



BUILDING APPROVALS

NORTHERN TERRITORY

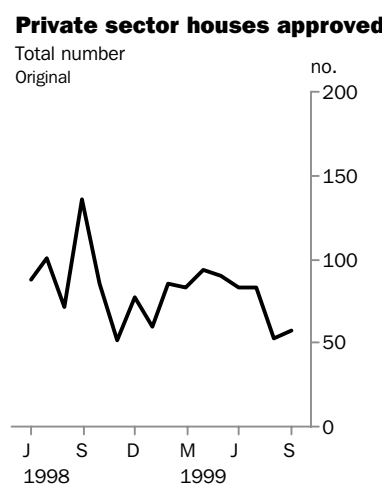
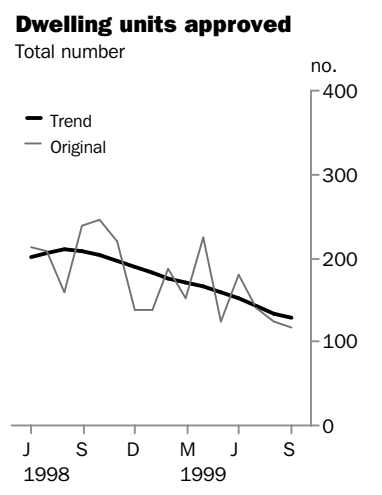
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SEPTEMBER KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES	Sep 1999	% change	% change
		Aug 1999 to Sep 1999	Sep 1998 to Sep 1999
Dwelling units approved			
Total dwelling units	129	-3.7	-38.0
.....			
ORIGINAL	Sep 1999	% change	% change
		Aug 1999 to Sep 1999	Sep 1998 to Sep 1999
Dwelling units approved			
Private sector houses	57	7.5	-58.1
Total dwelling units	116	-5.7	-51.5

SEPTEMBER KEY POINTS

- The number of total dwelling units approved fell by 5.7% in September. The decrease can be attributed to a fall in other dwellings (down 26) which was partly offset by an increase in the number of houses approved (up 19).
- The Darwin Statistical Division accounted for the majority of the dwellings approved with Palmerston accounting for 36 dwellings and Darwin City accounting for 31 dwellings.
- The value of total building was \$24.4 million, down by \$8.5 million when compared with August.
- The value of residential building approved was \$17.9 million, a decrease of 4.7% while the value of non-residential building fell \$7.6 million (54.1%) to \$6.4 million.



▪ For further information about these and related statistics, contact Merv Leaker on Adelaide 08 8237 7585 or Client Services in any ABS office as shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
October 1999	1 December 1999
November 1999	6 January 2000
December 1999	3 February 2000
January 2000	1 March 2000
February 2000	30 March 2000
March 2000	5 May 2000

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

DATA NOTES

Geographic Coding - Dwelling approvals are geographically coded to the Census Collection District (CD) level. CD level information for the period April 1999 to June 1999 will be released at the same time as this publication. Associated with this release will be an update for the period July 1998 to March 1999 and a few revisions at the Statistical Local Area level.

REVISIONS THIS MONTH

Revisions have been made as a result of a number of records not reported to the ABS at the time of approval. These records have been inserted into their corresponding month of approval as shown below;

December 1998 - 8 dwellings (\$1.0 million)

February 1999 - 19 dwellings (\$3.3 million)

April 1999 - 15 dwellings (\$1.2 million)

June 1999 - \$5.3 million of non-residential work

July 1999 - 9 dwellings (\$1.5 million) and alterations and additions to residential buildings (\$0.3 million)

August 1999 - 3 dwellings (\$0.6 million) and alterations and additions to residential buildings (\$0.4 million)

ROBYN ELLIOTT

Regional Director, Northern Territory

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED: Original and Trend

Period	HOUSES.....			OTHER DWELLINGS....			TOTAL DWELLING UNITS.....			
	<i>Private sector</i>	<i>Public sector</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Private sector</i>	<i>Public sector</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Private sector</i>	<i>Public sector</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Trend estimate</i>
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
1996-1997	909	203	1 112	837	38	875	1 746	241	1 987	n.a.
1997-1998	946	308	1 254	883	81	964	1 829	389	2 218	n.a.
1998-1999	1 014	513	1 527	644	47	691	1 658	560	2 218	n.a.
3 months to Sep 1998	307	190	497	93	16	109	400	206	606	n.a.
3 months to Sep 1999	193	43	236	143	0	143	336	43	379	n.a.
1998										
July	100	74	174	35	0	35	135	74	209	207
August	71	42	113	31	14	45	102	56	158	210
September	136	74	210	27	2	29	163	76	239	208
October	85	76	161	82	2	84	167	78	245	203
November	51	41	92	125	4	129	176	45	221	196
December	77	23	100	37	2	39	114	25	139	190
1999										
January	60	27	87	50	2	52	110	29	139	182
February	85	39	124	51	12	63	136	51	187	175
March	83	33	116	27	9	36	110	42	152	170
April	93	44	137	88	0	88	181	44	225	166
May	90	18	108	16	0	16	106	18	124	159
June	83	22	105	75	0	75	158	22	180	151
July	83	20	103	37	0	37	120	20	140	142
August	53	4	57	66	0	66	119	4	123	134
September	57	19	76	40	0	40	97	19	116	129

VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED: Original

<i>Period</i>	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>Alterations & additions to residential buildings(a)</i>	<i>Total residential building</i>	<i>Non-residential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR (\$'000)						
1996-1997	108 382	70 015	20 162	198 558	153 401	351 959
1997-1998	120 218	101 354	19 630	241 202	102 259	343 462
1998-1999	132 521	69 281	23 004	224 806	94 020	318 826
3 months to Sep 1998	41 781	8 475	6 382	56 638	22 189	78 827
3 months to Sep 1999	27 049	16 254	6 643	49 946	13 279	63 225
1998						
July	13 909	3 485	1 925	19 319	6 803	26 122
August	9 230	2 883	2 363	14 475	7 374	21 850
September	18 643	2 107	2 095	22 844	8 012	30 856
October	10 351	8 459	1 997	20 807	5 883	26 690
November	6 591	16 146	2 186	24 923	17 408	42 331
December	8 918	3 410	1 525	13 853	6 242	20 094
1999						
January	7 566	4 517	1 450	13 532	5 350	18 882
February	11 147	4 317	1 684	17 148	6 187	23 335
March	10 743	1 995	1 867	14 604	13 111	27 715
April	11 934	11 755	2 203	25 892	8 647	34 540
May	12 088	2 216	1 213	15 516	2 767	18 283
June	11 402	7 993	2 496	21 892	6 238	28 130
July	11 071	4 006	2 421	17 498	4 430	21 928
August	7 222	7 968	2 345	17 535	5 160	22 695
September	8 756	4 280	1 878	14 914	3 689	18 603
PUBLIC SECTOR (\$'000)						
1996-1997	29 083	2 337	3 180	34 600	87 848	122 448
1997-1998	43 637	8 224	8 137	59 999	145 294	205 292
1998-1999	75 832	4 624	7 569	88 024	93 119	181 143
3 months to Sep 1998	29 262	1 438	2 543	33 244	43 903	77 147
3 months to Sep 1999	6 708	0	2 261	8 969	12 376	21 345
1998						
July	11 443	0	538	11 981	32 904	44 886
August	6 767	1 160	459	8 386	6 405	14 791
September	11 052	278	1 546	12 876	4 594	17 470
October	11 633	239	519	12 391	6 268	18 659
November	4 984	351	370	5 705	10 012	15 717
December	3 294	150	1 072	4 516	9 181	13 697
1999						
January	3 767	295	165	4 227	1 852	6 079
February	5 678	1 100	882	7 660	11 287	18 947
March	5 291	1 051	999	7 341	2 276	9 617
April	5 979	0	727	6 706	573	7 279
May	2 582	0	107	2 689	1 464	4 153
June	3 361	0	186	3 546	6 303	9 849
July	2 982	0	1 731	4 713	740	5 453
August	781	0	480	1 261	8 883	10 144
September	2 945	0	50	2 995	2 753	5 749

(a) Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 12.

VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED: **Original** *continued*

<i>Period</i>	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>Alterations & additions to residential buildings(a)</i>	<i>Total residential building</i>	<i>Non-residential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
TOTAL (\$'000)						
1996-1997	137 465	72 352	23 341	233 159	241 249	474 407
1997-1998	163 855	109 578	27 768	301 201	247 553	548 754
1998-1999	208 353	73 905	30 572	312 831	187 138	499 969
3 months to Sep 1998	71 044	9 913	8 926	89 882	66 092	155 974
3 months to Sep 1999	33 757	16 254	8 904	58 915	25 655	84 570
1998						
July	25 352	3 485	2 464	31 300	39 707	71 007
August	15 997	4 043	2 822	22 862	13 779	36 641
September	29 695	2 385	3 640	35 720	12 606	48 326
October	21 984	8 698	2 516	33 198	12 151	45 349
November	11 575	16 497	2 556	30 628	27 419	58 048
December	12 212	3 560	2 598	18 369	15 422	33 791
1999						
January	11 333	4 812	1 615	17 759	7 201	24 961
February	16 825	5 417	2 566	24 808	17 473	42 281
March	16 033	3 046	2 865	21 945	15 386	37 331
April	17 914	11 755	2 930	32 598	9 221	41 819
May	14 670	2 216	1 319	18 205	4 231	22 436
June	14 763	7 993	2 682	25 438	12 541	37 979
July	14 052	4 006	4 152	22 210	5 170	27 380
August	8 003	7 968	2 825	18 796	14 043	32 838
September	11 702	4 280	1 928	17 910	6 442	24 352

(a) Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 12.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED IN NEW RESIDENTIAL BUILDING(a): Original

NEW OTHER RESIDENTIAL BUILDING

Period	New houses	Semi-detached row or terrace houses, townhouses, etc. of		Flats, units or apartments in a building of				Total	Total new residential building	
		One storey	Two or more storeys	Total	One or two storeys	Three storeys	Four or more storeys			
										Total
DWELLING UNITS (Number)										
1996-1997	1 105	136	81	217	236	27	362	625	842	1 947
1997-1998	1 248	241	155	396	170	55	335	560	956	2 204
1998-1999	1 518	120	36	156	154	53	319	526	682	2 200
1998										
July	173	12	0	12	0	0	22	22	34	207
August	111	13	0	13	21	0	11	32	45	156
September	210	4	4	8	21	0	0	21	29	239
October	161	8	5	13	28	0	41	69	82	243
November	92	15	2	17	28	0	82	110	127	219
December	98	8	4	12	3	23	0	26	38	136
1999										
January	86	19	0	19	2	0	31	33	52	138
February	124	14	2	16	4	12	29	45	61	185
March	116	0	2	2	9	9	15	33	35	151
April	134	21	13	34	18	0	36	54	88	222
May	108	2	4	6	10	0	0	10	16	124
June	105	4	0	4	10	9	52	71	75	180
July	102	6	8	14	4	9	10	23	37	139
August	55	8	0	8	17	24	17	58	66	121
September	76	23	0	23	4	0	13	17	40	116
VALUE (\$'000)										
1996-1997	137 465	10 671	7 785	18 457	16 454	2 000	35 442	53 896	72 352	209 817
1997-1998	163 855	17 701	17 260	34 960	14 903	4 945	54 770	74 618	109 578	273 433
1998-1999	208 353	9 750	5 660	15 410	11 665	5 010	41 820	58 495	73 905	282 258
1998										
July	25 352	910	0	910	0	0	2 575	2 575	3 485	28 837
August	15 997	972	0	972	1 781	0	1 290	3 071	4 043	20 040
September	29 695	455	680	1 135	1 250	0	0	1 250	2 385	32 080
October	21 984	741	600	1 341	1 962	0	5 395	7 357	8 698	30 682
November	11 575	1 116	148	1 264	1 303	0	13 930	15 233	16 497	28 072
December	12 212	577	420	997	293	2 270	0	2 563	3 560	15 771
1999										
January	11 333	1 347	0	1 347	175	0	3 290	3 465	4 812	16 144
February	16 825	1 291	373	1 664	398	1 290	2 065	3 753	5 417	22 243
March	16 033	0	250	250	981	750	1 065	2 796	3 046	19 080
April	17 914	1 721	2 329	4 050	1 525	0	6 180	7 705	11 755	29 669
May	14 670	226	860	1 086	1 130	0	0	1 130	2 216	16 886
June	14 763	396	0	396	867	700	6 030	7 597	7 993	22 756
July	14 052	362	1 272	1 634	200	1 272	900	2 372	4 006	18 059
August	8 003	692	0	692	3 176	2 000	2 100	7 276	7 968	15 971
September	11 702	1 802	0	1 802	478	0	2 000	2 478	4 280	15 982

(a) See Glossary for definition.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED IN NEW RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS(a): Original

NEW OTHER RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....

Statistical Area	<i>New houses</i>	<i>Semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses, etc of</i>			<i>Flats, units or apartments in a building of.....</i>			<i>Total</i>	<i>Total new residential building</i>	
		One storey	Two or more storeys	Total	One or two storeys	Three storeys	Four or more storeys	Total		
DWELLING UNITS (Number)										
NORTHERN TERRITORY	76	23	0	23	4	0	13	17	40	116
Darwin (SD)	34	16	0	16	4	0	13	17	33	67
Darwin City (SSD)	6	8	0	8	4	0	13	17	25	31
Palmerston-East Arm (SSD)	28	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	8	36
Northern Territory Balance (SD)	42	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	49
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Bathurst-Melville (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alligator (SSD)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Daly (SSD)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
East Arnhem (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Top End NT (SSD)	10	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	15
Katherine (T)	2	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	7
Barkly (SSD)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Tennant Creek (T)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Central NT (SSD)	6	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	8
Alice Springs (T)	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	5
VALUE (\$'000)										
NORTHERN TERRITORY	11 701	1 802	0	1 802	478	0	2 000	2 478	4 280	15 981
Darwin (SD)	5 766	1 202	0	1 202	478	0	2 000	2 478	3 680	9 446
Darwin City (SSD)	1 605	604	0	604	478	0	2 000	2 478	3 082	4 687
Palmerston-East Arm (SSD)	4 162	598	0	598	0	0	0	0	598	4 760
Northern Territory Balance (SD)	5 935	600	0	600	0	0	0	0	600	6 535
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	2 356	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 356
Bathurst-Melville (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alligator (SSD)	543	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	543
Daly (SSD)	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	97
East Arnhem (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Top End NT (SSD)	1 966	450	0	450	0	0	0	0	450	2 416
Katherine (T)	300	450	0	450	0	0	0	0	450	750
Barkly (SSD)	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	70
Tennant Creek (T)	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Central NT (SSD)	905	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	150	1 055
Alice Springs (T)	502	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	150	652

(a) See Glossary for definition.

VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED, Chain Volume Measures(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>New residential building</i>	<i>Alterations and additions to residential buildings(b)</i>	<i>Total residential building</i>	<i>Non-residential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
ORIGINAL (\$ million)							
1996-1997	140.7	74.6	215.3	23.9	239.3	242.9	482.7
1997-1998	163.8	109.6	273.5	27.7	301.2	247.5	548.7
1998-1999	203.3	70.8	274.2	30.4	304.7	182.4	487.0
1998							
March	39.7	35.9	75.6	8.0	83.6	50.8	134.2
June	48.4	35.2	83.6	8.9	92.5	91.0	183.6
September	71.2	9.7	81.0	8.9	89.9	66.3	156.2
December	44.8	28.1	72.9	7.7	80.6	55.3	135.8
1999							
March	40.6	12.9	53.5	7.0	60.5	40.2	100.7
June	46.7	20.1	66.8	6.8	73.7	20.6	94.3
ORIGINAL (% change from preceding quarter)							
1998							
March	0.5	27.8	11.8	35.6	13.7	-6.4	5.0
June	21.9	-1.9	10.6	11.3	10.6	79.1	36.8
September	47.1	-72.4	-3.1	0.0	-2.8	-27.1	-14.9
December	-37.1	189.7	-10.0	-13.5	-10.3	-16.6	-13.1
1999							
March	-9.4	-54.1	-26.6	-9.1	-24.9	-27.3	-25.8
June	15.0	55.8	24.9	-2.9	21.8	-48.8	-6.4

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1997-98.
Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraphs 15-16.

(b) Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 12.

VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING APPROVED: Original

Period	Hotels, motels and other short term accomm- odation	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious	Health	Entertainment and recreational	Miscellan- eous	Total non- residential building
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1996-1997	26 940	71 060	4 996	18 793	18 289	6 476	180	373	2 004	4 290	153 401
1997-1998	780	39 603	5 502	13 248	22 841	2 626	721	486	12 502	3 951	102 259
1998-1999	12 551	12 172	6 223	13 103	19 217	3 134	351	1 934	21 626	3 709	94 020
1998											
September	2 963	470	0	1 020	1 163	190	56	0	200	1 950	8 012
October	0	1 726	0	1 713	1 894	0	0	0	305	245	5 883
November	0	760	0	330	1 008	0	0	0	15 310	0	17 408
December	0	405	216	770	1 534	92	0	0	2 650	575	6 242
1999											
January	320	820	1 560	0	1 498	1 002	0	0	150	0	5 350
February	0	722	450	150	4 034	0	0	0	531	300	6 187
March	8 018	355	0	1 500	758	0	0	0	2 480	0	13 111
April	440	1 261	2 200	297	1 626	890	0	1 934	0	0	8 647
May	450	0	147	160	1 325	390	295	0	0	0	2 767
June	360	3 668	0	549	817	570	0	0	0	274	6 238
July	715	1 025	265	492	1 235	399	200	0	100	0	4 430
August	240	0	0	944	1 510	1 454	400	0	450	162	5 160
September	0	0	0	654	2 729	306	0	0	0	0	3 689
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1996-1997	1 648	3 369	12 691	8 987	5 074	36 304	0	2 460	4 458	12 858	87 848
1997-1998	0	414	80	29 879	41 150	24 048	0	1 603	3 850	44 270	145 294
1998-1999	143	620	264	26 581	9 272	11 617	0	21 182	1 258	22 181	93 119
1998											
September	143	400	0	302	1 650	1 047	0	1 052	0	0	4 594
October	0	0	0	0	1 190	1 631	0	963	362	2 122	6 268
November	0	0	0	578	298	440	0	486	106	8 104	10 012
December	0	0	0	660	1 839	532	0	0	0	6 150	9 181
1999											
January	0	0	0	220	60	853	0	299	273	146	1 852
February	0	0	0	243	56	339	0	10 000	0	649	11 287
March	0	0	0	180	1 356	188	0	0	154	397	2 276
April	0	0	0	0	0	457	0	0	0	116	573
May	0	0	264	210	0	690	0	0	0	300	1 464
June	0	220	0	1 000	2 648	0	0	2 300	0	135	6 303
July	0	0	0	0	0	650	0	0	0	90	740
August	0	0	0	100	0	3 189	0	149	0	5 445	8 883
September	0	0	0	0	0	1 005	0	1 203	0	545	2 753
TOTAL											
1996-1997	28 588	74 429	17 686	27 781	23 363	42 780	180	2 833	6 462	17 148	241 249
1997-1998	780	40 017	5 582	43 126	63 991	26 674	721	2 090	16 351	48 221	247 553
1998-1999	12 694	12 792	6 487	39 685	28 489	14 751	351	23 116	22 884	25 890	187 138
1998											
September	3 106	870	0	1 322	2 813	1 237	56	1 052	200	1 950	12 606
October	0	1 726	0	1 713	3 084	1 631	0	963	667	2 367	12 151
November	0	760	0	908	1 305	440	0	486	15 416	8 104	27 419
December	0	405	216	1 430	3 373	624	0	0	2 650	6 725	15 422
1999											
January	320	820	1 560	220	1 558	1 855	0	299	423	146	7 201
February	0	722	450	393	4 090	339	0	10 000	531	949	17 473
March	8 018	355	0	1 680	2 114	188	0	0	2 634	397	15 386
April	440	1 261	2 200	297	1 626	1 347	0	1 934	0	116	9 221
May	450	0	411	370	1 325	1 080	295	0	0	300	4 231
June	360	3 888	0	1 549	3 465	570	0	2 300	0	409	12 541
July	715	1 025	265	492	1 235	1 049	200	0	100	90	5 170
August	240	0	0	1 044	1 510	4 643	400	149	450	5 607	14 043
September	0	0	0	654	2 729	1 311	0	1 203	0	545	6 442

BUILDING APPROVED IN STATISTICAL AREAS

Statistical Area	DWELLINGS (no.).....			VALUE (\$'000).....					
	New houses	New other residential building	Total dwellings(a)	New houses	New other residential building	Alterations and additions to residential buildings(b)	Total residential buildings	Non-residential building	Total building
PRIVATE SECTOR									
NORTHERN TERRITORY	57	40	97	8 756	4 280	1 878	14 914	3 689	18 603
Darwin (SD)	34	33	67	5 766	3 680	1 439	10 885	2 586	13 471
Darwin City (SSD)	6	25	31	1 605	3 082	1 322	6 009	2 406	8 415
Palmerston–East Arm (SSD)	28	8	36	4 162	598	116	4 876	180	5 056
Northern Territory Balance (SD)	23	7	30	2 990	600	440	4 029	1 103	5 132
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	16	0	16	2 056	0	218	2 274	270	2 544
Bathurst–Melville (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alligator (SSD)	2	0	2	363	0	0	363	0	363
Daly (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
East Arnhem (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Top End NT (SSD)	0	5	5	0	450	0	450	0	450
Katherine (T)	0	5	5	0	450	0	450	0	450
Barkly (SSD)	2	0	2	70	0	40	110	0	110
Tennant Creek (T)	1	0	1	24	0	40	64	0	64
Central NT (SSD)	3	2	5	502	150	182	834	833	1 666
Alice Springs (T)	3	2	5	502	150	182	834	766	1 600
PUBLIC SECTOR									
NORTHERN TERRITORY	19	0	19	2 945	0	50	2 995	2 753	5 749
Darwin (SD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	555	555
Darwin City (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Palmerston–East Arm (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	555	555
Northern Territory Balance (SD)	19	0	19	2 945	0	50	2 995	2 198	5 194
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	2	0	2	300	0	0	300	450	750
Bathurst–Melville (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	120
Alligator (SSD)	1	0	1	180	0	50	230	65	295
Daly (SSD)	3	0	3	97	0	0	97	0	97
East Arnhem (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Top End NT (SSD)	10	0	10	1 966	0	0	1 966	1 443	3 409
Katherine (T)	2	0	2	300	0	0	300	0	300
Barkly (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	120
Tennant Creek (T)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central NT (SSD)	3	0	3	403	0	0	403	0	403
Alice Springs (T)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Statistical Area	DWELLINGS (no.).....			VALUE (\$'000).....					
	New houses	New other residential building	Total dwellings(a)	New houses	New other residential building	Alterations and additions to residential buildings(b)	Total residential buildings	Non-residential building	Total building
TOTAL									
NORTHERN TERRITORY	76	40	116	11 701	4 280	1 928	17 909	6 442	24 352
Darwin (SD)	34	33	67	5 766	3 680	1 439	10 885	3 141	14 026
Darwin City (SSD)	6	25	31	1 605	3 082	1 322	6 009	2 406	8 415
Palmerston–East Arm (SSD)	28	8	36	4 162	598	116	4 876	735	5 611
Northern Territory Balance (SD)	42	7	49	5 935	600	490	7 025	3 301	10 326
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	18	0	18	2 356	0	218	2 574	720	3 294
Bathurst–Melville (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	120
Alligator (SSD)	3	0	3	543	0	50	593	65	658
Daly (SSD)	3	0	3	97	0	0	97	0	97
East Arnhem (SSD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Top End NT (SSD)	10	5	15	1 966	450	0	2 416	1 443	3 859
Katherine (T)	2	5	7	300	450	0	750	0	750
Barkly (SSD)	2	0	2	70	0	40	110	120	230
Tennant Creek (T)	1	0	1	24	0	40	64	0	64
Central NT (SSD)	6	2	8	905	150	182	1 236	833	2 069
Alice Springs (T)	3	2	5	502	150	182	834	766	1 600

(a) Includes conversions and dwelling units approved as part of alterations and additions or the construction of non-residential buildings.

(b) Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 12.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents monthly details of building work approved.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

2 Statistics of building work approved are compiled from:

- permits issued by licensed Private Building Certifiers or the Building Branch, Northern Territory Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, in areas subject to building control by those authorities;
- contracts let or day labour work authorised by Commonwealth, State, semi-government and local government authorities;
- major building activity in areas not subject to normal administrative approval e.g. building on remote mine sites.

3 The scope of the survey comprises the following activities:

- construction of new buildings
- alterations and additions to existing buildings
- approved non-structural renovation and refurbishment work
- approved installation of integral building fixtures.

From July 1990, the statistics include:

- all approved new residential building valued at \$10,000 or more
- approved alterations and additions to residential building valued at \$10,000 or more
- all approved non-residential building jobs valued at \$50,000 or more.

Excluded from the statistics is:

- construction activity not defined as building (e.g. construction of roads, bridges, railways, earthworks, etc.). Statistics for this activity can be found in *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8762.0).

VALUE DATA

4 Value data are derived by aggregation of the estimated value of building work when completed as reported on approval documents. Such value data excludes the value of land and landscaping but includes site preparation. These estimates are usually a reliable indicator of the completed value of 'houses'. However, for 'other residential buildings' and 'non-residential buildings', these estimates can differ significantly from the completed value of the building.

OWNERSHIP

5 Building ownership is classified as either public or private sector and is based on the sector of intended owner of the completed building at the time of approval. Residential buildings constructed by private sector builders under government housing authority schemes are classified as public sector when the authority has contracted, or intends to contract, to purchase the building on or before completion. Buildings for Aboriginal Communities are included in the private sector. However, if the building is owned by a Community Government Council it will be included in the public sector.

BUILDING CLASSIFICATIONS

6 Building approvals are classified both by the Type of Building (e.g. 'house', 'factory') and by the Type of Work involved (e.g. 'new', 'alterations and additions'). These classifications are often used in conjunction with each other to describe building approvals in this publication.

7 The Type of Building classification refers to the intended major function of a building. A building which is ancillary to other buildings or forms a part of a group of related buildings is classified to the function of the building, not to the function of the group as a whole.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

BUILDING CLASSIFICATIONS

continued

8 An example is the treatment of building work approved for a factory complex. For instance, a detached administration building would be classified to Offices, a detached cafeteria building to Shops, while the factory buildings would be classified to Factories.

9 An exception to this rule is the treatment of group accommodation buildings. For example, a student accommodation building on a university campus would be classified to Education.

10 In the case of a large multi-function building, i.e. a single large physical building which, at the time of approval is intended to have more than one purpose (e.g. a hotel/shops/casino project), the ABS endeavours to split the approval details according to each main function.

11 Where this is not possible because separate details cannot be obtained, the building is classified to the predominant function of the building on the basis of the function which represents the highest proportion of the total value of the project.

12 The Type of Work classification refers to the building activity carried out: New; Alterations and additions; or Conversion. See the Glossary for definitions of these terms. Prior to the April 1998 issue of this publication, Conversions were published as part of a category called 'Conversions, etc.'. From the April 1998 issue onwards, Conversion jobs are included within existing categories, as follows: in tables 1 and 7 the number of Conversions are included in the appropriate Type of Building category, while the value of Conversions are included in the 'Alterations and additions to residential buildings' category in tables 2 and 7.

TREND ESTIMATES

13 Smoothing seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series and creates trend estimates. For monthly series, these trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months of the respective seasonally adjusted series except the last six months. Trend series are created for the last six months by applying surrogates of the Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series—Monitoring 'Trends': an Overview* (Cat. no. 1348.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (02) 6252 6345.

14 While the smoothing techniques described in paragraph 13 enable trend estimates to be produced for the latest few periods, they do result in revisions to the trend estimates as new data becomes available. Generally, revisions become smaller over time and, after three months, usually have a negligible impact on the series. Revisions to the original data and re-analysis of seasonal factors may also lead to revisions to the trend.

CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES

15 The chain volume measures appearing in this publication are annually re-weighted chain Laspeyres indexes referenced to current price values in a chosen reference year (currently 1997–98). The reference year will be updated annually in the July publication. While current price estimates reflect both price and volume changes, chain volume estimates measure changes in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated and therefore only reflect volume changes.

16 Further information on the nature and concepts of chain volume measures is contained in the ABS publication *Information Paper: Introduction of Chain Volume Measures in the Australian National Accounts* (Cat. no. 5248.0).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION (ASGC)	17 Area statistics are now being classified to the <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification, 1998 Edition</i> (Cat. no. 1216.0), effective 1 July 1998, and ASGC terminology has been adopted in the presentation of building statistics.
UNPUBLISHED DATA	18 The ABS can also make available certain building approvals data which are not published. Where the data cannot be provided by telephone, it can be provided via fax, photocopy, computer printout, floppy disk and email. A charge may be made for providing unpublished data in these forms.
RELATED PUBLICATIONS	19 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Building Activity, Building Work Done, Australia</i> (Cat. no 8755.0)▪ <i>Building Activity, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 8752.0)▪ <i>Building Activity, Australia: Dwelling Unit Commencements</i> (Cat. no. 8750.0)▪ <i>Building Activity, Northern Territory</i> (Cat. no. 8752.7)▪ <i>Building Approvals, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 8731.0)▪ <i>Engineering Construction Activity, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 8762.0)▪ <i>House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities</i> (Cat. no. 6416.0)▪ <i>Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 5609.0)▪ <i>Price Index of Materials Used in House Building</i> (Cat. no. 6408.0)▪ <i>Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building</i> (Cat. no. 6407.0).
ROUNDING	When figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.
SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES	n.a. not available SD Statistical Division SSD Statistical Subdivision T Town

GLOSSARY

Alterations and additions	Building activity carried out on existing buildings. Includes adding to or diminishing floor area, altering the structural design of a building and affixing rigid components which are integral to the functioning of the building.
Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Alterations and additions carried out on existing residential buildings, which may result in the creation of new dwelling units. See also Explanatory Notes paragraph 12.
Building	A building is a rigid, fixed and permanent structure which has a roof. Its intended purpose is primarily to house people, plant, machinery, vehicles, goods or livestock. An integral feature of a building's design is the provision for regular access by persons in order to satisfy its intended use.
Conversion	Building activity which converts a non-residential building to a residential building, e.g. conversion of a warehouse to residential apartments. Conversion is considered to be a special type of alteration, and these jobs have been separately identified as such from the July 1996 reference month. See also Explanatory Notes paragraph 12.
Dwelling unit	A dwelling unit is a self-contained suite of rooms, including cooking and bathing facilities and intended for long-term residential use. Regardless of whether they are self-contained or not, units within buildings offering institutional care (e.g. hospitals) or temporary accommodation (e.g. motels, hostels and holiday apartments) are not defined as dwelling units. Such units are included in the appropriate category of non-residential building approvals. Dwelling units can be created in one of four ways: through new work to create a residential building; through alteration/addition work to an existing residential building; through either new or alteration/addition work on non-residential building or through conversion of a non-residential building to a residential building.
Educational	Includes schools, colleges, kindergartens, libraries, museums and universities.
Entertainment and recreational	Includes clubs, cinemas, sport and recreation centres.
Factories	Includes paper mills, oil refinery buildings, brickworks and powerhouses.
Flats, units or apartments	Dwellings not having their own private grounds and usually sharing a common entrance, foyer or stairwell.
Health	Includes hospitals, nursing homes, surgeries, clinics and medical centres.
Hotels, motels and other short term accommodation	Includes hostels, boarding houses, guest houses, and holiday apartment buildings.
House	A house is a detached building primarily used for long term residential purposes. It consists of one dwelling unit. For instance, detached 'granny flats' and detached dwelling units (e.g. caretakers residences) associated with a non-residential building are defined as houses.
Miscellaneous	Includes justice and defence buildings, welfare and charitable homes, prisons and reformatories, maintenance camps, farming and livestock buildings, veterinary clinics, child-minding centres, police stations and public toilets.
New building work	Building activity which will result in the creation of a building which previously did not exist.

GLOSSARY

New other residential buildings	Building activity which will result in the creation of a residential building other than a house, which previously did not exist.
New residential	Building activity which will result in the creation of any residential building (house or other residential) which previously did not exist.
Non-residential building	A non-residential building is primarily intended for purposes other than long term residential purposes. Note that, on occasions, one or more dwelling units may be created through non-residential building activity. Prior to the April 1998 issue of this publication, they have been included in the 'Conversions, etc.' column in tables showing dwelling units approved. They are now identified separately (e.g. see table 7). However, the value of these dwelling units cannot be separated out from that of the non-residential building which they are part of, therefore the value associated with these remain in the appropriate Non-residential category.
Offices	Includes banks, post offices and council chambers.
Other business premises	Includes warehouses, service stations, transport depots and terminals, electricity substation buildings, telephone exchanges, broadcasting and film studios.
Other dwellings	Includes all dwellings other than houses. They can be created by: the creation of new other residential buildings (e.g. flats); alteration/addition work to an existing residential building; either new or alteration/addition work on a non-residential building; conversion of a non-residential building to a residential building creating more than one dwelling unit.
Other residential building	An other residential building is a building other than a house primarily used for long-term residential purposes. An other residential building contains more than one dwelling unit. Other residential buildings are coded to the following categories: semi-detached, row or terrace house or townhouse with one storey; semi-detached, row or terrace house or townhouse with two or more storeys; flat, unit or apartment in a building of one or two storeys; flat, unit or apartment in a building of three storeys; flat, unit or apartment in a building of four or more storeys; flat, unit or apartment attached to a house; other/number of storeys unknown. The latter two categories are included with the semi-detached, row or terrace house or townhouse with one storey category in table 9 of this publication.
Religious	Includes convents, churches, temples, mosques, monasteries and noviciates.
Residential building	A residential building is a building consisting of one or more dwelling units. Residential buildings can be either houses or other residential buildings.
Semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses	Dwellings having their own private grounds with no other dwellings above or below.
Shops	Includes retail shops, restaurants, taverns and shopping arcades.

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- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 75c per minute).
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