

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 5405.0

NOON 6 NOVEMBER 1980

IMPORTS BY COMMODITY DIVISIONS, AUSTRALIA SEPTEMBER 1980 (PRELIMINARY)

INQUIRIES

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MAIN FEATURES

Imports for September 1980 rose by \$211m to \$1.615m, an increase of 15% compared with August 1980.

The major contributors to this increase were machinery (\$105m), transport equipment (\$32m) and manufactured articles (\$26m).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains statistics of imports by Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the *Australian Import Commodity Classification* (AICC) (1204.0). Statistics for 1979-80 and 1980-81 are preliminary and subject to revision.

2. More detailed figures will be published in the monthly publication *Imports, Australia* (5406.0).

Source of data

3. These statistics are compiled by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from information contained in import entries submitted by importers or their agents to the Bureau of Customs as required by the Customs Act.

Statistical period

4. Imports are recorded statistically in the calendar month in which the import entries were both finalised by the Bureau of Customs and passed to the ABS for further processing. Normally this is within a few days of discharge of cargo. However, import entries may be lodged early using the check-to-arrive system or may be delayed because of various validation checks before being passed on to the ABS. Because of this, import statistics for a particular month do not necessarily represent entries lodged or commodities actually imported during the month in question. Analysis of past data has shown that in aggregate approximately 70% of import trade by value recorded for a particular month was actually imported during that month, 25% was actually imported during the previous month with the remaining 5% being imported in earlier months. For individual commodities the percentage by value representing actual imports in a month may vary considerably.

Valuation

5. For imports the recorded value is the value for duty for Customs purposes (VFD). On 1 July 1976, Australia adopted the internationally recognised Brussels Definition of Value (BDV) on a free-on-board (fob) basis (i.e. charges and expenses involved in delivering the goods from the place of exportation to the place of introduction in Australia, are excluded). The value for duty is based on the normal price, i.e. the price the goods would fetch at the time when duty becomes payable on a sale in the open market between a buyer and a seller independent of each other. In practice, the basis for valuation is generally taken to be the invoice price subject to certain safeguards and adjustments where necessary.

Commodity classification

6. From 1 July 1978, imports have been classified according to the AICC which is based on the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 2. A detailed description of the commodity items included in this publication is contained in the AICC. Copies of or extracts from this classification may be obtained from offices of the ABS in Canberra and in each capital city.

Merchandise and non-merchandise imports

7. Total imports are divided into merchandise and non-merchandise in accordance with international standards recommended by the United Nations. Merchandise imports are the equivalent of total imports less certain items specified as non-merchandise. A description of non-merchandise items is contained in the AICC.

Seasonal adjustment

8. In carrying out seasonal adjustment of import statistics account is taken not only of seasonal factors but also of 'trading-day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, etc. in the month) and the influence of Easter, which may affect figures for different months in different years. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting this series are given in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, Australia* (1308.0). The statistics may also be subject to large irregular influences which are not removed by seasonal adjustment and may be affected by changes in the composition of imports. For these reasons care should be exercised in interpreting month-to-month movements.

Revisions to previous figures

9. Where revisions have been made to the previously published figures for earlier months of the current financial year, appropriate adjustments are made to the year-to-date figures shown in this publication. For this reason, monthly figures published in previous issues for the current financial year will not necessarily add to the year-to-date figures shown in the latest issue.

Special returns system

10. More detailed and/or timely statistics at a more specific commodity level are available by subscription to the pre-paid Overseas Trade Special Return Service. Subscribers to this service can obtain by post, computer-produced 'special returns' according to a limited number of formats, for a charge consistent with the degree of detail required. Special returns are available on a monthly or less frequent basis and application forms are available from the Overseas Trade Section in Canberra or from each State office of the ABS.

Related publications

11. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

Imports of Assembled New Passenger Motor Cars, Australia (5416.0)—issued monthly

Imports, Australia (5406.0)—issued monthly

Exports by Commodity Divisions, Australia (Preliminary) (5402.0)—issued monthly

Exports, Australia (5404.0)—issued monthly

Exports and Imports of Merchandise at Constant Prices, Australia (5421.0)—issued quarterly.

12. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

n.e.s. not elsewhere specified.

13. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. INDEXES OF CURRENT PRICE VALUES OF MAJOR IMPORT COMMODITIES(a)

Commodity description	Average monthly value 1979-80	July 1980	August 1980	September 1980
Food and live animals chiefly for food (0)	100	118	84	106
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (2)	100	118	120	118
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	100	154	128	115
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (5)	100	104	94	100
Paper, paperboard and articles thereof (64)	100	116	96	128
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, etc. (65)	100	106	96	113
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	100	118	113	115
Machinery (71-77)	100	119	104	136
Transport equipment (78,79)	100	102	94	116
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (8)	100	115	106	122
Total imports—				
Original	100	118	104	120
Seasonally adjusted	100	106	102	122

For footnotes see Table 2.

TABLE 2. PERCENTAGE SHARE BY VALUE OF MAJOR COMMODITIES IMPORTED(a)

Commodity description	1979-80	July 1980	August 1980	September 1980
	%	%	%	%
Food and live animals chiefly for food (0)	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.6
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (2)	4.3	4.3	5.0	4.3
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	12.9	16.8	15.9	12.4
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (5)	9.7	8.5	8.8	8.2
Paper, paperboard and articles thereof (64)	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.8
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, etc. (65)	5.9	5.3	5.4	5.6
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	5.4	5.4	5.9	5.1
Machinery (71-77)	24.2	24.5	24.2	27.5
Transport equipment (78,79)	10.6	9.3	9.6	10.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (8)	12.4	12.1	12.6	12.6
Total imports	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Imports of the 'major' commodities shown in these tables are significant imports by particular Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the *Australian Import Commodity Classification* (figures in brackets following commodity descriptions denote the relevant Sections and Divisions).

S/T 1980

TABLE 3. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION (\$'000)

Section and division	July 1980	August 1980	September 1980	Three months ended September	
				1979	1980
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD					
00 Live animals chiefly for food	806	1,306	3,382	6,197	5,493
01 Meat and meat preparations	794	756	709	1,979	2,259
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	4,172	3,169	4,233	7,586	11,574
03 Fish, crustaceans and molluscs and preparations thereof	14,181	10,346	14,662	27,553	39,189
04 Cereals and cereal preparations	1,587	1,837	2,908	4,661	6,331
05 Vegetables and fruit	14,424	7,106	10,689	28,591	32,219
06 Sugar, sugar preparations and honey	750	860	977	2,401	2,586
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof	24,008	16,781	16,084	64,147	56,874
08 Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmilled cereals)	1,950	1,794	1,899	4,983	5,642
09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	1,912	1,837	2,136	5,340	5,885
Total section 0	64,584	45,791	57,678	153,439	168,053
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO					
11 Beverages	7,787	6,737	8,217	14,359	22,741
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	6,568	6,076	5,157	14,811	17,801
Total section 1	14,355	12,813	13,374	29,170	40,542
CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS					
21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw	346	155	149	315	650
22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit	1,595	187	502	659	2,284
23 Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)	7,398	5,166	6,996	21,104	19,560
24 Cork and wood	14,441	14,081	19,162	49,086	47,684
25 Pulp and waste paper	10,314	10,389	9,770	17,999	30,473
26 Textile fibres (other than wool tops) and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	8,135	5,514	6,794	22,810	20,443
27 Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum, precious stones)	20,436	23,030	19,189	34,069	62,655
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	2,565	8,331	3,053	6,146	13,949
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.	3,510	3,218	3,502	8,638	10,229
Total section 2	68,740	70,071	69,116	160,826	207,927
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS					
32 Coal, coke and briquettes	226	552	369	1,465	1,147
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	267,886	222,898	200,093	468,733	690,878
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	17	9	22	53	49
Total section 3	268,130	223,459	200,485	470,251	692,073
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS, FATS AND WAXES					
41 Animal oils and fats	67	84	36	165	188
42 Fixed vegetable oils and fats	3,553	3,984	3,685	20,437	11,222
43 Animal and vegetable oils and fats, processed, and waxes of animal or vegetable origin	1,180	1,466	1,197	2,775	3,843
Total section 4	4,800	5,534	4,919	23,378	15,253
5 CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS, N.E.S.					
51 Organic chemicals	42,450	31,361	34,165	165,506	107,976
52 Inorganic chemicals	18,164	24,500	15,915	37,567	58,579
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	5,959	6,880	6,494	19,256	19,333
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	13,596	9,870	14,614	35,702	38,079
55 Essential oils and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	7,149	6,874	8,674	19,552	22,697
56 Fertilisers, manufactured	1,755	3,361	4,860	7,650	9,976
57 Explosives and pyrotechnic products	240	165	357	649	762
58 Artificial resins and plastic materials, and cellulose esters and ethers	29,055	23,176	30,126	81,238	82,358
59 Chemical materials and products, n.e.s.	17,497	17,731	16,913	45,713	52,141
Total section 5	136,321	123,917	132,118	352,827	392,356

TABLE 3. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF
THE AUSTRALIAN IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION—continued
(£' 000)

Section and division	July 1980	August 1980	September 1980	Three months ended September	
				1979	1980
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL					
61 Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s. and dressed furskins	3,734	3,041	3,580	13,692	10,355
62 Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	20,062	17,317	21,544	40,171	58,923
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	7,608	7,027	8,770	18,139	23,406
64 Paper, paperboard and articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	40,709	33,688	44,665	93,870	119,062
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s. and related products	84,589	76,500	89,730	215,863	250,819
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	28,016	27,208	36,171	69,480	91,395
67 Iron and steel	38,294	34,460	32,950	80,345	105,703
68 Non-ferrous metals	8,883	9,657	7,265	17,551	25,805
69 Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	38,439	38,104	42,744	95,906	119,287
<i>Total section 6</i>	<i>270,333</i>	<i>247,001</i>	<i>287,419</i>	<i>645,017</i>	<i>804,753</i>
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT					
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	43,019	35,443	47,478	121,960	125,940
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	101,903	87,428	116,296	182,068	305,628
73 Metalworking machinery	13,928	12,786	21,611	24,542	48,326
74 General industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s. and machine parts, n.e.s.	73,521	64,833	88,140	165,205	226,504
75 Office machines and automatic data processing equipment	48,409	45,932	62,194	99,653	156,535
76 Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	42,050	37,348	38,481	99,266	117,879
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, n.e.s. and electrical parts thereof (including non-electrical counter-parts n.e.s., of electrical household type equipment	66,888	56,161	70,576	156,342	193,625
78 Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)	132,681	119,462	137,111	348,935	389,254
79 Other transport equipment	14,512	14,863	29,201	63,979	58,576
<i>Total section 7</i>	<i>536,922</i>	<i>474,256</i>	<i>611,089</i>	<i>1,261,951</i>	<i>1,622,267</i>
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES					
81 Sanitary, plumbing, heating and lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.	3,123	2,862	3,622	8,866	9,607
82 Furniture and parts thereof	7,249	6,643	8,432	19,554	22,325
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	5,233	5,873	5,915	14,669	17,021
84 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	27,014	27,111	23,973	70,749	78,098
85 Footwear	13,117	10,701	8,413	31,403	32,232
86 Professional, scientific and controlling instruments and apparatus, n.e.s.	29,635	24,353	29,685	62,972	83,673
88 Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks	27,419	24,385	32,461	69,768	84,264
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	79,694	75,609	90,743	203,417	246,047
<i>Total section 8</i>	<i>192,685</i>	<i>177,537</i>	<i>203,244</i>	<i>481,398</i>	<i>573,466</i>
9A Commodities and transactions of merchandise trade, not elsewhere classified	20,580	14,320	20,129	41,532	55,029
<i>Total merchandise(a)</i>	<i>1,577,450</i>	<i>1,394,700</i>	<i>1,599,570</i>	<i>3,619,787</i>	<i>4,571,720</i>
9B Non-merchandise(b)	13,193	10,244	15,882	34,020	39,318
Total imports— Original	1,590,643	1,404,944	1,615,452	3,653,807	4,611,039
Seasonally adjusted	1,437,226	1,379,336	1,652,985	3,567,224	4,547,632

(a) The sum of Divisions 00 to 9A.

(b) A complete description of non-merchandise items is contained in the *Australian Import Commodity Classification* (1204.0).