

# Mineral Exploration (ABS Cat No 8412.0)

Latest quarter: June quarter 2017

Release date: 4 September 2017

Next release date: 4 December 2017

The ABS publishes data on mineral and petroleum exploration expenditures for all states and the Northern Territory. This release focuses on mineral exploration expenditure data only, as petroleum exploration data are highly volatile and frequently withheld from publication at the jurisdiction level for confidentiality reasons.

## Recent performance

The ABS estimated that the nominal value of mineral exploration expenditure in Tasmania was \$3.5 million in the June quarter 2017, in trend terms. This was an increase of 2.9 per cent on the previous quarter, and was 6.1 per cent higher than the value recorded in the June quarter 2016.

Tasmania's total value of exploration expenditure is low compared to resource-rich jurisdictions (Table 1).

Nationally, the nominal value of mineral exploration increased by 6.6 per cent in the June quarter 2016 compared to the previous quarter and was 23.5 per cent above the level recorded one year earlier.

All states and territories recorded increases in the the value of mineral exploration expenditure in the June quarter 2017 compared to the previous quarter. The largest increases were in Victoria (18.5 per cent) and New South Wales (11.4 per cent).

The nominal value of mineral exploration expenditure in Tasmania has decreased significantly since its peak in late 2012 and has remained relatively stable since late 2015 (Chart 1).

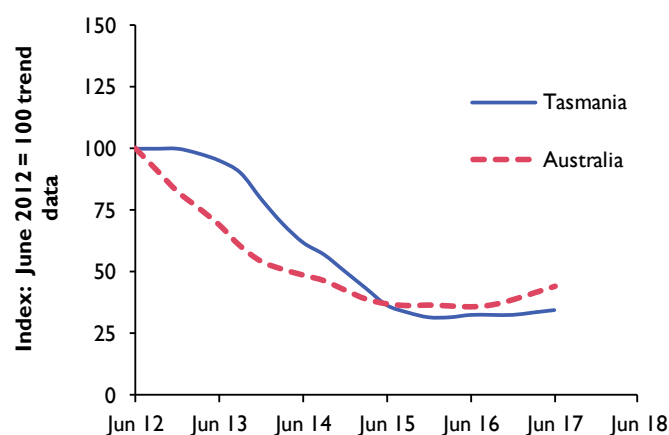
In the year to the June quarter 2017, Tasmania's mineral exploration expenditure decreased by 2.2 per cent compared to the previous year in original year-average terms. Nationally, an increase of 10.1 per cent was estimated in the same period (Table 2).

**Table 1: Mineral exploration expenditure (other than for petroleum) by jurisdiction, June quarter 2017, nominal trend data**

Trend	Nominal value (\$m)	Quarterly % change	Annual % change	Share of Aus (%)
NSW	42.0	11.4	37.3	9.8
Vic	12.8	18.5	73.0	3.0
Qld	54.1	4.2	13.9	12.6
SA	12.3	3.4	-4.7	2.9
WA	284.9	6.5	27.5	66.5
<b>Tas</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>
NT	18.9	0.5	-12.9	4.4
<b>Aus</b>	<b>428.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>23.5</b>	

SOURCE: MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, AUSTRALIA, ABS CAT NO 8412.0: TABLE 4

**Chart 1: Mineral exploration expenditure (other than for petroleum) in Tasmania and Australia, nominal trend data**



SOURCE: MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, AUSTRALIA, ABS CAT NO 8412.0: TABLE 4

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**Table 2: Nominal value of mineral exploration (other than for petroleum), Tasmania and Australia**

Nominal value	Tasmania				Australia			
	Jun 16	Dec 16	Mar 17	Jun 17	Jun 16	Dec 16	Mar 17	Jun 17
<b>Trend</b>								
Value in quarter (\$m)	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.5	347.0	375.4	402.1	428.5
quarterly % change	3.1	0.0	3.0	2.9	-0.9	5.8	7.1	6.6
% change prev year	-10.8	3.1	6.3	6.1	-3.2	6.1	14.8	23.5
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>								
Value in quarter (\$m)	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.5	347.6	374.7	398.4	437.7
quarterly % change	-8.1	20.7	-5.7	6.1	0.1	6.2	6.3	9.9
% change prev year	-12.8	40.0	-10.8	2.9	3.0	5.3	14.7	25.9
<b>Original</b>								
Total value in year to (\$m)	13.4	13.5	13.1	13.1	1 421.1	1 426.9	1 474.1	1 565.1
Year average, annual % change	-32.7	-6.3	-5.1	-2.2	-10.0	-0.8	4.4	10.1

SOURCE: MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, AUSTRALIA: ABS CAT NO 8412.0: TABLE 4

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