



# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

## Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 8301.0

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### PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1988, PRELIMINARY

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• *about other statistics and ABS services*—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627, 52 5402, 52 6007 or any ABS State office.

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#### ELECTRONIC

• on **VIATEL** — key \*656#.

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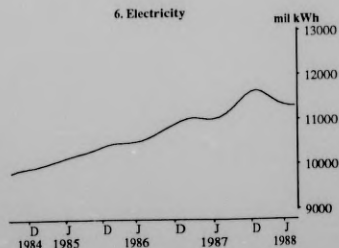
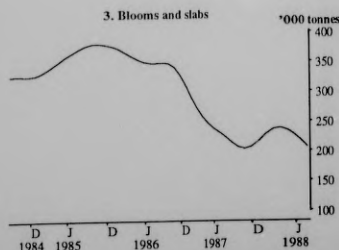
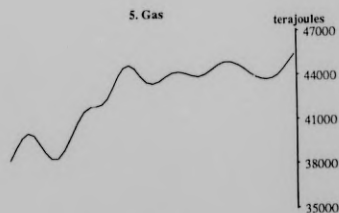
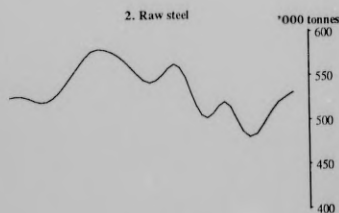
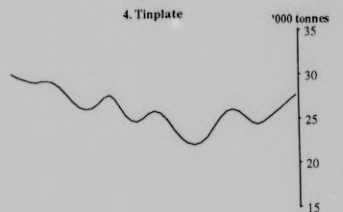
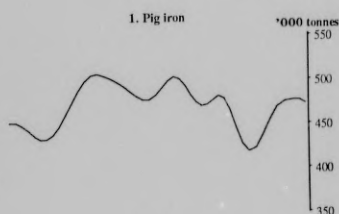
#### SERVICES

• on **TELESTATS** — phone (062) 52 5404.

#### INTRODUCTION

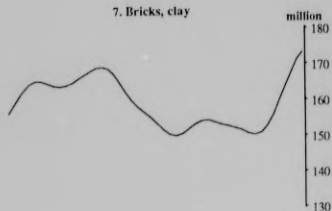
This publication presents preliminary monthly estimates for selected major indicators of manufacturing production for Australia.

#### PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA : TRENDS

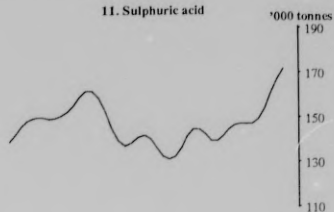


## PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA : TRENDS

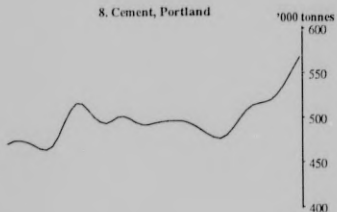
7. Bricks, clay



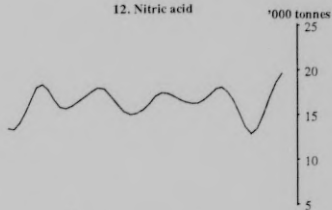
11. Sulphuric acid



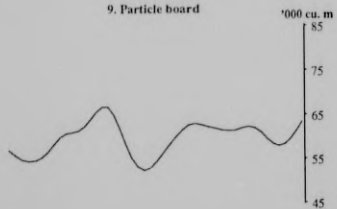
8. Cement, Portland



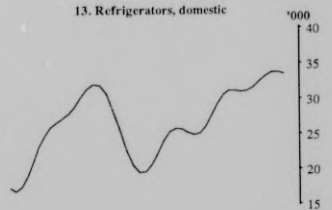
12. Nitric acid



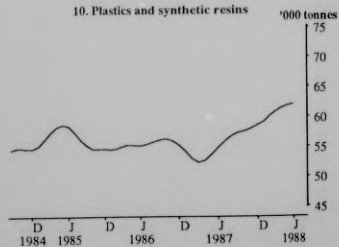
9. Particle board



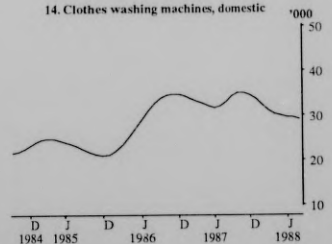
13. Refrigerators, domestic



10. Plastics and synthetic resins

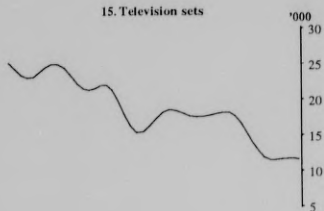


14. Clothes washing machines, domestic

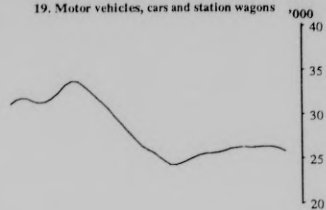


## PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA : TRENDS

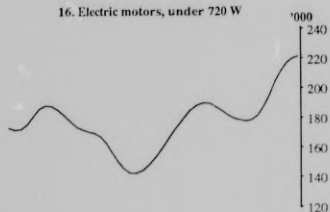
15. Television sets



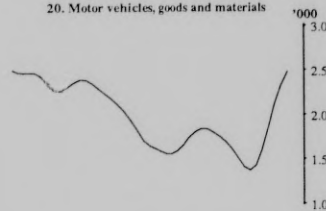
19. Motor vehicles, cars and station wagons



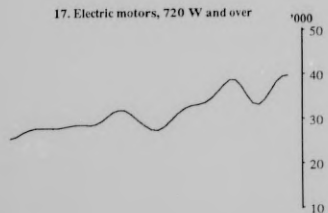
16. Electric motors, under 720 W



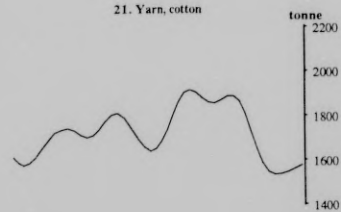
20. Motor vehicles, goods and materials



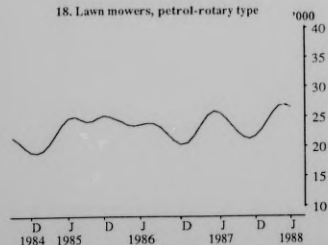
17. Electric motors, 720 W and over



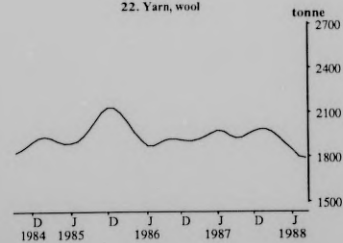
21. Yarn, cotton



18. Lawn mowers, petrol-rotary type

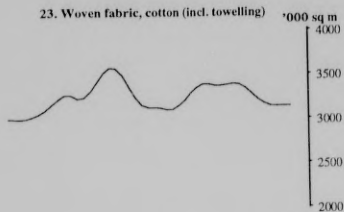


22. Yarn, wool

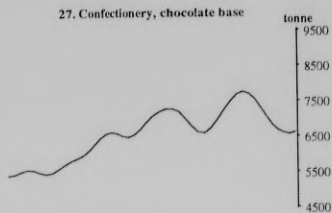


## PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA : TRENDS

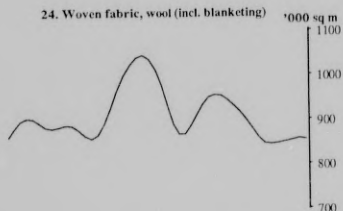
23. Woven fabric, cotton (incl. towelling)



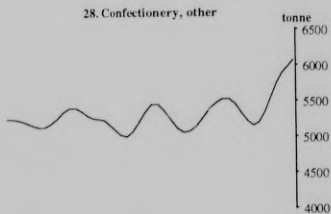
27. Confectionery, chocolate base



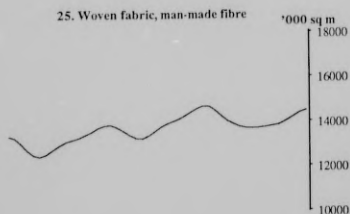
24. Woven fabric, wool (incl. blanketing)



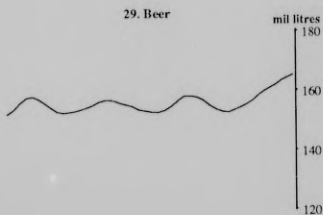
28. Confectionery, other



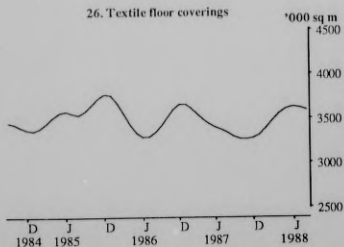
25. Woven fabric, man-made fibre



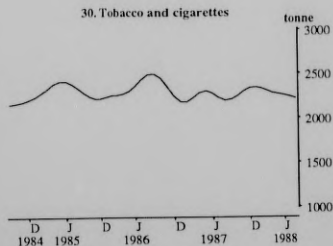
29. Beer



26. Textile floor coverings



30. Tobacco and cigarettes



## PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1988, PRELIMINARY

| No. Item                               | Series            | Unit | 1987     |          |          |          |          |          |          | 1988   |        |         |                     |         |         |         | Percentage changes between- |  |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|--------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|--|
|                                        |                   |      |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |        |        |         |                     |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        |                   |      | Dec.     | Jan.     | Feb.     | Mar.     | Apr.     | May      | June     | July   | Aug.   | July 88 | Aug. 87 and Aug. 88 | Aug. 88 | Aug. 88 | Aug. 88 |                             |  |
| 1. Pig iron                            | Orig. '000 tonnes |      | 389      | 365      | 449      | 518      | 447      | 466      | 469      | 493    | 498    | 1.0     | 2.0                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 388      | 359      | 468      | 500      | 473      | 461      | 468      | 469    | 483    | 2.9     | 1.6                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 418      | 422      | 436      | 454      | 468      | 474      | 476      | 476    | 472    | -0.9    | -1.3                |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 2. Raw steel(a)                        | Orig. "           |      | 445      | 406      | 475      | 589      | 495      | 484      | r 536    | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a.  | n.y.a.              |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 453      | 414      | 510      | 584      | 529      | 474      | r 532    | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a.  | n.y.a.              |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 481      | 484      | 495      | 509      | 520      | 526      | 531      | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a.  | n.y.a.              |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 3. Blooms and slabs(b)                 | Orig. "           |      | 202      | 192      | 207      | 250      | 239      | r 237    | r 214    | 209    | 220    | 5.3     | -5.6                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 199      | 188      | 238      | 254      | 253      | r 244    | r 213    | 196    | 211    | 7.9     | -5.7                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 207      | 216      | 227      | 236      | 239      | 234      | 225      | 216    | 205    | -4.9    | -7.7                |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 4. Tinplate                            | Orig. "           |      | 24.9     | 24.0     | 22.2     | 27.5     | 27.3     | 23.2     | 25.2     | 25.2   | 31.0   | 23.3    | -0.4                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.   | n.a.   | n.a.    | n.a.                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 24.6     | 24.4     | 24.6     | 25.1     | 25.6     | 26.2     | 26.7     | 27.2   | 27.7   | 1.8     | 6.8                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 5. Gas(c)                              | Orig. terajoules  |      | 37,958   | 35,567   | 37,696   | 42,214   | 39,137   | r 47,062 | r 50,600 | 54,780 | 54,639 | -0.2    | 4.5                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 44,252   | 44,345   | 43,440   | 44,379   | 43,298   | r 43,527 | r 44,295 | 44,128 | 47,094 | 6.7     | 3.1                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 44,103   | 43,883   | 43,744   | 43,695   | 43,763   | 43,979   | 44,362   | 44,845 | 45,385 | 1.2     | 1.1                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 6. Electricity                         | Orig. mil kWh     |      | r 10,994 | r 10,937 | r 10,798 | r 11,433 | r 10,788 | r 11,772 | r 12,104 | 12,634 | 12,760 | 1.0     | 5.7                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | r 11,641 | r 11,739 | r 11,526 | r 11,488 | r 11,544 | r 11,443 | r 11,182 | 11,033 | 11,635 | 5.5     | 4.7                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 11,611   | 11,642   | 11,608   | 11,532   | 11,446   | 11,375   | 11,328   | 11,302 | 11,306 | 0.0     | 1.7                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 7. Bricks, clay                        | Orig. million     |      | 145      | 89       | 148      | 184      | r 149    | r 191    | r 174    | r 170  | 196    | 15.3    | 26.5                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 162      | 138      | 150      | 161      | r 154    | r 177    | r 162    | r 164  | 180    | 9.8     | 17.4                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 150      | 151      | 153      | 156      | 160      | 164      | 168      | 171    | 173    | 1.2     | 13.5                |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 8. Cement, Portland                    | Orig. '000 tonnes |      | 532      | 362      | 509      | 545      | 499      | 537      | 586      | 556    | 595    | 7.0     | 22.7                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 525      | 530      | 507      | 519      | 514      | 521      | 584      | 532    | 583    | 9.5     | 22.1                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 514      | 517      | 518      | 520      | 526      | 535      | 546      | 557    | 568    | 1.9     | 18.0                |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 9. Particle board                      | Orig. '000 cu m   |      | 52.7     | 26.2     | 66.4     | 73.4     | 53.3     | 58.1     | 69.3     | 58.5   | 77.3   | 32.1    | 20.4                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 63.4     | 63.4     | 60.5     | 58.5     | 54.7     | 55.2     | 62.5     | 58.8   | 68.9   | 17.3    | 11.3                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 62.0     | 61.0     | 59.5     | 58.4     | 57.9     | 58.3     | 59.6     | 61.3   | 63.3   | 3.3     | 3.2                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 10. Plastics and synthetic resins(d)   | Orig. '000 tonnes |      | 59.3     | 49.8     | 59.0     | 63.4     | 61.0     | 59.7     | 63.5     | 64.8   | 63.6   | -1.9    | 2.7                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.   | n.a.   | n.a.    | n.a.                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 58.6     | 59.2     | 60.1     | 60.9     | 61.4     | 61.9     | 62.0     | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.    | n.a.                |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 11. Sulphuric acid                     | Orig. "           |      | 182      | 121      | 166      | 184      | 179      | r 171    | 174      | 138    | 150    | 8.7     | 53.1                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 162      | 106      | 161      | 161      | 167      | r 159    | 178      | 165    | 185    | 12.4    | 55.6                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 147      | 147      | 149      | 154      | 161      | 167      | 171      | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.    | n.a.                |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 12. Nitric acid                        | Orig. "           |      | 16.9     | 9.9      | 11.9     | 15.0     | 10.8     | 21.4     | 21.4     | 21.0   | 17.7   | -15.9   | -13.6               |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.     | n.a.   | n.a.   | n.a.    | n.a.                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 13.7     | 12.9     | 13.5     | 15.1     | 17.0     | 18.6     | 19.6     | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.    | n.a.                |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 13. Refrigerators, domestic            | Orig. '000        |      | 28.9     | 19.3     | 34.8     | 30.6     | 30.1     | 35.8     | 34.9     | 30.2   | 36.2   | 19.9    | 13.5                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 30.3     | 32.3     | 32.1     | 31.7     | 34.0     | 37.1     | 33.5     | 30.5   | 32.0   | 5.0     | 4.7                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 31.1     | 31.5     | 32.3     | 33.1     | 33.7     | 33.7     | 33.5     | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.    | n.a.                |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 14. Clothes washing machines, domestic | Orig. "           |      | 34.8     | 11.7     | 37.0     | 37.7     | 27.3     | 31.0     | 28.3     | 29.6   | 37.0   | 25.0    | 9.6                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 37.8     | 23.0     | 35.2     | 31.8     | 31.8     | 31.2     | 26.0     | 26.6   | 33.8   | 26.9    | 1.2                 |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 34.5     | 33.6     | 32.4     | 31.1     | 30.3     | 29.9     | 29.6     | 29.5   | 29.0   | -1.7    | -12.1               |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 15. Television sets(e)                 | Orig. "           |      | 13.0     | 3.0      | 12.9     | 13.8     | 10.4     | 12.9     | 12.6     | 11.1   | 14.1   | 27.0    | -23.5               |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 14.5     | 8.7      | 12.4     | 11.7     | 11.9     | 12.1     | 11.9     | 9.8    | 12.8   | 31.5    | -29.2               |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 14.0     | 12.7     | 11.8     | 11.5     | 11.5     | 11.6     | 11.7     | 11.7   | 11.5   | -1.4    | -36.5               |         |         |         |                             |  |
| 16. Electric motors- Under 720 W       | Orig. "           |      | 190      | 84       | 184      | 197      | 168      | 213      | 228      | 217    | 240    | 10.2    | 28.1                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | S. adj. "         |      | 185      | 177      | 185      | 183      | 200      | 238      | 221      | 207    | 216    | 4.3     | 20.3                |         |         |         |                             |  |
|                                        | Trend r "         |      | 178      | 181      | 187      | 195      | 204      | 211      | 217      | 220    | 221    | 0.6     | 21.8                |         |         |         |                             |  |

For footnotes see end of table

## PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1988, PRELIMINARY

| PRODUCTION STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1988, PRELIMINARY |                  |      |                             |        |        |        |        |         |          |        |        |                     |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|----------|--------|--------|---------------------|-------|
| No. Item                                                   | Series           | Unit | Percentage changes between- |        |        |        |        |         |          |        |        |                     |       |
|                                                            |                  |      | 1987                        |        |        |        |        | 1988    |          |        |        |                     |       |
|                                                            |                  |      | Dec.                        | Jan.   | Feb.   | Mar.   | Apr.   | May     | June     | July   | Aug.   | July 88 and Aug. 88 |       |
| Electric motors-<br>17. 720 W and over                     | Orig. '000       |      | 40.9                        | 13.3   | 27.4   | 41.2   | 31.6   | 48.7    | r 41.0   | 34.8   | 40.8   | 17.2                | 4.1   |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 36.2                        | 29.6   | 30.5   | 37.1   | 37.5   | 48.1    | r 39.5   | 34.2   | 37.1   | 8.5                 | -4.1  |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 33.5                        | 33.1   | 34.2   | 36.3   | 38.2   | 39.4    | 39.7     | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.                | n.a.  |
| 18. Lawn mowers<br>petrol-rotary type                      | Orig. "          |      | 25.3                        | 13.3   | 24.0   | 21.7   | r 12.3 | 12.9    | 15.8     | 19.5   | 29.7   | 52.1                | 23.0  |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 21.1                        | 19.3   | 24.6   | 27.3   | r 27.4 | 31.4    | 23.6     | 24.5   | 24.1   | -1.6                | 16.4  |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 21.7                        | 22.8   | 24.3   | 25.8   | 26.8   | 27.0    | 26.5     | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.                | n.a.  |
| Motor vehicles-<br>19. Cars and station<br>wagons          | Orig. "          |      | 25.1                        | 6.9    | 25.2   | 31.3   | 24.0   | 28.5    | 28.3     | 26.0   | 31.4   | 20.7                | 10.3  |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 27.3                        | 23.2   | 25.9   | 27.3   | 28.0   | 25.6    | 26.1     | 22.9   | 26.4   | 15.6                | 4.2   |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 26.2                        | 26.2   | 26.3   | 26.3   | 26.2   | 26.1    | 25.7     | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.                | n.a.  |
| 20. Vehicles for goods<br>and materials(f)                 | Orig. "          |      | 1.24                        | 0.28   | 1.93   | 2.56   | 1.73   | 2.88    | 2.70     | 2.81   | 2.96   | 5.4                 | 61.4  |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 1.49                        | 0.73   | 1.74   | 2.04   | 2.07   | 2.56    | 2.40     | 2.58   | 2.56   | -0.8                | 52.6  |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 1.37                        | 1.43   | 1.60   | 1.84   | 2.11   | 2.32    | 2.48     | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.                | n.a.  |
| Yarn(g)-<br>21. Cotton                                     | Orig. tonne      |      | 1,579                       | 430    | 1,649  | 1,663  | 1,535  | 1,688   | 1,773    | 1,698  | 1,828  | 7.7                 | -9.1  |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 1,800                       | 1,617  | 1,577  | 1,476  | 1,541  | 1,531   | 1,636    | 1,437  | 1,660  | 15.5                | -14.8 |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 1,730                       | 1,652  | 1,587  | 1,547  | 1,533  | 1,536   | 1,547    | 1,562  | 1,577  | 1.0                 | -16.3 |
| 22. Wool                                                   | Orig. "          |      | 1,399                       | 1,028  | 2,114  | 2,076  | 1,659  | 2,090   | 2,105    | 1,941  | 2,006  | 3.3                 | -3.9  |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 1,598                       | 2,519  | 1,986  | 1,727  | 1,907  | 1,922   | 1,999    | 1,769  | 1,673  | -5.4                | -15.2 |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 1,969                       | 1,982  | 1,984  | 1,967  | 1,931  | 1,888   | 1,846    | 1,798  | 1,787  | -0.6                | -7.9  |
| Woven fabric(g)-<br>23. Cotton (incl.<br>towel)ing         | Orig. '000 sq m  |      | 2,582                       | 781    | 3,324  | 3,466  | 3,324  | 3,305   | r 3,396  | 3,866  | 3,568  | -7.7                | -4.6  |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 3,371                       | 2,818  | 3,298  | 3,078  | 3,358  | 3,016   | r 3,037  | 3,169  | 3,197  | 0.9                 | -4.9  |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 3,269                       | 3,208  | 3,163  | 3,135  | 3,131  | 3,135   | 3,136    | (j)    | (j)    | n.a.                | n.a.  |
| 24. Wool (incl.<br>blanketing)                             | Orig. "          |      | 775                         | 448    | 994    | 1,069  | 772    | 833     | r 827    | 916    | 893    | -2.5                | -2.2  |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 929                         | 769    | 885    | 868    | 840    | 817     | r 823    | 944    | 816    | -13.5               | -14.2 |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 879                         | 859    | 846    | 843    | 845    | 848     | 852      | 857    | 854    | -0.3                | -9.5  |
| 25. Man-made fibre                                         | Orig. "          |      | 13,063                      | 3,673  | 15,279 | 15,394 | 13,159 | 14,792  | r 16,122 | 15,662 | 16,760 | 7.0                 | 1.5   |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 15,470                      | 12,454 | 14,096 | 13,619 | 13,723 | 14,153  | r 13,982 | 14,328 | 14,781 | 3.2                 | -2.6  |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 13,675                      | 13,690 | 13,723 | 13,770 | 13,830 | 13,972  | 14,163   | 14,376 | 14,469 | 0.6                 | 3.4   |
| 26. Textile floor<br>coverings                             | Orig. "          |      | 2,950                       | 1,147  | 3,497  | 3,682  | 2,987  | 3,921   | r 4,016  | 4,033  | 3,768  | -6.6                | 2.9   |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 3,092                       | 3,307  | 3,470  | 3,391  | 3,516  | 3,616   | r 3,851  | 3,682  | 3,294  | -10.5               | -1.8  |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 3,273                       | 3,309  | 3,381  | 3,469  | 3,551  | 3,606   | 3,625    | 3,615  | 3,586  | -0.8                | 7.6   |
| Confectionery-<br>27. Chocolate base                       | Orig. tonne      |      | 5,782                       | 4,250  | 7,906  | 8,970  | 6,077  | r 7,919 | r 7,340  | 7,428  | 7,263  | -2.2                | -14.7 |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 7,466                       | 8,393  | 7,246  | 7,191  | 5,732  | r 7,077 | r 6,779  | 6,482  | 6,709  | 3.5                 | -20.6 |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 7,684                       | 7,525  | 7,297  | 7,049  | 6,821  | 6,667   | 6,590    | 6,554  | 6,601  | 0.7                 | -8.8  |
| 28. Other                                                  | Orig. "          |      | 4,945                       | 2,780  | 4,535  | 6,119  | 4,744  | r 5,834 | r 5,702  | 6,675  | 5,951  | -10.8               | 4.3   |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 5,287                       | 5,574  | 4,155  | 5,382  | 5,977  | r 5,809 | r 5,742  | 6,359  | 5,575  | -12.3               | 0.5   |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 5,215                       | 5,154  | 5,195  | 5,334  | 5,536  | 5,734   | 5,883    | 5,974  | 6,067  | 1.6                 | 9.7   |
| 29. Beer(h)                                                | Orig. mil litres |      | 215                         | 154    | 159    | 161    | 152    | 149     | 140      | 148    | 154    | 3.4                 | 9.2   |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 164                         | 161    | 154    | 158    | 161    | 161     | 164      | 170    | 160    | -6.3                | 0.1   |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 155                         | 157    | 158    | 160    | 161    | 162     | 163      | 164    | 165    | 0.5                 | 8.1   |
| 30. Tobacco and<br>cigarettes(i)                           | Orig. tonne      |      | 2,234                       | 1,063  | 2,356  | 2,615  | 2,160  | 2,666   | 2,563    | 2,379  | 2,493  | 4.8                 | 4.6   |
|                                                            | S. adj. "        |      | 2,625                       | 2,271  | 2,177  | 2,258  | 2,367  | 2,276   | 2,327    | 2,154  | 2,173  | 0.9                 | -3.7  |
|                                                            | Trend r "        |      | 2,334                       | 2,343  | 2,331  | 2,307  | 2,281  | 2,268   | 2,254    | 2,236  | 2,214  | -1.0                | 0.6   |

(a) Includes continuous cast billets. (b) From rolling and forging of iron and steel (primary mills output). (c) Available for issue through mains. Includes natural gas. (d) For moulding, extrusion laminating and calendering only. (e) Excludes combination with radio etc. (f) Includes utilities, panel vans and prime movers for semi-trailers. (g) Includes mixture predominantly of the fibre named. (h) Includes ale and stout. Excludes beverages with alcohol content of less than 1.15 percent. (i) Source: Australian Customs Service. (j) See paragraph 9 of Explanatory Notes.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

1. Preliminary estimates for August 1988 for certain major indicators of production are shown in the table on page 5. Production statistics for August for an extensive range of commodities will be published later in the series of eight *Production Bulletins* (8357.0 to 8364.0).

## Scope and coverage

2. Production statistics are not collected from single establishment manufacturing enterprises with fewer than four persons employed or from establishments predominantly engaged in non-manufacturing activities but which may carry out in a minor way some manufacturing. However, in general the contribution of these small producers to statistical aggregates is only marginal and data contained in this publication provide reliable information for the evaluation of movements in commodity production.

## Comparability with other estimates

3. The ABS publishes quarterly estimates of constant price manufacturing production in the publication *Quarterly Indexes of Manufacturing Production, Australia* (8219.0). These estimates are shown as index numbers and are derived mainly from estimates of manufacturers' sales and stocks.

4. The production statistics published in the series of eight *Production Bulletins* (8357.0 to 8364.0) referred to in paragraph 1 account, in total, for less than half of the output of the manufacturing sector, so differences may occur between the general tendency (if there is one) in these items and changes in the quarterly indexes of manufacturing production. The comment applies with still greater force to the preliminary estimates for the major indicators of production shown below.

## Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates

5. Seasonally adjusted statistics are shown for all but three of the data items contained in this publication. In the seasonal adjustment, account has been taken not only of normal seasonal factors, but also 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. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these series are available on request.

6. Seasonal adjustment procedures do not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month, such as the effect of strikes, holiday shutdowns or other factors which vary with the prevailing demand for products. Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after seasonal adjustment.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. Because of the highly irregular nature of some production series it is not possible to discern with reasonable confidence the current direction of the trend at the end of these series. For such highly irregular series the ABS does not provide the last two trend estimates.

10. 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.

## Related publications

11. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The *Catalogue* and *Publications Advice* are available from any ABS office.

## Symbols and other usages

|        |                                               |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------|
| r      | figure or series revised since previous issue |
| n.a.   | not available                                 |
| n.y.a. | not yet available                             |

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