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**ECONOMIC INDICATORS, NEW SOUTH WALES
JULY 1990**

INQUIRIES: *If you would like to obtain further information about these statistics, please ring Greg Bray on (02) 268 4240; contact ABS Information Services on (02) 268 4611, at level 3, St Andrew's House, Sydney Square, Sydney; or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Box 796 GPO, Sydney 2001.*

MAIN FEATURES**Employment**

In seasonally adjusted terms, the number of employed persons in NSW showed no change from May to June 1990. Trend estimates indicate an increase in labour force participation in NSW since May 1990.

Unemployment

In seasonally adjusted terms, the NSW unemployment rate in June 1990 was 6.3 per cent, slightly higher than the 6.1 per cent recorded in May 1990, and at a similar level to the 6.3 per cent in the same period last year. The national unemployment rate was higher at 6.6 per cent, which was an increase from 6.0 per cent one year ago. The number of persons unemployed in NSW rose 3.7 per cent, although trend estimates indicate a stabilisation of the number of persons unemployed, after increases since November of last year.

Industrial Disputes

Continuing the trend of recent months, the April 1990 figure (5,000) of the number of working days lost in NSW was the lowest April figure since publication of monthly data commenced (1971). The proportion of working days lost in NSW (4.7 per cent) to the Australian figure is also the lowest since 1971.

Job Vacancies

The estimated number of job vacancies in NSW in May 1990 (2,000) is the lowest figure since May 1987 (when the same figure was obtained).

Average Weekly Employee Earnings

Continuing the trend of recent quarters, the annual movement in NSW (8.0 per cent) of full-time adult ordinary time earnings was the highest of all States and Territories.

Retail Trade

The trend estimate for retail turnover in May 1990 continued to show weak growth for Australia. NSW, in relative terms, is exhibiting stronger growth than all other States apart from Tasmania by averaging 0.6 per cent growth per month over the last three months (and over the past year). Australia is averaging an increase of only 0.2 per cent per month for the three months ending May 1990.

Tourism

As a result of increased capacity the room occupancy rate for licensed hotels, motels etc. in NSW fell by three percentage points from December quarter 1988 to 57.3 per cent for December quarter 1989. Guest nights increased by 1.3 per cent over the same period to 4,437,000.

Building

There was a slight fall (2.1%) in the seasonally adjusted figure of the number of new dwelling units approvals in NSW from April 1990 to May 1990. The quarterly figure for commencements of new dwelling units in NSW is the lowest since June quarter 1987. The number of houses commenced in March quarter 1990 increased slightly, and the fall in total commencements of new dwelling units is completely attributable to the category 'other residential dwellings'.

Actual New Fixed Capital Expenditure

Total new fixed capital expenditure increased by 10% from March quarter 1989 to March quarter 1990. Most of this increase can be attributed to the 'building and structures' category. Compared to March quarter 1989, 'equipment, plant and machinery' for the March quarter increased by 3.3%.

This publication provides information on a wide range of economic indicators which are the latest available at the time of publication. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues.

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

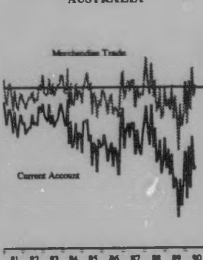
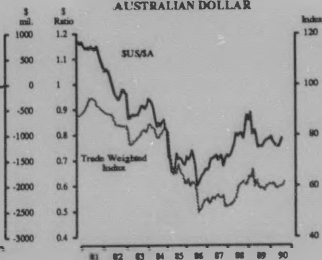
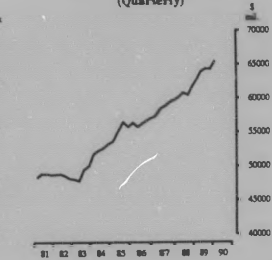
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NATIONAL ECONOMY

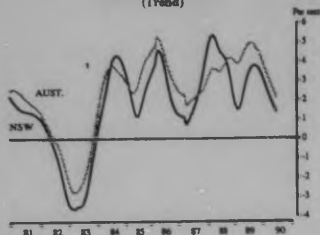
Indicator	Latest period	Change over prior period	Change over year
National Accounts percentage change, average 1984-85 prices, (seasonally adjusted) -			
Gross non-farm product	Mar Qr 90	1.9	4.3
Gross domestic product	Mar Qr 90	1.8	4.4

Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding periods			Figure one year ago
			One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago	
Balance of payments -						
Merchandise exports	\$m Jun 90	3,576	3,928	4,152	3,798	3,988
Merchandise imports	\$m Jun 90	-3,551	-4,114	-3,778	-4,254	-4,184
Balance on merchandise trade	\$m Jun 90	25	-186	374	-456	-196
Balance on goods and services	\$m Jun 90	-361	-523	118	-650	-699
Balance on current account	\$m Jun 90	-1,575	-1,632	-988	-1,987	-1,785
Balance on current account (seasonally adjusted)	\$m Jun 90	-1,808	-1,426	-1,388	-2,135	-1,916
Terms of trade for goods and services -						
Index (seasonally adjusted) 1984-85 = 100	Mar Qr 90	104.0	109.4	107.8	110.0	110.6
Exchange Rates at end of period -						
SUS/\$A	Jun 90	0.7890	0.7691	0.7509	0.7542	0.7553
Trade weighted index of value \$A						
May 1970 = 100	Jun 90	61.6	60.2	59.6	59.8	59.4
Interest Rates -						
Prime rate (source: Reserve Bank) per cent	Jun 90	18.5	18.5	18.5	19.5	19.75

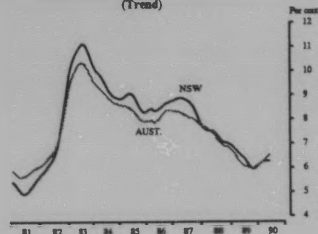
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
AUSTRALIATRADE WEIGHTED INDEX AND
MOVEMENT OF THE
AUSTRALIAN DOLLARGROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, AUSTRALIA
AVERAGE 1984/85 PRICES
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(Quarterly)NEW SOUTH WALES IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA
(per cent)

Indicator	Latest period	NSW	VIC.	QLD	WA	SA	TAS.	AUST.
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	Jun 90	6.3	5.4	8.2	7.7	7.1	9.4	6.6
Percentage change from previous year -								
Employed persons	Jun 90	1.9	2.4	3.7	2.7	2.4	3.9	2.5
Consumer price index: all groups	Mar Qr 90	9.1	8.7	7.8	9.1	6.9	7.2	8.6
Average weekly employee earnings:								
full time adult ordinary time	Feb 90	8.0	6.4	5.1	4.5	7.5	7.3	6.6
Retail turnover (trend estimates)	May 90	7.3	2.1	7.0	5.8	5.6	9.3	5.5
New motor vehicle registrations	May 90	14.4	34.6	11.4	-6.1	1.7	-3.1	14.5
Dwelling units approved	May 90	-18.5	-32.1	-29.8	-31.5	7.6	-25.1	-24.2
Value of non-residential building approved	May 90	4.7	93.0	-81.6	-13.0	-42.2	120.6	-7.7
Value of all buildings approved	May 90	-3.7	26.7	-59.9	-21.3	-23.0	34.1	-14.4
Value of engineering construction work done	Mar Qr 90	39.8	31.3	24.2	-13.0	14.5	-45.8	19.2
Room occupancy rate in licensed hotels and motels etc.	Dec Qr 89	-5.1	-2.8	-11.6	-2.7	5.3	-14.7	-6.0
Actual private new capital expenditure	Mar Qr 90	10.0	-14.0	5.5	-5.0	18.3	-36.5	-2.2
Expected private new capital expenditure (adjusted by average realisation rate) at Dec. 89	1990-91	3	2	16	21	-1	-27	6

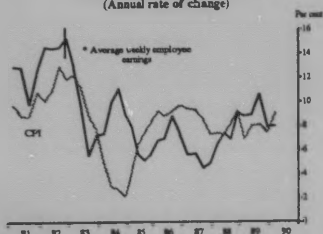
ANNUAL CHANGE IN NUMBER OF
PERSONS EMPLOYED
(Trend)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES OF THE CIVILIAN
POPULATION AGED 15 AND OVER
(Trend)

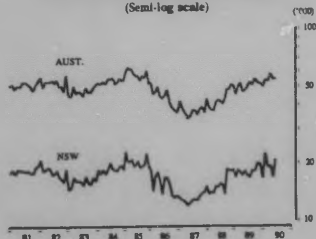


PRICES AND EARNINGS, NSW
(Annual rate of change)

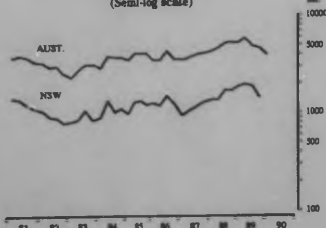


* Post-1988 data courtesy of the Bureau of Statistics.

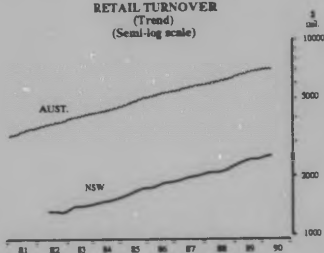
NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED
(Semi-log scale)



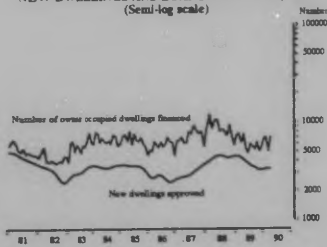
VALUE OF ALL BUILDINGS COMMENCED
(Average 1984/5 prices)
(Semi-log scale)



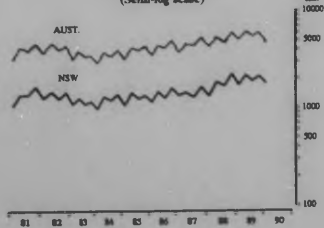
RETAIL TURNOVER
(Trend)
(Semi-log scale)



NEW DWELLINGS AND LOANS APPROVED, NSW
(Semi-log scale)



PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
(Average 1984/5 prices)
(Semi-log scale)



NEW SOUTH WALES IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA

Indicator	New South Wales				Australia			
		Latest period	Latest figure	Change from prior period (per cent)		Latest figure	Change from prior period (per cent)	Change from same period prior year (per cent)
Population								
Estimated resident population	'000	Dec Qr 89	5,798	0.29		16,957	0.39	1.56
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000	Jun 90	4,527	0.11		13,256	0.15	1.69
Labour Force								
Employed persons - full-time (original series)	'000	Jun 90	2,100	0.2		6,216	-0.1	1.5
- total (original series)	'000	Jun 90	2,634	-		7,910	-0.1	2.5
- total (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Jun 90	2,632	-		7,906	-	2.4
Unemployed persons - (original series)	'000	Jun 90	171	-3.4		542	-1.6	13.5
- (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Jun 90	178	3.7		562	3.0	13.5
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Jun 90	2,811	0.3		8,468	0.2	3.1
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	per cent	Jun 90	62.1	0.1		63.9	0.1	1.4
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	per cent	Jun 90	6.3	3.4		6.6	2.7	10.1
Job vacancies	'000	May 90	20	-18.3		51	-16.7	-30.6
Weekly paid overtime per employee	hours	May 90	1.3	-0.1		1.4	0.1	-6.3
Average Weekly Employee Earnings								
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	Feb 90	541.00	1.8		524.70	1.6	6.6
All employees total earnings	\$	Feb 90	479.90	1.8		464.80	1.7	6.5
Industrial Disputes - Working days lost	'000	Apr 90	5	-78.1		100	118.3	4.4
Consumer Price Index, All Groups 1980-81=100		Mar Qr 90	204.9	1.7		204.1	1.7	8.6
Retail Turnover (trend estimates)	\$m	May 90	2,545	0.4		7,025	-	5.5
New Motor Vehicle Registrations (seasonally adjusted)	No.	May 90	20,629	23.5		54,255	8.5	14.2
Cars and station wagons (seasonally adjusted)	No.	May 90	15,687	25.9		42,853	-0.4	17.2
Other motor vehicles (excl. motor cycles) (season adj.)	No.	May 90	4,942	16.5		11,402	4.3	4.4
Production								
Iron and steel (seasonally adjusted)	'000 tonnes	May 90	476	1.1		528	-11.5	4.9
Electricity (seasonally adjusted)	mull. kWh	May 90	4,687	0.2		12,793	0.1	6.7
Gas (seasonally adjusted)	terajoules	May 90	7,915	-1.3		38,907	-12.4	-3.7
Overseas Trade								
Imports	\$m	Apr 90	1,800	-5.6		3,952	-5.7	-1.4
Exports	\$m	Apr 90	1,073	18.7		4,320	11.0	8.9
Tourism								
Resident overseas short-term departures	'000	Apr 90	80	15.5		193	14.8	26.4
Overseas visitor short-term arrivals	'000	Apr 90	81	-7.3		181	-4.2	13.1
Licensed hotels, motels etc. with facilities -								
Guest nights	'000	Dec 89	4,437	0.2		13,620	0.7	3.0
Room occupancy rate	per cent	Dec 89	57.3	-1.0		52.9	-2.4	-6.0
Building								
Approvals -								
New dwelling units (seasonally adjusted)	No.	May 90	3,304	-2.1		11,465	4.3	-25.9
Value of new residential building (seasonally adj.)	\$m	May 90	303	3.3		933	-2.2	9.3
Value of non-residential building	\$m	May 90	379	-3.2		1,326	53.6	-7.7
Value of all building	\$m	May 90	810	14.1		2,587	39.6	-14.4
Commencements -								
New dwelling units	No.	Dec Qr 89	9,967	-13.1		35,109	-8.9	-24.5
Value of new residential buildings (a)	\$m	Dec Qr 89	520	-14.9		1,827	-8.5	-23.6
Value of non-residential building (a)	\$m	Dec Qr 89	782	-29.7		2,398	-1.9	-6.1
Value of all building (a)	\$m	Dec Qr 89	1,429	-23.4		4,530	-4.8	-13.6
Value of work done in period (a)	\$m	Dec Qr 89	1,802	1.0		5,248	-1.4	6.4
Engineering Construction								
Private contractors -								
Value of work commenced	\$m	Mar Qr 90	464	20.8		1,213	-19.3	11.4
Value of work done	\$m	Mar Qr 90	373	-8.1		1,174	-13.4	4.2
Value of work yet to be done	\$m	Mar Qr 90	973	17.4		2,561	3.4	14.6
Value of work done by public sector	\$m	Mar Qr 90	480	2.7		1,409	3.8	35.4
Finance								
Housing finance for owner occupation -								
Secured commitments to individuals by all lenders	\$m	May 90	755	34.1		2,020	41.8	-6.4
Personal finance commitments - all lenders	\$m	May 90	818	29.6		2,244	29.2	2.7
Commercial finance commitments -								
Significant lenders	\$m	Mar 90	3,485	33.3		7,937	19.8	-11.8
Savings balances at end of month -								
All banks (b)(c)(Source: Reserve Bank)	\$m	May 90	73,024	-1.1	(d)	179,860	-0.6	18.1
Building societies	\$m	Apr 90	8,512	0.7		20,360	0.1	-2.2
Credit unions	\$m	Apr 90	3,013	1.0		7,496	0.5	14.2
Actual New Fixed Capital Expenditure (e)								
New buildings and structures	\$m	Mar Qr 90	2,383	-13.8		6,200	-28.0	-2.2
Equipment, plant and machinery	\$m	Mar Qr 90	1,027	-6.8		2,510	-16.8	10.9
	\$m	Mar Qr 90	1,353	-18.5		3,689	-22.1	-9.4

(a) Average 1984-85 Prices. (b) Average of weekly deposit balances. (c) Savings and trading bank series are combined following changes to the Banking Act 1959. (d) Unavailable owing to break in series. (e) By private enterprises.



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