

**DIGEST OF
CURRENT ECONOMIC
STATISTICS,
AUSTRALIA
CATALOGUE No. 1305.0**

Reference No. 1.5

DIGEST OF CURRENT ECONOMIC STATISTICS
JANUARY 1976

The Digest contains the latest available figures at the time of issue for a selection of monthly and quarterly series. For a wider range of statistics reference should be made to the Monthly Review of Business Statistics which is more comprehensive and covers a longer run of years but is not quite as up to date as the Digest. Where possible series in the Digest are shown both in their original and seasonally adjusted form.

Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these and other series are given in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* 1975, issued by this Bureau in July 1975 which contains original and seasonally adjusted data in tabular and graphical form for one hundred and twenty three selected series. The seasonally adjusted indicators included therein are up-dated in relevant monthly and quarterly publications of this Bureau.

As well as being adjusted for normal seasonal factors, some of the statistical series included in the Digest have been adjusted for the effects of some calendar irregularities, namely: 'trading-day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc., in the month) and the influence of movable holidays, i.e. Easter and Australia Day. The adjustments made to each series are indicated in Appendix B of *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* 1975.

The seasonally adjusted series are subject to revision.

A list of the individual mimeograph publications from which the series in the Digest are derived is shown on page 8. These contain more information about the series and in each case are published as soon as the latest figures become available.

Symbols used in this Bulletin

p — preliminary. Subject to revision

r — revised

— Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

PRODUCTION (a)

Month	Black coal '000 tonnes		Iron ore (b) '000 tonnes		Lead (c) '000 tonnes		Electricity Mil. kWh		Gas (d) mil megajoules		Raw steel '000 tonnes		Cement '000 tonnes		Motor vehicles (e) '000		Electric motors under one hp '000	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
1974-75 - October	7,046	5,940			39.7	6,205	6,160	15,336	748	697	485	438	45.8	39.4	468	370		
November	5,928	5,268	24,700		34.7	5,830	6,146	14,208	727	702	446	413	39.2	38.2	436	369		
December	4,875	7,181			30.5	5,646	6,103	13,116	751	713	422	445	28.9	34.8	304	328		
January	4,630	5,965			25.8	5,379	5,889	12,354	679	694	305	418	13.9	29.5	147	264		
February	6,514	6,636	24,857		33.5	5,489	6,356	12,682	660	726	401	440	34.7	34.8	287	322		
March	5,470	6,155			34.4	5,824	6,240	14,141	692	688	415	412	33.1	33.7	303	333		
April	5,984	6,304			35.3	5,907	6,112	14,989	640	672	413	415	36.3	4.6	316	323		
May	6,568	5,859	24,380		35.4	6,482	6,166	16,159	664	657	460	433	43.2	40.6	304	308		
June	5,353	4,887			35.1	6,795	6,298	18,276	573	628	424	418	39.7	38.3	294	320		
1975-76 - July	4,846	4,157	25,429		36.5	7,028	6,031	19,109	593	569	439	412	41.5	36.6	325	279		
August	3,614	4,129			35.9	6,776	6,137	18,710	735	717	429	413	39.7	38.6	328	302		
September	4,691	4,355			36.1	6,274	6,033	17,125	696	689	450	437	42.1	37.2	324	286		
October	7,478	6,287			37.7	6,273	6,217	17,127	589	551	443	399	43.7	37.9	392	311		
November						5,940	6,380	15,396	663	646	449	422	35.9	35.4	382	337		
December						5,950	6,326	14,395	661	633	389	408	34.0	38.9	314	314		

(a) Figures are preliminary and subject to revision. (b) Gross mine output. (c) Metallic contents of mine products. (d) Available for issue through mains: includes natural gas. (e) Includes vehicles which are disposed of by the manufacturer in a partly finished state.

PRODUCTION - continued

STOCKS (c)

Month	Cotton woven cloth (excl. towels and toweling) (a) '000 sq. m.		Woollen and worsted woven cloth (excl. blankets) (a) '000 sq. m.		Man-made fibre cloth (a) '000 sq. m.		Ropes, shoes and sandals (a) '000 pairs		Meat (a) '000 tonnes		Whole milk production all purposes (a) mil. litres		Brokers and Dealers receipts of taxable wool		Book value at end of quarter	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Total Receipts '000 kg	% of total received by brokers(b)	Original	Seas. adj.
1974-75 - October	4,114	3,873	758	660	9,479	2,513	216	199	793	537	114,083	85.1	114,083	85.1	13,458	13,474
November	4,331	3,626	737	619	8,051	2,203	211	222	832	561	113,299	84.1				
December	2,602	3,270	493	532	5,519	1,542	185	212	795	571	75,199	84.1				
January	744	1,634	274	420	3,382	1,296	184	206	677	552	45,677	78.8	45,677	78.8	13,797	13,930
February	3,239	3,426	563	488	9,006	2,194	182	207	493	540	42,403	83.1				
March	2,964	3,049	496	404	7,041	2,226	183	198	437	506	39,320	76.6				
April	2,775	2,980	455	424	7,449	2,471	199	191	363	550	37,610	76.7	37,610	76.7	14,008	13,999
May	3,816	3,184	572	586	8,890	2,396	201	177	307	560	33,637	76.0				
June	3,331	3,155	561	720	10,141	2,243	202	192	289	547	26,697	77.2				
1975-76 - July	3,572	3,346	680	641	10,419	2,789	229	201	363	525	42,903	76.0	42,903	76.0	14,287	14,148
August	4,694	4,005	651	722	10,065	2,755	186	186	530	548	64,693	79.0				
September	4,276	3,913	692	657	10,703	2,627	204	204	687	550	95,207	82.8				
October	4,940	4,235	813	737	11,034	3,142	222	205	838	563	99,418	79.2	99,418	79.2		
November	3,499	3,307	719	619	9,699		191	205	825	567	88,322	79.3				
December	2,949	3,640	632	640	7,451		195	215								

(a) Figures are preliminary and are subject to revision. (b) Members of the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia. (c) Owned by private enterprises in Australia. See publication reference No. 5.54.

OVERSEAS TRADE

Month		Total exports, value \$m		Total imports, value \$m		Index of value of merchandise exports at constant prices 1966-67 = 100		Index of value of merchandise imports at constant prices 1966-67 = 100		Export price index		Official reserve assets (c) \$m	
		Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	All groups 1959-60 = 100	All groups excl. wool 1959-60 = 100	Original	Seas. adj.
1974-75	October	715	652	797	689	162	160	183	179	181	211	3,337	3,276
	November	737	714	720	723					178	206	3,338	3,239
	December	716	761	664	716					188	219	3,217	3,184
	January	747	723	710	670	168	169	144	145	185	216	3,133	3,210
	February	735	755	593	621					181	211	3,101	3,211
	March	676	742	544	598					185	215	3,220	3,304
	April	769	813	655	679					184	214	3,317	3,391
	May	801	718	646	634	177	174	141	145	183	211	3,392	3,376
	June	770	816	546	587					178	206	3,493	3,434
1975-76	July	756	771	689	639	179	207	3,545	3,517	181	210	3,429	3,364
	August	831	826	634	638					180	210	3,318	3,352
	September	688	697	636	653					183	212	3,172	3,110
	October	817	728	686	585					183	212	3,211	3,110
	November	695	684	636	650							2,588	2,554
	December	774	810	656	677								

INTERNAL TRADE

Retail Sales†														
Month	All items except motor vehicles parts, petrol, etc. (a) \$m		Total groceries food & drink (a) \$m		Clothing, electrical, hardware and furniture (a) \$m		Other (a) (b) \$m		Instalment credit for retail sales finance companies and other businesses, balances outstanding (c) \$m	New motor cars and station wagons registered '000		Other new motor vehicles registered (d) '000		
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.		Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	
1974-75	October	1,347	1,311	1,925	1,808	1,640	1,391	845	719	2,052	46.3	41.4	11.2	9.9
	November	1,388	1,310							2,069	40.7	39.8	10.1	9.7
	December	1,675	1,314	1,848	1,870	1,268	1,477	704	752	2,078	34.5	35.8	8.9	9.7
	January	1,302	1,350							2,068	30.4	33.8	7.8	9.0
	February	1,219	1,370							2,066	44.4	50.9	9.2	10.9
	March	1,300	1,396							2,077	44.4	48.0	9.6	11.0
	April	1,387	1,434							2,082	51.6	53.2	11.2	10.4
	May	1,479	1,421							2,092	42.7	38.0	11.1	9.9
June	1,348	1,445	2,097							38.2	38.8	10.3	10.3	
1975-76	July	1,419	1,466	1,927	1,979	1,548	1,618	784	825	2,113	43.3	39.3	11.7	10.7
	August	1,427	1,469							2,132	39.4	39.8	10.7	10.6
	September	1,444	1,497							2,147	34.0	33.0	9.9	9.7
	October	1,557	1,494							2,172	39.6	35.9	11.2	9.8
	November	1,544	1,508							2,200	31.8	31.7	9.3	9.4
	December	1,987	1,527								32.9	32.9	8.4	8.8

(a) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (b) Other: excludes motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc. (c) At end of month, amounts financed in new agreements made were: September \$m126, October \$m144, November \$m128. (d) Comprises light commercial type vehicles, trucks, other truck type vehicles and buses.

(e) Replaces previously published series *Gold and net foreign assets*.

† Based on the 1968-69 census of retail establishments.

INTERNAL TRADE - continued

WAGES, RETAIL PRICES AND FACTORY OVERTIME

Month		New wheeled tractors sold for agricultural purposes No.		Average weekly earnings per employed male unit \$		Weekly wage rates index, adult males (a) 1954 = 100	Consumer price index, six capitals, year 1966-67 = 100.0						Factory overtime (b) at larger private factories hours					
		Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.		All groups	Food	Clothing and drapery	Housing	Household supplies and equipment	Miscellaneous group	Original	Seas. adj.				
1974-75	October	3,435	3,665	154.20	147.20	367.6	168.1	161.6	172.8	184.3	143.7	176.1	3.0	2.9				
	November					370.6							2.7	2.6				
	December					372.7							2.4	2.2				
	January	3,335	3,433	143.60	152.00	373.5	174.1	163.4	175.2	190.2	149.2	187.2	1.8	2.1				
	February					374.7							2.3	2.2				
	March					379.3							2.2	2.1				
	April	4,420	3,612	156.30	154.20	379.9	180.2	168.9	182.9	200.3	154.4	192.1	2.0	2.2				
May	397.2					2.0							1.9					
June	398.5					1.6							1.6					
1975-76	July	157.70	158.80	398.9	181.6	171.6	187.1	207.5	158.1	188.2	1.6	7						
	August			399.8							1.8	8						
	September			414.4							1.8	8						
	October			414.5							191.7	176.9	200.0	218.4	162.9	203.2	1.9	1.9
	November																2.1	2.0

(a) Weighted average. Excludes rural. (b) Source: Department of Employment and Industrial Relations. Average hours worked in survey week.

BUILDING, ETC.

[illegible]

FINANCE

Major Trading Banks †

Month	Savings banks †		Housing loans \$m	Deposits \$m		Advances \$m		New and increased lending commit- ments \$m	Finance companies, balances outstanding (a) \$m	Common- wealth bond yield short dated Per cent	Listed companies new money raised \$m		Taxation revenue, Commonwealth and State consolidated revenue funds \$m			
	Deposits \$m			Deposits \$m		Original	Seas. adj.				Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
	Original	Seas. adj.		Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.				Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
1974-75 – October	11,646	11,501	3,839	11,800	11,864	9,103	9,074	38.5	8,218	9.20	314.3	246.3	1,067	1,369		
November	11,740	11,625	3,886	12,119	12,124	9,179	9,219	75.0	8,229	9.07					1,454	1,370
December	11,816	11,819	3,963	12,508	12,222	9,272	9,387	97.8	8,216	8.13					1,117	1,441
January	12,012	12,025	4,038	13,179	12,619	9,504	9,647	89.2	8,153	8.20	255.9	343.3	1,305	1,379		
February	12,184	12,214	4,158	13,628	12,944	9,526	9,763	108.0	8,128	8.10					1,067	1,350
March	12,218	12,309	4,315	13,983	13,472	9,485	9,659	132.4	8,125	8.12					1,088	1,235
April	12,259	12,437	4,460	14,159	13,905	9,643	9,515	126.7	8,090	8.24	279.6	304.5	1,933	1,409		
May	12,407	12,590	4,583	13,700	13,933	9,913	9,717	129.0	8,075	8.18					2,787	1,372
June	12,790	12,828	4,717	13,665	14,264	9,932	9,726	115.2	8,105	8.30					1,807	1,375
1975-76 – July	12,946	12,920	4,826	13,910	14,598	10,046	9,833	100.4	8,094	8.22	282.2	266.8	1,081	1,379		
August	13,198	13,103	4,909	14,179	14,748	10,014	9,979	90.8	8,173	8.23					1,404	1,419
September	13,442	13,591	5,016	14,497	14,879	10,057	10,152	93.3	8,244	8.22					1,022	1,529
October	13,744	13,557	5,170	14,943	15,020	10,195	10,165	102.3	8,400	8.31			1,143	1,451		
November	13,804	13,688	5,255	15,067	15,065	10,072	10,117	101.1	8,479	8.26					1,658	1,489
December				15,500	15,080	10,177	10,306	99.0		8.20						

(*) Contracts including charges, plus contracts excluding charges. Amounts shown are intended to provide a broad overall measure of total balances outstanding; however, movements may be affected by changes in the proportion of the two components to the total. For further details see the monthly publication "Finance Companies". (Reference No. 5.14).

† Includes external territories.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

Quarter	Gross domestic product \$m		Gross farm product \$m		Gross non-farm product \$m		Final consumption expenditure				Gross fixed capital expenditure			
							Private \$m		Government \$m		Private \$m		Public \$m	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
AT CURRENT PRICES														
1973-74 - June	12,602	13,195	469	946	12,133	12,249	7,715	7,797	1,860	1,764	2,176	2,107	1,238	1,092
1974-75 - September	13,419	13,734	626	869	12,791	12,865	8,129	8,188	1,993	2,047	2,173	2,162	1,047	1,142
December	16,118	14,505	1,563	871	14,555	13,634	8,953	8,450	2,277	2,176	2,303	2,168	1,389	1,329
March	14,053	14,712	1,004	879	13,049	13,833	8,468	8,657	2,238	2,415	2,004	2,229	1,245	1,376
June	14,940	15,600	305	836	14,635	14,764	9,251	9,342	2,554	2,423	2,487	2,406	1,702	1,501
1974-76 - September	15,736	16,012	639	881	15,097	15,131	9,518	9,589	2,587	2,658	2,385	2,375	1,361	1,489
AT AVERAGE 1966-67 PRICES														
1973-74 - June	7,674	8,045	287	584	7,387	7,461	5,058	5,087	923	873	1,358	1,308	748	663
1974-75 - September	7,632	7,759	452	588	7,180	7,171	5,040	5,081	936	955	1,284	1,286	587	638
December	8,840	7,963	1,054	654	7,786	7,308	5,329	5,045	973	953	1,279	1,208	744	712
March	7,621	7,972	747	688	6,874	7,284	4,910	5,137	926	982	1,076	1,193	652	718
June	7,808	8,185	392	693	7,417	7,492	5,228	5,257	1,038	983	1,305	1,254	851	756
1975-76 - September	7,913	8,185	551	663	7,362	7,355	5,172	5,222	1,010	1,030	1,204	1,207	666	726

AT CURRENT PRICES - continued

Quarter	Imports of goods and services \$m		Exports of goods and services \$m		Gross operating surplus of trading enterprises				Wages, salaries and supplements \$m		Income of farm unincorporated enterprises \$m		Other household income \$m		Less direct taxes, etc. (\$) \$m		Household disposable income \$m	
					Companies \$m		Other \$m											
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original
1973-74 - June	2,334	2,361	2,034	2,056	1,458	1,554	2,186	2,816	7,593	7,524	38	3,303	1,879				9,055	
1974-75 - September	2,684	2,604	2,249	2,302	1,286	1,240	2,615	2,755	8,215	8,335	199	2,968	1,996				9,386	
December	2,662	2,659	2,524	2,423	1,798	1,549	3,665	2,773	9,204	8,745	1,032	3,529	2,347				11,418	
March	2,315	2,363	2,454	2,470	1,161	1,343	2,864	2,880	8,541	9,021	499	3,201	2,100				10,141	
June	2,369	2,388	2,586	2,616	1,750	1,868	2,232	2,947	9,241	9,157	-190	4,103	2,220				10,934	
1975-76 - September	2,461	2,394	2,466	2,527	1,716	1,653	3,014	3,136	9,394	9,490	171	3,853	2,354					

a) Direct taxes deducted are those paid or payable by persons to general government. These include income tax payable and estate and gift duties, all other direct taxes, fees for service of a regulatory character and fines and gifts paid. Also deducted here are consumer debt interest and transfers to overseas.

LABOUR FORCE (a)										UNEMPLOYMENT AND JOB VACANCIES					
Month	Labour force males civilian '000		Labour force, married women civilian '000		Labour force, total civilian '000 persons		Unemployed persons '000		Persons registered for employment (b) '000		Unemployment benefit number on (c) '000 persons		Job vacancies registered (b) '000		
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	
1974-75															
October									149.7	186.4	68.4	88.8	40.0	37.7	
November	3,887.6	3,890.6	1,318.2	1,299.2	5,952.7	5,936.7	201.0	200.2	191.0	206.7	85.7	100.6	40.4	37.6	
December									(d)267.0	(d)235.0	(e)140.8	(e)113.7	(d)40.3	(d)36.2	
January									311.6	226.0	182.3	134.3	42.5	34.7	
February	(f)3,916.8	(f)3,892.3	(f)1,289.7	(f)1,294.5	(f)5,976.5	(f)5,938.0	(f)272.4	(f)222.3	297.7	252.0	184.2	162.7	38.4	34.5	
March									270.8	267.8	157.5	162.8	34.5	33.7	
April									265.4	281.1	168.5	166.8	31.3	33.5	
May	3,896.3	3,897.3	1,288.6	1,295.7	5,940.1	5,955.6	229.6	259.5	248.1	270.0	159.9	160.3	28.8	31.6	
June									246.0	270.2	160.7	164.1	25.5	29.9	
1975-76															
July									251.6	287.7	(g)	(g)	25.5	30.5	
August	3,872.7	3,893.6	1,293.0	1,299.7	5,921.5	5,961.1	233.5	295.3	248.2	299.9	170.9	188.5	26.2	29.3	
September									246.1	303.7	179.9	213.2	26.0	26.6	
October									247.2	315.8	176.5	228.8	25.0	23.6	
November	3,918.9	3,921.5	1,356.4	1,337.3	6,078.2	6,061.5	279.1	277.2	265.6	288.2	184.5	215.9	28.4	26.5	
December									328.7	286.9	231.3	187.9	29.3	26.4	

(a) Civilian aged 15 years and over. The labour force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed. (b) Registered with Commonwealth Employment Service at Friday nearest the end of the month. (c) At Saturday nearest the end of month. (d) Estimated. During December 1974 the cyclone in Darwin caused some minor loss of records. (e) Excludes N.T. (f) Excludes Darwin. (g) Unavailable due to the introduction of new administrative procedures.

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES (a)

Month	Total civilian employees '000						Private/Government '000 persons				Principal industries '000 persons			
	Males		Females		Persons		Private		Government		Manufacturing		Commerce	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
1974-75														
July	(b)3,107	(b)3,114	(b)1,747	(b)1,752	(b)4,854	(b)4,865	(b)3,650	(b)3,662	(b)1,204	(b)1,203	(b)1,421	(b)1,426	(b)841	(b)847
August	(b)3,101	(b)3,113	(b)1,741	(b)1,748	(b)4,842	(b)4,859	(b)3,636	(b)3,650	(b)1,207	(b)1,209	(b)1,412	(b)1,417	839	846
September	(b)3,098	(b)3,110	1,738	1,742	(b)4,836	(b)4,852	(b)3,626	(b)3,637	1,210	1,215	1,406	1,410	838	843
October	3,095	3,108	1,733	1,733	4,828	4,843	3,614	3,622	1,214	1,221	1,388	1,389	842	843
November	3,092	3,089	1,730	1,718	4,821	4,807	3,602	3,582	1,219	1,225	1,375	1,367	845	836
December	3,081	3,072	1,707	1,703	4,789	4,775	3,567	3,553	1,221	1,223	1,344	1,347	848	828
January	3,066	3,066	1,681	1,699	4,747	4,767	3,528	3,538	1,219	1,229	1,326	1,330	834	834
February	3,076	3,067	1,703	1,703	4,778	4,770	3,531	3,529	1,247	1,242	1,323	1,319	830	834
March	3,077	3,066	1,706	1,699	4,782	4,765	3,519	3,510	1,263	1,254	1,314	1,309	829	831
April	(b)3,077	(b)3,072	1,715	1,711	(b)4,792	(b)4,781	3,526	3,522	(b)1,266	(b)1,257	1,310	1,309	835	837
May	3,093	3,087	1,719	1,713	4,812	4,799	3,526	3,519	1,286	1,279	1,307	1,305	835	835
June	(b)3,088	(b)3,088	1,720	1,719	(b)4,809	(b)4,808	(b)3,518	(b)3,520	1,291	1,287	1,303	1,304	834	835
1975-76														
July	(b)3,076	(b)3,083	1,724	1,728	(b)4,800	(b)4,810	(b)3,509	(b)3,520	1,291	1,291	1,301	1,305	834	840
August	3,064	3,075	1,725	1,731	4,788	4,804	3,500	3,515	1,288	1,290	1,298	1,302	831	839
September	3,057	3,069	1,731	1,735	4,788	4,804	3,506	3,517	1,282	1,288	1,298	1,302	835	841

(a) Excludes employees in agriculture and private domestic service, and defence forces. The estimates shown in this table incorporate some amendments to previously published figures. (b) Affected by industrial disputes.

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