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EXPORTS BY COMMODITY DIVISIONS, AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mrs R. Jarman on Canberra 525422 or our State offices, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616. If you want to know more about unpublished statistical information on overseas trade ring Mr P. Hade, Canberra 525401.

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

At \$1,126m, February 1979 exports fell by 14.1% over January 1979, a decrease of \$185m.

Major contributors to this decrease were Coal (\$63m), Meat (\$35m), Sugar (\$21m), Machinery and Transport Equipment (\$21m) and Iron and Steel (\$20m).

In a month when exports generally fell, increases occurred in Metalliferous Ores (\$17m), Textile Fibres (\$6m) and Non-ferrous Metals (\$6m).

In seasonally adjusted terms total exports were 11.2% lower than in January.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains statistics of exports by Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the *Australian Export Commodity Classification* (A.E.C.C.) (1203.0). Statistics for 1978-79 are preliminary and subject to revision.

2. More detailed figures will be published in the monthly bulletins *Exports, Australia* (5404.0) and *Exports of Major Commodities and their Principal Markets, Australia* (5403.0).

Source of data

3. These statistics are compiled by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from information contained in export entries submitted by exporters or their agents to the Bureau of Customs as required by the Customs Act. Exports are recorded statistically in the month in which the entries are passed by the Bureau of Customs. Normally this is within a few days of shipment of cargo, but delays sometimes occur in the lodging of entries. The statistical month for Customs outports (generally ports other than those at which the main Customs offices in each State is located) closes on the 21st of each month whereas for mainports the statistical month is the calendar month.

Valuation

4. Goods sold to overseas buyers before export are valued at the f.o.b. Australian port of shipment equivalent of the actual price paid to the exporter. Goods shipped on consignment are valued at the f.o.b. Australian port of shipment equivalent of the current price offering for similar goods of Australian origin in the principal markets of the country to which they are despatched for sale. The value of outside packages is included.

Commodity classification

5. From 1 July 1978, exports have been classified according to the new A.E.C.C. which is based on the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 2. A detailed description of the commodity items included in this bulletin is contained in the A.E.C.C.. 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 exports

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

Seasonally adjusted statistics

7. In carrying out seasonal adjustment of export 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* (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 exports. For these reasons care should be exercised in interpreting month-to-month movements.

Revision to previous figures

8. 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 bulletin. 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.

Comparability of commodity statistics

9. Because of the changes to the A.E.C.C. between 1977-78 and 1978-79 (see note 5 above) it has not been possible to derive exactly comparable figures for periods prior to 1 July 1978 and details at the Section and Division levels which have been estimated are indicated by footnote (a).

Related publications

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

Exports of Major Commodities and their Principal Markets, Australia (5403.0)

Exports, Australia (5404.0)

Imports by Commodity Divisions, Australia (Preliminary) (5405.0)

Imports, Australia (5406.0)

Exports and Imports of Merchandise at Constant Prices, Australia (5421.0)

Exports by Mode of Transport, Australia (5415.0)

Export Price Index, Australia (6405.0)

All 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

— nil or less than half the final digit shown
n.e.s. not elsewhere specified

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

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. MOVEMENTS IN MAJOR EXPORT COMMODITIES (a)
% change in value from preceding period

Commodity description	December 1978	January 1979	February 1979	Eight months ended February 1979 (b)
Meat and meat preparations (01)	-20.6	+69.1	-19.7	+41.1
Cereals and cereal preparations (04)	+17.3	+68.3	-11.1	-31.4
Sugar, sugar preparations and honey (06)	+ 8.4	-58.9	-89.7	-18.4
Textile fibres and their wastes (26)	-13.7	- 3.1	+ 4.6	+24.8
Metalliferous ores and metal scrap (28)	-18.4	+18.8	+ 7.9	+ 5.0
Coal, coke and briquettes (32)	+ 0.2	+16.4	-38.6	+ 0.0
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	+41.3	+ 3.6	-26.7	+39.7
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	-15.7	+16.2	-15.9	+26.5
Machinery and transport equipment (7)	-14.7	+60.2	-28.9	+23.1
Total all exports				
Original	- 9.7	+20.5	-14.1	+ 9.4
Seasonally adjusted	+ 0.4	+14.9	-11.2	+ 9.5

(a) Exports of the "major commodities" shown in this table are significant exports by particular Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the *Australian Export Commodity Classification* (figures in brackets following commodity descriptions denote the relevant Sections and Divisions). These commodities represent 76% of the total exports for the Month of February 1979. (b) Percentage change compared with eight months ended February 1978.

TABLE 2. EXPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN EXPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION
\$'000

Section and Division	December 1978	January 1979	February 1979	Eight months ended February	
				1978	1979
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD -					
00 Live animals chiefly for food	7,608	11,554	7,496	76,114	70,039
01 Meat and meat preparations (a)	105,704	178,769	143,605	717,154	1,011,657
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs (a)	17,872	24,740	19,588	136,800	132,009
03 Fish, crustaceans and molluscs, and preparations thereof (a)	10,887	18,455	16,959	81,697	102,649
04 Cereal grains and cereal preparations	71,451	120,232	106,894	917,680	629,221
05 Vegetables and fruit (a)	8,681	7,241	4,971	69,439	84,154
06 Sugar, sugar preparations and honey (a)	58,287	23,968	2,472	448,324	365,683
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof (a)	1,072	2,002	1,840	15,864	13,601
08 Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmulled cereals) (a)	4,266	5,671	4,280	34,243	33,912
09 Misc. edible products and preparations (a)	1,085	861	679	5,561	7,459
Total Section 0 (a)	286,912	393,495	308,784	2,502,875	2,450,383
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO -					
11 Beverages	1,851	1,403	1,567	11,662	13,892
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	867	301	499	5,668	5,752
Total Section 1	2,719	1,703	2,067	17,329	19,643
2 CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS -					
21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw	23,079	25,094	29,988	171,511	210,619
22 Oilseeds and oleaginous fruit	349	210	3,517	3,111	19,146
23 Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)	383	227	212	1,954	2,600
24 Cork and wood (a)	4,979	11,796	7,205	66,534	71,568
25 Pulp and waste paper	19	16	31	357	204
26 Textile fibres (other than wool tops) and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric) (a)	125,531	121,636	127,290	722,679	901,768
27 Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum, precious stones)	16,605	4,441	9,450	49,404	69,165
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap (a)	182,410	216,641	233,648	1,558,623	1,637,257
29 Crude animal, vegetable materials, n.e.s. (a)	2,316	2,594	2,960	21,369	24,058
Total Section 2 (a)	355,672	382,653	414,301	2,595,542	2,936,386
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS -					
32 Coal, coke and briquettes (a)	139,598	162,433	99,694	968,185	968,403
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials (a)	34,558	35,798	26,253	142,784	199,449
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Total Section 3 (a)	174,156	198,231	125,948	1,110,969	1,167,852
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS, FATS AND WAXES -					
41 Animal oils and fats	8,675	14,326	8,013	70,101	79,211
42 Fixed vegetable oils and fats	63	93	117	694	641
43 Animal and vegetable oils and fats, processed, and waxes of animal or vegetable origin	480	835	444	4,027	4,661
Total Section 4	9,218	15,255	8,574	74,822	75,513
5 CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS, N.E.S. -					
51 Organic chemicals (a)	1,962	2,297	3,357	15,145	24,457
52 Inorganic chemicals (a)	5,227	3,041	3,563	23,162	30,962
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	968	2,133	1,284	10,886	11,187
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	4,424	5,129	4,644	29,891	42,297
55 Essential oils and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	2,377	1,788	2,152	11,617	15,821
56 Fertilisers, manufactured (a)	170	218	177	520	1,202
57 Explosives and pyrotechnic products	137	401	554	1,790	3,381
58 Artificial resins and plastic materials, and cellulose esters and others (a)	2,979	2,842	6,539	21,044	30,424
59 Chemical materials and products, n.e.s. (a)	4,493	8,890	4,825	28,325	37,205
Total Section 5 (a)	22,737	26,738	27,094	142,380	196,936

For footnotes see page 4.

TABLE 2. EXPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN
EXPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION - continued
\$'000

Section and Division	December 1978	January 1979	February 1979	Eight months ended February	
				1978	1979
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL -					
61 Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s. and dressed furskins	3,961	2,679	4,581	15,802	29,422
62 Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	464	344	618	4,066	3,790
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture) (a)	533	430	407	2,583	3,364
64 Paper, paperboard and articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard (a)	2,679	2,131	2,354	16,239	19,061
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s. and related products (a)	6,246	5,467	7,427	43,327	56,253
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	8,577	8,419	6,994	39,201	73,773
67 Iron and steel	42,523	55,276	35,660	297,127	407,422
68 Non-ferrous metals (a)	62,143	61,773	68,141	410,309	495,521
69 Manufactures of metal, n.e.s. (a)	8,708	14,684	7,000	67,786	77,552
Total Section 6 (a)	135,833	151,203	133,182	896,440	1,166,158
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT -					
71 Power generating machinery and equipment (a)	1,955	2,768	2,156	19,218	18,653
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries (a)	8,993	13,923	8,071	67,649	81,991
73 Metalworking machinery (a)	1,416	1,258	1,447	11,284	10,877
74 General industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s. and machine parts, n.e.s. (a)	7,526	8,724	7,946	57,594	70,716
75 Office machines and automatic data processing equipment (a)	2,501	3,448	3,548	18,948	25,981
76 Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	2,053	1,436	1,300	10,030	15,199
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) (a)	4,562	8,403	4,868	43,763	42,166
78 Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles) (a)	9,295	9,964	7,919	62,402	79,358
79 Other transport equipment	6,136	21,287	13,392	49,918	74,560
Total Section 7 (a)	44,438	71,211	50,647	340,804	419,501
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES -					
81 Sanitary, plumbing, heating and lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.	209	445	312	1,011	2,161
82 Furniture and parts thereof	508	464	424	1,872	3,184
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	174	30	69	299	723
84 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories (a)	1,086	897	1,127	6,788	8,433
85 Footwear	200	206	297	760	1,877
87 Professional, scientific and controlling instruments and apparatus, n.e.s.	4,392	4,280	4,430	26,958	35,055
88 Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks (a)	5,361	5,874	5,337	31,056	41,642
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s. (a)	5,539	6,087	5,532	47,039	49,955
Total Section 8 (a)	17,468	18,283	17,527	115,783	143,030
9A Commodities and transactions of merchandise trade, not elsewhere classified (c)	21,851	23,624	19,527	178,867	175,116
Total Merchandise (d)	1,071,004	1,282,395	1,107,650	7,975,813	8,750,518
9B Non-merchandise (e)	17,090	28,457	17,905	162,564	152,564
Total exports					
Original	1,088,094	1,310,852	1,125,555	8,138,377	8,903,082
Seasonally adjusted	1,147,581	1,318,772	1,171,105	8,164,106	8,943,234

(a) Figures for periods prior to July 1978 are estimates only. See paragraph 9 of Explanatory Notes. (b) Included in Division 9A. (c) Includes Division 34. (d) The sum of Divisions 00 to 9A. (e) A complete description of non-merchandise items is contained in the Australian Export Commodity Classification (1203.0).