



July 1989  
**Production of Building  
Materials and Fittings  
Australia**

Catalogue No. 8361.0

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**PRODUCTION OF BUILDING  
MATERIALS AND FITTINGS, AUSTRALIA  
JULY 1989**

**IAN CASTLES**  
Australian Statistician

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## CONTENTS

<i>Table</i>	<i>Page</i>
1. Bricks	1
2. Terracotta and concrete roofing tiles	1
3. Portland cement, concrete blocks and refractory construction materials	2
4. Ready mixed concrete	2
5. Particle boards and similar boards and sheets	3
6. Timber, plumbing fixtures and ceramic tiles	3
7. Cooking stoves, ovens and ranges	4
8. Water heaters	4
9. Domestic space heaters and solar collectors	5
. . . Explanatory Notes	6

### NOTE

As indicated in paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes, the July statistics are based on a revised commodity classification and this has affected the comparability of the data for some items.

**TABLE 1. BRICKS**  
 (million)

Period	Clay							For other purposes (incl. pavers) (662 48) Concrete(c) (663 44)	
	For structural purposes								
	NSW and ACT	Vic.	Qld	Other States (662 46,47)	Australia			Concrete(c) (663 44)	
					Original	Seasonally adjusted(a)	Trend(b)		
1986-87	705	447	214	482	1,847	..	..	154.5	50.0
1987-88	713	427	262	464	1,867	..	..	165.1	66.5
1988-89	787	440	351	564	2,142	..	..	183.5	159.3
<b>1988—</b>									
May	72.8	44.1	26.6	45.6	189	176	164	10.8	6.2
June	66.2	37.4	26.4	42.8	173	163	167	12.4	5.9
July	65.1	37.5	24.5	45.4	172	166	168	10.7	7.8
August	73.7	42.8	30.3	49.3	196	178	170	15.3	8.9
September	66.7	37.3	28.4	45.2	178	166	174	15.0	14.4
October	64.6	36.8	25.7	47.9	175	173	180	14.0	12.9
November	72.4	42.3	33.2	46.2	194	185	186	18.0	16.4
December	59.0	30.3	28.1	43.6	161	185	191	16.1	11.9
<b>1989—</b>									
January	55.2	25.0	28.4	44.8	153	228	192	17.0	9.5
February	63.5	35.7	29.5	43.9	173	183	190	17.0	14.7
March	63.6	33.1	30.6	49.7	177	163	185	13.9	17.9
April	63.7	36.4	28.2	49.7	178	182	180	12.3	13.7
May	75.3	45.0	32.9	51.8	205	185	176	15.2	17.2
June	64.6	37.5	31.4	46.5	180	r169	174	18.9	14.1
July	70.8	36.0	26.9	49.4	183	181	174	16.6	16.4

(a) See paragraph 6 of Explanatory Notes. (b) See paragraphs 7 to 9, Explanatory Notes. (c) Excludes non-standard size bricks prior to July 1989.

**TABLE 2. TERRACOTTA AND CONCRETE ROOFING TILES**  
 ('000 square metres)

Period	Flat surface measure (a)					
	NSW and ACT	Vic.	WA (662 51, 663 46)	Other States	Australia	
					Terracotta (662 51)	Concrete (663 46)
1986-87	5,685	5,263	2,969	3,756	3,285	14,388
1987-88	6,394	5,234	3,369	4,745	3,399	16,343
1988-89	7,475	5,958	4,541	6,827	3,715	21,085
<b>1988—</b>						
May	723	548	318	477	343	1,722
June	639	480	217	485	286	1,535
July	610	472	228	481	303	1,489
August	720	517	364	518	342	1,777
September	632	519	369	612	294	1,838
October	603	525	390	604	344	1,779
November	762	594	386	702	339	2,106
December	579	404	350	511	291	1,552
<b>1989—</b>						
January	332	250	321	300	168	1,034
February	658	511	390	652	272	1,940
March	652	462	416	629	321	1,839
April	633	509	399	597	326	1,811
May	646	647	475	621	367	2,022
June	647	547	451	601	349	1,897
July	723	527	454	562	397	1,869

(a) Refers to the theoretical effective coverage of the tiles if laid in an interlocking manner on a flat surface. For each type of tile, coverage is calculated using standard side lap and minimum head lap, without any provision for wastage.

TABLE 3. PORTLAND CEMENT, CONCRETE BLOCKS AND REFRACTORY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

Period	Portland Cement and blended portland cement			Portland cement clinker (661.21)	Concrete blocks(c) (663.45)	Refractory bricks and other refractory construction materials (662.30)
	Original (661.22)	Seasonally adjusted(a)	Trend(b)			
	'000 tonnes				million	'000 tonnes
1986-87	5,920	..	..		89.1	
1987-88	6,158	..	..		97.5	
1988-89	6,901	..	..		122.5	
1988—					9.4	
May	538	530	539		9.0	
June	587	585	550		10.0	
July	556	537	559		12.3	
August	604	581	564		10.5	
September	610	574	567		10.9	
October	584	547	572	Not available prior to July 1989	11.6	Not available prior to July 1989
November	613	578	579		8.6	
December	594	581	585			
1989—					6.8	
January	415	603	589		10.5	
February	586	600	587		10.5	
March	621	608	585		9.4	
April	529	537	585		11.2	
May	595	585	586		10.1	
June	595	592	590	490	8.7	n.p.
July	637	618	596			

(a) See paragraph 6, Explanatory Notes. (b) See paragraphs 7 to 9 Explanatory Notes. (c) Expressed in terms of 400mm x 200mm x 200mm blocks.

TABLE 4. READY MIXED CONCRETE(a)  
('000 cu. m)

Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA (596.01)	WA	Tas.	ACT	NT	Australia
1986-87	4,492	3,225	3,025	954	1,261	275	389	189	13,810
1987-88	4,730	3,608	3,633	1,004	1,339	333	323	122	15,093
1988-89	5,112	4,333	4,086	1,123	1,636	364	282	94	17,030
1988—									
May	434	334	363	83.4	119.0	30.0	22.0	8.2	1,393
June	444	318	337	83.0	123.4	30.0	25.3	10.2	1,370
July	443	318	326	86.8	123.1	26.5	21.4	8.9	1,354
August	466	367	370	95.8	142.7	32.7	25.8	10.1	1,509
September	485	372	390	95.8	135.0	33.8	28.0	8.5	1,547
October	480	379	381	94.8	147.7	28.3	23.6	10.7	1,545
November	479	345	409	109.9	153.4	33.7	30.3	9.6	1,569
December	383	348	281	88.5	123.8	28.6	18.0	5.6	1,276
1989—									
January	298	238	292	61.0	100.8	22.9	13.9	6.4	1,033
February	460	403	291	92.8	130.0	31.5	27.9	7.1	1,443
March	435	370	303	99.6	149.5	31.9	21.8	4.9	1,415
April	338	395	295	98.1	140.5	32.0	20.5	5.6	1,324
May	448	434	340	112.0	152.3	33.1	26.4	8.7	1,555
June	398	365	408	88.4	137.1	28.5	24.5	7.9	1,458
July	504	360	389	89.5	112.4	26.8	20.9	7.1	1,509

(a) Reported production of ready mixed concrete for sale as such. Excludes production used, or for use, in the same enterprise.

TABLE 5. PARTICLE BOARDS AND SIMILAR BOARDS AND SHEETS

Period	Particle board and similar boards of wood or other ligneous materials(a)		Veneer sheets and sheets for plywood		Rigid plastic sheeting, plates, boards and panels		Plaster boards, sheets, panels, tiles and similar articles, not ornamented (663.41)
	Not laminated(b) (634.27)	Decorative melamine or D.A.P. laminates(c) (634.25)	Peeled (634.13)	Sliced (634.14)	Laminated (582.94)	Reinforced (582.93)	
	—'000 cu.m—				—'000 sq.m—		
1986-87							
1987-88							
1988-89							
1988—							
April							
May							
June							
July							
August							
September							
October							
November							
December							
1989—							
January							
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
July	68.3	68.2	n.p.	58.4	n.p.	224	n.p.

(a) Boards, whether or not agglomerated with resins or other organic binding substances. Excludes fibreboard and fibre paperboard. (b) Includes board for subsequent conversions to other purposes. (c) Excludes decorative laminated sheets simply bonded by means of an adhesive to a substrate.

TABLE 6. TIMBER, PLUMBING FIXTURES AND CERAMIC TILES

Period	Sawn Australian grown timber(a)	Plumbing fixtures			Glazed ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles and glazed ceramic mosaic cubes (662.45)
		Sinks (inc. combination sinks)	Ceramic products	Pans (closet) (812.23)	
	'000 cu.m	Pressed steel standard size-stainless(b) (697.56)	Wash basins wall and pedestal (812.22)	—number—	'000 sq.m
1986-87	2,928	240,190	238,489	565,960	
1987-88	3,183	276,243	n.p.	n.p.	
1988-89	n.y.a.	300,137	n.p.	n.p.	
1988—					
May		33,316	n.p.	n.p.	
June		19,837	n.p.	n.p.	
July	857	26,129	n.p.	n.p.	
August		28,826	n.p.	n.p.	
September	823	27,930	n.p.	n.p.	
October		27,098	n.p.	n.p.	
November		30,281	n.p.	n.p.	
December	807	22,655	n.p.	n.p.	Not available prior to July 1989
1989—					
January		9,457	n.p.	n.p.	
February		25,617	n.p.	n.p.	
March	r723	25,314	n.p.	n.p.	
April		26,132	n.p.	n.p.	
May		27,426	n.p.	n.p.	
June	841	23,272	n.p.	n.p.	
July		25,707	n.p.	n.p.	359

(a) Source: Australian Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Quarterly figures are expressed in terms of green off sawn volumes (b) Excludes enamelled or galvanized sinks.

TABLE 7. COOKING STOVES, OVENS AND RANGES  
(number)

Period	Domestic types—						Total
	Electric			Gas			
	Ranges(a) fixed and other (775.95)	Wall ovens (775.96)	Cooking tops (775.97)	Standard town (697.36)	LP and TLP (697.37)	Natural (697.38)	
1986-87	106,825	76,196	58,755				
1987-88	115,807	91,931	67,820				
1988-89	114,319	118,458	n.p.				
1988—							
May	11,021	10,119	6,570				
June	9,903	8,975	6,911				
July	9,577	10,029	7,059				
August	12,082	10,265	8,534				
September	11,862	9,944	7,583				
October	11,491	8,892	6,674				
November	12,096	11,721	6,388		Not available prior to July 1989		
December	6,237	11,304	6,456				
1989—							
January	4,506	4,741	3,037				
February	9,032	11,063	7,530				
March	8,600	10,702	7,134				
April	8,762	9,120	7,792				
May	10,116	8,934	7,571				
June	9,958	11,743	n.p.				
July	10,664	10,333	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	5,564	8,993

(a) Having at least one hotplate and one oven separately heated. Total rating not exceeding 15kW.

TABLE 8. WATER HEATERS (a)  
(number)

Period	Electric					Solar (b) (741.77)
	Instantaneous (775.75)	Storage and immersion		Gas		
		Full mains pressure (775.93)	Other (775.94)	Instantaneous (741.81)	Other (741.76)	
1986-87		236,460				29,283
1987-88		252,231				31,421
1988-89		269,503				35,203
1988—						
May		25,453				2,846
June		27,528				2,605
July		n.p.				3,069
August		n.p.				3,392
September		n.p.				2,873
October	Not available prior to July 1989	n.p.			Not available prior to July 1989	3,224
November		n.p.				3,294
December		n.p.				2,888
1989—						
January		n.p.				1,387
February		20,895				2,640
March		21,114				2,859
April		20,503				2,975
May		24,816				3,793
June		24,872				2,809
July	1,350	25,212	1,101	n.p.	n.p.	2,624

(a) Both domestic and non-domestic. (b) Includes systems which also have a conventional backup energy source.

TABLE 9. DOMESTIC SPACE HEATERS AND SOLAR COLLECTORS

Period	Non-electric domestic space heaters			Solar collectors(b) (775.52) sq.m
	Solid fuel space heaters (697.61)	Warm air furnaces(a) (697.63)	Gas fires and gas space heaters (697.62)	
		—number—		
1986-87		27,261	59,226	167,499
1987-88		28,915	70,381	160,541
1988-89		26,932	64,121	154,136
1988—				
May		3,253	8,799	13,231
June		3,437	7,853	10,584
July		2,609	6,118	13,581
August		2,203	6,100	16,089
September		1,965	3,977	12,661
October	Not	1,914	4,154	15,967
November	available	1,737	4,419	14,856
December	prior to July 1989	1,190	3,628	11,365
1989—				
January		767	1,663	7,459
February		2,390	4,110	11,555
March		2,368	5,995	15,546
April		2,415	7,920	10,793
May		3,754	8,526	13,475
June		3,620	7,511	10,789
July	n.p.	3,923	5,609	9,092

(a) Includes non-domestic gas fired warm air furnaces prior to July 1989. (b) For Household or industrial water heating purposes (e.g. hot water systems, swimming pool heating). Production figures relate to effective area of aperture.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

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

2. Data contained in these publications are mostly based on monthly or quarterly collections conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Where other authority is the source this is indicated in a footnote.

## Classification

3. Most items are identified by the commodity codes used in the Australian Manufacturing Production Commodity Classification (AMPCC), which was developed by the ABS to facilitate greater comparability of manufacturing production commodity statistics with import and export commodity statistics. AMPCC items were introduced into the monthly production collections (catalogues 8301.0, 8357.0 to 8363.0, 8367.0 and 8368.0) from July 1989. The last available data relating to superseded commodity items are published in the June 1989 issue. 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

4. 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.

5. 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

6. 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 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. The seasonally adjusted figures have been revised following annual reanalysis.

7. 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.

8. 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.

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:

*Production Statistics, Australia, Preliminary* (8301.0)—issued monthly

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

*Production of Clothing and Footwear, Australia* (8358.0)—issued monthly

*Production of Food, Drink and Tobacco, Australia* (8359.0)—issued monthly

*Production of Textiles, Bedding and Floor Coverings, Australia* (8360.0)—issued monthly

*Production of Chemicals and By-products, Australia* (8362.0)—issued monthly

*Production of Motor Vehicles, Motor Bodies and Trailed Vehicles, Australia* (8363.0)—issued quarterly

*Production of Metal Products, Australia* (8367.0)—issued monthly

*Production of Energy, Australia* (8368.0)—issued monthly

*Manufacturing Commodities: Selected Principal Articles Produced, Australia 1986-87, Preliminary* (8356.0)

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

11. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, 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.

## Symbols and other usages

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n.y.a. not yet available

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