



### PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA, MARCH 1986, PRELIMINARY

- PHONE INQUIRIES** for more information about these statistics—contact Rod Martin on Canberra (062) 52 5558 or any of our State offices.  
other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.
- MAIL INQUIRIES** write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.
- ON VIATEL** selected statistics from this publication are available on VIATEL \*656#.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### Introduction

Preliminary estimates for March 1986 for certain major indicators of production are shown below. Production statistics for March for an extensive range of commodities will be published later in the series of eight *Production Bulletins* (8357.0 to 8364.0).

##### Scope

2. Production statistics are not collected from single establishment manufacturing enterprises with fewer than four persons employed from establishments predominantly engaged in non-manufacturing activities but which may carry out in a minor way some manufacturing. However, in general the contribution of these small producers to statistical aggregates is only marginal and data contained in this publication provide reliable information for the evaluation of trends in commodity production.

##### Comparability with other estimates

3. The ABS publishes quarterly estimates of constant price manufacturing production in the publication *Quarterly Indexes of Manufacturing Production, Australia* (5219.0). These estimates are shown as index numbers and are derived mainly from estimates of manufacturers' sales and stocks.

4. The production statistics published in the series of eight *Production Bulletins* (8357.0 to 8364.0) referred to in paragraph 1 account, in total, for less than half of the output of the manufacturing sector, so differences may occur between the general tendency (if there is one) in these items and changes in the quarterly indexes of manufacturing production. The comment applies with still greater force to the preliminary estimates for the major indicators of production shown below.

##### Seasonal adjustment

5. Seasonally adjusted statistics are shown for all but four of the data items contained in this publication. In the seasonal adjustment, account has been taken not only of

normal seasonal factors, but also of 'trading 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 seasonally adjusted 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.

6. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting production statistics are available on request.

##### Related publications

7. 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.

##### Statistics on VIATEL

8. Selected economic, social and demographic statistics are available on VIATEL \*656#.

##### Symbols and other usages

r figure or series revised since previous issue  
n.a. not available

IAN CASTLES  
Australian Statistician

## PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA, MARCH 1986, PRELIMINARY

No. Item	Series	Unit	Percentage change between—									
			1985			1986			3 mths ended			
			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Feb. 86 and Mar. 86	Mar. 85 and Mar. 86	Dec. 85 and Mar. 86	Mar. 85 and Mar. 86
1. Pig iron	Org. ..	'000 tonnes	448	379	459	514	454	506	+11.5	+10.2	-2.6	+14.6
	S. adj. ..	..	427	407	435	487	489	478	-2.2	+9.9	-6.0	+14.6
2. Raw steel(a)	Org. ..	..	511	451	537	592	504	545	+8.1	+1.5	-5.0	+9.5
	S. adj. ..	..	507	500	521	588	559	526	-5.9	+1.0	-5.4	+9.5
3. Blooms and slabs	Org. ..	..	332	290	342	388	316	353	+11.7	+3.2	-8.7	+9.6
	S. adj. ..	..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
4. Tinplate	Org. ..	..	31.4	28.1	28.7	28.4	24.9	27.5	+10.6	-4.1	-5.7	-8.4
	S. adj. ..	..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
5. Gas(b)	Org. ..	mil. megajoules	31,802	32,702	36,119	33,473	36,321	40,007	+10.1	+10.8	-6.7	+9.1
	S. adj. ..	..	39,309	38,439	37,907	41,559	42,622	42,122	-1.2	+11.1	-1.3	+9.2
6. Electricity	Org. ..	mil. kWh	9,389	8,806	9,860	9,546	9,347	10,265	+9.8	+4.1	-0.6	+5.0
	S. adj. ..	..	10,258	9,804	10,104	10,693	10,468	10,758	+2.8	+6.5	+3.2	+5.6
7. Bricks, clay	Org. ..	million	118	158	171	118	160	166	+3.8	-2.9	-11.9	-0.7
	S. adj. ..	..	163	166	164	165	168	169	+0.6	+3.0	+1.2	+1.8
8. Cement, Portland	Org. ..	'000 tonnes	330	444	477	r351	498	502	+0.8	+5.2	-12.8	+8.0
	S. adj. ..	..	493	461	457	r522	517	503	-2.7	+10.1	+3.0	+9.3
9. Particle board	Org. ..	'000 cu m	22.9	60.2	64.1	r32.3	68.7	68.2	+0.7	+6.4	-11.3	+14.9
	S. adj. ..	..	55.7	57.4	60.1	r80.5	65.6	62.6	-4.6	+4.2	+6.9	+20.5
10. Plastics and synthetic resins(c)	Org. ..	'000 tonnes	46.1	53.2	55.6	52.7	50.8	54.3	+6.8	-2.3	-7.3	+1.9
	S. adj. ..	..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
11. Textile floor coverings	Org. ..	'000 sq m	969	3,602	3,697	r1,636	3,296	3,185	-3.4	-13.8	-30.1	-1.8
	S. adj. ..	..	2,828	3,601	3,534	r4,834	3,292	3,325	+1.0	-5.9	+3.8	+14.9
12. Sulphuric acid	Org. ..	'000 tonnes	171	156	166	178	157	130	-17.2	-21.7	-9.7	-5.7
	S. adj. ..	..	151	155	145	157	155	115	-25.8	-20.7	-17.9	-5.3
13. Nitric acid	Org. ..	..	21.8	18.4	18.7	19.0	16.2	15.9	-1.9	-15.0	-4.5	-13.2
	S. adj. ..	..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
14. Refrigerators, domestic	Org. ..	'000	12.1	23.4	26.9	24.3	26.7	21.6	-19.2	-19.7	-26.9	+16.5
	S. adj. ..	..	20.4	23.3	26.7	40.8	26.7	23.0	-13.8	-14.1	-7.3	+28.4
15. Clothes washing machines, domestic	Org. ..	..	16.1	24.2	25.5	11.1	22.2	22.7	+2.3	-11.1	-17.0	-15.1
	S. adj. ..	..	26.3	23.9	23.6	18.5	21.9	24.0	+9.8	+1.8	-6.2	-12.8
16. Television set(s)d	Org. ..	..	7.2	27.1	28.6	10.9	20.6	20.4	-0.9	-28.8	-16.5	-17.6
	S. adj. ..	..	18.8	26.2	25.9	28.0	19.9	20.7	+4.1	-20.1	+12.1	-3.4
Electric motors—												
17. Under 720 W	Org. ..	..	88	193	195	r91	152	124	-18.4	-36.4	-35.7	-22.9
	S. adj. ..	..	195	201	190	r203	158	133	-15.8	-30.0	-2.0	-15.7
18. 720 W and over	Org. ..	..	11.9	30.3	27.7	16.4	25.2	31.3	+2.2	+13.0	-26.1	+4.3
	S. adj. ..	..	30.4	30.2	28.2	40.9	25.1	36.0	+43.4	+27.7	+11.0	+14.9
19. Lawn mowers, petrol-rotary type	Org. ..	..	17.1	11.5	12.4	19.8	21.7	17.6	-19.1	+41.5	-48.9	+43.9
	S. adj. ..	..	20.0	11.8	17.2	23.0	22.1	24.5	+10.8	+42.2	-12.2	+42.2
Motor vehicles												
20. Cars and station wagons	Org. ..	..	10.6	29.0	33.0	11.7	27.5	28.7	+4.0	-13.1	-29.2	-6.5
	S. adj. ..	..	31.1	30.7	30.6	34.4	29.3	28.6	-2.3	-6.6	+1.4	-0.2
21. Vehicles for goods and material(s)e	Org. ..	..	1.20	2.50	2.66	8.7	2.41	2.00	-17.0	-25.0	-16.5	-17.1
	S. adj. ..	..	2.87	2.50	2.43	2.07	2.40	1.99	-17.0	-18.1	+1.0	-17.1
Yarn(f)—												
22. Cotton	Org. ..	tonne	411	1,736	1,983	590	1,813	1,748	-3.6	-11.9	-17.8	+0.5
	S. adj. ..	..	1,584	1,720	1,728	2,180	1,796	1,732	-3.6	+0.2	+13.4	+13.4
23. Wool	Org. ..	..	889	2,075	2,047	1,081	2,061	1,976	-4.1	-3.5	-18.1	+2.1
	S. adj. ..	..	1,968	2,016	1,932	2,479	2,005	2,057	+2.6	+6.5	+6.6	+10.6
24. Cotton fabric(f)—												
24. Woven (incl. towelling)	Org. ..	'000 sq m	685	2,766	3,850	1,291	3,418	3,286	-3.9	-14.6	-13.3	+9.5
	S. adj. ..	..	2,422	3,297	3,096	4,215	4,057	3,041	-25.0	-1.8	+20.0	+28.3
25. Wool (incl. blanketing)	Org. ..	..	555	976	923	r566	1,016	999	-1.7	+8.2	+11.5	+5.2
	S. adj. ..	..	821	880	868	r856	916	1,061	+15.8	+22.2	+35.7	+10.3
26. Man-made fibre	Org. ..	..	3,210	13,202	14,257	r4,532	13,857	14,638	+5.6	+2.7	-23.3	+7.7
	S. adj. ..	..	8,192	13,843	12,979	r11,295	14,547	14,488	-0.4	+11.6	-5.7	+15.2
Confectionery												
27. Chocolate base	Org. ..	tonne	2,691	5,898	6,526	r3,304	7,728	7,068	-8.5	+8.3	+9.9	+17.7
	S. adj. ..	..	6,510	5,840	5,596	r7,703	7,650	6,931	-9.4	+23.9	+19.5	+24.2
28. Other	Org. ..	..	2,578	5,400	5,806	2,619	5,933	5,632	-5.1	-3.0	-16.3	+2.9
	S. adj. ..	..	4,781	5,224	5,132	4,801	5,708	5,419	-5.1	+5.6	+1.4	+5.2
29. Beer(g)	Org. ..	mil litres	166	151	146	161	155	142	-8.7	-3.0	-17.2	-1.2
	S. adj. ..	..	161	154	155	158	158	152	-3.4	-1.9	-1.4	-0.5
30. Tobacco and cigarettes(h)	Org. ..	tonne	1,198	2,349	2,486	1,101	2,409	2,223	-7.7	-10.6	-16.0	-5.0
	S. adj. ..	..	2,265	2,268	2,213	2,042	2,326	2,158	-7.2	-2.5	-3.3	-3.3

(a) Includes continuous cast billets. (b) Available for issue through mains. Includes natural gas. (c) For moulding, extrusion, laminating and calendaring only. (d) Excludes combination with radio, etc. (e) Includes utilities, panel vans and prime movers for semi-trailers. (f) Includes mixture predominantly of the fibre named. (g) Includes ale and stout. Excludes beverages with alcohol content of less than 1.15%. (h) Source: Australian Customs Service.