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Statistics**

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**Plastics, Rubber, Paints
Detergents and
Industrial Chemicals**

March 1992

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MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION, AUSTRALIA
PLASTICS, RUBBER, PAINTS, DETERGENTS AND
INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS
MARCH 1992

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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CATALOGUE NO. 8362.0

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INQUIRIES

- * for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Vaughn Moore on Melbourne (03) 615 7635 or any ABS office.*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. PLASTICS IN PRIMARY FORMS(a)
(tonnes)

Period	Mixed or compound (b) (576.02)	Not mixed or compound(b)				Other (573.15, 576.01, 576.04, 579.00)	Total
		Polyethylene (571.13)	Poly-styrene (572.14)	Poly-propylene (575.14)	Polyvinyl acetate (575.98)		
1988-89	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	980,023
1989-90	46,554	214,458	55,446	159,102	14,417	495,392	985,369
1990-91	45,146	217,126	62,266	169,635	12,722	441,168	948,063
1991 —							
January	1,771	17,432	5,765	12,842	831	28,462	67,103
February	4,412	19,718	3,797	15,693	1,079	35,686	80,385
March	3,901	17,386	4,637	13,124	1,073	34,307	74,428
April	3,148	19,389	5,334	16,027	1,008	39,277	84,183
May	3,125	20,662	5,001	17,190	1,166	38,498	85,642
June	2,968	21,385	5,934	14,895	852	32,773	78,807
July	3,898	21,279	5,133	17,554	928	39,428	88,220
August	3,377	19,197	4,868	13,748	761	40,344	82,295
September	3,455	19,846	5,482	15,305	856	38,795	83,739
October	4,105	22,949	5,281	18,251	1,137	42,801	94,524
November	3,893	19,573	5,384	17,108	1,071	42,378	89,407
December	3,570	15,592	6,087	16,468	1,115	35,898	78,730
1992 —							
January	1,906	20,231	5,711	18,827	1,391	30,902	78,968
February	3,867	18,473	5,510	18,154	1,061	36,937	84,002
March	3,747	20,286	6,611	16,389	1,060	41,698	89,791
1990-91: July to Mar.	35,905	155,690	45,997	121,523	9,696	330,620	699,431
1991-92: July to Mar.	31,818	177,426	50,067	151,804	9,380	349,181	769,676

(a) Primary forms includes liquid, paste, powder, granules, flakes, blocks, irregular shapes, lumps and similar bulk forms. (b) Excludes regranulated scrap.

TABLE 2. PLASTIC TUBES, PIPES, HOSES, FILM, SHEETING AND COATED MATERIALS

Period	Flexible plates, sheets, foil and strip of plastic(a)					Plastic coated textile materials (657.32)	Tubes, pipes and hoses	
	Polymers of ethylene			Polymers of propylene (582.33)	Other (582.34)		High density polyethylene (581.82)	Rigid PVC(c) (581.22)
	Polymers of vinyl chloride (582.32)	Low density(b) (582.31)	High density (582.38)					
	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	'000 sq. m	tonnes	tonnes
1989-90	12,975	115,113	25,809	18,736	10,343	29,681	21,232	89,426
1990-91	12,896	106,452	24,958	19,457	9,360	27,874	20,319	79,133
1991 —								
January	528	6,453	1,809	909	532	1,305	1,215	2,936
February	983	9,015	1,981	1,788	844	2,458	1,565	7,399
March	1,027	8,777	2,257	1,816	784	2,981	1,569	5,927
April	748	8,423	1,999	1,697	588	1,629	1,738	5,773
May	1,106	9,783	2,170	1,611	727	2,403	1,714	6,703
June	1,093	8,105	1,981	1,665	673	1,768	1,632	5,525
July	1,055	9,230	2,201	1,806	779	2,411	1,824	7,737
August	1,243	9,143	2,243	1,720	787	2,335	1,566	5,983
September	984	9,185	1,893	1,615	805	2,147	1,823	7,020
October	1,227	10,094	2,090	1,724	915	2,400	2,425	8,176
November	1,382	10,007	2,378	1,740	1,039	2,309	2,565	7,945
December	1,113	8,165	1,965	1,451	1,008	2,819	2,041	6,081
1992 —								
January	779	7,238	1,737	1,136	567	1,163	1,950	4,178
February	1,035	9,442	1,807	1,693	811	2,672	2,575	8,250
March	1,106	9,808	1,949	1,802	713	2,806	2,235	7,450
1990-91: July to Mar.	9,949	80,140	18,809	14,484	7,372	22,074	15,235	61,131
1991-92: July to Mar.	9,925	82,312	18,263	14,688	7,423	21,064	19,004	62,821

(a) Excludes self-adhesive, floor, wall and ceiling coverings, vulcanised fibre and plastic foam. Also excludes reinforced, laminated or supported with other materials.

(b) Includes linear low density polyethylene. (c) Plasticiser content 1 per cent or less by weight of PVC. Excludes electrical conduit.

TABLE 3. RUBBER PRODUCTS

Period	Camel back for retreading rubber tyres (621 21)	Strip (eg orbi-strip) for retreading tyres (621 22)	Tubes, pipes and hoses of un- hardened vulcan- ised rubber(a) (621 41,45,49)
	tonnes	tonnes	'000 metres
1989-90		n.a.	11,334
1990-91		r 13,929	9,359
1989—			
September qtr		n.a.	2,925
December qtr		n.a.	n.p.
1990—			
March qtr		n.a.	2,961
June qtr		n.a.	n.p.
September qtr		3,343	2,703
December qtr		r 3,363	2,608
1991—			
March qtr	153	2,772	2,310
June qtr	168	4,129	1,739
September qtr	n.p.	3,791	r 1,653
December qtr	r 289	r 4,130	1,709
1992—			
March qtr	200	4,530	1,764
1990-91: July to Mar.		9,631	7,621
1991-92: July to Mar.	n.p.	12,451	5,127

(a) Includes with fittings (eg joints, elbows, flanges).

TABLE 4. PAINTS AND OTHER SURFACE COATINGS
('000 litres)

Period	Architectural and decorative paints, enamels and clears(a)							
	Solvent thinned				Water thinned			
	Finishing coats				Plastic latex			
	Primers and undercoats (533.65)	Pigmented		Clears (533.68)	Primers and undercoats (533.69)	Finishing coats		Other water based (533.73)
		Full gloss (533.66)	Other (533.67)			Flat (533.71)	Other (533.72)	
1988-89	6,024	11,285	4,947	3,861	6,676	35,515	31,812	5,675
1989-90	5,724	11,567	4,350	3,713	7,109	32,298	33,135	6,626
1990-91	5,421	11,218	4,200	3,252	7,293	30,245	34,843	5,092
1991 —								
January	420	735	277	198	394	1,838	2,500	282
February	377	796	284	254	624	2,591	2,996	352
March	402	1,098	393	253	713	2,812	3,222	408
April	516	887	385	257	640	2,304	2,681	347
May	599	1,207	400	345	622	2,699	3,198	409
June	381	746	244	198	539	2,166	2,268	336
July	518	854	381	252	637	2,315	2,733	392
August	416	896	333	260	628	2,454	2,815	398
September	354	718	324	245	753	2,635	3,493	385
October	501	942	359	299	736	2,650	3,485	423
November	487	955	389	350	866	3,155	4,183	471
December	375	863	264	294	757	2,347	3,075	359
1992 —								
January	384	796	284	222	551	2,219	3,130	368
February	422	794	350	206	748	2,556	3,209	366
March	437	766	300	247	680	2,310	2,993	321
1990-91: July to Mar.	3,925	8,378	3,171	2,451	5,491	23,075	26,695	4,000
1991-92: July to Mar.	3,894	7,584	2,984	2,375	6,356	22,640	29,117	3,482

For footnotes see end of table

TABLE 4. PAINTS AND OTHER SURFACE COATINGS—continued
(*000 litres)

Period	Industrial paints, enamels and clear(s)							
	Automotive				Other industrial			
	Finishing coats			Primers and undercoats (533.78)	Finishing coats			Other
	Primers and undercoats (533.74)	Nitro-cellulose lacquers (533.75)	Other (533.76)		Nitro-cellulose lacquers (533.79)	Colours (533.81)	Clears (533.82)	Colours (533.83)
1988-89	5,038	575	10,991	10,293	3,522	1,155	8,583	25,640
1989-90	5,750	599	11,057	10,095	3,821	1,011	8,055	24,760
1990-91	5,150	474	9,181	8,667	3,213	724	7,861	21,302
1991—								
January	236	17	306	419	130	34	629	926
February	492	46	683	659	230	60	649	1,727
March	434	41	864	744	268	63	704	1,815
April	381	37	708	595	223	50	765	1,718
May	522	38	943	772	300	57	714	1,920
June	401	20	744	609	237	56	539	1,469
July	477	32	774	696	282	64	622	1,839
August	448	38	937	744	278	62	666	1,613
September	538	33	716	662	275	62	740	1,692
October	356	36	725	751	309	66	686	1,937
November	426	50	891	600	331	63	604	1,948
December	288	33	681	521	237	43	565	1,466
1992—								
January	250	27	420	529	198	34	475	1,495
February	307	40	736	823	311	70	713	1,749
March	353	41	864	710	305	78	602	1,723
1990-91: July to Mar.	3,846	379	6,786	6,692	2,453	561	5,844	16,195
1991-92: July to Mar.	3,443	329	6,745	6,035	2,525	543	5,674	15,462

TABLE 4. PAINTS AND OTHER SURFACE COATINGS—continued
(*000 litres)

Period	Wood stains (oil, spirit, etc.) packed for sale or transfer out(d)					Thinners	
	Heavy duty coatings(c) (533.77)	for sale or transfer out(d) (533.84)	Marine coatings(e) (533.85)	For nitro-cellulose coatings (533.56)	For all other coatings (533.57)		
1988-89	10,994	2,448	2,092	8,641	18,312		
1989-90	12,354	2,160	2,022	7,635	21,029		
1990-91	12,637	1,657	1,696	6,905	19,430		
1991—							
January	770	115	121	402	1,070		
February	931	140	126	573	1,567		
March	874	109	118	685	1,740		
April	1,004	105	145	481	1,533		
May	1,360	145	141	704	1,845		
June	972	120	149	433	1,537		
July	993	159	180	550	1,431		
August	1,083	159	133	438	1,654		
September	1,241	227	211	623	1,398		
October	1,555	138	158	742	1,891		
November	902	153	145	396	1,230		
December							
1992—							
January	665	104	145	454	1,080		
February	792	151	138	535	1,452		
March	1,110	159	158	570	1,675		
1990-91: July to Mar.	9,301	1,288	1,260	5,287	14,515		
1991-92: July to Mar.	9,270	1,413	1,401	4,836	13,636		

(a) Includes all paints and coatings for use on buildings and structures. Excludes heavy duty coatings. (b) Includes lacquers and water thinned industrial products. (c) Includes speciality coatings specifically designed for the protection of interiors and exteriors of buildings, plant and equipment etc. (d) Includes part-pigmented, Madison and Crookette types. (e) Includes primers and undercoats, underwater compositions, box-topping, deck paints and marine varnishes. Excludes superstructure paints which are included with architectural and decorative paints.

TABLE 5. PAINTS AND OTHER SURFACE COATINGS: STATES-MARCH 1992
(*000 litres)

Code No.	Item	NSW	Vic.	Other States	Australia
	Architectural and decorative paints, enamels and clears(a)—				
	Solvent thinned—				
533.65	Primers and undercoats	136	75	225	437
	Finishing coats, pigmented—				
533.66	Full gloss	177	125	464	766
533.67	Other than full gloss	89	70	141	300
533.68	Finishing coats, clears	157	42	48	247
	Water thinned—				
	Plastic latex—				
533.69	Primers and undercoats	354	133	192	680
	Finishing coats—				
533.71	Flat	1,182	235	894	2,310
533.72	Other than flat (satin, semi-gloss, gloss)	1,498	738	756	2,993
533.73	Other water based	175	43	104	321
	Industrial paints, enamels and clears(b)—				
	Automotive—				
533.74	Primers and undercoats	55	250	48	353
	Finishing coats—				
533.75	Nitro-cellulose lacquers	31	n.p.	n.p.	41
533.76	Other	n.p.	694	n.p.	864
	Other industrial—				
533.78	Primers and undercoats	356	240	114	710
	Finishing coats—				
	Nitro-cellulose lacquers—				
533.79	Clears	162	62	81	305
533.81	Colours	31	31	16	78
	Other—				
533.82	Clears	155	407	40	602
533.83	Colours	680	844	200	1,723
533.77	Heavy duty coatings(c)	180	171	760	1,110
533.84	Wood stains (oil, spirit, etc.) packed for sale or transfer out(d)	81	68	10	159
533.85	Marine coatings(e)	n.p.	—	n.p.	158
	Thinners—				
533.56	For nitro-cellulose coatings	164	173	233	570
533.57	For all other coatings	627	701	347	1,675

(a) Includes all paints and coatings for use on buildings and structures. Excludes heavy duty coatings. (b) Includes lacquers and water thinned industrial products.

(c) Includes specialty coatings specifically designed for the protection of interiors and exteriors of buildings, plant and equipment etc. (d) Includes part-pigmented, Madsen and Croote types. (e) Includes primers and undercoats, underwater compositions, boat-topping, deck paints and marine varnishes. Excludes superstructure paints which are included with architectural and decorative paints.

TABLE 6. GASES

Period	Acetylene gas (511.15)	Carbon dioxide carbon monoxide and nitrous oxide(a) (522.73)	Hydrogen, rare gases, nitrogen and oxygen (522.21)
	'000 cu.m.	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes
1989-90	3,286	75	n.p.
1990-91	3,047	89	1,558
1989—			
September qtr	931	17	n.p.
December qtr	751	16	n.p.
1990—			
March qtr	751	20	n.p.
June qtr	853	22	n.p.
September qtr	896	23	n.p.
December qtr	701	25	412
1991—			
March qtr	668	23	n.p.
June qtr	782	19	406
September qtr	r 790	23	503
December qtr	r 586	24	620
1992—			
March qtr	553	27	465
1990-91: July to Mar.	2,265	71	n.p.
1991-92: July to Mar.	1,929	74	1,588

(a) Excludes dry ice.

TABLE 7. INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS

Period	Acids (in terms of 100 percent acid)				Other mineral or Chemical fertilisers			
	Hydrochloric; Chlorosulphuric (522.31)	Sulphuric; Oleum (522.32)			Ammonium sulphate (562.13)	Superphosphate(c) (562.23,24,25)	Phosphatic (562.26)	Potassic (562.30)
		Original	Seasonally adjusted(a)	Trend(b)				
tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	
1988-89	n.a.	1,878	..	..	165	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1989-90	60,469	1,464	..	..	214	2,659	n.p.	4,426
1990-91	55,664	986	..	..	215	1,574	n.p.	n.p.
1991 —								
January	4,944	104	91	77	17	192	n.p.	n.p.
February	4,685	84	78	75	12	172	n.p.	179
March	5,469	67	57	72	10	139	n.p.	66
April	5,073	75	69	69	12	156	n.p.	n.p.
May	2,931	79	73	67	20	127	n.p.	n.p.
June	3,113	66	66	66	19	83	n.p.	n.p.
July	3,684	56	71	67	13	77	n.p.	n.p.
August	5,310	51	59	68	20	72	n.p.	n.p.
September	4,875	54	67	68	25	52	n.p.	n.p.
October	5,873	71	82	r 69	21	84	n.p.	n.p.
November	4,988	61	67	69	19	119	n.p.	n.p.
December	4,770	68	59	69	23	95	n.p.	n.p.
1992 —								
January	4,204	82	72	r 69	14	132	n.p.	n.p.
February	4,380	81	74	r 69	19	163	n.p.	n.p.
March	5,258	78	66	69	24	150	n.p.	n.p.
1990-91: July to Mar.	44,547	766	..	..	164	1,208	n.p.	n.p.
1991-92: July to Mar.	43,342	604	..	..	179	944	n.p.	n.p.

(a) See paragraph 5, Explanatory Notes. (b) See paragraph 6 to 8, Explanatory Notes. (c) Double and triple superphosphates expressed in terms of single phosphate i.e. 9 per cent P equivalent.

TABLE 8. ORGANIC SURFACE-ACTIVE AGENTS(a)
(tonnes)

Period	<i>Anionic(b) (554.24)</i>	<i>Cationic(c) (554.25)</i>	<i>Other(d) (554.26)</i>
1989-90	26,868	8,439	6,611
1990-91	19,727	4,892	5,359
1991 —			
January	704	162	219
February	1,398	163	364
March	1,790	200	338
April	1,411	173	376
May	1,318	219	418
June	1,537	183	341
July	1,301	273	287
August	1,268	161	373
September	1,443	285	317
October	1,312	326	424
November	1,311	214	382
December	1,559	156	369
1992 —			
January	924	152	285
February	1,518	199	384
March	1,612	210	350
1990-91: July to Mar.	15,561	4,317	4,224
1991-92: July to Mar.	12,247	1,976	3,171

(a) Organic surface-active agents are capable of absorption at an interface and in that state display a number of physico-chemical properties responsible for surface activity (e.g. reduction of surface tension, foaming, emulsifying and wetting). Excludes soap.

(b) Organic surface-active agents which ionise in aqueous solution to produce negatively charged organic ions responsible for surface activity (e.g. sulphates and sulphonates of fats, vegetable oils or resin acids). (c) Organic surface-active agents which ionise in aqueous solution to produce positively charged organic ions responsible for surface activity (e.g. salts of fatty amines). (d) Includes non-ionic and ampholytic agents.

TABLE 9. DETERGENTS AND SOAP

Period	Soaps in bars, cakes, moulded pieces or shapes for personal use(a) (554.12) tonnes	Surface-active washing or cleaning preparations							
		Shampoo preparations(b) (553.31) tonnes	Scouring preparations(b) (554.39) tonnes	Fabric washing		Dish washing preparations		Soaking, rinsing or bleaching preparations (554.53) tonnes	Other(d) (554.54) tonnes
				Liquid (554.28) '000 litres	Other(c) (554.29) tonnes	Liquid (554.51) '000 litres	Other(c) (554.52) tonnes		
1988-89	26,764	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1989-90	33,461	19,926	12,110	50,592	108,248	29,993	4,099	27,373	33,534
1990-91	32,725	19,143	11,825	42,412	110,048	25,390	3,906	23,936	36,235
1991 —									
January	2,250	1,320	464	1,854	5,381	1,509	195	2,076	2,494
February	3,221	1,784	1,163	3,452	9,913	2,319	283	2,995	3,734
March	2,945	1,521	1,044	3,609	10,367	2,120	462	2,230	3,040
April	3,125	1,723	880	3,909	8,587	2,040	228	2,089	2,677
May	3,045	1,766	1,094	4,234	11,041	2,675	409	2,624	3,741
June	1,972	1,524	902	4,426	8,599	2,327	365	2,491	2,705
July	2,519	1,848	1,003	3,576	9,619	2,916	325	2,176	3,899
August	2,583	1,655	1,304	r 4,233	10,820	r 2,248	316	2,385	2,867
September	2,573	1,446	1,017	r 3,464	9,713	r 2,720	394	2,089	3,277
October	2,823	1,614	1,115	r 3,428	10,389	r 2,480	257	2,598	3,467
November	2,852	1,679	861	r 4,615	10,695	r 2,784	266	2,452	2,942
December	2,015	1,373	679	r 2,784	7,593	r 2,272	265	2,499	2,641
1992 —									
January	2,267	1,457	464	r 2,324	5,506	r 2,207	339	2,805	2,460
February	2,616	1,717	1,241	r 4,354	8,030	r 2,416	258	3,384	r 2,766
March	2,838	1,712	1,005	3,573	8,151	3,150	239	2,894	3,031
1990-91: July to Mar.	24,582	14,129	8,950	29,843	81,821	18,347	2,905	16,733	27,113
1991-92: July to Mar.	23,086	14,500	8,690	32,352	80,516	23,193	2,659	23,283	27,350

(a) Includes abrasive and medicated. (b) Includes abrasive soap not in bars, cakes, moulded pieces or shapes. (c) For example powders. (d) Includes surface-active preparations for use in the processing or preparation of minerals, hides and skins, paper, dyed textiles, textile fibres, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products.

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 9.

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 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. In cases where data are derived from sources other than ABS collections no commodity code is shown and the source of the data is acknowledged in a footnote.

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. 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. 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

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

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10. 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 from any ABS office.

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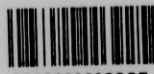
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