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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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RETAIL SALES OF GOODS : AUSTRALIA

MONTH OF MARCH 1968 (PROVISIONAL)

A provisional estimate of the total value of retail sales in Australia (excluding motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.) for the month of March 1968 is shown in the table overleaf. This table also contains figures for earlier months and seasonally adjusted statistics.

2. Provisional monthly estimates are obtained from a sub-sample of establishments used to provide quarterly estimates of the value of retail sales. The sub-sample is designed to provide an estimate lying within a relatively small range above or below the true figure so as to give an early indication of trend. Undue significance should not be attached to very small movements or to the exact magnitude of any movements shown by these provisional estimates. These estimates are subsequently adjusted in accordance with the preliminary and final quarterly estimates as they become available.

3. Both the original series and the seasonally adjusted series are shown in the table overleaf. In the seasonal adjustment, account has been taken of both normal seasonal factors and "trading-day" effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the month). However, no adjustment has been made for the effects of movement in the date of Easter. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these and other series are given in "Seasonally Adjusted Indicators 1967" issued on 18 July 1967.

4. Further information relating to the basis on which the statistics of retail sales of goods are compiled is contained in Statistical Bulletin "Retail Sales of Goods" December quarter 1967 of 17 April 1968.

TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES,
PARTS, PETROL, ETC.)

MONTHLY ESTIMATES : AUSTRALIA (a) (b)

(All figures are on a basis comparable with the 1961-62 Retail Census)
(\$ million)

Month	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Original					
July	464.7	502.2	529.5	540.4	572.2
August	472.6	490.3	518.0	554.1	595.3
September	450.2	498.0	528.0	561.9	602.3
October	493.3	527.9	544.0	565.2	604.8
November	504.5	531.2	565.4	599.2	646.6
December	617.8	696.7	738.3	784.4	812.7
January	476.5	496.0	509.1	543.4	(c) 581.3
February	448.6	465.4	496.6	529.7	(c) 571.3
March	457.0	507.3	536.4	573.5	(c) 592.2
April	483.8	526.5	539.7	557.8	
May	509.4	529.3	563.5	607.2	
June	476.7	507.1	535.8	575.6	
Total for year	5,855.1	6,277.9	6,604.3	6,992.4	
Seasonally adjusted (d)					
July	477.9	507.1	536.9	562.2	605.7
August	476.2	513.8	542.3	567.8	606.2
September	475.9	514.5	543.0	570.3	614.2
October	487.0	515.1	544.3	575.2	615.6
November	479.8	523.9	546.2	576.7	619.1
December	484.9	524.3	547.5	582.4	618.1
January	485.5	527.7	550.1	587.0	(c) 614.7
February	484.5	520.7	555.7	592.7	(c) 613.8
March	491.4	532.7	558.2	587.3	(c) 621.8
April	497.1	533.9	550.2	589.2	
May	501.7	529.7	564.0	595.0	
June	504.3	535.4	563.6	598.0	

(a) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (b) Figures from April 1967 are subject to revision when more precise information is available relating to trading by new businesses. (c) Provisional estimate (see paragraph 2, page 1). (d) See paragraph 3, page 1. The seasonally adjusted statistics shown in this issue have been revised following a re-analysis in accordance with the procedures indicated in paragraph 67 of the introductory notes of "Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1967".

K. M. ARCHER
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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 Extension 2343 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.