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NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISES IN AUSTRALIA
SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1977 (ACTUAL)
OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1977 (EXPECTED)

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics -

- ring Mr Brian Thorp, Canberra 525623 or our State Office, or
 - write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616
- For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 525627 or State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

- The estimate of new capital expenditure for the September quarter 1977 is \$1.619m.
- Seasonally adjusted the September quarter 1977 estimate is 7% more than the June quarter 1977 estimate.
- The estimate of \$6,123m for the year ended September 1977 is 14.5% higher than the estimate of \$5,346m for the year ended September 1976.
- The estimate of expected new capital expenditure for three months ending December 1977 is \$1,981m. If this expectation were realised, the estimate of new capital expenditure for the six months ending December 1977 would be \$3,999m which, seasonally adjusted, would be 15% higher than the seasonally adjusted estimate for the six months ended June 1977.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains estimates of actual and expected new capital expenditure by type of asset for selected industry groups (see tables 1 and 2) and by industry group (see table 3). These estimates replace the preliminary estimates previously published in *New Capital Expenditure by Private Enterprises in Australia* (Catalogue No. 5625) published on 28 November 1977.

- The series contained in this bulletin have been compiled by using the information supplied by a stratified random sample of the business enterprises recorded in the Bureau's Central Integrated Register of business units engaged in economic activity in Australia. The figures obtained from the selected informants are then statistically expanded using a predetermined mathematical formula, together with an allowance for new enterprises, to derive an estimate of new capital expenditure by all enterprises in the private sector of the

Australian economy, within the industry scope of the survey. (For a discussion on the scope of the survey, see paragraph 8. For a discussion of the precision of these sample estimates, see paragraphs 12 to 14).

Classification by industry

- In order to classify new capital expenditure by industry in these series, each enterprise listed in the Bureau's Central Integrated Register of Statistical Units (and therefore each selected enterprise) is classified to the industry in the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) in which it mainly operates. All of the new capital expenditure of each selected enterprise is then classified to that industry irrespective of the other industries in which establishments of the enterprise may operate. In the case of capital expenditure on new assets which are leased to other enterprises, the capital expenditure is classified to the industry of the lessor. Estimates of the new capital expenditure in each industry are then compiled as outlined in paragraph 2 above. Statistics from the 1968-69 Integrated Economic Census, concerning the relationship between enterprises and establishments, suggest that these enterprise based estimates should be a reliable indicator of corresponding establishment based figures.

Dissection by type of asset

- The series of total new capital expenditure shown in table 1 is dissected by type of asset, viz. new buildings and structures and other new capital equipment. (For a description of these terms see paragraph 6). The series of new capital expenditure by industry group is not dissected in this way.

Comparison with other statistics published by the Bureau

- The statistics shown in this bulletin will be different from similar statistics shown in other bulletins released by this Bureau for the following reasons:

- (1) the statistics shown in this bulletin are derived from a sample survey and consequently are subject to sampling variability;
- (2) these statistics are classified by the industry of enterprise (as described above) as opposed to industry of establishment shown in some of the Bureau's publications (e.g. Manufacturing Establishments - Details of Operations by Industry Class - Australia);
- (3) these statistics measure new capital expenditure whereas other bulletins (particularly National Accounts bulletins) measure gross fixed capital expenditure which includes purchases less sales of second hand assets;
- (4) These statistics exclude rural, construction and community services which are included in National Accounts estimates.

Description of terms

6. *Enterprise.* For statistical purposes, the concept of an enterprise is broadly one of a unit comprising all the operations in Australia of a single operating legal entity (e.g. company, partnership, sole proprietor).

New capital expenditure. Expenditure incurred during the period on new fixed tangible assets, including major improvements, alterations and additions, also including expenditure on new fixed tangible assets intended for rental or lease outside the enterprise or for transfer or sale to a related enterprise; expenditure on new buildings or land development projects intended for sale (including administrative and other overheads charged to projects but excluding cost of land); expenditure on new fixed tangible assets purchased for purposes of mining exploration; and all expenditure on developmental activities carried out primarily for purposes of commencing or extending mining and quarrying operations.

New buildings and structures. Includes houses, flats and home units, water and sewerage installations, lifts, heating, ventilating and similar equipment forming an integral part of buildings and structures, land and construction site development, roads, bridges, wharves, harbours, railway lines, pipe lines, power and telephone lines; also includes all work associated with mine development e.g. construction of shafts etc. in underground mines.

Other new capital equipment. Includes plant, machinery, vehicles, electrical apparatus, office equipment, furniture, fixtures and fittings not forming an integral part of buildings, durable containers, special tooling, etc.; also includes goods newly imported from overseas whether previously used outside Australia or not.

Expected expenditure. Represents the total of new capital expenditure expected by individual businesses at the beginning of the period. Subsequent changes in economic conditions may cause revision of plans and affect the timing of construction or the deliveries of equipment, or their cost. On occasions individual plans may prove to be collectively beyond the capacity of the economy.

Accruals basis

7. Respondents have been asked to report all expenditure incurred during the period under review for the acquisition of new fixed tangible assets including design, technical and legal fees and assembly, installation and transport costs, irrespective of when the payments for those assets are made.

Scope of the survey

8. The estimates aim in principle to measure the value of new capital expenditure by all private businesses in Australia. However, because of the large numbers involved and other collection difficulties, it is not possible to include in the survey those enterprises primarily engaged in rural activity. All government enterprises are outside the scope of the survey.

Coverage in this Publication

9. Although those enterprises coded to construction and community services are within the scope of the survey, because of the problem of identifying them and other collection difficulties the estimates for these sectors are unreliable and are excluded from published figures. Coverage of the transport sector is generally limited to those enterprises paying payroll tax or registered as group employers. It is likely therefore that the published estimates for transport exclude expenditure by many "owner drivers" and similar small enterprises.

Seasonal adjustment

10. Seasonally adjusted statistics are shown in Tables 1 and 2. The adjustments made to the components and totals have been on direct analyses of the series. For this reason, while the unadjusted components in the original series add to the total, the seasonally adjusted components may not add to the adjusted totals. It should be noted that the seasonally adjusted figures reflect the sampling errors to which the original figures are subject.

11. Details of the seasonal adjustment methods used, together with selected measures of variability for these series are given in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators 1977* (Catalogue No. 1308.0) issued on 10 August 1977.

Precision of the estimates

12. As the estimates are derived from returns received from a sample of businesses, they may differ from the results which would have been obtained by a comparable complete collection. A measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error of each estimate. There are about 2 chances in 3 that a sample estimate will differ from results which would be obtained from a comparable complete collection by less than 1 standard error, and 19 chances in 20 that the difference would be less than 2 standard errors. The standard error of the estimate of new capital expenditure is approximately 2.5 per cent of the total value for all industries. Therefore, for the September quarter 1977 estimate of total new capital expenditure which is \$1,619 million, there are 2 chances in 3 that a complete collection would give an estimate within the range of approximately \$1,579 million to \$1,659 million, and 19 chances in 20 that the estimate would be within the range of \$1,538 million to \$1,700 million. The standard errors of estimates for the individual industry groups are approximately 2 per cent for manufacturing, 2 per cent for mining, 9 per cent for wholesale and retail trade, 9 per cent for transport and 4 per cent for other industries. The standard errors for the type of asset dissection are approximately 6 per cent for new buildings and structures and 3 per cent for other new capital equipment.

13. The standard errors of the estimates, quoted above, relate to the level of the estimates of new capital expenditure. The sample estimates of quarter to quarter movement in the value of new capital expenditure (i.e. the difference between the estimates for the current quarter and those for the preceding quarter) are, likewise, subject to sampling variability. A measure of the likely difference between the sample estimate of movement and the movement indicated by the results of comparable complete collections, is given by the

standard error of the estimate of movement. The standard error of the estimate of movement is expressed as a percentage of the quarterly estimate of the level and is approximately 1.5 per cent for the total movement for all industries. For example, the decrease in total new capital expenditure between June quarter 1977 and September quarter 1977 is \$4 million. This means that there are 2 chances in 3 that the movement would be between a decrease of \$28 million and an increase of \$20 million and 19 chances in 20 that the movement would be between a decrease of \$53 million and an increase of \$45 million. The standard errors for the individual industry group estimates are 1.5 per cent for mining, 1.5 per cent for manufacturing and 2.5 per cent for other industries. The standard errors for those industries included in the manufacturing group are within the range of 1 per cent to 15 per cent. The standard errors for selected industries included in the "other industries" group are 5 per cent for wholesale and retail trade, 3 per cent for transport and 3 per cent for other non-manufacturing.

14. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, is not of course the only type of inaccuracy to which the estimates are subject. Other inaccuracies, referred to collectively as non-sampling error, may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents, deficiencies in the Register of business units from which the sample is selected, and deficiencies in the allowances made each quarter for the probable commencement of new enterprises since the sample was selected. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, efficient operating procedures, and appropriate methodology.

15. All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications, 1977* (Catalogue No. 1101.0. Previously Ref. No. 1.8) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY SELECTED ASIC SUB-DIVISIONS AND TYPE OF ASSET
ACTUAL EXPENDITURE DECEMBER QUARTER 1975 TO SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1977
ORIGINAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES (a)

	New buildings and structures (b)				Other new capital equipment				Total new capital expenditure			
	Manu- facturing	Mining	Other industries (36-37 46-63, 91-93)	All industries (c) (11-37, 46-63, 91-93)	Manu- facturing	Mining	Other industries (36-37, 46-63, 91-93)	All industries (c) (11-37, 46-63, 91-93)	Manu- facturing	Mining	Other industries (36-37, 46-63, 91-93)	All industries (c) (11-37, 46-63, 91-93)
Quarter	(21-34)	(11-16)	(91-93)	(91-93)	(21-34)	(11-16)	(91-93)	(91-93)	(21-34)	(11-16)	(91-93)	(91-93)
ORIGINAL SERIES (\$ million)												
1975-76 - December	70.6	94.4	349.2	514.2	288.1	84.9	471.0	844.0	358.7	179.3	820.2	1,358.2
March	57.5	62.2	240.7	360.4	274.8	74.7	426.1	775.6	332.3	136.9	666.8	1,136.0
June	72.6	66.0	309.1	447.7	380.6	87.7	584.2	1,052.5	453.2	153.7	893.3	1,500.2
1976-77 - September	76.9	53.7	329.1	459.7	314.1	66.0	512.1	892.2	391.0	119.7	841.2	1,351.9
December	90.4	56.7	320.3	467.4	383.6	64.2	678.9	1,126.7	474.0	120.9	999.2	1,594.1
March	58.9	57.8	248.9	365.6	327.6	50.7	543.3	921.6	386.5	108.5	792.7	1,287.2
June	77.1	74.8	334.9	486.8	418.9	65.7	651.5	1,136.1	496.0	140.5	986.4	1,622.9
1977-78 - September	82.0	76.7	359.9	518.6	401.3	77.5	621.4	1,100.2	483.3	154.2	981.3	1,618.8
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES (\$ million)												
1975-76 - December	63.6	82.8	317.1	462.5	262.3	79.7	460.0	793.8	326.2	163.2	754.7	1,256.7
March	66.3	73.9	292.6	431.2	313.9	83.9	485.5	872.1	381.7	159.4	794.1	1,315.2
June	67.5	65.0	298.1	428.2	351.9	80.1	548.8	995.8	415.9	145.0	840.4	1,411.4
1976-77 - September	81.2	53.0	317.0	456.6	332.2	69.4	495.8	900.0	415.6	121.1	833.8	1,361.4
December	81.7	50.5	290.4	420.2	349.8	60.4	662.5	1,061.2	431.8	111.0	917.5	1,476.0
March	67.9	68.7	302.3	437.4	374.2	57.0	617.8	1,035.3	444.0	126.6	942.6	1,489.1
June	71.5	73.8	323.0	465.7	387.1	60.1	611.5	1,075.6	454.7	132.8	927.2	1,527.5
1977-78 - September	86.5	75.2	346.9	515.1	424.4	81.2	602.7	1,108.9	513.8	155.2	974.7	1,629.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (Seasonally adjusted series)												
1975-76 - March	+4	-11	-8	-7	+20	+5	+6	+10	+17	-2	+5	+5
June	+2	-12	+2	-1	+12	-5	+13	+14	+9	-9	+6	+7
1976-77 - September	+20	-18	+6	+7	-6	-13	-10	-10	..	-16	-1	-4
December	+1	-5	-8	-8	+5	-13	+34	+18	+4	-8	+10	+8
March	-17	+36	+4	+4	+7	-6	-7	-2	+3	+14	+3	+1
June	+5	+7	+7	+6	+3	+5	-1	+4	+2	+5	-2	+3
1977-78 - September	+21	+2	+7	+11	+10	+35	-1	+3	+13	+17	+5	+7

(a) Change from seasonally adjusted actual expenditure in preceding period. (b) Includes mine development. (c) Excludes rural, construction and community services.

TABLE 2. NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY SELECTED ASIC SUB-DIVISIONS AND TYPE OF ASSET ACTUAL AND EXPECTED (a) EXPENDITURE 1975-76 TO 1977-78 ORIGINAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

Period		New buildings and structures				Other new capital equipment				Total new capital expenditure				
		Manu- facturing	Mining (b)	Other industries (36-37, 46-63, 91-93)	All industries (d) (11-37, 46-63, 91-93)	Manu- facturing	Mining (b)	Other industries (36-37, 46-63, 91-93)	All industries (d) (11-37, 46-63, 91-93)	Manu- facturing	Mining (b)	Other industries (36-37, 46-63, 91-93)	All industries (d) (11-37, 46-63, 91-93)	
		(21-34)	(11-16)	(91-93)	(91-93)	(21-34)	(11-16)	(91-93)	(91-93)	(21-34)	(11-16)	(91-93)	(91-93)	
ORIGINAL SERIES (\$ million)														
6 Months Ended Dec.	1975	- Expected	137.9	193.3	546.4	877.6	551.8	186.8	720.4	1,459.0	689.7	380.1	1,266.8	2,336.6
3 Months Ended Sept.	1975	- Actual	72.0	104.9	276.2	453.1	275.9	78.8	438.2	792.9	347.9	183.7	714.4	1,246.0
3 Months Ended Dec.	1975	- Expected	80.9	110.1	r325.8	r516.8	328.5	98.3	r428.2	r855.0	409.4	208.4	r754.0	r1,371.8
6 Months Ended Dec.	1975	- Actual	142.6	199.3	625.4	967.3	564.0	163.7	909.2	1,636.9	706.6	363.0	1,534.6	2,604.2
6 Months Ended June	1976	- Expected	145.0	146.2	626.1	917.3	635.4	174.2	882.2	1,691.8	780.4	320.4	1,508.3	2,609.1
3 Months Ended March	1976	- Actual	57.5	62.2	240.7	360.4	274.8	74.7	426.1	775.6	332.3	136.9	666.8	1,136.0
3 Months Ended June	1976	- Expected	92.1	65.7	r317.1	r474.9	391.3	110.6	r525.5	r1,027.4	483.4	176.3	r842.6	r1,502.3
6 Months Ended June	1976	- Actual	130.1	128.2	549.8	808.1	655.4	162.4	1,010.3	1,828.1	785.5	290.6	1,560.1	2,636.2
6 Months Ended Dec.	1976	- Expected	164.4	120.2	701.5	986.1	715.7	148.2	983.3	1,846.2	880.1	268.4	1,683.8	2,832.3
3 Months Ended Sept.	1976	- Actual	76.9	53.7	329.1	459.7	314.1	66.0	512.1	892.2	391.0	119.7	841.2	1,351.9
3 Months Ended Dec.	1976	- Expected	102.6	74.4	r338.4	r515.4	407.6	79.8	r589.9	r1,077.3	510.2	154.2	r928.3	r1,592.7
6 Months Ended Dec.	1976	- Actual	167.3	110.4	649.4	927.1	697.7	130.2	1,191.0	2,018.9	865.0	240.6	1,840.4	2,946.0
6 Months Ended June	1977	- Expected	182.3	176.8	624.3	983.4	818.4	152.5	1,054.5	2,025.4	1,000.7	329.3	1,678.8	3,008.8
3 Months Ended March	1977	- Actual	58.9	57.8	248.9	365.6	327.6	50.7	543.3	921.6	386.5	108.5	792.2	1,287.2
3 Months Ended June	1977	- Expected	91.6	100.8	r362.5	r554.9	473.9	86.4	r583.7	r1,144.0	565.5	r187.2	r946.2	r1,698.9
6 Months Ended June	1977	-Actual	136.0	132.6	583.8	852.4	746.5	116.4	1,194.8	2,057.7	882.5	249.0	1,778.6	2,910.1
6 Months Ended Dec.	1977	- Expected	216.8	204.5	737.7	1,159.0	954.3	225.1	1,096.9	2,276.3	1,171.1	429.6	1,834.6	3,435.3
3 Months Ended Sept.	1977	- Actual	82.0	76.7	359.9	516.6	401.3	77.5	621.4	1,100.2	483.3	154.2	981.3	1,618.8
3 Months Ended Dec.	1977	- Expected	112.8	116.7	385.1	614.6	538.7	135.8	691.4	1,365.9	651.5	252.5	1,076.5	1,980.5
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES (\$ million) (c)														
6 Months Ended Dec.	1975	- Expected	140.0	193.3	536.9	870.2	562.0	186.8	702.6	1,451.4	700.6	380.1	1,239.4	2,320.1
3 Months Ended Sept.	1975	- Actual	76.0	105.1	265.7	450.1	291.9	83.4	422.7	801.3	369.6	187.8	705.2	1,255.6
6 Months Ended Dec.	1975	- Actual	139.6	187.9	582.8	912.6	554.2	163.1	882.7	1,595.1	695.8	351.0	1,459.9	2,512.3
6 Months Ended June	1976	- Expected	142.7	146.2	636.9	925.8	622.2	174.2	901.2	1,697.6	767.3	320.4	1,539.2	2,626.9
3 Months Ended March	1976	- Actual	66.3	73.9	292.6	431.2	313.9	83.9	483.5	872.1	381.7	159.4	794.1	1,315.2
6 Months Ended June	1976	- Actual	133.8	138.9	590.7	859.4	665.8	164.0	1,034.3	1,867.9	797.6	304.4	1,634.5	2,726.6
6 Months Ended Dec.	1976	- Expected	167.1	120.2	689.8	977.1	730.7	148.2	961.9	1,840.8	896.1	268.4	1,651.8	2,816.3
3 Months Ended Sept.	1976	- Actual	81.2	53.0	317.0	456.6	332.2	69.4	495.8	900.0	415.6	121.1	833.8	1,361.4
6 Months Ended Dec.	1976	- Actual	162.9	103.5	607.4	876.8	682.0	129.8	1,158.3	1,961.2	847.4	232.1	1,751.3	2,837.4
6 Months Ended June	1977	- Expected	179.3	176.8	635.0	991.1	799.8	152.5	1,073.5	2,025.8	981.8	329.3	1,710.1	3,021.2
3 Months Ended March	1977	- Actual	67.9	68.7	302.3	437.4	374.2	57.0	617.8	1,035.3	444.0	126.6	942.6	1,489.1
6 Months Ended June	1977	- Actual	139.4	142.5	625.3	903.1	761.3	117.1	1,229.3	2,110.9	898.7	259.4	1,869.8	3,016.6
6 Months Ended Dec.	1977	- Expected	220.5	204.5	725.7	1,150.7	975.6	225.1	1,076.3	2,277.0	1,193.7	429.6	1,802.1	3,425.4
3 Months Ended Sept.	1977	- Actual	86.5	75.2	346.9	515.1	424.4	81.2	602.7	1,108.9	513.8	155.2	974.7	1,629.6

(a) Expected by businesses at the beginning of the period. (b) The seasonal analysis of the series "Six months expected new capital expenditure by the mining industry" shows only an insignificant seasonal pattern. (c) There are insufficient observations to derive seasonal factors for the 3 months expected figures. (d) Excludes rural, construction and community services. r - revised

TABLE 3. NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY ASIC SUB-DIVISIONS - ACTUAL AND EXPECTED

Quarter	Manufacturing										Other industries					
	Mining	Food, beverages and tobacco	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Paper and printing (a)	Chemicals (b)	Basic metal products	Transport equipment	Fabricated metal products (c)	Other manufacturing (d)	Total manufacturing	Gas and electricity (e)	Wholesale and retail trade	Transport (f)	Other Non-manufacturing(g) (56, 61-63, 91-93)	Total other industries (36,37 46-63, 91-93)	Total all industries (h) (11-37, 46-63, 91-93)
	(11-16)	(21,22)	(23,24)	(26)	(27)	(29)	(32)	(31,33)	(25,28,34)	(21-34)	(36,37)	(46-48)	(51-55)			
\$ million																
ACTUAL EXPENDITURE																
1975-76 -																
December	179.3	79.1	7.9	20.2	39.5	84.9	24.4	37.2	65.5	358.7	15.2	191.7	85.3	528.0	820.2	1,358.2
March	136.9	70.5	11.3	23.5	31.3	64.5	30.2	37.8	63.2	332.3	6.8	147.9	83.2	428.9	666.8	1,136.0
June	153.7	104.5	13.0	31.2	55.8	78.6	26.6	69.7	73.8	453.2	8.9	217.4	92.8	574.2	893.3	1,500.2
1976-77 -																
September	119.7	92.3	11.3	24.3	45.9	64.9	35.9	52.3	64.1	391.0	8.5	216.5	57.2	559.0	841.2	1,351.9
December	120.9	103.1	15.5	30.7	58.2	79.9	45.5	61.9	79.2	474.0	10.7	257.9	110.0	620.6	999.2	1,594.1
March	108.5	86.6	8.2	30.4	51.7	55.6	35.1	52.4	66.5	386.5	4.7	208.7	63.7	515.1	792.2	1,287.2
June	140.5	123.5	11.6	35.7	63.6	63.6	54.1	66.0	77.9	496.0	6.5	277.9	88.9	613.1	986.4	1,622.9
1977-78 -																
September	154.2	113.6	12.4	30.0	81.7	58.2	48.3	59.0	80.1	483.3	6.2	273.5	70.5	631.1	981.3	1,618.8
6 mths ended -																
December 1976	240.6	195.4	26.8	55.0	104.1	144.8	81.4	114.2	143.3	865.0	19.2	474.4	167.2	1,179.6	1,840.4	2,946.0
June 1977	249.0	210.1	19.8	66.1	115.3	119.2	89.2	118.4	144.4	882.5	11.2	486.6	152.6	1,128.2	1,778.6	2,910.1
EXPECTED EXPENDITURE (i)																
6 mths ended -																
December 1977	429.6	264.9	25.5	81.5	178.2	178.7	120.5	114.8	207.0	1,171.1	14.4	547.0	138.8	1,134.4	1,834.6	3,435.3
3 mths ended -																
December 1977	252.5	173.9	13.5	39.4	103.9	85.5	59.5	69.7	106.1	651.5	8.9	300.0	95.8	671.8	1,076.5	1,980.0

(a) Paper, paper products, printing and publishing. (b) Chemicals, fertilisers, paints, explosives, cosmetics and oil refining. (c) Fabricated metal products, other industrial machinery and equipment, and household appliances. (d) Wood, wood products and furniture (except sheet metal), glass, clay and other non-metallic mineral products, leather, rubber and plastic products, and other manufacturing, n.e.c. (e) Gas, electricity, water, sewerage and drainage. (f) Road, rail and air transport, shipping and stevedoring. (g) Finance, insurance, real estate and business services. (h) Communication, entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services. (i) Excludes rural, construction and community services. (j) Expressed in millions at the beginning of the period. See explanatory notes, paragraph

1980