



MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION

AUSTRALIA

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NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.



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Australian Statistician

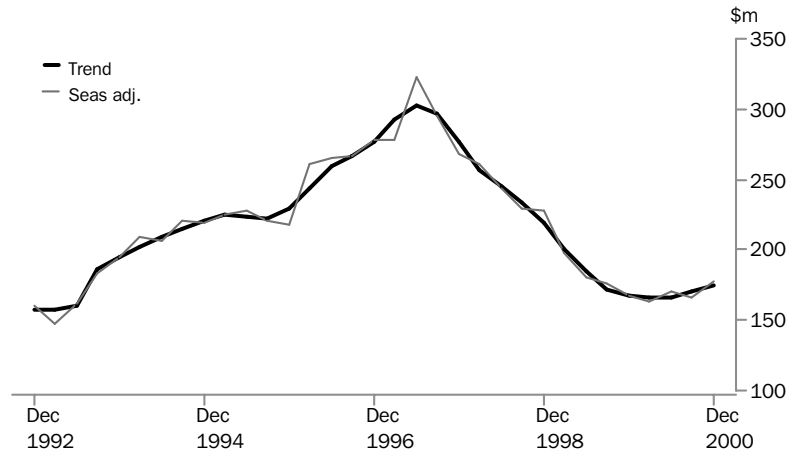
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE (OTHER THAN FOR PETROLEUM)

TREND ESTIMATES

The trend estimate for mineral exploration expenditure rose slightly in the December quarter 2000, continuing the small increases that have been prevalent in the last three quarters.

The December quarter 2000 trend estimate of \$174m was 4% higher than the trend estimate of \$168m for the December quarter 1999.



In the December quarter 2000 the largest increase in the trend estimate occurred in Western Australia (up 3%), while in New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory the estimates increased only marginally.

Victoria and Queensland showed small decreases.

For the last three quarters the trend estimate for metres drilled has continually risen. The increase between the September and December quarters 2000 was 7,000 metres (0.5%). The December quarter 2000 figure of 1.5 million metres was 5% higher than the December quarter 1999.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

OVERVIEW

In seasonally adjusted terms, exploration expenditure for the December quarter 2000 increased by 7% (\$11m) to \$177m.

In original terms, exploration expenditure reported for the December quarter 2000 increased by 10% (\$17m) to \$187m. The December quarter 2000 total mineral exploration expenditure was 6% (\$10m) higher than the December quarter 1999.

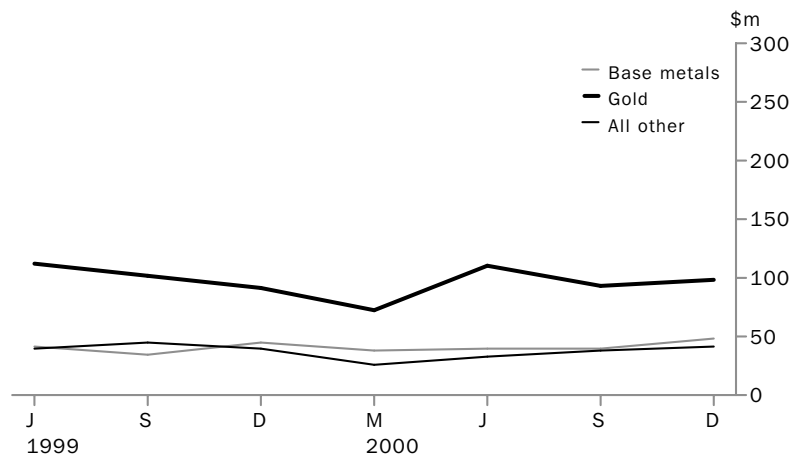
The rise in total mineral exploration in the December quarter 2000 was mainly due to an 11% (\$14m) increase in expenditure reported in 'all other areas' (ie other than 'on production leases'). The majority of the increase in 'all other areas' occurred in Western Australia, up 15% (\$11m).

Overall, Western Australia was the main contributor to the December quarter increase, up \$14m (13%), with New South Wales up \$2m (16%).

In the December quarter 2000 exploration expenditure for nickel and cobalt rose by 40% (\$7m) and gold by 5% (\$5m). The majority of the increase for nickel, cobalt and gold occurred in Western Australia, up 29% (\$4m) and 11% (\$7m) respectively.

Between the September and December quarters 2000, exploration expenditure for base metals (copper, silver-lead-zinc, nickel and cobalt) increased 24% (\$9m) to \$48m.

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, *Original Series*



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

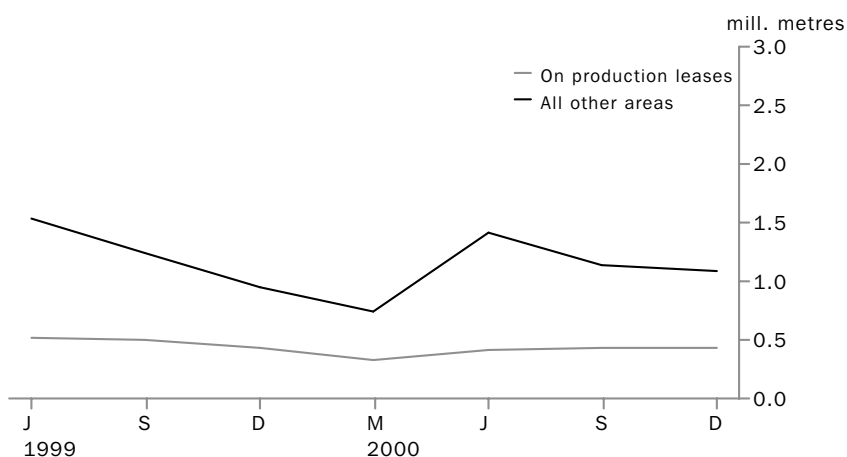
METRES DRILLED

The seasonally adjusted estimate of 1.5 million metres drilled for the December quarter 2000 was 7% higher than the September quarter 2000 and 11% higher than the December quarter 1999.

In original terms, the 1.5 million metres drilled (total) reported for the December quarter 2000 was 4% lower than the September quarter 2000.

Since the September quarter 2000 drilling on 'production leases' has remained stable, while drilling on 'all other areas' has decreased by 5% to 1.0 million metres.

METRES DRILLED, Original Series



PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

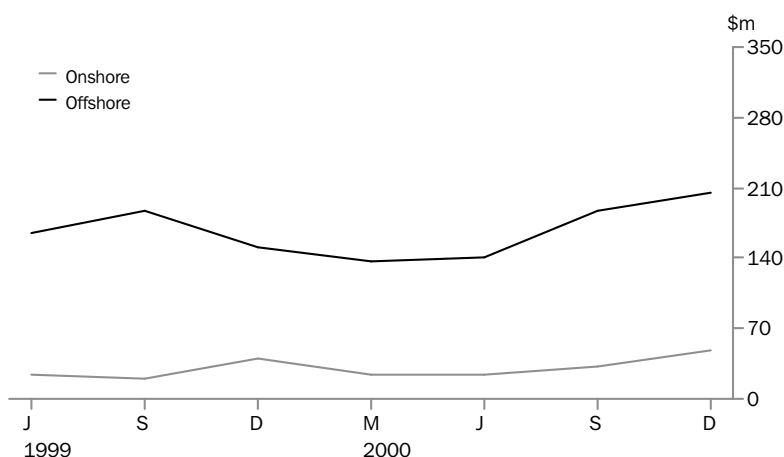
OVERVIEW

Reported expenditure on petroleum exploration in the December quarter 2000 was \$253m, 15% (\$34m) higher than the September quarter 2000, and 33% (\$62m) higher than the December quarter 1999.

Total petroleum exploration expenditure for the December quarter 2000 was the highest reported since December quarter 1998.

The increase in total petroleum exploration expenditure for the December quarter 2000 occurred as a result of a 10% (\$19m) increase in offshore expenditure, and a 44% (\$15m) increase in onshore expenditure.

Between September and December quarters 2000, expenditure for petroleum exploration on 'production leases' and 'all other areas' rose 42% (\$18m) and 9% (\$16m) respectively.



REGIONAL DATA

Regional data for petroleum exploration expenditure were available for Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and Northern Territory/Ashmore and Cartier Islands, which combined, contributed 85% to total exploration expenditure in the December quarter 2000.

Of the published regions, Western Australia was the main contributor increasing by 12% (\$18m). Victoria reported an increase of \$7m in expenditure. Victorian expenditure was double that of the previous quarter.

PRIVATE EXPLORATION, Actual and Expected Expenditure(a)

Period	MINERAL EXPLORATION ..			PETROLEUM ONSHORE ..			PETROLEUM OFFSHORE		
	Actual	Expected(b)	Actual as a proportion of expected	Actual	Expected(b)	Actual as a proportion of expected	Actual	Expected(b)	Actual as a proportion of expected
	\$m	\$m	%	\$m	\$m	%	\$m	\$m	%
1997-1998	1 066.8	1 083.4	98.5	232.3	145.0	160.2	748.9	773.7	96.8
1998-1999	837.8	769.2	108.9	182.3	144.2	126.4	685.4	540.1	126.9
1999-2000	676.3	700.4	96.6	110.1	155.3	70.9	594.0	637.0	93.2
6 months ended December 1999	356.9	365.8	97.6	60.9	86.0	70.8	336.7	241.8	139.2
6 months ended June 2000	319.4	334.7	95.4	49.2	69.3	71.0	257.3	395.2	65.1
6 months ended December 2000	357.0	358.8	99.5	80.7	118.7	68.0	392.6	374.4	104.9
6 months ended June 2001	n.y.a.	319.1	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	55.7	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	560.2	n.y.a.

n.y.a. not yet available

(a) From July 2000 value data no longer contains Wholesale Sales Tax.

(b) Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 14-17.

MINERAL EXPLORATION (Other than for Petroleum), Expenditure and Metres Drilled(a)

Period	EXPENDITURE.....					METRES DRILLED.....				
	<i>On production leases</i>	<i>On all other areas(b)</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Trend estimate</i>	<i>On production leases</i>	<i>On all other areas(b)</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Trend estimate</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	'000 m	'000 m	'000 m	'000 m	'000 m
1997-1998	253.2	813.6	1 066.8	..	..	3 365	7 843	11 209	..	..
1998-1999	199.1	638.7	837.8	..	..	2 404	5 697	8 101	..	..
1999-2000	158.4	517.9	676.3	..	..	1 662	4 342	6 004	..	..
1999										
March	46.0	121.3	167.3	197.8	201.0	412	835	1 247	1 564	1 943
June	41.7	153.3	195.0	180.1	184.1	517	1 534	2 051	1 855	1 730
September	43.9	136.2	180.1	175.5	172.2	504	1 239	1 743	1 583	1 525
December	40.2	136.7	176.9	167.3	167.6	431	948	1 379	1 385	1 459
2000										
March	36.9	99.8	136.7	162.8	165.5	319	745	1 064	1 339	1 419
June	37.4	145.3	182.7	170.1	166.8	408	1 409	1 817	1 639	1 481
September	43.3	126.5	169.8	166.2	170.2	436	1 145	1 582	1 436	1 520
December	47.2	140.0	187.2	177.1	174.2	433	1 092	1 525	1 534	1 527

(a) From July 2000 value data no longer contains Wholesale Sales Tax.

(b) Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 9.

MINERAL EXPLORATION (Other than for Petroleum), Expenditure(a): December Qtr 2000

State	TYPE OF LEASE.....		
	<i>On production leases</i>	<i>On all other areas(b)</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m
New South Wales	2.5	13.3	15.8
Victoria	n.p.	n.p.	7.3
Queensland	4.1	17.2	21.4
South Australia	0.8	6.0	6.8
Western Australia	35.8	82.2	118.0
Tasmania	n.p.	n.p.	2.6
Northern Territory	2.4	12.9	15.3
Total	47.2	140.0	187.2

n.p. not available for publication.

(a) From July 2000 value data no longer contains Wholesale Sales Tax.

(b) Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 9.

MINERAL EXPLORATION (Other than for Petroleum), Expenditure by State and Territory(a)

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australia
Period	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL								
1997-1998	88.2	43.1	133.2	45.0	660.4	20.7	75.9	1 066.8
1998-1999	65.6	37.0	93.8	41.9	523.1	11.9	64.5	837.8
1999-2000	56.1	33.8	82.6	22.6	415.0	8.8	57.5	676.3
1999								
March	15.6	10.3	20.2	7.6	102.3	3.8	7.6	167.3
June	17.4	6.7	26.4	12.8	109.4	2.6	19.6	195.0
September	14.6	8.2	21.0	6.5	107.9	2.7	19.2	180.1
December	14.8	8.1	21.3	6.7	108.8	2.3	14.8	176.9
2000								
March	12.1	7.5	17.1	3.8	85.0	2.4	8.8	136.7
June	14.6	10.0	23.1	5.6	113.3	1.3	14.7	182.7
September	13.6	8.6	21.8	5.5	104.4	1.7	14.2	169.8
December	15.8	7.3	21.4	6.8	118.0	2.6	15.3	187.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
1999								
March	16.5	10.6	25.4	9.7	120.4	3.8	11.4	197.8
June	15.9	7.0	23.4	10.2	102.4	2.5	18.7	180.1
September	15.8	8.6	21.2	6.9	104.3	2.8	15.9	175.5
December	14.2	7.2	19.6	6.5	103.7	2.4	13.7	167.3
2000								
March	12.8	7.7	21.6	4.8	100.4	2.3	13.2	162.8
June	13.4	10.5	20.4	4.5	106.0	1.3	14.0	170.1
September	14.9	9.0	22.0	5.8	100.9	1.8	11.8	166.2
December	15.0	6.5	19.6	6.7	112.4	2.8	14.1	177.1
TREND								
1999								
March	16.7	9.4	24.1	9.8	123.1	3.2	14.7	201.0
June	16.3	8.5	23.3	8.9	108.5	3.0	15.6	184.1
September	15.2	7.6	21.6	7.8	101.5	2.7	15.8	172.2
December	14.1	7.6	20.4	6.1	102.2	2.4	14.8	167.6
2000								
March	13.4	8.6	20.7	5.0	102.5	2.0	13.3	165.5
June	13.6	9.1	21.1	5.0	103.1	1.8	13.1	166.8
September	14.4	8.7	21.0	5.6	105.5	1.9	13.1	170.2
December	15.0	7.7	20.5	6.3	109.1	2.3	13.3	174.2

(a) From July 2000 value data no longer contains Wholesale Sales Tax.

MINERAL EXPLORATION (Other than for Petroleum), Expenditure by Mineral Sought(a)

	Copper	Silver, lead-zinc	Nickel, cobalt	Base metals total(b)	Gold	Iron ore	Mineral sands	Uranium	Coal	Diamonds	Other(c)	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
DECEMBER QUARTER 2000												
New South Wales	n.p.	1.7	n.p.	5.8	3.4	—	2.6	—	2.8	0.1	1.1	15.8
Victoria	—	—	—	—	6.0	—	1.3	—	—	—	—	7.3
Queensland	3.6	4.4	0.4	8.4	5.8	—	n.p.	n.p.	6.4	—	0.6	21.4
South Australia	n.p.	n.p.	—	4.0	1.6	n.p.	n.p.	0.6	—	—	0.3	6.8
Western Australia	0.7	6.2	18.5	25.4	71.6	7.3	1.8	—	0.1	8.2	3.5	118.0
Tasmania	—	n.p.	n.p.	2.0	0.4	n.p.	—	—	—	—	n.p.	2.6
Northern Territory	1.3	n.p.	n.p.	2.5	8.9	—	—	n.p.	—	1.3	n.p.	15.3
Australia	7.7	16.3	24.1	48.2	97.5	7.4	6.1	2.9	9.3	9.7	6.0	187.2
AUSTRALIA												
1997–1998	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	227.1	648.4	30.0	14.0	22.2	64.8	42.8	17.5	1 066.8
1998–1999	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	176.9	486.1	41.5	19.0	15.4	39.9	40.9	18.0	837.8
1999–2000	28.4	55.4	73.0	156.8	374.8	29.7	21.5	11.7	35.4	29.8	16.7	676.3
March 1999	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	36.5	99.4	7.2	4.6	1.4	9.8	3.6	4.9	167.3
June 1999	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	42.0	112.7	8.1	5.0	3.1	11.1	9.0	4.1	195.0
September 1999	6.5	16.1	11.1	33.7	101.5	8.8	4.5	4.8	9.5	12.2	5.1	180.1
December 1999	8.3	14.7	22.0	45.0	91.6	n.p.	4.8	3.7	9.2	9.2	n.p.	176.9
March 2000	6.5	10.0	21.6	38.2	71.9	5.0	4.6	n.p.	7.9	3.5	n.p.	136.7
June 2000	7.0	14.6	18.4	40.0	109.8	n.p.	7.6	n.p.	8.7	4.9	3.1	182.7
September 2000	6.9	14.9	17.1	38.9	92.5	7.2	4.9	n.p.	9.2	11.3	n.p.	169.8
December 2000	7.7	16.3	24.1	48.2	97.5	7.4	6.1	2.9	9.3	9.7	6.0	187.2

n.p. not available for publication

— nil or rounded to zero

n.a. not available

(a) From July 2000 value data no longer contains Wholesale Sales Tax.

(b) Base metals total is copper, silver, lead-zinc, nickel, cobalt.

(c) From September quarter 2000 this category includes tin, tungsten, scheelite, wolfram and construction materials.

PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE(a)

Period	ONSHORE.....			OFFSHORE.....			TOTAL EXPENDITURE.....		
	<i>Drilling</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Drilling</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>On production leases</i>	<i>On all other areas(b)</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997-1998	174.1	58.2	232.3	501.2	247.6	748.9	68.8	912.4	981.2
1998-1999	111.7	70.5	182.3	428.5	257.0	685.4	105.6	762.1	867.7
1999-2000	53.8	56.3	110.1	381.8	231.4	613.2	121.9	601.4	723.3
1999									
March	20.8	18.9	39.7	127.0	61.8	188.9	24.6	203.9	228.5
June	12.0	13.1	25.1	96.9	69.0	165.9	21.6	169.4	191.0
September	10.9	9.5	20.3	113.2	72.9	186.1	23.8	182.6	206.5
December	23.7	16.9	40.6	86.8	63.7	150.5	51.2	139.9	191.1
2000									
March	10.6	14.4	25.0	103.1	32.6	135.8	26.9	133.9	160.7
June	8.6	15.6	24.2	78.7	62.1	140.8	19.9	145.1	165.0
September	17.3	15.8	33.1	129.2	57.4	186.6	42.3	177.5	219.8
December	26.8	20.8	47.6	104.4	101.6	206.0	60.0	193.5	253.5

(a) From July 2000 value data no longer contains Wholesale Sales Tax.

(b) Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 9.

PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, By Region(a)

Period	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia(b)	Tasmania	Northern Territory/ Ashmore and Cartier Islands	Zone of Cooperation Area A(c)	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997-1998	0.2	34.5	107.1	n.p.	464.0	n.p.	n.p.	61.9	981.2
1998-1999	0.1	32.6	65.9	n.p.	530.8	n.p.	132.0	32.3	867.7
1999-2000	n.p.	63.2	50.6	n.p.	444.1	n.p.	88.3	45.2	723.3
1999									
March	n.p.	15.6	15.3	11.1	164.1	n.p.	17.9	4.3	228.5
June	n.p.	7.2	14.3	n.p.	127.2	n.p.	35.2	0.8	191.0
September	n.p.	n.p.	11.0	n.p.	112.0	0.2	42.4	18.5	206.5
December	—	20.9	23.2	n.p.	96.9	0.4	18.8	n.p.	191.1
2000									
March	n.p.	11.6	n.p.	n.p.	121.2	n.p.	12.6	1.6	160.7
June	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	113.9	n.p.	14.6	n.p.	165.0
September	n.p.	6.7	22.3	n.p.	148.8	n.p.	30.8	n.p.	219.8
December	n.p.	13.3	27.1	n.p.	166.3	n.p.	8.6	n.p.	253.5

n.p. not available for publication

— nil or rounded to zero

(a) From July 2000 value data no longer contains Wholesale Sales Tax.

(b) Includes expenditure on Western Australia leases in the Zone of Cooperation, Area B.

(c) Refer to Explanatory Notes Paragraphs 18–20.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION	<p>1 This publication contains annual and quarterly statistics of private sector exploration for minerals (other than oil shale) and petroleum in Australia.</p>
SOURCE	<p>2 Data are collected and compiled from exploration censuses conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).</p>
SCOPE AND COVERAGE	<p>3 All exploration activity is included, regardless of the main activity of the explorer. Details of exploration are collected from all private enterprises known to be engaged in exploration in Australia (including Australian waters).</p>
SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT	<p>4 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences can be more clearly recognised.</p> <p>5 Seasonal adjustment does not remove from the series the effect of irregular or non-seasonal influences. Particular care should be taken in interpreting quarterly movements in the adjusted figures in this publication.</p> <p>6 Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the series even after adjustment for seasonal variation.</p> <p>7 Seasonal factors are reviewed and revised annually to take account of each additional year's original data. The nature of the seasonal adjustment process is such that the magnitude of some revisions resulting from the re-analysis may be quite significant, especially for data for more recent quarters. For this reason, additional care should be exercised when interpreting movements in seasonally adjusted data for recent quarters.</p>
TREND ESTIMATES	<p>8 The trend estimates are derived by applying a 7-term Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. The 7-term Henderson average (like all Henderson averages) is 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 weights employed here have been tailored to suit particular characteristics of the individual series. 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 three quarters as additional observations become available. There may also be revisions because of changes in the original data and as a result of the re-estimation of the seasonal factors.</p> <p><i>Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series —Monitoring Trends, an Overview</i> (Cat. no. 1348.0), Time Series Analysis Canberra (02) 6252 6345.</p>
CLASSIFICATIONS	<p>9 The following categories are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Production lease/All other areas, where a <i>production lease</i> is an area on which production or development is actually taking place. <i>All other areas</i> are areas outside of a <i>production lease</i> which can include exploration leases, retention leases and areas not leased but under assessment for exploration, e.g. by airborne surveys.▪ Onshore/Offshore, where offshore includes all operations in a marine area under the <i>Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967</i> or under any Acts administered by State and Territory Governments.▪ Drilling/Other, where <i>drilling expenditure</i> includes cost of access (roads, vessel hire, etc.) to the drilling site and site preparation etc., and <i>other expenditure</i> includes costs of surveys, report writing, map preparation and all other activities attributable to exploration.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

DEFINITIONS

MINERALS 10 In the broad sense these comprise metallic minerals, construction materials, gemstones, other non-metallic minerals and petroleum (oil or gas).

EXPLORATION 11 This includes the search for new ore occurrences or undiscovered oil or gas, and/or appraisal intended to delineate or greatly extend the limits of known deposits of minerals or oil or gas reservoirs by geological, geophysical, geochemical, drilling or other methods. This includes construction of shafts and adits primarily for exploration purposes but excludes activity of a developmental or production nature. Exploration for water is excluded.

EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE 12 This covers all expenditure on exploration activity in Australia. It includes expenditure on aerial surveys (including Landsat photographs), general surveys, report writing, map preparation, airborne surveys, administration expenses and other activities indirectly attributable to exploration. Cash bids for offshore petroleum exploration permits are also included.

13 The value of exploration expenditure excludes the goods and services tax (GST) which came into effect on 1 July 2000. The GST replaced the wholesale sales tax (WST) which was included in the value of exploration expenditure estimates for periods up to June quarter 2000. Businesses in the collection are asked to report actual expenditure based on the expected net cost to them under The New Tax System. That is, the WST no longer applies and the exploration expenditure estimates should exclude the 10% GST where this amount can be returned to the business as a tax credit.

EXPECTED EXPENDITURE 14 This refers to expected expenditure on exploration as reported by private business' explorers who were included in the previous census. Events such as new discoveries, unexpected weather conditions, government policy changes and unforeseen changes in economic conditions may cause actual expenditures to differ from those previously expected. The differences between actual and expected expenditure can be seen in table 1.

15 From the June quarter 2000 publication, the basis for the Expected Mineral Exploration Expenditure series has changed. Previously, the expected estimates released were an aggregate of data compiled through the quarterly Mineral Exploration collection. The aggregated data consistently underestimated the actual data for the same period. The consistency with which the published data underestimated subsequent actual expenditure provided a statistical basis on which to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the estimates.

16 A statistical factor is derived by examining the relationship between actual and expected exploration data. When expected exploration data is collected for the next period, the factor is applied to the raw expected total to create an estimate which better predicts actual expenditure for the same period. For more information regarding the adjustment made to the Expected Mineral Exploration Expenditure series, see the feature article in *Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia June 2000 (Cat No. 8412.0)*.

EXPLANATORY NOTES



EXPECTED EXPENDITURE **17** From the June Quarter 2000 publication, the value of expected exploration expenditure excludes the goods and services tax (GST) which came into effect on 1 July 2000. The GST replaces the wholesale sales tax (WST) which was included in the value of expected exploration expenditure. Businesses in the collection have been asked to report expected expenditure for the next six months based on the expected cost to them under The New Tax System. That is, they should exclude the WST, but not add on the 10% GST where this amount can be returned to the business as a tax credit.

continued

ZONE OF COOPERATION (ZOC) **18** The ZOC is an area in the Timor Sea, about 500 km north west of Darwin. A Treaty was signed in 1989 to enable exploration for and development of petroleum resources in this area, initially between Indonesia (and since 25 October 1999 with the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) on behalf of East Timor) and Australia.

19 The ZOC is divided into three areas; A, B and C. Area A is controlled by a Ministerial Council and a Joint Authority, and all petroleum operations in this area are carried out through production sharing contracts and a petroleum mining code. Benefits to the two countries are shared equally.

20 Area B is controlled by Australian authorities, but UNTAET must be notified of any changes to tenements in the area and will be paid 10% of resource rent tax revenues collected by Australia from corporations producing petroleum. Area C is controlled by UNTAET, but Australia must be notified of any changes to tenements in the area and will be paid 10% of Contractors Income Tax collected by UNTAET from corporations producing petroleum.

ASHMORE AND CARTIER ISLANDS **21** Tenements in the Ashmore and Cartier Islands are administered by the Northern Territory Department of Mines and Energy. Therefore all petroleum exploration expenditure in this area has been included with Northern Territory data.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

22 Users may also wish to refer to the following priced publications which are available on request:

- *Australian Business Expectations* (Cat. no. 5250.0)
- *Australian Mining Industry* (Cat. no. 8414.0)
- *Mining, Electricity and Gas Operations, Australia, Preliminary* (Cat. no. 8401.0)
- *Mining Operations, Australia* (Cat. no. 8145.0)
- *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia* (Cat. no. 5625.0)

23 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.

24 Publications showing the details of wells and metres drilled in petroleum exploration are available from the Petroleum Resources Program of the Australian Geological Survey Organisation.



EXPLANATORY NOTES

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

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

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

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

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