

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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AUSTRALIAN OVERSEA TRADE : OCTOBER, 1959

(Note : Values are in Australian Currency f.o.b. port of shipment)

This preliminary statement of Oversea Trade for the month of October, 1959 will be followed by the usual Monthly Bulletin containing details of items.

Imports and Exports are recorded statistically in the month in which the entries are passed by the Department of Customs and Excise. Normally this is within a few days of discharge or shipment of cargoes.

Total Imports recorded in October, 1959, were valued at approximately £74.6 million, compared with £66.0 million in October, 1958 - an increase of £8.6 million.

Total Exports recorded in October, 1959, amounted to approximately £84.9 million, compared with £75.3 million in October, 1958, an increase of £9.6 million.

In October, 1959 the recorded excess of exports over imports was approximately £10.3 million compared with an excess of exports of £9.3 million in October, 1958.

For the first four months of the year 1959-60 recorded exports exceeded recorded imports by approximately £4.4 million compared with an excess of recorded imports of £27.9 million in the corresponding period of 1958-59.

The table below shows the total value of recorded Oversea Trade (including Bullion and Specie) during each of the sixteen months ended October, 1959.

(£A million f.o.b. port of shipment)

Period	1958-59 (a)			1959-60 (a)		
	Imports	Exports	Excess of Exports (+) or Imports (-)	Imports	Exports	Excess of Exports (+) or Imports (-)
July ..	64.2	61.5	- 2.7	71.1	66.8	- 4.3
August ..	73.0	47.9	- 25.1	71.2	64.4	- 6.8
September ..	65.6	56.2	- 9.4	64.3	69.5	+ 5.2
October ..	66.0	75.3	+ 9.3	74.6	84.9	+ 10.3
Four Months Total	268.8	240.9	- 27.9	281.2	285.6	+ 4.4
November ..	67.3	66.4	- 0.9			
December ..	62.4	76.4	+ 14.0			
January ..	74.5	68.3	- 6.2			
February ..	59.0	74.1	+ 15.1			
March ..	58.9	66.6	+ 7.7			
April ..	73.1	72.1	- 1.0			
May ..	63.2	77.3	+ 14.1			
June ..	69.5	71.2	+ 1.7			
Twelve Months Total	796.7	813.3	+ 16.6			

(a) Subject to revision.

NOTE: Freight and insurance payable on imports are not included above. These were estimated at approximately £115 million in the year ended 30th June, 1959.

Statistics relating to Oversea Trade only do not measure Australia's total Balance of Payments during the periods shown. Particulars of other transactions entering into the balance of payments (in particular, freight and insurance charges payable overseas, current production of Australian gold, overseas payments of dividends, profits, interest and royalties, Government expenditure overseas, etc.) are shown in a printed bulletin published by the Commonwealth Statistician entitled "The Australian Balance of Payments 1928-29 to 1951-52". Current estimates for the years 1951-52 to 1958-59 have been published in mimeographed form. For items such as naval ships, merchant vessels trading overseas, aircraft for use on overseas routes and certain materials for intergovernmental defence projects, no customs entries are recorded but these transactions are taken into account in estimating Balance of Payments.