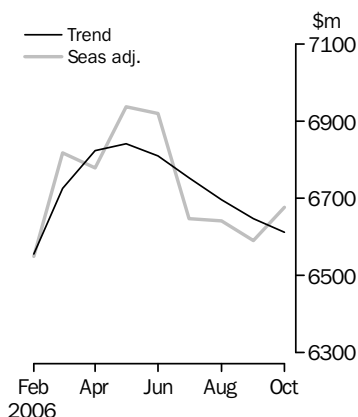


LENDING FINANCE

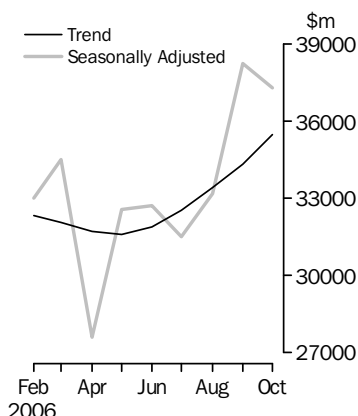
AUSTRALIA

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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 Michael Abbondante on Canberra (02) 6252 6707.

KEY FIGURES

	Sep 2006 \$m	Oct 2006 \$m	Sep 2006 to Oct 2006 % change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation	13 847	13 783	-0.5
Personal finance	6 647	6 612	-0.5
Commercial finance	34 339	35 476	3.3
Lease finance	508	501	-1.3
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation	13 614	13 730	0.8
Personal finance	6 591	6 676	1.3
Commercial finance	38 242	37 284	-2.5
Lease finance	504	515	2.2

KEY POINTS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

OCTOBER 2006 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 2006:

- The total value of owner-occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions increased by 0.8% (seasonally adjusted), while the trend series fell 0.5%.

PERSONAL FINANCE

OCTOBER 2006 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 2006:

- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments rose by 1.3%. This increase was due to a rise in revolving credit commitments (up 2.8%) more than offsetting a decrease in fixed lending commitments (down 0.6%).
- The trend series for the value of total personal finance fell 0.5% due to decreases in both revolving credit commitments (down 0.4%) and fixed lending commitments down (0.7%).

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

OCTOBER 2006 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 2006:

- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell by 2.5%. This decrease was due to a fall in revolving credit commitments (down 14.8%) more than offsetting an increase in fixed lending commitments (up 6.8%).
- The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose by 3.3%. Increases were recorded for both revolving credit commitments (up 6.5%) and fixed lending commitments (up 1.6%).

LEASE FINANCE

OCTOBER 2006 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 2006:

- Lease finance commitments (seasonally adjusted) increased by 2.2%. The lease finance trend series fell by 1.3%.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
November 2006	17 January 2007
December 2006	13 February 2007
January 2007	14 March 2007
February 2007	13 April 2007
March 2007	15 May 2007
April 2007	12 June 2007



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no significant changes to this issue.

CHANGES IN FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Data in this publication will undergo seasonal reanalysis prior to the November 2006 issue.



ABBREVIATIONS

- \$m million dollars
- ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
- n.e.c. not elsewhere classified
- RBA Reserve Bank of Australia

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

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TIME SERIES DATA

TIME SERIES SPREADSHEETS

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:
 - C1a. Commercial finance commitments (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - C1b. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
 - C1c. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
 - C1d. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans by industry
 - C1e. Commercial finance commitments, revolving credit by industry
 - C2 to C9. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
 - L1a. Lease finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - L1b. Lease finance commitments by purpose
 - L1c. Lease finance commitments by purpose and lender
 - L1d. Lease finance commitments by industry
 - L2 to L9. Lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
 - OL1b. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose
 - OL1c. Operating lease finance commitments by lender
 - OL1d. Operating lease finance commitments by industry
 - OL2 to OL9. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
 - P1a. Personal finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - P1b. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
 - P1c. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
 - P2 to P9. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
 - 13 Lending Finance Seasonal Factors, By Purpose and Lender: Australia, January 1985 to October 2007.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

The total value of owner-occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions increased by 0.8% (seasonally adjusted), while the trend series fell 0.5%.

For further information, please refer to *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

PERSONAL FINANCE

In seasonally adjusted terms, the value of total personal finance commitments rose by 1.3% in October 2006 compared with September 2006. This increase was due to a rise in revolving credit commitments (up 2.8%), more than offsetting a fall in fixed lending commitments (down 0.6%).

In trend terms, the value of total personal finance fell 0.5% in October 2006. The trend series for revolving credit commitments fell 0.4%, while fixed lending commitments decreased 0.7%.

In original terms, fixed lending commitments increased by \$93m (up 3.2%) in October 2006 compared with September 2006.

Movements in the original series contributing to this increase were:

- Used motor vehicles and station wagons, up \$26m (6.3%) compared with an average September to October decrease of 5.5% over the previous three years.
- Debt consolidation, up \$18m (6.0%) compared with an average September to October increase of 4.9% over the previous three years.

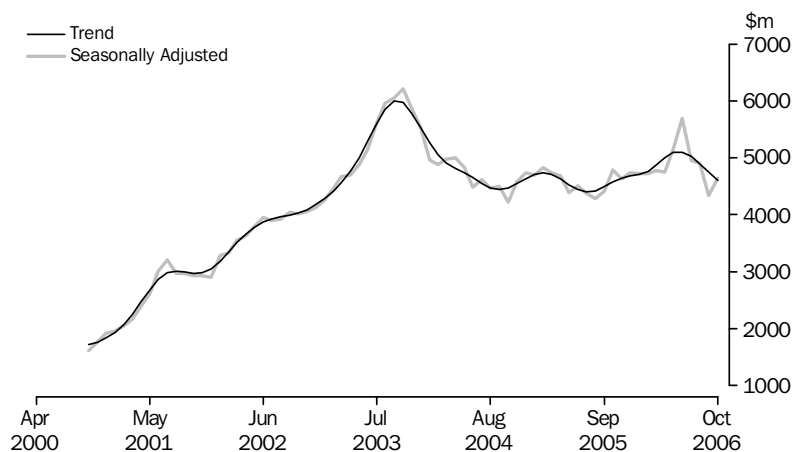
COMMERCIAL FINANCE

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell by 2.5% in October 2006. The decrease was due to a fall in revolving credit commitments (down 14.8%) more than offsetting a rise in fixed lending commitments (up 6.8%).

The trend series for commercial finance commitments increased 3.3% in October 2006. An increase was recorded for both revolving credit commitments (up 6.5%), and fixed lending commitments (up 1.6%).

The value of purchases of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (seasonally adjusted) rose by 7.2% in October 2006, after a revised decrease of 11.7% in September 2006. The trend series fell 2.9% in October 2006.

PURCHASE OF DWELLINGS BY INDIVIDUALS FOR RENT OR RESALE



LEASE FINANCE

The value of lease finance commitments (seasonally adjusted) increased by 2.2%. The trend series for lease finance commitments fell by 1.3%.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Summary

Month	SECURED HOUSING(a)		PERSONAL(b)			COMMERCIAL			LEASE
	Construction and purchase of dwellings(c)	Alterations and additions	Fixed loans(c)	Revolving credit(d)	Total	Fixed loans(c)	Revolving credit(d)	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2005									
October	12 249	444	2 521	3 026	5 547	17 480	9 647	27 126	501
November	13 793	480	2 798	3 390	6 188	22 405	10 359	32 764	515
December	12 784	437	2 747	3 414	6 161	23 527	13 744	37 271	613
2006									
January	10 236	366	2 488	2 942	5 429	15 488	7 675	23 163	639
February	11 927	432	2 723	3 162	5 884	17 660	10 087	27 747	473
March	14 581	539	3 112	4 237	7 349	24 971	10 869	35 840	605
April	11 803	415	2 359	3 690	6 049	16 231	6 821	23 052	430
May	15 601	548	3 309	4 291	7 601	25 554	8 944	34 497	634
June	14 549	516	3 435	4 313	7 748	27 897	13 774	41 671	750
July	14 088	475	2 885	3 707	6 591	21 385	10 396	31 781	521
August	14 951	501	3 170	3 811	6 981	24 868	10 864	35 732	518
September	13 467	446	2 887	3 588	6 475	20 776	15 821	36 598	497
October	13 926	475	2 980	3 832	6 812	24 022	13 904	37 926	508
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2005									
October	12 572	450	2 639	3 036	5 675	17 678	10 216	27 893	527
November	12 769	441	2 665	3 250	5 915	22 592	9 635	32 227	542
December	12 899	457	2 785	3 435	6 220	21 028	10 730	31 758	562
2006									
January	12 749	453	2 785	3 567	6 352	21 188	10 352	31 540	798
February	13 095	448	2 863	3 687	6 550	21 437	11 554	32 991	558
March	13 197	462	2 830	3 987	6 817	23 612	10 903	34 515	559
April	13 396	471	2 781	3 997	6 778	19 997	7 595	27 592	537
May	13 936	494	3 021	3 916	6 938	22 304	10 252	32 556	594
June	14 014	486	3 150	3 770	6 920	21 963	10 752	32 716	549
July	14 091	494	2 996	3 650	6 646	20 866	10 632	31 498	512
August	13 846	492	3 008	3 633	6 641	23 399	9 787	33 186	502
September	13 614	462	2 947	3 644	6 591	21 739	16 503	38 242	504
October	13 730	462	2 929	3 747	6 676	23 216	14 067	37 284	515
TREND									
2005									
October	12 530	450	2 653	3 286	5 939	18 879	9 768	28 647	561
November	12 695	448	2 698	3 315	6 013	20 062	10 119	30 182	585
December	12 817	448	2 738	3 413	6 151	21 037	10 441	31 478	604
2006									
January	12 934	451	2 776	3 571	6 347	21 679	10 531	32 210	613
February	13 088	457	2 818	3 736	6 554	21 916	10 419	32 335	611
March	13 299	465	2 868	3 857	6 725	21 868	10 198	32 066	598
April	13 540	475	2 922	3 902	6 824	21 765	9 944	31 709	576
May	13 743	483	2 970	3 872	6 842	21 734	9 858	31 592	553
June	13 868	486	3 002	3 807	6 809	21 820	10 065	31 886	536
July	13 907	486	3 014	3 738	6 752	21 969	10 558	32 528	527
August	13 890	482	3 009	3 687	6 696	22 195	11 210	33 405	517
September	13 847	477	2 994	3 653	6 647	22 427	11 912	34 339	508
October	13 783	471	2 973	3 639	6 612	22 791	12 684	35 476	501

(a) For owner occupation.

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

(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

(c) Includes refinancing.

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
2005										
October	9 646	292	1 709	602	12 249	4 340	243	268	696	5 547
November	10 962	324	1 874	634	13 793	4 944	270	291	682	6 188
December	10 239	269	1 660	615	12 784	4 756	273	274	857	6 161
2006										
January	8 212	259	1 252	514	10 236	4 050	234	271	874	5 429
February	9 399	320	1 552	655	11 927	4 702	242	277	664	5 884
March	11 404	409	1 958	809	14 581	6 124	291	283	652	7 349
April	9 341	277	1 520	665	11 803	4 804	240	212	794	6 049
May	12 377	413	2 063	748	15 601	6 216	278	274	832	7 601
June	11 619	344	1 900	686	14 549	6 325	295	281	847	7 748
July	11 285	333	1 777	693	14 088	5 285	279	252	776	6 591
August	11 783	412	1 996	760	14 951	5 708	283	270	720	6 981
September	10 702	345	1 698	723	13 467	5 113	272	256	835	6 475
October	10 974	351	1 883	718	13 926	5 481	274	273	784	6 812

(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
2005										
October	22 944	np	374	np	27 126	184	132	94	90	501
November	27 999	560	400	3 805	32 764	202	118	np	np	515
December	32 192	713	415	3 952	37 271	224	156	102	131	613
2006										
January	19 409	926	263	2 565	23 163	161	321	74	84	639
February	np	np	432	np	27 747	166	124	81	102	473
March	31 227	np	471	np	35 840	209	172	109	116	605
April	20 329	np	323	np	23 052	135	112	90	92	430
May	np	np	407	np	34 497	205	191	115	123	634
June	np	np	432	np	41 671	316	158	139	137	750
July	27 840	np	347	np	31 781	154	163	86	117	521
August	31 412	np	403	np	35 732	173	132	99	115	518
September	33 291	np	384	np	36 598	174	130	85	108	497
October	34 579	np	380	np	37 926	169	141	87	111	508

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

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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
2005									
October	277	417	760	352	31	274	482	623	2 521
November	310	433	822	390	42	311	548	685	2 798
December	291	388	749	366	37	276	594	724	2 747
2006									
January	293	417	777	305	33	268	527	578	2 488
February	288	419	781	363	40	284	592	662	2 723
March	304	456	840	428	46	331	710	757	3 112
April	224	351	635	341	31	253	517	581	2 359
May	312	441	830	444	44	369	808	814	3 309
June	326	431	828	451	39	348	959	810	3 435
July	283	403	751	373	35	315	697	712	2 885
August	311	444	831	411	39	360	781	749	3 170
September	296	411	772	371	41	298	689	715	2 887
October	302	437	809	389	46	316	666	754	2 980

(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	Total limits(a)	Credit used
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005						
October	1 487	1 539	3 026	1 433	212 766	102 244
November	1 610	1 780	3 390	1 743	214 518	103 410
December	1 636	1 778	3 414	1 547	213 337	101 759
2006						
January	1 266	1 676	2 942	1 383	214 911	101 910
February	1 434	1 727	3 162	1 621	216 464	103 361
March	1 865	2 372	4 237	2 286	218 444	104 133
April	1 475	2 215	3 690	1 512	220 664	104 741
May	2 039	2 253	4 291	2 541	222 485	105 936
June	2 372	1 941	4 313	1 907	224 951	107 342
July	1 928	1 778	3 707	2 018	226 595	107 089
August	1 948	1 863	3 811	1 760	228 703	107 156
September	1 832	1 756	3 588	1 731	230 564	107 247
October	1 813	2 018	3 832	1 881	232 517	107 537

(a) This figure sometimes reflects 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
2005								
October	1 198	6 412	1 055	1 370	1 124	6 321	17 480	36 007
November	1 169	7 006	1 034	1 213	1 851	10 132	22 405	35 318
December	2 647	6 632	685	1 866	2 025	9 672	23 527	37 989
2006								
January	883	5 351	837	1 346	2 479	4 592	15 488	38 210
February	1 438	5 515	690	2 223	859	6 935	17 660	38 732
March	1 508	7 238	832	1 537	1 500	12 355	24 971	43 668
April	903	5 511	579	1 469	1 127	6 641	16 231	43 593
May	1 689	8 037	856	1 892	1 564	11 516	25 554	46 147
June	1 728	9 527	778	2 058	4 424	9 382	27 897	42 853
July	1 141	6 641	758	1 660	2 181	9 004	21 385	42 060
August	1 758	7 219	901	1 815	1 670	11 505	24 868	48 103
September	2 697	6 448	np	1 605	1 808	np	20 776	39 685
October	1 667	6 808	797	1 407	2 918	10 425	24 022	40 438

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

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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	Total credit limits at end of month(a)	Credit used at end of month
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005						
October	501	np	9 647	12 121	268 783	138 374
November	515	644	10 359	5 865	273 319	143 367
December	613	608	13 744	6 882	281 053	145 295
2006						
January	639	643	7 675	6 860	281 778	147 265
February	473	653	10 087	5 572	286 256	153 350
March	605	674	10 869	6 548	290 693	155 060
April	430	673	6 821	5 473	291 895	158 185
May	634	692	8 944	7 266	293 521	159 789
June	750	505	13 774	9 030	298 243	160 957
July	521	499	10 396	9 187	299 203	161 455
August	518	516	10 864	7 150	302 868	165 000
September	497	511	15 821	7 966	310 808	166 968
October	508	513	13 904	8 864	315 772	168 569

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

(a) This figure sometimes reflects 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	Alterations and additions	Total(b)	Construction of dwellings for rent or resale	Purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale	Purchase of dwellings by others for rent or resale	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2005									
October	931	592	10 727	444	31	593	4 645	408	18 371
November	997	649	12 147	480	42	453	4 989	388	20 146
December	954	671	11 159	437	37	808	4 670	457	19 193
2006									
January	800	494	8 943	366	33	366	3 711	356	15 067
February	913	639	10 375	432	40	611	4 188	390	17 588
March	1 081	775	12 725	539	46	898	5 249	459	21 772
April	855	651	10 297	415	31	469	4 228	429	17 375
May	1 161	860	13 580	548	44	503	5 855	518	23 068
June	1 157	767	12 624	516	39	498	6 273	612	22 487
July	1 142	726	12 220	475	35	643	4 825	439	20 505
August	1 256	748	12 947	501	39	500	5 189	454	21 634
September	1 060	645	11 762	446	41	580	4 405	598	19 537
October	1 091	661	12 174	475	46	371	4 640	409	19 866
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2005									
October	953	626	10 993	449	34	578	4 792	440	18 864
November	959	625	11 185	441	36	499	4 635	340	18 720
December	983	627	11 288	460	36	689	4 736	414	19 233
2006									
January	1 039	621	11 089	453	39	563	4 725	441	18 970
February	1 038	680	11 377	448	41	659	4 726	479	19 447
March	1 026	699	11 471	461	40	813	4 772	476	19 759
April	969	724	11 703	470	36	518	4 745	498	19 664
May	1 021	763	12 152	495	40	498	5 143	483	20 596
June	1 086	749	12 179	487	39	420	5 697	481	21 139
July	1 072	724	12 295	493	39	582	4 953	432	20 589
August	1 097	705	12 044	492	39	501	4 905	440	20 222
September	1 067	667	11 881	462	42	574	4 332	636	19 660
October	1 083	676	11 971	462	48	383	4 644	413	19 681
TREND									
2005									
October	965	607	10 958	450	35	557	4 577	410	18 559
November	980	620	11 094	448	36	581	4 649	408	18 817
December	994	633	11 189	449	37	616	4 684	417	19 020
2006									
January	1 005	651	11 278	452	38	642	4 714	436	19 216
February	1 012	675	11 401	457	39	644	4 769	460	19 456
March	1 019	701	11 579	465	39	624	4 874	473	19 774
April	1 027	725	11 788	475	39	591	5 002	480	20 126
May	1 037	737	11 969	482	39	554	5 091	480	20 390
June	1 051	735	12 082	487	39	524	5 098	479	20 494
July	1 066	723	12 117	486	40	505	5 023	480	20 441
August	1 078	708	12 104	482	41	494	4 894	484	20 285
September	1 087	692	12 069	477	42	483	4 749	488	20 086
October	1 093	677	12 013	471	44	484	4 609	490	19 880

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

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

Month	PERSONAL FINANCE(a)					COMMERCIAL	LEASE	ALL VEHICLE
	New motor cars and station wagons	Used motor cars and station wagons	Motorcycles	Other motor vehicles	Total	FINANCE (a)	FINANCE	FINANCE
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005								
October	277	417	31	34	760	615	239	1 613
November	310	433	40	38	822	649	260	1 730
December	291	388	37	34	749	655	286	1 690
2006								
January	293	417	34	34	777	506	202	1 486
February	288	419	37	37	781	623	221	1 625
March	304	456	41	39	840	754	277	1 872
April	224	351	30	30	635	525	217	1 377
May	312	441	38	40	830	707	287	1 824
June	326	431	35	36	828	765	305	1 897
July	283	403	19	46	751	622	252	1 626
August	311	444	24	51	831	658	251	1 740
September	296	411	22	44	772	613	248	1 634
October	302	437	23	47	809	651	249	1 709

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

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

<i>Month</i>	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
2005								
October	154	39	10	7	19	4	6	239
November	168	38	12	8	17	4	12	260
December	197	42	14	11	11	6	5	286
2006								
January	135	33	8	6	11	4	5	202
February	139	38	13	7	11	4	9	221
March	185	45	14	8	15	4	7	277
April	137	38	11	3	21	2	5	217
May	176	55	17	5	24	4	6	287
June	189	52	19	7	22	8	8	305
July	165	47	15	5	12	2	6	252
August	164	46	16	5	9	3	7	251
September	168	43	14	4	11	3	6	248
October	157	42	18	11	11	4	6	249

<i>Month</i>	<u>COMMERCIAL FINANCE(a)</u>			<u>LEASE FINANCE</u>	<u>ALL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT FINANCE</u>
	<i>Transport equipment(b)</i>	<i>Other plant and equipment</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005					
October	73	682	756	262	1 018
November	79	485	564	255	819
December	253	959	1 211	327	1 538
2006					
January	152	688	840	437	1 277
February	72	1 528	1 600	252	1 852
March	161	622	783	328	1 110
April	94	850	944	213	1 157
May	87	1 098	1 185	346	1 531
June	99	1 194	1 293	446	1 739
July	66	972	1 038	268	1 306
August	86	1 071	1 157	267	1 424
September	87	905	992	249	1 240
October	77	679	756	259	1 015

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

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

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

<i>Month</i>	<i>Transport equipment (a)</i>	<i>Construction and earthmoving equipment</i>	<i>Agricultural machinery and equipment</i>	<i>Manufacturing 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>	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005									
October	6	19	14	18	74	55	26	48	262
November	10	35	16	27	49	56	21	42	255
December	11	50	14	21	71	76	27	57	327
2006									
January	19	33	10	20	249	51	16	38	437
February	17	38	14	12	63	46	21	41	252
March	10	68	13	17	85	60	23	53	328
April	12	24	10	10	55	46	12	43	213
May	22	38	22	62	80	54	18	51	346
June	23	44	26	17	102	120	34	80	446
July	11	28	7	14	91	58	14	44	268
August	10	32	14	10	71	55	22	51	267
September	6	28	8	10	73	56	15	52	249
October	12	19	12	12	84	56	18	47	259

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1** This publication presents statistics of 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 AusStats.

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)
 - Other 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** An annual collection is conducted to maintain and update the survey coverage. New lenders are included 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, 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 form ARF 392.0 Housing Finance collected by APRA. Personal finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the ARF 394.0 Personal Finance. Commercial finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the ARF 391.0 Commercial Finance and from the ARF 394.0 Personal Finance for fixed loans for personal investment purposes. Lease finance commitments are sourced from the ARF 393.0 Lease Finance.

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 web site at

<<http://www.apra.gov.au/Statistics/Revised-Authorised-Deposit-taking-Institution-ADI-reporting-requirements.cfm>>. For RFCs, these are available at:

<<http://www.apra.gov.au/rfc/>>.

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.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

20 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.

TREND ESTIMATES

21 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 <timeseries@abs.gov.au>.

22 While the smoothing technique described in paragraph 21 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

23 Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Percentage changes in this publication have been derived from rounded data, and therefore may be slightly different from percentage changes and averages calculated from unrounded data available in time series spreadsheets.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

24 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) web site. For more information, contact the ABS National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

25 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. 5232.0.0.55.001)
- *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0)
- *Dwelling Unit Commencements, Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 8750.0) - issued monthly
- *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia* (cat. no. 5625.0)
- *Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia Electronic Publication* (cat. no. 9314.0).

26 In addition, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) produces the monthly *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 web site <<http://www.apra.gov.au>>.

27 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The *Catalogue* is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site 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.
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 not the original 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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- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.
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