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**Manufacturing Production
Australia**

**Plastics, Rubber, Paints
Detergents and
Industrial Chemicals**

May 1993

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MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION, AUSTRALIA

**PLASTICS, RUBBER, PAINTS, DETERGENTS AND
INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS**

MAY 1993

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CATALOGUE NO. 8362.0

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INQUIRIES

- * for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Rod Smith on Melbourne (03) 615 7635 or any ABS office.
 - * for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.
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TABLE 1. PLASTICS IN PRIMARY FORMS(a)
(tonnes)

Period	Mixed or compound (b) (576.02)	Not mixed or compound(b)				Other (573.15, 576.01, 576.04, 579.00)	Total
		Poly-ethylene (571.13)	Poly-styrene (572.14)	Poly-propylene (575.14)	Polyvinyl acetate (575.98)		
1989-90	47,689	214,458	55,446	159,102	14,417	495,392	986,504
1990-91	46,345	217,126	62,266	169,635	12,722	441,168	949,262
1991-92	43,374	234,195	65,230	190,882	11,486	456,631	1,002,288
1992 —							
March	3,838	20,286	6,611	16,389	1,060	41,698	89,882
April	3,535	20,205	4,456	13,590	949	36,938	79,673
May	3,843	17,969	4,811	11,081	894	34,339	72,917
June	3,229	18,595	5,896	14,407	753	36,173	79,053
July	4,489	22,223	5,551	19,603	887	33,694	86,447
August	3,670	21,100	4,660	15,779	777	38,767	84,753
September	3,774	22,124	4,473	21,059	884	40,364	92,678
October	4,548	21,822	4,470	21,213	889	39,136	92,078
November	3,983	21,106	5,587	19,140	930	38,787	89,533
December	3,824	22,636	4,388	20,604	764	30,948	83,164
1993 —							
January	2,168	21,663	4,393	19,660	731	23,498	72,113
February	3,849	19,237	5,241	15,112	947	33,284	77,670
March	3,757	21,435	6,251	14,668	849	41,577	88,537
April	3,726	20,251	5,618	13,660	1,035	34,462	78,752
May	3,965	20,137	5,102	17,536	1,097	37,650	85,487
1991-92: July to May	40,145	215,600	59,334	176,475	10,733	420,458	923,235
1992-93: July to May	41,753	233,734	55,734	198,034	9,790	392,167	931,212

(a) Primary forms include liquid, paste, powder, granules, flakes, blocks, irregular shapes, lumps and similar bulk forms. (b) Excludes regranulated scrap.

TABLE 2. PLASTIC TUBES, PIPES, HOSES, FILM, SHEETING AND COATED MATERIALS

	Flexible plates, sheets, foil and strip of plastic(a)								
	Polymers of ethylene					Plastic coated textile materials (657.32)	Tubes, pipes and hoses		
	Polymers of vinyl chloride (582.32)	Low density(b) (582.31)	High density (582.38)	Polymers of propylene (582.33)	Other (582.34)		High density polyethylene (581.82)	Rigid PVC(c) (581.22)	
Period	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	'000 sq. m	tonnes	tonnes	
1989-90	13,273	114,816	25,809	18,736	10,343	29,681	21,232	89,426	
1990-91	13,127	106,221	24,958	19,457	9,360	27,874	20,319	79,133	
1991-92	13,252	110,292	24,220	20,197	9,770	28,466	24,266	84,313	
1992 —									
March	1,125	9,790	1,949	1,802	713	2,806	2,235	7,451	
April	1,114	8,792	1,811	1,755	628	1,702	1,667	6,429	
May	993	9,677	2,034	1,788	713	2,466	1,911	7,715	
June	1,062	9,663	2,112	1,967	1,007	3,235	1,683	7,346	
July	1,312	9,866	2,168	1,978	942	1,775	2,783	9,431	
August	1,479	9,648	1,980	1,725	1,064	1,810	2,193	8,116	
September	1,489	9,946	2,334	1,679	994	2,093	2,255	7,443	
October	1,432	10,453	2,093	1,805	910	3,050	2,723	9,453	
November	1,347	9,980	2,431	1,783	1,040	2,604	2,276	8,113	
December	1,246	8,597	1,743	1,531	1,437	2,856	1,948	7,973	
1993 —									
January	807	7,292	1,310	1,203	724	589	1,466	3,753	
February	959	9,501	1,878	1,576	1,397	2,432	1,933	7,487	
March	1,206	10,827	2,170	2,070	1,354	2,452	1,772	9,091	
April	1,077	9,644	1,894	1,539	1,134	1,360	1,936	8,208	
May	1,097	10,866	2,080	1,849	1,309	1,948	2,118	8,653	
1991-92: July to May	12,189	100,629	22,108	18,230	8,763	25,231	22,583	76,967	
1992-93: July to May	13,449	106,621	22,080	18,737	12,326	22,970	23,402	87,722	

(a) Excludes self-adhesive, floor, wall and ceiling coverings, vulcanised fibre and plastic foam. Also excludes reinforced, laminated or supported with other materials.

(b) Includes linear low density polyethylene. (c) Plasticiser content 1 per cent or less by weight of PVC. Excludes electrical conduit.

TABLE 3. RUBBER PRODUCTS

Period	Camel back for retreading rubber tyres (621 21)	Strip (eg orbi-strip) for retreading tyres (621 22)	Tubes, pipes and hoses of un- hardened vulcan- ized rubber(a) (621 41,45,49)
	tonnes	tonnes	'000 metres
1989-90		n.a.	11,334
1990-91		14,617	9,359
1991-92	1,021	17,781	6,884
1990—			
June qtr		n.a.	n.p.
September qtr		3,477	2,703
December qtr		3,614	2,608
1991—			
March qtr	153	2,941	2,310
June qtr	168	4,263	1,739
September qtr	n.p.	3,968	1,653
December qtr	289	4,276	1,709
1992—			
March qtr	200	4,508	1,764
June qtr	n.p.	5,029	1,758
September qtr	195	4,667	1,836
December qtr	206	4,739	1,794
1993—			
March qtr	207	4,456	1,969
1991-92: July to Mar.	n.p.	12,752	5,127
1992-93: July to Mar.	609	13,863	5,599

(a) Includes with fittings (eg joints, elbows, flanges).

TABLE 4. PAINTS AND OTHER SURFACE COATINGS
(⁰⁰⁰ litres)

Period	Architectural and decorative paints, enamels and clear(a)							
	Solvent thinned				Water thinned			
	Finishing coats				Plastic latex			
	Pigmented		Clears (533.68)	Primers and undercoats (533.69)	Finishing coats		Other water based (533.73)	
	Primer and undercoats (533.65)	Full gloss (533.66)			Flat (533.71)	Other (533.72)		
1989-90	5,724	11,567	4,350	3,713	7,109	32,298	33,135	6,626
1990-91	5,421	11,218	4,200	3,252	7,293	30,245	34,843	5,092
1991-92	5,111	9,968	3,775	3,063	8,238	29,226	37,550	4,709
1992—								
March	437	766	300	247	680	2,310	2,993	321
April	403	784	253	197	604	2,233	2,786	407
May	439	882	288	275	659	2,339	3,075	454
June	375	719	250	216	614	2,014	2,572	367
July	480	808	341	204	699	2,611	3,479	444
August	411	674	300	210	767	2,351	3,010	395
September	404	788	372	221	609	2,363	3,194	454
October	436	921	352	304	844	2,892	3,708	451
November	439	844	320	250	713	2,774	3,538	528
December	372	895	319	363	615	2,524	3,459	454
1993—								
January	376	749	263	173	628	1,971	2,794	266
February	434	796	308	189	634	2,562	3,065	487
March	443	946	322	229	672	2,630	3,667	430
April	444	880	313	166	704	2,790	3,624	473
May	458	848	288	160	667	2,447	3,331	445
1991-92: July to May.	4,736	9,249	3,526	2,847	7,623	27,212	34,978	4,342
1992-93: July to May.	4,698	9,149	3,498	2,470	7,551	27,915	36,867	4,827

For footnotes see end of table

TABLE 4. PAINTS AND OTHER SURFACE COATINGS—continued
(^{'000} litres)

Period	Industrial paints, enamels and clear(b)							
	Automotive				Other industrial			
	Finishing coats			Primers and undercoats (533.78)	Finishing coats			Other
	Primers and undercoats (533.74)	Nitro-cellulose lacquers (533.75)	Other (533.76)		Clears (533.79)	Colours (533.81)	Clears (533.82)	Colours (533.83)
1989-90	5,750	599	11,057	10,095	3,821	1,011	8,055	24,760
1990-91	5,150	474	9,181	8,667	3,213	724	7,861	21,302
1991-92	4,710	429	9,209	8,309	3,383	730	7,321	20,665
1992 —								
March	353	41	864	710	305	78	602	1,723
April	363	29	714	724	284	60	518	1,735
May	499	43	1,051	784	294	64	533	1,883
June	406	28	700	766	279	63	597	1,585
July	472	35	945	842	293	66	688	1,850
August	395	19	776	706	275	69	607	1,603
September	399	32	749	731	323	66	557	1,534
October	480	41	905	786	299	59	681	1,828
November	327	32	696	619	305	76	627	1,772
December	334	34	632	655	337	77	633	1,853
1993 —								
January	238	10	505	589	196	27	484	1,412
February	350	38	786	720	317	73	582	1,707
March	412	44	812	799	353	87	638	2,013
April	366	51	880	838	305	69	602	2,039
May	380	28	846	667	341	70	543	1,912
1991-92: July to May	4,304	401	8,509	7,543	3,103	667	6,725	19,080
1992-93: July to May	4,154	363	8,534	7,952	3,344	740	6,642	19,524

TABLE 4. PAINTS AND OTHER SURFACE COATINGS—continued
(^{'000} litres)

Period	Heavy duty coatings(c) (533.77)	Wood stains (oil, spirit, etc.) packed for sale or transfer out(d) (533.84)	Thinners		
			Marine coatings(e) (533.85)	For nitro-cellulose coatings (533.56)	For all other coatings (533.57)
1989-90	12,354	2,160	2,022	7,635	21,029
1990-91	12,637	1,657	1,696	6,905	19,430
1991-92	13,011	1,784	1,884	6,353	18,249
1992 —					
March	1,110	159	158	570	1,675
April	1,232	118	187	519	1,466
May	1,485	128	154	579	1,689
June	1,024	124	142	418	1,459
July	1,391	151	209	608	1,643
August	1,252	155	138	427	1,284
September	1,241	207	118	483	1,620
October	1,481	217	143	616	1,682
November	1,198	184	129	525	1,427
December	930	164	140	440	1,388
1993 —					
January	756	105	95	386	1,245
February	1,091	150	153	473	1,564
March	1,393	179	135	492	1,599
April	1,427	107	147	526	1,847
May	1,337	153	136	486	1,656
1991-92: July to May	11,987	1,659	1,742	5,935	16,791
1992-93: July to May	13,497	1,772	1,542	5,462	16,954

(a) Includes all paints and coatings for use on buildings and structures. Excludes heavy duty coatings. (b) Includes lacquers and water thinned industrial products. (c) Includes specialty coatings specifically designed for the protection of interiors and exteriors of buildings, plant and equipment etc. (d) Includes anti-pigmented, Mulsion and Chromate types. (e) Includes primers and undercoats, underwater compositions, boat-topping, deck paints and marine varnishes. Excludes superstructure paints which are included with architectural and decorative paints.

TABLE 5. PAINTS AND OTHER SURFACE COATINGS: STATES-MAY 1993
(*000 litres)

Code No.	Item	NSW	Vic.	Other States	Australia
Architectural and decorative paints, enamels and clears(a)—					
Solves thinned—					
533.65	Primers and undercoats	146	81	232	458
Finishing coats, pigmented—					
533.66	Full gloss	261	109	477	848
533.67	Other than full gloss	94	63	131	288
533.68	Finishing coats, clears	90	34	36	160
Water thinned—					
Plastic latex—					
533.69	Primers and undercoats	358	75	235	667
Finishing coats—					
533.71	Flat	1,321	245	881	2,447
533.72	Other than flat (satin, semi-gloss, gloss)	1,649	717	n.p.	3,331
533.73	Other water based	222	56	167	445
Industrial paints, enamels and clears(b)—					
Automotive—					
533.74	Primers and undercoats	n.p.	287	n.p.	380
Finishing coats—					
533.75	Niro-cellulose lacquers	19	n.p.	n.p.	28
533.76	Other	n.p.	676	n.p.	846
Other industrial—					
533.78	Primers and undercoats	242	274	151	667
Finishing coats—					
Niro-cellulose lacquers—					
533.79	Clears	181	73	88	341
533.81	Colours	42	17	12	70
Other—					
533.82	Clears	114	377	52	543
533.83	Colours	569	1,111	232	1,912
533.77	Heavy duty coatings(c)	171	265	901	1,337
533.84	Wood stains (oil, spirit, etc.)				
	packed for sale or transfer out(d)	87	53	14	153
533.85	Marine coatings(e)	n.p.	—	n.p.	136
Thinners—					
533.56	For nitro-cellulose coatings	119	109	257	486
533.57	For all other coatings	366	863	427	1,656

(a) Includes all paints and coatings for use on buildings and structures. Excludes heavy duty coatings. (b) Includes lacquers and water thinned industrial products.

(c) Includes specialty coatings specifically designed for the protection of interiors and exteriors of buildings, plant and equipment etc. (d) Includes part-pigmented, Madiason and Crocote types. (e) Includes primers and undercoats, underwater compositions, boat-topping, deck paints and marine varnishes. Excludes superstructure paints which are included with architectural and decorative paints.

TABLE 6. GASES

Period	Acetylene gas (511.15)	Carbon dioxide carbon monoxide and nitrous oxide(a) (522.73)	Hydrogen, rare gases, nitrogen and oxygen (522.21)
	'000 cu.m.	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes
1989-90	3,286	75	n.p.
1990-91	3,047	89	1,558
1991-92	2,708	97	1,974
1990—			
June qtr	853	22	n.p.
September qtr	896	23	n.p.
December qtr	701	25	412
1991—			
March qtr	668	23	n.p.
June qtr	782	19	406
September qtr	790	23	503
December qtr	586	24	620
1992—			
March qtr	553	27	465
June qtr	779	23	386
September qtr	806	22	391
December qtr	725	27	456
1993—			
March qtr	637	29	384
1991-92: July to Mar.			
1992-93: July to Mar.	1,929	74	1,588
	2,168	78	1,231

(a) Excludes dry ice.

TABLE 7. INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS

Period	Acids (in terms of 100 percent acid)					
	Hydrochloric; Chlorosulphuric (522.31)	Sulphuric; Oleum (522.32)			Ammonium sulphate Superphosphate(c)	
		Original	Seasonally adjusted(a)	Trend(b)	(562.13)	(562.23,24,25)
	tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes
1989-90	60,469	1,464	..	..	214	2,659
1990-91	55,663	986	..	..	215	1,574
1991-92	n.p.	816	..	..	233	1,337
1992 —						
March	5,258	78	67	67	24	150
April	7,211	67	64	68	25	157
May	5,214	75	69	69	11	128
June	n.p.	69	70	69	19	108
July	5,648	62	78	70	19	74
August	n.p.	52	63	72	n.p.	76
September	5,046	57	69	74	n.p.	46
October	4,413	70	80	76	n.p.	96
November	3,278	76	81	77	n.p.	128
December	5,126	88	78	77	n.p.	165
1993 —						
January	4,195	94	81	75	28	203
February	3,368	69	60	72	25	179
March	5,454	85	75	r 69	25	193
April	5,545	68	64	67	r 23	117
May	5,955	71	66	65	18	97
1991-92: July to May.	55,767	747	..	..	215	1,229
1992-93: July to May.	n.p.	793	..	..	245	1,374

(a) See paragraph 5, Explanatory Notes. (b) See paragraph 6 to 8, Explanatory Notes. (c) Double and triple superphosphates expressed in terms of single phosphate i.e. 9 per cent P equivalent.

TABLE 8. ORGANIC SURFACE-ACTIVE AGENTS(a)
(tonnes)

Period	Anionic(b) (554.24)	Cationic(c) (554.25)	Other(d) (554.26)
1989-90	26,868	8,439	6,611
1990-91	19,647	4,846	5,291
1991-92	16,643	2,461	3,956
1992 —			
March	1,588	205	293
April	1,528	199	285
May	1,434	134	433
June	1,531	216	360
July	1,609	194	289
August	1,435	201	342
September	1,420	176	308
October	1,404	163	338
November	1,697	182	322
December	1,301	145	273
1993 —			
January	1,050	191	303
February	1,495	126	297
March	r 1,542	r 206	366
April	r 1,531	r 177	340
May	1,575	155	398
1991-92: July to May.	15,111	2,245	3,596
1992-93: July to May.	16,060	1,915	3,577

(a) Organic surface-active agents are capable of absorption at an interface and in that state display a number of physico-chemical properties responsible for surface activity (e.g. reduction of surface tension, foaming, emulsifying and wetting). Excludes soap.
 (b) Organic surface-active agents which ionise in aqueous solution to produce negatively charged organic ions responsible for surface activity (e.g. sulphates and sulphonates of fats, vegetable oils or resin acids).
 (c) Organic surface-active agents which ionise in aqueous solution to produce positively charged organic ions responsible for surface activity (e.g. salts of fatty amines).
 (d) Includes non-ionic and amphoteric agents.

TABLE 9. DETERGENTS AND SOAP

Period	Soaps in bars, cakes, moulded pieces or shapes for personal use(a) (554.12) tonnes	Surface-active washing or cleaning preparations							
		Shampoo preparations(b) (553.31) tonnes	Scouring preparations(b) (554.39) tonnes	Fabric washing		Dish washing preparations		Soaking, rinsing or bleaching preparations (554.53) tonnes	Other(d) (554.54) tonnes
				Liquid (554.28) '000 litres	Other(c) (554.29) tonnes	Liquid (554.51) '000 litres	Other(c) (554.52) tonnes		
1989-90	33,461	19,929	12,110	50,592	108,248	29,993	4,099	27,373	33,534
1990-91	32,725	19,215	11,819	42,415	110,048	25,398	3,906	23,912	36,381
1991-92	32,760	19,968	11,865	41,936	110,013	30,679	3,633	32,196	35,792
1992 —									
March	2,838	1,742	1,001	3,573	8,151	3,145	237	2,888	2,980
April	2,864	1,425	1,024	2,538	8,262	2,016	383	2,660	2,610
May	3,806	2,150	1,105	4,106	11,338	2,834	291	3,102	2,667
June	3,005	1,731	1,083	2,997	9,896	2,635	301	3,213	2,757
July	3,142	1,982	1,154	4,744	10,566	2,892	396	3,169	2,877
August	2,798	1,693	999	3,970	7,542	2,046	362	2,305	2,772
September	2,634	2,068	928	3,692	8,138	2,653	344	2,430	3,026
October	2,917	2,156	1,148	3,634	8,188	2,652	223	2,715	3,042
November	2,585	1,647	1,003	3,277	7,507	2,978	333	2,887	3,042
December	2,532	1,332	610	3,353	6,609	2,571	353	2,912	2,455
1993 —									
January	2,088	1,538	536	2,203	6,364	1,996	285	2,843	2,034
February	2,879	1,650	1,203	2,880	8,596	2,732	144	3,298	3,019
March	3,660	2,150	r 1,383	r 4,022	r 8,566	r 3,211	r 275	r 3,358	2,760
April	3,235	r 1,545	r 898	r 3,414	7,721	r 2,783	r 401	r 2,497	r 2,927
May	3,443	1,988	1,323	3,562	8,447	2,693	321	2,569	3,228
1991-92: July to May	29,756	18,237	10,782	38,939	100,117	28,044	3,332	28,983	33,035
1992-93: July to May	31,913	19,749	11,187	38,752	88,244	29,206	3,437	30,982	31,183

(a) Includes abrasive and medicated. (b) Includes abrasive soap not in bars, cakes, moulded pieces or shapes. (c) For example powders. (d) Includes surface-active preparations for use in the processing or preparation of minerals, hides and skins, paper, dyed textiles, textile fibres, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication is one of a series of ten containing monthly and quarterly production statistics. The titles of the other publications of this series are shown in paragraph 9.

Classification

2. Data contained in these publications are mostly based on monthly or quarterly collections conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Most items are identified by the commodity codes used in Australian Standard Commodity Classification (ASCC), which was developed by the ABS to facilitate greater comparability of manufacturing production commodity statistics with import and export commodity statistics. 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

3. 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.

4. 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

5. This publication contains seasonally adjusted statistics. In the seasonal adjustment account has been taken not only of normal seasonal factors but also, where appropriate, 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

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.

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9. Other ABS publications which may be of interest are:

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