

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Explanatory notes

The Commonwealth holds stock, acquired through market repurchasing, in various Treasury Bond lines. The stock was acquired under the Treasurer's investment powers conferred by the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and, before 1 July 1999, the *Loan Consolidation and Investment Reserve Act 1955*.

Commonwealth Government securities held by the Commonwealth do not constitute a liability for the Commonwealth and are excluded from the data presented in these tables, where indicated.

Forms of Commonwealth indebtedness not evidenced by the issue of securities are excluded, as is debt of Commonwealth semi-government and local authorities and the debt of other bodies guaranteed by the Commonwealth.

Commonwealth securities the Reserve Bank of Australia holds, or the Commonwealth, States or Territories hold, would be deducted in calculations of net public debt, but are included in these tables, except where indicated.

The figures contained in these tables cannot be used to derive borrowings or net borrowing because, in addition to the coverage factors mentioned above, all the figures are in nominal or face value terms however, some securities are originally issued, or ultimately redeemed or repurchased, at prices different from their face value.

The Australian currency equivalent is shown for securities repayable in foreign currencies. The conversion uses the rate for the Australian dollar against the US dollar for the last working day of the financial year, as published by the Reserve Bank of Australia. This rate is an average of market rates. Rates for foreign currencies other than the Deutsche mark cross the Australian dollar/US dollar rate with market rates for those currencies on the same day. The Deutsche mark exchange rate multiplies the value of the Australian dollar against the euro by the relativity factor for the Deutsche mark established on introducing the euro.

While this method shows the amounts involved in a common currency, the cost in Australian dollars of meeting the various obligations will differ from

that shown, to the extent the relevant exchange rates change between 30 June 2003 and the dates on which obligations are paid.

Commonwealth Government securities on issue for the States and Territories

Until July 1990, the Commonwealth borrowed on behalf of the State and Territory Governments and allocated a portion of the proceeds of its Treasury Bond raisings to those governments to fund the redemption of previous allocations of Commonwealth Government securities and, until 1986, also as new money borrowings. The States and the Territories are responsible for meeting all obligations as to interest and principal on the Commonwealth Government securities on allocation to them.

In addition to the Commonwealth Government securities represented by the Commonwealth's Treasury Bond raisings, there are outstanding balances of Tax Free Stock for New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. Further, South Australia has outstanding Sterling debt which was issued at the turn of the century and which matures at the South Australian Treasurer's option, and there are overdue Sterling stock, Treasury Bonds, Australian Savings Bonds and Special Bonds on issue for New South Wales.