

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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RETAIL HIRE PURCHASE OPERATIONS OF FINANCE BUSINESSES : AUSTRALIA
MONTH OF MARCH, 1958 (PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES)

The statistics shown in the following tables relate to businesses which finance the sale of goods by retail, but do not retail goods themselves. These comprise public and private companies, partnerships, banks and other finance businesses. Businesses which finance hire purchase exclusively for their own employees are not included. The figures shown relate to all hire purchase agreements made by these businesses in respect of goods sold by retail. All types of goods sold to final purchasers are included, whether producer goods (such as plant and machinery) or consumer goods.

These statistics have been compiled from returns collected quarterly since March, 1953, from all businesses and also, since January, 1956, from returns collected monthly from a stratified sample of these businesses. The proportion of total transactions which is accounted for by businesses included in this sample (which is the basis of the monthly totals shown below for all businesses) ranges from approximately 85% of the total shown for the item "household and personal goods - number of agreements" to 95% of the total shown for the item "motor vehicles - amount financed".

Monthly figures are first published as preliminary estimates. At the end of each quarter when returns are received from all finance businesses, monthly statistics for each State are prepared and the preliminary estimates may be slightly revised. Other revisions may be made as continued growth in numbers of finance businesses and changes in organization of established businesses periodically give rise to problems affecting classification and comparability. Preliminary figures for March, 1958, are shown below with figures for previous periods.

Comparisons as to trend should be made only for complete years or corresponding quarters or months of incomplete years. Quarterly and monthly totals are influenced by seasonal and other factors affecting retail trade and particularly by those factors affecting sales of motor vehicles which constitute a large part of the hire purchase field. In addition, details of agreements are shown in the period in which the agreement was accepted by the finance business and this may be a subsequent period to that in which the actual sale of goods by the retailer took place.

RETAIL HIRE PURCHASE OPERATIONS OF FINANCE BUSINESSES
TABLE 1 : BALANCES OUTSTANDING (including hiring charges and insurance), AUSTRALIA

As at -	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A. (b)	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
AMOUNT (£'000)							
1953 - 30th June	35,246	20,052	15,087	8,532	6,765	3,108	88,790
1954 - 30th June	50,883	30,806	22,385	13,318	10,154	4,772	132,318
1955 - 30th June	69,240	44,590	29,067	18,416	14,151	7,012	182,476
30th September	75,422	48,283	31,050	19,812	15,078	7,460	197,105
31st December	79,899	53,180	32,519	21,415	16,080	7,951	211,044
1956 - 31st March	78,987	55,030	32,123	21,328	15,844	8,033	211,345
30th June	79,176	56,025	32,046	21,412	15,388	8,163	212,210
30th September	80,978	57,748	33,659	22,564	15,276	8,477	218,702
31st December	84,011	61,023	35,768	24,500	15,877	9,004	230,183
1957 - 28th February	84,118	61,328	36,146	24,971	15,416	8,938	230,917
31st March	83,903	61,854	36,258	24,940	15,331	9,011	231,297
30th April	84,248	62,292	36,435	24,860	15,448	8,972	232,255
31st May	84,601	63,083	36,538	24,972	15,519	9,024	233,737
30th June	85,412	64,042	36,551	25,038	15,488	9,010	235,541
31st July	86,121	64,940	36,664	25,068	15,558	8,996	237,347
31st August	86,889	66,303	37,061	25,255	15,760	8,985	240,253
30th September	88,557	67,361	37,460	25,501	15,982	8,971	243,832
31st October	90,104	69,092	37,792	25,826	16,399	9,036	248,249
30th November	92,175	71,318	38,639	26,285	16,902	9,225	254,544
31st December	94,830	73,993	39,748	26,938	17,470	9,469	262,448
1958 - 31st January (c)	96,666	75,686	40,058	27,222	17,771	9,613	267,016
28th February (c)	98,680	77,507	40,336	27,317	17,715	9,666	271,221
31st March (c)	101,579	79,034	40,594	27,285	17,914	9,798	276,204

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory.
(c) Preliminary estimates, subject to revision.

RETAIL HIRE PURCHASE OPERATIONS OF FINANCE BUSINESSES
TABLE 2 : NEW AGREEMENTS MADE, AUSTRALIA

Period during which New Agreements were made	Motor Vehicles, Tractors, etc. (a)			Plant and Machinery (b)			Household and Personal Goods (c)			Total (All Goods)		
	Number of Agreements	Value of Goods	Amount Financed	Number of Agreements	Value of Goods	Amount Financed	Number of Agreements	Value of Goods	Amount Financed	Number of Agreements	Value of Goods	Amount Financed
		(£'000)	(£'000)		(£'000)	(£'000)		(£'000)	(£'000)		(£'000)	(£'000)
Year ended -		(f)	(f)	(f)	(f)	(f)						
30th June, 1954	236,272	158,422	88,492									
" " 1955	277,693	191,445	110,688	14,571	8,813	5,394	560,338	41,366	32,528	796,610	199,788	121,020
" " 1956	304,858	212,511	125,564	18,998	11,892	7,383	647,149	49,239	39,892	939,413	249,497	155,974
" " 1957	316,406	224,546	136,628	23,034	14,739	9,223	686,744	51,954	42,181	1,010,600	276,357	175,128
9 months ended -							688,733	53,287	42,746	1,028,173	292,572	188,597
March, 1957	239,998	170,212	103,529	17,684	11,033	6,879	518,095	38,763	31,050	775,777	220,008	141,458
" 1958(g)	261,419	187,590	114,617	17,041	12,012	7,641	613,606	61,433	49,627	892,066	261,035	171,885
3 months ended -												
March, 1957	74,923	52,523	31,941	6,547	3,666	2,260	177,686	14,159	11,344	259,156	70,348	45,545
" 1958(g)	86,215	63,034	38,446	5,823	3,879	2,517	214,870	22,705	18,289	306,908	89,618	59,252
Month -												
1957 - February	23,574	16,656	10,148	2,107	1,197	744	56,194	4,439	3,575	81,875	22,292	14,467
March	25,492	18,188	11,034	2,285	1,260	766	59,974	4,683	3,759	87,751	24,131	15,559
April	24,673	17,403	10,616	1,876	1,090	682	53,524	4,385	3,525	80,073	22,878	14,823
May	27,218	19,733	12,007	1,913	1,203	747	63,612	5,387	4,364	92,743	26,323	17,118
June	24,517	17,198	10,476	1,561	1,413	915	53,502	4,752	3,807	79,580	23,363	15,198
July	27,560	19,467	11,930	1,454	905	589	60,692	5,619	4,497	89,706	25,991	17,016
August	27,438	19,140	11,730	1,598	1,161	729	59,685	5,704	4,619	88,721	26,005	17,078
September	27,697	19,338	11,763	1,653	1,231	784	59,120	5,757	4,688	88,470	26,326	17,235
October	30,633	21,700	13,248	1,979	1,572	973	64,688	6,662	5,387	97,300	29,934	19,608
November	30,347	21,919	13,394	2,472	1,764	1,089	72,019	7,224	5,854	104,838	30,907	20,337
December	31,529	22,992	14,106	2,062	1,500	960	82,553	7,764	6,296	116,144	32,256	21,362
1958 - January(g)	28,607	20,185	12,420	1,658	1,211	787	71,888	7,318	5,909	102,153	28,714	19,116
February(g)	27,578	20,376	12,362	2,055	1,353	883	69,394	7,247	5,826	99,027	26,976	19,071
March(g)	30,030	22,473	13,664	2,110	1,315	847	73,567	8,138	6,551	105,707	31,926	21,062

(a) Includes new and used motor cars, motor cycles, commercial vehicles, tractors, caravans, motor parts and accessories. (b) Includes farm machinery and implements, earth moving equipment, aircraft, industrial plant and machinery, business machines and equipment (including commercial refrigeration equipment) etc. (c) Includes furniture and furnishings, domestic refrigerators, electrical goods, television and accessories, radios, musical instruments, bicycles and other household and personal goods. (d) Values at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance). (e) Excludes hiring charges and insurance. (f) Details relating to Plant and Machinery are included with Motor Vehicles, etc. (g) Preliminary estimates, subject to revision.

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