

The Australian Economy in the 2000s

Proceedings of a Conference

Held in Sydney
on 15–16 August 2011

Editors:
Hugo Gerard
Jonathan Kearns

The publication of these Conference papers is aimed at making results of research undertaken in the Bank, and elsewhere, available to a wider audience. The views expressed are those of the authors and discussants and not necessarily those of the Bank. References to the results and views presented should clearly attribute them to the authors, not to the Bank.

The content of this publication shall not be reproduced, sold or distributed without the prior consent of the Reserve Bank of Australia.

Website: <http://www.rba.gov.au>

Cover Design
Reserve Bank of Australia

Printed in Australia by Reserve Bank of Australia
65 Martin Place
Sydney NSW 2000
Tel 61 2 9551 8111
Fax 61 2 9551 8000

ISBN 978-0-9871488-5-8 (Print)
ISBN 978-0-9871488-6-5 (Online)
Sydney, December 2011

Table of Contents

Introduction	
Hugo Gerard and Jonathan Kearns	1
From the Asian Miracle to an Asian Century?	
Economic Transformation in the 2000s and Prospects for the 2010s	
Yiping Huang and Bijun Wang	7
Discussant Mark Thirlwell	31
Apocalypse Then: The Evolution of the North Atlantic Economy and the Global Crisis	
Tamim Bayoumi and Trung Bui	37
Discussant Kathryn Dominguez	69
Australia's Prosperous 2000s: Housing and the Mining Boom	
Jonathan Kearns and Philip Lowe	73
Discussant Chris Richardson	101
The Mining Industry: From Bust to Boom	
Ellis Connolly and David Orsmond	111
Discussant Clinton Dines	157
The Australian Labour Market in the 2000s: The Quiet Decade	
Jeff Borland	165
Discussant Judith Sloan	219
Productivity: The Lost Decade	
Saul Eslake	223
Discussant Michael Plumb	255
Housing in Australia in the 2000s: On the Agenda Too Late?	
Judith Yates	261
Discussant Bill Evans	297
The Australian Financial System in the 2000s: Dodging the Bullet	
Kevin Davis	301
Discussant Eli Remolona	349

Wrap-up Discussion	
John Edwards	355
David Gruen	363
John Quiggin	367
Biographies of Contributors	381
List of Conference Participants	387
Other Volumes in this Series	389
Copyright and Disclaimer Notices	390