

Stats News

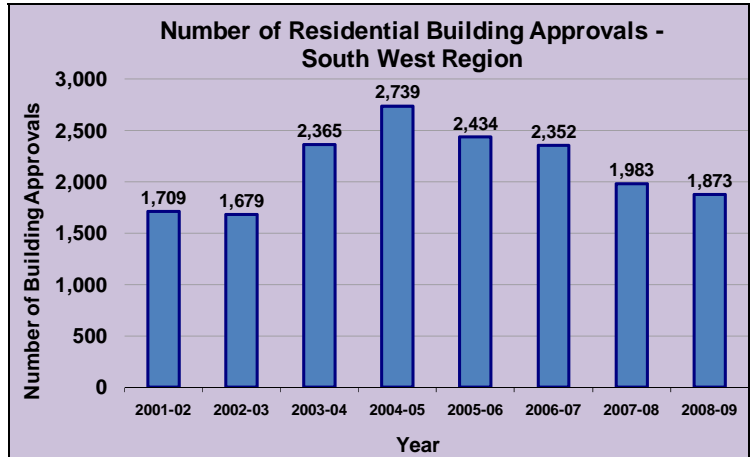
South West Development Commission
September 2009

BUILDING APPROVALS IN THE SOUTH WEST REGION

The total value of building approvals in the South West Region was \$605.8 million in 2008/09, a decrease of 24.5 per cent from the previous financial year (\$802.8 million).

Both residential and non residential approvals fell in 2008/09, the larger decrease being felt by the non residential sector due to the impact of the global economic downturn which has affected commercial development.

Residential approvals for the South West Region dropped from \$533.5 million in 2007/08 to \$492.7 million in 2008/09, an overall decrease of 7.6 per cent. This is reflected in the decrease in numbers of residential building approvals, down from 1,983 in 2007/08 to 1,873 in 2008/09.

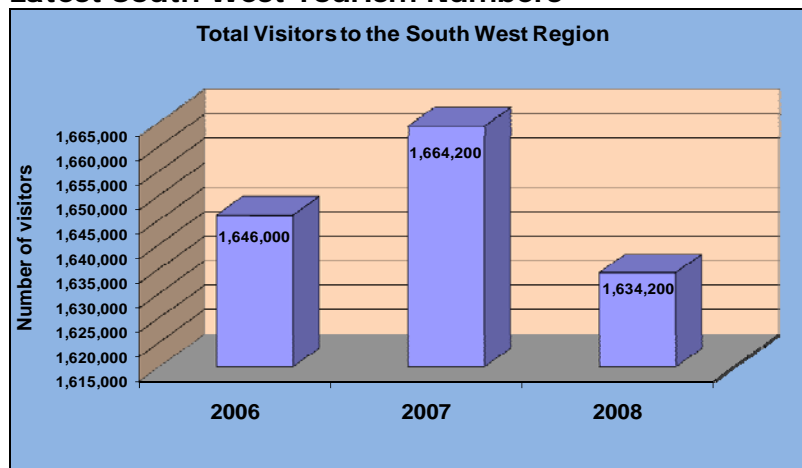


Though there has been a downward trend in the residential building sector over the past few years the numbers and value of approvals are still high compared to historical levels.

Building Approvals - Residential Vs Non-Residential - South West Region (\$'000)						
	2007/08			2008/09		
	Residential	Non-Residential	Total	Residential	Non-Residential	Total
Bunbury	59,097	105,552	164,649	48,026	41,339	89,365
Capel	67,388	31,635	99,023	75,428	1,211	76,639
Collie	17,327	62,824	80,151	11,450	3,848	15,298
Dardanup	27,359	4,395	31,754	38,727	3,157	41,884
Donnybrook-Balingup	17,953	309	18,262	12,218	1,419	13,637
Harvey	63,109	12,041	75,150	68,283	7,750	76,033
Total Preston	252,233	216,756	468,989	254,132	58,724	312,856
Augusta-Margaret River	42,077	8,077	50,154	64,881	10,309	75,190
Busselton	207,839	41,892	249,731	142,602	41,055	183,657
Total Vasse	249,916	49,969	299,885	207,483	51,364	258,847
Boyup Brook	2,933	58	2,991	2,197	100	2,297
Bridgetown-Greenbushes	10,723	357	11,080	12,722	535	13,257
Manjimup	13,948	1,937	15,885	11,627	1,900	13,527
Nannup	3,699	250	3,949	4,515	503	5,018
Total Blackwood	31,303	2,602	33,905	31,061	3,038	34,099
Total South West	533,452	269,327	802,779	492,676	113,126	605,802

Source: Department of Local Government and Regional Development based on ABS data, August 2009.

Latest South West Tourism Numbers



New data released by Tourism WA showed for the year 2008 the South West Region received approximately 1.6 million tourists annually (overnight visitors) who directly contributed \$654 million into the South West economy. In terms of visitor numbers there has been a slight decrease on the previous year's (2007) level. Annually there were 1,535,000 domestic visitors (both interstate and intrastate) to the South West Region and they represented approximately 94 per cent of total visitors. The remaining 6 per cent of visitors (99,200) were international visitors. Source: Tourism Western Australia & Department of Regional Development and Lands, August 2009.