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MONTHLY RAILWAY STATISTICS : QUARTER AND YEAR
ENDED JUNE, 1939.

The following monthly statistics of Government Railways in Australia are made available by the Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson), in continuation of the series first published on 20th May, 1937. For full information about the methods used, the original statement should be referred to.

Tonnages of Goods and Livestock Carried: For the year ended June, 1939, the net total tonnage carried by the mainland State and Commonwealth Railways amounted to 31.6 million tons, representing a decrease of 7.9% on the tonnage carried during the previous year. Comparing the two periods the movements in particular commodities were decreases in the following:- Coal and Coke 5.5%; Other Minerals 13.1%; Wheat 16.6%; Other Grain and Flour 1.4%; Wool 3.0%; Livestock 4.0%; All Other 7.6%, while a slight increase was recorded in Fruit 1.2%.

A similar comparison for State tonnages shows an increase of 3.4% in Queensland, while decreases were recorded in New South Wales 7.1%, Victoria 17.7%, South Australia 8.1%, Western Australia 6.6% and Tasmania 1.5%.

The index of Total Tonnage Carried averaged 96 for the year ended June, 1939 and 104 for the previous year. The figures for the last three months in these periods of 1939 and 1938 respectively, were:- April 95 and 106; May 99 and 105; June 91 and 98.

Passenger Journeys: For the year under review daily average passenger journeys on the five mainland State railways numbered 1,047.7 thousand, representing a decrease of 0.05% on the figure for the year ended June, 1938.

Revenue: Gross revenue of the five mainland State Railways for the year amounted to £43.0m., and net revenue to £8.3m. The gross revenue was 1.4% lower than for the year ended June, 1938 and the net revenue was lower by 21.7%.

The Latest Figures: It will be obvious from the following tables and notes that monthly comparisons of goods tonnages are greatly affected by special circumstances, particularly crop conditions and the holding of produce in the country, and cannot safely be used alone to indicate general trends.

TABLE 1. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Based on latest figures - Quarter ended June, 1939 compared with the corresponding quarter of 1938.

I. Financial and Other Statistics of Five Mainland State Railways (From Table 2).

Particulars	April	May	June	Quarter
	%	%	%	%
Average haul per ton ..	+ 1.4	+ 0.6	+ 3.1	+ 1.6
Passenger Journeys, Daily Average	- 4.4	- 3.7	- 4.0	- 4.0
Gross Monthly Revenue ..	- 7.3	+ 2.4	+ 2.6	- 0.9
Net Monthly Revenue ..	-26.4	+ 9.5	(a)	- 8.0

(a) Figure not strictly comparable. In some States certain annual commitments such as contribution to pension funds, depreciation, etc. are included in the expenditure figures for the month of June and the resultant net revenue is generally shown as a loss.

/TABLE II.

TABLE 1. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS (CONTINUED).

Based on latest figures - Quarter ended June, 1939 compared with the corresponding quarter of 1938.

II. Daily Average Net Tonnes Carried
Mainland State and Commonwealth Railways (from Table 2).

Particulars	April	May	June	Quarter
	%	%	%	%
Total Tonnage Carried ..	-10.6	- 6.0	- 7.7	- 8.0
Coal and Coke ..	+ 0.7	+ 2.0	+ 2.5	+ 2.0
Other Minerals ..	- 5.6	+ 2.2	- 7.0	- 3.1
Wheat ..	-39.0	-14.8	-15.6	-23.3
Other Grain and Flour ..	-13.5	-14.0	- 7.2	-11.5
Wool ..	+ 6.7	+35.7	+29.4	+21.3
Livestock ..	+13.4	+ 8.4	+ 9.0	+10.3
Fruit ..	+ 5.2	- 9.9	-10.3	- 4.3
All Other ..	-14.5	-13.7	-18.2	-15.3

III. Individual State Daily Average Total Tonnes Carried
(from Table 3).

Particulars	April	May	June	Quarter
	%	%	%	%
New South Wales ..	- 6.3	- 1.1	+ 1.7	- 1.5
Victoria ..	-14.3	-22.5	-26.8	-21.1
Queensland ..	- 8.3	+ 4.8	+ 1.5	- 0.3
South Australia ..	-28.1	- 9.3	-25.1	-21.3
Western Australia ..	- 4.8	- 3.7	-11.7	- 6.3
Tasmania ..	+ 7.1	+ 2.1	+22.6	+10.1

I. The average haul per ton for the quarter ended June 1939 showed an increase of 1.6% compared with the corresponding quarter of 1938, while the daily average passenger journeys decreased by 4.0%.

Gross Revenue decreased in all States except New South Wales and Queensland and was 0.9% lower than for the quarter ended June 1938, and Net Revenue which was lower by 8.0% decreased in all States except Queensland.

II. The increase which appears in the Daily Average Net Tonnage of Coal and Coke during the quarter ended June 1939, as compared with the corresponding quarter of the previous year is due to increased quantities carried in New South Wales during May and June.

Quantities of Other Minerals carried were lower in New South Wales and Queensland during April, and in South Australia and Western Australia during June. South Australia tonnages during May, however, were considerably higher. Wheat tonnages dropped appreciably in Victoria and South Australia during April, May and June and in Western Australia during April. Livestock carried increased in New South Wales for the month of June and in Victoria for April, May and June. Tonnage of "All Other Goods" were lower in New South Wales and Victoria for each month of the quarter, in Queensland for April, and in Western Australia for April and June.

III. Decreases for the quarter ended June 1939 as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1938 were recorded in all States except Tasmania.

New South Wales decreased by 1.6% due mainly to the smaller tonnages of Coal and Coke and Other minerals carried during April and of "All Other Goods" during April, May and June.

In Victoria reduced tonnages of wheat and of "All Other Goods" for each of the three months were mainly responsible for the decrease of 21.1%.

Queensland tonnages of Other Minerals and of "All Other Goods" were lower for April while Wheat and "All Other Goods" were higher for May and June.

In South Australia decreased tonnages of wheat were recorded for each month of the quarter ended June, 1939, and "All Other Goods" were lower for April and June but higher for May.

The decline in Western Australia for the quarter was mainly caused by decreased tonnages of Coal and Coke, Wheat and "All Other Goods" for April, and Other Minerals and "All Other Goods" for June.

TABLE 2. MONTHLY STATISTICS - MAINLAND GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

Period	Daily Average Net Tonnage Carried - Mainland State and Commonwealth Railways										Five Mainland State Railways - *			
	Index of Total Tonnage 1928-29 = 100	Total Tonnage Carried	Coal and Coke	Other Minerals	Wheat	Other Grain and Flour	Wool	Live-stock	Fruit	All Other	Average haul per ton	Passenger Journeys Daily Average	Gross Monthly Revenue	Net Monthly Revenue
		tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	miles	'000	£'000	£'000
1928-29	100	107,511	23,482	17,420	11,764	4,405	1,301	6,349	1,585	41,205	114.1	1,013	3,947	812
1929-30	89	96,194	21,075	15,186	8,075	4,118	1,222	6,648	1,544	38,326	117.6	990	3,641	539
1930-31	77	82,487	18,209	8,478	15,422	4,111	1,185	5,478	1,538	28,066	129.1	851	3,092	513
1931-32	75	80,824	17,693	5,899	16,447	4,520	1,295	5,069	1,440	28,461	133.3	823	2,981	684
1932-33	78	83,467	19,143	7,155	15,190	4,482	1,342	5,173	1,548	29,434	133.1	858	3,017	777
1933-34	77	83,227	20,518	7,763	10,605	4,482	1,178	5,830	1,641	31,210	125.6	891	2,932	751
1934-35	87	92,948	23,960	9,423	11,692	4,957	1,239	6,188	1,708	33,781	124.0	969	3,171	845
1935-36	89	95,765	25,474	9,516	11,505	4,505	1,164	6,477	1,657	35,467	125.2	999	3,259	858
1936-37	93	100,421	27,528	9,699	11,024	4,321	1,224	6,931	1,626	38,068	125.9	1,028	3,407	886
1937-38	103	110,219	30,329	11,378	13,095	4,847	1,284	7,619	1,673	39,994	125.0	1,048	3,632	886
1938-39	94	101,141	28,570	9,857	10,887	4,765	1,241	7,288	1,685	36,848	127.0	1,048	3,580	694
1937-38 -														
April ..	106	114,419	29,460	10,509	15,124	5,723	729	7,282	2,305	43,287	130.9	1,077	3,781	1,075
May ..	105	113,279	32,589	11,559	13,505	6,146	543	7,313	1,962	39,662	132.1	1,091	3,717	807
June ..	98	105,544	33,215	11,392	11,859	4,977	310	6,465	1,471	35,855	123.0	1,064	3,322	- 261
1938-39 -														
July ..	97	104,490	33,826	10,155	10,582	4,544	551	6,174	1,406	37,252	122.9	1,042	3,433	657
August ..	96	103,360	27,247	10,101	8,296	4,581	1,594	6,866	1,447	43,228	120.7	1,050	3,662	806
September ..	85	91,789	12,221	10,943	6,771	4,981	3,185	7,409	1,526	44,753	135.5	1,071	3,609	752
October ..	75	81,025	11,121	6,637	4,708	4,297	3,369	8,858	1,682	40,353	134.9	1,090	3,488	638
November ..	107	114,581	36,033	10,899	7,358	4,238	2,251	9,153	1,450	42,699	116.1	1,039	3,676	703
December ..	97	104,274	29,066	8,593	22,405	4,519	670	6,390	1,283	31,348	132.9	1,041	3,975	1,105
January ..	83	89,053	25,754	8,076	15,423	4,682	362	6,365	1,218	27,173	122.2	1,044	3,451	759
February ..	96	105,873	30,000	10,554	11,291	5,611	385	5,910	1,791	34,957	118.5	1,080	3,205	506
March ..	105	112,077	30,000	10,111	12,051	4,939	561	7,105	2,943	39,636	130.3	1,012	3,740	910
April ..	95	102,235	28,659	9,227	9,227	4,948	778	8,259	2,425	37,019	132.7	1,030	3,505	791
May ..	99	106,525	33,254	11,818	11,506	5,283	737	7,924	1,768	34,235	132.9	1,051	3,806	884
June ..	91	97,394	34,053	10,597	10,014	4,220	401	7,047	1,320	29,342	126.8	1,024	3,410	- 184

Particulars of Wheat, Other Grain and Flour, and Fruit carried on Commonwealth Railways not available separately, and therefore included in "all Other". * Including particulars of South Brisbane - Border Section of Uniform Gauge Line, previously not available.

TABLE 3. MONTHLY STATISTICS - STATE GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

Total Tonnage Carried and Passenger Journeys.

Daily Average Basis.

Period	New South Wales		Victoria		Queensland		South Australia		Western Australia		Tasmania	
	Goods tons	Passenger Journeys '000	Goods tons	Passenger Journeys '000	Goods tons	Passenger Journeys(a) '000	Goods tons	Passenger Journeys '000	Goods tons	Passenger Journeys '000	Goods tons	Passenger Journeys '000
1928-29 ..	46,828	414	26,410	441	14,704	67.8	8,909	48.8	11,839	40.8	2,131	6.1
1929-30 ..	39,071	405	24,160	430	14,560	67.0	8,582	48.8	11,351	38.6	2,032	6.1
1930-31 ..	34,544	347	19,612	369	12,424	60.4	6,993	42.3	10,140	32.1	1,499	5.1
1931-32 ..	32,729	351	19,827	344	12,374	56.7	7,789	42.6	9,127	28.4	1,439	4.6
1932-33 ..	35,845	364	20,078	357	11,851	60.9	7,720	44.0	9,132	32.1	1,642	4.6
1933-34 ..	36,541	390	18,837	360	13,551	62.7	6,928	44.7	8,528	33.2	1,803	4.9
1934-35 ..	42,005	439	19,387	383	15,739	66.6	7,570	45.7	9,366	35.3	2,188	5.8
1935-36 ..	44,356	469	20,590	312	14,947	69.1	7,954	47.8	9,252	34.0	2,467	6.3
1936-37 ..	47,218	487	21,907	387	15,997	69.8	7,718	48.7	8,998	34.8	2,649	6.4
1937-38 ..	52,991	519	23,339	378	16,272	70.4	9,316	48.3	9,845	32.9	2,754	6.2
1938-39 ..	49,089	512	19,153	389	16,776	67.5	8,529	48.0	9,164	31.3	2,705	6.3
1937-38 -												
April ..	52,199	549	25,919	385	12,386	67.2	13,026	45.8	12,404	29.1	2,937	6.8
May ..	56,461	542	25,561	407	12,509	68.3	10,357	43.7	9,973	29.2	2,907	7.6
June ..	53,118	523	21,256	382	13,605	65.1	9,860	56.9	8,966	39.1	2,596	5.7
1938-39 -												
July ..	53,220	504	19,310	380	18,032	90.0	8,408	41.7	7,096	27.2	2,616	5.5
August ..	45,422	510	18,425	395	25,764	74.4	8,136	41.1	7,115	29.4	2,539	5.7
September ..	35,885	516	17,959	400	24,021	60.4	8,983	56.2	6,742	38.7	2,823	7.3
October ..	27,683	551	19,072	399	21,445	62.0	7,553	48.3	7,019	31.0	2,233	6.3
November ..	57,459	517	19,260	393	23,756	60.8	7,760	39.9	8,181	28.0	2,101	5.4
December ..	55,393	514	18,273	377	14,840	61.5	7,620	58.2	9,504	30.6	2,378	7.1
January ..	42,493	526	17,706	375	10,572	67.1	9,087	48.6	10,873	27.6	2,200	6.3
February ..	55,756	528	19,557	389	12,132	84.3	8,182	45.2	11,908	34.1	3,140	6.5
March ..	56,819	474	22,873	389	11,747	59.7	10,456	51.3	12,537	38.6	3,189	5.3
April ..	48,921	505	22,204	387	11,363	63.1	9,361	48.2	11,804	27.3	3,145	7.8
May ..	55,852	503	19,801	410	13,111	66.9	9,396	43.6	9,604	27.1	2,969	5.5
June ..	54,008	494	15,561	379	13,813	61.2	7,390	54.0	7,917	36.0	3,182	6.9

(a) Including particulars of South Brisbane-Border Section of Uniform Gauge Line, previously not available.

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