

ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA, JUNE 1990

INQUIRIES Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made by telephoning Information Services on Melbourne (03) 615 7000; for advice on the interpretation of these statistics, ask for Keith Amanatides.

MAIN FEATURES**Unemployment rate**

The Victorian unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) represented the lowest rate of all States at 5.3 per cent in May 1990 and compared favourably with the Australian average of 6.5 per cent. The Victorian unemployment rate increased by 0.6 percentage points from April 1990 compared with an increase of 0.3 percentage points for Australia.

Industrial disputes

In March 1990, Victoria ranked second to N.S.W. in number of working days lost per '000 employees, recording 224 days lost compared with 246 for N.S.W. and 186 days for Australia.

Dwelling approvals

In Victoria, new residential dwelling units approved in May 1990 increased by 6.9 per cent over April 1990, in seasonally adjusted terms, indicating a reversal in the decline over recent months. This compares with a 18.9 per cent decrease between March 1990 and April 1990.

New motor vehicle registrations

New motor vehicle registrations (seasonally adjusted) in Victoria decreased by 14.1 per cent in May 1990 over April 1990 and increased by 35.3 per cent over May 1989. This compares with increases of 0.5 per cent and 15.3 per cent respectively at the national level.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This publication contains the latest available statistical information on various aspects of the Victorian and Australian economies. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision.

Table 1 provides information for each State and for Australia, so that interstate comparisons can be made in terms of absolute values and percentage movements.

Table 2 provides comparative data for Victoria over various reference periods as well as a measure of the State's significance within the national economy.

Both tables are supplemented with graphs of the major statistical series. An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications* (Cat. No. 1101.0). A *Publications Advice* (Cat. No. 1105.0) is issued on Tuesdays and Fridays which lists publications to be released in the next few days. These publications are available from any ABS Office.

R.A. CROCKETT
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

TABLE 1. VICTORIA IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA (a)

Indicator	Reference period	Victoria as a percentage of							
		N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (b)	Australia
Employed persons	'000 May 90	2,633.5	2,103.3	1,330.6	664.5	759.8	201.3	7,916.1	26.6
*Unemployment rate - seasonally adjusted	per cent May 90	6.1	5.3	7.8	7.4	7.4	8.8	6.5	..
Average weekly total earnings - all employees	\$ Nov qr 89	471.30	466.70	419.30	433.60	449.80	426.60	457.20	..
Consumer price index, all groups	1980-81=100 Mar qr 90	204.9	205.1	200.9	202.5	204.1	200.2	204.1	..
*New dwelling units approved	no. May 90	3,756	2,793	2,975	1,101	1,660	293	13,003	21.5
Value of all buildings approved	\$m May 90	810.0	905.1	361.1	151.1	217.3	53.5	2,587.3	35.0
Engineering construction - commenced, total	\$m Dec qr 89	799.7	579.3	1,010.2	212.8	317.4	46.5	3,051.5	19.0
- yet to be done, total	\$m Dec qr 89	1,427.8	696.0	1,365.0	293.8	363.4	229.0	4,470.0	15.6
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m Apr 90	562.7	324.2	226.5	102.7	139.1	26.2	1,424.5	22.8
*Retail turnover - trend estimates	\$m Apr 90	2,551.6	1,775.7	1,196.1	554.1	619.6	179.6	7,057.2	25.2
New motor vehicle registrations - seasonally adjusted	no. May 90	20,629	14,111	9,113	3,463	4,462	..	54,239	26.0
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities	\$'000 Sep qr 89	215,716	88,859	125,337	26,894	42,039	8,704	539,631	16.5
Exports (excluding re-exports)	\$m Apr 90	903.6	575.0	965.9	287.1	738.4	105.7	4,188.0	13.7
Imports	\$m Apr 90	1,798.9	1,260.7	311.0	166.2	358.3	38.4	3,952.2	31.9
*Industrial disputes - working days lost per '000 employees	no. Mar 90	246	224	90	64	194	60	186	..
Electricity production	million kWh Mar 90	4,610	3,124	2,318	(c) 888.0	1,212	722	12,874	24.3
*Actual private new capital expenditure - seasonally adjusted	\$m Dec qr 89	2,521	1,882	958	501	938	127	7,148	25.4

CHANGE OVER SAME PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR (PER CENT)

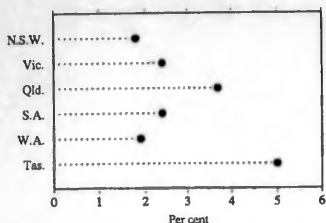
*Employed persons	'000 May 90	1.8	2.4	3.7	2.4	1.9	5.0	2.4	..
Unemployment rate - seasonally adjusted	per cent n.a.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Average weekly total earnings - all employees	\$ Nov qr 89	6.5	8.6	4.0	5.4	4.9	3.3	6.3	..
Consumer price index, all groups	1980-81=100 Mar qr 90	9.1	8.7	7.8	6.9	9.1	7.2	8.6	..
New dwelling units approved	no. May 90	-18.5	-32.1	-29.8	7.6	-31.5	-25.1	-24.2	..
Value of all buildings approved	\$m May 90	-3.7	26.7	-59.9	-23.0	-21.4	34.1	-14.4	..
Engineering construction - commenced, total	\$m Dec qr 89	49.4	35.6	128.5	39.6	-31.3	15.7	44.2	..
- yet to be done, total	\$m Dec qr 89	-0.3	-0.9	128.1	-8.8	-31.5	-0.7	14.5	..
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m Apr 90	-5.4	-31.6	-4.3	-21.0	-22.9	-9.0	-15.5	..
Retail turnover - trend estimates	\$m Apr 90	8.8	4.5	7.9	5.7	6.6	9.6	6.9	..
New motor vehicle registrations - seasonally adjusted	no. May 90	12.8	35.3	11.0	0.9	-7.0	..	15.3	..
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities	\$'000 Sep qr 89	7.0	26.3	-24.8	20.2	15.1	-1.6	0.5	..
Exports (excluding re-exports)	\$m Apr 90	19.1	-23.1	18.8	20.9	11.0	-1.2	11.5	..
Imports	\$m Apr 90	3.3	-6.2	1.2	-11.7	17.2	9.7	-1.3	..
Industrial disputes - working days lost per '000 employees	no. Mar 90	-27.0	4.7	-70.9	-34.7	-22.4	-38.1	-28.2	..
Electricity production	million kWh Mar 90	12.1	-4.7	6.7	(c) -6.5	14.8	4.5	5.0	..
Actual private new capital expenditure - seasonally adjusted	\$m Dec qr 89	0.6	5.0	27.4	24.3	-6.9	-34.5	4.4	..

(a) All figures are original unless otherwise stated. (b) The Australian total includes figures for N.T. and the A.C.T. (c) Includes N.T.

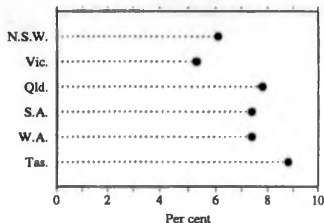
* An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

VICTORIA IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA - GRAPHS

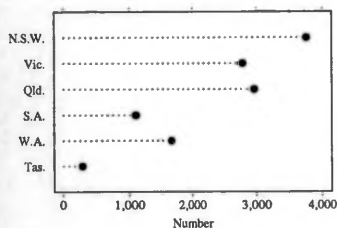
EMPLOYED PERSONS
Change over same period previous year
May 1990



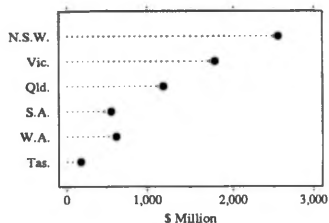
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
Seasonally adjusted
May 1990



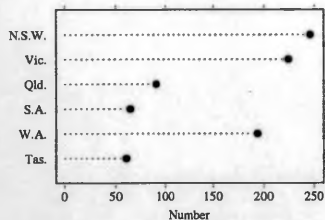
NEW DWELLING UNITS APPROVED
May 1990



RETAIL TURNOVER
Trend estimates
April 1990



INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES
Working days lost per '000 employees
March 1990



PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
Seasonally adjusted
December quarter 1989

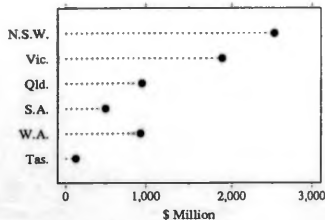


TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator		Reference period	Victoria				Australia				Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)
			Figures		% Change		Figures		% Change			
			Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year	Latest period	Over preceding period	Over preceding period			
Population -												
Estimated resident population	'000	Dec qr 89	4,349.7	4,335.0	0.3	1.3	16,957.1	0.4	25.7	1		
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000	May 90	3,420.2	3,415.6	0.1	1.4	13,236.5	0.2	25.8	2		
Labour force -												
Labour force												
- original series	'000	May 90	2,221.2	2,222.2	0.0	2.7	8,466.5	0.5	26.2	2		
- seasonally adjusted	'000	May 90	2,215.6	2,213.2	0.1	2.7	8,449.3	0.8	26.2	2		
- trend estimate	'000	May 90	2,209.3	2,204.3	0.2	2.9	8,404.0	0.1	26.3	2		
Participation rate - seasonally adjusted	per cent	May 90	64.8	64.8	..	..	63.8	..	..	2		
*Unemployment rate												
- original series	per cent	May 90	5.3	4.9	..	..	6.5	..	..	2		
- seasonally adjusted	per cent	May 90	5.3	4.7	..	..	6.5	..	..	2		
- trend estimate	per cent	May 90	5.0	4.9	..	..	6.4	..	..	2		
Employed persons by industry (e)												
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc (b)	'000	Feb qr 90	109.9	116.5	-5.7	-1.8	422.2	-2.0	26.0	13, 14		
Manufacturing	'000	Feb qr 90	384.6	399.4	-3.7	-1.8	1,209.1	-2.1	31.8	13, 14		
Construction	'000	Feb qr 90	161.4	160.9	0.3	8.5	617.2	1.5	26.2	13, 14		
Wholesale and retail	'000	Feb qr 90	433.9	421.0	3.1	3.6	1,635.4	-1.1	26.5	13, 14		
Transport and storage	'000	Feb qr 90	98.4	100.2	-1.8	7.2	391.7	-2.1	25.1	13, 14		
Finance, property and business services	'000	Feb qr 90	247.2	239.6	3.2	16.3	909.8	1.9	27.2	13, 14		
Community services (c)	'000	Feb qr 90	349.2	351.3	-0.6	0.4	1,334.9	-2.0	26.2	13, 14		
Recreational, personal and other services	'000	Feb qr 90	134.5	131.3	2.4	24.0	590.0	-1.1	22.8	13, 14		
Other industries (d)	'000	Feb qr 90	161.8	157.1	3.0	-5.9	698.8	1.0	23.2	13, 14		
Total all industries	'000	Feb qr 90	2,081.1	2,077.6	0.2	3.9	7,809.1	-0.8	26.6	13, 14		
Job vacancies (e) - original series	'000	Feb qr 90	15.5	17.2	-9.9	-26.9	60.9	-2.9	25.5	3		
Overtime (e)												
Average weekly hours per employee	hours	Feb qr 90	1.52	1.89	-19.6	0.0	1.36	-15.0	..	3		
Employees working overtime	per cent	Feb qr 90	19.23	21.37	-10.0	0.4	18.69	-8.7	..	3		
Average weekly employee earnings (e)												
Full-time adult - total	\$	Nov qr 89	520.20	508.70	2.3	6.8	516.60	1.6	..	4		
All employees - total	\$	Nov qr 89	466.70	452.70	3.1	8.6	457.20	2.3	..	4		
Award rates of pay												
Full-time adult employees	June 85=100	May 90	130.3	128.5	1.4	5.7	128.0	0.7	..	5		
Industrial disputes												
Working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Mar 90	224	228	-1.8	4.7	186	-4.6	..	6		
*Consumer price index (e)												
All groups	1980-81=100	Mar qr 90	205.1	202.0	1.5	8.7	204.1	1.7	..	7		
*Retail trade establishments												
Value of turnover												
- original series	\$m	Apr 90	1,668.1	1,745.8	-4.5	3.8	6,617.6	-4.3	25.2	8		
- trend estimate	\$m	Apr 90	1,775.7	1,782.5	-0.4	4.5	7,057.2	0.4	25.2	8		
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Mar qr 90	3,738.7	3,759.9	-0.6	-0.4	14,836.1	0.0	25.2	8		
*Overseas trade -												
Imports	\$m	Apr 90	1,260.7	1,430.1	-11.8	-6.2	3,952.2	-5.8	31.9	9		
Exports (exclude re-exports)	\$m	Apr 90	575.0	679.8	-15.4	-23.1	4,188.0	10.9	13.7	10		

(a) For more information on these series, refer to the publications listed in the source index on page 6. (b) Includes hunting and mining. (c) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc., welfare and religious institutions, and other community groups. (d) Comprises electricity, gas and water, communications, public administration and defence. (e) Available only for the middle month of the quarter.

* An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)															
Indicator		Reference period	Victoria				Australia				Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)			
			Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year	Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period						
										Figures			% Change	Figures	% Change
*New motor vehicle registrations -															
New motor vehicle registrations															
- original series	no.	May 90	15,066	14,863	1.4	34.6	60,338	27.6	25.0	11					
- seasonally adjusted	no.	May 90	14,111	16,418	-14.1	35.3	54,239	0.5	26.0	11					
- trend estimate	no.	May 90	15,969	15,625	2.2	28.0	55,347	0.8	28.9	11					
Cars and station wagons															
- original series	no.	May 90	12,639	12,503	1.1	37.1	47,477	27.0	26.6	11, 12					
- seasonally adjusted	no.	May 90	11,803	13,912	-15.2	37.3	42,853	-0.4	27.5	11, 12					
Other motor vehicles (excludes motor cycles)															
- original series	no.	May 90	2,427	2,360	2.8	22.5	12,861	30.3	18.9	11, 12					
- seasonally adjusted	no.	May 90	2,308	2,503	-7.8	25.9	11,387	4.2	20.3	11, 12					
Manufacturing -															
Actual private new capital expenditure															
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 89	789	660	19.5	10.0	2,205	14.0	35.8	15, 16					
Production -															
Whole milk	million litres	Mar 90	254	274	-7.3	5.4	444	-2.6	57.2	17, 18					
Butter	tonnes	Feb 90	4,317	8,382	-48.5	-23.0	5,521	-43.5	78.2	19					
Cheese (incl. cheddar and non-cheddar)	tonnes	Feb 90	9,894	10,473	-5.5	-5.6	14,619	-16.3	67.7	19					
Yarns															
- Cotton	tonnes	Apr 90	755	742	1.8	-15.0	1,411	-17.7	53.5	17, 18					
- Woollen	tonnes	Apr 90	1,009	1,334	-24.4	-17.0	1,553	-12.9	65.0	17, 18					
Woven fabric															
- Cotton	'000 sq m	Apr 90	1,064	973	9.4	-37.2	3,073	-9.1	34.6	17, 18					
- Woollen (includes worsted wool)	'000 sq m	Apr 90	220	214	2.8	26.4	553	-26.2	39.8	17, 18					
- Man-made fibres	'000 sq m	Apr 90	4,945	6,401	-22.7	-19.1	12,739	-17.8	38.8	17, 18					
Textile floor coverings	'000 sq m	Mar 90	3,295	2,983	10.5	9.7	3,717	0.0	88.6	17, 18					
Clay bricks	million	Mar 90	43	37	16.2	30.3	177	13.5	24.3	17, 18					
Ready mixed concrete	'000 cu m	Mar 90	423	357	18.5	13.4	1,466	16.5	28.9	20					
Paints and other surface coatings															
- Architectural and decorative paints	'000 litres	Mar 90	1,678	1,633	2.8	-9.0	9,330	13.8	18.0	21					
Electricity - production	million kWh	Mar 90	3,124	2,994	4.3	-4.7	12,874	9.2	24.3	22					
Gas - available for issue through mains	million Mj	Mar 90	9,707	9,027	7.5	-0.8	40,984	10.8	23.7	22					
Tourism -															
Caravan parks - takings	\$'000	Sep qr 89	11,816	10,449	13.1	13.5	78,723	13.1	15.0	23					
Licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities															
- Takings	\$'000	Sep qr 89	88,859	86,781	2.4	26.3	539,631	10.9	16.5	23					
- Room occupancy rate	per cent	Sep qr 89	51.0	52.6	..	..	54.2	..	..	23					
*Housing finance for owner occupation -															
Secured loans to individuals by type of lender															
All Banks															
- number of dwelling units financed	no.	Apr 90	3,949	5,606	-29.6	-23.6	14,933	-28.8	26.4	24					
- value of loans secured	\$m	Apr 90	273.8	419.0	-34.7	-24.7	1,067.1	-29.2	25.7	24					
Total number of dwelling units financed	no.	Apr 90	4,704	6,584	-28.6	-29.0	19,686	-27.4	23.9	24					
Total value of loans secured (c)	\$m	Apr 90	324.2	485.5	-33.2	-31.6	1,424.5	-27.9	22.8	24					
Loan purpose (d)															
- Established dwellings	\$m	Apr 90	210.2	348.4	-39.7	-38.6	908.6	-37.3	23.1	24					
- Construction of dwellings	\$m	Apr 90	62.7	95.3	-34.2	-27.4	243.2	-28.6	25.8	24					
- Newly erected dwellings	\$m	Apr 90	19.1	25.7	-25.7	-10.7	79.3	-25.6	24.1	24					

(a) For more information on these series, refer to the publications listed in the source index on page 6. (b) Available only for the middle month of the quarter. (c) Includes, alterations and additions to residential buildings. (d) Excludes, alterations and additions to residential buildings.

* An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)

Indicator	Victoria						Australia				Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index
	Reference period	Figures		% Change		Figures		% Change				
		Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year	Latest period	Over preceding period					
Building Approvals -												
*New residential dwelling units												
- original series	no.	May 90	2,793	2,056	35.8	-32.1	13,003	32.9	21.5	25, 26		
- seasonally adjusted	no.	May 90	2,373	2,220	6.9	-33.2	11,465	4.3	20.7	25, 26		
- trend estimate	no.	May 90	2,414	2,456	-1.7	-28.9	11,451	-0.4	21.1	25, 26		
 Value of non-residential buildings												
- original series	\$m	May 90	620.1	162.9	280.7	93.1	1,325.6	53.6	46.8	26		
Value of all buildings (c)												
- original series	\$m	May 90	905.1	379.5	138.5	26.7	2,587.3	39.6	35.0	26		
 Building commencements -												
New residential dwelling units, monthly	no.	Apr 90	2,157	2,479	-13.0	-40.4	n.a.	n.a.	=	27		
New residential dwelling units, quarterly	no.	Dec qr 89	7,290	8,420	-13.4	-26.9	35,110	-8.9	20.8	28		
 Building Activity -												
Value of total building activity												
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 89	1,790.8	1,453.1	23.2	-5.2	6,944.7	-3.2	25.8	28		
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 89	2,055.9	2,064.6	-0.4	13.7	8,109.0	0.5	25.4	28		
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 89	3,849.7	3,907.6	-1.5	16.7	13,786.1	-3.9	27.9	28		
 Engineering construction -												
Value of work by private sector												
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 89	198.0	274.8	-27.9	9.5	1,509.7	17.4	13.1	29		
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 89	225.0	211.4	6.4	11.9	1,352.6	-0.6	16.6	29		
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 89	491.2	513.1	-4.3	19.0	2,476.3	10.7	19.8	29		
Value of work by public sector												
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 89	381.3	356.4	7.0	54.9	1,541.7	-18.3	24.7	29		
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 89	370.2	345.9	7.0	54.6	1,607.1	23.5	23.0	29		
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 89	204.9	196.8	4.1	-29.3	1,993.3	-2.4	10.3	29		
 *Actual private new capital expenditure -												
Building and structures - original series	\$m	Dec qr 89	774	684	13.2	24.8	3,081	16.6	25.1	15		
Equipment, plant and machinery												
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 89	1,297	1,173	10.6	-3.4	4,726	6.0	27.4	15		
Total new capital expenditure												
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 89	2,071	1,857	11.5	5.5	7,807	10.0	26.5	15		
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 89	1,882	1,893	-0.6	5.0	7,148	-2.9	26.3	15		
 Finance -												
Personal finance commitments - total	\$m	Apr 90	471.5	508.6	-7.3	-3.3	1,736.5	-15.6	27.2	30		
Commercial finance commitments - total	\$m	Feb 90	2,280.4	2,917.3	-21.8	5.8	6,624.6	-19.4	34.4	31		
Lease finance commitments - total	\$m	Apr 90	137.2	162.6	-15.6	-25.6	573.4	-11.5	23.9	32		

* An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

SOURCE INDEX

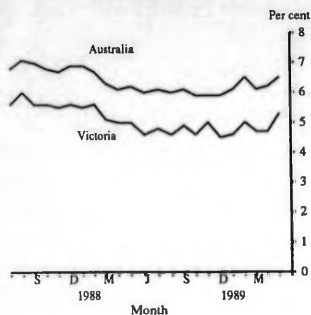
For detailed explanatory notes an01.0) \$7.50

- The Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary, (6202.0) \$8.00
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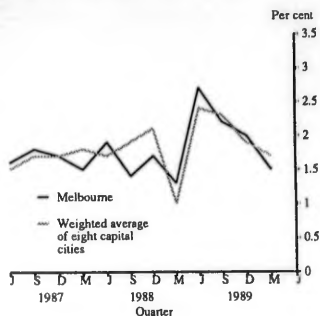
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ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - GRAPHS

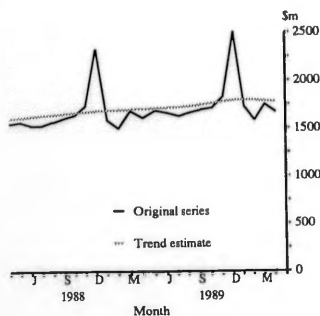
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF THE CIVILIAN
POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER
(Seasonally adjusted)



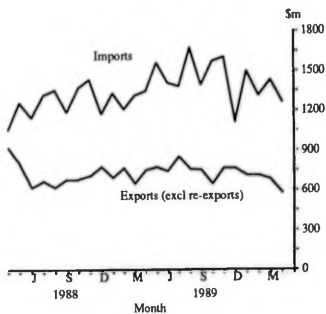
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS
Percentage change from previous quarter



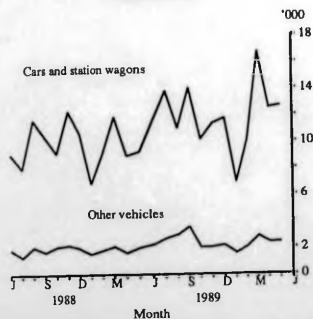
TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS,
VICTORIA



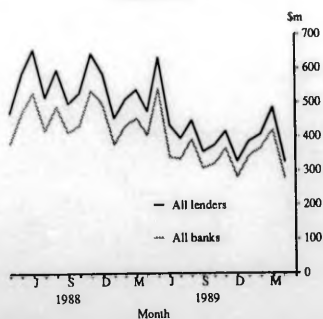
VALUE OF IMPORTS INTO, AND EXPORTS
FROM, VICTORIAN PORTS
(Original series)

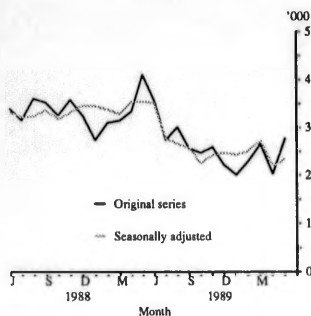
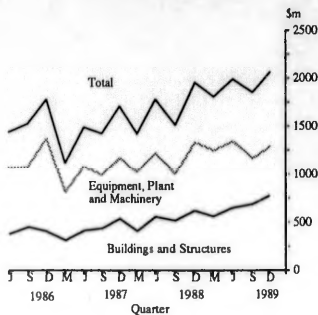


NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED,
VICTORIA
(Original series)



SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS
TO INDIVIDUALS, VICTORIA
(Original series)



NUMBER OF NEW RESIDENTIAL DWELLING
UNITS APPROVED, VICTORIAACTUAL PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL
EXPENDITURE, VICTORIA
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Symbols and other usages

n.a. not available
n.y.a. not yet available
p preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
r figure or series revised since previous issue
.. not applicable
- nil or rounded to zero
— break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn between two consecutive figures in the same column, or alongside two or more figures in consecutive columns).

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



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