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WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STATISTICAL INDICATORS

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CONTENTS

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NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (Quarter)	*RELEASE DATE*
June 2007	4 July 2007
September 2007	3 October 2007

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

No changes in this issue.

INTERNET

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics shown are the latest available as at 22 March 2007. Explanatory Notes of the form found in other ABS publications are not included in *Western Australian Statistical Indicators*. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

INQUIRIES

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

ABBREVIATIONS

ABARE	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
Aust.	Australia
ERP	estimated resident population
n.e.s.	not elsewhere specified
n.f.d.	not further defined
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
WA	Western Australia

Michael Tindall
Regional Director, Western Australia

OVERVIEW

ECONOMIC SUMMARY

Western Australia's state final demand increased by 0.9% to $27,066 million in the December quarter 2006 in trend chain volume terms. This increase was the third largest rise among the states and territories. However, in seasonally adjusted chain volume terms, Western Australia recorded the highest rate of growth in state final demand across the nation, with an increase of 4.3% ($1,115 million) to $27,306 million in the December quarter 2006. This rise was mainly driven by increased investment in non-dwelling construction.

Western Australia's trade surplus rose by 21.4% ($1,748 million) to $9,919 million through the year to December quarter 2006, mainly due to larger trade surpluses with China (up $920 million) and India (up $752 million). The value of Western Australia's exports rose by 26.4% ($3,242 million) to $15,500 million through the year to December quarter 2006, driven by exports of gold, combined confidential items and iron ore. The value of Western Australia's imports increased by 36.5% ($1,494 million) to $5,581 million over the same period, also mainly driven by gold.

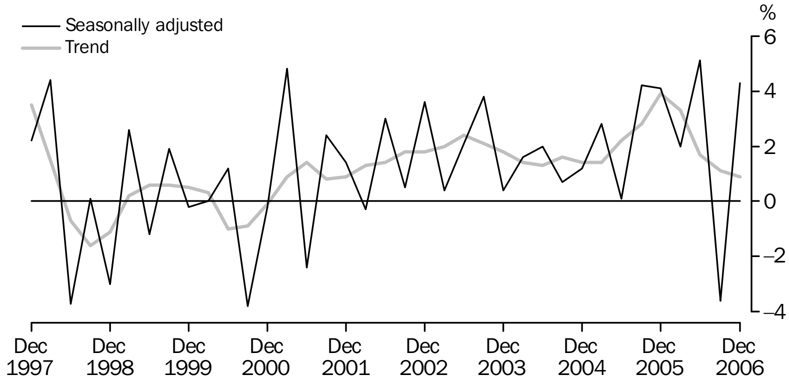
Full-time employment in Western Australia rose by 0.7% (5,100 persons) to 773,100 persons in the three months to February 2007 in trend terms. Most of this rise was in female full-time employment, rising by 3,900 persons (1.6%), and an increase of 1,200 (0.2%) full-time employed males. Total employment in Western Australia increased by 0.9% (9,900 persons) to 1,087,200 persons in the three months to February 2007. The unemployment rate for Western Australia fell from 3.3% in November 2006 to 3.0% in February 2007 in trend terms, compared to the steady rate of national unemployment at 4.6% over the period.

STATE ACCOUNTS

State final demand

State final demand in Western Australia rose by 0.9% to $27,066 million in the December quarter 2006 in trend chain volume terms. Despite the domestic economy continuing to grow, the rate of acceleration in state final demand has slowed steadily over the last four quarters, from 3.9% to 0.9% between the December quarters of 2005 and 2006. Western Australia's rise of 0.9% in the current quarter was the third highest increase among the states and territories, behind the Australian Capital Territory (up 1.6%) and Victoria (1.1%). Nationally, domestic final demand increased by 0.8% in the December quarter 2006.

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures—Change from previous quarter



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, cat. no. 5206.0.

State final demand continued

However, in seasonally adjusted chain volume terms, Western Australia recorded the highest rate of growth in state final demand among the states and territories, with an increase of 4.3% ($1,115 million) to $27,306 million in the December quarter 2006. More than half of this growth was driven by investment in non-dwelling construction, up $603 million or 20.5%, while strong contributions also came from machinery and equipment investment (up $299 million or 12.6%) and household final consumption expenditure (up $257 million or 2.0%). Detracting from growth in the December quarter 2006 were falls in general government final consumption expenditure (down $80 million or 2.1%) and ownership transfer costs (down $63 million or 12.3%).

PRICES

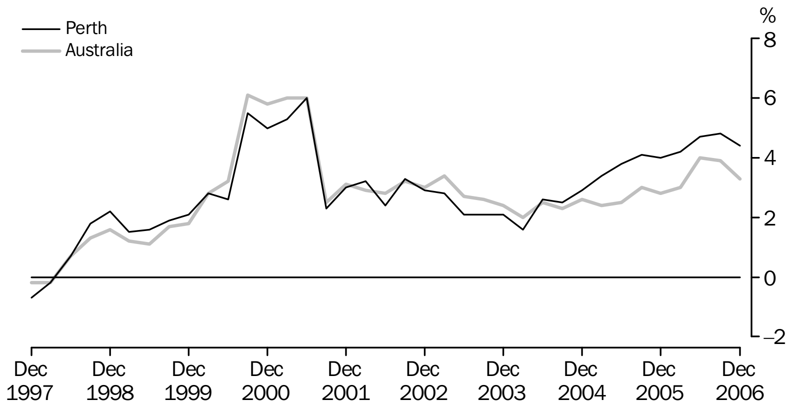
Consumer price index

Inflation eased in Perth over the last two quarters, with growth in Perth's consumer price index (CPI) falling to 0.4% in the December quarter 2006, down from 1.8% and 1.1% in the two preceding periods respectively. Nationally, prices fell by 0.1% during the December quarter, the first fall since the March quarter 1999 (down 0.1%). The most significant falls nationally were automotive fuel (down 12.4%), fruit (down 5.2%), pharmaceuticals (down 5.0%) and audio, visual and computing equipment (down 2.7%).

The higher CPI growth in Perth was mainly driven by higher than average prices in recreation (up 2.8%) and housing (up 0.7%). Within recreation, domestic holiday travel and accommodation rose by 9.3% and overseas holiday travel and accommodation was up 5.0%, the result of seasonal increases in accommodation tariffs and airfares. Housing costs also continued to fuel inflation in Perth, with the price of purchasing a house rising by 0.8% during the quarter. Closely related to housing, the price of furniture and furnishings rose by 2.7%.

Similar to the price falls nationally, Perth's CPI inflation was curtailed by falling prices for automotive fuel (down 11.4%), pharmaceuticals (down 3.5%), audio, visual and computing equipment (down 3.2%), toiletries and personal care products (down 2.9%) and fruit (down 1.9%).

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (ALL GROUPS), Change from same quarter previous year



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.

Through the year to December quarter 2006, Perth's CPI rose by 4.4% compared to the national rise of 3.3%. All capital cities recorded price increases during the year, ranging from 2.5% in Hobart to 5.0% in Darwin. The higher result for Darwin was largely due to a 9.5% rise in housing (nearly triple the national average of 3.2%), while Perth also

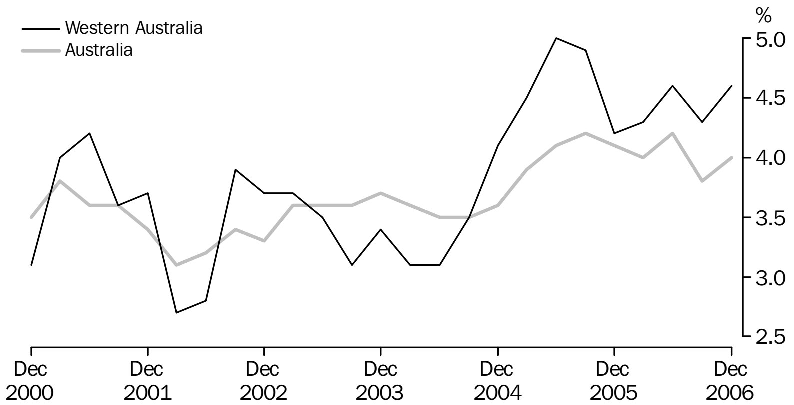
Consumer price index continued

recorded a significant rise in housing of 7.7%. Despite prices continuing to rise across the nation, the rate of growth has eased markedly from 3.9% in the September quarter 2006 to 3.3% in the current period. This slowing of inflation follows a tightening bias by the Reserve Bank of Australia, with increases of official interest rates by 25 basis points in May (5.75%), August (6.00%) and November (6.25%) 2006.

Wage price index

Wages grew by 1.1% in Western Australia in the December quarter 2006, according to the wage price index of total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses. Over the year, Western Australia's wages rose by 4.6% through the year to December quarter 2006, higher than the rise of 4.3% through the year to September 2006. Nationally, the wage price index grew by 4.0% through the year to December quarter 2006.

WAGE PRICE INDEX, Change from same quarter previous year



Source: Labour Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6345.0.

Western Australian industries recording large increases in wages through the year to December 2006 included mining (up 7.0%), property and business services (up 6.0%) and construction (up 5.5%), while professionals (up 5.6%) and managers and administrators (up 5.3%) showed significant increases from an occupation perspective.

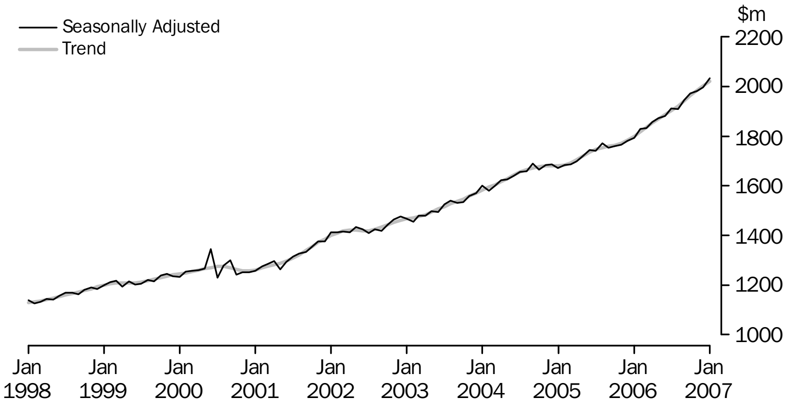
CONSUMPTION

Retail trade

Retail turnover in Western Australia rose by 3.1% ($183 million) in trend terms in the three months to January 2007, compared to the previous three month period. The increase was marginally higher than the 3.0% rise in the three months to October 2006. Nationally, retail turnover was higher by 1.3% in the three months to January 2007, following an increase of 1.4% in the previous three month period.

Retail trade continued

MONTHLY RETAIL TURNOVER, Current prices



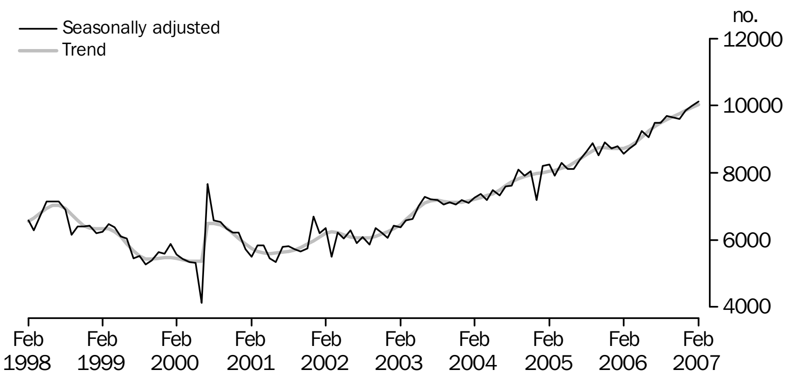
Source: Retail Trade, Australia, cat. no. 8501.0.

The major industry groups driving Western Australia's retail turnover (trend) in the three months to January 2007 (compared to the three months to October 2006) were food retailing (up $62 million or 2.6%), other retailing (including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, toiletries, antiques and used goods, garden supplies, flowers, watches and jewellery) (up $42 million or 7.9%), and hospitality and services ($37 million or 5.0%).

New motor vehicle sales

Sales of new motor vehicles have increased in Western Australia over the last thirteen months, from 8,711 vehicles in January 2006 to 10,019 vehicles in February 2007 in trend terms — the first time monthly vehicle sales have surpassed 10,000 in Western Australia. Over half of the growth over this period can be attributed to increased sales of passenger vehicles (51.7%), with sports utility vehicles (30.4%) and other vehicles (17.9%) accounting for the rest.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES



Note: Break in trend series between June and July 2000.
Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, cat. no. 9314.0.55.001.

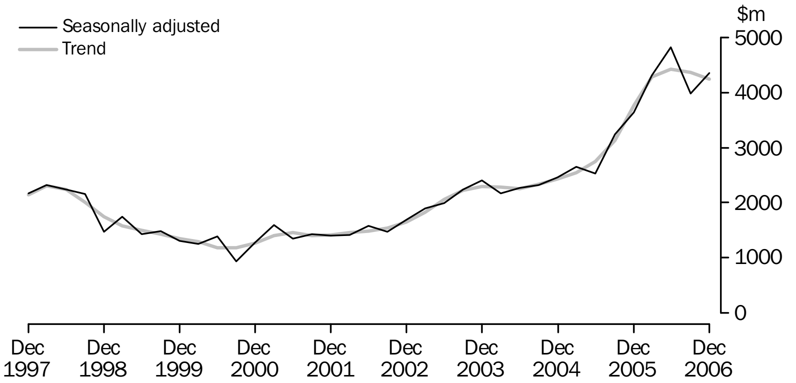
Over the three months to February 2007, Western Australia's new motor vehicle sales rose by 2.7% (796 vehicles) to 29,791 vehicles in trend terms, compared to the previous three month period. Sports utility vehicles recorded the largest increase over this period, rising by 313 vehicles (5.3%), while strong gains were also recorded for passenger vehicles (up 301 vehicles or 1.8%) and other vehicles (up 182 vehicles or 2.8%). Other vehicles comprise utilities, vans, trucks and buses.

INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Private new capital expenditure

After peaking at $4,423 million in the June quarter 2006, business investment in Western Australia declined for the second successive quarter in December 2006, falling 2.9% or $128 million in trend chain volume terms. The decline was almost equally shared between falling investment on buildings and structures (down $68 million or 2.4%) and equipment, plant and machinery (down $61 million or 4.1%).

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Chain volume measures



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia, cat. no. 5625.0.

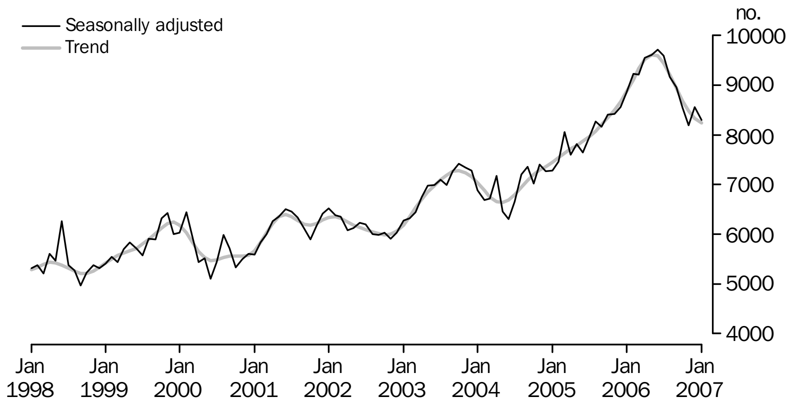
In seasonally adjusted chain volume terms, after falling 17.6% ($846 million) to $3,974 million in the September quarter 2006, business investment in Western Australia recovered to $4,346 million (up 9.4% or $372 million) in the December quarter 2006. An industry breakdown of state private new capital expenditure is only available in original current price terms, and as a result, does not aggregate exactly to seasonally adjusted totals. However, much of the December quarter investment growth can be attributed to the mining industry, increasing $698 million or 24.5%, as well as significant contributions from other selected industries (including retail trade, property and business services and construction) (up $148 million or 14.9%) and manufacturing (up $94 million or 33.2%).

Housing finance commitments

The number of dwellings financed for owner occupation in Western Australia has continued to decline in each of the last eight months, from 9,616 commitments in May 2006 to 8,235 commitments in January 2007 in trend terms. Despite the fall, the rate of decline has slowed over the last four months, from –3.0% (–273 commitments) in September 2006 to –1.2% (–101 commitments) in January 2007.

Housing finance commitments continued

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Number of dwellings financed



Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

Between May 2006 and January 2007, in original terms, the number of dwellings financed (owner occupation) by non-first home buyers fell by 2,982 (31.6%) or an average of 373 (3.9%) per month, while the number financed by first home buyers decreased by 521 (34.6%) or a monthly average of 65 (4.3%). In January 2007, there were 6,465 dwellings financed by non-first home buyers and 983 dwellings financed by first home buyers.

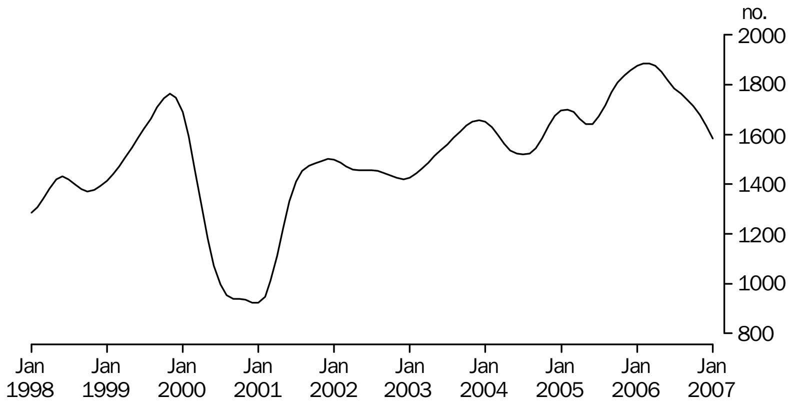
In trend terms, the total value of housing finance (owner occupation) in Western Australia fell in each month between August 2006 and January 2007 (a six month period). The value of housing finance peaked at $2,012 million in July 2006 and declined to $1,809 million in January 2007.

CONSTRUCTION

Building approvals

The number of house approvals in Western Australia has fallen for eleven consecutive months, from 1,886 in February 2006 to 1,584 in January 2007 in trend terms — down 16.0% or 302 approvals. Over the last eleven months, house approvals have dropped by an average monthly rate of 1.6%, with the rate of deceleration increasing from –1.2% (–22 approvals) in September 2006 to –3.1 (–50 approvals) in January 2007. On a more positive note, the number of approvals for other dwellings has increased in each of the last four months in Western Australia, from 458 in September 2006 to 493 in January 2007 — up 7.6% or 35 approvals. Other dwellings include semi-detached houses or townhouses, flats, units and apartments.

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS APPROVED, Houses: **Trend**



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

Building approvals continued

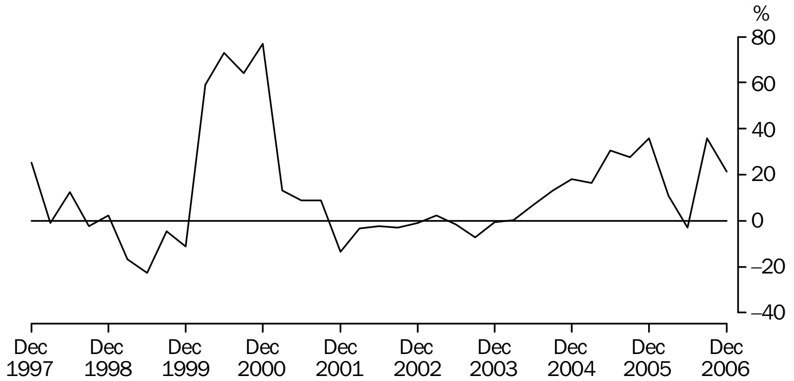
In the three months to January 2007, the number of new house approvals in Western Australia fell by 12.9% or 698 approvals, from the previous three month period. This decline coincided with a 9.6% or $117 million fall in the total value of new house approvals over the same period.

TRADE

Balance of trade

Western Australia's trade surplus rose by 21.4% ($1,748 million) to $9,919 million through the year to December quarter 2006, following a strong rise in the previous period of 35.7% ($2,613 million) through the year to September quarter 2006.

VALUE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S TRADE SURPLUS, Change from same quarter previous year



Source: ABS data available on request, International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia, cat. no. 5368.0.

Growth in Western Australia's trade surplus through the year to December quarter 2006 was mainly driven by larger trade surpluses with China (up $920 million) and India (up $752 million), as well as with Singapore (up $301 million) and Finland (up $293 million). A much lower trade surplus was, however, recorded with the United Kingdom (down $418 million), while the state's trade deficit worsened with the United States (up $155 million) and Germany (up $144 million).

Exports

The value of exports from Western Australia rose by 26.4% ($3,242 million) to $15,500 million through the year to December quarter 2006. The major commodities driving the growth in exports were non-monetary gold (up $846 million or 54.3%), combined confidential items (up $676 million or 34.0%), iron ore and concentrates (up $630 million or 18.7%), crude petroleum oils (up $336 million or 23.7%), nickel (up $209 million or 140.6%) and nickel ores and concentrates (up $140 million or 55.4%). The major detractors from exports growth over the period were wheat (down $29 million or 6.6%) and pigments, paints, varnishes and related materials (down $20 million or 17.4%).

Imports

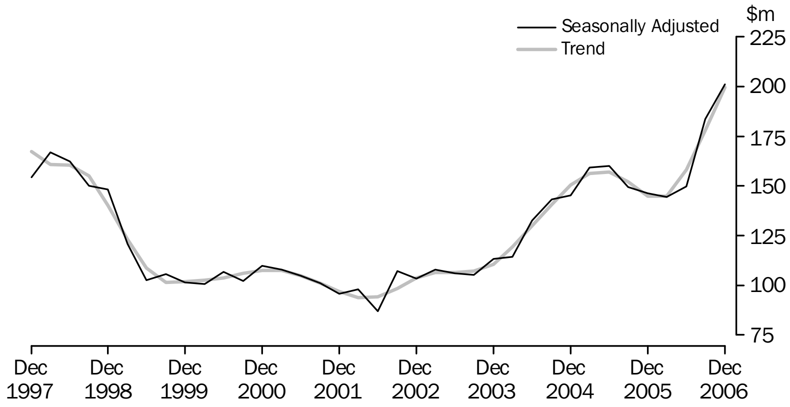
The value of imports into Western Australia increased by 36.5% ($1,494 million) to $5,581 million through the year to December 2006. The major commodities driving the growth in imports were non-monetary gold (up $610 million or 100.2%), civil engineering and contractors' plant and equipment (up $92 million or 76.4%), passenger motor vehicles (up $82 million or 26.1%) and motor vehicles for transporting goods and specialised vehicles (up $65 million or 40.5%). The major commodities recording declines in imports over the period were fertilizers (down $59 million or 94.2%) and crude petroleum oils (down $56 million or 11.5%).

MINING

Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure

Expenditure on mineral exploration in Western Australia rose by 12.2% ($22 million) to $200 million in the December quarter 2006 in trend terms. This rise followed strong growth in the previous two quarters of 9.1% ($13 million) and 12.5% ($20 million) in the June and September quarters 2006 respectively.

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Total minerals



Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, cat. no. 8412.0.

Mineral exploration expenditure in original terms rose by 37.5% ($59 million) to $217 million in Western Australia through the year to December quarter 2006. All of the major minerals showed strong increases over this period, with the highlights being iron ore (up $30 million or 71.5%), gold (up $17 million or 27.3%), silver-lead-zinc (up $4 million or 100.0%) and copper (up $3 million or 118.2%). Furthermore, petroleum exploration expenditure more than doubled in Western Australia through the year to December quarter 2006, increasing by 126.5% ($193 million) to $346 million in original terms.

Mineral and energy production

Production increased in most of Western Australia's major mineral and energy commodities through the year to December quarter 2006. The largest increases were in the production of zinc (up 118.2%) and diamonds (up 24.7%), while production fell for gold (down 4.7%), nickel (down 3.8%) and coal (down 0.8%) over the period.

TOURISM

Short-term arrivals on holiday

The number of overseas holidaymakers arriving in Western Australia rose by 7.0% (5,722) in the December quarter 2006 compared to the same period of 2005. The largest increase by far was from the United Kingdom and Ireland, with 5,434 (23.2%) more holidaymakers arriving than a year ago — coinciding with the 2006 Ashes Test Series in cricket. The next largest rises were from continental Europe (up 789 or 6.7%) and South Africa (up 445 or 30.8%). Partially offsetting these increases were significantly less holidaymakers from Singapore (down 1,093 or 7.4%), Malaysia (down 652 or 9.2%) and Hong Kong (down 264 or 14.0%).

Short-term departures on holiday

The number of Western Australians holidaying overseas rose by 18.8% (13,758) in the December quarter 2006 compared to the corresponding quarter of 2005. Destinations recording the largest increases were some of the state's closest neighbours: Thailand (up 4,108 or 44.0%), Indonesia (up 3,468 or 27.4%) and New Zealand (up 2,452 or 37.9%). There were, however, less Western Australians holidaying in the United States (down 544 or 12.9%) and Singapore (down 126 or 1.6%).

LABOUR MARKET

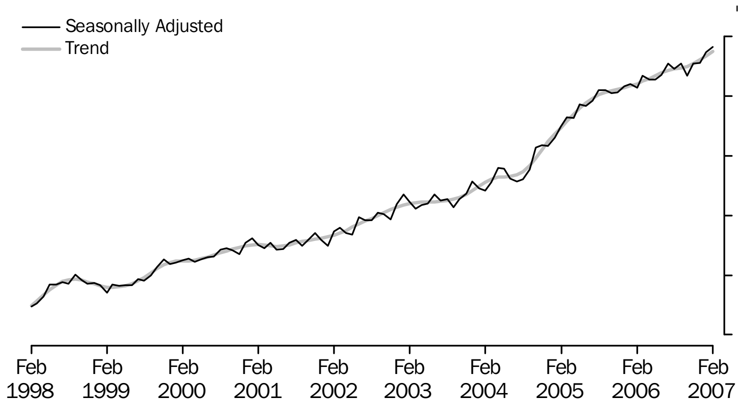
Job vacancies

Western Australia's job vacancies (original) rose for the fourth successive quarter in November 2006, increasing by 5.8% (1,300) to 23,900 vacancies. This extended period of growth has meant there are now 51.0% (8,100) more vacancies than in the November quarter 2005. Nearly all of the rise over the last year has been due to private sector vacancies increasing by 55.3% (8,000), while public sector vacancies have risen by 4.3% (100). Given the growth in job vacancies, employment in Western Australia can be expected to rise in early 2007, if the growing demand for workers can be adequately matched by the labour supply.

Employment

Full-time employment in Western Australia rose by 0.7% (5,100 persons) to 773,100 persons in the three months to February 2007 in trend terms. Most of this rise was in female full-time employment, rising by 3,900 persons (1.6%), and an increase of 1,200 (0.2%) full-time employed males. An estimate of part-time employment in Western Australia showed that female part-time employment rose by 4,800 persons (2.1%) in the three months to February 2007, while male part-time employment fell slightly by 100 persons. Overall, employment in Western Australia increased by 0.9% (9,900 persons) to 1,087,200 persons in the three months to February 2007.

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Total



Source: Labour Force Australia, Spreadsheets, cat. no. 6202.0.55.001.

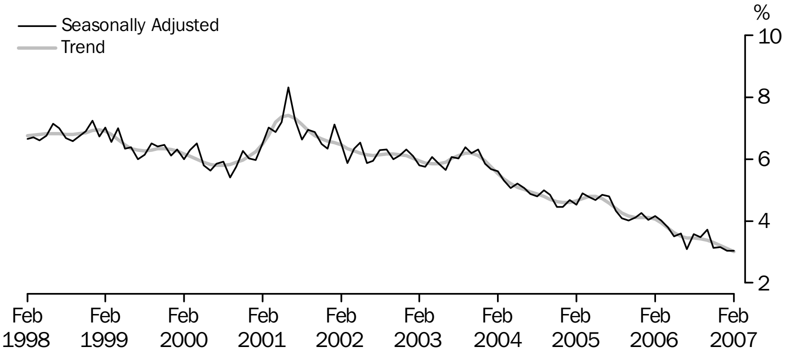
The main industries driving employment growth in Western Australia through the year to February 2007 were education (up 8,000 persons or 12.7%), government administration and defence (up 6,500 persons or 13.7%) and property and business services (up 6,500 persons or 5.2%). The major occupations driving state employment growth over the same period were intermediate clerical, sales and service workers (up 15,800 persons or 9.3%) and professionals (up 11,900 persons or 6.4%).

Unemployment

The number of unemployed persons (trend) in Western Australia fell by 8.4% (3,100 persons) to 33,800 persons in the three months to February 2007. This fall was mainly driven by fewer unemployed females, declining by 2,900 persons (15.6%), while male unemployment fell by only 200 persons. With the total number of unemployed persons declining in the state, the unemployment rate for Western Australia fell from 3.3% in November 2006 to 3.0% in February 2007 in trend terms. Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.6% over the same period.

Unemployment continued

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



(a) Break in time series for trend at April 2001. See the Explanatory Notes in the publication: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

Source: Labour Force Australia, Spreadsheets, cat. no. 6202.0.55.001.

Participation

Participation of people in Western Australia's labour force was steady at 67.3% of the state's civilian population (aged 15 years and over) between November 2006 and February 2007. The participation rate for Australia was also steady over the period at 64.8%.

POPULATION

Estimated resident population

The preliminary estimated resident population for Western Australia was 2,061,477 in the September quarter 2006, an increase of 10,593 persons or 0.52% from the June quarter 2006. The percentage rise in population of 0.52% was the highest across the nation, ahead of the Northern Territory (up 0.51%) and Queensland (up 0.42%), and well above national population growth of 0.33%. In the September quarter 2006, Western Australia recorded 7,070 births and 2,948 deaths, a natural increase of 4,122 persons. Net overseas migration was a gain of 5,582 persons, while net interstate migration also recorded a gain of 889 persons.

SOCIAL TRENDS

Families and households

MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES

In 2005, 11,100 marriages were registered in Western Australia, representing an increase of 500 (4.9%) from 2004. Western Australia was the only state or territory to record an increase in registered marriages. The crude marriage rate (the number of marriages per 1,000 of the estimated resident population) for Western Australia also increased from 5.4 in 2004 to 5.5 in 2005. However, this remained lower than the rate in 1995 (6.0). For almost two thirds (65.8%) of marriages in Western Australia, both partners were marrying for the first time. This compares to 68.0% nationally. The median age at first marriage for both males and females continues to increase in Western Australia. In 2005, the median age was 30.3 years for men and 28.3 years for women. In 1995, the respective median ages at first marriage were 27.5 and 25.5 years.

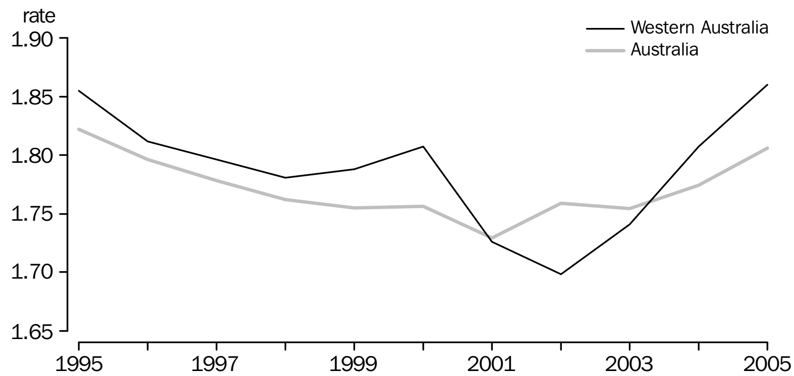
In Western Australia, there were 5,300 divorces in 2005. The crude divorce rate (the number of divorces per 1,000 of the estimated resident population) declined from 2.9 in 1995 to 2.6 in 2005. The median duration between marriage and divorce has increased from 8.8 years in 1995 to 9.5 years in 2005. This compares to 8.8 years nationally in 2005.

Families and households continued

FERTILITY

There were 26,300 births registered in Western Australia in 2005. This was 3.8% higher than in 2004 (25,300 births) and 8.2% higher than in 2003 (24,300 births). The total fertility rate (TFR) represents the number of babies that a woman could expect to bear during her reproductive lifetime based on current age-specific fertility trends. The TFR in Western Australia has generally decreased over a long period falling to a low of 1.70 in 2002. Since then, however, it has increased to some extent, reaching 1.81 in 2004 and 1.86 in 2005. Apart from a short period between 2001 and 2003 the TFR for Western Australia has been higher than for Australia over the past decade.

TOTAL FERTILITY RATE(a)



(a) Births per woman.
Source: Births, Australia, cat. no. 3301.0.

A significant trend over many years has been the increase in births to mothers aged 35 years and over. In Western Australia, the proportion increased from 12.8% in 1995 to 19.7% in 2005. There has been little change in the proportion of births to mothers aged under 20 over the same period (6.0% in 1995 and 5.5% in 2005).

FAMILIES AND WORK

In June 2006, 11.6% of children under 15 (47,200) in Western Australia were living in families where no parent was employed, decreasing from 15.7% in June 1996. Over the same period the proportion of couple families with neither parent employed fell from 7.1% to 3.5%. More than half (57.1%) of couple families with children aged under 15 in Western Australia had both parents employed. The proportion of couple families where this is the case has increased steadily from 50.3% in 1996. The proportion of lone parent families where the parent is employed increased from 47.5% to 57.5% over the same period.

FEATURE ARTICLE 1

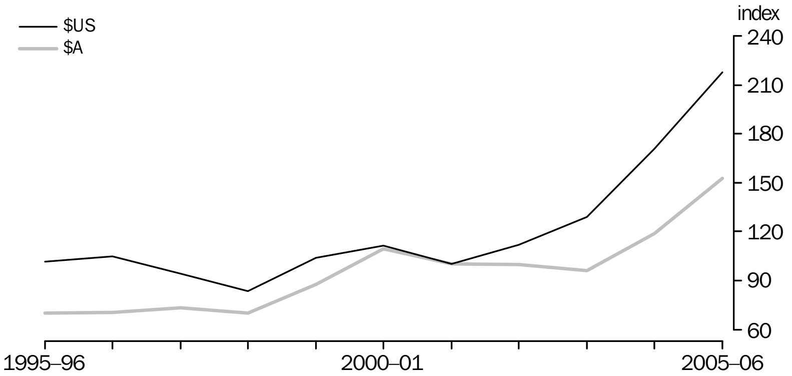
THE RESOURCES INDUSTRY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA 2001–02 TO 2005–06

INTRODUCTION

The resources industry is very important to the economic development of Western Australia, contributing more than one quarter of the state's total production per year and more than half of its exports. At the end of the 1990s, the resources industry was under considerable pressure from falling world mineral and energy prices, as the global economy slowed, particularly in the US and Japan. Many of the state's mining operations were forced to reduce or cease production due to declining commodity prices, while investment expenditure slowed considerably as business expectations diminished.

However, in recent years, rapid industrial growth and infrastructure development in China have boosted world prices for mineral and energy resources to record levels, especially prices of Western Australia's major exports of iron and copper ore, nickel, alumina and liquefied natural gas (LNG). This, in turn, has generated record growth in resource industry investment, as the industry has sought to increase production capacity to secure lucrative long-term supply contracts and take advantage of historically high prices.

NON-RURAL COMMODITY PRICE INDEX, Western Australia



Base of index: 2001–02 = 100.0

Source: Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance

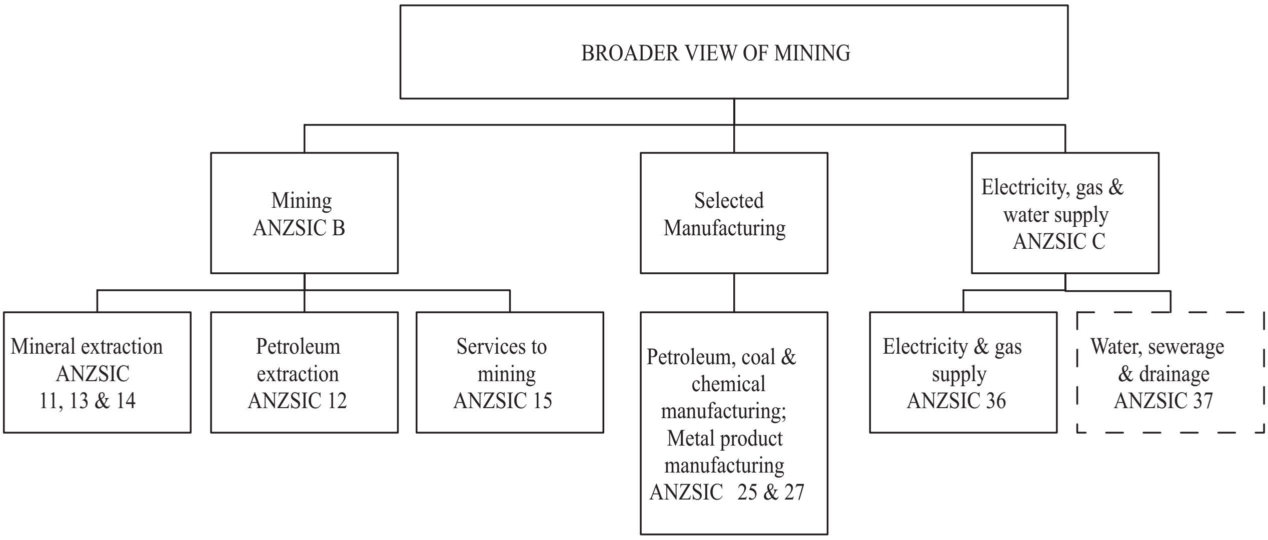
This article will track the performance of Western Australia's resources industry between 2001–02 and 2005–06 (or the latest year available), during a period of high commodity prices and investment growth. It follows on from a previous analysis of the resources industry, published in the June 2002 edition of Western Australian Statistical Indicators, which combined mining industry activity with downstream mineral processing activity (usually assigned to the manufacturing industry), to present a more complete picture of Western Australia's resources industry.

DEFINING THE BROADER VIEW OF MINING — THE "RESOURCES INDUSTRY"

The broader view of the mining industry presented in the 2002 feature article 'The resources industry in Western Australia', defined the industry using the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification (ANZSIC). It incorporated the 'mining' ANZSIC Division, 'manufacturing' ANZSIC Classes relevant to basic mineral processing, and the 'electricity and gas supply' ANZSIC Subdivision. Due to changes in the ABS business register, following the introduction of the new tax system in 2000, it is no longer possible to obtain the detailed mining-related manufacturing data required to

DEFINING THE BROADER VIEW OF MINING — THE "RESOURCES INDUSTRY" *continued*

reproduce this view of Western Australia's resources industry. However, an alternative view can be produced using data available at the broader ANZSIC Subdivision level for mining-related manufacturing activity (as outlined in the flow diagram below).



This alternative approach still captures all of the activity defined under the previous resources industry view, however it also captures the activities of chemical manufacturing and metal product manufacturing (other than refining and smelting of basic minerals), such as iron and steel manufacturing, structural metal products, sheet metal products and fabricated metal products. Data sourced from the ABS Labour Force Survey however, are presented at the more detailed ANZSIC Group level. Additionally, confidentiality restrictions prevent the release of some state data for the ANZSIC Subdivision of electricity and gas supply, and where this is the case, data relating to electricity and gas supply is combined with water supply, sewerage and drainage services.

It should be noted that there are other industries active in the extraction and handling of mineral and energy resources, such as the construction and transport industries. However, there are practical difficulties in isolating the mining-related activities of these industries, including the additional burden that would be placed on businesses in providing the breakdown.

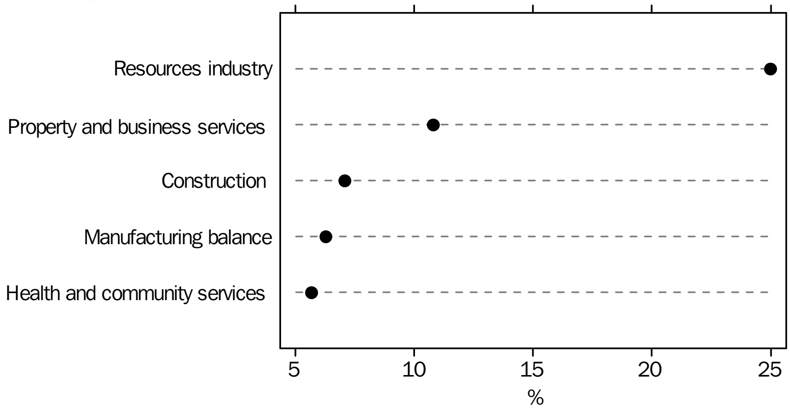
VALUING THE RESOURCES INDUSTRY

CONTRIBUTION TO GROSS STATE PRODUCT

The resources industry is by far the largest contributor to the Western Australian economy, ahead of the industries of property and business services, and construction. From 2001–02 to 2005–06, the resources industry contributed an estimated annual average of 26.7% ($25,926 million) to Gross State Product (GSP). This was up from an annual average of 23.5% ($15,698 million) in the period between 1996–97 and 2000–01. Most of the increase occurred in the last three years, with the contribution of the resources industry to GSP rising from 22.5% ($20,787million) in 2003–04 to 31.7% ($37,734 million) in 2005–06.

CONTRIBUTION TO GROSS STATE PRODUCT continued

ESTIMATED AVERAGE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO GSP, By industry—2001–02 TO 2005–06



Source: *Australian National Accounts: State Accounts*, cat. no. 5220.0.

INDUSTRY VALUE ADDED

Industry value added is an estimate of the difference between the value of output for an industry and the purchases of materials and selected expenses incurred in the production of that output. Since 2001–02, value added by the resources industry increased by 15.8% ($3,339 million) to $24,428 million in 2004–05. Resources industry value added increased in most of the years during this period, with the exception of 2003–04. In that year, the resources industry recorded a 2.4% ($541 million) fall in value added, as the strong Australian dollar lead to weaker export earnings. A surge in export prices in the following year, particularly for iron ore, resulted in a 10.1% ($2,248 million) increase in resource industry value added.

INDUSTRY VALUE ADDED, Resources industry—Western Australia

		2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
ANZSIC	Industry	$m	$m	$m	$m
B	Mining(a)	15 240	17 018	16 360	18 175
25	Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing	1 124	1 112	1 223	1 521
27	Metal product manufacturing	2 860	2 701	2 596	2 568
D	Electricity, gas and water supply	1 865	1 890	2 001	2 164
	Total	**21 089**	**22 721**	**22 180**	**24 428**

(a) Excludes ANZSIC 15 Services to mining.

Source: *Mining Operations, Australia,* cat. no. 8415.0; *Manufacturing Industry, Australia,* cat. no. 8221.0; *Electricity, Gas, Water and Sewerage Operations, Australia,* cat. no. 8226.0.

SALES AND SERVICE INCOME

Sales and service income comprises income generated by a business from the sale of goods and services, and rent, leasing and hiring. Sales and service income for the resources industry rose by 36.9% ($13,690 million) from 2001–02 to 2004–05. Mining activity accounted for half of the increase ($7,063 million). In annual average terms, the fastest growth came from metal product manufacturing, which grew by 17.4% per year, followed by mining (9.8%) and petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing (5.4%).

SALES AND SERVICE INCOME, Resources industry(a)—Western Australia

ANZSIC	Industry	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
		$m	$m	$m	$m
B	Mining(b)	21 719	24 390	24 432	28 782
25	Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing	6 399	6 468	6 929	7 484
27	Metal product manufacturing	8 961	12 951	13 743	14 503
	Total	**37 079**	**43 809**	**45 104**	**50 769**

(a) Data on ANZSIC D Electricity, gas and water supply is not for publication and does not appear in the table or the total.
(b) Excludes ANZSIC 15 Services to mining.

Source: *Mining Operations, Australia,* cat. no. 8415.0; *Manufacturing Industry, Australia,* cat. no. 8221.0; *Electricity, Gas, Water and Sewerage Operations, Australia,* cat. no. 8226.0.

OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE TAX

Operating Profit BeforeTax is defined as the profit made by a business before extraordinary items are brought to account and prior to the deduction of income tax and appropriations to owners (eg. dividends). Resource industry profits accounted for over one third (35.0%) of total profits made by Western Australian industries in 2004–05 (excluding agriculture, forestry and fishing, and finance and insurance). Profits in the resources industry rose by 71.0% between 2001–02 and 2004–05, with mining activities accounting for four fifths (83.0%) of the increase (up $5.7 billion or 95.6%). Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing (up $250 million or 58.9%) and electricity, gas and water supply (up $814 million or 33.2%) also recorded substantially higher profits over the period.

OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE TAX, Resources industry—Western Australia

ANZSIC	Industry	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
		$m	$m	$m	$m
B	Mining(a)	5 993	9 909	10 481	11 722
25	Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing	424	425	327	674
27	Metal product manufacturing	851	1 200	927	963
D	Electricity, gas and water supply	2 450	2 744	2 651	3 264
	Total	**9 719**	**14 278**	**14 386**	**16 622**

(a) Excludes ANZSIC 15 Services to mining

Source: ABS data availble on request, *Mining Operations, Australia,* cat. no. 8415.0; *Manufactuirng Industry, Australia,* cat. no. 8221.0; *Electricity, Gas, Water and Sewerage Operations, Australia,* cat. no. 8226.0.

ROYALTIES AND OTHER TAXES

As mineral and energy resources are owned by the community, state and federal governments levy a tax on mining companies in return for the right to explore for and extract these resources. These taxes are commonly referred to as royalties. In Western Australia, the state government receives royalty payments for all land-based minerals, as well as a portion of those royalties paid by the offshore oil and gas operations which are in the federal jurisdiction. The allocation of offshore jurisdictions between the states or territories and the Commonwealth was agreed to in the 1979 Offshore Constitutional Settlement. The agreement assigned to the states and territories responsibility for minerals and petroleum projects within three nautical miles of the coast, while the

ROYALTIES AND OTHER TAXES continued

Commonwealth took responsibility for resource projects beyond the three nautical mile boundary.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ROYALTY RECEIPTS, By commodity

	2001–02	*2002–03*	*2003–04*	*2004–05*	*2005–06*
Commodity	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
Iron ore	276.1	286.7	293.7	380.3	679.6
Petroleum and gas(a)	428.3	488.6	416.3	549.7	678.8
Nickel(b)	49.3	60.0	76.8	93.4	86.7
Gold	79.8	85.4	79.5	72.9	81.6
Alumina	61.4	55.0	50.0	54.6	64.1
Diamonds	62.6	89.3	45.0	32.6	48.2
Minerals sands	25.9	26.7	26.2	26.8	30.8
Other	44.7	47.3	46.1	45.6	66.7
Total	**1 028.1**	**1 139.0**	**1 033.6**	**1 255.9**	**1 736.6**

(a) Includes North West Shelf royalties received by the Western Australian Government in the form of a Commonwealth Grant.
(b) Includes cobalt, palladium and platinum.
Source: Western Australian Department of Industry and Resources, *Mineral and Petroleum Statistics Digest 2005–06.*

Royalties from the resources industry contributed about one tenth of Western Australia's consolidated revenue between 2001–02 and 2005–06. Mining royalties as a component of state general government consolidated revenue varied from 8.0% ($1,034 million) in 2003–04 to 10.7% ($1,737 million) in 2005–06. In 2005–06, iron ore and petroleum each contributed 39.1% of total royalties, while nickel (5.0%) and gold (4.7%) were the other major contributors.

Iron ore mining generated the largest increase in royalty revenue in the last two years, reflecting an increase in iron ore production and a doubling of iron ore export prices over the period. Royalty revenue from iron ore extraction rose from $294 million in 2003–04 to $680 million in 2005–06 (up $386 million or 131.4%), with most of the growth occurring in 2005–06 (up $299 million or 78.7%). Petroleum extraction added a further $251 million (58.5%) to royalty revenue between 2001–02 and 2005–06. Diamond mining was the only major mineral to record a decline in royalties, down $14 million (23.0%) over the five years.

The Australian Government also levies a number of taxes and royalties on the petroleum and gas extraction industry operating off the coast of Western Australia. Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) is levied on profits from the extraction of crude oil and gas in Australian Government waters, however, it is not applied to value added projects such as LNG from the North West Shelf project. Instead, the Australian Government Royalty is levied on the value of petroleum and gas production on the North West Shelf. About two thirds of the total value of the royalty is paid back to the Western Australian Government by the Commonwealth each year, a sum of $609 million in 2005–06.

Crude oil excise applies to crude oil extracted from waters off the Western Australian coast, onshore areas, and the North West Shelf project area in Australian waters. In 2005–06, the value of this excise was $291 million. The federal government has waived the Crude Oil Excise on production from Barrow Island, instead receiving 75% of

ROYALTIES AND OTHER TAXES *continued*

Resource Rent Royalty (RRR) levied by the state government — a figure worth $36 million in 2005–06. The Commonwealth also receives a share of certain Western Australian internal waters royalties from projects pre-dating the Offshore Constitutional Settlement, worth $20 million in the latest year. The value of royalties and taxes received by the Australian Government is summarised in the table below. It includes an estimate of the PRRT received from projects in Commonwealth waters off the Western Australian coast.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PETROLEUM AND GAS ROYALTIES AND TAXES, Sourced in Western Australia

	2001–02	*2002–03*	*2003–04*	*2004–05*	*2005–06*
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
Crude Oil Excise	354	368	313	618	291
Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT)(a)	544	686	467	584	804
Internal Waters Royalty	15	15	16	18	20
Resource Rent Royalty (RRR) - Barrow Island	34	42	23	29	36
North West Shelf Royalty(b)	205	236	200	264	317
Total	**1 152**	**1 347**	**1 019**	**1 513**	**1 468**

(a) Estimated based on 40% of total Australian PRRT.
(b) Excludes North West Shelf Royalty remitted to the Western Australian Government.
Source: Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance; Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources.

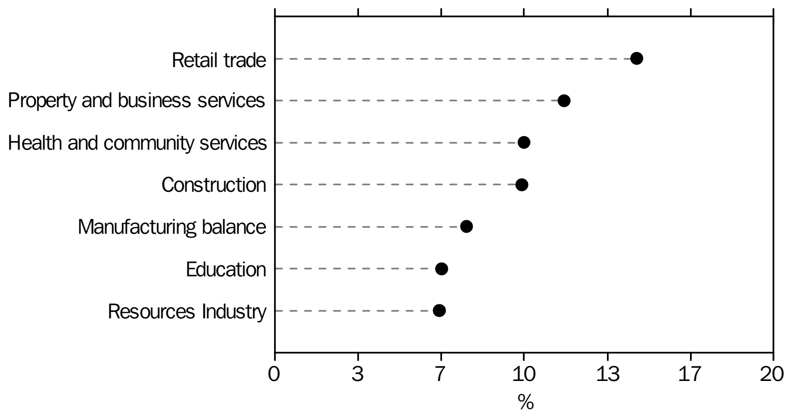
LABOUR

NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS

Despite the enormous contribution the resources industry makes to the Western Australian economy in terms of value added, investment and export revenue, it only ranks as the states seventh largest employer from a total of 17 industries. In 2005–06, 69,650 persons were employed in Western Australia's resources industry, 6.6% of total employment in the state. Nationally, the resources industry employed only 2.7% of Australia's working people.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS *continued*

INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL EMPLOYMENT, Western Australia—2005–06



Source: Labour Force Survey, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS continued

The largest employer in Western Australia's resources industry was metal ore mining, which employed 25,100 persons in 2005–06, accounting for 36.0% of all jobs in the resources industry. It was followed by services to mining with 10,300 persons or 14.8% of total resource industry employment, and basic non-ferrous metal manufacturing with 8,100 persons employed or a 11.6% share of resource industry employment in 2005–06.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS, Resources industry—Western Australia

ANZSIC	Industry	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
		'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
11	Coal mining	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.9	1.6
12	Oil and gas extraction	1.4	1.6	2.6	2.8	4.5
13	Metal ore mining	19.4	22.1	22.3	20.0	25.1
14	Other mining	2.6	2.0	2.9	3.6	3.3
15	Services to mining	7.5	7.8	9.4	9.3	10.3
	Mining uncategorised(a)	0.4	0.2	0.5	5.6	5.5
251	Petroleum refining	1.7	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.8
271	Iron and steel manufacturing	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.8	4.6
272	Basic non-ferrous metal manufacturing	3.5	6.6	4.5	6.1	8.1
36	Electricity and gas supply	3.4	4.3	3.9	6.2	5.9
	Total	**43.4**	**49.0**	**50.3**	**58.0**	**69.7**

(a) Activities which are too broad to be represented within a specific mining classification.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force Survey, Australia,* cat. no. 6202.0.

Strong employment growth in the resources industry in recent years has been underpinned by increased investment and production activity, as the industry has responded to accelerating international demand for minerals and energy. Overall, employment in the resources industry grew by 26,225 persons (60.4%) between 2001–02 and 2005–06, with almost half of those jobs created in the last year (11,700 persons or 44.6%). The metal ore mining industry accounted for 5,700 (29.4%) new jobs over the period, while basic non-ferrous metal manufacturing also showed strong growth, with employment increasing by 4,600 persons or 131.4%. The fastest growth in employment was in oil and gas extraction, which gained 3,100 persons, a 221.4% increase between 2001–02 and 2005–06. The only industry to record a decline in the number of employed persons over the period was petroleum refining, falling from 1,700 persons in 2001–02 to 800 persons in 2005–06.

HOURS WORKED

FULL-TIME WORKERS

Full-time employment in Western Australia's resources industry grew by 55.7% (23,200) to 64,825 persons between 2001–02 and 2005–06, which contributed to a 56.7% rise in total weekly hours worked over the same period. With the number of full-time employed persons increasing by less than the total hours worked, the average hours worked by full-time workers in the resources industry rose marginally from 45.2 per week in 2001–02 to 45.5 per week in 2005–06. This was in line with rising production and investment levels, as well as difficulties in filling skilled positions in the industry.

HOURS WORKED continued

PART-TIME WORKERS

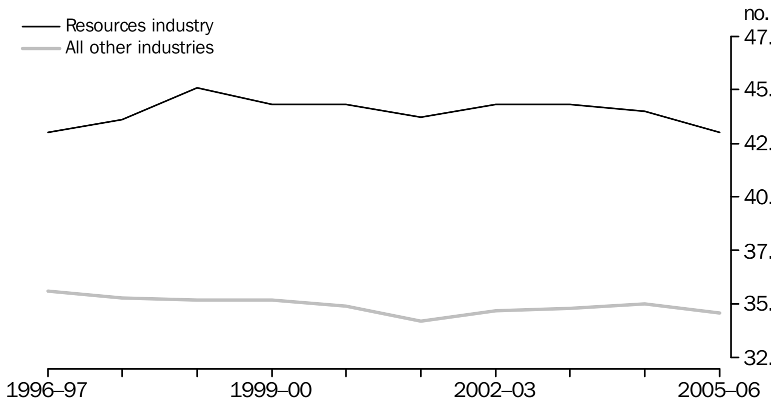
Growth in part-time employment was strong in Western Australia's resources industry between 2001–02 and 2005–06, rising by almost three times the rate of full-time employment — up 156.0% (2,925) to 4,800 persons. However, although total weekly hours worked by part-time workers almost doubled over the same period (up 97.8%), it was still far short of the rise in part-time employment, and as a consequence, average weekly hours worked by part-time workers fell dramatically, from 19.7 per week in 2001–02 to 15.3 per week in 2005–06.

TOTAL WORKERS

When combining the hours worked by full-time and part-time workers in the resources industry, average weekly hours worked fell slightly, from 44.1 hours in 2001–02 to 43.4 hours in 2005–06. This decline was the result of the large rise in the proportion of part time workers in the resources industry, increasing from 4.3% to 6.9%, mostly in 2005–06. In that year, part-time workers more than doubled from 2,275 to 4,800 (111.0%), while full-time employment rose by only 16.7% from 55,550 to 64,825 persons.

The slight fall in average weekly hours worked in the resources industry was in contrast to a small rise in average weekly hours worked in all other Western Australian industries, from 34.2 in 2001–02 to 34.6 in 2005–06. Despite this, people in the resources industry still worked far greater average weekly hours than in other Western Australian industries. In each year between 2001–02 and 2004–05, average weekly hours worked in the resources industry remained above 43 hours per week, while across all other industries they worked around 35 hours per week.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED, Total workers—Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force Survey, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

Mining activities recorded the highest average weekly hours worked in the resources industry. Metal ore mining, 47.4 hours, had the longest working week in 2005–06. When full-time employment is considered in isolation, the average weekly hours recorded for metal ore mining was 50.5 hours in 2005–06. The rest of the mining sector ranged from a high of 46.3 hours per week in uncategorised mining to a low of 41.6 hours per week in oil and gas extraction.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED, Resources industry—Western Australia

ANZSIC	Industry	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
		no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
11	Coal mining	45.3	40.8	43.1	35.8	42.0
12	Oil and gas extraction	40.0	45.2	41.3	51.1	41.6
13	Metal ore mining	46.9	47.8	46.3	47.7	47.4
14	Other mining	42.3	37.4	48.4	48.0	45.6
15	Services to mining	43.7	46.2	46.3	44.9	44.1
	Mining uncategorised(a)	40.9	64.6	62.9	46.6	46.3
251	Petroleum refining	44.1	43.7	39.0	34.9	32.4
271	Iron and steel manufacturing	39.7	44.4	42.2	40.1	39.3
272	Basic non-ferrous metal manufacturing	40.9	36.9	39.1	35.7	36.1
36	Electricity and gas supply	39.1	42.3	38.5	38.4	38.1
	Total	**44.1**	**44.8**	**44.7**	**44.4**	**43.4**

(a) Activities which are too broad to be represented within a specific mining classification.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force Survey, Australia,* cat. no. 6202.0.

HOURS WORKED continued

TOTAL WORKERS *continued*

The average weekly hours worked by petroleum refining was the shortest working week in the resources industry at 32.4 hours in 2005–06, while basic non-ferrous metal manufacturing had the second lowest average working week of 36.1 hours.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF FULL-TIME ADULTS

Average weekly earnings of full-time adults employed in Western Australia's resources industry rose by $277 (23.2%) between 2001–02 and 2005–06. This rise was greater in dollar terms than the state average increase of $204 (23.9%). As a result, resource industry average weekly earnings were $413 (39.0%) higher than state average earnings in 2005–06, $1,473 compared to $1,060.

All of the sectors of Western Australia's resources industry recorded average weekly ordinary time earnings above the state average of $1,060 in 2005–06. Within the industry, the highest earnings were in oil and gas extraction at $2,371 per week, while the lowest earnings were in petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing at $1,205 per week.

AVERAGE WEEKLY ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS, Full-time adults—Western Australia

ANZSIC	Industry	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
		$	$	$	$	$
11	Coal mining	1 502.75	1 528.00	1 592.90	1 689.43	1 692.90
12	Oil and gas extraction	2 164.83	2 008.65	2 123.33	2 258.20	2 371.30
13	Metal ore mining	1 443.43	1 531.70	1 623.58	1 636.38	1 701.73
14	Other mining	1 028.58	1 281.83	1 345.75	1 484.43	1 622.50
15	Services to mining	1 042.85	1 216.68	1 333.10	1 417.68	1 409.38
25	Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing	908.13	953.40	1 206.80	1 242.18	1 204.70
27	Metal product manufacturing	888.75	944.30	1 016.63	1 125.38	1 298.63
36	Electricity and gas supply	1 070.80	1 122.80	1 190.93	1 239.40	1 337.73
	Total resources industry	*1 195.29*	*1 253.46*	*1 326.70*	*1 387.33*	*1 472.71*
	All Industries	**855.43**	**893.65**	**942.95**	**999.18**	**1 059.70**

Source: ABS data available on request, *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia,* cat. no. 6302.0.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF FULL-TIME ADULTS continued

The largest increases in average weekly earnings within the resources industry were recorded by other mining, which grew by 57.7% ($594) to $1,622 between 2001–02 and 2005–06, followed by metal product manufacturing with 46.1% ($410) to $1,299. Other mining mainly comprises the activities of gravel and sand quarrying and other construction material mining.

METHODS OF SETTING PAY

Average hourly cash earnings were much higher in Western Australia's resources industry than across the rest of state economy. The resources industry recorded average hourly cash earnings for non-managerial employees of $34.90 in May 2006, compared to the state average of $26.50. Average hourly cash earnings in the resource industry ranged from a low of $16.00 for employees whose pay was determined by awards to a high of $37.90 for those employees subject to registered individual agreements. The hourly earnings for resource industry employees on awards was lower than the state average of $17.20 in May 2006. For registered individual agreements, resource industry average hourly earnings were higher than the state average of $33.40.

METHODS OF SETTING PAY, Average cash earnings of non-managerial employees(a)—Western Australia

	RESOURCES INDUSTRY			ALL INDUSTRIES		
	Average weekly total cash earnings	*Average weekly hours paid for*	*Average hourly cash earnings*	*Average weekly total cash earnings*	*Average weekly hours paid for*	*Average hourly cash earnings*
	$	no.	$	$	no.	$
Award only	335.80	21.00	16.00	470.10	27.30	17.20
Registered collective agreements	1 543.10	44.20	34.90	848.00	30.90	27.40
Unregistered collective agreements	np	np	np	898.20	35.50	25.30
Registered individual agreements	1 719.50	45.40	37.90	1 255.80	37.60	33.40
Unregistered individual arrangements	1 423.40	43.50	32.70	945.40	35.40	26.70
All methods of setting pay	**1 516.30**	**43.50**	**34.90**	**869.30**	**32.80**	**26.50**

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
(a) Comprises regular wages and salaries in cash, including amounts salary sacrificed.
Source: ABS data available on request, *Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia,* cat. no. 6306.0.

Within the resources industry, the highest average hourly cash earnings for non-managerial employees were recorded in mining, with an average of $45.80 in May 2006. Under registered collective agreements, mining employees received an average hourly pay of $49.90, while those subject to individual arrangements received $46.00 under registered agreements and $45.40 under unregistered arrangements. Average hourly cash earnings in petroleum and metal product manufacturing were $40.20, and ranged between $18.50 for award based pay and $42.00 for registered collective agreements. The electricity, gas and water supply industry recorded average hourly cash earnings of $38.40 in May 2006. It should be noted that this analysis is based on the workplace relations environment prior to the introduction of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Act 2005.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

As well as the personal cost to individual workers, workplace injuries and diseases are costly to industry through lost production and compensation costs. The Western Australian Department of Consumer and Employment Protection monitors the incidence of workplace injuries and diseases through its Worksafe program. This analysis focusses on occurrences of workplace injury or disease that resulted in a fatality, permanent disability or time lost from work of at least one day or one shift.

In 2004–05, the resources industry in Western Australia reported 2,318 occurrences of lost time injuries or diseases. This represented 11.7% of the total incidents reported in Western Australia in that year. It was a slight improvement on 2002–03, when the resources industry accounted for 11.9% of lost time incidents in the state.

The frequency rate of lost time injuries or diseases, which is defined as the number of lost time injuries or disease incidents for each one million hours worked, shows a relatively high rate of injury or disease for many activities within the resources industry in Western Australia. Metal product manufacturing recorded the highest rate of lost time injuries or diseases in 2004–05 at 37.3 incidents per million hours worked — more than two and a half times the state average of 14.1 incidents per million hours worked. Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing (17.6), other mining (15.7) and services to mining (14.4) were the other industries to record frequency rates above the state average in 2004–05.

FREQUENCY RATE OF LOST TIME INJURIES AND DISEASES(a), Resources industry—Western Australia

ANZSIC	Industry	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
		no.	no.	no.
11	Coal mining	12.5	14.8	13.8
12	Oil and gas extraction	15.0	7.0	7.5
13	Metal ore mining	7.1	6.4	8.0
14	Other mining	22.0	18.9	15.7
15	Services to mining	15.4	10.7	14.4
25	Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing	13.4	17.2	17.6
27	Metal product manufacturing	33.8	35.4	37.3
36	Electricity and gas supply	5.4	6.3	4.1
	Western Australia	**13.6**	**13.6**	**14.1**

(a) Number of lost time injuries and diseases per one million hours worked.

Source: Western Australian Department of Consumer and Employment Protection.

Half of the sectors within Western Australia's resources industry recorded increases in the frequency rate of lost time injuries or diseases (per million hours worked) between 2002–03 and 2004–05, ranging from a rise of 0.9 incidents in metal ore mining to a rise of 4.2 incidents in petroleum, coal, chemical and associated product manufacturing. The sectors recording decreases in their frequency rate of lost time injuries or diseases, ranged from a decline of 1.0 incidents in services to mining to a decline of 7.5 incidents in oil and gas extraction.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Due to data limitations, the following analysis of education and training only relates to the mining component of the resources industry.

There have been mixed results in the participation of mining industry workers in education and training in recent times. The proportion of workers who completed work-related training in the mining industry dropped from 76.8% to 72.5% between 2001 and 2005. However, the number of workers completing training rose by 15.0% (3,640) to 27,840 workers. One of the reasons behind the falling proportion of people completing training may have been the rise in workers enrolled to study for an educational qualification, which increased from 11.4% (3,600 workers) to 13.8% (5,299 workers) over the period.

The total number of training hours undertaken by workers in the mining industry also fell, from 1,630,900 hours in 2001 to 899,100 hours in 2005, a drop of 44.9% or 731,800 hours. Despite the falling number of training hours, the number of work-related courses completed increased from 50,000 to 54,900 over the period.

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING, Mining—Western Australia

	2001		*2005*	
	%	no.	%	no.
Completed a work-related training course	76.8	24 200	72.5	27 840
Did not completed a work-related training course	23.2	7 300	27.5	10 560
Enrolled to study for educational qualification	11.4	3 600	13.8	5 299
Did not enrol to study for educational qualification	88.6	27 900	86.2	33 101
Total training hours	. .	1 630 900	. .	899 100
Work-related courses completed	. .	50 000	. .	54 900

. . not applicable
Source: Education and Training Experience, Australia, cat. no. 6278.0.

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

The three most prominent occupations in Western Australia's mining industry are intermediate production and transport workers, professionals, and tradespersons and related workers. In 2005–06, nearly two thirds of all mining workers were employed in one of these occupations: 24.6% (12,350) in intermediate production and transport workers, 22.9% (11,492) in professionals and 20.7% (10,402) in tradespersons and related workers.

Two of these occupations were also among the most rapidly growing occupations in the mining industry. Between 2001–02 and 2005–06, people employed as intermediate production and transport workers rose by 67.8% (4,989), while tradespersons and related workers rose by 70.9% (4,314). Growth in mining professionals ranked 5th largest, up by 20.5% (1,958).

In 2005–06, the mining industry in Western Australia employed 13.1% of the state's intermediate production and transport workers, 7.0% of its tradespersons and related workers, and 4.9% of its managers, administrators and professionals. These occupations have shown some of the largest increases in apprentice and trainee numbers in recent years.

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS continued

Among trades and related occupations, the number of persons commencing apprenticeships increased from 4,200 in 2001–02 to 8,700 in 2005–06. There was also 600 more people commencing apprenticeships and traineeships in managers, administrators and professionals. Commencements of apprenticeships and traineeships fell by 300 in intermediate production and transport between 2001–02 and 2005–06, although there was strong growth in 2005–06 of 500 persons.

More important to the immediate supply of skilled workers to the state economy, apprenticeship and traineeship completions have also risen solidly. Between 2001–02 and 2005–06, the number of people finishing their training rose by 1,100 in the occupation of intermediate production and transport workers. Completions also rose by 300 in tradespersons and related workers and by 200 in managers, administrators and professionals — increases were larger for these two occupations in 2005–06, rising by 400 and 300 people respectively.

APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES, By occupation—Western Australia

	2001–02	*2002–03*	*2003–04*	*2004–05*	*2005–06*
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
COMMENCEMENTS					
Managers, administrators and professionals	—	—	100	400	600
Associate professionals	600	500	500	600	700
Tradespersons and related workers	4 200	5 000	5 900	7 400	8 700
Intermediate production and transport workers	2 700	2 000	2 400	1 900	2 400
Labourers and related workers	2 100	2 500	2 500	2 500	2 500
Clerical, sales and service workers	4 700	5 600	6 600	7 200	6 500
COMPLETIONS					
Managers, administrators and professionals	100	—	—	—	300
Associate professionals	400	500	300	400	400
Tradespersons and related workers	2 900	2 900	2 900	2 800	3 200
Intermediate production and transport workers	200	300	1 400	1 700	1 300
Labourers and related workers	800	900	1 100	1 400	1 200
Clerical, sales and service workers	2 200	2 500	2 800	3 200	4 600

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

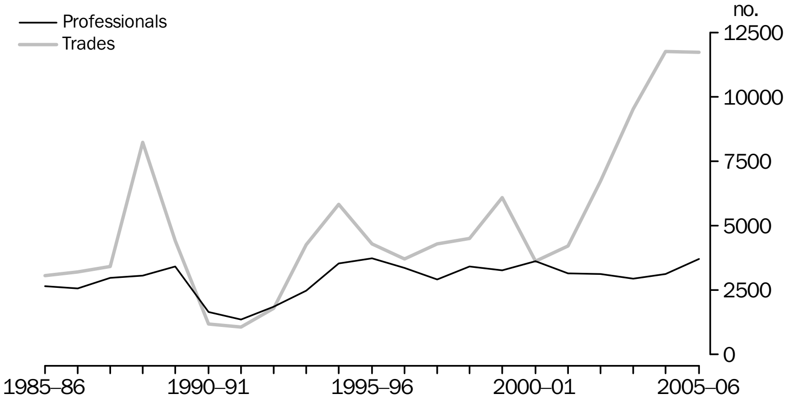
Source: National Centre for Vocational Education Research, *Australian Vocational Education and Training Statistics.*

SKILLED VACANCIES

Rapid growth in Western Australia's resources industry has increased the demand for skilled labour in the state. Although skilled vacancy counts are not available by industry, it is reasonable to conclude that the resources industry has felt the full effect of the current skills shortage. This is because much of the rise in skilled vacancies has been in occupations with a strong association to the resources industry.

SKILLED VACANCIES continued

SKILLED VACANCIES, Western Australia



Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

Skilled vacancies in the occupations of tradespersons and related workers, and professionals have risen sharply since 2001–02. Trades vacancies almost tripled, rising by 179.5% (7,537) to 11,734 vacancies in 2005–06, while professional vacancies increased by 17.0% (537) to 3,696 vacancies. The trades experiencing the largest increases in skilled vacancies between 2001–02 and 2005–06 were construction and metal trades, rising by 3,108 (358.6%) and 1,742 (201.7%) vacancies respectively. Electrical and electronics (up 997 vacancies or 255.8%) and automotive (up 555 vacancies or 91.3%) trades also recorded strong gains. The professions with the largest increases in skilled vacancies were building and engineering professionals and associate professionals (up 749 vacancies or 100.6%), science professionals (up 135 vacancies or 77.4%) and medical and science technical officers (up 60 vacancies or 247.9%).

INVESTMENT

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

As with the analysis of education and training, business investment data is only available for the mining component of the resources industry.

The value of investment expenditure by Western Australia's mining industry has grown tremendously in recent years, fuelled by the strong demand for resource commodities from Asia. From 2001–02 to 2005–06, new capital investment in the mining sector more than tripled (up $7,642 million or 247.2%) to reach over $10 billion in 2005–06. At the same time, the contribution of mining to total state investment has increased from just over half in 2001–02 (51.6%) to almost two thirds in 2005–06 (65.2%). Investment growth was particularly strong in mining in 2005–06, almost doubling by $5,202 million (94.1%) to $10,733 million.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE continued

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Mining industry—Western Australia

Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia, cat. no. 5625.0.

Investment in Western Australia's mining industry grew by an average of 36.5% per year between 2001–02 and 2005–06. This has been in direct contrast to the decline between 1996–97 and 2000–01 (–11.9% per year) and more than twice the growth experienced during the state's last investment boom (14.7% per year from 1993–94 to 1997–98).

When analysing the quarterly data, Western Australia's mining investment fell sharply in the September quarter 2006, down 22.0% ($801 million) to $2,847 million, following five quarters of consecutive strong growth between the June quarters of 2005 and 2006. The fall in mining investment was the first since the March quarter 2005 (down $210 million or 14.7%). Anecdotal evidence suggests that much of the slowdown during the quarter was due to delays in completing new projects, and in some cases, the deferment of proposed projects.

The softening in mining investment in the September quarter 2006 centred around the state's increasing shortage of skilled labour and rising labour costs, as well as the higher costs of energy and materials. According to media reports, the cost of BHP Billiton's Ravensthorpe nickel mine more than doubled from its original estimate of around $1 billion, while Chevron's Gorgon liquified natural gas project at Barrow Island was likely to cost a further $5 billion (up to $16 billion). The estimated cost of the fifth train on the North West Shelf increased by 21.3% to $2.4 billion between the June and September quarters of 2006, while Woodside Petroleum's Pluto LNG project could cost twice its initial estimate, up to $10 billion. The final cost of the Boddington gold mine south of Perth almost doubled to $1.8 billion and Fortescue Metals Group confirmed a $1 billion rise in the total cost of its Pilbara iron ore project. BHP has also deferred a proposed $900 million expansion of its Worsley alumina refinery in light of cost pressures. [*Western Australian Business News, 14 September 2006, p.17*]

However, since these reports were made, Western Australia's mining investment in new capital recovered substantially in the December quarter 2006, increasing by 24.5% ($698 million) to $3,545 million.

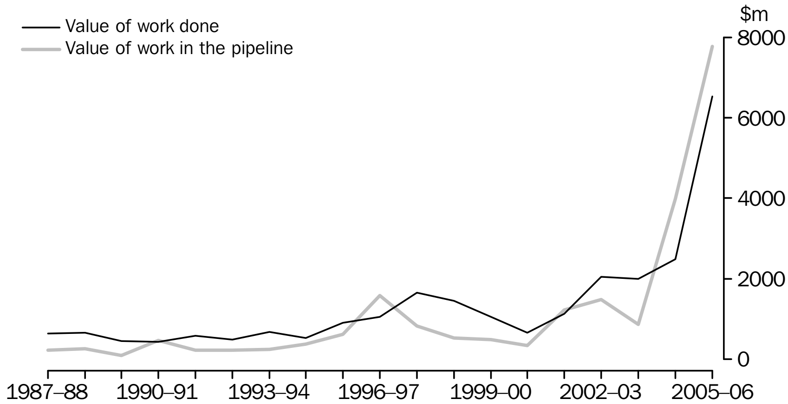
CONSTRUCTION

Since the beginning of the commodities boom, Western Australia's resources industry has invested heavily in the development of new infrastructure and productive capacity to meet the growing demand for raw materials. The industry is developing new mines, upgrading existing sites and improving transport capacity in the form of rail, ports and pipelines. It has also expanded its downstream minerals and energy processing plants across the state.

Although it is not possible to completely isolate the resources industry, a number of categories of engineering construction activity are closely related to the resources industry. Much of the 'heavy industry' engineering construction activity (including the construction of production, storage and distribution facilities; refineries; pumping stations; mine sites; chemical plants; blast furnaces; steel mills; other industrial processing plants and ovens) is directly associated with the resources industry, while 'electricity generation, transmission and distribution, etc; and pipelines' and 'bridges, railways and harbours' are also connected.

Heavy industry engineering construction activity increased more than five and a half times in Western Australia, from a value of $1,127 million in 2001–02 to $6,522 million in 2005–06 (up $5,395 million or 478.9%). Coupled with this rise has been a rapid build-up of construction work in the pipeline. The value of heavy industry engineering construction yet to be completed at the end of 2005–06 was $7,770 million, more than six times higher (up $6,550 million or 537.1%) than in 2001–02 ($1,220 million). Much of the increase can be attributed to the rapid pace with which the industry has had to respond to surging global demand for raw materials, as well the constraints of skilled labour and materials shortages.

HEAVY INDUSTRY ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, Western Australia



Source: Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8762.0.

The value of engineering work done on 'electricity generation, transmission and distribution, etc.; and pipelines' (up $826 million or 262.5%) and 'bridges, railways and harbours' (up $1,143 million or 664.9%) also rose substantially in Western Australia between 2001–02 and 2005–06. It is reasonable to expect that a significant amount of this growth has been due to the expansion of the state's resources industry and the flow-on effects to the rest of the economy.

MAJOR RESOURCE-RELATED PROJECTS

According to the Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance, the major resource-related projects undertaken over the last five years have included (from most to least recent):

- BHP Billiton's Ravensthorpe nickel project ($2.7 billion);
- North West Shelf consortium's LNG project and fifth train ($2.4 billion);
- Newmont/AngloGold's expansion of the Boddington gold mine, plus 100 megawatt gas-fired power station ($2.0 billion);
- BHP Billion's iron ore Rapid Growth Project 3 ($1.7 billion);
- North West Shelf Consortium's Angel gas field development ($1.5 billion);
- Hancock Prospecting Hope Downs iron ore project ($1.3 billion);
- Rio Tinto's expansion of Argyle diamond mine ($1.2 billion);
- Hamersley Iron's Yandicoogina iron ore mine and Port of Dampier upgrade ($1.6 billion);
- Woodside's Enfield, Vincent and Laverda oil and gas project ($1.5 billion);
- BHP Billiton's Rapid Growth 2 iron ore expansion ($750 million);
- Burrup Fertilisers' ammonia plant on the Burrup Peninsula ($630 million);
- Alcoa's Pinjarra alumina refinery expansion ($440 million);
- Newcrest's Telfer Deeps (underground phase) gold mine expansion ($424 million);
- HIsmelt pig-iron plant in Kwinana ($400 million);
- Newcrest Mining Telfer Deeps gold mine expansion ($975 million);
- the fourth LNG train expansion on the North West Shelf ($2.4 billion);
- Mining Area C iron ore mine (including associated port and rail infrastructure) ($1.0 billion); and
- Mt Margaret nickel project ($1.3 billion).

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION

In addition to capital investment in production capacity and transport infrastructure, Western Australia's resources industry continues to invest heavily in exploration to unlock more of the state's mineral and energy wealth. Between 2001–02 and 2005–06, a total of $5,335 million was spent on mineral and petroleum exploration in Western Australia, 55.8% of the national total of $9,558 million. In 2005–06, 47 cents of every dollar spent on mineral and petroleum exploration in Australia was spent in Western Australia. The state's exploration expenditure totalled $1,184 million in 2005–06, evenly divided between petroleum exploration ($594 million) and mineral exploration ($590 million).

Mineral exploration expenditure increased from $381 million in 2001–02 to $606 million in 2004–05, before declining slightly in 2005–06 to $590 million. The overall increase over this time was mainly due to increases of $130 million (517.5%) in iron ore exploration and $76 million (122.5%) in copper, silver-lead-nickel and cobalt exploration. Diamonds were the only commodity to record a fall in exploration expenditure, declining in each year between 2001–02 and 2005–06, to reach $11 million in 2005–06 — a little over half of the level of expenditure recorded in 2001–02. Among mineral commodities, gold attracted the highest level of exploration expenditure over the period, $1,280 million or 51.9% of the total. Gold exploration has declined in the last two years to reach $240 million in 2005–06 — slightly above the $238 million recorded in 2001–02. Petroleum exploration rose by 23.7% ($114 million) to $594 million in Western Australia between 2001–02 and 2005–06.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION continued

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, By selected mineral—Western Australia

	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
Copper, silver-lead-zinc, nickel and cobalt	62.1	72.5	80.0	158.2	138.2
Gold	238.1	265.6	276.7	259.6	240.3
Iron ore	25.2	11.2	19.1	136.9	155.6
Mineral sands	6.6	5.5	10.6	7.2	12.9
Diamonds	21.2	17.7	17.0	15.9	11.1
Total minerals	*381.1*	*423.6*	*465.8*	*606.0*	*590.2*
Petroleum	479.8	598.3	670.5	526.5	593.6
Total(a)	**860.9**	**1 021.9**	**1 136.3**	**1 132.5**	**1 183.8**

(a) Total includes minerals not listed in the table.
Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, cat. no. 8412.0.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTION

Western Australia is one of the world's major producers of mineral and petroleum commodities. According to the Western Australian Department of Industry and Resources, in 2005, the state's share of world output for the following commodities was:

- Iron Ore (18%);
- Alumina (17%);
- Gold (7%);
- Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) (sea borne trade) (8%);
- Nickel (15%);
- Ilmenite (18%);
- Rutile (26%);
- Zircon (32%);
- Diamonds (mainly industrial grade) (18%); and
- Tantalum (54%).

From 2001–02 to 2005–06, Western Australia's production of minerals and petroleum was valued at $158 billion. Three commodities accounted for almost half of this value: iron ore ($37 billion or 23.5%), crude oil ($24 billion or 14.9%) and LNG ($18 billion or 11.3%). Other minerals to record over $3 billion worth of production in each year over the period were alumina and gold, while nickel recorded an average just under $3 billion per year.

The annual value of mineral and petroleum production increased from $27 billion in 2001–02 to $43 billion in 2005–06, with most of the increase occurring in the last two years of the period. Almost half of the increase (47.1%) was in iron ore production, which rose by $7,749 million, mostly due to a price rise of 71.5% in 2005. Crude oil (up $1,959 million), LNG (up $1,932 million), Nickel (up $1,783 million) and Alumina (up $527 million) were other major contributors to the increase.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTION *continued*

VALUE OF PRODUCTION, By selected commodity—Western Australia

	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
Alumina	3 584.4	3 204.7	3 085.1	3 461.6	4 111.3
Copper metal	122.6	138.8	155.8	243.7	402.5
Lead metal	36.7	31.9	10.6	0.3	86.6
Zinc metal	173.8	173.2	79.6	42.4	332.1
Coal	258.1	272.9	274.3	271.7	297.4
Cobalt	127.4	124.2	213.1	202.4	183.5
Diamonds	489.3	773.3	519.7	na	na
Gold	3 469.0	3 445.3	3 109.6	3 016.4	3 574.0
Iron ore	5 207.6	5 205.3	5 331.5	8 302.3	12 956.3
Nickel	2 002.1	2 482.5	3 031.0	3 503.2	3 785.5
Petroleum condensate	1 680.0	2 046.4	1 747.5	2 203.1	2 791.7
Crude oil	4 198.8	4 258.1	3 773.6	5 146.6	6 157.6
Liquefied natural gas (LNG)	2 970.6	3 130.8	2 775.9	3 953.1	4 902.7
Natural gas	643.3	661.9	694.1	678.7	703.3
Salt	228.0	228.0	179.9	221.3	229.9
Total(a)	**26 696.1**	**27 857.7**	**26 417.2**	**33 405.9**	**43 160.3**

na not available

(a) Total includes commodities not listed in the table.

Source: Western Australian Department of Industry and Resources, *Mineral and Petroleum Statistics Digest 2005–06.*

While increases in global commodity prices have underpinned strong growth in the value of resource commodity production and exports, increases in the volume of output were not as widespread. Shortages of skilled labour, in particular, have been cited as a reason for the failure of the parts of resources industry to sufficiently ramp up production capacity in response to surging world demand. Nevertheless, increases in production were recorded in a number of mining industries between 2001–02 and 2005–06.

Output of LNG increased by 57.6%, from 7.4 million tonnes in 2001–02 to 11.7 million tonnes in 2005–06. This was the result of the commissioning of a fourth processing train on the North West Shelf Venture gas project in September 2004, which added 4.2 million tonnes to annual production capacity. The second highest volume increase over the period was recorded in the iron ore industry. Production increased by 47.9% (78.9 million tonnes) between 2001–02 and 2005–06, to reach 243.5 million tonnes — the highest level on record. Copper (up 37.2%), Salt (up 25.6%) and Cobalt (up 15.9%) also recorded substantial production increases over the period. Nickel output increased by 6.5% to reach 191.2 thousand tonnes in 2005–06, despite recording falls in the two previous years.

Production of crude oil decreased in every year between 2001–02 to 2005–06 by an annual average of 6.4% due to the declining yields of mature oil fields and the impact of recent cyclones in the north-west of the state. Gold production fell in three years over the period to 151.1 tonnes in 2005–06, an overall decrease of 18.3% from 2001–02, continuing a decline from the peak in production of 238 tonnes recorded in 1997–98. The fall is partly due to weakness in the Australian dollar-denominated gold price over much of the period and delays in some projects caused by skills shortages and rising capital costs. Lead (down 21.8 %) and Zinc (down 51.8%) also recorded declines in production volumes between 2001–02 to 2005–06, although both showed slight

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTION *continued*

increases in 2005–06. The decline is largely due to the closure of the Lennard Shelf zinc-lead mine in the Kimberley in 2004.

VOLUME OF PRODUCTION, By selected commodity—Western Australia

	2001–02	*2002–03*	*2003–04*	*2004–05*	*2005–06*
Alumina *(Mt)*	10.9	11.1	11.2	11.2	11.5
Copper metal *(kt)*	53.5	59.5	53.3	61.9	71.0
Lead metal *(kt)*	75.1	70.0	29.4	2.3	58.7
Zinc metal *(kt)*	223.7	206.5	108.0	48.4	107.9
Coal *(Mt)*	6.2	6.3	6.0	6.3	6.7
Cobalt *(kt)*	4.4	4.9	4.6	4.5	5.1
Diamonds *(M ct)*	25.7	38.9	32.5	22.8	29.3
Gold *(t)*	185.0	187.5	177.0	167.4	151.1
Iron ore *(Mt)*	164.6	188.5	202.0	233.2	243.5
Nickel *(kt)*	179.5	191.9	182.2	180.4	191.2
Petroleum condensate *(Gl)*	6.3	6.9	6.2	5.6	5.6
Crude oil *(Gl)*	15.1	14.0	13.2	12.8	11.6
Liquefied natural gas (LNG) *(Mt)*	7.4	7.8	7.8	11.0	11.7
Natural gas *(Gm^3)*	7.5	8.1	8.1	7.6	7.7
Salt *(Mt)*	8.6	9.6	9.9	11.6	10.8

Source: Western Australian Department of Industry and Resources, *Mineral and Petroleum Statistics Digest 2005–06.*

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPORTS

INDUSTRY VIEW

The Western Australian economy relies heavily on export income, with the value of merchandise exports accounting for 39.0% of Gross State Product between 2001–02 and 2005–06. Merchandise exports originating from the resources industry (excluding confidential items) accounted for 63.0% (annual average) of total state exports during the same period. Nationally, exports originating from Western Australia's resources industry comprised 18.3% of total Australian merchandise exports.

VALUE OF EXPORTS(a), By industry of origin—Western Australia

		2001–02	*2002–03*	*2003–04*	*2004–05*	*2005–06*
ANZSIC	*Industry*	Value (fob) ($m)	Value (fob) ($m)	Value (fob) ($m)	Value (fob) ($m)	Value (fob) ($m)
11	Coal mining	1.6	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.3
12	Oil and gas extraction	7 389.2	7 805.5	6 201.5	8 839.4	10 072.1
13	Metal ore mining	5 773.6	6 012.0	6 089.4	9 182.2	14 640.2
14	Other mining	81.5	80.7	75.0	87.4	107.6
2510	Petroleum refining	334.0	367.1	363.3	509.7	567.4
2711	Basic iron and steel manufacturing	254.8	314.2	406.9	91.6	106.9
2722	Aluminium smelting	—	—	—	0.9	0.1
2723	Copper, silver, lead and zinc smelting, refining	101.6	61.9	77.6	85.9	259.0
2729	Basic non-ferrous metal manufacturing n.e.c.	4 341.1	5 152.3	5 573.2	5 608.2	7 106.4
	Re-exports	61.4	62.2	120.4	81.7	78.4
	Total(a)	**18 338.9**	**19 856.8**	**18 907.7**	**24 487.0**	**32 938.4**

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Excludes confidential commodities.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

MAJOR EXPORT COMMODITIES

Western Australia's major export commodities between 2001–02 and 2005–06 were iron ore, valued at $36 billion (20% of total WA exports), followed by gold ($27 billion or 14.8%), crude petroleum oil ($23 billion or 12.7%) and natural gas ($15 billion or 8.1%).

MAJOR EXPORT COMMODITIES *continued*

The value of Western Australia's resources exports increased by 79.6% between 2001–02 and 2005–06. The value of metal ore mining exports increased by 153.6% during this period, mostly due to iron ore, which increased by 148.9%. Most of this increase was over the last two years, with a 54.0% increase in 2004–05 and a 58.4% increase in 2005–06. This growth reflected the higher iron ore export contract prices negotiated in 2004–05 and 2005–06. The increase in volume of iron ore exports between 2001–02 and 2005–06 was 52.9% or 82.1 million tonnes.

Exports from the oil and gas extraction industry increased by 36.3% between 2001–02 and 2005–06, from $7,389 million to $10,072 million. Natural gas exports increased by 56.9% during this period, $2,612 million to $4,093 million, mainly due to increased production capacity on the North West Shelf. Crude oil exports recorded a rise of 23.1%, over the period, from $4,315 million to $5,311 million. However, in volume terms, there was a 35.5% decrease in crude oil exports. The other commodity to record a large value increase between 2001–02 and 2005–06 was gold, which rose by 98.8%, from $3,602 million to $7159 million, mainly due to centralisation of national gold refining in Western Australia. The volume of gold exports increased by 59.9% during this period.

MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS

The Western Australian Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources reported the major markets for the resource industry's main commodity exports in 2005–06 as:

- Petroleum products: Japan (53%), Republic of Korea (16%) and Singapore (9%);
- Iron ore: China (53%), Japan (29%) and Republic of Korea (10%);
- Nickel: China (23%), Canada (18%), Finland (15%) and Japan (7%);
- Non-monetary gold: India (39%), United Kingdom (33%), Thailand (10%) and Japan (5%); and
- Alumina: China (17%), South Africa (17%), Bahrain (15%), United Arab Emirates (13%), Mozambique (11%) and Canada (10%).

In 2001–02 major export markets for the same resources were:

- Petroleum products: Japan (53%), Republic of Korea (17%) and Singapore (10%);
- Iron ore: Japan (40%), China (28%) and Republic of Korea (16%);
- Nickel: Finland (26%), Netherlands (16%) and Japan (15%);
- Non-monetary gold: United Kingdom (24%), Republic of Korea (16%), Singapore (16%), Hong Kong (15%) and Japan (8%); and
- Alumina: China (19%), United States (18%) South Africa (13%), Canada (13%), Bahrain (10%) and United Arab Emirates (10%).

In 2005–06, China replaced Japan as the state's major destination for iron ore exports, increasing from a share of 28% of total iron ore exports in 2001–02 to 53% in 2005–06 — Japan's share decreased from 40% to 29% over the same period. China also rose to become the major customer for Western Australia's nickel in 2005–06, with a 23% share of total nickel exports. India overtook the United Kingdom as the major export country for non-monetary gold, rising from a share of 3% to 39% between 2001–02 and 2005–06 — the United Kingdom share increased from 24% to 33%. China remained the top export nation for alumina in 2005–06, accounting for 17% of alumina exports — despite its share decreasing slightly from 19% in 2001–02. There was little change in the share of the state's petroleum exports to Japan, Republic of Korea and Singapore over the period.

THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

INTRODUCTION

Despite experiencing two severe droughts in the five years between 2000–01 and 2004–05, the value of agriculture production in Western Australia increased from $4,387 million to $5,149 million — a rise of $762 million (17.4%). However, there was considerable fluctuation in agriculture production from year-to-year over this period. For example, in 2004–05, the gross value of production in Western Australia decreased by 17.9% ($1,125 million) to $5.1 billion, following strong growth in 2003–04 of 37.9% ($1,724 million). Drought conditions have also affected agriculture production across Australia and appears to have had greater impact in other states and territories, with Western Australia's contribution to total Australian agriculture production rising from 12.8% in 2000–01 to 14.4% in 2004–05. However, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) has forecast decreases in Western Australia's grain production for 2006–07 due to the impact of the 2006 drought.

Western Australia is a major grain grower, contributing significantly to Australia's wheat and barley production. Fruit production is also prominent, mainly confined to the more temperate areas of the state between Gingin to the north of Perth and Albany on the south coast, where weather conditions are conducive to the cultivation of a wide variety of fruits. Apples are the principal orchard fruit crop grown in Western Australia. Carrots and potatoes are the major vegetable crops. Pastoral activities are also widespread in Western Australia, with livestock raised being primarily cattle for beef production, and sheep for meat and wool. Between 2000–01 and 2004–05, crops were the major source of income from Western Australian agriculture, followed by livestock for meat, and livestock products such as wool, milk and eggs.

This article examines the performance of Western Australia's agriculture industry over the five years to 2004–05, in light of the adverse weather conditions experienced over that time. It looks at the volume and gross value of agriculture production for Western Australia's major agriculture produce, the changing numbers of livestock on farms and the value of agriculture exports in 2004–05. More information will become available from the 2005–06 Agriculture Census due for release in November 2007.

DROUGHT AND AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION

While droughts can occur in all parts of Western Australia, they are most economically damaging in the south-west of the state, an area encompassing most of the state's population and much of its agriculture. However, historically, variability of rainfall in the south-west has been smaller than in the south-east of the state and severe widespread droughts in individual years have been less of an issue in the south-west, although in recent decades this area has experienced a general decline in rainfall.

In recent times, drought has had a major impact on agriculture production in Western Australia. Drought conditions in 2002 impacted negatively on the volume of wheat (down 58.3%), barley (down 53.3%) and canola (down 50.5%) produced in the state in 2002–03. With drought conditions also occurring in 2006, ABARE has forecast decreases in wheat, barley and canola production of 61.9%, 63.6% and 69.5% respectively.

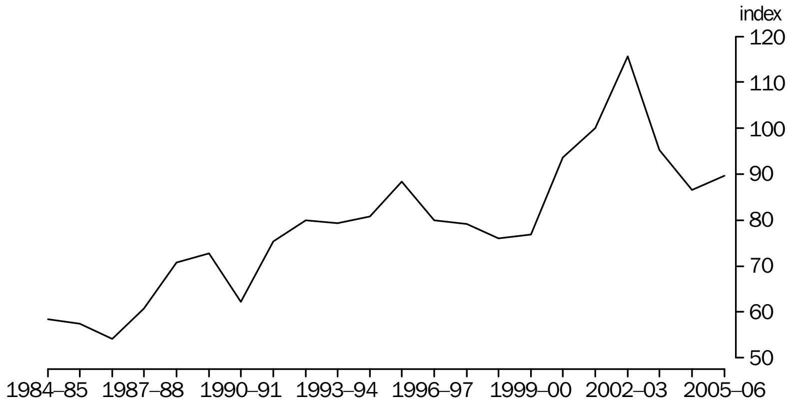
DROUGHT AND AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION *continued*

Agriculture income tends to vary significantly from year-to-year, mainly due to variations in production and prices received by farmers for their products. While the current drought is expected to impact on the production of wheat, barley and canola, it is less clear what will happen to the prices of these crops. ABARE expects the decrease in grain production to be offset to some extent by a general rise in grain prices in 2006–07. The 2006 drought is expected to have a similar impact on agriculture production as the 2002 drought, with production increasing strongly in the following year. ABARE predicts that not all of this increased production will result in higher agriculture income. For example, the slaughtering of livestock is forecast to be higher in 2006–07, but farmers are likely to receive lower prices for their stock, resulting in lower agriculture income in 2006–07.

RURAL COMMODITY PRICES

The Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance compiles an index of rural commodity prices for the state's major agriculture exports, including wheat, barley, lupins, wool, beef and sheep. Over the last five years, rural commodity prices have climbed to record highs for Western Australia's produce, although they have fallen away in the most recent years. Between 1999–2000 and 2002–03, Western Australia's rural commodity prices increased by 50.5% to reach an all time high in 2002–03. Between 2002–03 and 2005–06, rural prices have fallen by 22.5%.

RURAL COMMODITY PRICES, Western Australia



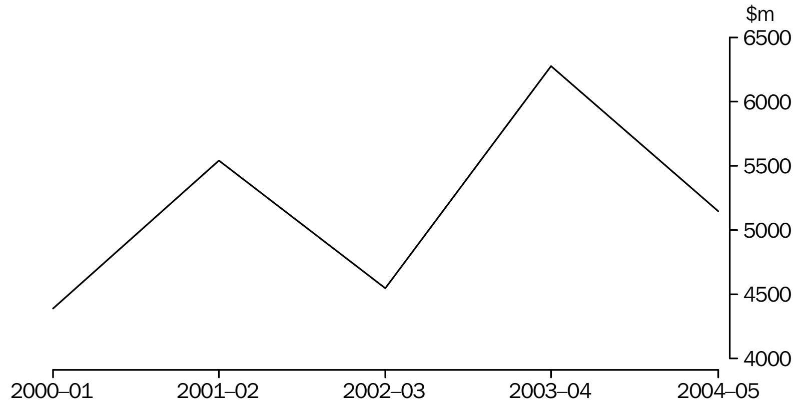
Source: Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance

VALUE OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION

Generally, movements in rural commodity prices match movements in the value of agriculture production and this has been the case for Western Australia in recent years. In 2001–02, the value of Western Australia's agriculture production increased by 26.3%, as rural commodity prices rose by 6.9%, while in 2004–05 there was a decrease in both the value of the state's agriculture production and rural commodity prices of 17.9% and 9.0% respectively. However, there were years when prices and production values moved in opposite directions. For example, in 2002–03, rural commodity prices rose by 15.5% and the value of agriculture production decreased by 17.9%, as a result of an offsetting decline in agriculture production volumes.

VALUE OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION *continued*

VALUE OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION, Western Australia



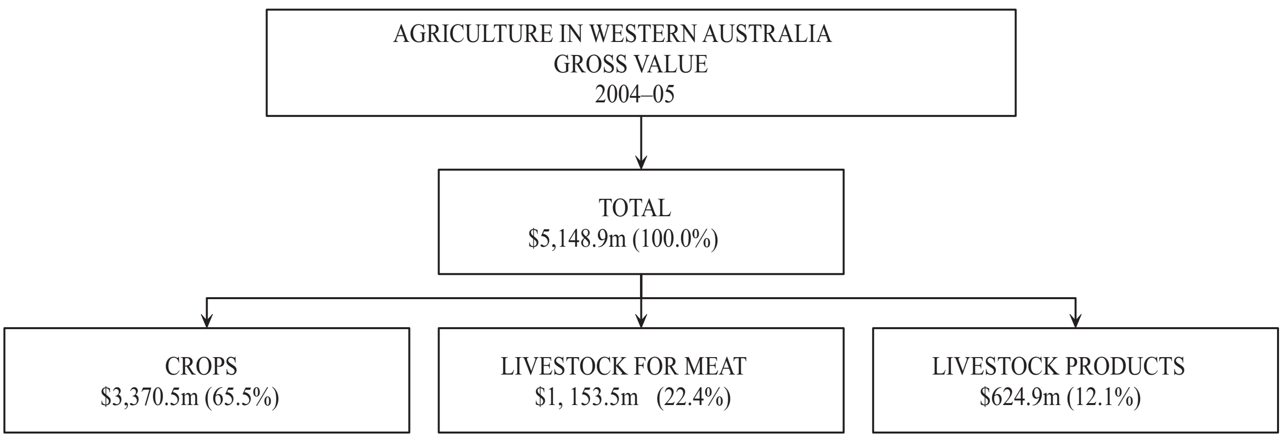
Source: Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, cat. no. 7503.0.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION

Western Australia's contribution to Australia's total agriculture production increased from 12.8% to 14.4% between 2000–01 and 2004–05. In 2000–01, Western Australia contributed $4,387 million to Australia's total agriculture production of $34,237 million. By 2004–05, this contribution increased to $5,149 million of Australia's total of $35,555 million. However, there was some volatility during this period. Western Australia's share of Australian agriculture production ranged from a low of 12.8% in 2000–01 to a high of 17.0% in 2003–04, as production recovered strongly following the 2002 drought. In 2002–03, the year affected by the drought, Western Australia's share of Australian agriculture production decreased to 14.0% ($4,550 million).

WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS

Western Australia's agriculture is divided into three major categories, crops, livestock for meat and livestock products. Crops include grain production, as well as fruit and vegetables. In 2004–05, crops made up 65.5% of total agriculture production in Western Australia. Livestock for meat made up 22.4% of total production in that year and includes cattle (beef), calves (veal), sheep (mutton), lambs (lamb), pigs (pig meat), poultry (chicken) and other livestock. Livestock products contributed 12.1% to total production in 2004–05 and includes wool, milk and eggs.



CROPS

Over the the five years to 2004–05, crop production has risen from $2,815 million to $3,371 million in Western Australia. This was mainly due to a 28.9% rise in the production of cereals for grain. The main cereals grown for grain are wheat and barley. Some of the state's other major crops, like apples, carrots and potatoes, have recorded falling production over the same period.

VALUE OF CROP PRODUCTION, Western Australia

	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	% of total crops
Cereals for grain	1 814	2 658	1 507	3 134	2 338	69.4
Legumes for grain	175	241	173	246	165	4.9
Fruit and nuts(a)	118	121	124	142	163	4.8
Grapes	102	97	101	130	117	3.5
Nursery production	108	109	106	104	^ 99	2.9
Oilseeds	111	163	132	225	168	5.0
Vegetables	227	217	224	241	196	5.8
Pasture and grasses	85	98	103	74	58	1.7
Other crops	75	102	115	180	67	2.0
Total crops	**2 815**	**3 806**	**2 585**	**4 475**	**3 371**	**100.0**

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution
(a) Excludes grapes.
Source: Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, cat. no. 7503.0.

WHEAT AND BARLEY

Western Australia's wheat production contributed 41.5% to Australia's total wheat production in 2004–05. Wheat is the state's most important agricultural product, accounting for 34.8% of total agriculture production and 53.2% of total crop production in 2004–05. Between 2000–01 and 2004–05, wheat production increased by 48.2% (2,805,000 tonnes) to 8,619,000 tonnes or by a gross value of $309 million (20.8%) from $1,484 million to $1,793 million. However, in 2002–03, wheat production dropped by 47.8% to 4,047,000 tonnes as a result of the drought, before recording the largest recovery on record in the following year, with production increasing by 173.5% or 7,023,000 tonnes.

Barley production followed a similar pattern to wheat production over the period. Barley production rose by 83.3% (1,131,000 tonnes) between 2000–01 and 2004–05, from 1,358,000 tonnes to 2,489,000 tonnes. Reflecting this increase was a rise in the value of barley production from $256 million to $436 million. As with wheat, barley production decreased in 2002–03 by 0.7% to 1,349,000 tonnes (or $309 million), before increasing again to 3,170,000 tonnes (or $542 million) in 2003–04.

CROPS continued

WHEAT AND BARLEY *continued*

WHEAT AND BARLEY PRODUCTION, Western Australia

	2000–01	*2001–02*	*2002–03*	*2003–04*	*2004–05*
	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes
Wheat	5 814	7 760	4 047	11 070	8 619
Barley	1 358	2 263	1 349	3 170	2 489

Source: Agricultural State Profile, Western Australia, 2004–05, cat. no. 7123.5.55.001

APPLES

Fruit production is mainly confined to the more temperate regions of Western Australia, with apples the principal orchard fruit grown in Western Australia. The four most common varieties produced in 2004–05 were Pink Lady (10,900 tonnes or 30.4% of total apple production), Granny Smith (9,100 tonnes or 25.3%), Gala (4,900 tonnes or 13.6%) and Sundowner (2,900 tonnes or 8.1%). Apple production has been relatively poor in recent years, with the volume of apples produced decreasing in each year between 2000–01 and 2004–05. Apple production declined by an average of 4.1% (1,840 tonnes) per year, from 45,100 tonnes in 2000–01 to 35,900 tonnes in 2004–05.

Despite the decrease in the volume of apples produced, the gross value of apple production increased from $37 million in 2000–01 to $40 million in 2004–05. The gross value of apple production did, however, fluctuate somewhat from a low of $36 million in 2002–03 to a high of $41 million in 2003–04.

POTATOES AND CARROTS

Potatoes are the major vegetable crop produced in Western Australia, accounting for 18.0% of total vegetable production in 2004–05, mainly concentrated in the higher rainfall areas of the state's south-west. The production of potatoes remained fairly constant between 2000–01 and 2004–05, with an increase in production from 75,500 tonnes to 81,200 tonnes over the entire period.

The gross value of potato production fluctuated slightly more over this time. The gross value of potato production reached a high of $31 million in 2000–01, before dropping to $27 million in 2001–02 — despite potato production increasing in that year. A gradual increase followed in each of the next three years, with gross values reaching $34 million in 2002–03 and $35 million in 2003–04 and 2004–05.

Carrots are the other major vegetable crop produced in Western Australia, accounting for 17.5% of vegetable production in 2004–05. Nevertheless, the number of carrots produced in the state decreased from 80,300 tonnes to 66,200 tonnes between 2000–01 and 2004–05 (down 17.6% or 14,100 tonnes). There were some good years however, with production increasing in 2001–02 and 2002–03 to 88,200 tonnes and 88,000 tonnes respectively.

CROPS *continued*

POTATOES AND CARROTS *continued*

The gross value of carrot production also recorded a decline over the five year period, down from $43 million to $34 million between 2000–01 and 2004–05. However, in 2001–02 and 2002–03, the gross value of carrot production did increased to $51 million and $50 million respectively.

LIVESTOCK FOR MEAT

The value of livestock produced for meat has increased by $208 million (21.9%) over the five years to 2004–05 in Western Australia. The main livestock driving this growth was cattle (and calves) and sheep (and lambs), increasing by $114 million (24.7%) and $72 million (23.3%) respectively. However, the total number of livestock slaughtered decreased by 1,061,200 (15.4%) over the period.

Pastoral activities are widespread in Western Australia. In the southern areas of the state livestock are usually raised in conjunction with grain growing (i.e. wheat-sheep farming of the wheatbelt), while in the north livestock are generally grazed on large specialist stations (i.e. extensive cattle pastoralism). The livestock raised are primarily sheep for meat and wool, and cattle for beef production.

VALUE OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCED FOR MEAT, Western Australia

	2000–01	*2001–02*	*2002–03*	*2003–04*	*2004–05*	
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	% of total livestock
Cattle (and calves)	458	476	467	489	572	49.6
Sheep (and lambs)	308	398	444	400	380	33.0
Pigs	np	np	np	np	np	np
Poultry	np	np	np	np	np	np
Other livestock	10	9	8	5	7	0.6
Total livestock	**946**	**1 080**	**1 131**	**1 100**	**1 154**	**100.0**

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
Source: Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, cat. no. 7503.0.

CATTLE (AND CALVES)

Cattle (and calves) raised for meat production in Western Australia accounted for 11.1% of the value of state agriculture production and 49.6% of state livestock production in 2004–05. The number of meat cattle (and calves) increased slightly between 2000–01 and 2004–05, from 2,001,000 to 2,011,000. However, there was a much lower number of meat cattle (and calves) in the three intervening years. Cattle (and calf) numbers decreased to 1,980,000 in 2001–02, then to 1,815,000 in 2002–03, before increasing to 1,962,000 in 2003–04. The lower number of cattle (and calves) was due to drought conditions limiting the amount of water and feed available to rear livestock, and as a consequence, many more cattle (and calves) were slaughtered during this period. Since 2001–02 (374,301), the number of cattle (and calves) slaughtered increased in each year to 434,557 in 2002–03, 467,609 in 2003–04 and 514,800 in 2004–05. Over the whole five year period, cattle (and calve) slaughterings rose by 22.3% or 93,800.

LIVESTOCK FOR MEAT continued

CATTLE (AND CALVES) *continued*

The gross value of meat cattle (and calves) increased significantly between 2000–01 and 2004–05, from $458 million to $572 million, but there was some fluctuation in the intervening three years. After initially increasing to $476 million in 2001–02, the gross value of meat cattle (and calves) dropped to $467 million in 2002–03, in line with a decrease in cattle (and calf) numbers in that year. The gross value of meat cattle (and calves) increased again in 2003–04 to $489 million.

SHEEP (AND LAMBS)

In 2004–05, sheep (and lambs) for meat production accounted for 7.4% of the value of total agriculture production and 33.0% of total livestock production in Western Australia. Sheep (and lamb) flocks, during the five years to 2004–05, showed a significant increase, rising by 10.6% (2,463,000) from 23,129,000 to 25,592,000.

Despite the higher number of sheep (and lambs) being raised in the state, slaughterings actually decreased from 5,911,300 to 4,671,900 between 2000–01 and 2004–05. The most significant decline occurred in 2001–02, when the number of sheep (and lambs) slaughtered fell by 2,093,373 or 35.4%. The gross value of sheep (and lamb) production increased in each year between 2000–01 and 2002–03, but decreased in each of the following two years. Overall, the gross value of sheep (and lamb) production rose by $72 million or by an annual average of $14,360 (4.7%) over the period.

PIGS

Western Australia's pig herd numbers showed an overall decline from 286,000 to 266,000 between 2000–01 and 2004–05, despite some strong gains in the initial part of the period. Pig herd numbers increased from 286,000 in 2000–01 to 361,000 in 2001–02, before decreasing to 266,000 in 2004–05. While the slaughtering of pigs generally rose over the period, it did fluctuate from a low of 591,427 in 2001–02 to a high of 674,419 in 2003–04.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Livestock products such as wool, milk and eggs increased marginally (up $1 million or 0.2%) over the last five years in Western Australia. Wool was by far the largest contributer to growth over this period, not surprising given it accounts for 78.4% of total livestock product output and 9.5% of total agriculture production in the state (based on 2004–05 figures).

WOOL

The volume of taxable wool received by brokers and dealers in Western Australia increased from 115,600 tonnes to 118,802 tonnes between 2000–01 and 2005–06. However, wool receivals were down in each of the intervening years. Wool receivals dropped to 103,000 in 2001–02, then increased in 2002–03 and 2003–04 to 108,700 tonnes and 109,853 tonnes respectively, before decreasing again in 2004–05 to 107,054 tonnes.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS continued

WOOL *continued*

The gross value of wool production increased marginally between 2000–01 and 2004–05 from $488 million to $490 million. However, there were some large increases in the value of wool production within the period, rising to $514 million in 2001–02, reaching a high of $691 million in 2002–03 and $558 million in 2003–04, despite declining wool production in these years.

VALUE OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS, Western Australia

	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	% of total livestock products
Wool	488	514	691	558	490	78.4
Liquid whole milk	103	113	114	111	108	17.2
Eggs	34	30	29	31	28	4.4
Total livestock products	**624**	**656**	**834**	**699**	**625**	**100.0**

Source: Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, cat. no. 7503.0.

WHERE DOES THE MAJOR PRODUCE GO?

Over half (54.8%) of Western Australia's agriculture production is exported overseas, based on 2004–05 figures. The main agriculture exports for Western Australia include wheat, wool and live sheep. Most of this produce travels to countries in Asia and the Middle East.

WHEAT

Wheat is Western Australia's major agriculture export, accounting for 7.3% of total state exports and around 62.0% of total agriculture exports in 2004–05. Since 2000–01, exports of wheat from Western Australia have increased by 15.5% ($212 million) to $1,583 million in 2005–06. In 2005–06, 98.1% of wheat export values where confidentialised and classified as having 'No country details'. However, when looking at the volume of wheat exports, the major countries receiving Western Australia's wheat in 2005–06 were: Indonesia, Egypt, Republic of Korea, Japan, Iraq, Yemen, Iran, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Kuwait, China, Sudan, Singapore, United Arab Emirates and Myanmar.

POTATOES

Mauritius, Singapore and Malaysia were the major export countries for Western Australia's potatoes in 2005–06, with exports valued at $2.1 million, $1.9 million and $1.7 million for each of these countries respectively. Between 2000–01 and 2005–06, exports of potatoes increased by 31.4% to Mauritius, 1.1% to Singapore and 188.1% to Malaysia.

OATS

Western Australia's largest export destination for oats in 2005–06 was India, with exports totalling $1.4 million — an increase of $1.3 million from 2000–01. This was followed by the Philippines who imported oats to the value of $1.1 million in 2005–06, an increase of $0.6 million (110.9%), while the Republic of Korea imported $0.8 million of Western Australia's oats in 2005–06, a rise of $0.3 million (48.8%) from 2000–01.

APPLES

Western Australia's exports of apples were lower in 2005–06 compared to 2000–01 (down 77.1% or $11 million), partly due to a decline of 61.9% ($4 million) in apple exports to the United Kingdom over this period — the state's largest export market for apples.

LIVE SHEEP

Middle eastern countries were the major export markets for Western Australia's live sheep in 2005–06, with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Jordan importing live sheep totalling $84 million, $54 million and $37 million respectively. Exports of live sheep to Saudi Arabia increased by $34 million (69.0%) between 2000–01 and 2005–06, while to Kuwait they increased by $15 million (39.4%) and to Jordan by $22 million (136.5%).

WOOL

China was the major export country for Western Australia's wool, importing $307 million of wool in 2005–06. Wool exports to China increased by $94 million (44.0%) between 2000–01 and 2005–06. India, the second largest export destination for wool, imported wool to the value of $59 million in 2005–06, an increase of $14 million (31.4%) since 2000–01.

WOOL continued

VALUE OF AGRICULTURE EXPORTS, By selected commodity and country—Western Australia—2005–06

Commodity and country	Value of exports	Share of commodity totals	Change from 2000–01	
	$m	%	$m	%
CROPS				
Wheat				
No country details	1 583.1	98.1	211.9	15.5
Total wheat	*1 614.3*	*100.0*	*235.4*	*17.1*
Potatoes				
Mauritius	2.1	29.6	0.5	31.4
Singapore	1.9	27.2	—	1.1
Malaysia	1.7	23.9	1.1	188.1
Total potatoes	*7.1*	*100.0*	*2.0*	*38.3*
Oats				
India	1.4	21.1	1.3	3 214.1
Philippines	1.1	17.5	0.6	110.9
Republic of Korea	0.8	12.5	0.3	48.8
Total oats	*6.5*	*100.0*	*1.8*	*39.1*
Apples				
United Kingdom	2.7	82.8	–4.4	–61.9
Total apples	*3.3*	*100.0*	*–11.2*	*–77.1*
LIVESTOCK FOR MEAT				
Live sheep				
Saudi Arabia	84.1	36.2	34.3	69.0
Kuwait	53.8	23.2	15.2	39.4
Jordan	37.3	16.1	21.5	136.5
Total live sheep	*232.2*	*100.0*	*41.4*	*21.7*
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS				
Wool				
China	306.9	62.4	93.7	44.0
India	58.7	11.9	14.0	31.4
Total wool	*491.8*	*100.0*	*–27.1*	*–5.2*

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

Note: Totals include items not listed in the table.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

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1 SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS, Australian comparison

Indicator	Reference period	WESTERN AUSTRALIA Current figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)	AUSTRALIA Current figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)
State final demand: Trend(a) *($m)*	Dec qtr 2006	27 066	0.9	7.2	245 890	0.8	3.5
Prices							
Consumer Price Index, All groups: Original *(index)*	Dec qtr 2006	155.5	0.4	4.4	155.5	–0.1	3.3
Wage Price Index, Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses: Original *(index)*	Dec qtr 2006	113.3	1.1	4.6	111.8	1.0	4.0
Established house price index: Original(b) *(index)*	Dec qtr 2006	188.0	1.7	36.9	112.6	0.9	8.3
Project home price index: Original(b) *(index)*	Dec qtr 2006	143.3	0.9	12.1	112.6	0.6	2.4
Price index of materials used in house building, All groups: Original(c) *(index)*	Dec qtr 2006	143.7	1.8	6.4	146.7	0.7	3.7
Consumption							
Retail turnover: Trend *($m)*	January 2007	2 022.9	0.9	12.4	18 570.7	0.4	6.3
Sales of new motor vehicles: Trend *(no.)*	February 2007	10 019	0.9	14.8	85 677	1.3	6.7
Investment and finance							
Private new capital expenditure: Trend(a) *($m)*	Dec qtr 2006	4 237	–2.9	12.7	17 814	–2.3	–0.1
Commercial finance commitments: Original *($m)*	January 2007	2 370	–1.4	13.0	26 744	–23.3	15.5
Personal finance commitments: Original *($m)*	January 2007	971	–5.8	22.7	6 151	–0.6	13.3
Housing finance commitments: Trend(d) *(no.)*	January 2007	8 235	–1.2	–7.2	61 608	–0.1	4.5
Construction							
Houses approved: Trend *(no.)*	January 2007	1 584	–3.1	–15.6	8 606	–1.7	–1.1
New residential building activity commenced: Original *(no.)*	Sep qtr 2006	6 958	1.6	1.7	39 606	6.2	–2.0
New residential building activity yet to be done: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2006	2 731.1	9.4	29.3	14 072.9	3.0	5.9
Engineering construction activity commenced: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2006	3 120.3	–57.8	–15.9	13 938.6	–12.9	29.3
Engineering construction activity yet to be done: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2006	12 390.2	11.4	52.8	27 206.8	12.5	20.6
International merchandise trade							
Exports: Original *($m)*	Dec qtr 2006	15 500	5.0	24.6	43 068	1.1	11.4
Imports: Original *($m)*	Dec qtr 2006	5 581	15.5	36.5	46 644	4.9	10.8
Mining and energy							
Total mineral exploration expenditure: Trend *($m)*	Dec qtr 2006	199.6	12.2	38.0	416.1	9.5	40.6
Total petroleum exploration expenditure: Original *($m)*	Dec qtr 2006	346.1	19.4	126.5	544.5	11.4	66.8
Agriculture							
Exports of wheat: Original *($m)*	Dec qtr 2006	407.7	–23.5	–6.6	684.4	–31.1	–11.7
Exports of wool: Original *($m)*	Dec qtr 2007	138.4	25.9	21.6	700.1	31.2	16.0
Exports of live sheep: Original *($m)*	Dec qtr 2008	82.2	12.8	–2.3	98.2	17.1	–3.4
Tourism							
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals, By air on holiday *(no.)*	December 2006	39 939	62.7	14.5	364 582	37.2	8.7
Short-term holiday departures of residents, By air on holiday *(no.)*	December 2006	39 248	83.6	25.2	280 532	78.6	9.0
Labour market							
Number of persons employed full-time: Trend *('000)*	February 2007	773.1	0.3	3.1	7 398.9	0.2	3.0
Number of persons employed: Trend *('000)*	February 2007	1 087.2	0.3	2.5	10 350.4	0.1	2.9
Unemployment rate: Trend *(%)*	February 2007	3.0	–3.2 pts	–26.8 pts	4.6	0.0 pts	–0.5 pts
Participation rate: Trend *(%)*	February 2007	67.3	0.0 pts	–0.7 pts	64.8	0.0 pts	0.4 pts
Estimated resident population *('000)*	pSep qtr 2006	2 061.5	0.5	2.0	20 674.4	0.3	1.3

p preliminary figure or series subject to revision
(a) Chain volume measures.
(b) Index for Perth and Weighted Average of 8 Capital Cities.
(c) Index for Perth and Weighted Average of 6 Capital Cities.
(d) Owner occupation housing.

2 COMPONENTS OF STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures(a)

	2005		2006			
	September	*December*	*March*	*June*	*September*	*December*
TREND ($m)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	3 608	3 619	3 670	3 738	3 790	3 813
Households	12 470	12 600	12 739	12 910	13 099	13 304
Total final consumption expenditure	*16 078*	*16 219*	*16 409*	*16 648*	*16 889*	*17 117*
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	2 515	2 750	2 825	2 727	2 625	2 553
Non-dwelling construction	2 027	2 498	2 931	3 159	3 298	3 400
Livestock	61	61	60	55	49	42
Intangible fixed assets	417	397	411	469	540	603
Total private business investment	*5 017*	*5 707*	*6 227*	*6 410*	*6 512*	*6 596*
Dwellings	1 586	1 622	1 666	1 705	1 744	1 783
Ownership transfer costs	525	551	585	583	535	474
Total private gross fixed capital formation	*7 127*	*7 878*	*8 478*	*8 697*	*8 790*	*8 854*
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	569	638	674	653	607	571
General government	534	518	517	526	529	527
Total public gross fixed capital formation	*1 104*	*1 156*	*1 191*	*1 179*	*1 136*	*1 095*
State final demand	*24 308*	*25 253*	*26 078*	*26 522*	*26 814*	*27 066*
TREND (percentage changes)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	0.1	0.3	1.4	1.9	1.4	0.6
Households	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6
Total final consumption expenditure	*0.8*	*0.9*	*1.2*	*1.5*	*1.4*	*1.3*
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	8.3	9.3	2.7	–3.5	–3.7	–2.7
Non-dwelling construction	15.6	23.2	17.3	7.8	4.4	3.1
Livestock	–3.2	—	–1.6	–8.3	–10.9	–14.3
Intangible fixed assets	–2.1	–4.8	3.5	14.1	15.1	11.7
Total private business investment	*10.0*	*13.8*	*9.1*	*2.9*	*1.6*	*1.3*
Dwellings	1.5	2.3	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.2
Ownership transfer costs	1.4	5.0	6.2	–0.3	–8.2	–11.4
Total private gross fixed capital formation	*7.3*	*10.5*	*7.6*	*2.6*	*1.1*	*0.7*
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	11.8	12.1	5.6	–3.1	–7.0	–5.9
General government	0.2	–3.0	–0.2	1.7	0.6	–0.4
Total public gross fixed capital formation	*5.9*	*4.8*	*3.0*	*–1.0*	*–3.7*	*–3.6*
State final demand	*2.8*	*3.9*	*3.3*	*1.7*	*1.1*	*0.9*

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2004–05.

Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, cat. no. 5206.0.

COMPONENTS OF STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures(a) *continued*

	2005		2006			
	September	*December*	*March*	*June*	*September*	*December*
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ($m)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	3 589	3 637	3 644	3 729	3 850	3 770
Households	12 447	12 614	12 735	12 908	13 077	13 334
Total final consumption expenditure	*16 036*	*16 251*	*16 379*	*16 637*	*16 927*	*17 104*
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	2 649	2 723	2 816	2 892	2 378	2 677
Non-dwelling construction	2 071	2 527	2 799	3 541	2 939	3 542
Livestock	60	60	60	60	44	44
Intangible fixed assets	406	407	392	456	563	605
Total private business investment	*5 186*	*5 718*	*6 067*	*6 949*	*5 924*	*6 868*
Dwellings	1 551	1 669	1 641	1 705	1 755	1 778
Ownership transfer costs	486	552	572	639	514	451
Total private gross fixed capital formation	*7 222*	*7 939*	*8 280*	*9 293*	*8 193*	*9 097*
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	560	637	688	681	570	572
General government	525	509	499	566	501	533
Total public gross fixed capital formation	*1 085*	*1 147*	*1 187*	*1 246*	*1 071*	*1 105*
State final demand	*24 343*	*25 336*	*25 846*	*27 176*	*26 191*	*27 306*
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (percentage changes)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	–0.7	1.3	0.2	2.3	3.3	–2.1
Households	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.3	2.0
Total final consumption expenditure	*0.3*	*1.3*	*0.8*	*1.6*	*1.7*	*1.0*
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	25.0	2.8	3.4	2.7	–17.8	12.6
Non-dwelling construction	31.7	22.0	10.8	26.5	–17.0	20.5
Livestock	–6.3	—	—	—	–26.7	—
Intangible fixed assets	–8.4	0.2	–3.7	16.3	23.5	7.5
Total private business investment	*23.8*	*10.3*	*6.1*	*14.5*	*–14.8*	*15.9*
Dwellings	–0.3	7.6	–1.7	3.9	2.9	1.3
Ownership transfer costs	–14.0	13.6	3.6	11.7	–19.6	–12.3
Total private gross fixed capital formation	*14.5*	*9.9*	*4.3*	*12.2*	*–11.8*	*11.0*
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	10.0	13.8	8.0	–1.0	–16.3	0.4
General government	–7.1	–3.0	–2.0	13.4	–11.5	6.4
Total public gross fixed capital formation	*1.0*	*5.7*	*3.5*	*5.0*	*–14.0*	*3.1*
State final demand	*4.2*	*4.1*	*2.0*	*5.1*	*–3.6*	*4.3*

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2004–05.

Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, cat. no. 5206.0.

3 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, By group—Perth

Reference period	All groups	Food	Alcohol and tobacco	Clothing and footwear	Housing	Household contents and services
FINANCIAL YEARS(a) *(index)*						
2003–2004	139.6	149.9	204.1	108.7	112.3	118.1
2004–2005	144.0	153.9	210.6	105.7	120.2	117.1
2005–2006	150.1	161.1	217.6	103.0	131.0	119.1
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR *(%)*						
2003–2004	2.0	2.2	3.1	–0.7	5.7	–0.1
2004–2005	3.2	2.7	3.2	–2.8	7.0	–0.8
2005–2006	4.2	4.7	3.3	–2.6	9.0	1.7
QUARTERS(a) *(index)*						
2005						
September	147.8	157.4	215.2	105.4	126.9	119.0
December	149.0	159.7	215.9	104.5	129.7	119.3
2006						
March	150.5	160.9	219.1	100.5	132.2	118.5
June	153.2	166.4	220.3	101.7	135.2	119.4
September	154.9	169.3	223.5	101.6	138.7	120.9
December	155.5	170.4	224.3	102.8	139.7	122.4
CHANGE FROM SAME QUARTER PREVIOUS YEAR *(%)*						
2005						
September	4.1	3.7	3.8	–1.9	8.9	1.1
December	4.0	4.5	3.4	–1.0	9.3	1.3
2006						
March	4.2	4.2	3.3	–3.5	8.7	3.3
June	4.7	6.3	2.9	–3.7	8.9	0.9
September	4.8	7.6	3.9	–3.6	9.3	1.6
December	4.4	6.7	3.9	–1.6	7.7	2.6
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER *(%)*						
2005						
September	1.0	0.6	0.5	–0.2	2.3	0.6
December	0.8	1.5	0.3	–0.9	2.2	0.3
2006						
March	1.0	0.8	1.5	–3.8	1.9	–0.7
June	1.8	3.4	0.5	1.2	2.3	0.8
September	1.1	1.7	1.5	–0.1	2.6	1.3
December	0.4	0.6	0.4	1.2	0.7	1.2

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.
Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.

3 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, By group—Perth *continued*

Reference period	Health	Transportation	Communication	Recreation	Education	Financial and insurance services(a)
FINANCIAL YEARS(b) *(index)*						
2003–2004	185.8	141.6	108.3	125.6	210.2	. .
2004–2005	195.3	145.7	109.4	127.0	221.4	100.0
2005–2006	203.3	154.3	107.8	129.7	234.8	100.4
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR *(%)*						
2003–2004	5.7	0.6	1.4	–2.5	4.3	. .
2004–2005	5.1	2.9	1.0	1.1	5.3	. .
2005–2006	4.1	5.9	–1.5	2.1	6.1	0.4
QUARTERS(b) *(index)*						
2005						
September	199.3	152.1	108.1	129.0	227.9	98.7
December	198.7	152.1	107.3	129.2	227.9	100.5
2006						
March	204.8	154.0	107.8	130.3	241.6	100.3
June	210.4	158.9	107.9	130.3	241.6	102.1
September	209.6	159.8	108.6	130.6	241.2	101.8
December	208.7	154.7	109.2	134.3	241.2	102.6
CHANGE FROM SAME QUARTER PREVIOUS YEAR *(%)*						
2005						
September	3.9	5.4	–1.0	2.5	6.0	. .
December	4.1	3.8	–2.0	1.5	6.0	. .
2006						
March	3.6	6.5	–1.9	1.9	6.0	. .
June	4.9	7.9	–0.9	2.5	6.0	2.1
September	5.2	5.1	0.5	1.2	5.8	3.1
December	5.0	1.7	1.8	3.9	5.8	2.1
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER *(%)*						
2005						
September	–0.6	3.3	–0.7	1.5	—	–1.3
December	–0.3	—	–0.7	0.2	—	1.8
2006						
March	3.1	1.2	0.5	0.9	6.0	–0.2
June	2.7	3.2	0.1	—	—	1.8
September	–0.4	0.6	0.6	0.2	–0.2	–0.3
December	–0.4	–3.2	0.6	2.8	—	0.8

. . not applicable
— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Base of index: June quarter 2005 = 100.0.
(b) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.

Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.

4 WAGE PRICE INDEX(a), Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses: **Original**

	2005		2006				CHANGE FROM	
	September	*December*	*March*	*June*	*September*	*December*	*Previous quarter*	*Same quarter previous year*
	index	index	index	index	index	index	%	%
Western Australia	**107.5**	**108.3**	**109.3**	**110.7**	**112.1**	**113.3**	**1.1**	**4.6**
Sector								
Private	107.6	108.5	109.5	111.0	112.5	113.4	0.8	4.5
Public	107.1	107.6	108.5	109.6	110.6	112.8	2.0	4.8
Selected industries								
Mining	108.8	109.3	111.0	113.9	116.8	117.0	0.2	7.0
Manufacturing	108.0	109.2	109.7	111.2	111.9	112.7	0.7	3.2
Construction	117.8	119.9	121.5	124.7	125.6	126.5	0.7	5.5
Retail trade	106.5	107.3	108.7	109.0	111.0	111.6	0.5	4.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	104.8	105.8	106.4	106.6	108.8	109.0	0.2	3.0
Transport and storage	105.2	106.4	107.3	108.1	109.4	110.4	0.9	3.8
Property and business services	106.6	107.1	107.8	110.5	111.9	113.5	1.4	6.0
Government administration and defence	107.0	108.1	108.5	108.5	108.8	112.6	3.5	4.2
Education	106.5	106.7	108.0	110.0	110.3	112.1	1.6	5.1
Health and community services	106.8	107.2	107.6	108.3	110.5	111.1	0.5	3.6
Personal and other services	107.2	107.4	107.7	108.9	111.2	113.2	1.8	5.4
Selected occupations								
Managers and administrators	107.5	108.2	109.7	110.8	112.8	113.9	1.0	5.3
Professionals	106.8	107.7	108.4	110.6	112.0	113.7	1.5	5.6
Associate professionals	107.5	108.4	108.9	109.8	111.5	112.7	1.1	4.0
Tradespersons and related workers	109.8	110.5	112.2	114.1	115.2	116.2	0.9	5.2
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	107.3	108.1	108.8	109.3	111.1	112.5	1.3	4.1
Intermediate production and transport workers	107.8	108.2	109.8	111.7	112.5	112.7	0.2	4.2
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	106.1	106.4	107.3	108.2	110.3	110.7	0.4	4.0
Labourers and related workers	111.2	112.9	114.1	115.0	116.0	118.7	2.3	5.1

(a) Base of each index: 2003–04 = 100.0.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Price Index, Australia,* cat. no. 6345.0.

5 HOUSE PRICE INDEXES(a)—Perth

Reference period	ESTABLISHED HOMES(b)	Change from previous period(b)	PROJECT HOMES	Change from previous period
	index	%	index	%
2003–2004	100.0	18.5	100.0	9.4
2004–2005	114.4	14.4	111.9	r11.9
2005–2006	r145.7	r27.4	130.3	16.4
2005				
September	127.7	4.2	122.7	3.7
December	137.3	7.5	127.8	4.2
2006				
March	148.2	7.9	132.7	3.8
June	r169.6	r14.4	137.9	3.9
September	pr184.9	pr9.0	142.0	3.0
December	p188.0	p1.7	143.3	0.9

p preliminary figure or series subject to revision

r revised

(a) Base of each index 2003–04 = 100.0.

(b) Estimates for the two most recent quarters are experimental and subject to revision (see paragraph 12 and 13 of the Explanatory Notes in the source publication).

Source: House Price Indexes, Eight Capital Cities, cat. no. 6416.0.

6 PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING(a), By material—Perth

Material group	2005 September	2005 December	2006 March	2006 June	2006 September	2006 December	Change from previous quarter	Change from same quarter previous year
	index	index	index	index	index	index	%	%
All material groups	**134.7**	**135.0**	**136.1**	**138.0**	**141.2**	**143.7**	**1.8**	**6.4**
Timber, board and joinery	125.7	124.2	124.0	123.9	127.5	130.8	2.6	5.3
Ceramic products	146.1	147.2	148.2	149.7	153.1	153.5	0.3	4.3
Concrete, cement and sand	139.9	142.6	141.7	144.4	145.6	148.0	1.6	3.8
Cement products	127.0	126.4	127.2	127.2	136.1	146.4	7.6	15.8
Steel products	160.2	161.7	165.2	171.4	173.7	178.1	2.5	10.1
Other metal products	128.6	128.6	130.1	132.9	137.0	140.8	2.8	9.5
Plumbing products	121.8	123.2	123.7	127.7	127.2	131.0	3.0	6.3
Electrical equipment	99.1	99.0	99.3	99.9	111.5	111.1	–0.4	12.2
Installed gas and electrical appliances	134.9	135.8	136.3	136.4	136.3	134.8	–1.1	–0.7
Other materials	153.1	154.1	156.6	159.0	161.8	163.6	1.1	6.2

(a) Base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.

Source: Producer Price Indexes, Australia, cat. no. 6427.0.

7

RETAIL TRADE, Monthly turnover by industry group(a)—Current prices: **All series**

Month	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
				ORIGINAL ($m)				
2005								
November	768.7	160.2	105.4	325.6	^102.8	158.6	220.6	1 841.8
December	910.6	264.1	144.8	419.7	^151.7	216.0	233.9	2 340.7
2006								
January	763.2	119.0	96.2	302.4	^104.0	138.6	209.3	1 732.8
February	721.4	109.0	85.1	278.5	^88.1	145.3	199.1	1 626.4
March	806.3	130.4	91.1	300.3	^91.9	154.1	218.5	1 792.5
April	779.6	142.5	107.2	302.0	^83.6	136.4	218.8	1 770.1
May	777.0	137.0	108.4	326.7	^83.4	153.0	227.2	1 812.7
June	771.5	150.5	109.5	333.5	^84.7	145.2	221.5	1 816.4
July	768.7	151.9	111.2	339.5	^85.8	155.0	238.9	1 850.9
August	782.9	133.4	109.7	344.6	^87.2	173.2	239.2	1 870.2
September	792.8	130.7	109.4	359.1	^87.4	169.3	238.5	1 887.1
October	815.2	147.7	124.7	358.5	^88.5	191.0	262.3	1 987.9
November	836.4	182.7	126.1	367.2	^104.7	206.8	259.5	2 083.4
December	955.4	284.8	171.9	450.0	^152.5	279.6	282.2	2 576.4
2007								
January	834.0	133.8	109.8	353.9	^103.0	183.8	262.3	1 980.8
				SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ($m)				
2005								
November	764.1	140.5	99.6	303.3	99.8	146.1	212.3	1 765.7
December	761.6	141.0	98.2	324.7	104.3	146.6	204.5	1 780.9
2006								
January	774.7	141.2	102.1	309.9	100.8	150.4	214.2	1 793.3
February	785.4	146.5	106.3	319.3	95.1	163.2	213.9	1 829.7
March	791.3	148.2	102.0	318.6	94.2	160.2	218.2	1 832.9
April	795.1	148.8	108.8	334.8	91.1	153.2	226.1	1 857.8
May	793.0	148.2	108.3	339.8	90.1	157.4	234.4	1 871.2
June	798.9	150.1	109.1	339.9	92.4	157.1	234.5	1 881.8
July	789.9	162.1	115.5	343.0	90.7	168.5	240.6	1 910.3
August	788.2	149.9	117.1	342.9	92.1	178.6	240.3	1 909.0
September	807.4	148.6	117.9	361.0	92.1	174.8	242.3	1 944.0
October	818.0	154.9	120.1	352.0	96.0	185.2	247.3	1 973.6
November	822.9	154.8	118.4	347.5	100.9	189.0	249.4	1 982.9
December	818.2	157.7	119.0	351.2	100.8	195.3	254.1	1 996.2
2007								
January	839.1	156.4	117.1	356.4	97.4	196.2	269.9	2 032.5
				TREND ($m)				
2005								
November	768.9	139.4	97.6	308.9	100.8	146.7	207.8	1 771.1
December	771.2	140.8	99.8	311.7	100.4	149.4	208.4	1 783.1
2006								
January	775.6	142.7	101.8	315.4	99.0	152.4	210.4	1 799.0
February	782.0	144.8	103.5	320.1	96.9	154.7	214.1	1 817.5
March	788.0	147.1	105.2	325.1	94.5	156.3	219.3	1 836.5
April	791.8	149.2	106.9	330.2	92.4	157.6	225.2	1 853.8
May	793.3	150.8	109.1	335.6	91.0	159.4	230.8	1 870.0
June	794.0	152.0	111.5	340.9	90.5	162.3	235.4	1 886.4
July	795.3	152.6	114.0	345.4	91.1	166.8	238.5	1 903.6
August	799.0	153.0	116.2	348.2	92.5	172.7	241.0	1 922.4
September	804.9	153.4	117.7	350.1	94.3	178.8	243.8	1 942.7
October	812.2	153.9	118.6	351.5	96.1	184.3	247.5	1 963.6
November	819.5	154.7	118.9	352.6	97.8	189.0	251.9	1 984.4
December	826.2	155.5	119.0	353.4	99.1	193.2	256.5	2 004.5
2007								
January	832.3	156.1	118.6	353.9	100.2	196.1	260.7	2 022.9

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) For industry definitions see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes in the source publication.

Source: Retail Trade, Australia, cat. no. 8501.0.

8 RETAIL TRADE, Quarterly turnover—Chain volume measures(a): **All series**

Reference period	Original $m	Seasonally adjusted $m	Trend $m
2003–2004	19 107.3	19 107.3	19 101.3
2004–2005	20 252.4	20 252.4	20 245.2
2005–2006	21 209.6	21 209.7	21 201.7
2005			
September	5 035.6	5 185.2	5 167.7
December	5 866.8	5 210.8	5 242.2
2006			
March	5 054.8	5 347.1	5 336.9
June	5 252.4	5 466.6	5 454.9
September	5 404.6	5 555.2	5 575.4
December	6 391.4	5 708.2	5 686.7

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2004–05.

Source: Retail Trade, Australia, cat. no. 8501.0.

9 NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES, By type of vehicle: **All series**

Month	Passenger vehicles	Sports utility vehicles	Other vehicles	Total vehicles
	no.	no.	no.	no.
ORIGINAL				
2005				
December	4 911	1 713	2 040	8 664
2006				
January	4 293	1 693	1 618	7 604
February	4 629	1 656	1 880	8 165
March	5 599	1 866	2 285	9 750
April	4 320	1 442	1 745	7 507
May	5 211	1 933	2 328	9 472
June	6 040	2 323	2 807	11 170
July	4 865	1 754	2 101	8 720
August	5 730	1 879	2 127	9 736
September	5 842	1 705	2 169	9 716
October	5 727	1 778	2 086	9 591
November	5 718	2 076	2 178	9 972
December	5 567	1 972	1 932	9 471
2007				
January	5 059	2 064	1 806	8 929
February	5 307	2 037	2 281	9 625
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
2005				
December	4 908	1 734	2 072	8 714
2006				
January	4 955	1 795	2 049	8 799
February	4 887	1 706	1 973	8 566
March	4 985	1 649	2 095	8 729
April	5 122	1 665	2 072	8 859
May	5 298	1 818	2 113	9 229
June	5 231	1 793	2 047	9 071
July	5 408	1 904	2 182	9 494
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED *cont.*				
2006 *cont.*				
August	5 506	1 864	2 122	9 492
September	5 525	1 955	2 201	9 681
October	5 481	1 956	2 205	9 642
November	5 461	1 960	2 175	9 596
December	5 691	2 080	2 081	9 852
2007				
January	5 673	2 092	2 219	9 984
February	5 628	2 098	2 388	10 114
TREND				
2005				
December	4 999	1 718	2 015	8 732
2006				
January	4 979	1 705	2 027	8 711
February	4 980	1 704	2 043	8 727
March	5 020	1 712	2 059	8 791
April	5 101	1 730	2 073	8 904
May	5 206	1 761	2 089	9 056
June	5 310	1 806	2 113	9 229
July	5 389	1 853	2 137	9 379
August	5 448	1 897	2 151	9 496
September	5 491	1 933	2 159	9 583
October	5 528	1 967	2 168	9 663
November	5 564	2 004	2 181	9 749
December	5 599	2 041	2 201	9 841
2007				
January	5 630	2 073	2 228	9 931
February	5 655	2 103	2 261	10 019

Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, cat. no. 9314.0.55.001.

10 PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, By type of asset—Chain volume measures(a): **All series**

Reference period	ORIGINAL Buildings and structures $m	ORIGINAL Equipment, plant and machinery $m	ORIGINAL Total $m	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Buildings and structures $m	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Equipment, plant and machinery $m	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Total $m	TREND Buildings and structures $m	TREND Equipment, plant and machinery $m	TREND Total $m
2003–2004	4 104	4 925	9 094	4 103	4 925	9 093	4 130	4 865	9 052
2004–2005	5 135	4 814	9 950	5 136	4 814	9 949	5 148	4 907	10 056
2005–2006	r9 543	6 464	16 007	9 542	6 465	16 008	9 299	6 297	15 594
2005									
September	1 680	1 521	3 201	1 716	1 528	3 244	1 678	1 452	3 129
December	r2 222	1 753	3 975	2 044	1 597	3 641	2 151	1 610	3 761
2006									
March	r2 361	1 482	3 843	2 640	1 663	4 303	2 623	1 657	4 281
June	3 280	1 708	4 988	3 142	1 677	4 820	2 847	1 578	4 423
September	r2 579	r1 327	r3 905	2 641	1 334	3 974	2 873	1 493	4 365
December	3 076	1 668	4 744	2 835	1 511	4 346	2 805	1 432	4 237

r revised
(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2004–05.

Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia, cat. no. 5625.0.

11 PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, By industry—Current prices: **Original**

Reference period	Mining $m	Manufacturing $m	Other selected industries $m	Total $m
2003–2004	5 010	1 162	2 746	8 917
2004–2005	5 531	1 410	3 008	9 949
2005–2006	10 733	1 850	3 889	16 471
2005				
September	1 896	474	879	3 249
December	2 574	512	975	4 060
2006				
March	2 615	446	900	3 961
June	3 648	^ 418	1 135	5 201
September	r2 847	283	r994	r4 125
December	3 545	377	1 142	5 064

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution
r revised
Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia, cat. no. 5625.0.

12 LENDING FINANCE COMMITMENTS: **Original**

Reference period	COMMERCIAL FINANCE Fixed loans(a)	Revolving credit(b)	Total	PERSONAL FINANCE Fixed loans(a)	Revolving credit(b)	Total	Total lease finance commitments
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2003–2004	14 572.9	5 776.6	20 349.5	4 517.1	3 499.2	8 016.3	384.0
2004–2005	14 523.3	6 335.8	20 859.1	4 701.9	3 627.0	8 329.0	420.3
2005–2006	22 383.9	7 251.0	29 634.9	5 800.4	4 921.0	10 721.4	448.4
2005							
November	1 543.3	603.8	2 147.2	464.3	362.7	827.1	36.7
December	1 666.5	686.2	2 352.7	491.4	380.1	871.5	32.3
2006							
January	1 523.9	572.6	2 096.5	440.6	350.8	791.4	34.3
February	1 468.3	513.3	1 981.6	468.5	381.1	849.6	34.4
March	2 377.1	646.5	3 023.6	549.5	491.6	1 041.1	41.0
April	1 601.8	581.8	2 183.6	403.4	431.8	835.2	32.4
May	3 246.9	737.3	3 984.2	612.6	521.9	1 134.6	42.4
June	2 786.7	976.9	3 763.7	653.4	563.5	1 216.9	39.4
July	1 991.7	665.9	2 657.6	573.5	482.3	1 055.8	32.4
August	1 873.1	729.6	2 602.6	570.2	543.6	1 113.8	28.3
September	1 801.8	594.2	2 396.0	513.0	510.5	1 023.5	26.3
October	r1 800.4	1 225.9	r3 026.3	536.1	473.1	1 009.2	34.1
November	1 906.9	702.6	2 609.5	574.1	469.3	1 043.4	35.8
December	1 756.6	646.3	2 402.9	541.2	489.4	1 030.6	32.9
2007							
January	1 635.7	734.1	2 369.8	497.1	474.2	971.2	26.7

r revised
(a) Includes refinancing.
(b) New and increased credit limits during the period. Includes credit cards.
Source: Lending Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5671.0.

13 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS FOR OWNER OCCUPATION(a), By dwellings financed: All series

Reference period	ORIGINAL Number of dwellings financed	ORIGINAL Total value of dwelling commitments	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Number of dwellings financed	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Total value of dwelling commitments	TREND Number of dwellings financed	TREND Total value of dwelling commitments
	no.	$m	no.	$m	no.	$m
2003–2004	83 834	12 765.6	83 587	12 722.8	83 854	12 765.9
2004–2005	88 683	15 151.6	88 753	15 167.6	88 672	15 153.1
2005–2006	106 021	20 550.0	105 977	20 521.4	105 811	20 530.6
2005						
November	9 044	1 726.8	8 418	1 608.2	8 498	1 619.9
December	8 475	1 642.3	8 559	1 674.0	8 671	1 666.3
2006						
January	7 604	1 485.8	8 862	1 713.3	8 875	1 715.6
February	8 658	1 680.2	9 234	1 775.0	9 108	1 773.3
March	9 926	1 986.9	9 215	1 822.6	9 336	1 839.8
April	8 186	1 597.9	9 548	1 878.6	9 517	1 909.3
May	10 951	2 240.4	9 614	1 972.9	9 616	1 970.4
June	10 044	2 092.5	9 716	2 017.0	9 591	2 007.1
July	9 537	2 093.0	9 595	2 114.3	9 445	2 012.2
August	10 076	2 181.7	9 165	1 986.6	9 207	1 986.0
September	8 609	1 832.9	8 960	1 911.2	8 934	1 941.4
October	8 500	1 841.7	8 550	1 853.7	8 686	1 895.4
November	8 720	1 925.8	8 187	1 820.1	8 488	1 858.6
December	8 236	1 795.7	8 564	1 881.5	8 336	1 831.1
2007						
January	7 448	1 637.5	8 301	1 817.8	8 235	1 809.2

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

14 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS FOR OWNER OCCUPATION(a), By type of buyer: Original

Reference period	FIRST HOME BUYERS Number of dwellings financed (no.)	Total value of dwelling commitments ($m)	Average loan size ($'000)	NON-FIRST HOME BUYERS Number of dwellings financed (no.)	Total value of dwelling commitments ($m)	Average loan size ($'000)
2003–2004	12 393	1 835.9	148.1	71 441	10 929.7	153.0
2004–2005	16 060	2 720.1	169.4	72 623	12 431.6	171.2
2005–2006	17 485	3 366.5	192.5	88 536	17 183.4	194.1
2005						
November	1 599	306.3	191.6	7 445	1 420.5	190.8
December	1 462	277.5	189.8	7 013	1 364.8	194.6
2006						
January	1 379	263.4	191.0	6 225	1 222.4	196.4
February	1 393	274.2	196.8	7 265	1 406.0	193.5
March	1 670	335.5	200.9	8 256	1 651.4	200.0
April	1 313	260.8	198.7	6 873	1 337.0	194.5
May	1 504	309.3	205.6	9 447	1 931.1	204.4
June	1 359	290.5	213.8	8 685	1 802.0	207.5
July	1 346	298.3	221.6	8 191	1 794.7	219.1
August	1 316	284.2	216.0	8 760	1 897.4	216.6
September	1 172	251.0	214.2	7 437	1 581.9	212.7
October	1 130	242.7	214.8	7 370	1 599.0	217.0
November	1 088	240.8	221.3	7 632	1 685.0	220.8
December	1 018	216.8	213.0	7 218	1 578.9	218.7
2007						
January	983	213.2	216.9	6 465	1 424.4	220.3

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

15 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS(a), By purpose: Original

Reference period	OWNER OCCUPATION (SECURED FINANCE) Construction of dwellings	Purchase of new dwellings	Purchase of other established dwellings	Refinancing of established dwellings	INVESTMENT HOUSING(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
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2003–2004	2 015.4	363.3	7 244.8	3 142.1	297.9	4 771.4	470.9
2004–2005	2 171.1	505.8	9 156.2	3 318.6	320.6	5 423.3	401.0
2005–2006	2 402.4	979.9	12 250.1	4 917.5	362.4	8 450.4	577.4
2005							
November	195.9	78.5	1 039.9	412.5	41.5	652.9	40.6
December	205.7	70.7	989.7	376.3	41.1	601.0	45.4
2006							
January	174.0	60.9	915.7	335.2	31.1	598.1	41.2
February	189.9	67.2	1 014.1	408.9	50.9	674.4	45.6
March	230.9	104.8	1 190.1	461.1	29.2	857.9	58.8
April	167.7	90.8	966.4	372.9	17.0	745.2	51.4
May	216.5	133.9	1 321.7	568.3	51.7	1 001.2	63.6
June	233.9	124.8	1 197.3	536.5	np	1 069.3	86.1
July	233.6	116.0	1 216.3	527.1	43.4	878.8	64.5
August	246.4	110.2	1 222.7	602.3	37.7	892.4	57.6
September	187.0	84.5	1 003.0	558.5	45.0	758.2	55.0
October	195.0	92.6	984.9	569.2	27.9	r708.1	70.9
November	197.7	93.6	1 056.2	578.3	36.7	750.3	46.0
December	185.6	87.8	981.4	541.0	57.6	669.4	38.6
2007							
January	177.9	75.4	877.2	507.1	14.9	652.6	59.0

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

r revised

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(b) Excludes revolving credit.

Source: *Housing Finance, Australia,* cat. no. 5609.0; *Lending Finance, Australia,* cat. no. 5671.0.

16 BUILDING APPROVALS, By number of dwelling units approved and sector: **Trend**

Reference period	HOUSES		OTHER DWELLINGS		TOTAL DWELLINGS	
	Private	*Total*	*Private*	*Total*	*Private*	*Total*
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
2003–2004	18 727	19 198	3 787	4 071	22 514	23 269
2004–2005	19 043	19 516	3 979	4 577	23 022	24 093
2005–2006	21 290	21 854	3 823	4 380	25 113	26 234
2005						
November	1 789	1 836	316	370	2 105	2 206
December	1 812	1 859	330	392	2 142	2 251
2006						
January	1 829	1 876	333	398	2 162	2 274
February	1 841	1 886	327	389	2 168	2 275
March	1 843	1 885	323	376	2 166	2 261
April	1 835	1 876	336	379	2 171	2 255
May	1 810	1 851	367	399	2 177	2 250
June	1 773	1 816	402	429	2 175	2 245
July	1 741	1 785	424	454	2 165	2 239
August	1 717	1 762	423	463	2 140	2 225
September	1 696	1 740	406	458	2 102	2 198
October	1 674	1 716	394	461	2 068	2 177
November	1 641	1 679	390	469	2 031	2 148
December	1 600	1 634	397	485	1 997	2 119
2007						
January	1 556	1 584	400	493	1 956	2 077

Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

17 BUILDING APPROVALS, By number and value of dwelling units approved: **Original**

Reference period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Total residential building(a)	Total non-residential building	Total building
			NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS (*no.*)			
2003–2004	19 572	4 033	23 605	23 692	35	23 727
2004–2005	19 363	4 611	23 974	24 078	31	24 109
2005–2006	r21 769	r3 886	r25 655	r25 834	18	r25 852
2005						
November	2 036	326	2 362	2 368	6	2 374
December	1 597	440	2 037	2 039	2	2 041
2006						
January	1 581	315	1 896	2 006	—	2 006
February	1 777	176	1 953	1 955	5	1 960
March	r1 877	r290	r2 167	r2 168	1	r2 169
April	1 682	319	2 001	2 029	1	2 030
May	r2 268	r482	r2 750	r2 755	1	r2 756
June	r1 701	395	r2 096	r2 098	1	r2 099
July	r1 799	842	r2 641	r2 647	1	r2 648
August	r1 899	r543	r2 442	r2 445	—	r2 445
September	1 770	419	2 189	2 197	4	2 201
October	r1 740	175	r1 915	r1 921	4	r1 925
November	1 941	459	2 400	2 440	—	2 440
December	1 490	516	2 006	2 015	3	2 018
2007						
January	1 280	345	1 625	1 650	2	1 652
			VALUE OF APPROVAL (*$m*)			
2003–2004	2 997.2	559.2	3 556.1	3 879.4	1 522.4	5 401.8
2004–2005	3 323.8	767.1	4 091.0	4 448.3	1 963.9	6 412.0
2005–2006	r4 269.2	r772.9	r5 042.3	r5 519.5	r2 051.8	r7 571.2
2005						
November	386.2	62.7	448.9	504.7	173.1	677.8
December	315.3	80.2	395.5	425.3	273.1	698.4
2006						
January	310.6	53.2	363.8	415.9	110.9	526.7
February	349.8	29.5	379.4	416.3	126.2	542.5
March	379.6	r49.4	r429.0	r468.9	171.9	r640.8
April	341.5	63.4	405.0	446.6	238.7	685.3
May	r463.3	89.5	r552.8	r593.3	r207.8	r801.2
June	r365.6	79.2	r444.9	r488.5	r159.9	r648.4
July	r391.7	167.3	r559.0	r597.7	r173.9	r771.6
August	r420.1	r162.2	r582.4	r622.2	r130.8	r753.0
September	390.7	101.0	r491.7	530.3	132.7	663.0
October	r407.4	34.3	r441.6	r479.0	r184.4	r663.5
November	440.5	124.7	565.2	611.5	365.2	976.7
December	347.0	126.8	473.8	517.5	170.7	688.2
2007						
January	313.5	72.2	385.6	424.7	328.4	753.1

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
r revised

(a) Includes total alterations and additions, refurbishments and conversions.

Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

18 BUILDING ACTIVITY, By number of dwelling units and stage of production: **Original**

Reference period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Total residential building(a)	Total non-residential building	Total building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
COMMENCED						
2003–2004	18 515	3 828	22 342	22 410	26	22 436
2004–2005	18 139	4 546	22 685	22 775	23	22 798
2005–2006	r21 515	r4 014	r25 529	r25 710	r30	r25 740
2005						
June	4 507	1 158	5 666	5 696	6	5 702
September	5 652	1 190	6 842	6 864	6	6 870
December	5 324	670	5 993	6 025	10	6 034
2006						
March	5 041	801	5 842	5 936	14	5 950
June	r5 498	r1 353	r6 851	r6 884	r1	r6 885
September	5 493	1 465	6 958	6 966	6	6 972
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD						
2003–2004	10 779	3 805	14 585	14 638	61	14 699
2004–2005	12 931	4 895	17 827	17 909	51	17 960
2005–2006	r16 063	r5 565	r21 628	r21 827	r31	r21 858
2005						
June	12 931	4 895	17 827	17 909	51	17 960
September	14 505	5 039	19 544	19 623	57	19 680
December	14 859	4 830	19 689	19 789	54	19 843
2006						
March	15 612	4 852	20 465	20 637	66	20 703
June	r16 063	r5 565	r21 628	r21 827	r31	r21 858
September	16 623	6 142	22 765	22 941	26	22 967
COMPLETED						
2003–2004	15 491	2 816	18 307	18 496	14	18 510
2004–2005	15 854	3 384	19 238	19 302	33	19 335
2005–2006	r18 214	3 325	r21 539	r21 602	53	r21 655
2005						
June	4 698	1 324	6 022	6 036	18	6 054
September	3 987	1 011	4 998	5 014	—	5 014
December	4 942	878	5 821	5 844	15	5 859
2006						
March	4 255	779	5 034	5 054	2	5 056
June	r5 029	657	r5 686	r5 690	36	r5 726
September	4 935	888	5 823	5 848	9	5 857

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
r revised

(a) Includes total alterations and additions, refurbishments and conversions.

Source: Building Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8752.0.

19 BUILDING ACTIVITY, By value and stage of production—Current prices: **Original**

Reference period	New houses $m	New other residential building $m	New residential building $m	Total residential building(a) $m	Total non-residential building $m	Total building $m
COMMENCED						
2003–2004	2 859.6	576.9	3 436.5	3 747.0	1 470.3	5 217.3
2004–2005	3 127.8	786.0	3 913.8	4 279.4	1 758.8	6 038.2
2005–2006	r4 209.9	r860.7	r5 070.6	r5 553.6	r2 204.5	r7 758.1
2005						
June	813.4	193.9	1 007.4	1 097.1	310.3	1 407.4
September	1 060.6	231.2	1 291.8	1 396.1	460.0	1 856.1
December	1 043.5	154.6	1 198.1	1 323.4	595.6	1 919.0
2006						
March	1 011.2	149.0	1 160.2	1 291.7	506.9	1 798.6
June	r1 094.6	r325.9	r1 420.5	r1 542.4	r642.1	r2 184.5
September	1 252.0	324.6	1 576.6	1 702.5	399.9	2 102.4
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD						
2003–2004	1 903.4	645.4	2 548.8	2 704.9	1 182.4	3 887.2
2004–2005	2 512.2	924.6	3 436.8	3 673.1	1 574.5	5 247.6
2005–2006	r3 555.4	r1 345.1	r4 900.5	r5 231.9	r2 348.8	r7 580.8
2005						
June	2 512.2	924.6	3 436.8	3 673.1	1 574.5	5 247.6
September	2 921.7	1 063.3	3 985.0	4 239.9	1 724.1	5 964.0
December	3 081.6	1 156.0	4 237.6	4 520.3	1 928.6	6 448.9
2006						
March	3 364.0	1 182.4	4 546.4	4 855.5	2 101.2	6 956.7
June	r3 555.4	r1 345.1	r4 900.5	r5 231.9	r2 348.8	r7 580.8
September	3 888.8	1 513.8	5 402.6	5 780.4	2 385.6	8 166.0
COMPLETED						
2003–2004	2 315.1	413.4	2 728.5	3 065.2	1 594.5	4 659.7
2004–2005	2 571.0	522.8	3 093.8	3 442.3	1 465.0	4 907.2
2005–2006	r3 206.8	604.5	r3 811.3	r4 213.2	r1 582.9	r5 796.1
2005						
June	803.6	191.9	995.5	1 095.8	439.5	1 535.2
September	658.3	148.5	806.8	891.0	376.7	1 267.7
December	891.2	135.2	1 026.4	1 143.3	432.8	1 576.1
2006						
March	733.2	137.4	870.6	962.4	310.4	1 272.8
June	r924.1	183.3	r1 107.4	r1 216.6	r463.0	r1 679.6
September	944.8	174.6	1 119.4	1 214.1	350.1	1 564.2
WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD						
2003–2004	1 028.0	332.6	1 360.6	1 433.0	641.9	2 074.9
2004–2005	1 325.8	472.2	1 798.0	1 890.0	802.6	2 692.6
2005–2006	r1 815.0	r681.2	r2 496.2	r2 660.2	r1 116.8	r3 776.9
2005						
June	1 325.8	472.2	1 798.0	1 890.0	802.6	2 692.6
September	1 544.4	568.3	2 112.7	2 217.7	806.9	3 024.7
December	1 659.2	607.7	2 266.9	2 391.1	941.6	3 332.8
2006						
March	1 740.3	570.7	2 311.0	2 461.6	1 001.4	3 463.1
June	r1 815.0	r681.2	r2 496.2	r2 660.2	r1 116.8	r3 776.9
September	1 971.4	759.7	2 731.1	2 909.1	926.8	3 835.9

r revised

(a) Includes total alterations and additions, refurbishments and conversions.

Source: Building Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8752.0.

20 ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, By value, stage and type of construction—Current prices: **Original**

Reference period	Roads, highways and subdivisions	Bridges, railways and harbours	Electricity generation, transmission etc. and pipelines	Water storage and supply, sewerage and drainage	Telecom-munications	Heavy industry	Recreation and other	Total
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
				WORK COMMENCED				
2003–2004	985.6	1 619.7	256.4	234.4	333.6	1 252.3	189.3	4 871.2
2004–2005	927.2	681.6	1 036.1	432.3	347.0	r5 165.8	321.5	r8 911.6
2005–2006	1 332.2	r2 029.1	r1 343.6	298.3	519.1	r10 502.6	r335.5	r16 360.5
2005								
June	221.6	48.2	**93.4	^212.1	130.1	r531.1	*62.8	r1 299.4
September	^374.9	67.8	**98.6	*107.6	92.6	r2 882.9	^85.4	r3 709.8
December	282.7	1 280.7	^86.1	66.2	97.3	r2 159.0	^r54.9	r4 026.9
2006								
March	369.7	160.4	80.1	*73.5	134.9	r336.5	^r75.0	r1 230.1
June	305.0	r520.2	r1 078.8	^51.0	194.3	r5 124.3	*r120.2	r7 393.6
September	490.2	657.1	342.9	^58.8	113.6	1 327.2	^130.5	3 120.3
				WORK DONE				
2003–2004	1 004.3	371.3	683.9	302.6	334.3	1 989.7	194.5	4 880.6
2004–2005	976.3	1 142.5	597.9	343.8	323.1	r2 484.6	316.3	r6 184.4
2005–2006	1 197.1	r1 314.9	r1 141.2	383.5	515.1	r6 521.5	r293.6	r11 366.8
2005								
June	273.1	287.2	^141.0	^97.1	98.4	r701.8	^82.8	r1 681.5
September	^281.7	305.6	149.2	*93.9	94.9	r1 021.9	^85.4	r2 032.6
December	r279.0	316.2	354.5	^75.4	94.2	r1 591.4	^r50.0	r2 760.7
2006								
March	275.5	316.1	212.6	^103.7	128.3	r1 563.2	^r67.5	r2 666.9
June	360.9	r377.1	r424.9	110.5	197.6	r2 345.0	^r90.7	r3 906.6
September	^343.4	422.1	484.3	84.2	104.2	1 594.5	^89.0	3 121.7
				WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD				
2003–2004	235.5	1 413.0	163.1	59.3	26.4	878.0	27.7	2 803.1
2004–2005	223.1	1 080.0	939.7	161.1	51.9	3 979.1	42.9	6 477.8
2005–2006	326.8	r1 891.8	983.3	96.6	17.8	r7 770.1	30.9	r11 117.3
2005								
June	223.1	1 080.0	^939.7	161.1	51.9	3 979.1	^42.9	6 477.8
September	329.4	924.9	^792.7	^170.5	42.4	5 799.1	^52.0	8 111.0
December	r287.5	1 924.4	494.3	171.5	39.5	6 430.5	^45.2	r9 392.9
2006								
March	379.0	1 728.1	344.1	^154.1	29.4	5 623.9	39.0	8 297.7
June	326.8	r1 891.8	983.3	^96.6	17.8	r7 770.1	^30.9	r11 117.3
September	510.8	2 195.6	858.9	^89.0	22.2	8 627.5	^86.1	12 390.2

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

r revised

Source: Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8762.0.

21 ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, By value of work done—Chain volume measures(a): **All series**

Reference period	Original $m	Seasonally Adjusted $m	Trend $m
2003–2004	r5 156.1	5 156.1	5 214.6
2004–2005	r6 184.4	6 184.4	6 247.8
2005–2006	r10 734.6	10 734.5	10 438.8
2005			
June	r1 646.6	1 528.1	1 747.9
September	r1 973.8	2 062.2	2 034.1
December	r2 653.3	2 533.2	2 487.5
2006			
March	r2 541.2	2 800.4	2 871.3
June	r3 566.2	3 338.8	3 045.9
September	2 718.1	2 827.8	3 085.8

r revised

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2004–05.

Source: Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8762.0.

22 INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, By major commodity: **Original**

Category of the SITC		2005 September $'000	2005 December $'000	2006 March $'000	2006 June $'000	2006 September $'000	2006 December $'000
	MAJOR EXPORT COMMODITIES(a)						
001	Live animals	116 640	126 268	96 647	95 694	146 961	125 225
036	Crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates	54 158	53 332	122 376	151 330	41 421	64 689
041	Wheat	384 042	436 607	433 428	360 264	533 063	407 730
268	Wool and other animal hair	95 927	113 757	124 065	158 064	109 903	138 367
281	Iron ore and concentrates	2 983 060	3 371 627	2 854 349	3 509 491	3 895 733	4 001 280
284	Nickel ores and concentrates	111 087	252 445	137 953	341 249	218 962	392 215
287	Ores and concentrates of base metal	57 567	132 299	117 359	135 442	188 277	199 991
333	Crude petroleum oils	1 557 495	1 415 308	1 180 090	1 157 603	1 843 003	1 750 884
334	Refined petroleum oils	217 679	121 266	137 485	89 915	156 869	133 340
342	Liquefied propane and butane	157 675	177 796	149 836	183 228	164 930	176 025
343	Natural gas	965 972	1 099 169	969 708	1 058 094	1 065 213	1 114 013
533	Pigments, paints, varnishes and related materials	99 809	117 386	104 286	121 682	108 234	96 967
683	Nickel	81 225	148 589	154 446	191 594	286 358	357 569
971	Gold, non-monetary	1 463 956	1 558 283	1 673 964	2 462 908	2 455 895	2 404 508
988	Confidential items	1 735 798	1 989 586	1 906 525	2 051 924	2 276 604	2 665 755
	MAJOR IMPORT COMMODITIES(b)						
333	Crude petroleum oils	285 475	485 066	487 512	284 799	521 716	429 274
334	Refined petroleum oils	330 280	378 946	342 716	750 175	328 715	350 413
562	Fertilisers	53 478	62 970	90 784	95 515	19 689	3 675
625	Rubber tyres	51 196	50 270	67 727	88 241	94 930	94 173
679	Iron or steel tubes and pipes	65 005	68 941	76 218	87 564	61 505	110 412
723	Civil engineering plant and equipment	121 335	119 690	158 063	177 564	189 578	211 190
728	Other specialised industry machinery and equipment	59 970	77 224	52 137	64 065	86 950	75 003
752	Automatic data processing machines	38 447	44 193	49 549	62 652	39 364	53 819
759	Parts and accessories of office machines	34 023	47 316	51 633	39 902	28 669	26 540
781	Passenger motor vehicles	291 437	314 111	261 661	368 499	323 771	395 942
782	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods	134 081	161 334	186 314	232 283	177 620	226 711
792	Aircraft and associated equipment	11 671	26 117	20 906	23 993	23 562	33 143
793	Ships, boats and floating structures	34 645	14 364	50 604	588 846	25 998	30 835
971	Gold, non-monetary	641 406	608 782	1 269 520	1 832 512	1 039 860	1 219 040
988	Confidential items	150 440	142 384	155 319	164 295	168 321	199 594

(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, By commodity: **Original**

Section and Division of the SITC		EXPORTS(a) December quarter 2005 $'000	EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2006 $'000	EXPORTS(a) December quarter 2006 $'000	IMPORTS(b) December quarter 2005 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2006 $'000	IMPORTS(b) December quarter 2006 $'000
0	**Food & live animals**						
00	Live animals other than fish, crustaceans, molluscs & aquatic invertebrates	126 268	146 961	125 225	9	8	5
01	Meat & meat preparations	118 287	96 877	106 408	9 298	8 686	13 894
02	Dairy products & birds' eggs	22 453	19 231	19 286	5 044	2 649	4 591
03	Fish (not marine mammals), crustaceans, molluscs & aquatic invertebrates, & preparations thereof	54 803	43 131	65 195	24 849	19 631	31 490
04	Cereals & cereal preparations	453 845	562 433	441 974	7 336	8 094	8 841
05	Vegetables & fruit	21 374	24 197	19 376	15 677	14 337	19 341
06	Sugars, sugar preparations & honey	2 035	830	2 028	2 447	2 421	2 414
07	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, & manufactures thereof	175	266	142	2 484	2 750	2 863
08	Feeding stuff for animals (excl. unmilled cereals)	39 010	36 844	40 355	2 719	4 177	5 625
09	Miscellaneous edible products & preparations	4 505	2 919	3 458	9 798	9 148	12 898
	Total food & live animals(c)	*842 755*	*933 690*	*823 449*	*79 661*	*71 903*	*101 961*
1	**Beverages & tobacco**						
11	Beverages	11 907	13 545	12 954	13 260	13 705	16 263
12	Tobacco & tobacco manufactures	—	7	—	30	6	14
	Total beverages & tobacco(c)	*11 907*	*13 551*	*12 954*	*13 290*	*13 711*	*16 277*
2	**Crude materials, inedible, except fuels**						
21	Hides, skins & furskins, raw	11 839	13 343	16 358	4	—	—
22	Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	42 081	9 267	22 628	333	293	390
23	Crude rubber (incl. synthetic and reclaimed)	72	143	63	1 087	717	721
24	Cork & wood	61 165	67 160	86 572	8 861	9 081	8 729
25	Pulp & waste paper	4 933	4 350	6 684	672	911	941
26	Textile fibres & their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	114 149	110 352	138 797	812	1 188	1 210
27	Crude fertilisers (excl. those of Division 56) & crude minerals (excl. coal, petroleum & precious stones)	30 250	26 646	38 871	12 325	10 766	12 963
28	Metalliferous ores & metal scrap	3 943 260	4 575 326	4 980 956	3 865	4 956	872
29	Crude animal & vegetable materials, n.e.s.	11 044	4 559	4 691	5 091	3 346	6 586
	Total crude materials, inedible, except fuels(c)	*4 218 795*	*4 811 144*	*5 295 619*	*33 051*	*31 258*	*32 410*
3	**Mineral fuels, lubricants & related materials**						
32	Coal, coke & briquettes	111	6	270	720	216	169
33	Petroleum, petroleum products & related materials	1 536 605	1 999 920	1 884 351	870 257	852 464	789 743
34	Gas, natural & manufactured	1 276 994	1 230 169	1 290 064	33	7	9
	Total mineral fuels, lubricants & related materials(c)	*2 813 709*	*3 230 095*	*3 174 686*	*871 009*	*852 688*	*789 921*
4	**Animal & vegetable oils, fats & waxes**						
41	Animal oils & fats	4 651	4 870	3 732	52	19	1
42	Fixed vegetable fats & oils, crude, refined or fractionated	1 542	4 350	2 334	3 351	5 695	6 603
43	Fats & oils (processed), waxes & inedible mixtures or preparations, of animal or vegetable origin, n.e.s.	85	39	—	192	1 129	131
	Total animal & vegetable oils, fats & waxes(c)	*6 277*	*9 259*	*6 066*	*3 595*	*6 844*	*6 735*

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.
(c) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, By commodity: **Original** *continued*

		EXPORTS(a)			IMPORTS(b)		
		December quarter 2005	*September quarter 2006*	*December quarter 2006*	*December quarter 2005*	*September quarter 2006*	*December quarter 2006*
Section and Division of the SITC		$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
5	**Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.**						
51	Organic chemicals	446	466	558	47 049	26 504	51 078
52	Inorganic chemicals	53 656	101 118	125 306	24 837	13 570	12 534
53	Dyeing, tanning & colouring materials	117 386	108 236	96 967	3 570	3 452	4 366
54	Medicinal & pharmaceutical products	71 052	8 681	11 500	28 278	54 012	14 567
55	Essential oils & resinoids & perfume materials; toilet, polishing & cleansing preparations	2 854	3 228	4 114	5 556	4 200	4 826
56	Fertilisers (excl. crude)	94	2 197	1 035	62 970	19 689	3 675
57	Plastics in primary forms	3 871	3 444	4 125	9 570	10 535	11 299
58	Plastics in non-primary forms	4 262	2 807	2 647	18 818	24 763	27 385
59	Chemical materials & products, n.e.s.	4 890	4 307	5 197	13 632	18 994	22 128
	Total chemicals & related products, n.e.s.(c)	*258 510*	*234 484*	*251 449*	*214 281*	*175 718*	*151 857*
6	**Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material**						
61	Leather, leather manufactures, & dressed furskins, n.e.s.	1 003	624	650	1 040	1 772	1 509
62	Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	5 097	4 377	4 755	66 826	121 851	113 203
63	Cork & wood manufactures (excl. furniture)	2 989	3 240	2 632	12 585	15 459	17 215
64	Paper, paperboard, & articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	1 255	2 137	1 231	19 212	20 427	21 715
65	Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., & related products	2 075	1 720	1 633	26 828	29 665	33 107
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	68 221	84 107	71 610	77 416	60 857	65 613
67	Iron & steel	10 950	11 761	18 152	117 686	109 979	162 265
68	Non-ferrous metals	233 378	426 491	469 603	24 276	97 006	55 896
69	Manufactures of metals, n.e.s.	19 391	27 757	34 099	105 298	146 923	172 378
	Total manufactured goods classified chiefly by material(c)	*344 358*	*562 215*	*604 365*	*451 167*	*603 938*	*642 900*
7	**Machinery & transport equipment**						
71	Power generating machinery & equipment	14 312	14 126	17 429	57 429	74 070	165 279
72	Machinery specialised for particular industries	43 521	46 579	42 892	229 148	353 583	378 298
73	Metal working machinery	1 397	1 298	580	9 506	15 682	11 589
74	General industrial machinery & equipment, n.e.s. & machine parts, n.e.s.	33 577	38 874	36 511	260 964	264 893	489 741
75	Office machines & automatic data processing machines	4 036	2 812	3 795	98 530	68 985	83 470
76	Telecommunications & sound recording & reproducing apparatus & equipment	7 560	9 805	8 676	53 037	64 919	86 629
77	Electrical machinery, apparatus, appliances, parts (incl. non-electrical counterparts of electrical domestic equipment)	17 070	15 848	20 150	77 270	99 888	109 719
78	Road vehicles (incl. air-cushion vehicles)	7 612	9 265	8 487	544 132	580 564	711 116
79	Transport equipment (excl. road vehicles)	5 789	13 870	4 109	92 310	54 020	99 155
	Total machinery & transport equipment(c)	*134 874*	*152 478*	*142 631*	*1 422 326*	*1 576 603*	*2 134 997*
8	**Miscellaneous manufactured articles**						
81	Prefabricated buildings; sanitary, plumbing, heating & lighting fixtures & fittings, n.e.s.	1 376	3 663	3 022	7 526	10 022	12 140
82	Furniture, parts thereof; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions & similar stuffed furnishings	4 973	3 070	4 773	64 663	66 375	76 887
83	Travel goods, handbags & similar containers	40	143	97	4 077	4 550	5 304
84	Articles of apparel & clothing accessories	757	759	586	21 463	26 392	24 993
85	Footwear	497	229	481	10 001	18 766	11 191
87	Professional, scientific & controlling instruments & apparatus, n.e.s.	16 062	14 283	13 620	54 776	67 521	57 425
88	Photographic apparatus, equipment & supplies & optical goods, n.e.s.; watches & clocks	691	1 749	801	3 402	3 879	4 606
89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	9 319	30 512	14 794	80 877	92 094	90 940
	Total miscellaneous manufactured articles(c)	*33 716*	*54 407*	*38 174*	*246 785*	*289 599*	*283 485*

(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.
(c) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

Section and Division of the SITC	EXPORTS(a) December quarter 2005 $'000	EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2006 $'000	EXPORTS(a) December quarter 2006 $'000	IMPORTS(b) December quarter 2005 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2006 $'000	IMPORTS(b) December quarter 2006 $'000
9 Commodities & transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC						
93 Special transactions & commodities not classified according to kind	12 460	11 050	10 213	480	209	573
95 Gold coin whether or not legal tender, & other coin being legal tender	32 552	14 587	69 955	241	41	1 122
96 Coin (excl. gold coin), not being legal tender	163	103	55	26	13	1
97 Gold, non-monetary (excl. gold ores & concentrates)	1 558 283	2 455 895	2 404 508	608 782	1 039 860	1 219 040
98 Combined confidential items excl. some of SITC 280 (exports only) & some of SITCs 510 & 520 (imports only)	1 989 586	2 276 604	2 665 755	142 384	168 321	199 594
Total commodities & transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC(c)	*3 593 045*	*4 758 241*	*5 150 485*	*751 912*	*1 208 444*	*1 420 330*
Total merchandise trade(c)	**12 257 945**	**14 759 564**	**15 499 878**	**4 087 074**	**4 830 705**	**5 580 874**

(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.
(c) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

24 INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, By selected country: **Original**

	EXPORTS(a)			IMPORTS(b)			BALANCE OF TRADE		
	December quarter 2005	*September quarter 2006*	*December quarter 2006*	*December quarter 2005*	*September quarter 2006*	*December quarter 2006*	*December quarter 2005*	*September quarter 2006*	*December quarter 2006*
Country	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Austria	1 129	2 428	8 034	39 732	44 124	47 425	–38 603	–41 696	–39 391
Belgium	103 098	97 281	144 694	16 528	29 365	33 945	86 570	67 916	110 750
Canada	190 843	135 586	118 242	60 526	38 799	50 961	130 317	96 787	67 281
China	2 658 856	3 036 227	3 718 971	306 548	323 952	446 270	2 352 307	2 712 275	3 272 702
Finland	210 672	276 876	493 318	39 567	32 059	29 709	171 105	244 817	463 609
France	53 848	61 537	78 764	49 841	61 838	51 779	4 007	–301	26 985
Germany	20 506	23 379	42 014	131 769	180 371	296 889	–111 262	–156 992	–254 874
Hong Kong (Sar of China)	51 624	66 080	117 870	63 935	58 876	31 038	–12 311	7 204	86 832
India	527 339	1 389 449	1 284 119	26 701	31 294	31 174	500 637	1 358 156	1 252 945
Indonesia	231 899	483 682	320 608	153 211	245 646	232 699	78 687	238 036	87 909
Iraq	94 580	22	—	—	—	—	94 580	22	—
Ireland	5 245	805	711	12 698	39 267	21 077	–7 453	–38 463	–20 366
Israel	7 696	21 864	14 882	15 103	6 028	11 033	–7 406	15 837	3 850
Italy	54 686	95 396	93 263	83 224	104 927	230 640	–28 538	–9 532	–137 377
Japan	2 977 217	3 139 787	3 128 761	416 507	670 885	555 114	2 560 709	2 468 901	2 573 647
Korea, Republic of	1 150 075	1 201 798	1 356 929	121 981	162 625	269 576	1 028 094	1 039 173	1 087 353
Kuwait	35 287	15 936	35 537	118	314	316	35 169	15 622	35 222
Malaysia	112 271	94 469	79 474	242 889	103 872	159 275	–130 618	–9 402	–79 801
Mozambique	96 845	104 292	127 267	—	—	—	96 845	104 292	127 267
Netherlands	102 620	179 204	183 891	36 179	21 273	34 316	66 441	157 931	149 575
New Zealand	214 581	367 080	185 074	112 133	124 603	112 060	102 448	242 477	73 014
Norway	7 231	13 229	4 760	14 963	10 006	9 608	–7 731	3 223	–4 848
Pakistan	35 566	9 214	12 353	1 473	1 551	1 615	34 092	7 664	10 739
Papua New Guinea	83 423	34 716	172 781	123 671	143 109	222 701	–40 247	–108 393	–49 920
Philippines	14 581	21 657	70 875	4 941	5 954	6 425	9 641	15 703	64 450
Russian Federation	29 295	3 338	43 298	12 849	11 903	2 739	16 447	–8 565	40 559
Saudi Arabia	116 601	63 842	78 623	219 283	26 176	49 413	–102 681	37 665	29 210
Singapore	455 634	647 667	624 998	665 040	459 704	533 145	–209 406	187 964	91 853
South Africa	211 636	234 910	235 977	56 405	57 152	52 547	155 232	177 757	183 430
Spain	66 601	63 920	60 642	28 671	31 480	29 322	37 930	32 439	31 320
Sweden	11 821	3 566	3 274	43 070	46 723	51 137	–31 249	–43 156	–47 863
Switzerland	29 312	14 659	154 692	15 369	56 611	92 810	13 942	–41 952	61 881
Taiwan	320 793	350 356	351 644	103 793	108 949	123 860	217 000	241 407	227 783
Thailand	322 085	431 602	253 483	138 394	156 750	191 477	183 691	274 852	62 006
Turkey	12 133	22 514	24 543	3 714	18 283	52 920	8 420	4 231	–28 377
United Arab Emirates	109 420	174 081	317 029	65 147	411 874	266 867	44 272	–237 792	50 163
United Kingdom	826 665	847 162	797 674	106 440	326 051	495 261	720 226	521 111	302 414
United States of America	378 969	349 527	374 133	421 324	533 523	571 502	–42 355	–183 996	–197 369
Viet Nam	21 102	444 175	164 576	13 472	17 776	47 617	7 630	426 398	116 960
Yemen	21 981	36 922	32 284	—	—	—	21 981	36 922	32 284
All other countries	282 177	199 329	189 814	119 867	127 014	134 615	162 311	72 315	55 199
Total(c)	**12 257 945**	**14 759 564**	**15 499 878**	**4 087 074**	**4 830 705**	**5 580 874**	**8 170 871**	**9 928 859**	**9 919 005**

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.
(c) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

25 MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE(a), By selected mineral

Reference period	ORIGINAL Copper	Silver, lead, zinc	Nickel, cobalt	Gold	Iron ore	Diamonds	Total minerals(b)	SEAS. ADJ. Total minerals(b)	TREND Total minerals(b)	ORIGINAL Total petroleum
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2003–2004	np	np	70.6	276.7	np	17.0	465.8	465.7	467.0	670.5
2004–2005	4.7	4.8	148.7	259.6	136.9	15.9	606.0	608.0	604.4	526.5
2005–2006	9.3	13.9	115.0	240.3	155.6	np	590.2	589.7	599.7	593.6
2005										
September	2.3	1.7	36.5	62.0	35.9	4.0	154.4	149.3	152.1	135.1
December	2.2	4.4	33.7	61.1	41.4	4.6	158.0	146.2	144.6	152.8
2006										
March	2.0	2.1	19.7	53.7	31.0	np	121.5	144.4	144.9	137.0
June	2.9	5.8	25.0	63.5	47.4	2.5	156.3	149.8	158.1	168.7
September	4.5	8.7	31.3	64.7	66.4	4.7	190.2	183.8	177.9	289.9
December	4.8	8.8	37.1	77.8	71.0	6.7	217.3	201.0	199.6	346.1

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

(a) Includes expenditure on Western Australian leases in the Zone of Cooperation Area B.

(b) Includes minerals not listed in the table.

Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, cat. no. 8412.0.

26 MINERAL AND ENERGY PRODUCTION: **Original**

Reference period	SELECTED MINERALS Gold(a)	Diamonds	Iron ore(b)	Bauxite	Ilmenite	Nickel	Zinc(c)	ENERGY Coal	Electricity generated	Crude oil(d)	Natural gas(e)
	tonnes	'000 carats	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	million kWh	megalitres	million m^3
2003–2004	174	24 292	216 609	38 072	1 774	185	91	5 983	20 920	17 158	20 561
2004–2005	173	32 471	246 260	38 070	1 851	192	47	6 233	21 956	16 997	24 582
2005–2006	165	25 339	258 394	39 284	r1 965	183	113	6 711	21 193	16 635	25 887
2005											
September	42	6 043	64 741	9 653	493	46	18	1 659	5 163	4 667	6 317
December	43	6 516	65 844	9 833	462	52	22	1 683	5 399	4 563	6 691
2006											
March	40	5 244	59 193	9 583	494	41	40	1 707	5 498	3 357	6 253
June	41	7 537	68 617	10 215	r516	44	32	1 662	5 133	3 482	6 641
September	41	8 389	r70 835	10 738	542	44	22	1 705	5 401	r5 392	r6 556
December	41	8 127	70 853	10 578	529	50	48	1 548	5 605	5 112	7 243

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(a) Gold content of all ores, concentrates, slags, residues, intermediate products, refined and unrefined bullion.

(b) For use in iron and steel making.

(c) Zinc content of all ores, concentrates, slags, residues, intermediate products, refined zinc, zinc powders, flakes and dust.

(d) Includes condensate.

(e) Commercial sales plus field and plant usage.

Note: Latest figures are preliminary and subject to revision.

Source: ABARE, *Australian Mineral Statistics;* Department of Industry and Resources; ABS data available on request, *Manufacturing Production, Australia,* cat. no. 8301.0.55.001.

27 LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED AND RED MEAT PRODUCED(a): **All series**

Reference period	LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED(b)					RED MEAT PRODUCED(c)				
	Cattle(d)	*Calves*	*Sheep*	*Lambs*	*Pigs*	*Beef*(e)	*Veal*	*Mutton*	*Lamb*	*Pig meat*
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes
ORIGINAL										
2003–2004	462.9	4.7	1 845.4	2 391.8	674.4	116 555	258	37 094	47 212	45 190
2004–2005	510.5	4.3	2 205.2	2 466.7	647.0	131 407	250	43 842	49 122	43 999
2005–2006	434.0	3.7	2 120.6	2 798.4	599.2	113 318	250	45 939	58 080	40 978
2005										
September	106.1	1.1	442.1	705.4	155.0	26 452	79	9 515	14 544	10 667
December	114.4	1.0	576.7	695.8	143.4	30 467	65	12 845	14 364	9 709
2006										
March	108.3	0.7	609.9	675.6	147.1	28 829	46	13 042	13 910	10 027
June	105.2	0.9	491.9	721.6	153.7	27 570	60	10 537	15 262	10 575
September	106.2	1.1	560.9	559.5	135.1	27 843	77	11 818	11 318	9 115
December	115.1	0.7	805.3	548.3	140.5	29 466	50	16 721	10 733	9 558
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED										
2003–2004	461.5	4.7	1 834.6	2 387.6	674.7	116 475	257	36 931	47 102	45 214
2004–2005	512.6	4.3	2 210.2	2 464.7	647.0	132 425	251	43 989	49 041	43 995
2005–2006	434.8	3.8	2 136.4	2 803.7	599.3	113 551	248	46 267	58 163	40 992
2005										
September	111.1	1.0	524.3	752.9	152.7	28 182	68	11 177	15 562	10 468
December	106.9	1.0	505.2	661.4	151.2	27 578	65	11 122	13 919	10 374
2006										
March	105.5	0.8	510.6	696.8	148.6	27 684	52	11 012	14 307	10 125
June	111.3	1.0	596.3	692.6	146.8	30 107	63	12 956	14 375	10 025
September	111.3	1.1	668.9	596.1	133.2	29 604	67	13 957	12 079	8 947
December	108.0	0.7	705.6	523.2	148.2	26 806	50	14 475	10 459	10 212
TREND										
2003–2004	461.9	4.9	1 848.1	2 374.9	676.1	116 404	261	37 188	46 751	45 339
2004–2005	489.6	4.4	2 203.4	2 497.1	644.6	122 652	254	43 999	49 809	43 850
2005–2006	438.8	3.7	2 158.1	2 757.5	597.0	114 066	246	46 476	57 094	40 794
2005										
September	114.6	1.0	528.9	695.2	154.0	28 792	64	11 171	14 366	10 558
December	108.0	0.9	509.9	707.6	151.6	27 790	62	11 088	14 713	10 388
2006										
March	106.9	0.9	529.1	695.6	147.6	28 370	60	11 564	14 452	10 073
June	109.3	0.9	590.2	659.1	143.8	29 114	60	12 653	13 563	9 775
September	110.2	0.9	655.7	606.8	141.6	28 934	60	13 761	12 341	9 628
December	109.9	0.9	711.0	549.3	141.6	28 131	58	14 582	11 054	9 676

(a) Includes estimates of animals slaughtered for red meat production on farms and by country butchers and other small slaughtering establishments.
(b) Figures only relate to slaughterings for human consumption.
(c) Red meat is shown in carcass weight and excludes offal.
(d) Excludes calves.
(e) Excludes veal.

Source: Livestock Products, Australia, cat. no. 7215.0.

28 WHEAT AND LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS, Current prices: **Original**

Reference period	WHEAT(a) Gross weight		LIVE SHEEP Gross weight		
	Gross weight	Gross value	Gross weight	Quantity	Gross value
	tonnes	$'000	tonnes	no.	$'000
2003–2004	7 923 614	1 784 855	r129 910	r2 732 274	r187 989
2004–2005	8 123 349	1 747 563	r141 407	r2 791 516	r176 852
2005–2006	7 739 627	1 614 342	r164 746	r3 401 740	r234 018
2005					
September	1 881 894	384 042	r49 958	r980 620	r67 628
December	2 013 123	436 607	r58 066	r1 212 064	r84 188
2006					
March	2 198 372	433 428	r33 254	r662 412	r44 934
June	1 646 237	360 264	23 468	546 644	37 269
September	r2 475 500	r533 063	49 139	1 017 367	72 913
December	1 654 438	407 730	51 283	1 144 839	82 217

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(a) Includes smelt and meslin, unmilled.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

29 WOOL RECEIVALS(a): **Original**

Reference period	*Brokers receivals*		*Dealers receivals*		*Total receivals*	
	'000 bales	tonnes	'000 bales	tonnes	'000 bales	tonnes
2003–2004	510 299	89 664	117 232	20 190	627 531	109 853
2004–2005	495 381	88 049	109 477	19 005	604 858	107 054
2005–2006	543 633	96 885	125 385	21 916	669 018	118 802
2005						
September	128 554	22 751	33 373	5 786	161 927	28 538
December	147 031	26 052	30 389	5 320	177 420	31 371
2006						
March	188 206	33 714	29 371	5 095	217 577	38 810
June	79 842	14 368	32 252	5 715	112 094	20 083
September	125 410	22 366	30 499	5 328	155 909	27 695
December	130 332	23 157	34 746	5 903	165 078	29 061

(a) Shows the amount of taxable wool received by brokers and purchased by dealers from wool producers. It excludes wool received by brokers on which tax has already been paid by other dealers (private buyers) or brokers.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Livestock Products, Australia,* cat. no. 7215.0.

30 OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES: **Original**

Reference period	Permanent	LONG-TERM(a) WA residents	LONG-TERM(a) Overseas visitors	SHORT-TERM(b) WA residents	SHORT-TERM(b) Overseas visitors	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
ARRIVALS						
2003–2004	15 411	10 854	19 705	428 853	483 472	958 294
2004–2005	16 318	11 451	20 823	531 400	500 117	1 080 108
2005–2006	17 638	11 840	25 207	556 467	498 622	1 109 772
2005						
October	1 508	987	1 811	57 552	45 728	107 586
November	1 550	1 080	1 359	38 300	46 665	88 954
December	1 599	2 013	1 194	32 809	64 439	102 054
2006						
January	1 602	1 114	3 438	63 910	44 241	114 305
February	1 408	823	4 782	36 565	46 094	89 672
March	1 546	881	1 849	37 036	44 261	85 573
April	1 496	881	1 518	43 699	40 492	88 086
May	1 376	651	1 347	39 870	28 115	71 358
June	1 323	808	1 660	43 039	30 011	76 841
July	1 302	834	3 841	61 449	35 848	103 274
August	1 657	869	1 975	51 638	32 143	88 282
September	1 707	867	1 808	52 286	34 324	90 992
October	1 823	1 069	2 229	60 917	48 065	114 102
November	1 596	1 171	1 771	43 514	48 600	96 652
December	1 546	1 984	1 583	39 749	74 151	119 014
DEPARTURES						
2003–2004	6 223	8 987	8 223	454 236	455 540	933 208
2004–2005	6 387	9 683	8 370	531 698	495 331	1 051 467
2005–2006	7 077	10 137	8 331	562 290	503 961	1 091 797
2005						
October	505	591	523	41 894	39 073	82 587
November	517	638	697	39 831	49 362	91 045
December	678	861	1 284	57 743	49 910	110 476
2006						
January	1 028	1 538	714	37 503	56 820	97 603
February	499	847	511	33 403	42 539	77 799
March	586	909	605	41 777	47 250	91 127
April	629	991	572	49 211	48 168	99 571
May	542	891	545	46 408	32 952	81 338
June	455	661	970	53 179	35 366	90 631
July	577	890	867	60 733	29 134	92 201
August	581	881	602	48 254	35 644	85 962
September	490	646	595	54 814	31 105	87 651
October	546	694	637	49 580	40 241	91 697
November	512	701	930	43 478	46 859	92 481
December	675	975	1 605	69 596	55 467	128 318

(a) Comprises travellers whose intended stay or absence is 12 months or more.
(b) Comprises travellers whose intended stay or absence is less than 12 months.
Source: ABS data available on request, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia,* cat. no. 3401.0.

31 SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS VISITOR ARRIVALS AND RESIDENT DEPARTURES(a), By air on holiday: **Original**

Reference period	New Zealand	United Kingdom and Ireland	Europe(b)	Indonesia	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand	Hong Kong(c)	Japan	United States of America	South Africa	Total(d)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
VISITOR ARRIVALS(e)												
2003–2004	8 797	56 304	29 185	8 680	30 401	36 268	6 601	5 236	28 069	4 504	4 678	231 194
2004–2005	12 043	56 925	30 984	7 810	25 407	47 473	5 324	5 900	31 197	4 323	3 177	245 156
2005–2006	12 119	63 000	33 092	7 625	21 300	40 062	4 542	6 397	28 595	5 114	4 282	242 047
2005												
October	1 273	6 108	3 399	908	2 349	4 485	521	436	2 513	188	245	23 736
November	646	6 589	3 515	877	2 318	4 455	111	333	2 863	441	371	23 623
December	1 690	10 770	4 843	1 066	2 442	5 867	466	1 121	2 511	1 089	831	34 879
2006												
January	857	7 291	3 436	318	1 048	2 237	206	861	2 642	404	296	21 889
February	453	7 264	3 262	527	1 436	1 523	374	464	2 399	415	241	19 871
March	813	6 880	2 529	640	1 396	2 799	626	390	2 706	376	343	20 877
April	1 008	4 751	2 376	525	1 259	2 996	692	834	1 673	643	475	18 337
May	1 026	1 986	1 244	503	1 885	2 699	334	313	1 059	230	266	12 317
June	895	1 886	1 069	704	1 449	4 091	171	281	1 368	444	235	13 605
July	835	2 878	2 619	680	886	1 493	237	694	1 552	336	199	13 996
August	940	2 349	1 943	561	1 712	1 942	305	419	2 578	346	235	14 513
September	1 469	3 152	2 492	477	1 125	2 160	302	425	2 517	133	463	15 942
October	1 178	6 430	3 675	1 313	2 162	3 390	469	553	2 548	275	330	23 475
November	980	6 737	3 731	461	1 811	4 282	191	427	2 778	958	399	24 546
December	1 553	15 734	5 140	1 021	2 484	6 042	462	646	2 544	469	1 163	39 939
RESIDENT DEPARTURES(f)												
2003–2004	21 171	21 134	18 510	75 729	12 503	16 150	18 945	4 025	1 572	9 885	1 900	225 882
2004–2005	24 650	20 515	16 547	94 086	17 720	25 455	22 604	5 959	2 684	10 327	3 164	279 353
2005–2006	24 910	26 824	22 549	64 492	23 175	30 758	33 642	8 656	3 035	13 359	3 423	299 305
2005												
October	1 212	1 285	878	5 009	2 377	2 150	3 651	694	211	964	439	22 943
November	1 683	724	440	3 587	1 652	2 602	2 602	1 086	—	905	116	18 807
December	3 581	2 616	2 141	4 073	3 098	3 131	3 086	771	477	2 358	707	31 353
2006												
January	2 106	874	895	2 633	1 763	2 151	1 762	1 044	810	734	66	18 903
February	2 198	737	367	2 356	1 363	946	2 494	458	473	392	155	14 853
March	2 041	863	591	3 268	1 792	2 902	2 557	991	216	1 197	278	19 320
April	2 761	2 277	2 413	3 964	2 097	3 436	3 546	1 018	142	1 224	242	26 380
May	912	3 829	3 619	3 505	1 461	2 310	2 686	565	103	951	261	23 875
June	794	5 083	4 400	4 482	1 751	2 425	3 259	486	74	809	279	27 802
July	3 925	4 171	3 326	4 995	2 685	3 835	5 115	969	223	1 349	209	35 325
August	2 577	3 186	2 306	4 205	1 572	2 222	4 244	883	166	1 441	326	26 406
September	1 964	3 185	2 886	5 675	2 709	2 455	4 494	614	284	1 644	332	31 046
October	2 061	1 816	1 139	4 227	2 394	1 945	5 434	721	163	1 168	294	26 235
November	1 932	923	587	5 395	1 242	1 940	3 558	910	113	683	206	21 378
December	4 935	2 565	2 121	6 515	3 705	3 872	4 455	865	641	1 832	1 166	39 248

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Comprises travellers whose intended stay is less than 12 months.
(b) Excluding United Kingdom and Ireland.
(c) Special Administrative Region of China.
(d) Total includes countries not listed in the table.
(e) Overseas visitor arrivals by air on holiday from selected country of residence.
(f) Resident departures by air on holiday to selected country of main destination.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia,* cat. no. 3401.0.

32 TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, Summary of Hotels, motels and serviced apartments: **Original**

Quarter	Establishments (no.)	Rooms (no.)	Room nights occupied ('000)	Room occupancy rate (%)	Guest arrivals ('000)	Takings from accommodation ($'000)
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 5–14 ROOMS						
2005						
June	134	1 113	43.0	42.6	41.4	4 423
September	133	1 095	46.0	45.9	44.3	4 773
December	132	1 080	45.4	46.6	42.0	4 992
2006						
March	130	1 084	42.2	45.1	38.2	4 769
June	132	1 113	44.6	44.4	40.4	4 742
September	140	1 178	49.2	45.5	47.8	5 487
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS						
2005						
June	350	20 890	1 119.6	59.1	756.3	129 486
September	350	20 807	1 214.0	63.5	872.7	143 553
December	355	21 687	1 274.2	64.0	906.2	151 796
2006						
March	352	21 036	1 224.7	64.7	872.6	148 824
June	350	21 082	1 198.2	62.5	806.9	146 961
September	348	21 172	1 279.4	65.7	906.8	163 219
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 5 OR MORE ROOMS						
2005						
June	484	22 003	1 162.5	58.2	797.6	133 909
September	483	21 902	1 260.1	62.6	916.9	148 325
December	487	22 767	1 319.6	63.2	948.2	156 788
2006						
March	482	22 120	1 266.9	63.8	910.8	153 593
June	482	22 195	1 242.8	61.6	847.3	151 703
September	488	22 350	1 328.5	64.7	954.6	168 706

Source: Tourist Accommodation, Australia, cat. no. 8635.0.

33 TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, Summary of Caravan parks, Holiday flats, units and houses and Visitor hostels: **Original**

Quarter	Establishments(a)	Capacity(b)	Nights occupied(c)	Occupancy rate(d)	Takings from accommodation
	no.	no.	'000	%	$'000
CARAVAN PARKS(e)					
2005					
June	209	26 600	1 138.6	47.1	23 793
September	205	26 072	1 262.0	52.6	27 746
December	203	25 874	1 103.9	46.6	25 696
2006					
March	202	26 210	1 069.9	45.4	25 758
June	202	26 154	1 176.8	49.4	28 125
September	198	25 807	1 319.6	55.6	30 962
HOLIDAY FLATS, UNITS AND HOUSES					
2005					
June	1 096	6 184	51.6	51.7	4 683
September	1 139	6 164	63.6	60.7	5 265
December	1 159	6 125	74.4	69.7	7 106
2006					
March	1 160	6 230	69.4	66.5	7 016
June	1 215	6 522	62.8	56.8	6 299
September	1 254	6 564	60.3	52.3	6 231
VISITOR HOSTELS(f)					
2005					
June	70	5 118	210.7	45.2	4 220
September	67	5 161	193.8	40.8	3 898
December	67	5 184	208.5	43.7	4 337
2006					
March	65	4 984	253.2	56.4	5 403
June	65	5 003	224.3	49.4	4 748
September	66	5 305	224.5	46.2	4 952

(a) Number of establishments for Caravan parks and Visitor hostels. Total number of Holiday flats, units and houses.

(b) Total capacity for Caravan parks (including on-site vans, other powered sites, unpowered sites and cabins, flats, units and villas). Number of bed spaces for Holiday flats, units and houses and Visitor hostels.

(c) Site nights occupied for Caravan parks. Unit nights occupied for Holiday flats, units and houses. Guest nights occupied for Visitor hostels.

(d) Site occupancy rate for Caravan parks. Unit occupancy rate for Holiday flats, units and houses. Bed occupancy rate for Visitor hostels.

(e) Comprising establishments with 40 or more powered sites and cabins, flats, units and villas.

(f) Comprising establishments with 25 or more bed spaces.

Source: Tourist Accommodation, Australia, cat. no. 8635.0.

34 LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER), By sex: **Trend**

	EMPLOYED					
	Full-time	*Total*	*Total unemployed*	*Labour force*(a)	*Participation rate*	*Unemployment rate*
Month	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
			MALES			
2005						
December	507.9	593.7	23.6	617.3	76.3	3.8
2006						
January	509.5	594.9	23.5	618.4	76.3	3.8
February	511.3	596.1	23.1	619.3	76.3	3.7
March	513.2	597.3	22.3	619.7	76.2	3.6
April	514.9	598.4	21.2	619.6	76.1	3.4
May	516.7	599.5	20.0	619.5	76.0	3.2
June	518.8	600.8	19.0	619.7	75.9	3.1
July	520.8	602.0	18.3	620.3	75.8	3.0
August	522.3	603.0	18.1	621.1	75.7	2.9
September	523.2	603.7	18.1	621.8	75.7	2.9
October	523.4	604.1	18.2	622.3	75.5	2.9
November	523.3	604.2	18.3	622.5	75.4	2.9
December	523.5	604.4	18.3	622.7	75.2	2.9
2007						
January	523.9	604.8	18.2	623.0	75.1	2.9
February	524.5	605.3	18.1	623.4	75.0	2.9
			FEMALES			
2005						
December	237.2	463.6	21.7	485.3	59.4	4.5
2006						
January	238.0	463.9	21.8	485.7	59.4	4.5
February	238.7	464.4	21.7	486.1	59.4	4.5
March	239.3	465.3	21.3	486.5	59.3	4.4
April	239.9	466.6	20.6	487.2	59.3	4.2
May	240.7	468.0	20.1	488.1	59.4	4.1
June	241.4	469.1	19.9	489.0	59.4	4.1
July	242.3	469.6	20.1	489.7	59.4	4.1
August	243.0	469.7	20.2	489.9	59.3	4.1
September	243.4	469.9	20.1	490.0	59.2	4.1
October	243.8	471.0	19.5	490.6	59.2	4.0
November	244.7	473.2	18.6	491.8	59.2	3.8
December	246.0	476.0	17.5	493.5	59.3	3.6
2007						
January	247.1	478.9	16.6	495.6	59.5	3.4
February	248.6	481.9	15.7	497.6	59.6	3.2
			PERSONS			
2005						
December	745.2	1 057.3	45.3	1 102.6	67.8	4.1
2006						
January	747.4	1 058.8	45.3	1 104.1	67.8	4.1
February	750.0	1 060.6	44.8	1 105.4	67.8	4.1
March	752.4	1 062.6	43.6	1 106.2	67.8	3.9
April	754.8	1 065.0	41.8	1 106.8	67.7	3.8
May	757.4	1 067.5	40.1	1 107.6	67.6	3.6
June	760.3	1 069.8	38.9	1 108.8	67.6	3.5
July	763.1	1 071.6	38.4	1 110.0	67.6	3.5
August	765.3	1 072.7	38.2	1 110.9	67.5	3.4
September	766.6	1 073.7	38.1	1 111.8	67.4	3.4
October	767.2	1 075.1	37.7	1 112.9	67.3	3.4
November	768.0	1 077.3	36.9	1 114.2	67.3	3.3
December	769.5	1 080.4	35.8	1 116.2	67.3	3.2
2007						
January	771.0	1 083.7	34.9	1 118.6	67.3	3.1
February	773.1	1 087.2	33.8	1 121.0	67.3	3.0

(a) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

35 NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS, By industry and occupation: **Original**

	2005	2006				2007
	November	*February*	*May*	*August*	*November*	*February*
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Western Australia	**1 055.3**	**1 059.4**	**1 068.7**	**1 061.0**	**1 080.1**	**1 094.0**
Industry(a)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	57.3	58.4	48.0	42.7	42.0	45.4
Mining	52.8	45.9	54.6	53.5	52.6	52.3
Manufacturing	96.3	95.6	99.6	100.5	98.1	101.9
Electricity, gas and water supply	7.1	9.4	10.0	12.1	11.6	10.7
Construction	99.5	111.7	104.9	103.3	114.8	110.9
Wholesale trade	43.3	44.1	47.7	47.7	46.0	44.7
Retail trade	146.5	152.9	157.6	147.1	154.1	156.7
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	43.9	42.5	45.3	45.2	45.3	48.8
Transport and storage	49.2	45.1	41.0	42.7	40.1	40.3
Communication services	16.0	15.3	16.1	16.6	14.3	14.2
Finance and insurance	27.7	26.3	28.7	29.4	28.8	29.6
Property and business services	122.4	125.5	123.6	132.6	128.1	132.0
Government administration and defence	50.7	47.3	45.8	47.1	54.5	53.8
Education	72.9	63.2	68.9	72.7	73.8	71.2
Health and community services	103.8	108.8	103.9	100.4	99.9	109.8
Cultural and recreational services	25.9	25.7	27.2	23.1	30.4	27.6
Personal and other services	39.9	41.5	45.9	44.2	45.8	44.0
Occupation(b)						
Managers and administrators	91.7	92.2	82.6	77.5	79.4	81.8
Professionals	190.0	186.4	185.6	191.6	191.9	198.3
Associate professionals	126.0	128.1	132.1	132.4	135.8	134.3
Tradespersons and related workers	142.1	146.4	159.4	158.0	157.4	153.8
Advanced clerical and service workers	41.0	42.2	40.0	41.0	39.6	37.0
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	172.6	170.5	179.5	171.7	176.1	186.3
Intermediate production and transport workers	94.9	96.3	94.2	95.0	107.4	106.1
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	105.1	99.0	99.7	94.8	94.0	100.8
Labourers and related workers	91.9	98.4	95.7	98.9	98.5	95.7

(a) ANZSIC Division.
(b) ASCO Major group.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

36 NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND HOURS WORKED, By industry: **Original**

ANZSIC Division	2005 November	2006 February	2006 May	2006 August	2006 November	2007 February
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ('000)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	26.2	29.5	24.5	24.1	22.5	23.3
Mining	52.4	44.7	54.2	52.9	51.2	51.7
Manufacturing	88.8	85.9	92.0	91.4	88.8	93.6
Electricity, gas and water supply	6.9	9.3	9.6	11.9	11.6	10.7
Construction	62.1	71.6	71.8	68.6	78.3	79.0
Wholesale trade	39.9	39.7	43.3	43.3	40.5	39.7
Retail trade	128.7	136.7	142.2	131.1	142.3	144.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	39.7	39.3	41.6	40.9	40.9	45.6
Transport and storage	39.3	35.8	33.9	35.1	33.0	33.1
Communication services	13.2	13.4	14.2	14.4	12.8	11.9
Finance and insurance	25.8	24.5	26.7	27.1	25.4	27.2
Property and business services	101.3	106.4	105.1	110.1	109.5	108.2
Government administration and defence	50.1	46.5	45.6	47.1	54.2	53.3
Education	69.5	61.0	66.0	68.9	70.8	69.4
Health and community services	98.2	103.0	98.3	94.7	94.3	104.4
Cultural and recreational services	21.4	20.0	22.5	19.7	25.8	22.8
Personal and other services	32.5	33.9	36.6	34.1	36.2	35.7
Total	**895.9**	**901.2**	**927.9**	**915.4**	**938.0**	**953.3**
TOTAL WEEKLY HOURS WORKED ('000)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1 127.3	1 171.0	1 059.7	997.7	998.1	990.5
Mining	2 702.2	1 997.0	2 236.9	2 560.3	2 544.0	2 254.6
Manufacturing	3 414.0	3 394.9	3 659.0	3 504.6	3 535.1	3 678.8
Electricity, gas and water supply	258.2	323.9	365.2	474.0	458.8	386.1
Construction	2 593.9	3 025.5	3 027.2	2 797.3	3 277.2	3 341.6
Wholesale trade	1 484.4	1 560.3	1 737.5	1 711.7	1 619.4	1 533.9
Retail trade	3 582.8	3 885.3	4 187.6	3 786.1	4 155.6	4 154.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	1 136.9	1 220.1	1 201.6	1 226.6	1 188.4	1 401.3
Transport and storage	1 546.8	1 403.5	1 397.6	1 393.5	1 375.5	1 417.8
Communication services	425.5	504.1	538.6	514.7	453.1	435.3
Finance and insurance	855.7	891.1	959.2	930.7	889.5	957.4
Property and business services	3 644.1	3 855.0	3 849.2	3 936.1	3 948.5	4 066.6
Government administration and defence	1 690.7	1 631.7	1 580.5	1 609.4	1 841.1	1 786.6
Education	2 199.9	2 037.7	2 093.4	2 167.1	2 295.7	2 282.1
Health and community services	2 956.2	3 066.0	2 843.7	2 738.2	2 809.0	3 018.5
Cultural and recreational services	551.0	606.7	710.1	558.8	664.8	555.1
Personal and other services	1 103.1	1 083.1	1 253.0	1 146.0	1 252.4	1 185.9
Total	**31 272.7**	**31 657.0**	**32 700.1**	**32 052.9**	**33 306.3**	**33 446.2**
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (no.)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	43.0	39.7	43.3	41.5	44.4	42.6
Mining	51.6	44.6	41.3	48.4	49.7	43.6
Manufacturing	38.5	39.5	39.8	38.3	39.8	39.3
Electricity, gas and water supply	37.6	34.9	38.2	39.7	39.7	36.0
Construction	41.7	42.2	42.2	40.8	41.9	42.3
Wholesale trade	37.2	39.3	40.1	39.6	40.0	38.6
Retail trade	27.8	28.4	29.5	28.9	29.2	28.8
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	28.7	31.1	28.9	30.0	29.1	30.8
Transport and storage	39.4	39.2	41.2	39.7	41.6	42.9
Communication services	32.2	37.6	38.1	35.9	35.5	36.6
Finance and insurance	33.2	36.4	36.0	34.4	35.1	35.1
Property and business services	36.0	36.2	36.6	35.8	36.0	37.6
Government administration and defence	33.7	35.1	34.7	34.2	33.9	33.6
Education	31.6	33.4	31.7	31.4	32.4	32.9
Health and community services	30.1	29.8	28.9	28.9	29.8	28.9
Cultural and recreational services	25.7	30.3	31.5	28.4	25.7	24.4
Personal and other services	33.9	32.0	34.2	33.6	34.6	33.2
Total	**34.9**	**35.1**	**35.2**	**35.0**	**35.5**	**35.1**

Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

37 NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND HOURS WORKED, By occupation: **Original**

ASCO Major group	2005 November	2006 February	2006 May	2006 August	2006 November	2007 February
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ('000)						
Managers and administrators	60.8	65.0	61.4	54.9	59.1	60.4
Professionals	168.7	165.4	166.2	171.2	173.2	180.1
Associate professionals	105.6	106.9	114.8	112.9	117.6	112.8
Tradespersons and related workers	104.3	106.4	125.0	121.7	117.8	119.9
Advanced clerical and service workers	31.7	32.4	30.5	33.4	31.3	28.9
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	164.9	161.4	171.2	164.7	166.4	177.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	80.6	83.7	83.6	83.1	95.0	93.7
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	101.9	95.2	96.2	89.4	91.2	97.1
Labourers and related workers	77.6	84.7	79.1	84.3	86.4	83.4
Total	**895.9**	**901.2**	**927.9**	**915.4**	**938.0**	**953.3**
TOTAL WEEKLY HOURS WORKED ('000)						
Managers and administrators	2 799.0	2 922.8	2 780.4	2 444.9	2 652.6	2 712.7
Professionals	6 289.9	6 172.1	6 234.6	6 183.9	6 289.4	6 480.7
Associate professionals	4 021.7	4 132.3	4 427.7	4 489.7	4 672.1	4 539.0
Tradespersons and related workers	4 232.5	4 136.3	5 029.7	5 043.4	4 901.0	4 912.5
Advanced clerical and service workers	901.4	922.9	833.5	976.8	994.1	856.9
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	4 920.7	5 016.0	5 360.1	4 980.2	5 140.8	5 340.5
Intermediate production and transport workers	3 344.8	3 391.4	3 213.8	3 285.9	3 843.4	3 693.2
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	2 517.9	2 418.6	2 302.5	2 150.7	2 200.2	2 367.9
Labourers and related workers	2 244.9	2 544.5	2 517.7	2 497.4	2 612.6	2 542.6
Total	**31 272.7**	**31 657.0**	**32 700.1**	**32 052.9**	**33 306.3**	**33 446.2**
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (no.)						
Managers and administrators	46.1	45.0	45.3	44.5	44.9	44.9
Professionals	37.3	37.3	37.5	36.1	36.3	36.0
Associate professionals	38.1	38.6	38.6	39.8	39.7	40.2
Tradespersons and related workers	40.6	38.9	40.2	41.5	41.6	41.0
Advanced clerical and service workers	28.4	28.5	27.4	29.2	31.7	29.6
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	29.8	31.1	31.3	30.2	30.9	30.2
Intermediate production and transport workers	41.5	40.5	38.5	39.6	40.5	39.4
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	24.7	25.4	23.9	24.1	24.1	24.4
Labourers and related workers	28.9	30.0	31.8	29.6	30.2	30.5
Total	**34.9**	**35.1**	**35.2**	**35.0**	**35.5**	**35.1**

Source: *Labour Force, Australia,* cat. no. 6202.0.

38 AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES: **All series**

Quarter	MALES Full-time adult ordinary time earnings $	MALES Full-time adult total earnings $	MALES All employees total earnings $	FEMALES Full-time adult ordinary time earnings $	FEMALES Full-time adult total earnings $	FEMALES All employees total earnings $	PERSONS Full-time adult ordinary time earnings $	PERSONS Full-time adult total earnings $	PERSONS All employees total earnings $
ORIGINAL									
2005									
September	1 130.80	1 199.90	1 016.60	850.20	864.10	568.00	1 038.50	1 089.50	806.10
December	1 152.00	1 227.60	1 039.10	862.10	878.00	562.70	1 057.20	1 113.30	809.70
2006									
March	1 165.10	1 232.80	1 046.50	869.30	884.10	567.20	1 069.00	1 119.50	816.60
June	1 172.70	1 239.90	1 031.30	878.20	893.60	571.70	1 074.10	1 124.00	808.70
September	1 222.80	1 295.60	1 082.00	905.30	923.30	606.80	1 122.00	1 177.40	864.40
December	1 232.90	1 299.00	1 097.50	913.90	929.40	623.00	1 130.90	1 180.80	878.50
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2005									
September	1 130.70	1 202.40	1 020.30	846.90	860.60	564.90	1 037.50	1 090.60	803.80
December	1 150.90	1 225.00	1 033.40	862.50	877.50	565.80	1 055.90	1 110.70	810.50
2006									
March	1 168.50	1 237.40	1 045.00	868.60	883.90	562.40	1 071.20	1 122.30	813.50
June	1 170.30	1 234.90	1 034.90	881.90	898.00	576.90	1 074.20	1 122.60	813.70
September	1 223.10	1 299.10	1 085.80	901.70	919.50	603.20	1 121.10	1 178.80	861.80
December	1 231.30	1 295.50	1 091.20	914.30	928.90	626.20	1 129.40	1 177.90	879.10
TREND									
2005									
September	1 134.40	1 208.00	1 018.80	853.20	867.60	563.00	1 042.60	1 096.90	803.20
December	1 147.80	1 219.40	1 030.30	860.40	875.10	563.60	1 053.50	1 106.40	807.10
2006									
March	1 164.10	1 233.80	1 039.80	869.70	885.20	566.60	1 067.40	1 119.20	812.40
June	1 185.30	1 254.60	1 053.00	884.10	900.40	580.60	1 087.10	1 139.00	828.10
September	1 209.80	1 278.80	1 072.20	899.20	915.50	601.20	1 109.50	1 161.60	851.90
December	1 235.20	1 303.70	1 092.70	915.10	930.30	622.30	1 132.80	1 184.80	876.60

Source: Average weekly Earnings, Australia, cat. no. 6302.0.

39 AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES, By industry: **Original**

ANZSIC Division	2005 September	2005 December	2006 March	2006 June	2006 September	2006 December
FULL-TIME ADULT ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS ($)						
Mining	1 556.00	1 563.80	1 656.80	1 717.10	1 711.40	1 772.40
Manufacturing	1 047.30	1 105.70	1 138.10	1 152.40	1 154.20	1 135.70
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 283.70	1 373.80	1 367.40	1 308.60	1 440.50	1 402.40
Construction	1 020.40	1 038.70	1 050.20	1 113.70	1 247.10	1 110.70
Wholesale trade	1 115.90	1 134.80	1 023.70	1 005.80	991.60	1 073.40
Retail trade	771.10	732.80	760.00	757.20	738.50	768.50
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	736.40	765.20	779.10	794.90	797.60	897.80
Transport and storage	995.80	992.90	972.70	999.50	1 019.50	986.10
Communication services	956.90	1 026.60	973.10	997.00	1 026.40	1 020.20
Finance and insurance	1 095.40	1 090.00	989.10	1 004.90	1 126.90	1 177.60
Property and business services	1 030.60	1 037.60	1 104.70	1 109.80	1 225.00	1 307.90
Government administration and defence	1 003.00	1 014.50	1 033.60	1 035.20	1 051.10	1 083.30
Education	1 063.50	1 062.60	1 046.50	1 067.40	1 071.40	1 087.20
Health and community services	970.80	1 012.70	1 051.90	934.50	1 009.40	1 008.50
Cultural and recreational services	874.80	921.30	883.40	904.80	944.00	946.80
Personal and other services	1 014.50	988.10	1 006.00	969.00	1 047.00	939.70
Total	**1 038.50**	**1 057.20**	**1 069.00**	**1 074.10**	**1 122.00**	**1 130.90**
FULL-TIME ADULT TOTAL EARNINGS ($)						
Mining	1 643.10	1 648.90	1 731.90	1 792.20	1 768.30	1 828.00
Manufacturing	1 134.20	1 202.70	1 241.80	1 250.10	1 233.30	1 201.80
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 379.20	1 473.50	1 470.50	1 416.00	1 565.00	1 523.00
Construction	1 202.80	1 234.80	1 178.70	1 253.30	1 477.10	1 322.40
Wholesale trade	1 144.60	1 175.90	1 071.50	1 056.70	1 029.20	1 107.60
Retail trade	792.30	764.80	789.80	791.20	768.70	800.90
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	749.00	779.30	798.70	820.70	817.00	931.00
Transport and storage	1 059.30	1 048.30	1 025.80	1 049.10	1 081.20	1 052.20
Communication services	1 004.60	1 068.90	1 020.90	1 042.70	1 096.40	1 078.20
Finance and insurance	1 101.60	1 097.30	998.40	1 015.90	1 132.20	1 181.60
Property and business services	1 061.30	1 061.00	1 129.20	1 125.50	1 243.70	1 319.50
Government administration and defence	1 018.70	1 032.70	1 053.70	1 057.30	1 069.10	1 103.90
Education	1 065.70	1 065.30	1 049.50	1 069.60	1 074.40	1 090.70
Health and community services	1 005.50	1 049.70	1 096.10	972.20	1 052.20	1 045.10
Cultural and recreational services	905.30	956.40	906.80	921.40	955.00	968.60
Personal and other services	1 050.90	1 032.00	1 047.70	1 021.90	1 092.20	986.20
Total	**1 089.50**	**1 113.30**	**1 119.50**	**1 124.00**	**1 177.40**	**1 180.80**
ALL EMPLOYEES TOTAL EARNINGS ($)						
Mining	1 631.20	1 627.30	1 718.80	1 765.70	1 706.20	1 772.90
Manufacturing	1 014.70	1 088.60	1 117.20	1 130.80	1 121.20	1 124.70
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 293.90	1 429.20	1 423.90	1 382.50	1 515.20	1 473.10
Construction	1 103.70	1 092.20	1 039.10	1 092.80	1 228.30	1 119.30
Wholesale trade	1 009.50	1 026.90	909.30	937.10	887.00	981.30
Retail trade	450.70	402.60	422.20	418.00	406.70	459.20
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	361.10	367.90	380.20	355.10	384.40	384.00
Transport and storage	1 001.40	1 006.20	927.10	994.80	990.50	940.60
Communication services	886.20	947.40	886.10	909.00	953.60	929.80
Finance and insurance	911.80	912.50	812.10	822.70	872.10	870.40
Property and business services	917.80	909.90	927.90	867.30	931.10	987.00
Government administration and defence	883.80	893.60	922.90	918.30	927.20	943.00
Education	741.30	735.70	774.40	725.00	752.00	755.30
Health and community services	712.80	703.60	728.30	679.80	720.80	744.80
Cultural and recreational services	524.30	555.10	592.90	602.10	640.10	694.80
Personal and other services	513.70	503.80	528.70	524.00	863.90	783.00
Total	**806.10**	**809.70**	**816.60**	**808.70**	**864.40**	**878.50**

Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, cat. no. 6302.0.

40 INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE PERIOD: Original

Reference period	Number of disputes	Number of employees involved	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	no.	'000	'000	no.
2004	134	26.7	64.1	. .
2005	115	23.3	53.5	. .
2006	np	3.9	4.5	. .
2005				
September	49	6.3	11.1	12.7
December	18	4.0	12.0	13.4
2006				
March	17	1.2	2.3	2.5
June	np	1.3	1.1	1.2
September	3	0.2	0.2	0.3
December	4	1.2	0.9	1.0

. . not applicable

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

Source: ABS data available on request, *Industrial Disputes, Australia,* cat. no. 6321.0.55.001.

41 JOB VACANCIES FOR EMPLOYEES, By sector: Original

Quarter	PRIVATE		PUBLIC		TOTAL	
	Job vacancies	Change from same quarter previous year	Job vacancies	Change from same quarter previous year	Job vacancies	Change from same quarter previous year
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
2005						
August	15.7	37.4	1.3	27.7	16.9	36.6
November	14.5	26.8	1.3	–21.2	15.8	20.7
2006						
February	19.3	37.3	1.4	10.6	20.6	35.1
May	19.7	49.2	1.5	15.0	21.2	46.1
August	21.4	36.4	1.2	–6.2	22.6	33.3
November	22.5	55.3	1.4	4.3	23.9	51.0

Source: Job Vacancies, Australia, cat. no. 6354.0.

42 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE(a)

Reference period	ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION(b)			COMPONENTS OF POPULATION GROWTH					
	Male	*Female*	*Total*	*Births*	*Deaths*	*Natural increase*(c)	*Net interstate migration*	*Net overseas migration*(d)	*Total population growth*(e)
	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons
2003–2004	991 268	986 811	1 978 079	24 530	11 305	13 225	1 272	13 634	28 131
2004–2005	1 008 471	1 002 493	2 010 964	25 439	11 180	14 259	1 466	17 160	32 885
2005–2006	1 029 715	1 021 169	2 050 884	27 205	11 836	15 369	3 058	21 493	39 920
2003	983 793	980 362	1 964 155	23 862	11 319	12 543	–373	16 719	28 889
2004	999 222	994 251	1 993 473	24 968	11 139	13 829	1 515	13 974	29 318
2005	1 018 936	1 012 013	2 030 949	26 616	11 399	15 217	1 996	20 263	37 476
2005									
June	1 008 471	1 002 493	2 010 964	6 541	2 804	3 737	343	2 729	6 809
September	1 013 389	1 006 928	2 020 317	6 928	3 289	3 639	797	4 917	9 353
December	1 018 936	1 012 013	2 030 949	6 623	2 791	3 832	314	6 486	10 632
2006									
March	1 025 372	1 017 409	2 042 781	6 674	2 872	3 802	1 167	6 863	11 832
June	1 029 715	1 021 169	2 050 884	6 980	2 884	4 096	780	3 227	8 103
September	1 035 437	1 026 040	2 061 477	7 070	2 948	4 122	889	5 582	10 593

(a) ERP data may be final, revised or preliminary at any point in time. See the 'ERP Data Status' section of the Notes in the source publication.
(b) At end of reference period.
(c) Births minus deaths.
(d) Adjusted for category jumping.
(e) Differences may occur between total growth and the sum of natural increase and net migration due to intercensal discrepancy.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics, cat. no. 3101.0.

43 REPORTED OFFENCES(a)(b)

Selected offences	2005 September	2005 December	2006 March	2006 June	2006 September	2006 December
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Homicide(c)	11	29	35	12	12	11
Assault(d)	5 742	6 530	7 055	5 856	6 088	6 422
Robbery(e)	348	461	448	416	445	502
Burglary(f)	9 217	10 263	10 368	10 062	9 558	9 995
Steal Motor Vehicle(g)	1 736	1 854	1 800	1 898	1 901	1 921
Theft	18 617	21 120	21 066	20 059	20 628	20 019
Property Damage	10 061	11 281	10 952	10 021	11 009	11 596
Drugs	4 019	4 323	4 135	4 181	4 508	3 768
Other(h)	5 151	5 935	6 264	4 926	5 304	4 763
Total reported offences	**54 902**	**61 796**	**62 123**	**57 431**	**59 453**	**58 997**

(a) Reported offences are selected offences reported to, or becoming known to, police and resulting in the submission of a report. The number of reported offences in a period may include offences that occurred during earlier periods. The data are subject to revisions as further data become available. Offence classifications may alter between periods due to changes in legislation, administrative recording practices or system coding, and locality boundaries may change. Therefore, time series may be broken.

(b) Definitional, coding and processing changes associated with the introduction of the Frontline Incident Management System have had an impact on some data. Variations in data may have resulted from reporting and recording changes, and may not reflect an actual increase or decrease in the incidence of an offence type or in total offence numbers. Therefore, caution should be exercised when interpreting and using offence statistics from late 2002, and when comparing those statistics with earlier periods.

(c) Includes driving causing death.

(d) Includes sexual assault.

(e) Includes armed and unarmed offences.

(f) Includes burglary to dwellings and buildings other than dwellings.

(g) Includes motorised and other vehicles.

(h) Includes offences such as fraud, arson and threatening behaviour.

Note: Graffiti offences no longer appear in the table.

Source: Western Australian Police Service, *Offence Information System/Frontline Incident Management System.*

44 FAMILY FORMATION

Indicator	*1995*	*2002*	*2003*	*2004*	*2005*
Registered marriages					
Number of marriages *(no.)*	10 404	10 484	9 549	10 601	11 124
Crude marriage rate(a) *(rate)*	6.0	5.4	4.9	5.4	5.5
Marriages where both partners married for first time *(no.)*	6 729	6 807	6 082	7 002	7 321
Median age at first marriage					
Males *(years)*	27.5	29.5	29.5	29.6	30.3
Females *(years)*	25.5	27.3	27.5	27.6	28.3
Median age at remarriage - divorced persons					
Males *(years)*	41.5	44.3	44.6	45.5	45.7
Females *(years)*	38.0	40.5	41.4	41.8	42.4
Divorces(b)					
Number of divorces *(no.)*	5 040	5 252	5 685	4 337	5 265
Crude divorce rate(c) *(rate)*	2.9	2.7	2.9	2.2	2.6
Median duration between marriage and separation *(years)*	8.8	9.1	9.4	9.1	9.5
Divorces involving children aged under 18(d) *(no.)*	na	2 756	2 942	2 159	2 680
Children aged under 18 affected by divorce *(no.)*	na	5 246	5 600	4 049	5 126
Fertility					
Number of births *(no.)*	25 139	23 601	24 273	25 295	26 253
Total fertility rate(e) *(rate)*	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9
Births to mothers aged under 20 *(no.)*	1 504	1 292	1 286	1 371	1 446
Births to mothers aged 35 and over *(no.)*	3 212	4 037	4 416	4 674	5 174
Births outside marriage *(no.)*	7 475	8 276	8 762	9 427	9 653
Births outside marriage acknowledged by father *(no.)*	6 304	7 477	7 836	8 457	8 687

na not available

(a) The number of marriages registered in the calendar year per 1,000 of the estimated resident population at 30 June of that year.

(b) The lower number of divorces recorded in 2004 was due to processing and timing issues. In general, around 25% of divorces applied in a particular year are registered in the following year. In 2003 more divorces were registered in the year they occurred leading to a fall in the number of late registrations processed in 2004.

(c) The number of divorces granted in the calendar year per 1,000 of the estimated resident population at 30 June of that year.

(d) Refers to divorces of couples with unmarried children of the registered marriage aged under 18 at the time of application for divorce.

(e) The sum of age-specific fertility rates (live births at each age of mother per female population of that age). It represents the number of children a woman would bear during her lifetime if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates at each age of her reproductive life.

Source: Marriages, Australia, cat. no. 3306.0.55.001; *Divorces, Australia,* cat. no. 3307.0.55.001; *Births, Australia,* cat. no. 3301.0; *Demography, Western Australia,* cat. no. 3311.5.5.001.

45 HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES(a)

Indicator	*1996*	*2004*	*2005*	*2006*
Families				
Total families *('000)*	461.3	555.3	553.0	557.4
Total couple families *('000)*	392.6	458.8	462.8	469.5
Couple families with no dependent children aged 0–24 (of all couple families) *(%)*	52.3	56.5	55.5	55.6
Families with at least one child aged under 5 (of all families with children under 15 years) *(%)*	45.9	45.3	46.2	45.9
Couple families with children under 15 years (of all families with children under 15 years) *(%)*	82.3	76.1	78.4	80.5
Lone father families with children under 15 years (of all families with children under 15 years) *(%)*	1.3	2.9	2.1	2.5
Lone mother families with children under 15 years (of all families with children under 15 years) *(%)*	16.4	21.0	19.4	17.0
Children under 15 years of age living in one parent families (of all children under 15 years) *(%)*	15.4	21.3	19.3	17.7
Persons				
Persons aged 20–24 living with parents (of all persons aged 20–24)(b) *(%)*	41.4	43.2	41.9	43.2
Persons aged 25–34 living with parents (of all persons aged 25–34) *(%)*	6.9	9.9	9.8	9.9
Persons aged 15–64 who live alone (of all persons aged 15–64) *(%)*	8.0	9.1	9.7	9.6
Persons aged 65 and over who live alone (of all persons aged 65 and over) *(%)*	25.9	25.7	28.2	27.1
Average family size (persons) *(no.)*	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0

(a) Data on living arrangements are at June each year.
(b) Refers to unmarried persons with no dependants usually resident in the same household.

Source: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families - Electronic Delivery, cat. no. 6224.0.55.001; ABS data available on request, *Labour Force, Australia,* cat. no. 6202.0.

46 FAMILIES AND WORK(a)

Indicator	*1996*	*2004*	*2005*	*2006*
Couple families				
Couple families with children aged under 15 *('000)*	161.7	171.9	175.1	180.4
Both parents employed *(%)*	50.3	54.1	55.2	57.1
Neither parent employed *(%)*	7.1	6.0	6.2	3.5
Lone parent families				
Lone parent families with children aged under 15 *('000)*	34.8	53.9	48.1	43.7
Parent employed *(%)*	47.5	51.3	53.2	57.5
Children				
Children under 15 living in families where no parent is employed (of all children under 15) *(%)*	15.7	16.3	14.7	11.6

(a) Data on families and work are at June each year.

Source: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families - Electronic Delivery, cat. no. 6224.0.55.001.

APPENDIX INDEX OF FEATURE ARTICLES

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