

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STATISTICAL INDICATORS

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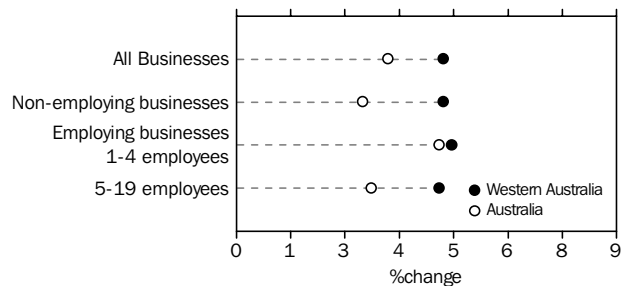
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AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH: BUSINESSES BY EMPLOYER SIZE GROUP,
1983-1984 to 1998-1999



Western Australia is at the national forefront of small business growth and employment, performing consistently above the national average. Over the 15 year period from 1983-1984 to 1998-1999, the average annual rates of increase for Western Australian small businesses and their employment were both higher than any other State or Territory.

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■ For more information about these and related statistics, contact Robin Dalby on 08 9360 5254 or the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

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NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
	March 2001	12 April 2001
	June 2001	12 July 2001



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

ABS statistical series are being impacted to varying degrees as a result of The New Tax System, introduced in Australia from 1 July 2000. The New Tax System includes the removal of Wholesale Sales Tax and the introduction of a Goods and Services Tax (GST) and, as a result, a number of ABS data series will reflect significant immediate and subsequent impacts. Where applicable, implications of The New Tax System on series will be footnoted at the bottom of tables. For more information, please see the Notes section in relevant publications.

The order of some tables within the publication has changed. A new table (No. 35) provides labour force data on a regional basis.



SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES		
ABARE	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics	
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
GST	Goods and Services Tax	
n.a.	not available	
n.p.	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable	
n.y.a.	not yet available	
p	preliminary figure or series subject to revision	
r	figure or series revised since previous issue	
TNTS	The New Tax System	
—	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells).	
..	not applicable	
*	estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution	
**	estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use	



EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics shown are the latest available as at 18 December 2000. Explanatory notes in 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.

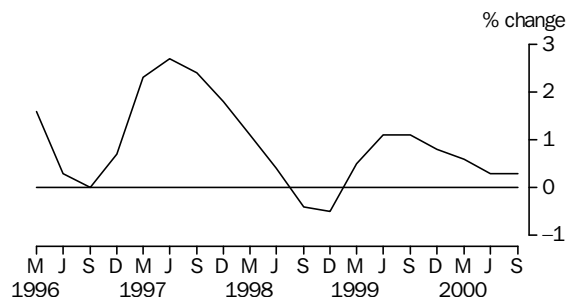
NEVILLE COONEY
ACTING REGIONAL DIRECTOR, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

STATE FINAL DEMAND

State final demand (trend) recorded the seventh successive quarter of positive growth, up 0.3% in the September quarter 2000 to \$15,882 million. Compared with September quarter 1999, growth was 2.0%.

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Trend estimates



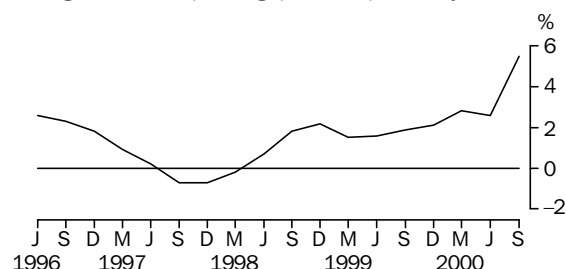
Positive growth in the September quarter 2000, in trend terms, was achieved principally through continuing growth in household consumption expenditure, up by \$185 million (2.1%). This expenditure incorporates the net effect of price changes resulting from the introduction of The New Tax System (TNTS) on 1 July 2000. General government consumption expenditure and dwelling investment, both strong contributors to demand growth in previous quarters, recorded significantly lower growth in September quarter 2000, up \$14 million (0.5%) and \$9 million (0.8%) respectively. Negative growth in business investment on other buildings and structures; and machinery and equipment (down by \$143 million, or 8.5%) continues to detract from State demand.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Perth's Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose by 3.7% in the September quarter 2000 following the introduction of TNTS which included the removal of Wholesale Sales Tax and the introduction of a Goods and Services Tax (GST). As the CPI measures final transaction prices inclusive of indirect taxes, TNTS has had a direct impact on the CPI. Underlying the rise were increases in the cost of house purchase – up 8.1%; alcohol and tobacco (6.1%); automotive fuel (11.7%); restaurant and take away foods (9.1%); clothing and footwear (6.7%); and holiday travel and accommodation (4.8%). Goods recording notable price falls were motor vehicles – down 1.8%; and audio, visual and computing equipment – down 4.9%.

When compared with September quarter 1999, the CPI increased by 5.5%, the lowest rise of the eight capital cities. Main contributors were alcohol and tobacco – up 11.1%; housing (8.8%); communication – mainly telecommunication (7.3%); clothing and footwear (7.2%); and transportation – automotive fuel prices continuing to dominate (6.8%).

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (ALL GROUPS),
Change over corresponding quarter of previous year



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX *continued*

The September quarter 2000 increase was below that generally expected by the Commonwealth Treasury and the Reserve Bank. The Western Australian Treasury have suggested that the lower rate may be the result of businesses absorbing a greater proportion of costs than was previously anticipated with the intention of passing them on later. There is also evidence of further cost pressures as shown in recent changes to:

- the Import price index – up 10.9% over the four quarters to September quarter 2000 (*ABS Catalogue No. 6414.0*), due mainly to a continuing fall in the value of the Australian dollar against the US dollar combined with further increases in world prices for crude oil and other petroleum products;
- the price index of materials used in manufacturing industries – up 18.0% over the same period (*ABS Catalogue No. 6411.0*); and
- the price index of articles produced by manufacturing industry – up 7.2% over the same period (*ABS Catalogue No. 6412.0*).

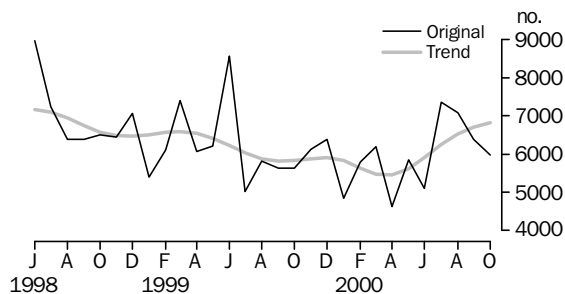
CONSUMPTION

New Motor Vehicle Registrations (excluding motorcycles and scooters)

After rising sharply in July 2000 from unseasonably low levels, new motor vehicle registrations (in original terms) have been in decline, falling by 18.8% over the three months to October 2000. Nevertheless, registrations since July 2000 have been running ahead of levels recorded in the same months of 1999, with October 2000 registrations (5,977) 6.1% higher than October 1999.

In trend terms, registrations have risen in each of the three months since July 2000 although the rate of increase is slowing. October 2000 registrations (6,822) are 16.9% above the level recorded in October 1999 (5,837).

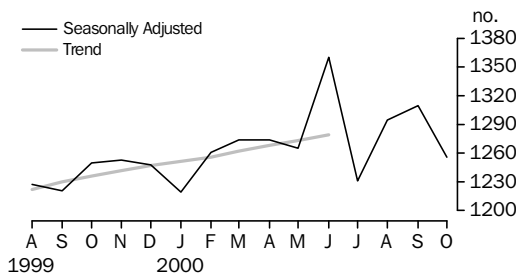
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS



Retail Trade

Seasonally adjusted retail turnover has recorded significant fluctuations just prior to, and following, the introduction of the GST. After a sharp rise of 7.5% in June 2000, turnover fell by 9.5% in July to be followed by rises of 5.2% in August and 1.2% in September. Turnover fell again in October 2000 by 4.2%. Despite the fluctuations, turnover in each of these months has been higher than that recorded in the same months of 1999. Users should note that retail turnover since June 2000 reflects the impact of higher prices resulting from TENTS.

MONTHLY RETAIL TURNOVER



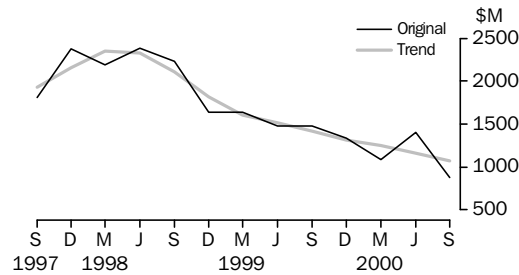
Retail turnover (seasonally adjusted) over the four months since the introduction of the GST is down by \$81.2 million (or 1.6%) compared with the four months prior to the GST. Major contributors to the lower turnover level were Department store retailing, down by \$25.7 million (or 5.8%) and Household goods retailing, down by \$34.2 million (or 4.3%), with Food retailing down by \$26.3 million (or 1.2%).

Given the volatility in retail turnover, trend estimates have been suspended beyond June 2000 until the impact of the GST on spending has been further analysed, and underlying spending patterns stabilise.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

The trend estimate at current prices for private new capital expenditure in Western Australia continues to decline, down by \$90 million (or 7.8%) in the September quarter 2000 and by \$351 million (or 24.7%) compared with the September quarter 1999. Over each of the last four quarters, falls have been mainly due to significant decreases in expenditure on equipment, plant and machinery.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



In the period from September quarter 1999 to September quarter 2000, the level of new capital expenditure fell (in original terms) by \$603 million (or 40.8%), the mining industry accounting for just over half (51.6%) of the fall and the manufacturing industry nearly a quarter (24.4%).

In the short term, businesses in Western Australia expect capital expenditure to rise by 3.0% in the December quarter 2000. The WA Treasury report a positive outlook with a strengthening in business conditions expected to underpin the development of several major projects over 2000–2001.

BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS

Short-term: Reduced operating incomes and profits are expected in the December quarter 2000 from business in Western Australia. Operating incomes are anticipated to increase by 0.3% following an expected increase of 0.4% in the previous quarter. The expectation for profits is more pessimistic, with a decrease of 2.5% anticipated for the December quarter 2000 after the expectation of a 0.9% increase in the September quarter 2000. Full time equivalent employment is expected to rise by 1.1% in the December quarter 2000.

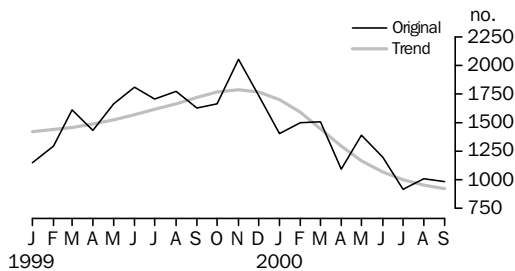
Medium-term: Operating incomes, profits and full time equivalent employment are expected to increase into 2001 peaking in March quarter 2001, while capital expenditure is expected to return to positive growth over the remainder of 2000 and into 2001.

CONSTRUCTION

Building Approvals

After peaking in November 1999, the trend estimate of the number of house approvals has steadily fallen. The rate of decline accelerated to April 2000 then began easing to the current September 2000 figure of 925, the lowest since early 1991. September 2000 house approvals are 46.2% below the level recorded in September 1999.

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS APPROVED, Houses



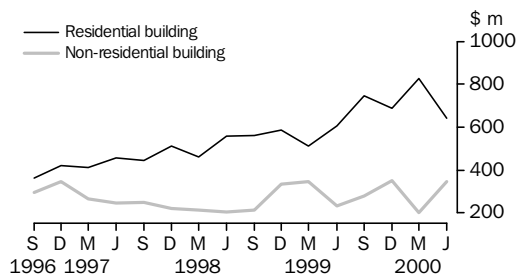
The dramatic fall in house approvals follows record highs in the second half of 1999, reportedly due to new home buyers bringing forward their building plans to avoid increases in construction costs associated with the GST. More recent influences on new home buyers have been rises in official interest rates and rises in the cost of new homes, the cost of project homes in Perth rising by 9.3% in the September quarter 2000 and by 13.3% compared with the September quarter 1999 (*ABS Catalogue No. 6416.0*).

Building Activity

The significant decline in residential approvals since January 2000 has begun to affect levels of residential building activity. In the June quarter 2000, the value of residential building commencements (including alterations and additions) fell by 22.4% to \$641.1 million after peaking in March quarter 2000 at a record \$825.9 million.

The pre-GST surge in residential approvals is now showing signs of working its way to completion, the value of residential building (including alterations and additions) under construction at the end of June 2000 falling by 5.7% while the value of completions rose by 28.4%. Nevertheless, the value of work under construction remains at high levels, being 38.7% above that recorded in the June quarter 1999.

VALUE OF BUILDING ACTIVITY COMMENCED



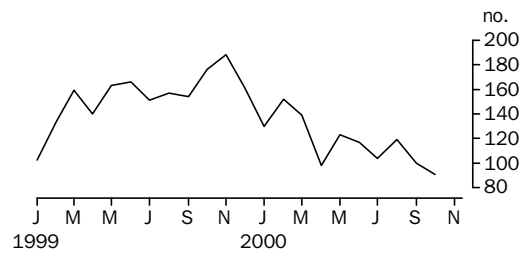
In contrast to residential building, the value of non-residential building commencements rebounded from the 4 year low recorded in March 2000, up by \$147 million (73.5%) to \$347 million in the June quarter 2000. Public sector spending on health and miscellaneous (mainly related to law and order) buildings underpinned the increase.

FINANCE

The trend value of lending commitments to individuals for housing has been in decline since peaking in December 1999. Commitments in October 2000 (\$640 million) are down by 14.2% compared with October 1999.

In original terms, the value of lending commitments to individuals for housing in the four months to October 2000 (the first four months under TNTS) was down by 7.9% compared with the previous four months. This decline was mainly influenced by decreases of similar proportions in the value of commitments for the purchase of established dwellings and the construction of dwellings. By contrast, the value of commitments for the purchase of newly erected dwellings fell by 41.0%.

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS,
Construction and Purchase of newly erected dwellings



The number of dwellings financed by first home buyers has fallen since August 2000, down by 33.7% to 1,167 in October 2000. This follows a strong rebound in July 2000 (up 90.9%) and August (up 18.8%) following the introduction on 1 July 2000 of the \$7,000 First Home Owner Grant as part of TNTS.

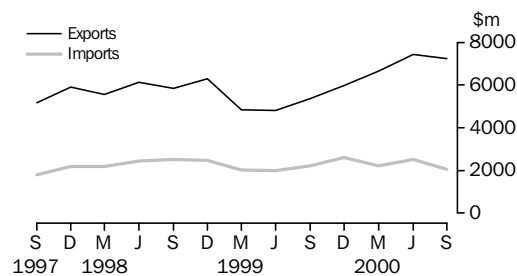
The average borrowing size for first home owner commitments in October was \$108,600 (down from \$114,000 in July 2000) compared with \$116,000 for other borrowers.

TRADE

Exports

Western Australia's exports have been growing strongly over the last five quarters at an average quarterly rate of growth of 8.6%. As a consequence, the value of exports in the September quarter 2000 (\$7,237 million) was 34.9% higher than the corresponding quarter of 1999. Significant contributions to the four quarter growth were Petroleum oils (up \$440.2 million), Iron ore and concentrates (up \$263.6 million), Natural gas (up \$245.0 million) and combined confidential items – including Alumina (up \$462.0 million). The Western Australian Treasury have attributed the lift in exports to high commodity prices, production increases, the low Australian dollar and strong international demand, particularly from Japan, the United States of America and China.

VALUE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S MERCHANDISE TRADE



Imports

The value of Western Australian imports has fluctuated over the four quarters to September quarter 2000, declining by 7.1% (or \$156 million) when compared with the September quarter 1999. Major contributors to the decline were Machinery and equipment specialised for particular industries (down \$195.5 million) and Non-monetary gold (down \$125.4 million), the fall in gold imports coming after strong growth over most of 2000.

Western Australia's trade surplus has grown by 64.2% (or \$2,029 million) over the four quarters to September quarter 2000.

MINERAL EXPLORATION

In original terms, mineral exploration expenditure for the June quarter 2000 increased by 33.3% to \$113.3 million, the highest quarterly expenditure since December quarter 1998. The increase was due almost entirely to expenditure on gold exploration, up by \$29.4 million from an eight year low recorded in the March quarter 2000.

TOURISM

Short Term Arrivals on Holiday

In the three months to July 2000, 46,070 short-term visitors arrived by air on holiday, an increase of 6.0% (or 2,620) over the same period in 1999. Visitors from Japan accounted for over half (53.8%) of this increase while visitors from Singapore, the major country of origin for short term visitors by air, accounted for 23.7%. In the 1999–2000 financial year, 229,580 overseas holiday makers flew into the State, up 19.2% on 1998–1999. Visitors from Malaysia and Japan increased the most over this period while visitor numbers from Indonesia continued to fall.

Tourist Accommodation

Comparing September quarter 1999 with September quarter 2000, the total number of hotels, motels, guest houses and serviced apartments increased by 18 to 326, providing an additional 1,248 guest rooms. Guest arrivals between these two periods fell by 3.7% to 683,000. The combination of more guest rooms and lower guest arrival numbers resulted in the room occupancy rates falling from 58.8% in September quarter 1999 to 53.9% in September quarter 2000.

The Hospitality Industry

Retail turnover in the hospitality and services industry (seasonally adjusted) has been steadily increasing since the introduction of the GST on 1 July. Nevertheless, the October 2000 figure of \$146.7 million, despite being inclusive of the tax, is 3.3% down on October 1999 (pre-GST).

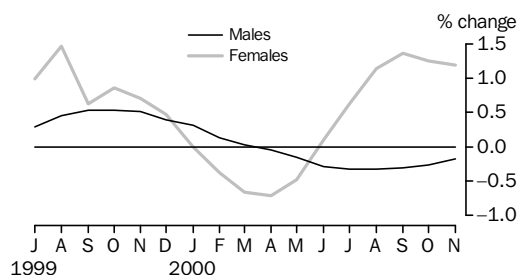
The number of persons employed in the accommodation, cafes and restaurants industry has increased in each of the last four reference periods to be 52,800 in August 2000, up by 19,000 (or 56.2%) compared with August 1999. Females accounted for almost 70% of this increase.

THE LABOUR MARKET

Employment

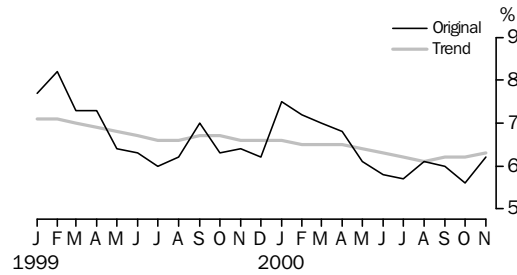
The number of employed persons in Western Australia in trend terms has risen for the sixth consecutive month to an estimated 931,600 in November 2000, although the rate of increase has slowed since August 2000. Growth is being driven by female employment, up by 11,700 (or 2.9%) since May 2000. The rise in employed females over this period resulted from an increase in full-time employment of 12,100 offset by a fall of 400 part-time female employees. By contrast, the drop in employed males resulted from a fall in full time employment of 7,700 offset by an increase of 2,300 part-time employees.

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT, Trend estimates



Unemployment has been trending upward since August 2000, rising by 900 in November 2000 to 62,300 persons. The November unemployment rate was 6.3%, slightly above the ten year low of 6.1% recorded in August 2000 but still below the national rate of 6.4%.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



The trend unemployment rate for males is increasing while, for females, the rate has been in decline. Since April 2000, when the unemployment rate for both sexes was 6.5%, the male unemployment rate has risen to 6.8% in November 2000 (6.7% nationally) while, for females, the rate has fallen to 5.6% (6.0% nationally). The youth unemployment rate (persons aged 15-19 years) in November 2000 was 15.4% (16.3% nationally) climbing from a rate of 10.2% recorded in June 2000.

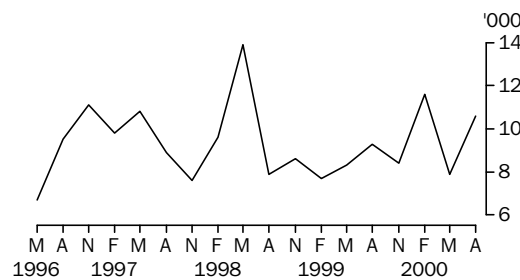
The trend participation rate increased slightly in November 2000 to 66.5% from 66.4% in each of the previous five months. Over this sixth month period, the State's labour force has increased by 5,700 (or 0.6%) to a trend estimate of 993,900.

Industries showing the greatest increase in employment over the three months to August 2000 were the accommodation, cafes and restaurants industry (up 8,700) and the mining industry (up 6,900). Falls were recorded for the manufacturing industry (down 9,400) and the construction industry (down 4,000). The decline in construction industry employment coincides with falling levels of residential building commencements and work under construction as the pre-GST surge in building activity shows signs of starting to draw to completion.

Job Vacancies

The number of job vacancies in August 2000 (10,600) was 34.2% higher than May 2000. The private sector accounted for the majority of the increase, up 2,600 from the four year low recorded in May 2000. The job vacancy rate (calculated by expressing the number of job vacancies as a percentage of the number of employees plus vacancies) now stands at 1.47%.

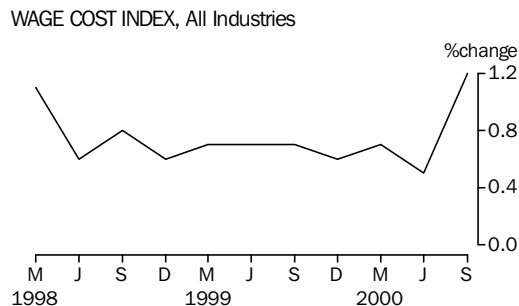
JOB VACANCIES, Original



When comparing the total number of job vacancies to the number of unemployed persons in Western Australia, there were approximately 5.7 unemployed people for each vacancy in August 2000, compared with 7.5 people in May 2000.

Wages

The September quarter 2000 index of total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses rose sharply by 1.2%, the highest quarterly increase since the index was first compiled (December quarter 1997). In contrast, in the September quarters of 1998 and 1999 WA had recorded the lowest, or equal lowest, increase of the States and Territories. Western Australia's September quarter 2000 increase was in line with the national increase (also 1.2%) with only the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales (up 1.8% and 1.6% respectively) recording higher growth.



Wages growth in the private sector provided the main stimulus during the September quarter 2000, up by 1.4% compared with 0.6% for the public sector.

Increases in September quarter 2000 wages growth for industries not subject to confidentiality ranged from 0.2% for Education to 2.1% for Property and business services. Across occupations, the highest increases occurred for Tradespersons and related workers (up 1.9%), Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers (up 1.4%) and Professionals (up 1.3%).

Over the four quarters to September quarter 2000, Government administration and defence recorded strong growth of 4.3%, while the Education industry recorded growth of only 0.9%.

INTRODUCTION

Small business is acknowledged as a vital and significant sector of the Western Australian economy. Small business performance is recognised world-wide to be one of the keys to general economic goals such as business and employment growth.

Western Australia is at the national forefront of small business growth and employment, performing consistently above the national average. Over the 15 year period from 1983–1984 to 1998–1999, the number of Western Australian small businesses doubled while employment increased 84%. These represent average annual rates of increase of 4.9% for businesses (nationally 3.7%) and 4.2% for employment (3.1% nationally), both higher than any other State or Territory.

SMALL BUSINESS OPERATIONS

The ABS periodically conducts the Characteristics of Small Business Survey which provides a range of information relating to small businesses and their owners. The following section draws on the results from these surveys. Unless otherwise indicated, small businesses are defined as non-employing businesses together with businesses employing less than 20 people.

Size and industry

Around 19 in 20 Western Australian businesses are classified as small businesses. In November 1999, there were 104,100 small businesses in Western Australia, the majority (57%) of which were non-employing businesses.

While the number of small businesses fell slightly in November 1999 compared with February 1997, of particular significance was the change in mix of employing and non-employing small businesses over this 33 month period. Non-employing small businesses fell by 5,200 (or 8%) whereas employing small businesses grew by 4,800 (or 11%).

NUMBER OF SMALL BUSINESSES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

	February 1995	February 1997	November 1999
	'000	'000	'000
Non-employing	48.8	61.8	56.6
Employing	38.5	42.7	47.5
Total	87.2	104.5	104.1

Source: *Characteristics of Small Business* (Cat no. 8127.0).

A number of factors may be responsible for the fall in small business numbers (including non-employing business numbers) between February 1997 and November 1999. They include non-employing businesses taking on employees, natural attrition (the number of older businesses has declined over this period) and business bankruptcies (which were relatively high over the financial years 1996–1997 to 1998–1999).

In 1998–1999, over half (around 54%) of all WA small businesses were in the Construction, Retail trade and Property and business services industries, a proportion that has remained fairly constant since 1983–1984. Over that period, however, the proportion held by each of these three industries has changed. The most notable changes were the Property and business services industry, up from 13% of all small businesses in 1983–1984 to 23% in 1998–1999 (an increase of 17,100 businesses); and the Retail trade industry, which declined from 28% to 15% although, in overall numbers, there was an increase of 1,800 retail businesses.

Size and industry *continued*

WESTERN AUSTRALIA SMALL BUSINESS, By Industry

	1983-1984	1995-1996	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999
Industry	%	%	%	%	%
Retail trade	27.9	18.9	17.7	16.4	15.3
Construction	14.5	18.1	17.7	16.7	16.1
Property and business services	13.3	18.5	19.8	21.2	22.5
<i>Sub total</i>	55.7	55.5	55.2	54.3	53.8
Manufacturing	7.7	7.5	8.2	8.6	7.5
Wholesale trade	7.3	5.4	5.4	4.8	5.2
Transport and storage	6.0	5.8	6.0	5.9	6.9
Health and community services	4.4	6.8	6.1	5.8	5.5
Personal and other industries	6.9	6.6	7.2	7.5	7.8
Other industries	11.9	12.3	11.8	13.1	13.1

Source: *Small Business in Australia* (Cat no. 1321.0).

Number of operators

Business operators are generally identified as the proprietor of a sole proprietorship; the partners of a partnership; or the working director(s) of an incorporated company.

There were 152,900 small business operators in November 1999, a fall since February 1997 of 4%. The decline was due to a fall in the number of female small business operators, down by 12% (or 7,100) to 50,300 after rising 21% over the preceding two years. The fall in female operators may relate, in part, to changes in the Corporations Law in 1995 which made it no longer compulsory to have multiple business operators as a prerequisite for incorporation, thereby reducing the number of female "silent partners" registered as business operators.

The ratio of small business operators to businesses has fallen consistently since February 1995, the number of single operator small businesses increasing from 50% of all small businesses in February 1995 to 57% in November 1999.

SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS, By Sex

	February 1995	February 1997	November 1999
	'000	'000	'000
Males	91.3	102.1	102.6
Females	47.6	57.4	50.3
Persons	138.9	159.5	152.9
Ratio of business operators to businesses	1.59	1.53	1.47

Source: *Characteristics of Small Business* (Cat no. 8127.0).

Since February 1997, the number of non-employing small businesses with multiple operators has fallen by 26%. Over 90% of multiple operator non-employing businesses have two operators, suggesting that a significant proportion of the decline was family businesses.

By contrast, employing businesses with multiple operators increased over the same period by 11% (or 2,900 businesses), almost five times the increase recorded between February 1995 and February 1997.

SMALL BUSINESSES, By Number of Business Operators

	February 1995	February 1997	November 1999
	'000	'000	'000
Non-employed			
1 operator	29.9	39.5	40.1
Multiple operators	18.9	22.4	16.5
Total	48.8	61.8	56.6
Employing			
1 operator	13.3	17.1	19.0
Multiple operators	25.0	25.6	28.5
Total	38.4	42.7	47.5
Total			
1 operator	43.2	56.6	59.2
Multiple operators	44.0	47.9	44.9
Total	87.2	104.5	104.1

Source: *Characteristics of Small Business* (Cat no. 8127.0).

BUSINESS LONGEVITY

Non-employed businesses have a younger age profile than employing businesses. The majority of non-employed businesses in November 1999 had been in operation under the same owner for 1 to less than 5 years, whereas most employing businesses had operated under the same owner for 10 years or more.

The most significant change since February 1997 was a drop in the number of non-employed small businesses operating with the same owners for 10 years or more (down 25%).

LENGTH OF OPERATION OF SMALL BUSINESS: CURRENT OWNER, By Employer Size Group

	February 1995	February 1997	November 1999
	'000	'000	'000
Non-employed businesses			
Less than 1 year	9.5	9.6	8.5
1 to less than 5 years	19.4	24.8	24.5
5 to less than 10 years	10.5	12.4	12.2
10 or more years	9.4	15.1	11.4
Total	48.8	61.8	56.6
Employing businesses			
Less than 1 year	4.8	4.5	5.5
1 to less than 5 years	12.3	13.6	14.8
5 to less than 10 years	9.9	10.0	10.4
10 or more years	11.4	14.5	16.7
Total	38.4	42.7	47.5

Source: *Characteristics of Small Business* (Cat no. 8127.0).

BUSINESS LONGEVITY *continued*

Although there are no official statistics for actual failures in the small business sector, bankruptcy statistics from the annual report of the Inspector-General on the operation of the *Bankruptcy Act* provide a useful indicator. Business bankruptcies remained relatively high, averaging 494 over the financial years 1996–1997 to 1998–1999, then falling to 399 in 1999–2000. The most frequent causes for Western Australian businesses in 1999–2000 were Lack of business ability (23% of business bankruptcies), Economic conditions (21%), and Lack of capital (17%). Lack of business ability accounted for 8% of bankruptcies in the previous year.

EMPLOYEE EARNINGS (Average Weekly Gross Wages and Salaries)

Overall, the average weekly gross wages and salaries of small business employees in 1999–2000 was below that recorded for all Western Australian private sector employees. While this also applied to majority of industries, three notable exceptions were the Electricity, gas and water supply, Finance and insurance, and Health and community services industries.

SMALL BUSINESS EMPLOYEES, Wages and Salaries, 1999–2000

Industry	Average weekly gross wages and salaries \$	Earnings as a proportion of all employee earnings %
Mining	933.80	70.2
Manufacturing	518.60	70.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 326.90	140.3
Construction	663.60	76.6
Wholesale trade	579.90	88.2
Retail trade	393.40	103.1
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	275.60	84.5
Transport and storage	698.50	90.1
Finance and insurance	921.80	114.6
Property and business services	617.50	101.4
Education	394.50	64.7
Health and community services	602.10	119.6
Cultural and recreational services	347.60	74.6
Personal and other services	353.00	91.2
All industries	534.40	87.8

Source: Unpublished data, Wage and Salary Earners.

Small business employees in industries with a larger proportion of part-time or casual employees recorded the lowest average earnings; those in the Accommodation, cafes and restaurants industry earning the least (\$275.60, or 84% of the average earned by employees of all businesses in that industry). Although earnings of small business employees in Retail trade were one of the lowest, they still earned more than the average earned by employees of all businesses in that industry.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

Almost \$1 in every \$10 spent on research and development in Western Australia in 1998–1999 was attributable to small business. Of the \$40.9 million spent by small business, 81% was invested in the Western Australian Property and business services (\$13.3 million), Manufacturing (\$12.8 million) and Mining (\$7.0 million) industries. These industries together contribute almost 40% of the State's economic activity.

SMALL BUSINESS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA, By Selected Industries, 1998–1999

Industry	Contribution of small business expenditure to total industry expenditure	
	Small business expenditure \$'000	%
Mining	6 980	3.3
Manufacturing(a)	12 750	8.8
Food, beverages and tobacco	583	12.6
Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated products	289	2.1
Motor vehicle and part and other transport equipment	1 463	n.p.
Photographic and scientific equipment	795	20.7
Electronic and electrical equipment	5 277	37.7
Industrial machinery and equipment	3 118	38.6
Property and business services(a)	13 318	31.7
Scientific research	5 094	54.7
Other industries	7 884	24.3
All industries	40 932	9.4

(a) The sum of the components may not add to totals as some industries are not listed in the breakdown.

Source: Unpublished data, Research and Experimental Development, Businesses.

Research and development investment in WA by small business was highest in the technical and scientific fields. Small businesses accounted for over half (55%) of all business expenditure in the Western Australian Scientific research industry, and over a third of expenditure in each of the Electronic and electrical equipment manufacturing and Industrial machinery manufacturing industries (38% and 39% respectively).

PROFILE OF SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTERS

Less than 5% of all small businesses in Western Australia had exported goods and services over 1997–1998 according to the latest data from the Business Longitudinal Survey, which covered a large proportion of Western Australia's exporting businesses but excluded non-employed businesses. In the main, small businesses exported irregularly rather than on an on-going basis. While the majority of exporters within the State were small businesses, most export revenue was being generated by larger businesses.

Exporting small businesses in 1997–1998 were more likely than larger exporting businesses to be paying their employees above the annual average weekly earnings level of \$39,000. Turnover per full time equivalent employee was higher for exporting small businesses than non-exporting small businesses.

Exporting small businesses were also more likely to be using computers in the workplace than other small businesses, with over half using the Internet for email and information gathering.

BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS

Short-term: The business expectations of Western Australia's small business owners in December quarter 2000 were more pessimistic than medium and large businesses, with operating incomes, profits and full time equivalent employment all expected to decrease compared with September quarter 2000. The expectation for profit was down by 19%, mirroring the fall expected for all Australian small businesses of 11%.

Medium-term: Western Australian small business is expecting operating income, profits and full time equivalent employment to increase into the first half of 2001 compared with the same period in 2000. The rate of increase for operating incomes and profits is expected to slow in September quarter 2001.

USE OF COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET

Western Australian small businesses are embracing information technology to the extent that they are at the forefront of small business computer and Internet use Australia-wide.

In November 1999, 63% of Western Australian small businesses were using a computer in their business operations, second only to the Australian Capital Territory (with 78%). Of these, 60% (or 38% of all small businesses) had access to the Internet.

As the size of small businesses increased, so too did the likelihood that a business would use a computer and access the Internet. Just over half of non-employing small businesses (52%) were using computers in their business operations compared with 88% of those employing 5–19 employees. These larger businesses were more than twice as likely to be accessing the Internet than non-employing businesses.

COMPUTER USE AND INTERNET ACCESS, Size of Small Business, November 1999

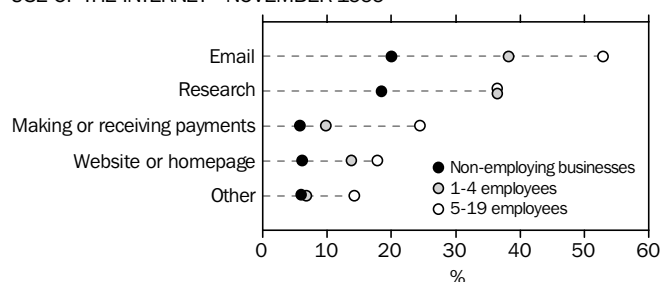
	Uses a computer.....		Accesses the Internet	
	'000	% of small businesses	'000	% of small businesses
Non-employing businesses	29.7	52.4	15.0	26.6
1–4 employees	25.2	70.7	17.0	47.6
5–19 employees	10.5	88.2	7.3	61.1
Total	65.3	62.8	39.3	37.7

Source: *Characteristics of Small Business* (Cat no. 8127.0).

Western Australia's larger small businesses (those with 5–19 employees) had the second highest proportion of computer use and highest proportion of Internet access of the States and Territories.

The most common uses of the Internet were email (30% of total small businesses) and research (27%). At November 1999, 9% of small businesses were engaging in direct e-commerce (making or receiving payments), with those in small businesses employing 5–19 people leading the nation with a quarter engaging in direct e-commerce.

USE OF THE INTERNET - NOVEMBER 1999



SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS

Age and sex

Small business operators in Western Australia are getting older. Between February 1997 and November 1999, operators aged greater than 50 increased by 17% (or 6,000 persons); male operators accounting for two thirds of the rise. Over the same period, the number of operators aged from 30 to 50 decreased by 11% (or 11,500); female operators accounting for most (71%) of the fall, while the proportion of small business operators aged less than 30 has remained fairly constant.

Of the 152,900 operators in November 1999, 67% were male, the highest proportion recorded over the three survey periods.

AGE OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS, By Sex

	February 1995	February 1997	November 1999
	'000	'000	'000
MALES			
Aged less than 30	12.4	11.7	11.6
Aged 30–50	58.8	65.3	62.0
Aged greater than 50	20.1	25.0	29.0
Total	91.3	102.1	102.6
FEMALES			
Aged less than 30	5.6	6.8	5.9
Aged 30–50	34.7	40.2	32.0
Aged greater than 50	7.4	10.4	12.4
Total	47.6	57.4	50.3
PERSONS			
Aged less than 30	18.0	18.5	17.5
Aged 30–50	93.4	105.5	94.0
Aged greater than 50	27.5	35.4	41.4
Total	138.9	159.5	152.9

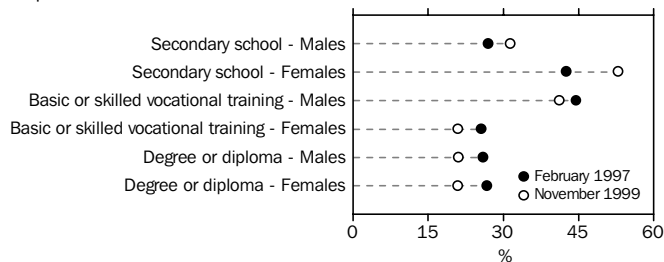
Source: *Characteristics of Small Business* (Cat no. 8127.0).

Qualifications

Between February 1997 and November 1999, the proportions of small business operators who had gained either a basic or skilled vocational qualification or a degree or diploma have decreased. As a result, the completion of secondary school (without gaining a degree) was the most common qualification in November 1999.

Male operators tend to have higher educational qualifications than females. While the majority (41%) of males had a basic or skilled vocational qualification, most female operators (53%) had achieved a secondary school qualification only. Interestingly, similar numbers of males and females had obtained qualifications at the degree or diploma level.

QUALIFICATIONS OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS,
Proportions of All Males and All Females



Hours worked

The most notable change between February 1997 and November 1999 was a decrease of 19% in the number of part-time female operators. This may be linked to a reduction in the number of female "silent partners" registered as business operators previously referred to. There was a marginal increase in male operators working full time hours (83% in 1997; 84% in 1999).

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS, By Sex

	February 1995	February 1997	November 1999
	'000	'000	'000
MALES			
Part-time	13.1	17.1	16.6
Full-time	78.1	85.0	86.0
Total	91.3	102.1	102.6
FEMALES			
Part-time	29.2	36.7	29.6
Full-time	18.4	20.7	20.7
Total	47.6	57.4	50.3
PERSONS			
Part-time	42.4	53.8	46.2
Full-time	96.5	105.6	106.7
Total	138.9	159.5	152.9

Source: *Characteristics of Small Business* (Cat no. 8127.0).

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS

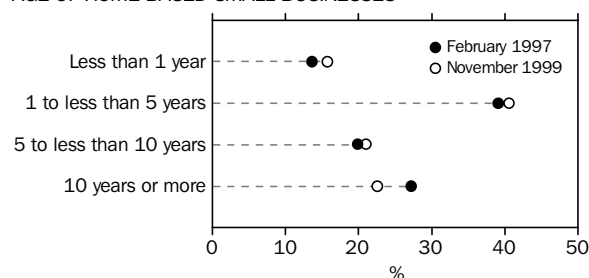
Small businesses are identified as being home based according to two separate but overlapping definitions – either the business operated *at home*, with most of the work being carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s); or the business was operated *from home*, with no other premises owned or rented by the operator(s).

Business characteristics

There were 65,500 Western Australian home based small businesses in November 1999 comprising a significant 63% of all small businesses. The vast majority of home based businesses (97%) operated *from home*. In just under one third of businesses (31%), most of the work was carried out *at home*.

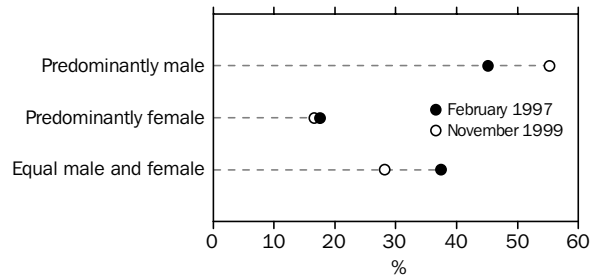
Since February 1997, the number of home based businesses and their operators has been in decline, falling at an average annual rate of 1.8% and 4.9% respectively compared with lower average annual decline rates of 0.2% and 1.6% for the number of all small businesses and their operators. A drop of 3,900 businesses aged 10 years or more has resulted in a lowering of the overall age of home based businesses.

AGE OF HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES



Home based businesses are mainly one operator businesses, with the proportion increasing from 60% in February 1997 to 69% in November 1999. Over the same period, home based businesses with predominantly male operators increased from 45% to 55% while those with equal numbers of male and female operators fell from 37% to 28%.

GENDER PREDOMINANCE OF HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES



The home based small business sector is dominated by non-employing businesses (71% of all home based businesses in November 1999), although that proportion declined from 74% recorded in February 1997. By contrast, the number of employing businesses grew notably from 26% to 29% (or 1,000 employing businesses).

The two most significant home based industries in November 1999 were Construction (26% of all home based businesses) and Property and business services (23%).

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES, By Industry, November 1999

Industry	'000	%
Manufacturing	4.8	7.3
Construction	17.0	26.0
Retail trade	4.3	6.6
Property and business services	15.3	23.4
Other industries	24.1	36.8
All Industries	65.5	100.0

Source: Characteristics of Small Business (Cat no. 8127.0).

In November 1999, four in five home based small businesses (81%) were located in the Perth Statistical Region. Of these, one third were located in the North Metropolitan Statistical Region (comprising the Cities of Joondalup, Wanneroo and Stirling) with one quarter based in the South West Metropolitan Statistical Region (an area from the Cities of Fremantle and Melville south to the City of Rockingham). These two Metropolitan Statistical Regions together with the Lower Western WA Statistical Region (comprising the South West and Upper and Lower Great Southern Statistical Divisions) were the only regions to record growth in business numbers in the 33 months from February 1997 to November 1999.

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES, By Statistical Region(a)

Statistical region	Businesses ('000).....		Operators ('000).....	
	February 1997	November 1999	February 1997	November 1999
Central Metropolitan	5.4	5.3	7.3	5.7
East Metropolitan	8.4	6.7	11.2	10.0
North Metropolitan	17.4	18.2	24.8	24.8
South West Metropolitan	11.6	13.0	17.7	17.9
South East Metropolitan	11.5	9.7	16.0	12.5
Lower Western WA	8.8	9.2	13.6	11.6
Balance of WA	5.6	3.3	8.7	4.0
Western Australia	68.8	65.5	99.2	86.6

(a) A detailed description of Local Government Area's or Statistical Divisions making up the Statistical regions is contained in the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (Cat no. 1216.0).

Source: *Characteristics of Small Business* (Cat no. 8127.0).

Operator characteristics

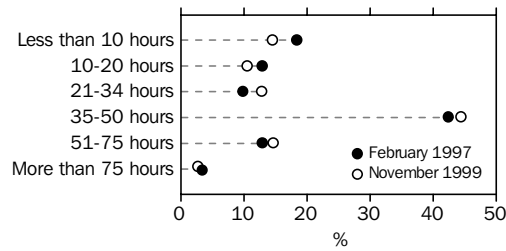
There were 86,600 home based small business operators in November 1999, a fall of 12,600 since February 1997 (an annual average rate of decline of 4.9%). The decrease was mainly attributable to a fall in the number of female operators, most of whom were aged 30 to 50 years, down by 9,100 to 26,600. Female operators comprised 31% of all small business operators in November 1999.

Of the 26,200 operators in businesses operated *at* home, 54% were males. For businesses operated *from* home, 70% of the 83,300 operators were male, with businesses in the male dominated construction industry the main contributing factor.

The qualifications profile of home based operators has changed markedly. Whereas a large proportion (40%) of operators in February 1997 had gained a basic or skilled vocational qualification, those operators that had only completed secondary school (without gaining a degree) dominated in November 1999 (38%) mirroring changes in the qualifications profile of all small business operators. Home based business operators were more likely than other small business operators to have gained either a degree or diploma.

Home based operators are working longer hours, with 62% working full time in November 1999 compared with 59% in February 1997. Nevertheless, home based operators remain more likely to be working part time than other small business operators, with 38% working less than 35 hours per week compared with 30% for all small business operators.

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS,
Number of Hours Worked



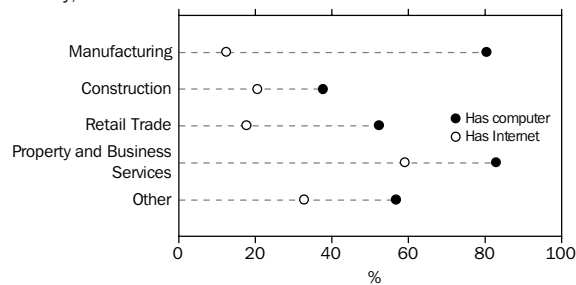
Use of computers and the internet

Almost three in five home based small businesses (59%) reported using a computer in their business operations in the November 1999 survey. One third of home based small businesses (56% of those with a computer) access the Internet, the major uses being email and research. Few businesses used the Internet for direct e-commerce (6%) or had a web site or homepage (7%).

Industries recording high use of computers by home based businesses were Property and business services (83% of all home based Property and business services businesses) and Manufacturing (80%). By comparison, 38% of businesses in the Construction industry used a computer.

Despite high computer use in Manufacturing, the level of Internet use was markedly low (13% of all Manufacturing businesses), whereas 59% of home based businesses in Property and business services accessed the Internet.

HOME BASED BUSINESS COMPUTER/INTERNET USE,
Industry, November 1999



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Indicator	Period	Unit	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.....			AUSTRALIA.....		
			% change from.....			% change from.....		
			Current figure	Previous figure	Same period previous year	Current figure	Previous figure	Same period previous year
State Accounts								
State final demand								
Original	Sep qtr 2000	\$m	15 379	-5.1	0.2	165 764	2.8	9.0
Trend	Sep qtr 2000	\$m	15 882	0.3	2.0	166 872	2.3	8.6
Price Indexes								
Consumer price index								
All groups	Sep qtr 2000	index no.	128.6	3.7	5.5	130.9	3.7	6.1
Housing price indexes								
Materials used in house building	Sep qtr 2000	index no.	118.3	-0.3	1.2	124.5	-0.8	3.3
Established homes	Sep qtr 2000	index no.	130.2	0.2	7.1	147.1	-0.1	7.5
Project homes	Sep qtr 2000	index no.	126.3	9.3	13.3	134.3	9.3	14.8
Transport								
New motor vehicle registrations								
Original	Oct 2000	no.	5 978	-6.4	6.1	65 048	1.7	14.4
Trend	Oct 2000	no.	6 823	1.6	16.9	70 627	1.3	14.8
Retail								
Monthly retail turnover								
Original	Oct 2000	\$m	1 271.3	0.1	-0.9	12 734.0	1.7	2.6
Trend	Oct 2000	\$m	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Finance and Investment								
Banking								
Total deposits	Oct 2000	\$m	28 622	1.9	7.5	410 355	0.6	5.9
Loans	Oct 2000	\$m	47 066	0.3	10.4	492 837	1.0	11.4
Private new capital expenditure								
Original	Sep qtr 2000	\$m	874	-37.6	-40.8	9 971	-12.2	-6.4
Trend	Sep qtr 2000	\$m	1 069	-7.8	-24.7	10 535	0.6	0.9
Construction								
Dwelling units approved								
Original	Sep 2000	no.	1 197	-6.4	-42.5	8 926	-9.4	-41.4
Trend	Sep 2000	no.	1 219	-3.7	-41.8	8 487	-7.2	-42.8
Value of total buildings approved								
Original	Sep 2000	\$m	253.2	-4.2	-33.8	2 373.2	-6.1	-20.3
Value of Building activity commenced								
New residential building	Jun qtr 2000	\$m	574.2	-24.8	5.6	5 342.3	-6.2	18.8
Total non-residential building	Jun qtr 2000	\$m	346.9	73.5	48.2	3 042.9	9.6	7.6
Value of Building activity completed								
New residential building	Jun qtr 2000	\$m	690.1	29.1	32.3	5 960.3	33.7	29.5
Total non-residential building	Jun qtr 2000	\$m	246.7	-34.8	47.7	3 802.4	15.4	31.4
Merchandise Trade								
Imports	Sep qtr 2000	\$m	2 046	-18.7	-7.1	30 406	5.3	16.9
Exports	Sep qtr 2000	\$m	7 237	-2.6	34.9	28 500	6.9	30.2
Mineral Exploration								
Gold	Jun qtr 2000	\$m	76.6	62.3	1.6	109.8	52.7	-2.6
All other minerals								
Tourism								
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals by air	Jul 2000	'000	15.1	-7.5	1.5	427.6	23.2	10.2
Short-term departures of residents by air	Jul 2000	'000	23.0	14.0	-4.7	294.8	-2.9	3.2
Hotels, motels etc and serviced apartments								
Guest arrivals	Sep qtr 2000	'000	683	6.2	-3.7	7 979	1.7	-3.9
Room occupancy rates	Sep qtr 2000	%	53.9	-0.9	-8.3	58.4	2.3	-3.9
Takings from accommodation	Sep qtr 2000	\$'000	94 884	7.7	5.1	1 302 158	25.3	20.8
Labour Market								
Total employed								
Trend p	Nov 2000	'000	931.6	0.1	1.1	9 098.6	-0.1	2.5
Total unemployed								
Trend p	Nov 2000	'000	62.3	1.5	-4.9	620.0	0.2	-6.9
Participation rate								
Trend p	Nov 2000	%	66.5	0.2	-0.7	63.6	-0.1	0.5
Unemployment rate								
Trend p	Nov 2000	%	6.3	1.6	-4.5	6.4	0.0	-8.6
Job vacancies	Aug 2000	'000	10.6	34.2	14.0	127.7	19.6	16.1
Wage cost index (total hourly rate excluding bonuses)	Sep qtr 2000	index no.	109.3	1.2	3.0	109.7	1.2	3.1
Population								
Estimated resident population	Jun qtr 2000	'000	1 883.9	0.3	1.4	19 157	0.3	1.2
Natural increase	Jun qtr 2000	no.	3 529	-10.2	-8.5	33 179	11.8	9.5

2

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Current Prices

	Jun qtr 1999	Sep qtr 1999	Dec qtr 1999	Mar qtr 2000	Jun qtr 2000	Sep qtr 2000	Sep qtr 1999 to Sep qtr 2000
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	% change
ORIGINAL							
Final consumption expenditure							
General Government	2 648	2 542	2 742	2 739	2 869	2 714	6.8
Households	8 201	8 341	9 104	8 329	8 762	9 079	8.8
Gross fixed capital expenditure							
Private							
Dwellings	951	1 000	1 011	1 072	1 177	1 030	3.0
Other buildings and structures	846	793	762	553	583	453	-42.9
Machinery and equipment	1 479	1 476	1 438	1 096	1 331	896	-39.3
Livestock	51	42	42	42	42	53	26.2
Intangible fixed assets	345	335	327	327	351	283	-15.5
Ownership transfer costs	254	252	251	238	257	240	-4.8
<i>Total private</i>	3 925	3 898	3 832	3 328	3 741	2 954	-24.2
Public	663	568	672	728	842	632	11.3
State final demand	15 436	15 349	16 350	15 124	16 214	15 379	0.2
Compensation of employees	7 107	6 973	7 586	7 296	7 689	7 698	10.4
TREND ESTIMATES							
Final consumption expenditure							
General Government	2 553	2 608	2 695	2 769	2 820	2 834	8.7
Households	8 325	8 414	8 547	8 719	8 896	9 081	7.9
Gross fixed capital expenditure							
Private							
Dwellings	946	991	1 044	1 079	1 096	1 105	11.5
Other buildings and structures	798	779	715	622	542	488	-37.4
Machinery and equipment	1 503	1 461	1 363	1 264	1 149	1 060	-27.4
Livestock	48	44	41	41	45	48	9.1
Intangible fixed assets	354	335	331	330	325	318	-5.1
Ownership transfer costs	242	254	252	247	245	246	-3.1
<i>Total private</i>	3 892	3 863	3 746	3 587	3 403	3 241	-16.1
Public	625	681	704	714	718	741	8.8
State final demand	15 395	15 566	15 693	15 790	15 838	15 882	2.0
Compensation of employees	6 956	7 151	7 338	7 491	7 614	7 713	7.9

Source: Australian National Accounts, Quarterly State Details (Cat no. 5206.0.40.001).

3

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, By Group: Perth(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Alcohol and tobacco</i>	<i>Clothing and footwear</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household furnishings, supplies and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
ANNUAL AVERAGE						
1997-1998	122.9	155.2	106.2	89.2	113.7	153.7
1998-1999	128.0	159.2	105.3	90.5	113.6	155.3
1999-2000	129.7	165.7	104.2	94.7	113.1	152.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year, annual average)						
1997-1998	1.5	2.0	—	-7.5	0.5	-0.3
1998-1999	4.1	2.5	-0.9	1.5	-0.1	1.1
1999-2000	1.3	4.1	-1.0	4.6	-0.4	-1.8
QUARTERS						
1999						
June	129.6	161.5	105.3	91.3	113.3	148.9
September	129.4	161.8	105.1	93.1	113.0	151.4
December	129.3	164.6	103.6	95.1	113.5	150.5
2000						
March	130.4	166.9	102.5	95.1	112.4	153.5
June	129.7	169.5	105.6	95.4	113.6	154.8
September	132.9	179.8	112.7	101.3	114.7	155.5
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from same quarter of previous year)						
1999						
June	4.0	2.5	-1.0	2.7	-0.8	-7.6
September	2.3	2.3	-0.4	3.9	-0.9	-6.7
December	1.3	4.4	-2.1	5.2	-0.7	-6.6
2000						
March	1.6	4.7	-2.0	5.0	-0.3	3.2
June	0.1	5.0	0.3	4.5	0.3	4.0
September	2.7	11.1	7.2	8.8	1.5	2.7
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
1999						
June	0.9	1.3	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.1
September	-0.2	0.2	-0.2	2.0	-0.3	1.7
December	-0.1	1.7	-1.4	2.1	0.4	-0.6
2000						
March	0.9	1.4	-1.1	—	-1.0	2.0
June	-0.5	1.6	3.0	0.3	1.1	0.8
September	2.5	6.1	6.7	6.2	1.0	0.5

3

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, By Group: Perth(a) *continued*

<i>Period</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>All Groups</i>
ANNUAL AVERAGE						
1997-1998	121.4	107.2	115.2	164.8	141.0	118.0
1998-1999	122.3	102.6	117.0	173.2	145.7	120.1
1999-2000	129.1	96.4	117.8	182.0	155.4	122.9
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year, annual average)						
1997-1998	-0.8	-0.1	1.7	6.6	0.2	-0.2
1998-1999	0.7	-4.2	1.6	5.1	3.3	1.8
1999-2000	5.6	-6.1	0.7	5.1	6.7	2.4
QUARTERS						
1999						
June	123.2	100.4	118.1	176.4	147.7	120.8
September	127.4	96.6	118.0	176.4	149.9	121.9
December	127.0	96.0	119.5	176.4	154.0	122.7
2000						
March	130.4	95.8	116.2	187.5	157.2	123.1
June	131.7	97.1	117.4	187.5	160.6	124.0
September	136.0	103.7	120.9	187.5	161.7	128.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from same quarter of previous year)						
1999						
June	1.7	-5.6	2.4	3.8	4.7	1.6
September	3.9	-8.2	2.5	3.8	3.8	1.9
December	3.9	-7.8	2.1	3.8	6.6	2.1
2000						
March	7.7	-5.0	-1.3	6.3	7.7	2.8
June	6.9	-3.3	-0.6	6.3	8.7	2.6
September	6.8	7.3	2.5	6.3	7.9	5.5
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
1999						
June	1.7	-0.4	0.3	—	1.2	0.8
September	3.4	-3.8	-0.1	—	1.5	0.9
December	-0.3	-0.6	1.3	—	2.7	0.7
2000						
March	2.7	-0.2	-2.8	6.3	2.1	0.3
June	1.0	1.4	1.0	—	2.2	0.7
September	3.3	6.8	3.0	—	0.7	3.7

(a) Base of each index: 1989-1990 = 100.0.

Source: Unpublished data, Consumer Price Index.

Note: For more details of changes resulting from the introduction of the 14th Series Consumer Price Index, refer to *Information Paper: Introduction of the 14th Series Australian Consumer Price Index* (Cat. no. 6456.0) which was released on 29 September 2000.

4

PRICE INDEX OF ALL WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PRODUCED HARDWOODS

Period	Index number(a)	% change from corresponding quarter of previous period	% change from previous period
1997–1998	107.3	..	-0.6
1998–1999	105.6	..	-1.6
1999–2000	110.6	..	4.7
1999			
June	105.5	-0.2	-0.3
September	108.0	2.0	2.4
December	112.4	6.9	4.1
2000			
March	116.5	10.2	3.6
June	117.7	11.6	1.0
September	119.6	10.7	1.6

(a) Base of each index: 1992–1993 = 100.0.

Source: *Price Index of Western Australian Produced Hardwoods* (Cat no. 6410.5).

5

SELECTED HOUSING PRICE INDEXES: Perth(a)

Period	Materials used in house building	Established homes	Project homes
1997–1998	115.9	113.3	102.2
1998–1999	116.1	118.9	106.1
1999–2000	117.7	125.9	114.8
1999			
June	115.9	121.4	107.5
September	116.9	121.6	111.5
December	117.1	125.3	116.2
2000			
March	118.1	126.7	115.7
June	118.7	129.9	115.6
September	118.3	130.2	126.3

(a) Base of each index: 1989–1990 = 100.0.

Source: *Materials Used in House Building* (Cat no. 6408.0); *House Price Indexes* (Cat no. 6416.0).

6

PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSES: Perth(a)

Period	SPECIAL SERIES.....				SELECTED MAJOR BUILDING MATERIALS.....				
	All groups	All electrical materials	All mechanical services	All plumbing materials	Structural timber	Clay bricks	Ready mixed concrete	Structural steel	Aluminium windows
1997-1998	114.6	109.3	113.4	124.6	106.8	127.8	117.4	116.5	117.9
1998-1999	114.1	107.8	116.1	124.3	105.0	131.4	114.5	117.5	115.0
1999-2000	115.4	108.4	117.6	130.1	103.3	132.9	114.1	119.2	116.6
1999									
June	114.1	107.8	116.5	124.5	103.9	131.2	113.9	117.4	115.2
September	114.4	107.5	117.4	127.6	100.8	134.8	113.8	117.1	115.2
December	115.0	108.0	117.8	129.8	101.6	133.3	114.5	118.5	116.4
2000									
March	115.8	108.6	117.7	131.4	104.6	131.7	114.0	120.5	116.4
June	116.5	109.4	117.6	131.4	106.3	131.7	114.0	120.5	118.5
September	114.0	105.9	112.0	127.9	106.4	134.8	110.2	120.5	119.3

(a) Base of each index: 1989-1990 = 100.0.

Source: *Materials Used in Building Other than House Building* (Cat no. 6407.0).

7 NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS: Original(a)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA..... PERTH
STATISTICAL
DIVISION.....

Period	Passenger vehicles	Light commercial vehicles	Trucks and buses	Total(b)	Motorcycles and scooters	Total(b)
1997-1998	67 675	11 486	2 295	81 456	3 103	63 131
1998-1999	66 574	10 823	2 374	79 771	3 160	62 268
1999-2000	54 697	10 401	1 884	66 982	3 210	52 479
1999						
August	4 779	843	185	5 807	268	4 594
September	4 692	756	181	5 629	275	4 517
October	4 657	801	177	5 635	316	4 434
November	5 064	880	190	6 134	363	4 808
December	5 296	925	164	6 385	329	5 024
2000						
January	4 110	610	122	4 842	237	3 770
February	4 738	915	131	5 784	236	4 533
March	5 036	1 003	150	6 189	311	4 863
April	3 874	647	106	4 627	238	3 626
May	4 576	1 115	152	5 843	234	4 488
June	3 669	1 221	207	5 097	134	3 687
July	6 578	670	112	7 360	269	6 101
August	6 153	781	152	7 086	324	5 784
September	5 602	634	150	6 386	315	5 138
October	5 039	789	150	5 978	322	n.y.a.

(a) Excludes plant and equipment, caravans and trailers.

(b) Excludes motor cycles.

Source: *New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Western Australia* (Cat no. 9303.0.40.003).

8 NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS: Trend(a)

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other	Total (b)
1999			
August	4 835	1 044	5 879
September	4 766	1 054	5 821
October	4 781	1 056	5 836
November	4 836	1 041	5 878
December	4 902	1 017	5 919
2000			
January	4 839	994	5 833
February	4 658	981	5 639
March	4 497	981	5 478
April	4 469	985	5 454
May	4 624	989	5 613
June	4 923	988	5 910
July	5 268	978	6 246
August	5 558	967	6 525
September	5 753	959	6 713
October	5 865	957	6 823

(a) Excludes plant and equipment, caravans and trailers.

(b) Excludes motor cycles.

Source: *Unpublished data, New Motor Vehicle Registrations*.

Note: Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

	Food	Department stores	Clothing and soft goods	Household goods	Recreational goods	Hospitality and services	Other	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL								
1999								
August	519.5	88.2	52.3	191.9	48.6	148.3	111.2	1 160.1
September	529.3	99.1	55.4	186.2	45.4	147.4	114.5	1 177.3
October	572.8	108.6	61.8	198.9	57.0	163.4	120.8	1 283.3
November	560.0	120.9	68.1	205.3	62.6	150.8	126.7	1 294.4
December	673.4	204.7	88.9	244.0	79.5	168.4	170.7	1 629.6
2000								
January	538.8	91.2	56.6	188.6	63.1	140.8	126.4	1 205.6
February	524.7	81.5	53.2	185.1	61.4	148.7	125.0	1 179.6
March	561.6	90.6	58.0	191.2	63.9	148.6	131.7	1 245.5
April	541.2	103.8	66.6	173.3	66.5	134.3	124.4	1 210.0
May	533.5	105.5	76.1	185.2	69.5	133.4	137.9	1 241.0
June	527.8	110.0	87.5	214.8	69.3	136.5	133.9	1 279.8
July	521.4	86.0	63.0	183.6	66.1	139.7	125.2	1 185.0
August	541.4	99.3	66.0	189.8	70.7	141.6	144.2	1 253.0
September	537.4	99.3	72.3	194.6	72.5	145.2	148.5	1 269.8
October	541.3	102.3	75.7	181.8	63.6	158.5	148.1	1 271.3
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
1999								
August	541.6	104.7	59.2	202.4	52.3	149.2	117.7	1 227.1
September	543.1	108.5	60.5	195.5	47.2	149.2	116.6	1 220.5
October	559.3	108.4	60.7	194.0	56.9	151.7	118.5	1 249.7
November	561.6	108.9	66.2	189.5	61.6	148.6	117.1	1 253.4
December	566.6	108.1	62.9	193.6	53.6	146.8	117.0	1 248.4
2000								
January	529.4	105.3	56.4	188.8	66.2	141.2	131.7	1 219.0
February	543.1	109.9	64.4	191.7	65.6	153.9	132.6	1 261.1
March	548.9	105.6	61.9	201.2	67.5	149.6	138.8	1 273.6
April	555.2	109.3	69.7	188.3	71.3	139.4	140.6	1 273.7
May	547.4	105.1	71.3	188.3	70.2	139.3	142.9	1 264.5
June	555.5	122.5	87.4	223.6	74.0	147.2	149.4	1 359.7
July	537.8	89.8	64.2	193.0	69.8	141.0	135.0	1 230.6
August	550.3	113.1	72.7	195.1	72.9	143.3	146.9	1 294.3
September	551.3	109.6	78.7	202.9	74.6	144.4	148.4	1 309.9
October	541.3	104.3	75.4	176.2	65.5	146.7	146.1	1 255.5
TREND ESTIMATES(a)								
1999								
August	541.8	106.2	60.1	195.7	54.0	149.7	114.0	1 222.1
September	544.5	107.1	60.9	195.4	54.7	149.7	114.7	1 229.6
October	546.5	107.8	61.5	194.3	55.5	149.3	116.4	1 236.4
November	547.1	108.0	61.7	193.1	55.9	148.4	119.2	1 241.8
December	546.7	108.1	61.8	192.7	56.0	147.0	123.2	1 246.7
2000								
January	546.1	107.8	62.1	192.9	(b) 66.9	145.5	128.0	1 251.3
February	546.0	107.4	63.0	193.0	67.2	144.3	133.0	1 256.2
March	546.8	107.1	64.6	192.4	68.0	143.5	137.4	1 261.7
April	548.4	106.9	66.7	190.8	69.4	143.0	140.8	1 267.6
May	550.1	106.7	68.8	188.6	70.9	142.8	143.5	1 273.1
June	551.9	106.7	70.9	186.1	72.6	142.9	145.3	1 278.7
July	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
August	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
September	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
October	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.

(a) Trend calculated on data up to June 2000 including adjustments for pre-GST impacts. For more information, refer to source publication.

(b) Possible break in series. For more information, refer to source publication.

Source: Retail Trade, Australia (Cat no. 8501.0).

10

BANKING STATISTICS: All Banks(a)

Month	DEPOSITS.....				LOANS	
	Current bearing interest	Current not bearing interest	Term deposits(b)	Other(c)	Total deposits	Other lending(d)
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1999						
August	7 026	1 345	13 016	5 264	26 651	42 081
September	7 023	1 360	13 186	5 324	26 892	42 009
October	6 898	1 363	13 123	5 232	26 616	42 627
November	6 946	1 406	12 937	5 260	26 549	43 049
December	7 131	1 502	13 010	5 303	26 946	43 598
2000						
January	7 158	1 445	13 409	5 239	27 252	43 906
February	7 094	1 435	13 501	5 215	27 247	44 193
March	7 163	1 489	12 648	5 240	26 540	43 716
April	7 203	1 537	12 747	5 207	26 694	43 900
May	7 171	1 462	13 104	5 196	26 932	44 567
June	7 124	1 475	13 623	5 132	27 355	45 214
July	7 134	1 666	14 055	5 117	27 972	45 881
August	7 196	1 555	13 979	5 250	27 982	46 204
September	7 500	1 558	13 593	5 431	28 082	46 912
October	7 187	1 531	14 244	5 659	28 622	47 066

(a) Details are the averages of weekly figures for each month. The figures are derived from returns submitted by banks under the Banking Act together with similar returns voluntarily submitted by the State Banks. They exclude the Reserve Bank of Australia.

(b) Includes certificates of deposits.

(c) Includes passbook/school savings, investment savings, statement savings and other.

(d) Excludes non-residential loans.

Source: Reserve Bank of Australia.

11

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS(a), Type of Borrower

Month	FIRST HOME BUYERS.....				OTHER.....			
	Number of dwellings financed	Number as a percent of total	Value of commitments	Average borrowing size	Number of dwellings financed	Number as a percent of total	Value of commitments	Average borrowing size
	no.	%	\$m	\$'000	no.	%	\$m	\$'000
1999								
August	1 373	23.5	153	111.3	4 476	76.5	534	119.4
September	1 269	21.6	140	110.5	4 600	78.4	548	119.1
October	1 373	21.9	152	110.9	4 898	78.1	592	120.9
November	1 581	23.0	180	113.8	5 292	77.0	638	120.5
December	1 393	23.1	165	118.6	4 631	76.9	582	125.6
2000								
January	1 113	21.3	135	121.5	4 101	78.7	504	123.0
February	1 593	24.1	189	118.8	5 026	75.9	642	127.7
March	1 544	23.0	176	114.1	5 171	77.0	639	123.5
April	980	20.0	114	116.6	3 908	80.0	473	121.1
May	1 046	16.5	114	108.7	5 293	83.5	612	115.6
June	776	14.7	91	117.1	4 514	85.3	524	116.1
July r	1 481	27.4	169	114.4	3 915	72.6	461	117.8
August	1 760	28.1	191	108.6	4 494	71.9	505	112.3
September	1 374	25.2	148	108.0	4 074	74.8	451	110.8
October	1 167	22.3	127	108.6	4 070	77.7	472	116.0

(a) Includes refinancing, and excludes alterations and additions.

Source: Unpublished data, Housing Finance for Owner Occupation.

Month	ORIGINAL.....		TREND ESTIMATES.....	
	Total number of dwellings(a)	Total value of commitment	Total number of dwellings(a)	Total value of commitment
	no.	\$m	no.	\$m
1999				
August	5 849	687	6 040	714
September	5 869	688	6 147	730
October	6 271	744	6 249	746
November	6 873	818	6 312	759
December	6 024	747	6 303	763
2000				
January	5 214	640	6 197	754
February	6 619	831	6 009	732
March	6 715	815	5 803	704
April	4 888	588	5 655	678
May	6 339	726	5 597	661
June	5 290	615	5 602	652
July	5 396	631	5 633	649
August	6 254	696	5 657	647
September	5 448	600	5 654	643
October	5 237	599	5 646	640

(a) Includes new dwellings, established dwellings and refinancing, excludes alterations and additions.

Source: *Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia* (Cat no. 5609.0).

Period	LENDING COMMITMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR PURCHASE OF DWELLINGS.....				TOTAL LENDING COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR HOUSING(b).....		
	Construction of dwellings	Purchase of newly erected dwellings	Purchase of established dwellings(a)	Refinancing of existing dwellings	Lending commitments for alterations and additions	Original	Trend
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997-1998	1 210	228	3 809	1 235	282	6 483	6 394
1998-1999	1 386	215	4 485	1 237	288	7 319	7 283
1999-2000	1 506	240	5 255	1 565	324	8 565	8 593
1999							
August	139	18	415	116	30	687	714
September	137	17	423	112	32	688	730
October	154	22	445	123	31	744	746
November	171	17	488	142	29	818	759
December	142	19	461	124	28	747	763
2000							
January	108	22	386	124	19	640	754
February	126	26	533	146	27	831	732
March	118	21	528	147	28	815	704
April	84	14	381	109	18	588	678
May	108	15	438	164	31	726	661
June	84	33	350	149	25	615	652
July	92	12	397	131	23	631	649
August	104	15	432	145	28	696	647
September	88	12	367	132	22	600	643
October	81	10	378	131	23	599	640

(a) Excludes refinancing.

(b) Excludes alterations and additions.

Source: Unpublished data, Housing Finance for Owner Occupation.

14

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Current Prices: Original

Period	SELECTED INDUSTRIES.....			TYPE OF ASSET.....		TOTAL
	Mining	Manufacturing	Other selected industries	Buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ACTUAL						
1997-1998	5 759	1 049	1 953	2 438	6 323	8 761
1998-1999	3 648	1 284	2 046	2 399	4 579	6 977
1999-2000	2 298	1 151	1 853	1 717	3 586	5 302
1999						
June	738	240	498	467	1 009	1 476
September	740	270	467	430	1 047	1 477
December	513	292	537	396	946	1 341
2000						
March	390	294	398	349	733	1 083
June	655	296	450	542	860	1 401
September	429	123	322	311	563	874
EXPECTED						
1999-2000	2 654	998	1 677	1 587	3 741	5 328
2000-2001	2 449	523	1 166	1 566	2 572	4 139

Source: Private New Capital Expenditure, State Estimates (Cat no. 5646.0).

15

ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Current Prices: Trend

Period	TYPE OF ASSET.....		TOTAL
	Buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	
	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997-1998	2 489	6 277	8 766
1998-1999	2 393	4 646	7 039
1999-2000	1 648	3 493	5 141
1999			
June	486	1 027	1 513
September	425	995	1 420
December	397	918	1 315
2000			
March	409	838	1 247
June	417	742	1 159
September	412	657	1 069

Source: Private New Capital Expenditure, State Estimates (Cat no. 5646.0).

16

BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS, Short-Term Outlook

EXPECTED AGGREGATE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS QUARTER.....

	Sep qtr 1999	Dec qtr 1999	Mar qtr 2000	Jun qtr 2000	Sep qtr 2000	Dec qtr 2000
<i>Business Performance Indicators</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%
Trading performance						
Operating income	1.3	2.1	-1.0	0.8	0.4	0.3
Selling prices	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.8
Profit	9.1	4.0	-1.1	3.6	0.9	-2.5
Investment						
Capital expenditure	0.2	1.3	-0.9	0.7	3.7	3.0
Inventories	-1.2	0.1	-0.4	-0.3	-0.8	-0.1
Employment						
Full-time equivalent	-0.1	0.8	0.7	-0.2	-0.2	1.1

Source: Australian Business Expectations (Cat no. 5250.0).

17

BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS, Medium-Term Outlook

EXPECTED AGGREGATE CHANGE OVER THE SAME QUARTER OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.....

	Jun qtr 2000	Sep qtr 2000	Dec qtr 2000	Mar qtr 2001	Jun qtr 2001	Sep qtr 2001
<i>Business Performance Indicators</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%
Trading performance						
Operating Income	5.0	1.8	1.4	2.3	0.7	1.2
Selling prices	1.0	0.6	1.2	2.2	1.4	1.1
Profit	5.7	4.1	6.6	12.2	5.2	3.5
Investment						
Capital expenditure	0.2	-0.5	2.5	0.5	4.3	0.6
Inventories	4.0	-1.3	-0.1	—	-0.5	-1.0
Employment						
Full-time equivalent	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.3

Source: Australian Business Expectations (Cat no. 5250.0).

18

BUILDING APPROVALS: Original

Period	NEW HOUSES.....		NEW OTHER RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....		TOTAL RESIDENTIAL..		NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING(a).....		TOTAL BUILDING
	Dwelling units	Value	Dwelling units	Value	Dwelling units	Value	Private sector	Public sector	Value
	no.	\$m	no.	\$m	no.	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997-1998	15 828	1 634.2	2 526	222.0	18 420	2 043.9	706.7	193.3	2 943.8
1998-1999	17 490	1 912.9	2 949	298.3	20 578	2 436.0	897.5	210.7	3 544.3
1999-2000	18 653	2 173.7	4 004	497.2	22 805	2 915.4	666.0	535.0	4 116.2
1999									
July	1 705	187.3	345	42.9	2 089	256.4	59.2	45.4	361.0
August	1 773	194.8	292	26.9	2 089	246.9	61.7	51.7	360.3
September	1 629	185.7	451	43.1	2 081	247.5	60.2	74.6	382.2
October	1 666	193.6	170	17.4	1 841	230.5	71.5	65.4	367.4
November	2 055	243.0	365	34.4	2 432	303.8	48.8	46.9	399.5
December	1 734	201.3	239	23.5	1 995	243.0	44.8	17.5	305.2
2000									
January	1 403	169.6	249	25.6	1 671	211.8	38.6	18.7	269.2
February	1 498	167.9	452	101.2	1 972	289.3	54.3	48.9	392.5
March	1 507	189.0	249	24.3	1 766	232.7	38.9	35.2	306.7
April	1 093	128.8	278	42.0	1 373	186.4	63.0	24.5	273.8
May	1 392	172.2	397	68.3	1 808	265.2	68.3	79.4	412.9
June	1 198	140.5	517	47.6	1 717	201.9	56.7	26.8	285.5
July	914	115.0	190	20.9	1 122	152.3	49.9	51.5	253.7
August	1 010	128.0	211	24.5	1 279	171.2	86.1	7.0	264.3
September	981	121.7	208	20.7	1 197	160.8	84.0	8.4	253.2

(a) Includes alterations, additions, conversions and non-residential buildings.

Source: Building Approvals, Western Australia (Cat no. 8731.5).

19

BUILDING APPROVALS: Trend

Month	HOUSES	OTHER DWELLINGS	TOTAL DWELLINGS.....	NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS(a)	TOTAL BUILDING
	no.	no.	no.	\$m	\$m
1999					
July	1 616	405	2 021	240.7	335.6
August	1 667	395	2 062	247.3	353.3
September	1 720	375	2 095	253.2	364.4
October	1 764	355	2 119	258.9	368.3
November	1 784	337	2 121	262.8	364.5
December	1 767	317	2 084	264.1	357.4
2000					
January	1 703	308	2 011	261.6	350.6
February	1 593	310	1 903	253.9	343.3
March	1 446	325	1 771	240.3	333.4
April	1 296	338	1 634	222.9	319.5
May	1 168	345	1 513	205.0	302.0
June	1 071	345	1 416	188.8	284.7
July	999	335	1 334	175.2	270.2
August	950	316	1 266	164.0	258.5
September	925	294	1 219	158.1	253.5

(a) Includes alterations, additions, conversions and non-residential buildings.

Source: Building Approvals, Western Australia (Cat no. 8731.5).

Period	RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....			NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....								Total
	New residential building	Alterations and additions	Hotels etc(a)	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Education	Health	Other(b)		
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m		
COMMENCED												
1997-1998	1 787.4	188.1	56.0	176.7	91.2	127.1	151.6	121.4	50.4	113.9	888.3	
1998-1999	2 038.4	226.7	51.3	380.3	90.0	101.6	163.0	108.7	57.5	177.5	1 129.9	
1999-2000	2 633.1	265.0	42.2	151.0	98.3	116.9	120.6	260.7	117.0	269.6	1 176.4	
1999												
March	451.6	60.1	20.6	128.7	24.5	37.8	31.4	23.4	27.4	53.2	346.9	
June	543.6	62.3	7.1	61.2	20.7	19.0	55.3	24.0	9.8	36.9	234.0	
September	669.8	74.7	18.2	50.6	18.4	15.9	29.0	34.3	10.4	101.2	278.0	
December	626.1	60.5	6.5	32.8	34.9	34.5	26.1	148.1	26.7	42.0	351.5	
2000												
March	r 763.1	r 62.8	r 11.5	r 42.5	23.7	24.1	r 34.1	25.2	18.6	20.3	r 200.0	
June	574.2	66.9	5.9	25.2	21.3	42.5	31.4	53.1	61.4	106.0	346.9	
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD												
1997-1998	915.0	76.8	49.9	77.5	33.7	65.8	63.5	60.2	149.9	89.4	589.9	
1998-1999	1 076.6	112.5	58.0	290.8	43.2	54.9	73.3	62.2	47.1	130.2	759.7	
1999-2000	1 535.6	113.2	24.0	142.9	48.7	67.9	48.0	193.8	101.6	219.3	846.3	
1999												
March	1 048.5	113.3	55.2	254.6	41.1	45.0	43.3	69.7	41.9	133.4	684.2	
June	1 076.6	112.5	58.0	290.8	43.2	54.9	73.3	62.2	47.1	130.2	759.7	
September	1 307.5	124.2	47.6	276.5	36.4	45.8	62.8	77.7	39.4	206.8	793.0	
December	1 400.8	108.3	38.5	236.6	54.9	62.4	44.9	205.9	58.0	201.4	902.6	
2000												
March	r 1 634.8	r 114.1	r 38.6	r 150.4	56.9	r 58.4	r 57.2	r 171.9	57.4	r 141.6	r 732.5	
June	1 535.6	113.2	24.0	142.9	48.7	67.9	48.0	193.8	101.6	219.3	846.3	
COMPLETED												
1997-1998	1 719.2	188.6	80.7	216.8	114.7	140.3	179.7	153.0	134.4	116.7	1 136.4	
1998-1999	1 892.8	200.5	46.1	179.4	82.3	111.2	156.1	110.0	164.7	135.3	985.1	
1999-2000	2 212.1	271.8	82.6	316.5	96.4	107.4	149.8	134.4	63.6	185.6	1 136.2	
1999												
March	470.0	42.7	10.7	53.3	21.3	46.6	33.8	19.3	63.5	15.0	263.6	
June	521.6	58.6	4.2	31.6	19.7	9.5	25.9	32.4	4.5	39.1	167.0	
September	446.9	64.5	31.2	68.5	25.6	25.4	41.6	19.5	18.0	24.7	254.6	
December	540.3	77.6	17.0	83.4	15.4	17.8	43.2	20.0	7.6	51.8	256.3	
2000												
March	r 534.7	r 58.3	r 11.5	r 130.8	24.7	r 28.4	r 23.1	r 60.9	19.4	r 80.0	r 378.6	
June	690.1	71.4	23.0	33.7	30.8	35.8	41.9	34.0	18.6	29.0	246.7	

(a) Includes motels, hostels, boarding houses, guest houses, and holiday apartment buildings.

(b) Includes religious, entertainment and recreational and miscellaneous.

Source: *Building Activity, Western Australia* (Cat no. 8752.5).

Section	SEPT QTR 2000.....		12 MONTHS ENDING SEPT QTR 1999.....		12 MONTHS ENDING SEPT QTR 2000.....	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
0 Food and live animals	660 172	46 138	3 013 023	178 512	3 079 388	187 679
1 Beverages and tobacco	7 080	6 922	14 851	26 891	21 845	28 668
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	1 592 356	21 850	5 153 797	76 168	5 782 041	90 881
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants, and related materials	1 930 602	338 494	3 433 125	856 958	6 920 054	1 346 407
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	4 860	4 368	22 003	19 846	21 925	15 792
5 Chemical and related products	235 820	126 047	718 916	743 765	843 368	799 325
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	414 107	255 021	804 047	1 097 059	1 648 373	1 025 914
7 Machinery and transport equipment	245 459	917 336	813 671	3 622 482	755 102	3 505 613
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	17 549	140 708	97 520	505 041	81 304	497 546
9 Commodities and transactions n.e.c.	2 129 320	189 242	7 236 862	1 566 766	8 144 319	1 863 524
93 Special transactions and commodities	3 616	432	16 818	2 064	15 540	1 347
95 Gold coin whether or not legal tender	20 113	138	112 189	4 786	70 632	2 594
96 Coin (excluding gold coin), not being legal tender	0	336	517	5 384	121	1 310
97 Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)	691 438	140 748	3 611 503	1 361 620	2 875 551	1 653 491
98 Combined confidential items of trade	1 414 154	47 588	3 495 835	192 911	5 182 476	204 781
Total	7 237 326	2 046 126	21 307 815	8 693 488	27 297 721	9 361 350

Source: ABS FASTTRACCS Service.

Note: Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

	SEPT QTR 2000.....		12 MONTHS ENDING SEPT QTR 1999.....		12 MONTHS ENDING SEPT QTR 2000.....	
	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Imports</i>
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)						
Brunei Darussalam	1 220	11	7 483	43	5 998	49
Cambodia	272	28	5 891	27	5 055	92
Indonesia	172 275	79 789	464 289	403 205	632 521	490 663
Laos	1 595	3	1 889	19	2 027	448
Malaysia	90 048	135 139	311 988	205 971	312 180	397 272
Myanmar	1 323	30	2 554	1 598	4 143	1 032
Philippines	65 477	1 747	112 792	7 300	244 642	5 772
Singapore	457 262	149 940	1 740 422	575 462	1 762 445	626 821
Thailand	146 021	53 617	217 849	148 273	428 040	175 359
Viet Nam	19 239	39 664	77 257	293 193	65 666	365 843
<i>Total</i>	954 731	459 969	2 942 414	1 635 091	3 462 718	2 063 351
European Union (EU)						
Austria	1 783	13 595	10 013	39 484	7 195	40 572
Belgium-Luxembourg	72 933	9 197	491 862	34 002	481 968	32 062
Denmark	1 550	4 727	4 028	18 921	68 810	20 786
Finland	95 849	22 240	180 893	83 536	384 786	90 594
France	50 769	38 478	201 376	172 432	221 935	139 605
Germany	42 665	78 650	278 920	349 176	211 297	365 677
Greece	95 807	1 194	3 410	5 729	133 029	4 035
Ireland	442	3 498	71 970	23 714	2 258	13 294
Italy	35 675	61 572	189 860	267 252	190 207	271 726
Netherlands	145 682	9 322	254 087	74 089	584 875	41 465
Portugal	3 158	1 602	11 292	6 181	14 836	5 417
Spain	57 062	16 170	146 992	69 238	242 029	75 329
Sweden	4 293	24 383	6 331	85 038	10 760	89 749
United Kingdom	340 727	69 204	1 140 561	414 505	1 258 842	458 143
<i>Total</i>	948 396	353 832	2 991 596	1 643 297	3 812 826	1 648 453
Other Countries						
Canada	99 105	67 739	305 536	211 245	344 945	357 903
China	577 077	88 310	1 571 347	246 114	2 018 485	290 128
Hong Kong	84 426	11 710	390 174	89 915	330 572	142 445
Japan	2 039 470	303 157	4 958 105	1 047 303	7 274 420	1 066 348
Korea, Republic of	626 741	102 435	2 065 105	637 161	2 523 660	896 627
New Zealand	120 626	82 704	266 888	296 553	406 256	328 589
South Africa	178 940	26 781	406 741	107 214	581 897	134 885
Switzerland	22 993	5 394	266 220	27 670	85 205	21 189
Taiwan	483 414	43 144	1 019 856	127 813	1 625 158	155 514
United Arab Emirates	114 249	38 985	305 285	98 763	380 198	157 908
United States of America	562 580	276 337	1 565 979	1 819 095	2 399 716	1 402 624
All other countries	424 579	185 628	2 252 570	706 255	2 051 665	695 388
<i>Total</i>	5 334 199	1 232 325	15 373 805	5 415 100	20 022 177	5 649 546
Total Trade	7 237 326	2 046 126	21 307 815	8 693 488	27 297 721	9 361 350

Note: Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: ABS FASTTRACCS Service.

25

MEAT PRODUCED(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Beef</i> tonnes	<i>Veal</i> tonnes	<i>Mutton</i> tonnes	<i>Lamb</i> tonnes	<i>Pig meat</i> tonnes
ORIGINAL					
1997-1998	102 482	312	56 442	33 581	35 499
1998-1999	104 979	436	37 740	37 471	36 513
1999-2000	94 973	859	38 127	42 960	34 201
1999					
June	21 592	133	9 285	9 465	9 649
September	22 568	180	8 209	10 388	9 457
December	27 780	249	10 485	11 839	8 366
2000					
March	23 147	239	11 458	9 881	7 056
June	21 478	191	7 975	10 852	9 322
September	24 121	117	10 223	8 841	8 771
TREND ESTIMATES					
1999					
June	25 096	143	10 196	10 075	9 494
September	24 248	183	9 878	10 138	9 094
December	23 468	227	9 457	10 753	8 481
2000					
March	23 470	232	9 592	10 945	8 171
June	24 494	199	10 146	10 450	8 188
September	25 862	145	10 889	9 671	8 463

(a) Weight refers to carcass weight and excludes offal.

Source: *Livestock Products* (Cat no. 7215.0).

26

MINERAL EXPLORATION: Expenditure By Type of Mineral Sought

Period	METALLIC MINERALS.....			NON-METALLIC MINERALS.....		
	Base metals(a)	Gold	Other	Diamonds	Other	Total minerals(b)
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997-1998	117.1	459.3	3.8	31.4	2.1	660.4
1998-1999	90.9	330.7	3.4	32.9	0.9	523.1
1999-2000	88.3	253.0	n.p.	24.8	n.p.	415.0
1999						
March	20.9	67.2	1.1	2.7	0.2	102.3
June	15.5	75.4	0.6	7.4	0.1	109.4
September	16.1	67.9	1.9	10.6	0.2	107.9
December	26.5	61.3	n.p.	7.4	n.p.	108.8
2000						
March	24.8	47.2	2.1	2.8	0.7	85.0
June	20.9	76.6	1.5	4.0	0.1	113.3

(a) Includes copper, lead, zinc, silver, nickel and cobalt.

(b) Total includes minerals not listed (does not include petroleum).

Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration (Cat no. 8412.0); Unpublished data, Mineral and Petroleum Exploration.

27

MINERAL PRODUCTION

Period	Iron ore	Bauxite	Gold	Ilmenite	Nickel	Diamonds
	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 carats
1997-1998	156 973	28 544	240.5	2 220	134	43 046
1998-1999	146 221	29 237	218.2	2 056	r 121	35 910
1999-2000 p	151 500	31 465	206.8	1 896	122	29 525
1999						
June	34 445	7 116	52.6	443	r 29	7 264
September p	38 613	8 085	53.9	461	30	7 906
December p	36 076	7 620	52.5	505	30	7 420
2000						
March p	36 128	7 750	48.2	477	30	6 671
June p	40 683	8 010	52.2	453	32	7 528
September p	43 779	8 270	51.1	546	33	6 200

Source: ABARE, Australian Mineral Statistics.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Coal(a)</i> '000 tonnes	<i>Electricity generated(b)</i> million kWh	<i>Gas for distribution(b)(c)</i> million MJ	<i>Crude oil(d)(e)</i> mega-litres	<i>Natural gas(e)</i> million m ³
1997-1998	5 709	17 203	230 201	17 561	17 707
1998-1999	5 797	16 718	228 774	15 493	18 336
1999-2000	6 504	18 033	n.p.	17 924	18 560
1999					
June	1 372	4 007	55 948	2 941	4 439
September	1 611	4 399	59 661	4 036	4 861
December	1 669	4 541	57 238	4 375	4 611
2000					
March	1 626	4 797	n.p.	4 713	4 526
June	1 598	4 295	n.p.	4 766	4 562
September	1 584	4 541	n.p.	p 4 685	p 4 815

(a) Source: Department of Minerals and Energy.

(b) Source: Unpublished data, Manufacturing Production.

(c) Available for issue through mains.

(d) Includes condensate.

(e) Source: ABARE, Australian Mineral Statistics.

Period	SHORT-TERM ARRIVALS(b).....			LONG-TERM ARRIVALS.....		
	Permanent arrivals	West Australian residents	Overseas visitors	West Australian residents	Overseas visitors	Total arrivals
1997-1998	9 740	379 650	402 400	9 340	12 870	814 000
1998-1999	10 670	397 820	410 840	7 290	13 390	840 010
1999-2000	11 430	399 650	443 450	8 450	13 780	876 750
1999						
May	910	28 000	27 520	460	640	57 540
June	800	27 930	28 140	540	710	58 110
July	1 020	41 420	33 100	620	2 190	78 360
August	1 050	37 860	32 990	590	720	73 220
September	1 040	38 490	36 070	660	760	77 020
October	930	42 590	40 540	720	920	85 680
November	900	27 470	45 770	1 020	610	75 790
December	870	20 660	44 350	1 190	620	67 700
2000						
January	1 100	45 610	36 980	820	2 110	86 620
February	790	26 390	41 690	590	2 890	72 360
March	1 050	27 070	38 910	550	740	68 320
April	960	30 520	35 310	700	900	68 390
May	850	31 800	27 360	450	610	61 060
June	870	29 750	30 360	540	710	62 240
July	980	42 220	36 630	650	2 370	82 860

Period	SHORT-TERM DEPARTURES(c).....			LONG-TERM DEPARTURES.....		
	Permanent departures	West Australian residents	Overseas visitors	West Australian residents	Overseas visitors	Total departures
1997-1998	4 010	387 490	402 850	8 500	7 450	810 300
1998-1999	3 970	399 610	413 400	8 880	5 020	830 880
1999-2000	4 540	413 190	448 660	9 120	6 620	882 120
1999						
May	310	31 920	30 650	750	370	64 000
June	340	33 620	34 010	590	530	69 080
July	370	40 290	28 560	710	570	70 480
August	390	36 300	36 500	790	460	74 430
September	310	41 700	30 070	620	440	73 150
October	310	31 180	32 280	670	410	64 850
November	350	27 790	40 900	710	600	70 350
December	390	37 420	41 780	690	1 180	81 460
2000						
January	570	29 330	45 690	1 220	530	77 330
February	340	24 220	36 910	720	440	62 640
March	380	35 580	41 910	780	550	79 210
April	390	34 900	40 260	820	470	76 840
May	370	34 540	37 390	810	400	73 520
June	350	39 940	36 400	590	580	77 840
July	350	40 940	27 750	780	510	70 330

(a) Due to implementation of a new passenger card processing system by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, figures beyond July 2000 were not available at time of publication.

(b) Comprises travellers whose intended stay is less than 12 months.

(c) Comprises travellers whose intended absence is less than 12 months.

Source: Unpublished data, Overseas Arrivals and Departures.

Note: Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.....

Period	New Zealand	UK & Ireland	Indonesia	Japan	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand	United States	Total(c)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
1997-1998	7 830	27 660	19 570	26 650	23 920	50 470	5 880	3 520	205 550
1998-1999	7 720	34 580	12 780	24 570	17 220	41 700	4 720	3 700	192 550
1999-2000	8 080	38 880	9 240	32 520	23 980	50 490	5 810	4 730	229 580
1999									
May	440	1 590	1 480	1 140	2 950	3 640	380	150	14 080
June	680	1 740	550	880	1 260	6 730	220	300	14 470
July	500	2 080	790	2 910	960	1 660	310	560	14 900
August	900	1 790	740	3 070	2 000	4 250	420	380	17 710
September	930	3 190	710	2 440	2 220	4 900	300	260	19 130
October	1 030	5 150	650	3 350	1 850	3 410	640	260	22 190
November	540	4 980	340	1 810	2 210	7 380	280	760	23 430
December	720	3 540	1 280	2 670	1 930	5 780	560	490	25 390
2000									
January	630	3 920	1 000	3 490	1 050	900	300	350	16 660
February	320	4 770	740	3 800	2 550	3 100	300	530	21 210
March	570	3 290	1 050	3 650	2 550	4 950	810	190	20 740
April	770	3 100	440	1 950	2 210	3 380	1 090	340	17 280
May	400	1 610	600	1 570	2 960	4 250	550	230	14 590
June	790	1 440	880	1 830	1 470	6 510	270	370	16 350
July	610	2 300	1 220	2 940	1 120	1 890	420	360	15 130

(a) Comprises travellers whose intended stay is less than 12 months.

(b) Due to implementation of a new passenger card processing system by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, figures beyond July 2000 were not available at time of publication.

(c) Total includes countries not listed in this table.

Source: Unpublished data, Overseas Arrivals and Departures.

31

SHORT-TERM HOLIDAY DEPARTURES OF RESIDENTS, By Air to Selected Destinations(a)(b)

COUNTRY OF DESTINATION.....

Period	New Zealand	UK & Ireland	Indonesia	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand	United States	Total(c)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
1997-1998	12 490	25 900	85 710	12 810	19 500	18 320	11 380	221 920
1998-1999	11 430	19 790	88 360	15 570	21 960	22 040	9 230	222 970
1999-2000	14 130	23 390	61 340	21 950	26 300	26 350	9 750	222 350
1999								
May	390	2 380	5 000	1 140	1 590	1 710	990	16 390
June	** 50	2 510	5 210	690	2 310	1 320	1 140	16 910
July	1 000	2 290	8 500	2 540	2 840	3 220	220	24 160
August	1 180	2 690	7 410	1 430	2 350	2 190	1 090	21 840
September	1 420	2 800	6 850	2 190	2 760	3 360	1 220	24 880
October	690	790	3 440	3 200	1 660	3 940	410	17 220
November	1 220	1 110	2 260	1 180	1 660	1 360	580	11 890
December	2 250	2 560	3 880	1 920	2 070	1 370	1 420	19 590
2000								
January	1 290	900	5 930	1 670	1 570	1 460	580	15 660
February	1 730	370	3 160	920	1 880	1 010	640	11 250
March	1 300	1 700	5 980	2 120	2 650	1 680	680	18 410
April	990	2 220	4 780	1 940	2 480	2 160	1 050	18 920
May	420	2 950	3 610	1 200	2 240	2 060	1 290	18 340
June	640	3 010	5 530	1 630	2 120	2 520	550	20 210
July	990	2 780	5 850	3 320	2 250	2 800	1 190	23 030

(a) Comprises travellers whose intended absence is less than 12 months.

(b) Due to implementation of a new passenger card processing system by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, figures beyond July 2000 were not available at time of publication.

(c) Total includes countries not listed in this table.

Source: Unpublished data, Overseas Arrivals and Departures.

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TOURIST ACCOMMODATION: Original

HOTELS, MOTELS, GUEST HOUSES AND SERVICED APARTMENTS.....

Period	Establishments no.	Guest rooms no.	Employment persons	Room	Guest arrivals '000	Takings from accommodation \$'000
				occupancy rates %		
1999						
June	308	17 783	9 785	53.3	625	81 380
September	308	17 804	9 906	58.8	709	90 243
December	318	18 595	10 132	57.6	693	94 014
2000						
March	323	18 846	10 135	54.5	666	89 801
June	325	18 958	10 209	54.4	643	88 118
September	326	19 052	10 185	53.9	683	94 884

Source: Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Western Australia, (Cat no. 8635.5.40.001).

EMPLOYED.....

Month	Full-time '000	Part-time '000	Total '000	Total unemployed '000	Total labour force '000	Participation rate %	Unemployment rate %
MALES							
1999							
September	453.3	65.5	518.8	41.7	560.5	76.4	7.4
October	454.2	68.6	522.9	38.8	561.7	76.4	6.9
November	453.8	66.5	520.2	39.5	559.7	76.0	7.1
December	463.8	66.1	529.9	37.6	567.5	76.9	6.6
2000							
January	453.3	65.1	518.5	46.8	565.3	76.5	8.3
February	461.2	64.9	526.1	43.0	569.0	76.9	7.6
March	456.5	67.3	523.7	39.3	563.0	76.0	7.0
April	458.7	67.6	526.2	34.9	561.1	75.7	6.2
May	455.9	67.5	523.4	33.2	556.6	75.0	6.0
June	454.0	70.3	524.3	31.7	556.0	74.9	5.7
July	461.5	67.1	528.6	33.7	562.3	75.6	6.0
August	454.9	68.7	523.6	38.0	561.5	75.4	6.8
September	452.2	69.1	521.3	39.2	560.5	75.2	7.0
October	449.4	72.9	522.3	34.9	557.2	74.6	6.3
November p	450.0	70.8	520.8	35.6	556.4	74.4	6.4
FEMALES							
1999							
September	205.3	190.3	395.6	27.4	423.0	57.6	6.5
October	212.3	184.4	396.6	22.7	419.3	57.0	5.4
November	218.7	187.5	406.2	24.3	430.4	58.4	5.6
December	219.2	189.1	408.3	24.0	432.3	58.6	5.6
2000							
January	213.3	181.4	394.7	27.4	422.1	57.1	6.5
February	211.5	188.1	399.6	28.6	428.2	57.9	6.7
March	208.7	191.3	400.0	29.8	429.8	58.0	6.9
April	208.7	189.7	398.4	33.0	431.4	58.2	7.7
May	204.9	192.6	397.6	26.4	424.0	57.1	6.2
June	203.9	196.8	400.7	24.9	425.6	57.2	5.9
July	214.0	186.2	400.1	22.1	422.2	56.7	5.2
August	210.0	195.8	405.8	21.9	427.7	57.4	5.1
September	217.8	196.7	414.5	20.8	435.3	58.3	4.8
October	220.8	190.5	411.3	20.6	431.9	57.8	4.8
November p	220.7	187.8	408.5	25.6	434.1	58.0	5.9
PERSONS							
1999							
September	658.6	255.8	914.4	69.1	983.5	67.0	7.0
October	666.5	253.0	919.5	61.5	981.0	66.7	6.3
November	672.4	253.9	926.4	63.8	990.1	67.2	6.4
December	683.0	255.2	938.2	61.5	999.8	67.7	6.2
2000							
January	666.6	246.6	913.2	74.2	987.3	66.8	7.5
February	672.7	253.0	925.7	71.6	997.2	67.4	7.2
March	665.1	258.6	923.7	69.1	992.8	67.0	7.0
April	667.4	257.3	924.6	68.0	992.6	66.9	6.8
May	660.8	260.1	921.0	59.6	980.6	66.0	6.1
June	657.9	267.1	925.0	56.7	981.6	66.0	5.8
July	675.4	253.3	928.7	55.8	984.5	66.2	5.7
August	664.9	264.5	929.4	59.9	989.3	66.4	6.1
September	670.0	265.8	935.8	60.0	995.8	66.7	6.0
October	670.1	263.4	933.5	55.5	989.1	66.2	5.6
November p	670.7	258.6	929.3	61.2	990.5	66.2	6.2

Source: Unpublished data, Labour Force.

EMPLOYED.....

Month	Full-time employed '000	Total employed '000	Total unemployed '000	Total labour force '000	Participation rate %	Unemployment rate %
MALES						
1999						
September	450.6	516.8	39.4	556.2	75.8	7.1
October	453.0	519.3	39.9	559.2	76.1	7.1
November	455.3	521.5	40.3	561.8	76.3	7.2
December	457.1	523.3	40.3	563.6	76.4	7.1
2000						
January	458.5	524.6	39.8	564.4	76.4	7.0
February	459.1	525.3	38.7	564.0	76.3	6.9
March	459.2	525.9	37.5	563.4	76.1	6.7
April	459.0	526.1	36.3	562.4	75.9	6.5
May	458.3	526.0	35.6	561.6	75.7	6.3
June	457.0	525.4	35.4	560.8	75.5	6.3
July	455.5	524.5	35.9	560.4	75.3	6.4
August	454.0	523.5	36.6	560.1	75.2	6.5
September	452.6	522.4	37.3	559.7	75.1	6.7
October	451.4	521.4	37.7	559.1	74.9	6.8
November p	450.6	520.6	38.1	558.7	74.8	6.8
FEMALES						
1999						
September	209.2	395.3	25.8	421.1	57.4	6.1
October	211.0	398.0	25.6	423.6	57.6	6.0
November	212.5	400.4	25.2	425.6	57.8	5.9
December	213.5	402.0	25.0	427.0	57.9	5.9
2000						
January	213.5	402.6	25.3	427.9	57.9	5.9
February	212.7	402.0	26.1	428.1	57.9	6.1
March	211.3	400.7	27.0	427.7	57.7	6.3
April	209.8	399.5	27.6	427.1	57.6	6.5
May	208.8	399.3	27.4	426.7	57.4	6.4
June	209.0	400.3	26.4	426.7	57.4	6.2
July	210.3	402.2	25.1	427.3	57.4	5.9
August	212.7	404.7	24.1	428.8	57.5	5.6
September	215.6	407.2	23.7	430.9	57.7	5.5
October	218.3	409.3	23.6	432.9	57.9	5.5
November p	220.9	411.0	24.2	435.2	58.2	5.6
PERSONS						
1999						
September	659.8	912.1	65.2	977.3	66.6	6.7
October	664.1	917.2	65.5	982.7	66.8	6.7
November	667.8	921.9	65.5	987.4	67.0	6.6
December	670.6	925.3	65.3	990.6	67.1	6.6
2000						
January	672.0	927.1	65.1	992.2	67.1	6.6
February	671.8	927.4	64.9	992.3	67.1	6.5
March	670.5	926.6	64.5	991.1	66.9	6.5
April	668.7	925.6	63.9	989.5	66.7	6.5
May	667.1	925.3	62.9	988.2	66.6	6.4
June	666.0	925.7	61.8	987.5	66.4	6.3
July	665.8	926.8	61.0	987.8	66.4	6.2
August	666.7	928.3	60.7	989.0	66.4	6.1
September	668.2	929.6	60.9	990.5	66.4	6.2
October	669.7	930.7	61.4	992.1	66.4	6.2
November p	671.5	931.6	62.3	993.9	66.5	6.3

Source: Labour Force, Australia (Cat no. 6202.0).

Status	1999.....				2000.....										
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
CENTRAL METROPOLITAN															
Employed ('000)	62.5	62.7	59.4	57.9	57.5	58.1	59.5	59.1	58.1	61.6	60.8	66.8	70.2	68.1	63.6
Unemployed ('000)	3.4	3.9	5.3	5.2	6.1	4.8	4.8	3.5	4.2	3.0	3.6	2.4	1.5	1.6	3.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.2	5.9	8.2	8.2	9.6	7.6	7.4	5.6	6.7	4.6	5.6	3.5	2.1	2.3	4.6
Participation Rate (%)	68.2	65.7	65.6	67.5	66.4	66.8	65.0	64.4	63.1	64.1	67.0	69.0	68.1	66.4	65.8
EASTERN METROPOLITAN															
Employed ('000)	106.4	104.5	107.3	107.9	107.6	103.2	100.5	103.5	102.4	102.4	102.7	101.4	105.1	108.5	108.5
Unemployed ('000)	6.6	5.7	7.7	7.8	7.5	6.2	6.6	6.8	6.0	5.9	4.6	6.2	6.5	6.5	7.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.9	5.2	6.7	6.7	6.5	5.6	6.2	6.2	5.5	5.4	4.3	5.8	5.8	5.6	6.7
Participation Rate (%)	65.7	65.7	66.8	67.4	66.0	63.8	63.9	63.1	63.1	62.2	62.0	62.0	64.3	66.3	66.8
NORTHERN METROPOLITAN															
Employed ('000)	210.5	214.6	219.7	217.5	214.1	215.5	217.8	215.1	220.2	220.9	225.5	223.7	220.5	217.3	216.7
Unemployed ('000)	17.6	14.9	13.3	14.8	18.1	15.8	14.7	15.9	12.4	10.7	12.1	13.1	14.6	15.6	17.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.7	6.5	5.7	6.4	7.8	6.8	6.3	6.9	5.3	4.6	5.1	5.5	6.2	6.7	7.4
Participation Rate (%)	68.5	68.9	69.0	68.3	67.0	66.5	66.6	67.8	67.3	66.9	67.9	68.1	68.7	68.2	68.1
SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN															
Employed ('000)	145.5	141.4	143.5	145.3	139.0	145.4	140.3	140.6	138.5	139.8	138.1	141.7	134.5	136.3	137.0
Unemployed ('000)	10.0	10.3	9.3	9.5	10.3	11.4	10.7	11.0	12.7	11.6	9.3	11.7	10.6	8.7	10.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.4	6.8	6.1	6.1	6.9	7.3	7.1	7.3	8.4	7.7	6.3	7.6	7.3	6.0	6.8
Participation Rate (%)	66.7	65.4	65.7	66.5	65.9	68.1	65.9	64.9	64.8	64.4	63.6	65.2	62.3	62.2	62.3
SOUTH EAST METROPOLITAN															
Employed ('000)	150.0	152.7	155.4	158.3	155.9	155.2	157.4	156.5	158.1	156.7	158.4	154.0	158.0	157.0	156.1
Unemployed ('000)	16.2	13.4	14.0	13.5	14.0	14.4	14.2	11.8	8.4	9.1	9.2	10.8	9.3	9.2	8.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.7	8.1	8.3	7.9	8.2	8.5	8.3	7.0	5.1	5.5	5.5	6.5	5.6	5.5	5.3
Participation Rate (%)	64.8	64.1	66.6	66.1	66.3	66.0	66.6	65.5	65.1	66.2	65.2	65.2	65.2	64.2	63.8
LOWER WESTERN WA															
Employed ('000)	117.2	116.9	116.6	122.9	123.3	125.9	129.7	126.7	121.1	119.6	121.4	122.9	122.8	125.6	126.2
Unemployed ('000)	9.2	7.3	7.7	6.6	9.9	10.6	9.3	9.3	7.4	7.6	8.5	6.6	10.1	7.5	8.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.3	5.9	6.2	5.1	7.4	7.7	6.7	6.8	5.7	6.0	6.5	5.1	7.6	5.6	6.1
Participation Rate (%)	62.0	61.6	61.9	63.2	63.4	65.8	65.1	65.5	61.8	61.7	62.9	61.6	63.1	62.5	62.2
REMAINDER-BALANCE WA															
Employed ('000)	122.4	126.6	124.4	128.5	115.7	122.4	118.6	123.0	122.6	124.0	121.8	118.9	124.8	120.7	121.2
Unemployed ('000)	6.1	5.9	6.4	4.2	8.5	8.4	8.8	9.6	8.6	8.8	8.6	9.1	7.4	6.4	6.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	4.4	4.9	3.2	6.8	6.4	6.9	7.3	6.6	6.7	6.6	7.1	5.6	5.1	4.8
Participation Rate (%)	74.5	75.5	74.0	76.6	73.7	76.2	76.8	77.2	76.3	76.5	75.0	74.9	77.2	75.2	76.4

Source: Unpublished data, Labour Force.

	May 1999	Aug 1999	Nov 1999	Feb 2000	May 2000	Aug 2000
Industry	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	29.9	28.1	29.8	32.3	32.4	32.9
Mining	26.5	26.7	25.6	23.9	22.6	29.3
Manufacturing	67.7	62.5	70.6	77.0	75.6	68.3
Electricity, gas and water supply	4.7	6.4	7.3	5.4	5.8	7.2
Construction	65.8	65.8	64.9	67.8	74.7	68.0
Wholesale trade	35.5	38.7	36.4	39.2	30.2	32.0
Retail trade	63.8	67.8	64.2	63.1	60.7	66.9
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	14.2	14.8	15.5	18.2	19.1	20.7
Transport and storage	31.1	33.8	34.2	29.3	32.0	31.5
Communication services	7.8	8.3	8.6	9.4	9.8	10.0
Finance and insurance	10.6	8.6	7.9	9.1	11.8	10.6
Property and business services	56.1	58.1	60.7	59.2	59.7	57.2
Government administration and defence	21.8	19.5	18.9	20.5	20.4	19.0
Education	21.5	23.1	22.8	23.1	20.4	20.1
Health and community services	18.3	16.6	15.0	15.7	17.9	17.4
Cultural and recreational services	11.6	11.9	12.3	11.0	9.9	11.1
Personal and other services	21.8	22.3	25.4	21.8	20.3	21.2
Total	508.7	513.1	520.2	526.1	523.3	523.4
FEMALES						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13.1	13.2	13.1	15.3	13.6	14.1
Mining	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.7	3.3	3.5
Manufacturing	20.3	21.8	24.1	23.6	22.8	20.7
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.9	1.6	1.9	1.5	2.6	2.6
Construction	11.9	12.6	10.8	8.0	10.2	12.9
Wholesale trade	15.9	16.8	17.6	15.2	14.0	11.2
Retail trade	81.1	77.5	76.3	77.2	76.6	73.3
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	21.6	18.9	23.5	24.2	25.0	32.1
Transport and storage	12.7	11.8	10.2	9.4	10.8	11.0
Communication services	5.0	4.2	4.0	4.1	3.1	3.6
Finance and insurance	15.4	17.3	15.0	15.9	17.6	16.9
Property and business services	41.1	40.4	44.6	42.3	41.0	46.4
Government administration and defence	18.1	18.5	19.1	14.8	15.2	15.5
Education	43.9	44.3	42.6	43.4	46.3	46.4
Health and community services	55.8	62.8	71.5	69.5	64.7	65.2
Cultural and recreational services	8.9	8.6	9.7	10.6	11.1	12.5
Personal and other services	17.4	15.7	17.3	18.9	19.6	18.0
Total	387.5	390.3	406.2	399.6	397.5	405.9
PERSONS						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	42.9	41.3	42.9	47.6	46.0	47.0
Mining	29.9	31.0	30.7	29.6	25.9	32.8
Manufacturing	88.0	84.3	94.6	100.6	98.5	89.1
Electricity, gas and water supply	5.5	7.9	9.2	6.9	8.3	9.8
Construction	77.7	78.4	75.8	75.8	84.9	80.9
Wholesale trade	51.4	55.5	54.0	54.4	44.2	43.2
Retail trade	145.0	145.3	140.5	140.2	137.3	140.2
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	35.8	33.8	39.0	42.4	44.1	52.8
Transport and storage	43.9	45.6	44.4	38.6	42.8	42.6
Communication services	12.8	12.5	12.5	13.5	12.9	13.6
Finance and insurance	26.0	25.9	22.9	24.9	29.4	27.5
Property and business services	97.2	98.5	105.3	101.5	100.7	103.7
Government administration and defence	39.8	38.0	38.1	35.3	35.6	34.5
Education	65.4	67.4	65.4	66.6	66.8	66.4
Health and community services	74.1	79.5	86.5	85.2	82.6	82.7
Cultural and recreational services	20.6	20.5	22.0	21.6	21.1	23.5
Personal and other services	39.2	38.0	42.7	40.7	40.0	39.2
Total	895.2	903.4	926.4	925.7	921.1	929.5

Source: Unpublished data, Labour Force.

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AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED(a): Original

Period	FULL-TIME WORKERS.....		PART-TIME WORKERS.....	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1997-1998	43.1	37.7	14.5	15.1
1998-1999	43.4	37.7	15.3	15.2
1999-2000	43.3	37.8	15.2	15.4
1999				
September	44.0	39.0	15.7	16.1
October	42.8	37.0	14.4	14.8
November	45.7	39.8	15.0	16.4
December	46.3	39.9	15.7	16.6
2000				
January	34.9	30.3	14.1	12.8
February	44.6	40.0	15.3	15.8
March	43.1	38.3	14.4	15.5
April	44.5	38.1	15.6	15.5
May	45.3	39.6	16.1	16.5
June	42.4	37.5	15.0	15.0
July	43.0	35.8	14.6	14.0
August	44.1	39.6	14.1	16.3
September	43.8	39.2	14.4	15.9
October	40.6	35.3	14.8	14.2
November p	45.0	40.2	15.1	16.7

(a) Persons who worked one hour or more in the reference week.

Source: Unpublished data, Labour Force.

38

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND HOURS WORKED, By Occupation: November 2000, Preliminary

Occupation	Employee(a)	Aggregate weekly	Average
	total	hours worked	weekly hours
	'000	'000	no.
Managers and administrators	33.6	1 575.3	46.9
Professionals	138.1	5 310.0	38.5
Associate professionals	93.1	3 878.1	41.6
Tradespersons and related workers	96.6	3 820.7	39.6
Advanced clerical and service workers	39.3	1 252.4	31.9
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	147.4	4 586.0	31.1
Intermediate production and transport workers	65.9	2 607.2	39.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	90.2	2 328.2	25.8
Labourers and related workers	69.9	1 937.2	27.7
All occupations	774.0	27 294.8	35.3

(a) Persons who worked one hour or more in the reference week.

Source: Unpublished data, Labour Force.

Month	15-19 YEARS.....		20-24 YEARS.....		25-34 YEARS.....	
	<i>Unemployment rate</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Unemployment rate</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Unemployment rate</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
1999						
September	16.9	64.5	10.2	83.3	6.0	80.1
October	15.0	65.4	8.4	84.3	6.1	79.1
November	13.8	64.0	8.2	84.2	7.0	79.8
December	13.7	72.1	6.9	86.5	5.7	79.7
2000						
January	17.9	72.3	9.9	84.5	7.4	79.9
February	18.2	68.1	10.4	85.3	7.1	80.4
March	15.8	63.6	10.7	82.7	7.5	81.3
April	16.9	65.6	9.7	81.1	7.6	81.7
May	14.4	62.3	12.2	80.8	5.7	81.3
June	10.2	60.0	8.9	79.7	6.2	81.2
July	10.7	61.5	9.0	80.5	6.0	81.4
August	14.6	59.8	9.3	80.6	5.6	80.7
September	14.7	58.6	6.9	81.2	6.1	80.5
October	13.2	57.4	7.7	81.8	6.1	79.7
November p	15.4	59.3	7.3	80.8	6.2	80.0

Month	35-44 YEARS.....		45-54 YEARS.....		55 YEARS AND OVER..	
	<i>Unemployment rate</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Unemployment rate</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Unemployment rate</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
1999						
September	5.6	82.3	5.5	82.4	3.6	27.3
October	5.3	81.4	4.0	81.7	3.2	27.4
November	4.7	82.9	5.0	83.2	3.8	27.2
December	5.3	83.1	4.7	81.9	3.9	26.3
2000						
January	4.9	81.4	5.3	79.4	5.3	26.3
February	4.7	82.7	4.3	81.0	5.2	27.4
March	5.0	83.3	4.4	82.0	3.7	26.7
April	4.9	82.7	3.6	81.3	4.3	27.0
May	4.1	81.4	3.4	80.8	3.3	26.6
June	5.3	83.2	3.2	80.7	4.2	26.7
July	5.0	82.8	3.2	80.5	3.5	26.6
August	4.9	83.5	3.6	81.2	4.3	27.7
September	5.3	84.4	4.3	82.6	3.3	27.8
October	4.7	83.7	3.7	80.8	2.5	28.4
November p	5.3	84.0	4.2	81.5	3.4	27.2

Source: Unpublished data, Labour Force.

NUMBER OF PERSONS UNEMPLOYED FOR.....

Period	Under 4 weeks	4 and under 13 weeks	13 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks	52 weeks and over	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
November 1996	16.5	13.3	9.3	12.5	14.5	66.2
November 1997	13.3	12.8	11.3	9.2	14.9	61.4
November 1998	12.0	15.3	8.6	11.9	16.3	64.2
1999						
September	14.4	19.4	9.5	12.8	13.1	69.1
October	15.1	14.3	8.8	11.5	11.8	61.5
November	15.8	16.3	7.8	10.3	13.6	63.8
December	17.5	16.8	7.3	8.3	11.7	61.5
2000						
January	21.3	21.8	9.7	5.8	15.6	74.2
February	21.4	20.2	9.4	7.4	13.2	71.6
March	17.2	22.2	11.3	6.8	11.5	69.1
April	17.3	17.4	12.3	7.4	13.5	68.0
May	12.8	17.7	12.0	6.8	10.3	59.6
June	14.8	16.4	7.4	7.3	10.8	56.7
July	14.5	13.0	6.2	10.9	11.1	55.8
August	16.2	15.9	6.3	7.5	14.0	59.9
September	15.1	17.6	6.7	9.3	11.4	60.0
October	12.0	16.1	7.5	9.5	10.4	55.5
November p	15.7	16.6	8.4	9.4	11.2	61.2

Source: Unpublished data, Labour Force.

INDEX NUMBERS.....							Jun Qtr	Sep Qtr	
							2000 to	1999 to	
							Sep Qtr	Sep Qtr	
							2000	2000	
	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	% change	% change
	1999	1999	1999	1999	2000	2000	2000		
Selected Industries									
Mining	105.4	106.9	107.7	108.5	109.2	110.3	111.2	0.8	3.2
Manufacturing	105.5	106.7	107.2	107.9	108.8	109.2	110.1	0.8	2.7
Construction	106.3	106.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Retail trade	104.8	105.0	106.0	106.9	107.5	108.1	108.6	0.5	2.5
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	105.5	105.5	106.9	107.8	108.0	108.2	109.8	1.5	2.7
Property and business services	103.7	104.2	105.0	104.9	105.6	105.3	107.5	2.1	2.4
Government administration and defence	103.8	104.8	106.4	108.2	109.5	109.8	111.0	1.1	4.3
Education	103.9	105.5	105.9	105.9	106.7	106.7	106.9	0.2	0.9
Health and community services	105.0	105.2	105.7	106.1	107.2	107.3	109.4	2.0	3.5
Cultural and recreational services	103.1	103.4	104.4	104.6	105.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Personal and other services	102.7	103.9	104.3	105.8	106.4	106.7	107.6	0.8	3.2
All industries	104.7	105.4	106.1	106.7	107.5	108.0	109.3	1.2	3.0
Occupations									
Managers and administrators	104.6	105.8	106.3	107.1	107.9	108.4	109.2	0.7	2.7
Professionals	104.5	105.6	106.1	106.1	106.8	107.0	108.4	1.3	2.2
Associate professionals	104.6	105.2	105.9	106.8	107.8	108.1	109.0	0.8	2.9
Tradespersons and related workers	105.0	105.6	106.4	106.8	107.5	108.2	110.3	1.9	3.7
Advanced clerical and service workers	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	104.4	104.7	105.8	106.6	107.5	107.9	109.4	1.4	3.4
Intermediate production and transport workers	105.3	106.3	106.7	106.9	107.8	108.7	109.5	0.7	2.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	103.7	103.8	105.3	106.3	108.0	108.2	109.3	1.0	3.8
Labourers and related workers	104.9	105.2	106.1	106.9	107.8	108.1	108.9	0.7	2.6
All occupations	104.7	105.4	106.1	106.7	107.5	108.0	109.3	1.2	3.0

(a) Base of each index: September 1997 = 100.0.

Source: Unpublished data, Wage Cost Index.

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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES CAUSING STOPPAGE OF WORK: Original

Period	Number of disputes	Number of workers involved	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees, 12 months ended
	no.	'000	'000	no.
1997	71	31.7	60.1	85
1998	78	28.8	61.2	83
1999	124	32.1	43.4	57
1999				
August	13	11.1	8.5	76
September	10	2.0	3.2	62
October	17	3.8	8.7	66
November	8	1.1	1.6	61
December	10	1.8	1.8	57
2000				
January	16	4.0	7.5	65
February	19	2.6	2.9	66
March	13	3.9	14.4	81
April	8	1.2	7.2	86
May	14	1.7	4.2	88
June	12	1.5	4.1	87
July	7	0.7	2.1	85
August	7	1.6	2.5	77
September	3	8.1	5.9	81

Source: *Industrial Disputes, Australia* (Cat no. 6321.0); *Unpublished data, Industrial Disputes*.

43

JOB VACANCIES: Original

Period	SECTOR.....			
	Job vacancies	Public	Private	Job vacancy rate
	'000	'000	'000	%
1999				
May	8.3	* 1.4	6.9	1.15
August	* 9.3	1.2	* 8.1	* 1.20
November	8.4	1.5	6.9	1.21
2000				
February	* 11.6	1.2	* 10.3	* 1.66
May	7.9	1.7	6.1	1.08
August	10.6	1.8	8.7	1.47
	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)			
1999				
May	8.6	-5.9	12.1	2.7
August	12.0	-11.7	16.7	4.5
November	-10.6	19.3	-15.2	0.8
2000				
February	38.4	-17.9	50.6	37.3
May	-32.0	42.2	-40.7	-35.0
August	34.3	6.3	42.2	36.2

Source: *Job Vacancies, Australia* (Cat no. 6354.0).

44

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

Period	Males	Females	Persons
	no.	no.	no.
1997–1998	920 549	908 596	1 829 145
1998–1999 r	935 288	922 298	1 857 586
1999–2000	948 636	935 224	1 883 860
1997	911 349	900 247	1 811 596
1998 r	928 394	916 326	1 844 720
1999 r	941 923	929 098	1 871 021
1999			
March r	931 906	919 193	1 851 099
June r	935 288	922 298	1 857 586
September r	939 464	926 782	1 866 246
December r	941 923	929 098	1 871 021
2000			
March	945 608	932 535	1 878 143
June	948 636	935 224	1 883 860

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat no. 3101.0).

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POPULATION CHANGE, Components

Period	Natural increase	Net estimated overseas migration(a)	Net estimated interstate migration	Total increase
	no.	no.	no.	no.
1997–1998	13 715	12 834	4 726	31 275
1998–1999 r	r 14 509	r 12 157	1 775	r 28 441
1999–2000	14 011	12 947	-684	26 274
1997 r	13 675	10 761	5 292	25 408
1998 r	r 14 458	r 14 792	3 874	r 33 124
1999 r	14 095	12 196	10	26 301
1999				
March	r 3 688	r 2 260	431	r 6 379
June	r 3 855	r 2 596	36	r 6 487
September	3 355	r 5 412	-107	r 8 660
December	3 197	r 1 928	-350	r 4 775
2000				
March	3 930	3 492	-300	7 122
June	3 529	2 115	73	5 717

(a) Includes an adjustment for 'category jumping'. Category jumping is the term used to describe changes between intended and actual duration of stay of travellers to and from Australia, such that their classification as short term or as long term/permanent movers is different at arrival from that at departure.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat no. 3101.0).

46

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES

Period	Live births(a)	Infant deaths(a)	Total deaths(a)	Marriages	Divorces
1997–1998	24 705	138	10 990	10 457	5 112
1998–1999 r	25 224	120	10 735	10 496	5 410
1999–2000	25 053	123	11 042	10 742	5 323
1997	24 514	136	10 839	10 456	5 046
1998	r 25 145	r 121	r 10 687	10 705	5 268
1999 r	24 960	127	10 865	10 294	5 301
1999					
March r	6 185	31	2 497	2 657	1 289
June	r 6 419	r 25	r 2 564	r 2 601	1 285
September	6 376	49	3 021	1 408	1 352
December	5 980	22	2 783	3 531	1 375
2000					
March	6 469	21	2 539	3 272	1 212
June	6 228	31	2 699	2 531	1 384

(a) With the exception of preliminary data, estimates of births and deaths are included by State or Territory of usual residence and year of occurrence. For preliminary estimates, births and deaths are included by State or Territory of usual residence and year of registration.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat no. 3101.0).

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RATES OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES

Period	Live births(a)	Infant deaths(b)	Total deaths(a)	Marriages(a)	Divorces(a)
1997–1998	13.5	5.6	6.0	5.7	2.8
1998–1999	r 13.6	r 4.8	5.8	5.7	2.9
1999–2000	13.3	4.9	5.9	5.7	2.8
1997	13.5	5.5	6.0	5.8	2.8
1998	r 13.6	r 4.8	5.8	5.8	2.9
1999	13.3	r 5.1	5.8	r 5.4	2.8
1999					
March	r 13.4	r 5.0	5.4	r 5.8	r 2.8
June	r 13.8	r 3.9	5.5	5.6	2.8
September	13.7	7.7	6.5	3.0	2.9
December	12.8	3.7	r 6.0	r 7.6	2.9
2000					
March	13.8	3.2	5.4	7.0	2.6
June	13.2	5.0	5.7	5.4	2.9

(a) For financial and calendar years the rate is per 1,000 estimated resident population at 31 December and 30 June, respectively. For quarters, the rate is per 1,000 of the average of the previous and current quarterly populations.

(b) Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat no. 3101.0).

Index of Feature Articles Published in *Western Australian Statistical Indicators*

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