



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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EXPORTS BY COMMODITY DIVISIONS, AUSTRALIA NOVEMBER 1984

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MAIN FEATURES

Exports for November 1984 rose by \$227m to \$2,543m, an increase of 10% compared with October 1984.

The major contributors to this increase were coal, coke and briquettes (+\$143m), cereals and cereal preparations (+\$69m), textile fibres (+\$64m) and non-merchandise trade (+\$30m).

Decreases were recorded in metal manufactures (-\$26m) and sugar (-\$24m).

Exports for the five months ended November 1984 rose by \$2,234m, or 23% to \$12,156m when compared with exports for the five months ended November 1983.

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

Source of data

3. These statistics are compiled by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from information contained in export entries and returns submitted by exporters or their agents to the Australian Customs Service as required by the Customs Act.

Statistical concepts

4. The statistics of exports represented in this publication are recorded on a general trade basis, i.e. export figures include both Australian produce and re-exports.

5. Australian produce is defined as goods, materials or articles which have been produced, manufactured or partly manufactured in Australia, except goods which were originally imported and have undergone only repair or minor operations which leave them essentially unchanged.

6. Re-exports are defined as goods, materials or articles originally imported which are exported in the same condition in which they were imported and goods, materials or articles originally imported which are exported after undergoing only repair or minor operation which leave them essentially unchanged. Minor operations include blending, packaging, bottling, cleaning, sorting, husking, and shelling.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains monthly and year-to-date statistics of Australia's exports by Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the Australian Export Commodity Classification (AECC) (1203.0). Statistics for 1983-84 and 1984-85 may be amended as a result of continuing quality checks on foreign 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 for 1983-84 and 1984-85 should be regarded as preliminary and subject to revision.

7. The following are excluded from recorded export statistics:

- (a) direct transit trade, i.e. goods being trans-shipped or moved through Australia for purposes of transport only;
- (b) migrants' and passengers' effects exported and parcels post exports of small value, for which Customs entries are not required;
- (c) certain materials under inter-governmental agreements for defence and similar projects for which Customs entries are not required;
- (d) vessels and aircraft engaged in the transport of passengers or goods between Australia and other countries;
- (e) the sale of any vessel and/or aircraft originally purchased for use on overseas routes;
- (f) fish and other sea products landed abroad directly from the high seas by Australian vessels;
- (g) export consignments where the value of the goods in each transaction is less than \$250.

8. Ships' and aircraft stores. Prior to July 1982 bunkers and stores supplied to foreign owned vessels and aircraft prior to departure overseas were excluded from export statistics but were published separately as ships' and aircraft stores statistics. The United Nations Statistical Commission has recommended (International Trade Statistics, Concepts and Definitions, United Nations Statistical Papers, Series M, No 52, Revision 1, 1982) that such bunkers and stores be included in total export statistics. Accordingly, commencing with July 1982 statistics, these commodities have been classified according to the appropriate AECG items. As a result, from July 1982 total export statistics and commodity statistics which include stores for foreign ships and aircraft are not strictly comparable with data for earlier periods.

Statistical period

9. Exports are recorded statistically in the month when the entries are lodged with the Australian Customs

Service. Regular exporters or their agents may provide details of their export shipments on a periodic rather than an individual shipment basis by submitting weekly or monthly returns. These "periodic returns" must be submitted to the Australian Customs Service within seven days of the end of the period in question covering all shipments during that period. All other exporters are required to report each individual shipment prior to the ship's departure. Approximately 90 per cent of monthly export values are recorded on periodic returns. The statistical month for Customs outports (generally ports other than those at which the main Customs office in each state is located) closes on the 21st of each month, whereas for mainports the statistical month is the calendar month.

10. Because of these factors, export statistics for a particular month do not necessarily represent entries lodged or commodities actually exported during that month. Analysis of past data has shown that in aggregate approximately 30 per cent of export trade by value for a particular month reflects actual shipments during that month, 60 per cent by value was actually exported during the previous month with the remaining 10 per cent by value exported in earlier months. For individual commodities the percentage by value representing actual exports in a month may vary considerably.

Valuation

11. Goods actually sold to overseas buyers prior to shipment are valued at the free-on-board (f.o.b.) Australian port of shipment equivalent of the actual price at which the goods were sold. 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 the goods are dispatched for sale.

12. The recorded value of exports includes the value of the outside package, other than international containers used for containerised cargo.

Merchandise exports

13. In accordance with standards recommended by the United Nations Statistical Commission, merchandise exports are defined as all goods which subtract from the stock of material resources in Australia as a result of their movement out of the country.

Merchandise exports, therefore, exclude goods exported with the reasonable expectation of their re-import within a limited time. A complete list of commodities not included in merchandise trade is shown under Section 9(b) of the AECC. These include, for example, coin being legal tender and goods for temporary exhibition outside Australia. Goods excluded from merchandise trade are, for convenience, termed non-merchandise and non-merchandise trade is shown separately in Table 3. Total trade is the sum of merchandise and non-merchandise trade.

14. Classification changes affecting the levels of merchandise and non-merchandise trade were introduced on 1 July 1983, in accordance with recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission (International Trade Statistics, Concepts and Definitions, United Nations Statistical Papers, Series M, No 52, Revision 1, 1982). As a result, statistics of exports, from July 1983, under Sections 9(a) and 9(b) of the AECC are not comparable with previous years. The changes do not affect Sections 0 to 8 of the classification, nor total trade. Further information about the changes was given in the 1983-84 edition of the AECC, or may be obtained from the ABS Trade and Shipping Section in Canberra.

Commodity classification

15. Exports are classified according to the items of the AECC 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 AECC. Copies of, or extracts from, this classification may be obtained from offices of the ABS in Canberra and in each capital city.

Treatment of confidential data

16. To ensure that information about the activities of particular businesses is not disclosed it is necessary to restrict the release of statistics of certain commodities. These restrictions do not affect total export figures but they can affect statistics at all levels of the Australian Export Commodity Classification.

17. The implementation of a new foreign trade processing system has resulted in a revised treatment of confidential data. Consequently certain statistics in publications first

containing March 1982 data are not directly comparable with statistics in previous publications.

18. Reference to table footnotes should assist in the interpretation of these differences.

Revision to previous figures

19. 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.

OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE

20. Special returns service: Subscribers to this service can receive computer produced printout of foreign trade statistics at a particular commodity level in one or more of a limited number of formats, for a charge consistent with the level of detail required. This service is recommended where up to fifty specific commodity items are required on a regular basis.

21. Microfiche service: Foreign trade statistics are also available on microfiche in a variety of tabular formats. Each tabular format covers all commodities exported or imported, at various levels of aggregation. This service is recommended where the subscriber wishes to obtain foreign trade details for a large number of commodities.

22. Magnetic tape: Statistics for imports, exports and import clearances are available on 9-track magnetic tape approximately 4 weeks after the end of the reference period. Documentation regarding the content and structure of these tapes is available from the ABS Trade and Shipping Section in Canberra.

23. To meet subscribers' needs special returns and microfiche are available on a monthly, quarterly or less frequent basis. Relevant application forms and information papers for these services are available from the ABS Trade and Shipping Section in Canberra or any ABS State office. Payment in advance is required for each of these services.

Related publications

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

Balance of Payments, Australia (5301.0)
-issued monthly

Exports of Major Commodities and their
Principal Markets Australia (5403.0)
-issued monthly

Exports, Australia (5404.0) -issued
monthly (\$1.10, \$1.90 incl. postage)

Imports by Commodity Divisions, Australia
(5405.0) -issued monthly

Imports, Australia (5406.0) -issued
monthly (\$1.10, \$1.90 incl. postage)

Exports and Imports (Balance of Payments
Basis) at Constant Prices, Australia
(5332.0) -issued quarterly

Export Price Index, Australia (6405.0)
-issued monthly

25. 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

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

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. EXPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE
AUSTRALIAN EXPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION
\$'000

Section and Division	September 1984	October 1984	November 1984	Five months ended November		
				1983	1984	
0	FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD					
00	Live animals	22,679	12,923	21,331	92,552	92,031
01	Meat and meat preparations	126,548	111,071	100,967	696,442	596,680
02	Dairy products and birds' eggs	36,591	31,808	35,946	148,403	152,304
03	Fish, crustaceans and molluscs, and preparations thereof	19,438	22,958	27,648	162,057	141,250
04	Cereals and cereal preparations	347,519	262,252	331,313	624,277	1,618,675
05	Vegetables and fruit	20,820	18,755	13,681	103,648	98,159
06	Sugar, sugar preparations and honey	84,746	61,625	37,760	331,517	359,360
07	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, and manufactures thereof	4,137	3,609	3,113	17,981	16,487
08	Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmilld cereals)	7,660	5,618	9,928	25,876	33,970
09	Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	2,256	2,801	2,496	8,780	11,100
	Total Section 0	672,395	533,421	584,183	2,211,542	3,120,036
1	BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO					
11	Beverages	5,086	4,826	5,683	26,727	25,651
12	Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	1,384	861	1,770	6,313	6,803
	Total Section 1	6,470	5,687	7,453	33,041	32,455
2	CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS					
21	Hides, skins and furskins, raw	32,200	31,610	22,242	113,952	138,806
22	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit	7,906	1,135	1,172	1,563	19,360
23	Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)	24	136	188	2,309	803
24	Cork and wood	15,729	22,849	24,560	98,626	107,312
25	Pulp and waste paper	960	1,004	567	1,425	4,426
26	Textile fibres (other than wool tops) and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	172,595	146,736	210,321	764,674	816,487
27	Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum and precious stones)	11,235	12,886	9,852	53,352	56,892
28	Metalliferous ores and metal scrap(a)	511,543	401,715	398,768	1,764,282	1,909,878
29	Crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.	4,971	5,980	4,301	21,700	25,587
	Total Section 2(a)	757,164	624,051	671,971	2,821,884	3,077,555
3	MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS					
32	Coal, coke and briquettes	359,132	314,036	457,523	1,370,957	1,917,183
33	Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	146,577	121,836	134,616	504,905	747,438
34	Gas, natural and manufactured	36,299	40,423	31,930	201,487	156,744
	Total Section 3	522,009	476,295	625,069	2,077,349	2,821,365
4	ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS, FATS AND WAXES					
41	Animal oils and fats	12,118	5,366	8,293	28,552	39,802
42	Fixed vegetable oils and fats	3,670	338	1,252	2,004	6,662
43	Animal and vegetable oils and fats, processed, and waxes of animal or vegetable origin	884	732	393	2,865	3,423
	Total Section 4	16,872	6,637	9,939	33,422	49,887
5	CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS, N.E.S.					
51	Organic chemicals	4,504	3,876	1,985	23,488	17,582
52	Inorganic chemicals(b)	2,879	3,067	2,300	21,275	15,788
53	Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials(c)	1,563	2,000	1,491	8,889	9,327
54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	11,624	11,810	9,955	54,243	54,119
55	Essential oils and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	3,503	3,523	2,817	16,167	17,832
56	Fertilisers, manufactured	92	1,854	120	1,173	2,953
57	Explosives and pyrotechnic products	139	1,285	256	4,230	3,786
58	Artificial resins and plastic materials, and cellulose esters and ethers	13,109	12,609	8,967	52,033	56,011
59	Chemical materials and products, n.e.s.	8,817	10,033	7,577	37,800	40,901
	Total Section 5(d)	46,230	50,057	35,468	214,289	218,300

For footnotes see end of table.

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

Commodity description	1983-84 %	Three months ended		
		September 1984 %	October 1984 %	November 1984 %
Meat and meat preparations (01)	-16.9	-8.8	-12.4	-18.4
Cereals and cereal preparations (04)	41.0	202.6	152.9	133.0
Sugar, sugar preparations and honey (06)	11.5	51.8	21.4	-13.7
Textile fibres and their wastes (26)	6.8	11.7	13.4	15.0
Metalliferous ores and metal scrap (28)	9.3	3.2	14.5	29.6
Coal, coke and briquettes (32)	8.3	40.8	27.8	35.2
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	24.0	75.5	14.1	25.3
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	12.8	-7.0	15.2	8.4
Machinery and transport equipment (7)	17.9	9.8	4.9	-5.8
Total all exports	12.0	24.7	23.3	24.6

(a) For footnote see Table 3.

TABLE 3. PERCENTAGE SHARE BY VALUE OF MAJOR COMMODITIES IN TOTAL EXPORTS (a)

Commodity description	1983-84 %	Three months ended		
		September 1984 %	October 1984 %	November 1984 %
Meat and meat preparations (01)	5.6	5.3	5.3	4.6
Cereals and cereal preparations (04)	10.9	14.0	12.3	12.7
Sugar, sugar preparations and honey (06)	2.6	3.6	3.4	2.5
Textile fibres and their wastes (26)	8.3	6.3	6.4	7.2
Metalliferous ores and metal scrap (28)	16.6	15.2	17.0	17.7
Coal, coke and briquettes (32)	13.5	15.7	15.3	15.0
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	5.8	6.7	5.6	5.4
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	8.7	7.3	7.4	7.7
Machinery and transport equipment (7)	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.0
Total all exports	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Exports of the "major commodities" shown in these tables 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).