	511
July	15 466	341	4 597	3 632	8 228	24 849	7 831	32 680	442
August	14 930	350	4 516	3 521	8 038	26 981	7 802	34 782	334
September	15 985	331	4 554	3 515	8 069	26 910	9 167	36 077	382
October	16 180	330	4 584	3 556	8 140	26 458	8 186	34 645	392
November	16 591	339	4 630	3 527	8 157	29 172	8 578	37 750	400
December	16 328	351	4 678	3 381	8 058	30 234	9 575	39 809	403
2014									
January	16 548	344	4 687	3 452	8 139	30 901	9 811	40 712	423
February	16 849	361	4 692	3 653	8 345	30 341	9 296	39 637	428
March	16 640	335	4 700	3 501	8 201	30 115	10 639	40 754	453
TREND									
2013									
March	14 485	340	4 563	3 425	7 988	22 743	7 621	30 363	497
April	14 762	343	4 604	3 451	8 055	23 497	7 836	31 334	491
May	14 995	345	4 606	3 469	8 074	24 261	8 155	32 415	476
June	15 192	345	4 581	3 489	8 070	24 909	8 428	33 337	451
July	15 381	343	4 553	3 509	8 061	25 530	8 558	34 088	424
August	15 586	340	4 541	3 518	8 059	26 182	8 574	34 756	402
September	15 822	338	4 556	3 517	8 072	26 969	8 563	35 532	388
October	16 071	339	4 591	3 511	8 102	27 854	8 641	36 495	384
November	16 298	341	4 625	3 505	8 130	28 749	8 864	37 613	393
December	16 484	343	4 654	3 497	8 151	29 529	9 216	38 745	407
2014									
January	16 616	346	4 678	3 501	8 179	30 144	9 557	39 701	420
February	16 717	347	4 698	3 513	8 211	30 577	9 860	40 437	433
March	16 740	349	4 711	3 524	8 235	30 896	10 088	40 985	440

(a) For owner occupation.

(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

(c) Includes refinancing across lending institutions (see Glossary).

(d) Includes refinancing (see Glossary).

(e) New and increased credit limits during the month. Includes credit cards.

HOUSING AND PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Lender: Original

Month	HOUSING FINANCE(a)					PERSONAL FINANCE(b)				
	Banks	Permanent building societies	Wholesale lenders n.e.c.	Other lenders	Total	Banks	Credit co-operatives	Finance companies	Other lenders	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013										
March	13 187	213	242	431	14 074	6 618	np	np	764	7 707
April	13 822	188	274	435	14 720	7 090	np	np	777	8 166
May	15 870	241	340	449	16 899	7 543	np	np	851	8 743
June	13 972	186	304	386	14 848	6 907	np	np	854	8 088
July	15 273	206	355	460	16 294	7 404	np	np	1 184	8 907
August	14 274	214	327	425	15 240	6 505	np	np	885	7 704
September	14 679	210	322	380	15 591	6 623	np	np	888	7 794
October	16 190	232	388	478	17 289	7 308	np	np	880	8 496
November	16 713	253	373	486	17 825	6 847	np	np	903	8 059
December	15 836	199	299	563	16 896	6 967	np	np	888	8 158
2014										
January	13 201	176	312	505	14 194	6 093	np	np	881	7 279
February	13 683	201	305	547	14 735	6 788	np	np	826	7 903
March	15 418	245	375	516	16 554	7 133	np	np	880	8 323

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Secured finance for owner occupation. Excludes alterations and additions.
 (b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

COMMERCIAL AND LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Lender: **Original**

Month	COMMERCIAL FINANCE					LEASE FINANCE				
	Banks	Money market corporations	Finance companies	Other lenders	Total	Banks	General financiers	Finance companies	Other lessors	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013										
March	25 683	np	np	np	28 865	88	214	np	np	508
April	24 441	np	np	np	27 327	124	168	np	np	472
May	31 234	np	np	np	34 421	116	176	np	np	490
June	37 641	np	np	np	41 473	138	231	np	np	573
July	29 851	np	np	np	32 772	111	192	np	np	477
August	33 488	np	np	np	35 887	66	151	np	np	310
September	32 736	np	np	np	35 276	95	156	np	np	350
October	32 040	np	np	np	34 991	86	166	np	np	401
November	36 162	np	np	np	38 523	90	158	np	np	400
December	47 724	np	np	np	50 547	83	201	np	np	450
2014										
January	29 775	np	np	np	32 472	67	137	np	np	349
February	29 746	np	np	np	32 321	59	155	np	np	379
March	38 226	np	np	np	40 655	101	223	np	np	493

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Purpose (Fixed Loans): **Original**

<i>Month</i>	<i>New motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Used motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Total motor vehicles(a)</i>	<i>Individual residential blocks of land</i>	<i>Unsecured finance for owner occupation(b)</i>	<i>Debt consolidation</i>	<i>Refinancing</i>	<i>Other(c)</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013									
March	521	416	1 081	510	40	654	1 427	885	4 597
April	508	406	1 054	531	46	630	1 486	867	4 613
May	580	452	1 187	641	59	757	1 618	955	5 218
June	586	393	1 120	594	43	598	1 515	821	4 691
July	617	447	1 219	531	51	645	1 370	873	4 689
August	601	454	1 208	550	46	582	1 164	878	4 429
September	587	424	1 160	544	50	587	1 208	842	4 391
October	565	441	1 159	591	51	638	1 336	947	4 722
November	549	404	1 098	618	59	608	1 398	946	4 727
December	552	381	1 075	626	46	608	1 391	940	4 686
2014									
January	553	428	1 127	483	39	491	1 130	865	4 136
February	549	408	1 098	532	41	566	1 250	913	4 400
March	578	409	1 134	578	51	621	1 368	982	4 733

(a) Includes motorcycles and other motor vehicles.

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

(c) Includes boats, caravans and trailers, household goods, travel and holidays and other purposes.

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Revolving Credit Stocks and Flows: **Original**

Month	NEW AND INCREASED CREDIT LIMITS			CANCELLATIONS AND REDUCTIONS	CREDIT AT END OF MONTH	
	Secured	Unsecured	Total	Total(a)	Total limits(a)	Credit used
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013						
March	1 063	2 046	3 110	3 730	297 231	118 669
April	1 421	2 132	3 553	3 324	297 466	118 154
May	1 338	2 187	3 525	3 969	297 119	117 893
June	1 352	2 044	3 396	3 504	296 903	118 144
July	1 752	2 466	4 218	3 497	297 773	116 785
August	1 250	2 025	3 275	3 292	297 496	115 582
September	1 281	2 122	3 403	3 001	297 918	115 154
October	1 574	2 200	3 774	3 205	298 619	114 784
November	1 154	2 179	3 332	3 465	298 578	115 024
December	1 331	2 140	3 472	3 165	298 833	115 053
2014						
January	947	2 196	3 143	3 563	298 500	113 937
February	1 335	2 168	3 502	3 035	298 956	114 258
March	1 311	2 278	3 589	4 074	298 611	113 663

(a) These figures sometimes reflect a rebasing of the data by one or more lenders without adjustment to earlier periods' commitments or cancellations.

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COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Purpose (Fixed Loans): Original

Month	Construction finance	Purchase of real property	Wholesale finance	Purchase of plant and equipment	Refinancing	Other	Total	Commitments not drawn at end of month
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013								
March	776	8 682	1 771	1 886	2 007	6 675	21 797	43 369
April	585	9 314	1 551	1 831	1 974	5 214	20 468	41 748
May	1 285	11 002	1 912	2 101	2 386	8 779	27 466	44 976
June	1 484	10 849	1 758	2 314	4 573	8 392	29 370	46 846
July	983	10 281	1 509	1 956	3 606	6 163	24 499	44 635
August	1 471	9 782	2 954	1 822	2 386	9 600	28 015	44 909
September	1 315	9 768	2 476	1 898	3 337	7 199	25 993	46 789
October	1 304	11 250	2 153	2 034	3 770	6 194	26 706	44 424
November	1 992	13 143	2 421	1 856	3 209	7 278	29 898	46 678
December	2 814	13 097	3 508	2 089	4 094	11 824	37 425	51 393
2014								
January	829	9 304	3 934	1 439	2 600	7 042	25 147	49 146
February	1 611	10 072	2 046	1 963	1 799	7 052	24 543	48 973
March	1 252	12 097	3 178	1 788	2 706	8 851	29 872	48 824

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LEASE AND COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Stocks and Flows: Original

Month	LEASE FINANCE		COMMERCIAL REVOLVING CREDIT			
	Total commitments	Commitments not drawn at end of month	New and increased credit limits	Cancellations and reductions(a)	Total credit limits at end of month(a)	Credit used at end of month
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013						
March	508	np	7 068	8 442	318 789	196 302
April	472	np	6 859	7 473	318 540	197 372
May	490	np	6 955	8 963	316 647	195 681
June	573	np	12 103	11 315	318 404	196 298
July	477	np	8 273	9 808	317 207	194 812
August	310	np	7 872	7 657	316 855	192 149
September	350	np	9 283	10 676	315 259	192 164
October	401	np	8 285	10 357	312 834	191 611
November	400	np	8 624	6 855	315 168	191 240
December	450	np	13 122	11 977	316 893	189 758
2014						
January	349	np	7 326	9 598	314 009	187 512
February	379	np	7 778	7 879	314 809	189 460
March	493	np	10 782	9 126	316 755	190 321

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) These figures sometimes reflect a rebasing of the data by one or more lenders without adjustment to earlier periods' commitments or cancellations.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Housing (Owner Occupation and Commercial)

Month	OWNER OCCUPATION (SECURED FINANCE)				OWNER OCCUPATION (UNSECURED FINANCE)	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(a)			ALL HOUSING FINANCE	
	Construction of dwellings	Purchase of new dwellings	Purchase of established dwellings(b)	Alterations and additions	Total(c)	Construction of dwellings for rent and resale	Purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (d)	Purchase of dwellings by others for rent or resale	Total	
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	
ORIGINAL										
2013										
March	1 384	941	11 749	353	40	474	6 895	674	22 510	
April	1 530	984	12 206	333	46	287	7 441	672	23 499	
May	1 762	1 083	14 054	403	59	602	8 699	816	27 479	
June	1 561	932	12 355	336	43	627	8 014	719	24 587	
July	1 643	1 060	13 591	343	51	502	8 085	694	25 969	
August	1 647	934	12 659	349	46	572	7 565	800	24 572	
September	1 580	929	13 082	326	50	728	7 632	908	25 235	
October	1 695	1 070	14 524	349	51	634	8 884	876	28 083	
November	1 637	1 057	15 132	355	59	600	9 344	933	29 115	
December	1 599	1 055	14 242	341	46	737	9 175	1 090	28 286	
2014										
January	1 403	853	11 938	288	39	315	7 530	637	23 003	
February	1 560	807	12 368	349	41	898	7 537	904	24 464	
March	1 752	920	13 882	353	51	586	8 910	1 061	27 515	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED										
2013										
March	1 483	969	12 238	346	38	504	7 138	729	23 445	
April	1 520	993	12 214	340	47	370	7 364	740	23 588	
May	1 516	981	12 565	347	46	477	7 420	735	24 087	
June	1 528	980	12 908	347	46	446	7 500	614	24 368	
July	1 470	1 003	12 993	341	51	496	7 722	713	24 789	
August	1 555	973	12 403	350	47	579	7 538	796	24 241	
September	1 596	971	13 418	331	50	648	8 055	869	25 939	
October	1 615	982	13 584	330	48	649	8 712	828	26 748	
November	1 639	998	13 953	339	53	647	8 862	917	27 408	
December	1 647	967	13 714	351	49	710	9 052	954	27 444	
2014										
January	1 762	973	13 812	344	49	499	8 954	885	27 278	
February	1 759	910	14 180	361	45	1 029	8 750	1 014	28 048	
March	1 820	906	13 914	335	50	577	9 009	1 119	27 730	
TREND										
2013										
March	1 467	935	12 082	340	44	456	7 098	753	23 176	
April	1 487	964	12 311	343	45	448	7 251	732	23 581	
May	1 502	983	12 509	345	46	453	7 376	714	23 929	
June	1 517	990	12 685	345	47	476	7 501	710	24 271	
July	1 531	989	12 860	343	48	519	7 664	730	24 684	
August	1 549	987	13 051	340	49	563	7 896	770	25 204	
September	1 573	985	13 264	338	50	603	8 183	815	25 811	
October	1 608	983	13 480	339	50	637	8 473	858	26 427	
November	1 647	977	13 674	341	50	662	8 711	896	26 957	
December	1 687	966	13 830	343	49	683	8 870	931	27 360	
2014										
January	1 726	952	13 938	346	49	701	8 962	968	27 642	
February	1 762	937	14 017	347	48	715	9 014	1 007	27 849	
March	1 794	922	14 024	349	48	723	9 012	1 043	27 916	

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

(c) Includes alterations and additions.

(b) Only includes refinancing across lending institutions (see Glossary).

(d) Includes refinancing (See Glossary)

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Motor Vehicles: **Original**

Month	PERSONAL FINANCE(a)					COMMERCIAL FINANCE(a)	LEASE FINANCE	ALL VEHICLE FINANCE
	New motor cars and station wagons	Used motor cars and station wagons	Motorcycles	Other motor vehicles	Total	Total	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013								
March	521	416	28	116	1 081	1 039	265	2 385
April	508	406	26	114	1 054	983	282	2 319
May	580	452	30	125	1 187	919	299	2 406
June	586	393	27	114	1 120	1 186	284	2 590
July	617	447	28	127	1 219	997	243	2 459
August	601	454	32	122	1 208	930	142	2 280
September	587	424	32	117	1 160	963	170	2 293
October	565	441	29	124	1 159	986	225	2 369
November	549	404	29	116	1 098	939	220	2 257
December	552	381	28	114	1 075	1 072	227	2 374
2014								
January	553	428	27	120	1 127	831	199	2 157
February	549	408	26	116	1 098	971	216	2 286
March	578	409	26	120	1 134	957	237	2 327

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Motor Vehicles: **Original**

Month	MOTOR CARS AND STATION WAGONS		LIGHT TRUCKS		HEAVY TRUCKS		OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES	ALL VEHICLES
	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013								
March	171	49	31	6	2	3	4	265
April	167	47	31	7	22	5	4	282
May	178	np	30	10	21	4	np	299
June	166	46	31	9	13	np	np	284
July	162	42	23	7	5	1	4	243
August	93	24	17	np	3	np	np	142
September	113	31	12	np	3	np	np	170
October	144	44	18	8	7	np	np	225
November	145	46	17	7	2	np	np	220
December	153	43	18	5	3	np	np	227
2014								
January	130	47	14	4	2	np	np	199
February	141	46	18	5	3	—	2	216
March	158	46	22	5	2	np	np	237

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

Month	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(b)			LEASE FINANCE	ALL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT FINANCE
	<i>Transport equipment</i>	<i>Other plant and equipment</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013					
March	210	637	846	244	1 090
April	210	638	848	190	1 038
May	532	650	1 182	191	1 373
June	239	889	1 128	289	1 417
July	314	646	959	233	1 193
August	304	588	892	168	1 060
September	214	722	936	180	1 116
October	263	785	1 048	176	1 224
November	219	699	918	180	1 098
December	278	740	1 017	223	1 240
2014					
January	148	459	608	150	758
February	329	662	991	163	1 154
March	209	623	832	256	1 087

(a) Excludes motor vehicles (see tables 9 and 10).

(b) Excludes revolving credit.

LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Plant and Equipment: **Original**

	<i>Transport equipment (a)</i>	<i>Construction and earthmoving equipment</i>	<i>Agricultural machinery and equipment</i>	<i>Manu- facturing equipment</i>	<i>Electronic data processing equipment</i>	<i>Office machines</i>	<i>Shop and office furniture, fittings and equipment</i>	<i>Other goods</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2013									
March	np	88	11	5	49	36	7	np	244
April	np	56	5	3	42	27	6	np	190
May	13	39	9	2	41	38	14	36	191
June	16	72	15	17	70	35	23	41	289
July	np	73	3	3	57	34	20	np	233
August	np	41	5	3	46	31	8	np	168
September	np	42	7	5	50	22	8	np	180
October	15	38	5	2	45	37	7	27	176
November	np	34	3	3	48	47	5	np	180
December	np	69	8	2	60	27	13	np	223
2014									
January	np	32	6	4	48	np	np	16	150
February	np	np	np	2	36	39	12	np	163
March	np	np	np	1	48	42	4	np	256

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Excludes motor vehicles (see tables 9 and 10).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1** This publication presents statistics on finance commitments made by significant lenders for the purposes of secured housing finance for owner occupation, other personal finance, commercial finance and lease finance.
- 2** *Secured housing finance for owner occupation* is secured finance to individuals for the purchase or construction of dwellings for owner occupation, and for alterations and additions to existing owner occupied dwellings. Refinancing involving a change of lender is also included, while refinancing with the same lender is excluded from all estimates.
- 3** *Personal finance*, other than secured housing finance for owner occupation, is finance provided to individuals for their personal, non-business, use. Both fixed loans and revolving credit finance are included.
- 4** *Commercial finance* is finance provided to individuals and corporations for business or investment purposes, including for the construction or purchase of dwellings for rental or resale. Fixed loans, revolving credit and commercial hire purchase are included.
- 5** *Lease finance* includes finance and leverage leases. Operating lease finance statistics are provided as spreadsheets on Details tab of this issue.

SCOPE

- 6** Finance commitments made by the following types of lenders are included:
 - Banks
 - Permanent building societies
 - Credit unions/cooperative credit societies
 - Life or general insurance companies
 - General government enterprises
 - Superannuation funds
 - Securitiser of mortgage assets (wholesale lenders) which provide funds to borrowers through a retail intermediary (e.g. mortgage originators)
 - Registered Financial Corporations (RFCs).

COVERAGE

- 7** The statistics cover all bank commitments, and all commitments for secured housing finance for owner occupation made by permanent building societies. Of the remaining commitments, the largest lenders for each of secured housing finance for owner occupation, other personal finance, commercial finance and lease finance are covered, so that when calculated separately for each of the four broad categories of purpose finance, at least 95% of Australia-wide finance commitments and at least 90% of each state's finance commitments are covered. While many lenders other than banks are not covered, at least 70% coverage is maintained for all published lender types (including the Other Lenders series and Other Lessors series).
- 8** The survey coverage of lending finance commitments is maintained and updated by including new lenders as their lending for any of the four categories of finance becomes sufficiently large.
- 9** From June 2001, the statistics for:
 - secured housing finance for owner occupation cover all commitments by banks and permanent building societies, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$50m for housing finance in 2000
 - personal finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$96m for personal finance in 2000.
- 10** From June 2002, the statistics for:
 - commercial finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$484m for commercial finance in 2001
 - lease finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided funds of more than \$31m for lease finance in 2001.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COVERAGE *continued*

11 Additional smaller lenders are also covered where it is necessary to maintain collection coverage (as specified in paragraph 7).

SOURCES

12 For banks, credit cooperatives, building societies and RFCs, the statistics in this publication are currently derived from returns submitted to the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA). The Financial Sector (Collection of Data) Act 2001 facilitates the collection of statistical data from the financial sector, with APRA established as the central point for collection of both prudential and statistical data. In October 2001, APRA implemented new reporting forms for building societies and credit cooperatives. New reporting forms were implemented for banks in March 2002, and for RFCs in March 2003. APRA commenced collecting loan commitments data from banks, credit cooperatives and building societies in July 2002, and from RFCs in March 2003.

13 Secured housing finance commitments for owner occupied housing from banks, building societies and credit cooperatives are derived from *ARF 392.0 Housing Finance* form collected by APRA. Personal finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the *ARF 394.0 Personal Finance* form. Commercial finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the *ARF 391.0 Commercial Finance* form and from the *ARF 394.0 Personal Finance* form for fixed loans for personal investment purposes. Lease finance commitments are sourced from the *ARF 393.0 Lease Finance* form.

14 Finance commitments for RFCs are collected on the *RRF 391.0 Commercial Finance* (commercial finance commitments), *RRF 392.0 Housing Finance* (secured housing finance commitments for owner occupied housing), *RRF 393.0 Lease Finance* (lease finance commitments) and *RRF 394.0 Personal Finance* (personal finance commitments and commercial finance commitments).

15 Electronic versions of the forms and instructions for ADIs are available on the APRA website at <http://www.apra.gov.au/Statistics/Reporting-forms-and-instructions-ADIs.cfm>. For RFCs, these are available at: <http://www.apra.gov.au/nonreg/Pages/default.aspx>.

16 All other institutions, including securitisation vehicles, are collected directly by the ABS.

REVISIONS

17 Revisions to previously published statistics are included in the publication as they occur.

18 Changes in the classification of lenders (e.g. the conversion of a permanent building society to a bank) are reflected in the Lender series from the month of the change. Data for earlier periods for such lenders are not reclassified. Details of the establishment of new banks are published in the Reserve Bank of Australia's monthly *Bulletin* in the section on Technical Notes to Tables.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

19 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation and 'trading day effects'. A 'trading day effect' reflects the varying amounts of activity on different days of the week and the different number of days of the week in any month (i.e. the number of Sundays, Mondays, etc.). This effect may be partly caused by the reporting practices of the lenders. Adjustment is also made for Easter which may affect the March and April estimates differently. Trading day effects are removed from the original estimates prior to the seasonal adjustment process. Seasonal adjustment does not remove the effect of irregular or non-seasonal influences (e.g. a change in interest rates) from the seasonally adjusted series.

20 Estimation of seasonal adjustment and trading day factors that reflect the full effect of recent developments is not possible until a sufficient number of years of data have been collected. When changes are occurring in the seasonal patterns, larger revisions to the seasonally adjusted series can be expected at the time of the biennial (once every two years) seasonal reanalysis. Accordingly, the trend estimate data provide a more

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

reliable indicator of underlying movement in housing finance commitments. (See paragraphs 23 and 24 for further information on trend estimates).

21 The lending finance series uses a concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology to derive the seasonal adjustment factors. This means that original estimates available at the current reference month are used to estimate seasonal factors for the current and previous months. As a result of this methodology, the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for earlier periods can be revised each month. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the previous month and the same month a year ago.

22 Autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) modelling can improve the revision properties of the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. ARIMA modelling relies on the characteristics of the series being analysed to project future period data. The projected values are temporary, intermediate values, that are only used internally to improve the estimation of the seasonal factors. The projected data do not affect the original estimates and are discarded at the end of the seasonal adjustment process. The lending finance collections use an individual ARIMA model for the majority of the series in this publication. The ARIMA model is assessed as part of the biennial reanalysis. The next reanalysis is scheduled for the November 2014 issue. For more information on ARIMA modelling see Feature article: Use of ARIMA modelling to reduce revisions in the October 2004 issue of *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat. no. 1350.0).

TREND ESTIMATES

23 Smoothing seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series and creates trend estimates. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13 term Henderson-weighted moving average to all but the last six months of the respective seasonally adjusted series. Trend series are created for the last six months by applying surrogates of the Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. For further information, refer to *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series – Monitoring Trends: An Overview* (cat. no. 1349.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on Canberra (02) 6252 6345 or by email at time.series.analysis@abs.gov.au.

24 While the smoothing technique described in paragraph 23 enables trend estimates to be produced for the latest few months, it does result in revisions to the trend estimates as new data become available. Generally, revisions become smaller over time and, after three months, usually have a negligible impact on the series. Changes in the original data and re-estimation of seasonal factors may also lead to revisions to the trend.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

25 Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Published changes in dollar value and percentage terms are calculated using unrounded data and may differ slightly from, but are more accurate than, changes calculated from the rounded data presented in this publication.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

26 Estimates for months prior to those shown in this publication and more detailed series are available in spreadsheet format from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) website. For more information, contact the ABS National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

27 Users may also wish to refer to the following ABS releases:

- *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0)
- *Assets and Liabilities of Australian Securitizers* (cat. no. 5232.0.55.001)
- *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0)
- *Dwelling Unit Commencements, Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 8750.0) – issued quarterly
- *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia* (cat. no. 5625.0)

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

continued

■ *Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia Electronic Publication* (cat. no. 9314.0).

28 In addition, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) produces the *Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin*, the tables of which are available on the RBA web site <http://www.rba.gov.au>. The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) also publishes a range of finance statistics on its website <http://www.apra.gov.au>.

29 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the Statistics View. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the ABS website <http://www.abs.gov.au> which details products to be released in the week ahead.

GLOSSARY

Agricultural machinery and equipment	Includes tractors, tillage implements, seeding, planting and fertilising equipment, agricultural mowers, harvesters, etc.
Alterations and additions	Comprises all structural and non-structural changes which are integral to the functional and structural design of a dwelling. Examples are garages, carports, pergolas, reroofing, recladding, etc. Alterations and additions do not include swimming pools, ongoing repairs, or maintenance and home improvements which do not involve building work.
Commitment	Is a firm offer of finance. It either has been, or is normally expected to be, accepted. Commitments accepted and cancelled in the same month are included. Commitments to non-residents are excluded.
Construction and earth moving equipment	Includes concrete mixers and pumpers, dozers, graders, mobile cranes, crawler tractors, dumpers, road rollers, earth packers, scarifiers, rippers, etc.
Construction of dwellings	Comprises commitments made to individuals to finance, by way of progress payments, the construction of owner occupied dwellings.
Debt consolidation	For personal finance, comprises commitments whose principle purpose is to consolidate and pay out amounts owing by the borrower to third parties.
Dwelling	Is a single self-contained place of residence such as a detached or semidetached house, a terrace house, a flat, home unit, town house, etc. which includes bathing and cooking facilities.
Electronic data processing equipment	Includes computers, computer peripherals, data entry devices, word processing machines, etc.
Established dwelling	Is a dwelling that has been completed for 12 months or more prior to the lodgement of a loan application, or has been previously occupied.
Finance lease	Refers to the leasing or hiring of tangible assets under an agreement, other than a hire purchase agreement, which substantially transfers from the lessor to the lessee all the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the asset without transferring the legal ownership.
Fixed loans	Generally involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ a commitment for a fixed amount for a fixed period for a specific purpose■ a schedule of repayments over a fixed period■ repayments which reduce the liability of the borrower but do not act to make further finance available.
Heavy trucks	Comprises all vehicles with a gross combination mass rating in excess of 3.5 tonnes, including prime movers registered without trailers.
Light trucks	Comprises vehicles constructed primarily for the carriage of goods which do not exceed 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass such as utilities, panel vans, trucks, cab-chassis, forward control vans and four-wheel drives used to carry goods.
Manufacturing equipment	Includes all plant and equipment used in the manufacture of goods except motor vehicles such as forklifts, work trucks and tractors.
Motor cars and station wagons	Includes cars, station wagons, four-wheel drive and forward control passenger vehicles with up to nine seats (including the driver).
Motorcycles	Includes two and three wheeled motorcycles and mopeds, scooters and motorcycles with side cars.
New dwelling	Is a dwelling that has been completed within 12 months of the lodgement of a loan application, and the borrower will be the first occupant.
Office machines	Includes telephone systems (including PABX equipment), facsimile machines, cash registers, photocopiers, etc.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Purpose	Of the loan is that specified by the borrower. Where possible multiple purpose loans are split and each component is reported in the appropriate purpose category. Otherwise the whole loan is classified to the major purpose.
Real Property	Comprises both residential and non-residential land, buildings and fixed structures.
Refinancing	For personal and commercial finance, represents a commitment to refinance an existing loan. For secured housing finance, only those loans where the refinancing lender is a different lender and the security is unchanged are included. The refinancing of a loan to fund a change of residence is treated as a new lending commitment.
Revolving credit	Generally has the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ a commitment for a credit or borrowing limit is given for a specific period after which the commitment is reviewed■ the extent of the borrowing used at any time during the period may be for any amount up to the authorised limit■ repayments (other than of charges and interest) made during the period reduce the extent of the borrowing used and thereby increase the amount of unused credit available up to the authorised limit. Examples include credit cards, lines of credit and approved overdrafts.
Secured credit limits	Includes overdrafts, lines of credit, credit cards, etc. backed by a mortgage or other assets owned by the borrower.
Secured housing finance	Comprises all secured commitments to individuals for the construction or purchase of dwellings for owner occupation, regardless of type of security. Commitments for housing that will be occupied by persons other than the owner(s) are excluded.
Total credit limits at end of month	Comprises total approved credit limits available at the end of the reference month. In principle, this can be derived by adding new and increased lending commitments during the month less cancellations and reductions of credit limits during the month to the balance of credit limits at the end of the previous month. In practice, however, revisions and other adjustments (such as the transfer of an existing fixed credit facility) will mean that such a derivation is inexact.
Wholesale finance	Comprises finance for the purchase of goods by retailers and wholesalers.

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