



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

VICTORIA

CATALOGUE NUMBER 1307.2

ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA MARCH 1985

2 APRIL 1985

Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made by telephoning Information Services on INQUIRIES Melbourne (03) 63 0181; for advice on the interpretation of these statistics ask for Mrs Jean Humphrey.

MAIN FEATURES

The balance of payments was again unfavourable in January at \$-146m.

Actual new fixed capital expenditure in Victoria decreased by more than 6 per cent in the September quarter 1984. For the December quarter for Australia it rose by 6 per cent.

The Consumer Price Index for Melbourne rose by 2.5 per cent in the December quarter 1984 over the December quarter 1983, the lowest annual percentage change since 1969.

Job vacancies rose in Victoria by over 40 per cent between August and November 1984 to over 11,000 compared to a rise in Australia of 6 per cent.

The unemployment rate in Victoria rose in January to 7.8 per cent, but this was still 15 per cent below the figure for January 1984. In comparison the unemployment rate for Australia rose to 9.3 per cent.

Overtime worked in Victoria rose over 27 per cent to an average 1.50 hours a week per employee in November compared with a rise for Australia of over 15 per cent to 1.22 hours.

Retail sales in Victoria rose by over \$272m to \$1,357m in December 1984. Australian retail sales rose in December 1984 by \$1,104m.

Housing finance approved in Victoria fell by 7 per cent in November but this was still nearly 30 per cent above the previous year. In Australia it fell 3 per cent, still 23 per cent above the previous year.

Building approvals for dwellings, seasonally adjusted, rose by 32 per cent in January 1985 compared with a rise of 12 per cent for Australia.

Building approvals for non-dwellings in Victoria rose nearly 10 per cent in the December quarter 1984 compared to a rise for Australia of nearly 36 per cent.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains the latest available figures for a number of selected economic indicators. Where possible, these monthly and quarterly series are shown in their original and seasonally adjusted form.

2. Percentage changes are calculated using the seasonally adjusted figures where available; otherwise the original figures are used.

3. Annual change is the change from the corresponding period of the previous year.

Seasonal adjustment

4. Measures of variability and details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting ABS statistics are given in Appendixes B and C of Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, Australia (1308.0) and Appendix B of Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, Victoria (1306.2).

5. As well as being adjusted for normal seasonal factors, some of the statistical series included in this publication have been adjusted for the effects of calendar variations, namely, 'trading-day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in a month) and the influence of movable holidays, such as Easter and Australia Day.

6. Most of the original and seasonally adjusted series are subject to revision.

Related publications

7. Further information is available in Monthly Summary of Statistics, Victoria (1303.2), Monthly Summary of Statistics, Australia (1304.0) and the Digest of Current Economic Statistics, Australia (1305.0).

8. For an explanation of Irregularities in, and background on, the series included, refer to the following publications which are available on request:

Australian National Accounts: National Income and Expenditure (5204.0) (annual) (\$1.80; \$2.60 incl. postage)

Quarterly Estimates of National Income and Expenditure, Australia (5206.0) (quarterly) (\$1.10; \$1.90 incl. postage)

Balance of Payments, Australia (5301.0) (monthly)

Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (5609.0) (monthly)

New Fixed Capital Expenditure by Private Enterprises in Selected Industries (5626.0) (quarterly)

State Estimates of Actual and Expected New Fixed Capital Expenditure by Private Enterprises in Selected Industries (5646.0) (quarterly)

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0) (monthly) (\$1.10; \$1.90 incl. postage)

Job Vacancies (6231.0) (quarterly)

Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, Preliminary (6301.0) (quarterly)

Overtime, Australia (6330.0) (quarterly)

Consumer Price Index (6401.0) (quarterly)

Retail Sales of Goods (Excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts, and Petrol etc.) (8501.0) (monthly)

Building Approvals, Australia (8731.0) (monthly)

Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, Preliminary (9301.0) (monthly)

9. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications, Australia (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS Office.

Symbols and other usages

na not available

nya 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.

ERLE BOURKE
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

TABLE 1. AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ACCOUNTS: PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN MAIN AGGREGATES,
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1984

Main aggregates	From preceding quarter	Sept. quarter 1983 to Sept. quarter 1984	3 months ended Sept. 1983 to 3 months ended Sept. 1984
AT AVERAGE 1979-80 PRICES			
Final consumption expenditure -			
Private	0.6	2.2	2.2
Government	5.3	8.8	8.8
Total	1.6	4.0	4.0
Gross fixed capital expenditure -			
Private -			
Dwellings	7.1	26.1	26.1
Non-dwelling construction	-3.9	6.8	6.8
Equipment	-15.3	-2.5	-2.5
Total private	-7.9	6.0	6.0
Public	15.5	0.9	0.9
Total	-0.2	4.0	4.0
Exports of goods and services	6.6	21.7	21.7
Imports of goods and services	5.3	21.0	21.0
Gross domestic product	-0.9	4.3	4.3
Gross farm product	-12.8	-11.6	-11.6
Gross non-farm product	=	5.5	5.5
AT CURRENT PRICES			
Wages, salaries, and supplements	0.9	13.0	13.0
Gross operating surplus - companies	-6.4	12.3	12.3

TABLE 2. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, AUSTRALIA
(\$m)

Period	Current account					Net apparent capital inflow	Net official monetary movements
	Exports f.o.b.	Imports f.o.b.	Balance of trade	Net Invisibles	Balance on current account		
1981-82	19,083	-22,379	-3,296	-5,517	-8,813	10,167	1,354
1982-83	20,656	-21,610	-954	-5,234	-6,188	8,621	2,436
1983-84	r23,669	r-23,498	r171	r-7,375	r-7,204	r9,054	1,850
1983 - Nov.	r1,948	-1,905	r43	r-520	r-477	r972	495
Dec.	r1,942	-1,713	r229	r-583	r-354	r1,505	1,151
1984 - Jan.	r2,083	r-1,871	r212	r-667	r-455	r292	-163
Feb.	r1,874	-1,962	r-88	r-551	r-639	r366	-274
Mar.	r1,966	r-2,097	r-131	r-549	r-680	r346	-334
Apr.	r1,970	-1,614	r356	r-579	r-223	r141	-82
May	r2,033	-2,444	r-411	r-659	r-1,070	r985	-85
June	r2,338	r-2,275	r63	r-721	r-658	r313	-345
July	r2,304	r-2,642	r-338	r-750	r-1,088	r1,157	69
Aug.	r2,219	-2,552	r-333	r-633	r-966	r1,210	r244
Sept.	r2,388	r-2,494	r-106	r-666	r-772	r503	r-269
Oct.	r2,178	r-2,476	r-298	r-873	r-1,171	r932	-239
Nov.	2,432	-2,453	-21	-810	-831	1,054	223
Dec.	1,908	-2,094	-186	-731	-917	741	-176
1985 - Jan.	2,193	-2,475	-282	-854	-1,136	990	-146

TABLE 3. EXCHANGE RATES, AUSTRALIA

Period	Exchange rates (end of year/month) units of foreign currency per \$A				Trade-weighted Index (end of year/month) of value of Australian dollar May 1970 = 100(a)
	U.S.A. dollar	U.K. pound	Germany Fed. Rep. mark	Japan yen	
1981-82	1.0223	0.5870	2.506	260.18	88.2
1982-83	0.8745	0.5730	2.227	209.38	77.7
1983-84	0.8613	0.6378	2.399	204.60	79.2
1983 - Nov.	0.9128	0.6226	2.466	213.73	82.0
Dec.	0.9020	0.6205	2.451	209.22	81.1
1984 - Jan.	0.9178	0.6526	2.584	215.48	83.5
Feb.	0.9429	0.6326	2.457	220.07	84.2
Mar.	0.9350	0.6461	2.426	210.22	82.9
Apr.	0.9201	0.6568	2.496	208.74	82.6
May	0.8992	0.6503	2.461	208.25	81.6
June	0.8613	0.6378	2.399	204.60	79.2
July	0.8300	0.6360	2.402	203.68	78.7
Aug.	0.8488	0.6472	2.452	205.07	80.1
Sept.	0.8330	0.6696	2.526	204.67	80.3
Oct.	0.8487	0.6984	2.573	208.17	82.0
Nov.	0.8596	0.7163	2.654	212.02	83.5
Dec.	0.8278	0.7130	2.606	207.24	81.3
1985 - Jan.	0.8150	0.7218	2.585	207.61	80.8

(a) The trade-weighted Index is calculated by the Reserve Bank and is an index of the average value of the Australian dollar vis a vis currencies of Australia's major trading partners.

Actual new fixed capital expenditure in Victoria decreased by more than 6 per cent for the September quarter 1984 but was 9 per cent higher than a year ago. In the December quarter it rose by 6 per cent for Australia compared to a decrease of 9 per cent in the September quarter.

TABLE 4. ACTUAL AND EXPECTED NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISES IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES (a)

Period	Victoria					Australia				
	Expected expenditure	Actual			Expected expenditure	Actual			Annual change	
		Change from previous quarter	Annual change	Change from previous quarter		Annual change				
							(b) Expenditure	(b) Expenditure		(b) Expenditure
	\$m	\$m	per cent	per cent	\$m	\$m	per cent	per cent		
1982-83	3,326.2	3,478.2	**	-4.7	15,858.2	(c)15,705.0	**	-2.1		
1983-84	2,714.4	3,562.2	**	+2.4	11,878.2	14,404.0	**	+8.2		
1984-85	2,875.5	**	**	**	11,339.4	**	**	**		
1985-86	nya	**	**	**	14,026.2	**	**	**		
1982-83 - June qtr	**	913.6	+38.2	-13.2	**	4,000.1	+24.0	-13.4		
1983-84										
Sept. qtr	**	872.5	-4.5	-4.0	**	3,554.7	-11.1	-13.3		
Dec. qtr	**	898.9	+3.0	-9.6	**	3,678.2	+3.5	-15.2		
Mar. qtr	**	795.1	-11.5	+20.0	**	3,136.7	-14.7	-2.8		
June qtr	**	995.7	+25.2	+9.0	**	4,054.4	+29.3	+1.4		
1984-85										
Sept. qtr	**	931.4	-6.5	+6.8	**	3,687.7	-9.0	+3.7		
Dec. qtr p	**	nya	**	**	**	3,916.3	+6.2	+6.5		

(a) From December quarter 1982, excludes imported leased assets and speculative construction.

(b) Expected figures are reported in January - February for the following financial year. (c) The estimate which would have been obtained if all data had been collected on the new basis (see footnote (a) above).

ACTUAL NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISES IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES
Annual percentage change

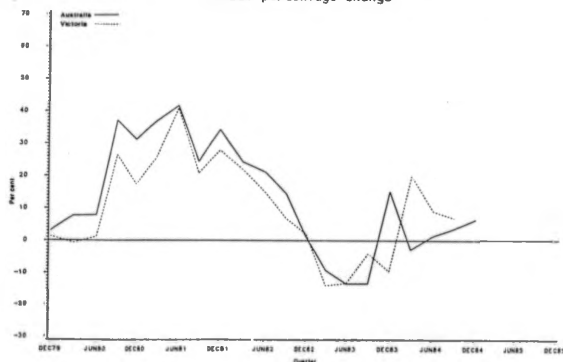


TABLE 5. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS
(BASE OF EACH INDEX: YEAR 1980-81 = 100.0)

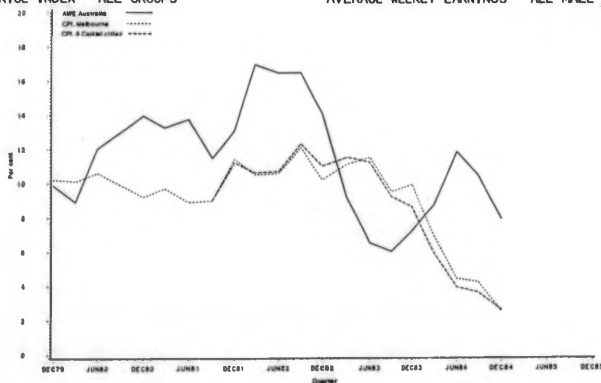
Period	Melbourne			Weighted average of eight capital cities		
	Index	Change from	Annual change	Index	Change from	Annual change
		previous quarter			previous quarter	
		per cent	per cent		per cent	per cent
1981-82	110.4	..	+10.4	110.4	..	+10.4
1982-83	122.8	..	+11.2	123.1	..	+11.5
1983-84	132.1	..	+7.6	131.6	..	+6.9
1983 - Sept. qtr	129.5	+1.6	+9.5	129.4	+1.6	+9.2
Dec. qtr	133.3	+2.9	+9.9	132.5	+2.4	+8.6
1984 - Mar. qtr	132.6	-0.5	+6.9	132.0	-0.4	+5.9
June qtr	133.0	+0.3	+4.4	132.3	+0.2	+3.9
Sept. qtr	134.9	+1.4	+4.2	134.0	+1.3	+3.6
Dec. qtr	136.6	+1.3	+2.5	135.9	+1.4	+2.6

TABLE 6. AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS - ALL MALE EMPLOYEES

Period	Victoria			Australia		
	Weekly total earnings	Change from previous quarter	Annual change	Weekly total earnings	Change from previous quarter	Annual change
		per cent			per cent	
	\$		per cent	\$		per cent
1983 - Sept. qtr	344.70	+1.7	+6.2	349.70	+1.9	+6.0
Dec. qtr	358.80	+4.1	+7.9	362.00	+3.5	+7.2
1984 - Mar. qtr	367.60	+2.5	+9.8	370.60	+2.4	+8.7
June qtr	380.60	+3.5	+12.3	383.80	+3.6	+11.8
Sept. qtr	387.10	+1.7	+12.3	386.20	+0.6	+10.4
Dec. qtr p	nya	..	..	390.70	+1.2	+7.9

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS - ALL MALE EMPLOYEES



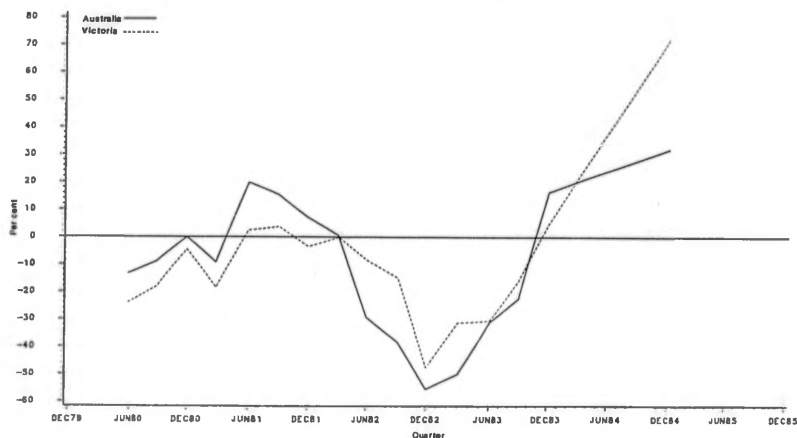
Job vacancies rose in Victoria by over 40 per cent between August and November 1984 to over 11,000, compared with a rise in Australia of 6 per cent.

TABLE 7. JOB VACANCIES

Period	Victoria			Australia		
	Job vacancies '000	Change from previous quarter	Annual change per cent	Job vacancies '000	Change from previous quarter	Annual change per cent
		per cent			per cent	
1980 - Nov.	8.6	+10.3	-2.3	34.3	+14.0	-
1981 - Nov.	8.2	+1.2	-4.7	36.7	+5.8	+7.0
1982 - Nov.	4.3	-37.7	-47.6	16.4	-23.7	-55.3
1983 - Aug.	5.8	+9.4	-15.9	16.7	-4.6	-22.3
Nov. - old (a)	4.5	-22.4	+4.7	19.1	+14.4	+16.5
- new (b)	6.5	**	**	30.1	**	**
1984 - Feb.	10.1	+55.4	**	44.3	+47.2	**
May	8.9	-11.9	**	34.8	-21.4	**
Aug.	7.8	-12.4	**	37.6	+8.0	**
Nov.	11.2	+43.6	+72.3	39.8	+5.9	+32.2

(a) The old survey was based on a sample selected from lists of employers subject to payroll tax and lists of government organisations and hospitals. (b) The new survey is based on the ABS register of businesses and results are not comparable with those of the old survey.

JOB VACANCIES
Annual percentage change



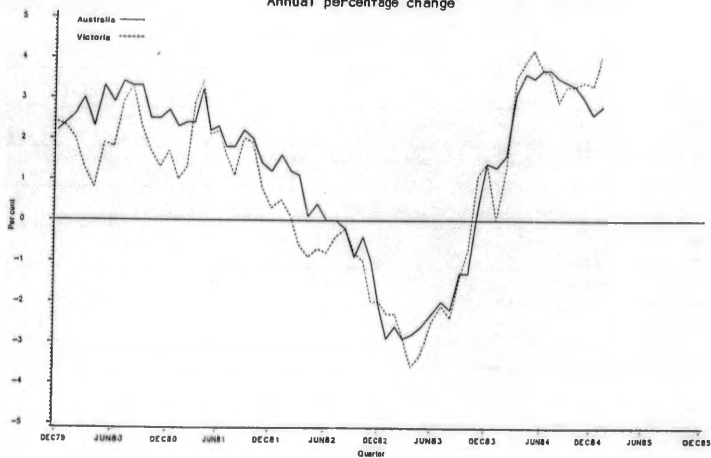
The unemployment rate in Victoria showed an increase in January 1985 to 7.8 per cent. In comparison, the unemployment rate for Australia was 9.3 per cent.

TABLE 8. THE LABOUR FORCE

Period	Labour force '000	Partici- pation rate per cent	Employed persons '000	Change from previous month per cent	Annual change per cent	Unemployed		Unemploy- ment rate per cent	Change from previous month per cent	Annual change per cent
						Looking for full-time work	Total			
						'000	'000			
VICTORIA										
1983 - Nov.	1,850.5	60.2	1,102.4	+0.2	+1.1	126.9	148.1	8.0	-4.8	+12.7
Dec.	1,894.3	61.6	1,172.6	+1.4	+1.4	141.0	168.1	8.9	+11.3	+3.4
1984 - Jan.	1,816.4	58.9	1,649.5	-4.4	=	143.8	167.0	9.2	+3.4	+5.7
Feb.	1,875.8	60.8	1,695.0	+2.8	+1.3	152.2	180.8	9.6	+4.3	+3.2
Mar.	1,896.9	61.4	1,736.1	+2.4	+3.5	128.7	160.8	8.5	-11.5	-7.6
Apr.	1,878.1	60.7	1,721.8	-0.8	+3.9	126.8	156.3	8.3	-2.4	-11.7
May	1,873.6	60.5	1,728.6	+0.4	+4.2	119.7	145.0	7.7	-7.2	-20.6
June	1,873.2	60.4	1,730.3	+0.1	+3.7	115.9	142.9	7.6	-1.3	-16.5
July	1,877.7	60.5	1,744.9	+0.8	+3.6	107.8	132.9	7.1	-6.6	-19.3
Aug.	1,852.9	59.6	1,723.0	-1.3	+2.9	108.4	129.9	7.0	-1.4	-21.3
Sept.	1,897.3	60.9	1,757.2	+2.0	+3.3	112.2	140.1	7.4	+5.7	-22.9
Oct.	1,875.8	60.1	1,754.4	-0.2	+3.3	98.0	121.5	6.5	-12.2	-22.6
Nov.	1,886.3	60.4	1,760.3	+0.3	+3.4	105.1	126.0	6.7	+3.1	-16.3
Dec.	1,929.2	61.7	1,782.5	+1.3	+3.3	114.5	146.6	7.6	+13.4	-14.6
1985 - Jan. p	1,862.3	59.5	1,716.6	-3.7	+4.1	121.9	145.7	7.8	+2.6	-15.2
AUSTRALIA										
1983 - Nov.	7,002.3	60.1	6,377.5	+0.7	+0.2	542.1	624.7	8.9	-4.3	+11.3
Dec.	7,146.4	61.3	6,456.4	+1.2	+1.4	601.4	690.0	9.7	+9.0	+1.0
1984 - Jan.	6,972.0	59.7	6,252.6	-3.2	+1.3	636.9	719.4	10.3	+6.2	+2.0
Feb.	7,104.2	60.7	6,366.0	+1.8	+1.6	641.8	738.2	10.4	+1.0	-2.8
Mar.	7,205.3	61.5	6,504.2	+2.2	+3.1	592.2	701.0	9.7	-6.7	-6.7
Apr.	7,155.8	61.0	6,479.0	-0.4	+3.6	572.0	676.7	9.5	-2.1	-6.9
May	7,127.5	60.7	6,490.5	+0.2	+3.5	549.2	637.0	8.9	-6.3	-13.6
June	7,132.8	60.6	6,498.7	+0.1	+3.7	539.2	634.1	8.9	=	-11.0
July	7,121.8	60.5	6,526.1	+0.4	+3.7	515.2	595.7	8.4	-5.6	-14.3
Aug.	7,066.9	59.9	6,462.3	-1.0	-3.5	524.2	604.6	8.6	+2.4	-13.1
Sept.	7,194.2	60.9	6,572.9	+1.7	+3.4	518.1	621.3	8.6	=	-15.7
Oct.	7,123.4	60.2	6,544.6	-0.4	+3.3	489.7	578.8	8.1	-5.8	-12.9
Nov.	7,137.4	60.3	6,566.0	+0.3	+3.0	488.3	571.3	8.0	-1.2	-10.1
Dec.	7,250.7	61.2	6,625.6	+0.9	+2.6	527.1	627.1	8.6	+7.5	-11.3
1985 - Jan. p	7,083.2	59.7	6,427.8	-3.0	+2.8	571.3	655.4	9.3	+8.1	-9.7

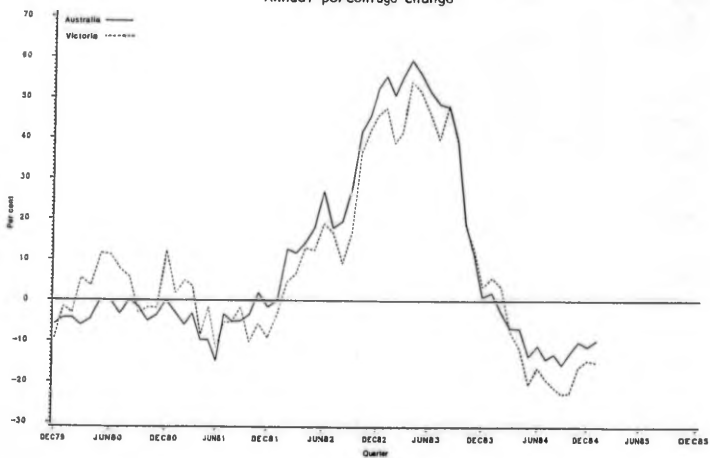
EMPLOYED PERSONS

Annual percentage change



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Annual percentage change



Overtime worked in Victoria rose 27.1 per cent to an average 1.50 hours a week per employee in November 1984 compared with a rise for Australia of 15.1 per cent to 1.22 hours.

TABLE 9. OVERTIME (a)

Period	Victoria			Australia		
	Hours	Change from	Annual	Hours	Change from	Annual
		previous period	change		previous period	change
		per cent	per cent		per cent	per cent
AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE IN THE SURVEY						
1983 - August	1.39	+5.3	+17.8	1.20	+0.8	-4.8
November - old (b)	1.54	+10.8	+19.4	1.34	+11.7	+3.1
- new (c)	1.23	..	..	1.09	..	..
1984 - February	1.24	+0.8	..	1.05	-3.7	..
May	1.30	+4.8	..	1.11	+5.7	..
August	1.18	-9.2	..	1.06	-4.5	..
November	1.50	+27.1	+22.0	1.22	+15.1	+11.9
AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE WORKING OVERTIME						
1983 - August	7.64	+5.2	+13.2	6.80	-0.7	+3.0
November - old (b)	7.78	+1.8	+7.3	7.06	+3.8	+0.4
- new (c)	7.17	..	..	6.66	..	..
1984 - February	7.47	+4.2	..	6.70	+0.6	..
May	7.14	-4.4	..	6.71	+0.1	..
August	6.76	-5.3	..	6.60	-1.6	..
November	7.76	+14.8	+8.2	7.03	+6.5	+5.6
AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE IN THE SURVEY: MANUFACTURING (d)						
1983 - August	2.39	+17.2	+36.6	1.97	+11.3	+8.2
November - old (b)	2.96	+23.8	+43.0	2.39	+21.3	+20.7
- new (c)	2.63	..	..	2.19	..	..
1984 - February	2.81	+6.8	..	2.16	-1.4	..
May	2.62	-6.8	..	2.17	+0.5	..
August	2.50	-4.6	..	2.09	-3.7	..
November	3.21	+28.4	+22.1	2.58	+23.4	+17.8
PROPORTION OF EMPLOYEES IN THE SURVEY WORKING OVERTIME						
1983 - August	18.20	+0.1	+4.1	17.59	+1.3	-7.9
November - old (b)	19.78	+8.7	+11.5	19.02	+8.1	+3.1
- new (c)	17.16	..	..	16.34	..	..
1984 - February	16.72	-2.6	..	15.73	-3.7	..
May	18.21	+8.9	..	16.52	+5.0	..
August	17.50	-3.9	..	16.06	-2.8	..
November	19.40	+10.9	+13.1	17.35	+8.0	+6.2

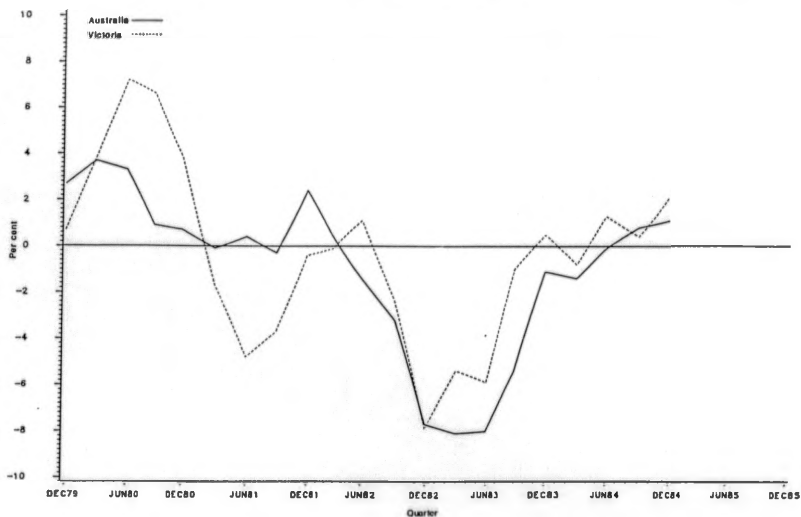
(a) Excludes agriculture and services to agriculture (ASIC Sub-Divisions 01 and 02), private households employing staff (ASIC Sub-Division 94), and members of defence forces. (b) The old survey was based on a sample selected from lists of employers subject to payroll tax and lists of government organisations and hospitals. (c) The new survey is based on the ABS register of businesses and results are not comparable with those of the old survey. (d) ASIC Division C.

The number of persons employed in manufacturing in Victoria rose by 1,400 in November 1984 to 393,500. This was 0.4 per cent higher than August 1984 and reflected a similar rise in Australia.

TABLE 10. PERSONS EMPLOYED IN MANUFACTURING

Period	Victoria			Australia		
	Persons '000	Change from previous quarter	Annual change	Persons '000	Change from previous quarter	Annual change
		per cent	per cent		per cent	per cent
1980 - Nov.	419.7	na	na	1,229.3	-0.3	+0.7
1981 - Nov.	417.9	+3.5	-0.4	1,259.3	-0.2	+2.4
1982 - Nov.	384.8	-2.5	-7.9	1,162.3	-2.5	-7.7
1983 - Aug.	390.7	+0.1	-1.0	1,132.0	-1.5	-5.4
Nov.	385.3	-1.4	+0.5	1,147.1	+1.3	-1.1
1984 - Feb.	382.3	-0.8	-0.8	1,130.1	-1.5	-1.4
May	395.3	+3.4	+1.3	1,148.0	+1.6	-0.1
Aug.	392.1	-0.8	+0.4	1,141.4	-0.6	+0.8
Nov.	393.5	+0.4	+2.1	1,159.3	+1.6	+1.1

PERSONS EMPLOYED IN MANUFACTURING
Annual percentage change



Retail sales rose by over \$272m in Victoria in December 1984 after rising by nearly \$70m in November, compared with a rise for Australia of over \$1,104m.

TABLE 11. RETAIL SALES, ALL ITEMS
(Excluding motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.)

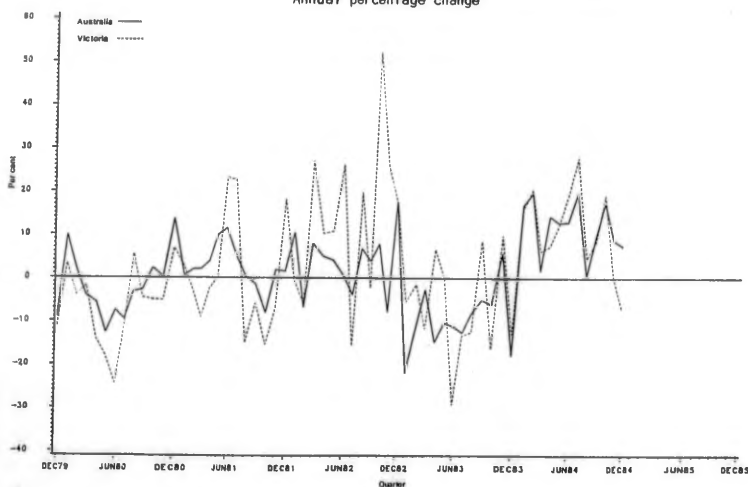
Period	Victoria				Australia			
	Original	Season- ally adjusted	Change from previous quarter	Annual change	Original	Season- ally adjusted	Change from previous period	Annual change
Year	\$m	\$m	per cent	per cent	\$m	\$m	per cent	per cent
1981-82 (a)	9,607.2	..	..	..	37,157.7	..	..	..
1982-83 (b)	10,896.7	..	..	..	40,539.1	..	..	..
1983-84	11,854.9	..	..	..	43,819.0	..	..	..
Quarter -								
1983 - Sept.	2,732.0	2,831.8	+2.5	+10.1	10,292.9	10,578.5	+2.2	+8.8
Dec.	3,345.6	2,962.3	+4.6	+8.0	12,333.5	110,916.1	+2.6	+8.7
1984 - Mar.	2,839.3	2,984.7	+0.8	+5.8	10,398.5	111,005.7	+0.8	+5.7
June	2,931.8	3,033.9	+1.6	+9.8	10,804.4	111,092.1	+0.8	+7.0
Sept.	na	na	..	..	10,869.4	11,356.7	+2.4	+7.4
Dec.	na	na	..	..	13,132.2	11,686.9	+2.9	+7.1
Month -								
1984 - May	1,035.8	na	..	..	3,807.4	3,688.3	-0.3	+8.0
June	949.5	na	..	..	3,540.1	3,703.3	+0.4	+7.0
July	941.5	na	..	..	3,600.0	3,803.7	+2.7	+8.0
Aug.	971.6	na	..	..	3,706.9	3,768.4	-0.9	+6.6
Sept.	921.5	na	..	..	3,562.5	3,784.6	+0.4	+6.8
Oct.	1,017.5	na	..	..	3,865.0	3,863.9	+2.1	+6.6
Nov.	1,084.4	na	..	..	4,081.4	3,901.5	+1.0	+7.2
Dec.	1,357.0	na	..	..	5,185.8	3,921.5	+0.5	+7.4

(a) These estimates and those for earlier periods shown are based on the 1973-74 Retail Census and exclude the Northern Territory and A.C.T. (b) These estimates and later figures are based on the 1979-80 Retail Census and exclude the Northern Territory. Estimates in the new series are not comparable with the previous series due to differences in scope between the two surveys.

TABLE 12. NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS - CARS AND STATION WAGONS

Period	Victoria				Australia			
	Original no.	Season- ally adjusted no.	Change from previous month per cent	Annual change per cent	Original no.	Season- ally adjusted (a) no.	Change from previous month per cent	Annual change per cent
1981-82	121,960	**	**	**	471,255	**	**	**
1982-83	123,834	**	**	**	453,523	**	**	**
1983-84	126,652	**	**	**	461,018	**	**	**
1983 - Oct.	9,944	r9,688	-3.7	-16.4	34,214	r36,222	-2.5	-6.1
Nov.	11,304	r11,817	+22.0	+9.9	38,865	r38,081	+5.1	+5.8
Dec.	11,096	r11,409	-3.5	-13.1	38,214	r38,409	+0.9	-17.9
1984 - Jan.	8,306	r10,805	+5.3	+15.9	31,601	r38,016	-1.0	+16.8
Feb.	9,735	r10,773	-0.3	+20.5	37,395	r38,489	+1.2	+19.7
Mar.	11,362	r10,584	-1.8	+6.2	42,781	r40,726	+5.8	+1.7
Apr.	9,857	r11,094	+4.8	+7.3	34,698	r39,126	-3.9	+14.3
May	12,656	r11,164	+0.6	+12.0	46,175	r40,971	+4.7	+12.8
June	11,027	r10,820	-3.1	+19.1	42,942	r40,890	-0.2	+13.0
July	13,121	r11,576	+7.0	+27.8	42,329	r40,282	-1.5	+19.6
Aug.	11,304	r10,002	-13.6	+4.4	42,459	r37,376	-7.2	+0.4
Sept.	10,585	r10,907	+9.0	+8.4	37,746	r40,736	+9.0	+9.7
Oct.	12,807	11,526	+5.7	+19.0	43,462	42,495	+4.3	+17.3
Nov.	11,168	11,834	+2.7	+0.1	41,159	41,401	-2.6	+8.7
Dec.	9,978	10,567	-10.7	-7.4	39,355	41,236	-0.4	+7.4

(a) Series revised following annual re-analysis.

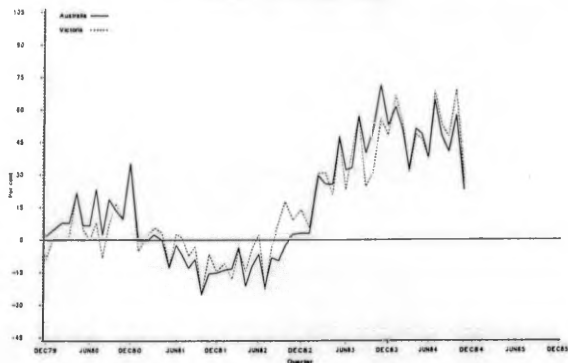
REGISTRATIONS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES - CARS AND STATION WAGONS
Annual percentage change

The amount of housing finance in Victoria approved in November 1984, over \$318m, was almost 27 per cent above the previous year but a decrease of 7 per cent on October 1984, compared with a fall of only 3 per cent for Australia.

TABLE 13. HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION, TOTAL VALUE OF LOANS APPROVED TO INDIVIDUALS (a)

Period	Victoria			Australia		
	Loans approved	Change from previous month	Annual change	Loans approved	Change from previous month	Annual change
		per cent			per cent	
	\$'000		per cent	\$'000		per cent
1981-82	1,718,446	**	-9.0	6,506,115	**	-12.9
1982-83	1,974,882	**	+14.9	7,171,153	**	+10.2
1983-84	2,851,308	**	+44.3	10,638,887	**	+48.4
1983 - Sept.	187,215	-10.4	+24.6	730,476	-4.4	+40.0
Oct.	203,097	+8.5	+30.7	778,992	+6.6	+50.8
Nov.	251,138	+23.7	+56.2	965,159	+23.9	+71.2
Dec.	235,597	-6.2	+48.2	857,274	-11.2	+52.7
1984 - Jan.	221,859	-5.8	+66.4	833,372	-2.8	+61.4
Feb.	257,505	+16.1	+53.4	1,050,722	+26.1	+50.8
Mar.	277,459	+7.7	+31.0	1,059,606	+0.8	+32.7
Apr.	248,811	-10.3	+48.5	920,496	-13.1	+51.1
May	325,351	+30.8	+46.3	1,094,624	+18.9	+48.7
June (b)	259,284	-20.3	+37.1	953,758	-12.9	+38.0
July	295,100	+13.8	+68.6	1,037,300	+8.8	+64.5
Aug.	319,600	+8.3	+53.0	1,130,700	+9.0	+48.0
Sept.	276,200	-13.6	+47.5	1,027,700	-9.1	+40.7
Oct.	343,700	+24.4	+69.2	1,226,700	+19.4	+57.5
Nov.	318,700	-7.3	+26.9	1,189,400	-3.0	+23.2

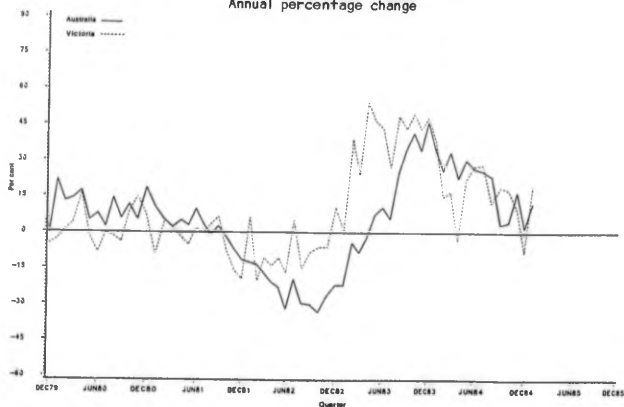
(a) Includes loans approved by significant lenders for the construction of dwellings, purchase of newly erected dwellings, and purchase of established dwellings. (b) For break in series refer to paragraphs 5 to 10 of the Explanatory notes of Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (5609.0).

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION - TOTAL VALUE OF LOANS APPROVED TO INDIVIDUALS
Annual percentage change

The number of new dwellings approved in Victoria, seasonally adjusted, rose by 32 per cent in January 1985, compared with a rise of 12 per cent for Australia.

TABLE 14. BUILDING APPROVALS FOR NEW DWELLINGS

Period	Victoria				Australia			
	Original	Season- ally Change from		Original	Annual change	Season- ally Change from		Annual change
		adjusted	previous month			adjusted	previous month	
	no.	no.	per cent	per cent	no.	no.	per cent	per cent
1981-82	24,862	**	**	**	138,504	**	**	**
1982-83	28,582	**	**	**	116,369	**	**	**
1983-84	36,727	**	**	**	150,747	**	**	**
1983 - Oct.	3,017	3,024	+2.6	+50.1	12,471	12,206	+0.3	+41.6
Nov.	3,137	2,935	-2.9	+47.8	12,936	11,980	-1.9	+34.4
Dec.	2,823	3,093	+5.4	+46.9	11,959	13,150	+9.8	+46.2
1984 - Jan.	2,255	3,138	+1.5	+35.1	9,879	12,432	-5.5	+34.5
Feb.	2,911	2,983	-4.9	+15.1	12,852	13,493	+8.5	+25.8
Mar.	3,219	2,987	+0.1	+17.7	14,171	13,218	-2.0	+33.5
Apr.	2,937	2,996	+0.3	-0.9	12,092	12,675	-4.1	+22.8
May	4,125	3,368	+12.4	+20.7	15,844	13,743	+8.4	+29.6
June	3,329	3,427	+1.8	+26.6	13,212	13,168	-4.2	+29.4
July	3,845	3,740	+9.1	+28.3	13,889	13,808	+4.9	+25.6
Aug.	3,890	3,589	-4.0	+12.2	15,070	14,314	+3.7	+23.4
Sept.	3,245	3,503	-2.4	+18.9	12,352	12,589	-12.1	+3.4
Oct.	3,919	3,551	+1.4	+17.4	14,031	12,746	+1.2	+4.4
Nov.	3,352	3,216	-9.4	+9.6	14,607	13,989	+9.8	+16.8
Dec.	2,479	2,837	-11.8	-8.3	11,914	13,385	-4.3	+1.8
1985 - Jan.	2,832	3,744	+32.0	+19.3	11,558	13,933	+4.1	+12.1

BUILDING APPROVALS FOR NEW DWELLINGS
Annual percentage change

The value of non-dwelling buildings approved in Victoria rose by almost \$39m in the December quarter 1984. Australia wide there was a increase of approximately \$475m with increases being recorded in both the public (\$289m) and private (\$187m) sectors.

TABLE 15. VALUE OF BUILDING (OTHER THAN DWELLING) APPROVALS (a)
(\$m)

Period	Victoria			Australia		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1981-82	901.1	216.0	1,117.1	3,090.2	1,350.7	4,440.9
1982-83	516.1	285.8	801.9	2,444.6	1,359.6	3,804.2
1983-84	683.1	372.9	1,056.0	3,029.8	1,737.6	4,767.4
1983 - Mar. qtr	116.9	71.6	188.5	560.4	389.1	949.5
June qtr	124.7	87.7	212.4	618.2	394.6	1,012.8
Sept. qtr	183.7	70.4	254.1	833.7	334.8	1,168.5
Dec. qtr	132.6	94.5	227.1	684.5	425.9	1,110.4
1984 - Mar. qtr	164.8	103.7	268.5	729.0	343.0	1,072.0
June qtr	202.0	104.3	306.3	782.6	633.9	1,416.5
Sept. qtr	259.4	131.0	390.4	935.7	385.3	1,321.0
Dec. qtr	264.7	164.4	429.0	1,122.4	673.9	1,796.3

(a) Comprises building approvals (new, plus alterations and additions) valued at \$10,000 and over.