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**METAL PRODUCTS
AUGUST 1992**

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- *For further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Vaughn Moore on Melbourne (03) 615 7635 or any ABS Office.*
 - *for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.*
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TABLE 1. FERROUS METALS
(*000 tonnes)

Period	Basic iron, spiegeleisen and sponge iron(671.01)			Iron and steel in ingots or other primary forms(a)(672.40)			Blooms and slabs			
	Original	Seasonally adjusted(c)	Trend(d)	Original	Seasonally adjusted(c)	Trend(d)	From continuous casting (672.03)	From rolling and forging(b)(672.04)		
								Original	Seasonally adjusted(c)	Trend(d)
1989-90	6,188	..	..	6,681	..	..	5,136	2,440	..	..
1990-91	5,600	..	..	6,219	..	..	4,620	2,521	..	..
1991-92	6,394	..	..	6,444	..	..	5,205	2,485	..	..
1991—					r					
June	420	455	460	455	467	486	351	197	202	211
July	535	505	485	600	568	538	462	214	204	208
August	587	549	502	605	555	531	500	222	208	204
September	522	496	508	547	513	522	443	217	203	200
October	558	522	507	549	534	515	443	208	194	198
November	454	442	509	415	417	517	317	178	194	198
December	567	527	517	568	555	527	477	205	198	199
1992—					r					
January	552	546	532	577	574	541	465	201	207	201
February	502	546	r 550	517	560	554	417	182	206	205
March	557	586	r 563	558	568	557	466	219	210	210
April	533	560	r 565	518	548	550	419	202	204	215
May	510	562	r 559	489	522	537	400	209	225	r 219
June	517	555	r 549	502	519	525	396	231	235	r 223
July	572	540	r 538	569	538	516	453	235	223	225
August	537	501	527	540	492	508	454	232	217	226
1991-92: July to Aug.	1,122	..	..	1,205	..	..	962	436	..	..
1992-93: July to Aug.	1,109	..	..	1,109	..	..	907	467	..	..

(a) Includes ingots, puddled bars, plings, blocks or lumps and steel in the molten state. There is a break in the series as statistics after July 1991 exclude a small proportion of total production, due to the withdrawal of consent for the ABS to release the information. (b) From rolling and forging of iron and steel (primary mills output). (c) See paragraph 5, Explanatory Notes. (d) See paragraphs 6 to 8, Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. STEEL WIRE AND WIRE PRODUCTS
(tonnes)

Period	Ferrous welded wire fabric(a) (693.54.55)	Nails, tacks, drawing pins etc(b) (694.10)	Steel wool (697.73)
1989-90	321,102	22,675	1,221
1990-91	253,789	19,951	1,233
1991-92	254,302	20,361	1,129
1989—			
September qtr	90,827	6,485	333
December qtr	85,928	6,345	345
1990—			
March qtr	70,947	4,672	237
June qtr	73,400	5,173	306
September qtr	72,476	5,733	308
December qtr	71,827	5,742	294
1991—			
March qtr	56,240	4,424	307
June qtr	53,246	4,052	324
September qtr	65,051	4,891	327
December qtr	62,980	5,465	279
1992—			
March qtr	60,127	5,112	281
June qtr	66,144	4,893	242

(a) Includes welded reinforcing steel mesh. (b) Includes staples (except in strips for office, upholstery or packaging), spiked clamps, studs and spikes. Excludes with heads of copper.

TABLE 3. IRON AND STEEL PIPES AND TUBES
(tonnes)

Period	Tube or pipe fittings, of iron or steel		
	Cast iron tubes, pipes and hollow profiles (679.11)	Non- malleable Cast Iron (679.51)	Other (679.57,58,61)
1989-90	79,936	10,673	2,594
1990-91	71,397	9,172	2,336
1991-92	n.p.	8,186	2,227
1991 —			
June	5,552	724	n.p.
July	8,778	840	228
August	6,143	709	185
September	6,019	718	173
October	6,824	752	182
November	5,760	676	197
December	4,192	501	137
1992 —			
January	2,697	378	136
February	5,797	704	233
March	5,915	702	218
April	5,553	726	195
May	6,014	712	166
June	n.p.	768	177
July	n.p.	832	186
August	n.p.	664	213
1991-92: July to Aug.	14,921	1,549	413
1992-93: July to Aug.	n.p.	1,496	399

TABLE 4. NON-FERROUS ROLLED EXTRUDED AND DRAWN PRODUCTS
(tonnes)

Period	Copper and alloy					
	Aluminium and alloy		Bars, rods sections		Wire rod and profiles	Lead and alloy(d)
	Bars, rods and profiles(a) (684.21)	Other(b) (684.24,28)	Brass (682.31,32)	Other (682.38,39)		
1989-90	105,543	193,394		102,155		5,290
1990-91	92,473	194,213	17,738	n.p.	n.p.	3,216
1991-92	94,235	202,155	21,135	n.p.	n.p.	2,953
1991 —						
June	6,296	15,729	1,517	n.p.	n.p.	209
July	7,797	16,970	1,559	n.p.	n.p.	302
August	8,140	17,946	1,766	6,397	n.p.	1,489
September	8,878	16,308	1,793	9,170	n.p.	1,665
October	9,477	17,870	2,154	4,191	n.p.	1,315
November	9,497	18,186	2,002	n.p.	n.p.	1,615
December	8,053	15,503	1,482	3,756	n.p.	1,242
1992 —						
January	5,395	13,253	577	n.p.	n.p.	468
February	8,168	16,477	2,100	n.p.	n.p.	861
March	7,501	17,726	2,173	n.p.	n.p.	800
April	6,386	15,690	1,722	n.p.	n.p.	752
May	7,738	18,985	1,848	n.p.	n.p.	1,055
June	7,205	17,241	1,959	n.p.	n.p.	740
July	8,404	19,167	1,947	n.p.	n.p.	1,038
August	7,897	17,276	1,664	n.p.	n.p.	773
1991-92: July to Aug.	15,937	34,916	3,325	n.p.	n.p.	3,089
1992-93: July to Aug.	16,301	36,443	3,611	n.p.	n.p.	1,811

(a) Includes wire rod. (b) Includes foil of a thickness (excluding any backing) not exceeding 0.20mm. (c) Excludes if stranded, braided or insulated. (d) Includes un-coated lead. Excludes foil.

TABLE 5. NON-FERROUS REFINED METALS(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Copper(b)</i>	<i>Lead(c)</i>	<i>Tin(b)</i>	<i>Zinc(b)</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Gold(d)</i>
	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	tonnes	'000 tonnes	tonnes	kg
1989-90	245	197	381	295	404	234,230
1990-91	237	220	321	320	409	255,318
1991-92	277	228	288	325	382	281,835
1989—						
September qtr	59	52	125	71	95	56,592
December qtr	64	52	117	77	105	58,262
1990—						
March qtr	59	37	74	75	77	57,826
June qtr	63	56	65	72	127	61,550
September qtr	64	60	89	82	97	58,289
December qtr	61	59	84	75	118	71,788
1991—						
March qtr	47	42	77	79	86	57,304
June qtr	65	59	71	84	108	67,937
September qtr	68	61	51	79	94	66,568
December qtr	72	58	69	82	100	69,831
1992—						
March qtr	66	41	61	76	66	73,073
June qtr	71	68	107	88	122	72,363

(a) Comprises production by establishments classified to either the Manufacturing or Mining Sectors. Source: Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE). (b) Primary origin only. (c) Includes lead content of lead from primary sources. (d) From primary and secondary sources.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication is one of a series of ten containing monthly and quarterly production statistics. The titles of the other publications of this series are shown in paragraph 10.

Classification

2. Data contained in these publications are mostly based on monthly or quarterly collections conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Most items are identified by the commodity codes used in the Australian Standard Commodity Classification (ASCC), which was developed by the ABS to facilitate greater comparability of manufacturing production commodity statistics with import and export commodity statistics.

Scope and coverage

3. Manufacturing commodity statistics collected by the ABS exclude details relating to single establishment manufacturing enterprises with fewer than four persons employed and production of establishments predominantly engaged in non-manufacturing activities but which may carry on, in a minor way, some manufacturing. However, except for a few commodities, the effect on production levels and movements is marginal.

4. Annual figures shown in this publication are derived by aggregating monthly/quarterly production and relate to production during the year ended 30 June. They may differ from annual manufacturing census data which relate to the census year and, in the case of businesses unable to report on a June year basis, include details in respect of substitute accounting periods.

Seasonal adjustment and trend estimates

5. This publication contains seasonally adjusted statistics of several items. In the seasonal adjustment, account has been taken not only of normal seasonal factors, but also, where appropriate, of 'working-day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the month) and the influence of Easter and Australia Day which may, in successive years, affect figures for different months. However, care should be exercised in interpreting the figures for those months in which Christmas/New Year and Easter holidays fall as some manufacturers vary holiday shutdowns in the light of prevailing demand for their products. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these and other series are available on request.

6. The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to create trend estimates is a means of reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates have been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the seasonally adjusted series.

7. While this smoothing technique enables estimates of trend to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions to the estimates for the most recent months as data for subsequent months become available. Generally subsequent revisions become smaller and after 3 months have little impact on the series. There will also be revisions as a result of revisions to the original estimates and annual reviews of seasonal and 'working day' factors.

8. Because of the highly irregular nature of some production series it is not possible to discern with

reasonable confidence the current direction of the trend at the end of these series. For such highly irregular series the ABS does not provide the last two trend estimates.

9. Users may wish to refer to the ABS Information Papers *A Guide to Smoothing Time Series — Estimates of 'Trend'* (1316.0) and *Time Series Decomposition — An Overview* (1317.0) for more detailed information on smoothing of seasonally adjusted time series data.

Related publications

10. Other ABS publications which may be of interest are:

Manufacturing Production, Australia, Preliminary (8301.0) — issued monthly

Manufacturing Production, Australia, Household Appliances and Electrical Equipment (8357.0) — issued monthly

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Manufacturing Commodities : Selected Principal Articles Produced, Australia 1986-87, Preliminary (8365.0)

Manufacturing Commodities : Principal Articles Produced Australia 1986-87 (8303.0)

11. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The *Catalogue and Publications Advice* are available for any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- n.p. not available for separate publication (but included in totals where applicable)
- n.a. not available
- .. not applicable
- r revised since previous issue
- nil or rounded to zero
- break in continuity of series (where a line is shown between consecutive figures in the same column)



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