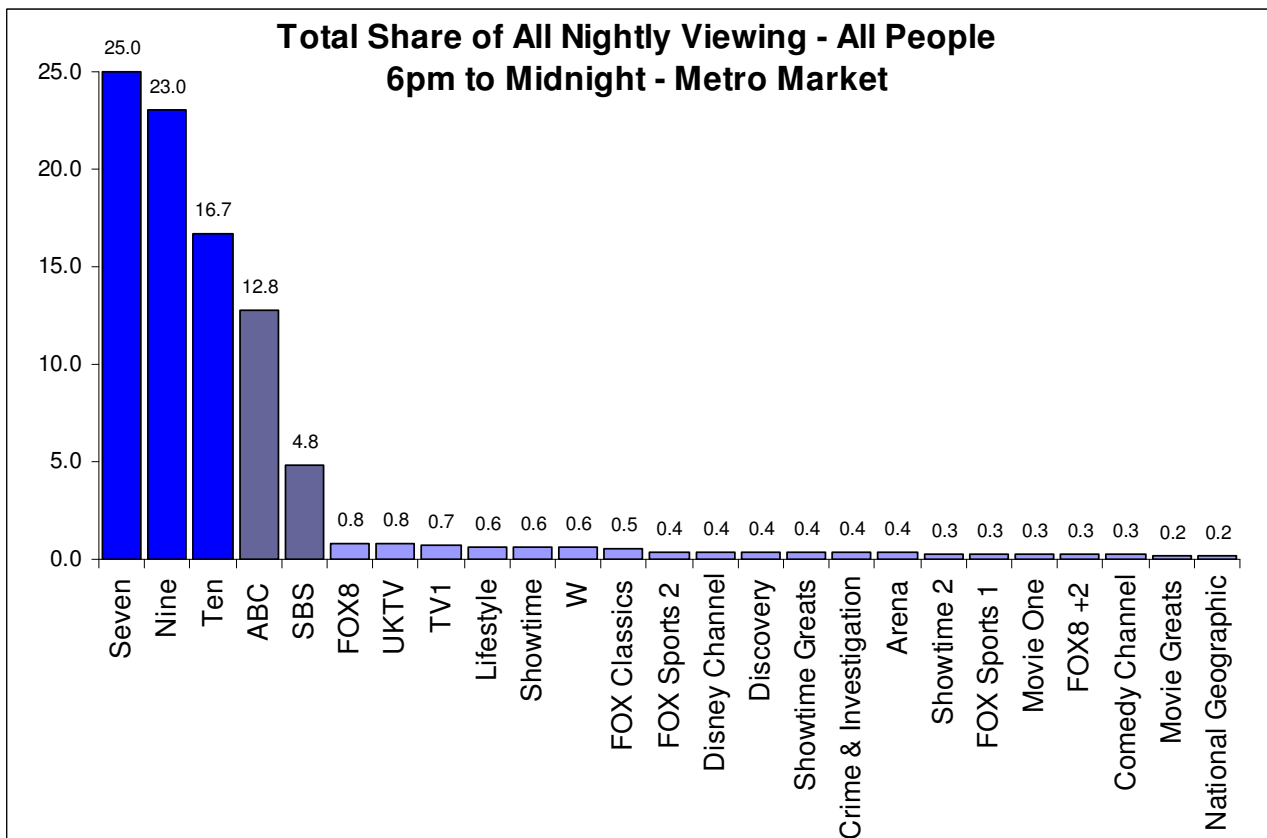


**Media Release**  
**13 February, 2006**

**Summer Ratings Report – Weeks 1 to 6, 2006**

While the 2006 ratings gun officially fired last night, Free TV networks have already lapped pay TV. Viewers overwhelmingly turned to Free TV this summer, as figures for the first six weeks of the calendar year reveal:

- Free-to-air television accounted for 85.3 per cent of all metro\* nightly viewing (6pm to midnight), while all of pay TV's 100 plus channels made up just 14.7 per cent.
- Not one of pay's 100+ channels achieved even a one per cent share of nightly viewing.
- During 6am to midnight, pay's top metro channel garnered just 1.3 per cent of all viewing.



Data is sourced from OzTAM and RegTAM and compiled by Survey Audits.

- Every one of the top 40 programs on Free TV averaged a minimum of 1.2 million metro viewers and 541,000 regional viewers.

*Top programs continued on second page...*

- An average of more than 2.7 million metro viewers tuned into the *Men's Final of the Australian Open Tennis* to watch champion Roger Federer defeat the popular Cypriot Marcos Baghdatis.
- One Day Cricket repeatedly attracted large audiences. For instance the *Australia v South Africa 20/20* match pulled an average metro audience of more than 2.1 million metro viewers and more than 1 million regional viewers.
- Drama continued to fare well on commercial free-to-air TV. Medical drama *House* returned to screens with an average metro audience of nearly 1.4 million. In contrast, pay's much-publicised drama *Love My Way* attracted just 71,000 viewers nationally.

Top 40 Programs - All People - Average '000s					
FREE TV			PAY TV		
Metro Average '000's		Regional incl. Tas Average '000's		National Average '000's	
1	AUST OPEN 2006 MEN'S FNL - MATCH	2,748	1	AUSTN OPEN 2006 MEN'S FINAL - MATCH	1,112
2	DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES	2,246	2	20/20 MATCH - AUST/STH AFR	1,086
3	20/20 MATCH - AUST/S AFR	2,179	3	1DAY CKT - AUST/STH AFR - G2 S2	925
4	LOST	1,945	4	LOST	841
5	1DAY CKT - AUST/S AFR - G2 S2	1,852	5	DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES	827
6	PRISON BREAK	1,839	6	1DAY CKT - AUST/STH AFR - G11 S2	800
7	AUST OPEN 2006 - D4 NIGHT SSN	1,682	7	1DAY CKT - AUST/SRI LANKA - G5 S2	744
8	AUST OPEN 2006 MEN'S FINAL - PRESN	1,680	8	PRISON BREAK	739
9	1DAY CKT - AUST/S LAN - G5 S2	1,650	9	1DAY CKT - AUST/SRI LANKA - G7 S2	738
10	NATIONAL NINE NEWS SUNDAY	1,638	10	NATIONAL NEWS SUNDAY	729
11	CSI: NY	1,624	11	AUSTN OPEN 2006 - DAY 8 NIGHT SESSION	713
12	1DAY CKT - AUST/S AFR - G11 S2	1,572	12	CSI: NY	703
13	AUST OPEN 2006 - D8 NIGHT SESSION	1,532	13	AUSTN OPEN 2006 - DAY 4 NIGHT SESSION	697
14	TODAY TONIGHT	1,515	14	1DAY CKT - AUST/STH AFR - G2 S1	691
15	MISSING PERSONS UNIT	1,513	15	1DAY CKT - AUST/SRI LANKA - G1 S2	689
16	1DAY CKT - AUST/S AFR - G4 S2	1,467	16	1DAY CKT - AUST/STH AFR - G4 S2	655
17	1DAY CKT - AUST/S AFR - G10 S2	1,459	17	1DAY CKT - AUST/STH AFR - G10 S2	651
18	AUST OPEN 2006 MEN'S FNL - PREVIEW	1,451	18	THE GHOST WHISPERER	651
19	1DAY CKT - AUST/S LAN - G7 S2	1,449	19	1DAY CKT - AUST/STH AFR - G11 S1	649
20	1DAY CKT - AUST/S LAN - G1 S2	1,402	20	1DAY CKT - AUST/SRI LANKA - G8 S1	641
21	HOUSE	1,399	21	2006 C'WLTH GAMES SWIM TRIALS D4	628
22	GHOST WHISPERER	1,399	22	AIR CRASH INVESTIGATIONS	625
23	AIR CRASH INVESTIGATIONS	1,372	23	MISSING PERSONS UNIT	621
24	SEVEN NEWS	1,357	24	1DAY CKT - AUST/SRI LANKA - G5 S1	612
25	HOME AND AWAY	1,332	25	WIN/NBN NEWS	612
26	1DAY CKT - AUST/S AFR - G2 S1	1,329	26	A CURRENT AFFAIR	611
27	1DAY CKT - AUST/S AFR - G11 S1	1,324	27	NATIONAL NEWS	600
28	LAS VEGAS	1,313	28	2006 C'WLTH GAMES SWIM TRIALS D3	597
29	1DAY CKT - AUST/S LAN - G5 S1	1,312	29	AUSTN OPEN 2006 MEN'S FINAL - PREVIEW	595
30	THE GREAT OUTDOORS	1,307	30	GETAWAY	585
31	NCIS	1,305	31	HOME AND AWAY	582
32	M-LEGALLY BLONDE	1,299	32	AUSTN OPEN 2006 - DAY 10 NIGHT SESSION	580
33	1DAY CKT - AUST/S LAN - 1ST FINAL S2	1,291	33	LAW AND ORDER: SVU	579
34	1DAY CKT - AUST/S LAN - G8 S1	1,285	34	THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER -RPT	577
35	THE GHOST WHISPERER	1,279	35	AUSTN OPEN 2006 MEN'S FINAL - PRESN	576
36	SEVEN NEWS - SUN	1,276	36	2006 C'WLTH GAMES SWIM TRIALS D1	565
37	AUST OPEN 2006 - D10 NIGHT SSN	1,270	37	BEYOND TOMORROW	561
38	SUPERNATURAL	1,257	38	1DAY CKT - SRI LANKA/STH AFR - G6 S2	555
39	THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER -RPT	1,254	39	LAS VEGAS	551
40	2006 C'WLTH GAMES SWIM TRIALS D3	1,247	40	TWO AND A HALF MEN -RPT	541
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-Ends-

For media enquiries, please contact Free TV Australia on (02) 8968 7100.

\* Total metro share includes spill. All program results represent an average of all times aired within the six-week period (January 1 to February 11, 2006). Only pay TV's top performing channels are included in the 'Share of Nightly Viewing' chart.