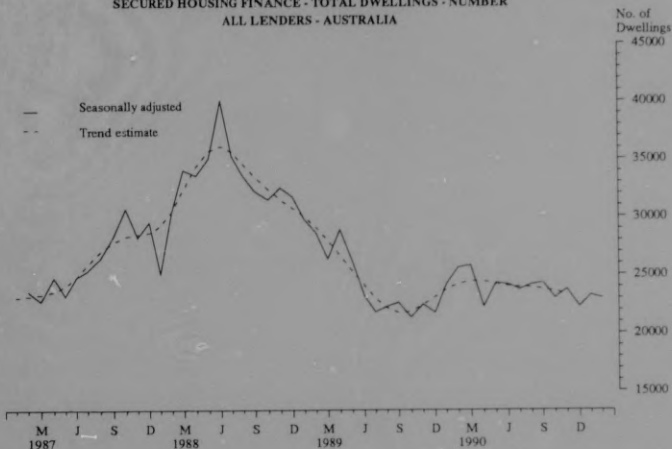


HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION, AUSTRALIA FEBRUARY 1991

MAIN FEATURES

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE - TOTAL DWELLINGS - NUMBER ALL LENDERS - AUSTRALIA



Secured housing finance commitments (excluding alterations and additions) totalled \$1,671.7 million in February 1991, an increase of \$188.5 million (12.7%) over January 1991 but a decrease of \$114.9 million (6.4%) over February 1990. It should be noted that both February 1991 and February 1990 were four week reporting periods for some banks whereas January 1991 was a five week reporting period.

After seasonal adjustment, which takes account of the varying reporting periods of banks, there was an increase of \$42.0 million (2.6%) in the value of commitments over January 1991. The February increase was not general across the various lending institutions. While banks increased their commitments by \$40.6 million (3.6%) and 'other lenders' by

\$11.3 million (5.7%), permanent building societies were down by \$10.0 million (3.8%).

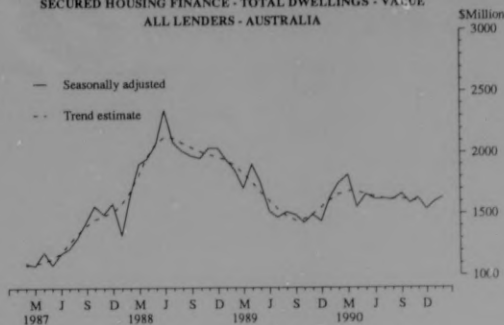
Although the value of commitments was up compared with January 1991, the number of dwellings for which finance was committed fell, in seasonally adjusted terms, by 234 dwelling units (1.0%). As the above graph shows, the trend estimate for the number of dwelling units continued to decline in November 1990; this was the eighth successive monthly decrease.

Due to the highly irregular nature of the series, it is not possible to calculate, with reasonable confidence, the trend estimate for the last three months, and therefore these estimates are not provided.

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication contact Derek Pike on Canberra (06) 252 7129 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.

**SECURED HOUSING FINANCE - TOTAL DWELLINGS - VALUE
ALL LENDERS - AUSTRALIA**



SUMMARY TABLES

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE: COMMITMENTS BY TYPE OF LENDER, AUSTRALIA(a)

Type of lender	February 1991 No. of dwellings		Percentage change from January 1991		Percentage change from February 1990	
	Orig.	Seas. adj.	Orig.	Seas. adj.	Orig.	Seas. adj.
All Banks (b)	17,576	16,874	5.7	-1.0	-19.2	-13.3
Permanent Building Societies(b)	3,258	3,296	19.3	-1.4	44.4	45.2
Other Lenders	2,811	2,812	4.7	-0.8	-27.1	-27.5
Total	23,645	22,982	7.3	-1.8	-10.3	-10.3
Type of lender	February 1991 Value of commitments \$ million		Percentage change from January 1991		Percentage change from February 1990	
	Orig.	Seas. adj.	Orig.	Seas. adj.	Orig.	Seas. adj.
All Banks (b)	1,208.3	1,173.5	10.4	3.6	-9.3	-9.4
Permanent Building Societies(b)	254.8	250.8	22.2	-3.8	35.7	36.8
Other Lenders	208.1	209.4	15.6	5.7	-21.7	-21.9
Total	1,671.2	1,633.7	12.7	2.6	-6.4	-6.5

(a) Excludes alterations and additions to dwellings. (b) Since February 1990, one Building Society has become a Bank.

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE: COMMITMENTS BY PURPOSE, AUSTRALIA(a)

Purpose of Commitment	February 1991 No. of dwellings		Percentage change from January 1991		Percentage change from February 1990	
	Orig.	Seas. adj.	Orig.	Seas. adj.	Orig.	Seas. adj.
Established Dwellings	17,459	16,850	7.5	-0.8	-8.4	-8.5
Construction of Dwellings	4,826	4,701	3.6	-5.7	-19.1	-19.1
Purchase of Newly Erected Dwellings	1,360	1,431	19.1	14.7	0.9	2.2
Total	23,645	22,982	7.3	-1.8	-10.3	-10.3
Purpose of Commitment	February 1991 Value of commitments \$ million		Percentage change from January 1991		Percentage change from February 1990	
	Orig.	Seas. adj.	Orig.	Seas. adj.	Orig.	Seas. adj.
Established Dwellings	1,268.2	1,227.9	12.6	2.3	-6.4	-6.7
Construction of Dwellings	292.2	290.7	8.9	0.3	-11.5	-11.5
Purchase of Newly Erected Dwellings	110.8	115.1	26.1	14.0	10.0	11.8
Total	1,671.2	1,633.7	12.7	2.6	-6.4	-6.5

(a) Excludes alterations and additions to dwellings.

NOTES

The statistics of housing finance are compiled from returns collected from significant lenders and relate to secured housing finance commitments for the construction or purchase of dwellings for owner occupied housing.

Explanatory Notes are available at the back of this publication.

J. L. CARROLL
Acting Australian Statistician

TABLE 1 — SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS — FEBRUARY 1991

Purpose Of Commitment	Type of Lender							
	All banks		Permanent building societies		Other lenders		Total	
	Dwelling units	\$ million	Dwelling units	\$ million	Dwelling units	\$ million	Dwelling units	\$ million
AUSTRALIA								
Construction of dwellings —								
Houses —								
By first mortgage	4,017	224.4	385	29.1	342	24.5	4,744	277.9
By other security	..	6.2	..	—	..	—	..	6.2
Other dwellings —								
By first mortgage	82	5.6	—	—	—	—	82	5.6
By other security	..	2.4	..	—	..	—	..	2.4
Purchase of newly erected dwellings —								
Houses —								
By first mortgage	609	41.1	143	13.1	286	25.4	1,038	79.6
By other security	..	5.8	..	—	..	0.1	..	6.0
Other dwellings —								
By first mortgage	231	16.0	56	4.3	35	3.3	322	23.6
By other security	..	1.6	..	—	..	—	..	1.6
Purchase of established dwellings —								
Houses —								
By first mortgage	11,789	823.2	2,367	182.9	1,995	142.4	16,151	1,148.5
By other security	..	14.4	..	0.9	..	—	..	15.3
Other dwellings —								
By first mortgage	848	60.7	307	24.2	153	12.4	1,308	97.4
By other security	..	6.7	..	0.2	..	—	..	7.0
Alterations and additions to dwellings	..	70.4	..	10.1	..	1.6	..	82.2
Total commitments	17,576	1,278.7	3,258	264.9	2,811	209.7	23,645	1,753.4
STATES(a)								
New South Wales	4,391	391.3	1,280	117.2	1,367	117.6	7,038	626.1
Victoria	4,550	336.0	198	14.6	361	23.1	5,109	373.7
Queensland	3,730	243.8	1,032	79.7	499	33.1	5,261	356.5
South Australia	1,421	88.6	270	19.3	528	32.6	2,219	140.5
Western Australia	2,271	143.7	325	22.1	8	0.7	2,604	166.5
Tasmania	556	26.9	..	..	..	..	642	30.9
Northern Territory	192	11.5	153	12.0	48	2.5	193	11.5
Australian Capital Territory	465	37.0	..	..	..	..	579	47.6

(a) Includes alterations and additions.

TABLE 2 — SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS — ALL LENDERS

	Construction of Dwellings					
	Houses		Other dwellings			
	First mortgage		First mortgage		Other security	
	Dwelling units	\$ million	\$ million	Dwelling units	\$ million	\$ million
AUSTRALIA						
YEARS						
1987-1988	64,088	3,048.4	85.5	1,540	74.2	11.1
1988-1989	73,682	3,797.9	96.9	1,738	104.9	25.7
1989-1990	60,252	3,266.6	85.4	1,436	93.8	25.7
1989						
December	4,039	215.9	5.8	119	6.2	1.7
1990						
January	4,827	257.4	6.0	107	6.4	3.7
February	5,825	313.1	7.2	137	8.2	1.5
March	6,110	331.1	7.2	127	9.5	1.3
April	4,403	240.5	6.4	87	6.0	0.8
May	6,198	329.1	9.3	141	9.3	2.5
June	4,588	254.2	7.9	79	6.2	1.2
July	4,714	260.4	6.3	103	7.5	1.1
August	5,460	294.4	7.4	111	8.7	1.5
September	5,268	300.7	7.1	99	5.9	1.4
October	5,752	325.3	7.4	145	11.0	1.2
November	5,175	305.4	5.8	124	8.6	1.6
December	3,980	230.2	3.9	85	5.2	1.1
1991						
January	4,549	256.5	3.7	110	6.6	1.6
February	4,744	277.9	6.2	82	5.6	2.4
STATES — JANUARY 1991						
NSW	978	64.6	0.5	18	1.3	0.3
Vic.	1,066	64.0	1.2	36	2.6	0.1
Qld	1,147	60.3	1.1	12	0.7	0.2
SA	513	28.2	0.4	28	1.3	0.6
WA	640	30.3	0.2	10	0.4	0.3
Tas.	122	5.5	0.1	5	0.3	—
NT	22	0.9	—	—	—	—
ACT	61	2.7	0.2	1	0.1	—
STATES — FEBRUARY 1991						
NSW	1,181	77.3	2.3	20	1.5	0.8
Vic.	1,128	71.1	1.0	29	2.1	0.3
Qld	1,187	65.2	1.1	6	0.2	0.1
SA	448	25.9	0.5	16	1.2	0.3
WA	584	29.0	0.8	5	0.2	1.0
Tas.	139	4.7	0.5	4	0.1	—
NT	20	0.8	—	—	—	—
ACT	57	4.0	0.1	2	0.2	—

TABLE 2 — SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS — ALL LENDERS —continued

	Purchase of newly erected dwellings					
	Houses			Other dwellings		
	First mortgage		Other security	First mortgage		Other security
	Dwelling units	\$ million		Dwelling units	\$ million	
AUSTRALIA						
YEARS						
1987-1988	15,668	827.2	17.0	3,512	191.1	23.0
1988-1989	16,060	978.4	23.4	3,289	210.2	25.4
1989-1990	11,856	852.3	27.8	2,462	178.3	27.0
1989						
December	1,056	81.2	2.2	201	14.6	2.5
1990						
January	939	62.0	2.6	229	15.6	2.5
February	1,091	77.2	2.9	257	18.7	1.9
March	1,098	81.2	3.0	237	17.2	5.2
April	805	59.0	2.3	190	14.8	3.2
May	1,339	102.2	3.0	254	17.0	3.6
June	975	74.5	2.7	197	15.4	1.9
July	929	70.6	2.3	243	16.1	2.0
August	1,164	87.3	3.9	288	20.2	1.7
September	1,192	86.8	4.5	374	26.0	3.4
October	1,334	99.1	7.4	345	23.5	2.7
November	1,233	93.6	5.6	256	19.4	1.2
December	883	69.2	4.7	246	19.0	1.3
1991						
January	867	66.0	2.0	275	19.4	0.6
February	1,038	79.6	6.0	322	23.6	1.6
STATES — JANUARY 1991						
NSW	272	26.7	1.0	61	5.2	0.3
Vic.	159	10.5	0.4	65	4.9	—
Qld	138	8.8	0.1	41	2.9	0.1
SA	168	11.0	0.2	71	4.0	—
WA	69	4.0	0.3	20	1.2	0.1
Tas.	13	1.0	—	2	0.1	—
NT	12	0.8	—	4	0.3	—
ACT	36	3.2	—	11	0.7	0.1
STATES — FEBRUARY 1991						
NSW	399	36.8	1.1	85	7.2	0.4
Vic.	197	13.2	1.0	71	4.7	0.4
Qld	118	9.2	2.0	69	5.6	0.2
SA	187	11.0	0.9	60	3.4	0.3
WA	65	4.5	0.6	11	0.8	0.3
Tas.	15	0.7	0.1	1	0.1	—
NT	9	0.4	0.1	1	0.1	—
ACT	48	3.8	0.2	24	1.8	—

TABLE 2 — SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS — ALL LENDERS —continued

<i>Purchase of established dwellings</i>					
<i>Houses</i>			<i>Other dwellings</i>		
<i>First mortgage</i>		<i>Other security</i>	<i>First mortgage</i>		<i>Other security</i>
<i>Dwelling units</i>	<i>\$ million</i>	<i>\$ million</i>	<i>Dwelling units</i>	<i>\$ million</i>	<i>\$ million</i>
AUSTRALIA					
YEARS					
1987-1988	256,455	13,805.1	250.2		
1988-1989	241,771	15,480.3	320.7	30,475	1,690.4
1989-1990	186,049	12,737.8	232.5	23,128	1,623.1
1989				16,093	1,231.1
December	13,070	902.5	15.2		
1990				1,076	77.7
January	15,729	1,054.9	17.1		
February	17,432	1,191.1	18.9	1,279	97.5
March	18,078	1,297.7	24.5	1,627	138.8
April	13,295	920.9	24.3	1,746	132.8
May	19,083	1,316.0	24.7	1,228	97.1
June	14,850	1,010.0	19.8	1,604	120.0
July	14,584	993.6	24.5	1,314	101.5
August	16,582	1,122.8	19.7	1,283	95.1
September	14,138	976.9	17.6	1,500	107.6
October	16,674	1,146.9	20.7	1,345	101.9
November	16,368	1,127.2	22.0	1,455	110.4
December	13,625	958.9	15.9	1,421	103.7
1991				1,124	85.7
January	15,122	1,019.2	17.2		
February	16,151	1,148.5	15.3	1,122	84.2
				1,308	97.4
					7.0
STATES — JANUARY 1991					
NSW	4,052	335.3	5.5	534	43.9
Vic.	3,375	228.5	4.0	191	13.0
Qld	3,696	220.5	2.7	186	14.8
SA	1,471	86.1	1.7	92	5.2
WA	1,590	93.1	1.9	72	4.5
Tas.	479	24.4	0.2	3	0.1
NT	102	6.3	0.2	20	1.1
ACT	357	25.1	0.9	24	1.7
STATES — FEBRUARY 1991					
NSW	4,755	408.4	5.2	598	51.8
Vic.	3,503	247.5	3.3	181	12.6
Qld	3,652	235.4	3.0	229	16.0
SA	1,424	84.5	0.9	84	4.7
WA	1,804	109.7	1.5	135	7.7
Tas.	469	22.3	0.1	14	0.9
NT	124	7.8	0.1	39	2.0
ACT	420	32.9	1.3	28	1.6

TABLE 2 — SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS — ALL LENDERS — continued

	Alterations and additions to dwellings \$ million	Total dwelling units	Total commitments \$ million	Cancellations of commitments \$ million	Commitments advanced during period \$ million	Commitments not advanced at end of period \$ million
AUSTRALIA						
YEARS						
1987-1988	707.3	371,738	20,816.9	617.6	18,059.6	4,597.9
1988-1989	998.4	359,668	23,786.2	851.3	23,533.1	3,865.6
1989-1990	904.7	278,148	19,726.5	751.3	19,192.5	3,542.4
1989						
December	59.0	19,561	1,388.1	48.9	1,563.4	3,228.3
1990						
January	70.5	23,110	1,602.4	55.8	1,436.9	3,338.0
February	71.7	26,369	1,857.9	67.8	1,503.8	3,587.4
March	81.8	27,396	1,996.5	75.9	1,805.4	3,627.4
April	66.7	20,008	1,447.4	69.6	1,547.6	3,457.5
May	106.4	28,619	2,049.9	81.6	1,868.7	3,557.1
June	81.9	22,003	1,582.0	64.7	1,533.2	3,542.4
July	77.3	21,856	1,561.8	57.6	1,606.7	3,438.5
August	84.5	25,105	1,767.3	58.8	1,752.8	3,394.1
September	64.2	22,416	1,605.3	54.7	1,578.1	3,370.8
October	80.6	25,705	1,841.6	61.2	1,726.0	3,426.5
November	73.3	24,577	1,776.1	53.5	1,610.2	3,553.6
December	62.5	19,943	1,462.4	45.4	1,667.8	3,301.9
1991						
January	68.4	22,045	1,551.1	55.7	1,413.5	3,385.0
February	82.2	23,645	1,753.4	45.7	1,604.8	3,487.8
STATES — JANUARY 1991						
NSW	28.8	5,915	514.4	23.5	485.2	1,363.6
Vic.	11.3	4,892	342.7	9.2	329.3	897.8
Qld	14.6	5,220	328.0	11.9	267.3	458.4
SA	4.0	2,343	143.0	3.1	138.6	270.3
WA	7.5	2,401	145.0	5.7	122.8	259.6
Tas.	1.1	624	32.7	0.9	26.7	37.4
NT	0.1	160	9.5	0.2	8.9	15.6
ACT	1.1	490	35.8	1.4	34.8	82.3
STATES — FEBRUARY 1991						
NSW	30.8	7,038	626.1	23.7	555.1	1,410.9
Vic.	13.2	5,109	373.7	6.6	357.5	906.7
Qld	18.1	5,261	356.5	8.1	315.4	492.2
SA	6.6	2,219	140.5	2.3	134.4	274.1
WA	9.9	2,604	166.5	3.2	156.5	266.4
Tas.	1.4	642	30.9	0.5	30.8	37.0
NT	0.1	193	11.5	0.1	10.3	16.7
ACT	1.9	579	47.6	1.1	44.9	83.9

TABLE 3 — SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS — ALL LENDERS — ORIGINAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATES(a)

	Construction of dwellings		Purchase of newly erected dwellings		Purchase of established dwellings		Total	
	Dwelling units	\$ million	Dwelling units	\$ million	Dwelling units	\$ million	Dwelling units	\$ million
ORIGINAL								
1989								
December	4,158	229.7	1,257	100.5	14,146	998.8	19,561	1,329.0
1990								
January	4,934	273.5	1,168	82.7	17,008	1,175.6	23,110	1,531.8
February	5,962	330.1	1,348	100.7	19,059	1,355.3	26,369	1,786.1
March	6,237	349.1	1,335	106.6	19,824	1,459.1	27,396	1,914.8
April	4,490	253.7	995	79.3	14,523	1,047.6	20,008	1,380.7
May	6,339	350.2	1,593	125.7	20,687	1,467.5	28,619	1,943.5
June	4,667	269.5	1,172	94.5	16,164	1,116.3	22,003	1,500.1
July	4,817	275.3	1,172	91.0	15,867	1,118.3	21,856	1,484.6
August	5,571	312.0	1,452	113.2	18,082	1,257.6	25,105	1,682.8
September	5,367	315.1	1,566	120.7	15,483	1,105.3	22,416	1,541.1
October	5,897	344.9	1,679	132.7	18,129	1,283.4	25,705	1,761.0
November	5,299	321.3	1,489	119.8	17,789	1,261.7	24,577	1,702.8
December	4,065	240.5	1,129	94.2	14,749	1,065.2	19,943	1,399.9
1991								
January	4,659	268.4	1,142	87.9	16,244	1,126.4	22,045	1,482.7
February	4,826	292.2	1,360	110.8	17,459	1,268.2	23,645	1,671.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
1989								
December	4,949	270.5	1,344	106.1	15,436	1,061.7	21,729	1,438.4
1990								
January	5,217	290.4	1,283	96.6	17,641	1,243.6	24,141	1,630.6
February	5,808	328.3	1,400	103.0	18,406	1,316.0	25,614	1,757.2
March	5,899	328.5	1,273	101.9	18,634	1,384.4	25,806	1,814.7
April	5,028	287.0	1,094	87.7	16,142	1,177.4	22,264	1,552.2
May	5,262	293.3	1,368	107.8	17,647	1,258.2	24,277	1,659.4
June	5,044	285.8	1,250	100.9	17,855	1,228.8	24,149	1,615.5
July	5,122	291.2	1,224	95.1	17,394	1,232.1	23,740	1,618.4
August	5,263	290.7	1,369	110.5	17,503	1,210.5	24,135	1,611.6
September	5,742	332.3	1,665	124.8	16,925	1,205.0	24,332	1,662.1
October	5,189	307.3	1,503	115.7	16,322	1,163.4	23,014	1,586.4
November	5,288	317.9	1,413	112.7	17,049	1,196.5	23,750	1,627.1
December	4,847	288.5	1,224	100.6	16,204	1,144.6	22,275	1,533.8
1991								
January	4,986	289.9	1,248	101.0	16,982	1,200.8	23,216	1,591.7
February	4,701	290.7	1,431	115.1	16,850	1,227.9	22,982	1,633.7
TREND ESTIMATES								
1989								
December	5,177	288.4	1,231	93.2	16,693	1,168.8	23,101	1,550.4
1990								
January	5,351	298.1	1,274	97.5	17,114	1,213.8	23,739	1,609.4
February	5,453	304.8	1,292	99.8	17,464	1,253.2	24,209	1,657.9
March	5,453	306.0	1,280	99.9	17,687	1,276.2	24,420	1,682.0
April	5,381	302.4	1,257	99.1	17,747	1,277.9	24,385	1,679.4
May	5,287	297.2	1,253	99.4	17,654	1,261.9	24,194	1,658.5
June	5,233	294.5	1,286	101.9	17,505	1,239.5	24,024	1,636.0
July	5,235	296.1	1,350	106.2	17,340	1,219.0	23,925	1,621.4
August	5,284	301.6	1,411	110.1	17,191	1,205.0	23,886	1,616.7
September	5,321	307.1	1,443	112.4	17,020	1,195.1	23,784	1,614.6
October	5,283	308.5	1,438	112.5	16,827	1,186.6	23,548	1,607.6
November	5,182	305.9	1,409	111.3	16,703	1,182.3	23,294	1,599.6
December								
1991								
January	not available for publication							
February								

(a) Excludes alterations and additions.

TABLE 4. SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS — TYPE OF LENDER — ORIGINAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATES(a)

	All Banks		Permanent Building Societies		Other Lenders		Total	
	Dwelling Units	\$ million	Dwelling Units	\$ million	Dwelling Units	\$ million	Dwelling Units	\$ million
ORIGINAL								
1989								
December	14,327	952.8	1,684	120.4	3,550	255.8	19,561	1,329.0
1990								
January	17,864	1,182.1	1,666	113.1	3,580	236.6	23,110	1,531.8
February	20,255	1,332.6	2,256	187.8	3,858	265.7	26,369	1,786.1
March	20,959	1,435.2	2,660	206.4	3,777	273.1	27,396	1,914.8
April	14,933	1,007.4	2,073	157.6	3,002	215.7	20,008	1,380.7
May	22,187	1,481.8	2,761	201.1	3,671	260.6	28,619	1,943.5
June	16,358	1,096.6	2,455	187.0	3,190	216.6	22,003	1,500.1
July	16,342	1,085.1	2,474	187.4	3,040	212.1	21,856	1,484.6
August	19,367	1,265.4	2,569	196.3	3,169	221.2	25,105	1,682.8
September	16,974	1,151.4	2,404	181.0	3,038	208.7	22,416	1,541.1
October	19,865	1,334.5	2,801	214.5	3,039	211.9	25,705	1,761.0
November	17,871	1,224.9	3,022	229.5	3,684	248.4	24,577	1,702.8
December	14,241	984.0	2,224	172.6	3,478	243.2	19,943	1,399.9
1991								
January	16,628	1,094.1	2,732	208.5	2,685	180.1	22,045	1,482.7
February	17,576	1,208.3	3,258	254.8	2,811	208.1	23,645	1,671.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
1989								
December	15,948	1,025.4	1,927	136.6	3,854	276.4	21,729	1,438.4
1990								
January	18,277	1,222.1	2,030	141.5	3,834	266.9	24,141	1,630.6
February	19,468	1,295.8	2,270	183.4	3,876	268.1	25,614	1,747.2
March	19,784	1,377.4	2,444	186.9	3,578	250.4	25,806	1,814.7
April	16,718	1,147.8	2,303	173.8	3,243	230.6	22,264	1,552.2
May	18,554	1,249.3	2,521	185.7	3,202	224.4	24,277	1,659.4
June	18,356	1,199.2	2,506	190.5	3,287	225.8	24,149	1,615.5
July	18,113	1,208.0	2,542	193.7	3,085	216.6	23,740	1,618.4
August	18,593	1,206.0	2,478	191.7	3,064	213.9	24,135	1,611.6
September	18,691	1,260.6	2,456	188.0	3,185	213.5	24,332	1,662.1
October	17,581	1,189.7	2,461	186.6	2,972	210.1	23,014	1,586.4
November	17,565	1,183.0	2,686	203.8	3,499	240.3	23,750	1,627.1
December	15,866	1,071.3	2,587	199.4	3,822	263.2	22,275	1,533.8
1991								
January	17,038	1,132.9	3,344	260.8	2,834	198.1	23,216	1,591.7
February	16,874	1,173.5	3,296	250.8	2,812	209.4	22,982	1,633.7
TREND ESTIMATES								
1989								
December	17,422	1,149.2	2,024	145.2	3,656	256.1	23,101	1,550.4
1990								
January	17,959	1,196.8	2,084	153.4	3,696	259.2	23,739	1,609.4
February	18,353	1,236.5	2,183	163.8	3,673	257.6	24,209	1,657.9
March	18,534	1,256.3	2,306	174.9	3,580	250.9	24,420	1,682.0
April	18,531	1,254.8	2,414	183.7	3,440	240.9	24,385	1,679.4
May	18,435	1,240.9	2,474	188.0	3,285	229.6	24,194	1,658.5
June	18,374	1,226.6	2,493	189.3	3,156	220.1	24,024	1,636.0
July	18,334	1,216.9	2,485	188.6	3,107	215.9	23,925	1,621.4
August	18,284	1,212.2	2,470	188.0	3,133	216.5	23,886	1,616.7
September	18,097	1,204.1	2,490	190.3	3,197	220.2	23,784	1,614.6
October	17,736	1,187.3	2,563	196.2	3,249	224.1	23,548	1,607.6
November	17,336	1,167.0	2,690	206.1	3,268	226.4	23,294	1,599.6
December								
1991								
January								
February								

not available for publication

(a) Excludes alterations and additions.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication presents statistics of secured housing finance commitments made by significant lenders to individuals for the construction or purchase of dwellings for owner occupation. For detailed information on the scope and coverage of these statistics and definitions of data items refer to the March 1990 issue of this publication.

2. While the statistics are described as being for calendar months, it should be noted that:

- (i) in the case of some of the larger banks, the data relate to a month ending on the last Wednesday; and
- (ii) in the case of other lenders, some have accounting periods which do not correspond exactly to a calendar month and their figures are used without adjustment.

Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates.

3. In the seasonal adjustments of these series, account has been taken not only of normal seasonal factors, but also of 'trading day' effects (arising from the varying reporting practices of the lenders) and the influence of Easter which may, in successive years, affect figures for different months. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these series are available on request.

4. Seasonal adjustment procedures do not aim to remove the irregular or 'non-seasonal' influences which may be present in any particular month. Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after seasonal adjustment.

5. 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.

6. 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 relative impact on the series. There will also be revisions as a result of revisions to the original estimates and annual reviews of seasonal and 'trading day' factors.

7. Because of the highly irregular nature of the housing finance 'all lenders' 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 for publication the last three trend estimates.

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.

Unpublished data

9. More detailed classification of the data in this publication may be made available on request. Generally a charge is made for providing this information. Inquiries should be made to the officer named in the Phone Inquiries section of the inquiries box at the front of this publication or by writing to Private Finance Section, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

Revisions

10. Revision to previously published statistics are included in issues of this publication as they occur.

Commitments not advanced at end of period

11. In principle, commitments not advanced at end of period presented in Table 2 are derivable by adding total commitments less cancellations of commitments less commitments advanced during the period to the balance of commitments at the end of the previous period. In practice, however, revisions and other adjustments may mean that such a derivation is inexact.

Related publications

12. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

Personal Finance, Australia (5642.0)—issued monthly

Commercial Finance, Australia (5643.0)—issued monthly

13. 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.

Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
- ... not applicable

14. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.



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