



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CANBERRA No. 5403.0

IMPORTS BY COMMODITY DIVISIONS, AUSTRALIA AUGUST 1982 (PRELIMINARY)

PHONE INQUIRIES	for more information about these statistics - contact Mr David Higginbottom on Canberra (062) 52 5403 or any of our State offices. for specific queries about import orders statistics - contact Mr Greg Outzen on Canberra (062) 52 5310.
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MAIN FEATURES

Imports for August 1982 fell by \$23m to \$2,048m, a decrease of 1% compared with July 1982.

The main contributors to this decrease were transport equipment (-\$68m) and machinery (-\$27m) whilst an increase was recorded in petroleum products (+\$41m).

for 1981-82 and 1982-83 should be regarded as preliminary and subject to revision.

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

3. This publication also contains details of import orders for selected steel commodities, see paragraphs 22 to 27 below for details.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication predominantly contains monthly and year-to-date statistics of imports by Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the Australian Import Commodity Classification (AICC) (1204.0). Statistics for 1981-82 and 1982-83 may be amended as a result of continuing quality checks on overseas trade data. Although these amendments usually have little effect on broad aggregate statistics, they may have a significant effect on individual commodity statistics. For this reason, statistics

STATISTICS OF IMPORTS

Source of data

4. The statistics of imports in Tables 1, 2 and 3 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 concepts

5. The statistics of imports in Tables 1, 2 and 3 of this publication are recorded on a general trade basis, i.e. imports comprise goods entered directly for home consumption together with goods imported into Customs warehouses.

6. The following are excluded from recorded import statistics:

- (a) direct transit trade, i.e. goods being trans-shipped or moved through Australia for purposes of transport only;
- (b) bunkers and stores supplied to vessels and aircraft prior to arrival in Australia;
- (c) migrants' and passengers' effects imported and parcels post imports of small value, for which Customs entries are not required;
- (d) certain materials under inter-governmental agreements for defence and similar projects for which Customs entries are not required;
- (e) vessels and aircraft engaged in the transport of passengers or goods between Australia and other countries;
- (f) the purchase of any vessel and/or aircraft intended for use on overseas routes;
- (g) fish and other sea products landed in Australia directly from the high seas by Australian vessels;
- (h) entries lodged on informal clearance documents (ICD) for values not exceeding \$250.

Statistical period

7. Imports are recorded statistically in the calendar month in which the import entries are both finalised by the Bureau of Customs and passed to the ABS for further processing. Import entries may be lodged early using the Customs check-to-arrive system or the documents may be delayed because of various validation checks carried out by Customs prior to the entries being passed to the ABS.

8. Import statistics for a particular month do not necessarily represent entries lodged or commodities actually imported during that month. Analysis of past data has shown that in aggregate

approximately 70 per cent of import trade by value recorded for a particular month reflects actual imports during that month, 25 per cent by value was actually imported during the previous month with the remaining 5 per cent by value being imported in earlier months. For individual commodities the percentage by value representing actual imports in a month may vary considerably.

Valuation

9. The recorded value of imports is the customs value (formerly referred to as the value for duty). On 30 November 1981, Australia changed its system of valuation from the Brussels Definition of Value (BDV) to the GATT Agreement on Customs Valuation. The Agreement reflects one of a number of trade related codes of conduct established during the round of Multi-lateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) concluded in 1979.

10. The GATT Agreement differs from the Brussels Definition of Value in that it offers a set of practical rules on the valuation of imports rather than a list of conceptual guidelines. Under the Agreement the primary basis for establishing the customs value is the price actually paid or payable, provided a number of conditions are met. The most important condition is that the buyer and seller must be independent of each other. If the conditions are not met the practical rules are used to determine the customs value.

11. The recording of the value of imports remains on a free-on-board (f.o.b.) basis (i.e. charges and expenses involved in delivering the goods from the place of exportation to Australia are excluded). The recorded value also continues to include the value of outside packages, other than international containers used for containerised cargo.

12. The change in the basis of valuation is expected to have a negligible effect on value and duty import statistics.

Merchandise imports

13. In accordance with standards recommended by the United Nations Statistical Commission, merchandise imports are defined as all goods which add to the stock of material resources in Australia as a result of their movement into the country. Merchandise imports, therefore, exclude goods imported with the reasonable expectation of re-export within a limited time. A complete list of commodities not included in merchandise trade is shown under Section 9(b) of the AICC. These include, for example, coin being legal tender and goods for temporary exhibition in Australia. Goods excluded from merchandise trade are for convenience termed non-merchandise and non-merchandise trade is shown separately in Table 1. Total trade is the addition of merchandise and non-merchandise trade.

Commodity classification

14. Imports are classified according to the items of the AICC which, from 1 July 1978, has been based on the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 2 (United Nations, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 34, Revision 2, 1975). 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.

15. 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.

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commodities, preliminary estimates of the level of import orders outstanding and not cleared through Australian Customs at the end of the month. Table 4 shows import orders outstanding expected to be cleared within the subsequent four months and Table 5 shows total import orders outstanding. Import orders outstanding are the aggregate of firm orders placed overseas for goods that are expected to be cleared through Australian Customs any time after the date specified; after allowance for cancellations, and including imports landed but held in Customs bond.

23. The selected commodities for which statistics are shown in this publication are defined by the relevant Tariff Items/Statistical Keys of the Australian Customs Tariff and are listed below Table 5.

24. These commodities were also included in the monthly Survey of Import Orders which was discontinued from January 1981 and published up to January 1981 in the discontinued publication Import Orders Outstanding for Selected Commodities, Australia (5417.0). No import orders statistics for the commodities are available covering the period February 1981 to May 1981, inclusive.

25. The import orders statistics provided in this publication have been compiled from monthly returns completed by importers of the selected commodities.

26. Unless otherwise stated the import orders statistics shown exclude all goods imported duty-free under Customs by-law provisions, including government imports, and certain other goods such as goods entered under security for re-export or re-imported after repair overseas.

27. Estimates of import orders outstanding and not cleared will probably differ from future actual import clearances, due to:

- (a) new orders being placed and subsequently cleared within the particular time period;

- (b) imports being cleared by new or casual importers;

- (c) orders being cancelled or revised at any stage

Related publications

28. 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

29. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications, Australia (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a Publications Advice (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

n.e.s. not elsewhere specified
 . . not applicable
 - nil or rounded to zero
 p preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
 r figure or series revised since previous issue
 n.p. not available for publication

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

A. R. BAGNALL
 Acting Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION (\$'000)

Section and division	June 1982	July 1982	August 1982	Two months ended August	
				1981	1982
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD-					
00 Live animals chiefly for food	1,382	1,552	3,077	5,496	4,629
01 Meat and meat preparations	903	748	624	1,716	1,372
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	4,093	4,338	4,456	6,861	8,794
03 Fish, crustaceans and molluscs and preparations thereof	15,799	14,917	14,494	30,988	29,411
04 Cereals and cereal preparations	3,418	3,151	3,598	4,437	6,749
05 Vegetables and fruit	13,307	12,573	18,170	25,660	30,743
06 Sugar, sugar preparations and honey	1,145	1,097	1,271	2,324	2,368
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof	19,332	18,206	20,145	33,319	38,351
08 Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmilled cereals)	2,077	2,262	2,217	4,716	4,479
09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	2,707	2,933	2,712	4,831	5,645
Total section 0	64,223	61,777	70,763	120,349	132,540
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO-					
11 Beverages	11,225	8,871	9,883	16,752	18,754
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	3,079	9,237	6,916	9,861	16,153
Total section 1	14,304	18,108	16,799	26,613	34,907
2 CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS-					
21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw	504	296	134	655	430
22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit	400	218	215	966	433
23 Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)	4,473	5,869	4,967	13,140	10,836
24 Cork and wood	22,262	15,548	15,332	35,559	30,880
25 Pulp and waste paper	4,647	15,145	8,607	16,694	23,752
26 Textile fibres (other than wool tops) and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	8,403	7,671	6,791	15,570	14,462
27 Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum, precious stones)	22,937	21,946	12,086	35,631	34,032
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	1,049	1,008	1,143	8,118	2,151
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.	3,623	3,718	3,568	6,374	7,286
Total section 2	68,298	71,418	52,843	132,707	124,261
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS-					
32 Coal, coke and briquettes	171	76	130	348	206
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	201,761	320,706	361,357	443,726	682,063
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	123	49	55	47	104
Total section 3	202,055	320,831	361,542	444,120	682,373
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS, FATS AND WAXES-					
41 Animal oils and fats	48	97	31	57	128
42 Fixed vegetable oils and fats	3,941	3,733	3,520	10,756	7,253
43 Animal and vegetable oils and fats, processed, and waxes of animal or vegetable origin	2,606	993	4,068	3,809	5,061
Total section 4	6,594	4,822	7,620	14,622	12,442

TABLE 1. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION - continued
(\$'000)

Section and division	June 1982	July 1982	August 1982	Two months ended August	
				1981	1982
5 CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS, N.E.S.-					
51 Organic chemicals(a)	48,399	46,866	46,174	80,075	93,040
52 Inorganic chemicals	12,726	23,494	17,279	43,959	40,773
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	8,378	7,691	6,774	14,026	14,465
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	14,254	14,332	17,281	25,249	31,613
55 Essential oils and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	9,651	10,263	9,811	18,071	20,074
56 Fertilisers, manufactured	5,402	3,662	8,504	9,617	12,166
Explosives and pyrotechnic products	1,748	221	896	1,090	1,117
58 Artificial resins and plastic materials, and cellulose esters and ethers(b)	38,580	36,157	32,224	(c) 70,948	68,381
59 Chemical materials and products, n.e.s.	20,151	20,373	17,184	32,352	37,557
Total section 5(d)	159,288	163,058	156,126	(e) 295,368	319,184
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL-					
61 Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s. and dressed furskins	4,036	3,878	4,040	7,388	7,918
62 Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	27,853	27,918	21,591	47,033	49,509
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	9,980	9,648	8,923	17,244	18,571
64 Paper, paperboard and articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	53,899	40,480	40,223	81,815	80,703
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s. and related products	100,323	94,352	91,365	180,214	185,717
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.(f)	34,899	37,654	38,118	72,144	75,772
67 Iron and steel	62,226	68,425	67,165	91,751	135,590
68 Non-ferrous metals	9,777	8,066	11,679	23,697	19,745
69 Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.(g)	59,870	54,959	58,403	88,324	113,362
Total section 6(h)	362,864	345,379	341,505	609,610	686,884
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT-					
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	76,413	88,867	59,829	100,783	148,696
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries(i)	150,151	119,801	109,347	242,169	229,148
73 Metal working machinery	18,909	21,417	21,021	41,287	42,438
74 General industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s. and machine parts, n.e.s.(j)	111,546	107,019	110,211	190,075	217,230
75 Office machines and automatic data processing equipment	68,948	61,078	68,613	122,051	129,691
76 Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	67,238	61,580	61,236	107,564	122,816
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)(k)	95,383	83,248	85,824	151,161	169,072
78 Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)	177,023	182,494	177,208	305,685	359,702
79 Other transport equipment	70,916	87,059	24,526	276,620	111,585
Total section 7(l)	836,526	812,565	717,814	1,537,395	1,530,379

TABLE 1. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION - continued
(\$'000)

Section and division	June 1982	July 1982	August 1982	Two months ended August	
				1981	1982
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES-					
81 Sanitary, plumbing, heating and lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.	4,965	3,830	4,051	6,494	7,881
82 Furniture and parts thereof	9,853	9,965	11,076	21,428	21,041
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	5,815	8,658	9,472	14,199	18,130
84 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	30,504	36,536	40,904	67,491	77,440
85 Footwear	12,099	16,216	18,213	29,396	34,429
87 Professional, scientific and controlling instruments and apparatus, n.e.s.	37,165	31,364	38,503	73,148	69,867
88 Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks(m)	33,793	32,227	35,641	66,157	67,868
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	99,704	97,248	107,284	177,774	204,532
Total section 8(m)	233,896	236,044	265,144	456,086	501,188
9A Commodities and transactions of merchandise trade, not elsewhere classified(n)	28,015	25,295	23,085	(a)43,491	48,380
Total merchandise(q)	1,976,064	2,059,297	2,013,241	3,680,380	4,072,538
9B Non-merchandise(s)	53,604	11,500	34,725	34,891	46,225
Total Imports	2,029,668	2,070,797	2,047,966	3,715,271	4,118,763

(a) Excludes Items 513.79.13 and 513.90.17. (b) Excludes Item 582.70.04. (c) Excludes Items 582.70.04 and 582.70.06. (d) Excludes Items 513.79.13, 513.90.17 and 582.70.04. (e) Excludes Items 513.79.13, 513.90.17, 582.70.04 and 582.70.06. (f) Excludes Item 661.20.01. (g) Excludes Items 694.01.02 and 695.39.37. (h) Excludes Items 661.20.01, 694.01.02 and 695.39.37. (i) Excludes Item 723.30.01. (j) Excludes Items 749.10.46 and 749.10.56. (k) Excludes Item 775.86.01. (l) Excludes Items 723.30.01, 749.10.46, 749.10.56 and 775.86.01. (m) Excludes Item 881.11.45. (n) Includes Items 513.79.13, 513.90.17, 582.70.04, 661.20.01, 694.01.02, 695.39.37, 723.30.01, 749.10.46, 749.10.56, 775.86.01 and 881.11.45. (o) Includes Items 513.79.13, 513.90.17, 582.70.04, 582.70.06, 661.20.01, 694.01.02, 695.39.37, 723.30.01, 749.10.46, 749.10.56, 775.86.01 and 881.11.45. (q) The sum of Divisions 00 to 9A. (s) A complete description of non-merchandise items is contained in the Australian Import Commodity Classification (1204.0).

TABLE 2. MOVEMENTS IN MAJOR IMPORT COMMODITIES(a) - PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN VALUE COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING PERIOD FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR

Commodity description	1981-82	Three months ended		
		June 1982	July 1982	August 1982
Food and live animals chiefly for food (0)	11.8	6.5	5.1	6.2
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (2)	0.9	4.5	1.4	-3.5
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	9.9	13.7	5.4	15.6
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (5)	15.1	11.0	17.1	13.2
Paper, paperboard and articles thereof (64)	21.6	19.1	14.6	10.2
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, etc. (65)	11.8	12.9	16.9	12.1
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	28.4	43.1	53.5	45.3
Machinery (71-77)	22.3	20.1	33.1	27.2
Transport equipment (78,79)	59.4	60.4	64.5	8.8
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (8)	18.5	14.9	24.4	22.9
Total Imports	21.3	21.2	27.7	19.8

For footnotes see Table 3.

TABLE 3. PERCENTAGE SHARE BY VALUE OF MAJOR COMMODITIES IMPORTED(a)

Commodity description	1981-82	Three months ended		
		June 1982	July 1982	August 1982
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Food and live animals chiefly for food	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.2
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (2)	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.1
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	13.0	13.2	12.7	14.4
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (5)	7.9	7.6	7.7	7.8
Paper, paperboard and articles thereof (64)	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, etc. (65)	4.8	4.5	4.6	4.7
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	5.9	7.0	7.0	6.5
Machinery (71-77)	26.6	26.6	27.0	26.8
Transport equipment (78,79)	14.1	15.2	14.6	11.7
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (8)	11.7	10.3	10.9	12.0
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).

TABLE 4. IMPORT ORDERS OUTSTANDING FOR SELECTED STEEL COMMODITIES WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO BE CLEARED DURING THE SUBSEQUENT FOUR MONTHS

Commodity	Unit of quantity	Orders outstanding at end of-					
		March 1982	April 1982	May 1982	June 1982	July 1982	August 1982
							p
Cold rolled uncoated iron or steel sheets and plates, 3.2 mm and less in thickness	tonnes	31,230	32,881	33,696	34,177	r30,469	25,355
Galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates, 4.75 mm and less in thickness	tonnes	23,218	27,108	27,580	28,823	r23,308	16,328
Stainless steel hoop, strip, sheets and plates	tonnes	3,543	3,543	3,999	4,071	4,021	3,653

TABLE 5. IMPORT ORDERS OUTSTANDING FOR SELECTED STEEL COMMODITIES

Commodity	Unit of quantity	Total orders outstanding at end of-					
		March 1982	April 1982	May 1982	June 1982	July 1982	August 1982
							p
Cold rolled uncoated iron or steel sheets and plates, 3.2 mm and less in thickness	tonnes	36,672	36,931	40,427	n.p.	r36,529	n.p.
Galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates, 4.75 mm and less in thickness	tonnes	25,388	29,248	30,270	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Stainless steel hoop, strip, sheets and plates	tonnes	4,210	4,079	4,464	4,650	n.p.	4,033

COMMODITY

TARIFF ITEM(S)/STATISTICAL KEY(S)

Cold rolled uncoated iron or steel sheets and plates, 3.2 mm and less in thickness

73.13.200/.210,.221

Galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates, 4.75 mm and less in thickness

73.13.200/.298,.301,.312

Stainless steel hoop, strip, sheets and plates

73.15.190/.729,.73x,.740,.751,.809,.81x,.820,.831,.842,.853,.864,.875,.886,.897