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## EXPORT PRICE INDEX, AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 1988

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### MAIN FEATURES

The All groups index decreased by 0.4% (or -1 index points) in November 1988.

The most significant price changes, in terms of their contribution to the All groups index, were:

#### decreased prices for

- coal and briquettes (-0.9 index points)
- beef and veal (-0.8 index points)
- alumina (-0.6 index points)
- iron ore (-0.5 index points)
- wheat (-0.4 index points)
- cattle hides (-0.3 index points)

#### increased prices for

- wool (+2.6 index points).

The All groups index increased by 7.0% between November 1987 and November 1988.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

1. This publication contains the Export Price Index on reference base 1974-75 = 100. The July 1979 issue of this publication contains a more detailed description of the index. A detailed description of previous Export Price Indexes is contained in *Year Book Australia No. 55, 1969, pages 256-7* and in *Year Book Australia No. 58, 1972, pages 240-2*.

#### Scope of the index

2. The Export Price Index measures changes in prices of *all exports of merchandise* from Australia. It includes re-exports of merchandise (that is, goods which are imported into Australia and exported at a later date without physical transformation). The index numbers for each month relate to prices of those exports of merchandise that are physically shipped from Australia during that month.

#### Items and weights

3. The index is a *fixed weights index*. The index items, i.e. the commodities directly represented in the index, were selected on the basis of their export values in the period 1974-75 to 1976-77. They constituted 89 per cent of the total value of exports of merchandise from

Australia in the same period. The selected items were allocated weights in accordance with the average value of exports for each item over the period 1974-75 to 1976-77. Many of the items carry not only their own weight but also the weight of unpriced commodities whose prices are considered to move in a similar manner. Full details of the weighting pattern of the Export Price Index, i.e. the percentage contributions for index items and groups, were contained in the July 1979 issue of this publication, and are also available from the ABS on request.

#### Classification

4. The selected items have been combined into broad index groups in two ways. Tables 1 and 3 contain index numbers for groups based on the Sections (1 digit) and selected Divisions (2 digit) of the *Australian Export Commodity Classification (AECC) 1978-79 (1203.0)*. Tables 1 and 4 contain index numbers on an industry of origin basis for groups based on the Divisions (1 digit) and selected Subdivisions (2 digit) of the 1978 edition of the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) (1201.0)*. These groups have been formed by allocating each of the index items to its industry of origin (e.g. Agriculture, forestry and fishing; Mining; and Manufacturing).

5. The *industry of origin* is the industry in which the exported commodity is *primarily produced*, determined in accordance with the classification rules of the ASIC. It is therefore not necessarily identical with the industry from which the export transactions are actually made. For instance, many exports are made by traders or by marketing authorities, but these exports are classified to the appropriate producing industries, rather than to the wholesale trading industries from which they are actually exported.

#### Prices

6. In general, prices are obtained from major exporters of the selected items included in the index. The point of pricing for the Export Price Index is the point at which the goods physically leave Australia, i.e. prices are on the basis f.o.b. at main Australian ports of export.

7. As the prices used in the index are expressed in Australian currency, changes in the relative value of the Australian dollar and overseas currencies can have a

direct impact on price movements for the many commodities that are sold in currencies other than Australian dollars. Where exports are sold at prices expressed in terms of a foreign currency and forward exchange cover is used, the prices used in the index EXCLUDE forward exchange cover.

8. The price series used relate to specified standards, grades, types, etc. of each commodity with the aim of incorporating in the index price changes for exports of representative goods of constant quality. Wherever possible, prices to predominant export markets are used for each of the specified goods priced, in order to lessen the impact of price variations attributable solely to changes, over time, in market destinations. In most cases prices are combined using fixed weights between markets. Weights between markets are reviewed from time to time and revised where necessary.

9. The July 1979 issue of this publication contained explanations of:

- Pricing of wool exports
- Pricing goods shipped at unknown prices
- Treatment of seasonal exports.

#### Index numbers

10. Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of monthly index numbers.

11. Index numbers for the current month and the previous month are preliminary and subject to revision. However, from time to time, index numbers for earlier months may be revised. This will occur whenever the ABS discovers that prices previously reported by respondents are incorrect and corrected prices are obtained. It can also occur for those exports where some data used in compiling the index numbers has been estimated (e.g. export market combining weights). When final data becomes available, index numbers are revised as far back as necessary.

#### Analysis of index changes

12. Care should be exercised when interpreting month-to-month movements in the indexes as short-term movements do not necessarily indicate changes in trend.

13. Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in 'index points' or as percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating index points changes and percentage changes between any two periods:

*All groups index numbers—*

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| July 1988              | 280 (see Table 1) |
| less June 1988         | 282 (see Table 1) |
| Change in index points | -2                |

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{-2}{282} \times 100 = -0.7\%$$

14. In this publication percentage changes are shown in respect of movements between:

- consecutive financial years
- corresponding months of consecutive years
- consecutive months.

15. Table 2 provides an analysis of the contribution which selected categories of exports make to the total All groups index. For example, Food and live animals contributed 71.9 index points to the total All groups index number of 276 in November 1988 and -1.4 index points to the net change of -1 index points in the All groups index number for that month. A further explanation is provided in the Appendix to the March 1988 issue of this publication.

#### Related publications

16. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

*Import Price Index, Australia* (6414.0)—issued quarterly

*Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (6412.0)—issued monthly

*Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia* (6411.0)—issued monthly

*Balance of Payments, Australia* (5302.0)—issued quarterly.

17. 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

- p preliminary, series subject to revision
- r figures revised since previous issue
- nil or rounded to zero

#### Electronic services

VIATEL. Key \*656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

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TABLE 1. EXPORT PRICE INDEX — BROAD GROUPS

|                                                            | AECC SECTIONS                                    |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      | ASIC DIVISIONS                                 |            |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
|                                                            | Food and live animals (0)                        | Crude materials inedible (except fuels) (2) | Mineral fuels and lubricants (3) | Animal and vegetable oils and fats (4) | Chemicals and other manufactured exports (5,6,7 & 8) | Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (A) | Mining (B) | Manufacturing (C) |
| INDEX NUMBERS<br>(Base of each index : Year 1974-75 = 100) |                                                  |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| 1985-86                                                    | 235                                              | 180                                         | 277                              | 308                                    | 183                                                  | 229                                            | 184        | 237               |
| 1986-87                                                    | 243                                              | 185                                         | 296                              | 280                                    | 160                                                  | 249                                            | 182        | 298               |
| 1987-88                                                    | 265                                              | 186                                         | 357                              | 244                                    | 176                                                  | 278                                            | 240        | 277               |
| 1987-88—                                                   |                                                  |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| September                                                  | 252                                              | 180                                         | 330                              | 248                                    | 174                                                  | 260                                            | 218        | 262               |
| October                                                    | 253                                              | 179                                         | 333                              | 247                                    | 165                                                  | 267                                            | 217        | 266               |
| November                                                   | 258                                              | 183                                         | 336                              | 250                                    | 184                                                  | 276                                            | 216        | 272               |
| December                                                   | 264                                              | 184                                         | 348                              | 249                                    | 175                                                  | 285                                            | 229        | 272               |
| January                                                    | 268                                              | 188                                         | 358                              | 247                                    | 172                                                  | 285                                            | 234        | 273               |
| February                                                   | 272                                              | 196                                         | 360                              | 248                                    | 176                                                  | 288                                            | 241        | 274               |
| March                                                      | 278                                              | 194                                         | 383                              | 242                                    | 183                                                  | 288                                            | 268        | 288               |
| April                                                      | 280                                              | 190                                         | 392                              | 240                                    | 188                                                  | 291                                            | 276        | 290               |
| May                                                        | 283                                              | 190                                         | 404                              | 233                                    | 183                                                  | 294                                            | 291        | 292               |
| June                                                       | 282                                              | 188                                         | 408                              | 229                                    | 184                                                  | 288                                            | 292        | 289               |
| 1988-89—                                                   |                                                  |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| July                                                       | 280                                              | 191                                         | 395                              | 225                                    | 181                                                  | 296                                            | 278        | 292               |
| August                                                     | 279                                              | 197                                         | 387                              | 225                                    | 180                                                  | 291                                            | 274        | 292               |
| September                                                  | 280                                              | 203                                         | 382                              | 228                                    | 183                                                  | 294                                            | 271        | 294               |
| October p                                                  | 277                                              | 202                                         | 370                              | 227                                    | 181                                                  | 299                                            | 266        | 290               |
| November p                                                 | 276                                              | 198                                         | 375                              | 219                                    | 175                                                  | 296                                            | 273        | 286               |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGES                                         |                                                  |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
|                                                            | Change from previous year                        |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| 1985-86                                                    | +5.4                                             | +5.3                                        | +4.9                             | +6.9                                   | -13.3                                                | +6.0                                           | +1.1       | +4.9              |
| 1986-87                                                    | +3.4                                             | +2.8                                        | +6.9                             | -9.1                                   | -12.6                                                | +8.7                                           | -1.1       | +5.9              |
| 1987-88                                                    | +9.1                                             | +0.5                                        | +20.6                            | -12.9                                  | +10.0                                                | +11.6                                          | +31.9      | +10.4             |
|                                                            | Change from corresponding month of previous year |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| 1987-88—                                                   |                                                  |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| September                                                  | +2.4                                             | -5.3                                        | +11.9                            | -16.5                                  | +17.6                                                | +5.7                                           | +21.1      | +4.8              |
| October                                                    | +3.3                                             | -4.8                                        | +12.9                            | -13.6                                  | +8.6                                                 | +6.8                                           | +21.2      | +5.2              |
| November                                                   | +5.7                                             | -2.1                                        | +14.7                            | -11.3                                  | +15.0                                                | +10.0                                          | +22.0      | +7.9              |
| December                                                   | +8.6                                             | -2.1                                        | +19.6                            | -10.8                                  | +6.7                                                 | +14.0                                          | +30.1      | +9.5              |
| January                                                    | +9.8                                             | +1.6                                        | +20.9                            | -12.1                                  | +1.8                                                 | +14.0                                          | +32.2      | +12.3             |
| February                                                   | +11.9                                            | +7.1                                        | +22.0                            | -12.7                                  | +2.3                                                 | +15.7                                          | +36.9      | +8.7              |
| March                                                      | +14.9                                            | +6.0                                        | +30.7                            | -13.9                                  | +7.0                                                 | +15.7                                          | +49.7      | +8.2              |
| April                                                      | +16.7                                            | +5.6                                        | +32.9                            | -10.1                                  | +17.5                                                | +16.4                                          | +52.5      | +6.8              |
| May                                                        | +16.5                                            | +6.1                                        | +31.2                            | -9.0                                   | +8.3                                                 | +15.7                                          | +47.0      | +6.6              |
| June                                                       | +16.0                                            | +6.2                                        | +31.2                            | -8.0                                   | +8.2                                                 | +13.4                                          | +45.3      | +5.2              |
| 1988-89—                                                   |                                                  |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| July                                                       | +14.3                                            | +7.9                                        | +25.8                            | -9.3                                   | +11.7                                                | +15.6                                          | +39.7      | +4.5              |
| August                                                     | +13.0                                            | +9.4                                        | +22.5                            | -9.3                                   | +9.8                                                 | +11.5                                          | +35.6      | +5.6              |
| September                                                  | +11.1                                            | +12.8                                       | +15.8                            | -8.1                                   | +5.2                                                 | +13.1                                          | +24.3      | +12.3             |
| October p                                                  | +9.5                                             | +12.8                                       | +11.1                            | -8.1                                   | +9.7                                                 | +12.0                                          | +22.6      | +2.3              |
| November p                                                 | +7.0                                             | +8.2                                        | +11.6                            | -12.4                                  | -4.9                                                 | +7.2                                           | +26.4      | +7.3              |
|                                                            | Change from previous month                       |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| 1987-88—                                                   |                                                  |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| September                                                  | +2.0                                             | —                                           | +4.4                             | —                                      | +6.1                                                 | -0.4                                           | +7.9       | -0.7              |
| October                                                    | +0.4                                             | -0.6                                        | +0.9                             | -0.4                                   | -5.2                                                 | +2.7                                           | -0.5       | —                 |
| November                                                   | +2.0                                             | +2.2                                        | +0.9                             | +1.2                                   | +11.5                                                | +3.4                                           | -0.5       | +3.0              |
| December                                                   | +2.3                                             | +0.5                                        | +3.6                             | -0.4                                   | +4.9                                                 | +3.3                                           | +6.0       | -0.7              |
| January                                                    | +1.5                                             | +2.2                                        | +2.9                             | -0.8                                   | -1.7                                                 | —                                              | +2.2       | +0.4              |
| February                                                   | +1.5                                             | +4.3                                        | +0.6                             | +0.4                                   | +2.3                                                 | +1.1                                           | +3.0       | +0.4              |
| March                                                      | +2.2                                             | -1.0                                        | +6.4                             | -2.4                                   | +4.0                                                 | —                                              | +11.2      | -2.2              |
| April                                                      | +0.7                                             | -2.1                                        | +2.3                             | -0.8                                   | +2.7                                                 | +1.0                                           | +3.0       | -2.6              |
| May                                                        | +1.1                                             | —                                           | +3.1                             | -2.9                                   | +2.7                                                 | +1.0                                           | +5.4       | -2.7              |
| June                                                       | -0.4                                             | -1.1                                        | +1.0                             | -1.7                                   | +0.5                                                 | -2.0                                           | +0.3       | —                 |
| 1988-89—                                                   |                                                  |                                             |                                  |                                        |                                                      |                                                |            |                   |
| July                                                       | -0.7                                             | +1.6                                        | -3.2                             | -1.7                                   | -1.6                                                 | +2.8                                           | -4.8       | +1.2              |
| August                                                     | -0.4                                             | +3.1                                        | -2.0                             | -1.3                                   | -0.6                                                 | -1.7                                           | -1.4       | -1.6              |
| September                                                  | +0.4                                             | +3.0                                        | -1.3                             | +1.3                                   | +1.7                                                 | +1.0                                           | -1.1       | +2.8              |
| October p                                                  | -1.1                                             | -0.5                                        | -3.1                             | -0.4                                   | -1.1                                                 | +1.7                                           | -1.8       | -1.4              |
| November p                                                 | -0.4                                             | -0.2                                        | +1.4                             | -3.5                                   | -3.3                                                 | -1.0                                           | +2.6       | -2.3              |

TABLE 2. EXPORT PRICE INDEX — INDEX POINTS CONTRIBUTION TO ALL GROUPS INDEX(a)

| <i>Code and Description</i>                            | <i>October<br/>1988</i> | <i>November<br/>1988</i> | <i>Change</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| <i>ALL GROUPS</i>                                      | 277                     | 276                      | -1            |
| <i>AECC SECTIONS</i>                                   |                         |                          |               |
| 0 Food and live animals                                | 73.3                    | 71.9                     | -1.4          |
| 2 Crude materials inedible (except fuels)              | 115.2                   | 116.5                    | +1.3          |
| 3 Mineral fuels and lubricants                         | 24.9                    | 24.1                     | -0.8          |
| 4 Animal and vegetable oils and fats                   | 1.3                     | 1.2                      | -0.1          |
| 5-8 Chemicals and other manufactured exports           | 61.6                    | 61.0                     | -0.6          |
| 9(part) Gold                                           | 0.8                     | 0.8                      | —             |
| <i>SELECTED AECC DIVISIONS</i>                         |                         |                          |               |
| 01 Meat and meat preparations                          | 25.0                    | 24.1                     | -0.9          |
| 02 Dairy products and eggs                             | 5.4                     | 5.6                      | +0.2          |
| 03 Fish and fish preparations                          | 4.0                     | 3.9                      | -0.1          |
| 04 Cereals and cereal preparations                     | 23.5                    | 23.0                     | -0.5          |
| 05 Fruit and vegetables                                | 4.2                     | 4.2                      | —             |
| 06 Sugar and sugar preparations                        | 8.6                     | 8.6                      | —             |
| 21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw                      | 9.1                     | 8.8                      | -0.3          |
| 26 Textile fibres and their wastes                     | 47.3                    | 49.9                     | +2.6          |
| 28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap                  | 54.7                    | 53.8                     | -0.9          |
| 32 Coal, coke and briquettes                           | 19.9                    | 19.1                     | -0.8          |
| 33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials | 3.1                     | 3.1                      | —             |
| 41 Animal oils and fats                                | 1.3                     | 1.2                      | -0.1          |
| 67 Manufactures of iron and steel                      | 9.4                     | 9.4                      | —             |
| 68 Manufactures of non-ferrous metals                  | 19.1                    | 18.8                     | -0.3          |
| 71 Power generating machinery and equipment            | 1.1                     | 1.1                      | —             |
| 72 Specialised machinery for particular industry       | 4.5                     | 4.5                      | —             |
| 78 Road vehicles                                       | 4.0                     | 4.0                      | —             |
| 97 Gold                                                | 0.8                     | 0.8                      | —             |
| <i>SELECTED ASIC SUBDIVISIONS</i>                      |                         |                          |               |
| 01 Agriculture                                         | 66.5                    | 68.3                     | +1.8          |
| 11 Metallic minerals                                   | 33.7                    | 33.3                     | -0.4          |
| 12 Coal                                                | 19.9                    | 19.0                     | -0.9          |
| 21-22 Food, beverages and tobacco                      | 61.8                    | 60.4                     | -1.4          |
| 23 Textiles                                            | 7.2                     | 7.5                      | +0.3          |
| 27 Chemical, petroleum and coal products               | 7.4                     | 7.3                      | -0.1          |
| 29 Basic metal products                                | 50.7                    | 49.9                     | -0.8          |
| 32 Transport equipment                                 | 6.7                     | 6.6                      | -0.1          |

(a) For an explanation of this table see paragraph 15 of the Explanatory Notes and the Appendix to the March 1988 issue of this publication.

TABLE 3. INDEX NUMBERS FOR SELECTED DIVISIONS OF AUSTRALIAN EXPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION (AECC)  
(Base of each index : Year 1974-75 = 100)

|            | <i>Meat and<br/>meat<br/>preparations<br/>(01)</i> | <i>Dairy<br/>products<br/>and eggs<br/>(02)</i> | <i>Fish and<br/>fish<br/>preparations<br/>(03)</i> | <i>Cereals and<br/>cereal<br/>preparations<br/>(04)</i> | <i>Fruit<br/>and<br/>vegetables<br/>(05)</i> | <i>Sugar and<br/>sugar<br/>preparations<br/>(06)</i> | <i>Hides,<br/>skins and<br/>furskins<br/>raw<br/>(21)</i> | <i>Textile<br/>fibres<br/>and their<br/>wastes<br/>(26)</i> | <i>Metalliferous<br/>ores and<br/>metal scrap<br/>(28)</i> |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1985-86    | 340                                                | 194                                             | 450                                                | 141                                                     | 315                                          | 78                                                   | 434                                                       | 247                                                         | 283                                                        |
| 1986-87    | 370                                                | 216                                             | 537                                                | 120                                                     | 373                                          | 94                                                   | 533                                                       | 273                                                         | 292                                                        |
| 1987-88    | 373                                                | 226                                             | 566                                                | 119                                                     | 364                                          | 91                                                   | 690                                                       | 434                                                         | 293                                                        |
| 1987-88—   |                                                    |                                                 |                                                    |                                                         |                                              |                                                      |                                                           |                                                             |                                                            |
| September  | 380                                                | 217                                             | 570                                                | 109                                                     | 362                                          | 83                                                   | 628                                                       | 387                                                         | 278                                                        |
| October    | 376                                                | 217                                             | 568                                                | 111                                                     | 358                                          | 80                                                   | 632                                                       | 384                                                         | 283                                                        |
| November   | 376                                                | 226                                             | 588                                                | 115                                                     | 372                                          | 83                                                   | 650                                                       | 374                                                         | 293                                                        |
| December   | 375                                                | 222                                             | 589                                                | 114                                                     | 369                                          | 88                                                   | 687                                                       | 412                                                         | 290                                                        |
| January    | 380                                                | 234                                             | 579                                                | 118                                                     | 374                                          | 95                                                   | 703                                                       | 419                                                         | 301                                                        |
| February   | 386                                                | 234                                             | 569                                                | 127                                                     | 367                                          | 105                                                  | 720                                                       | 420                                                         | 304                                                        |
| March      | 383                                                | 236                                             | 556                                                | 127                                                     | 369                                          | 98                                                   | 736                                                       | 492                                                         | 302                                                        |
| April      | 366                                                | 235                                             | 550                                                | 127                                                     | 360                                          | 98                                                   | 750                                                       | 519                                                         | 301                                                        |
| May        | 364                                                | 233                                             | 545                                                | 128                                                     | 355                                          | 99                                                   | 763                                                       | 556                                                         | 298                                                        |
| June       | 360                                                | 229                                             | 528                                                | 126                                                     | 345                                          | 98                                                   | 755                                                       | 562                                                         | 304                                                        |
| 1988-89—   |                                                    |                                                 |                                                    |                                                         |                                              |                                                      |                                                           |                                                             |                                                            |
| July       | 362                                                | 221                                             | 523                                                | 130                                                     | 363                                          | 104                                                  | 751                                                       | 515                                                         | 308                                                        |
| August     | 380                                                | 234                                             | 520                                                | 132                                                     | 357                                          | 106                                                  | 738                                                       | 501                                                         | 304                                                        |
| September  | 395                                                | 237                                             | 534                                                | 136                                                     | 360                                          | 108                                                  | 715                                                       | 484                                                         | 305                                                        |
| October p  | 379                                                | 238                                             | 529                                                | 141                                                     | 360                                          | 108                                                  | 684                                                       | 463                                                         | 300                                                        |
| November p | 365                                                | 246                                             | 508                                                | 138                                                     | 358                                          | 108                                                  | 655                                                       | 489                                                         | 295                                                        |

TABLE 3. INDEX NUMBERS FOR SELECTED DIVISIONS OF AUSTRALIAN EXPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION (AECC)—*continued*  
(Base of each index : Year 1974-75 = 100)

|            | Coal, coke<br>and<br>briquettes<br>(32) | Petroleum,<br>petroleum<br>products<br>and related<br>materials<br>(33) | Animal<br>oils<br>and fats<br>(41) | Manufactures of—          |                               | Power<br>generating<br>machinery<br>and<br>equipment<br>(71) | Specialised<br>machinery<br>for<br>particular<br>industries<br>(72) | Road<br>vehicles<br>(78) | Gold<br>(97) |
|------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
|            |                                         |                                                                         |                                    | Iron and<br>steel<br>(67) | Non-ferrous<br>metals<br>(68) |                                                              |                                                                     |                          |              |
| 1985-86    | 299                                     | 328                                                                     | 183                                | 181                       | 203                           | 304                                                          | 347                                                                 | 283                      | 392          |
| 1986-87    | 295                                     | 249                                                                     | 160                                | 190                       | 225                           | 331                                                          | 371                                                                 | 312                      | 510          |
| 1987-88    | 243                                     | 254                                                                     | 176                                | 183                       | 282                           | 366                                                          | 396                                                                 | 325                      | 521          |
| 1987-88—   |                                         |                                                                         |                                    |                           |                               |                                                              |                                                                     |                          |              |
| September  | 246                                     | 263                                                                     | 174                                | 176                       | 253                           | 355                                                          | 375                                                                 | 319                      | 524          |
| October    | 243                                     | 267                                                                     | 165                                | 178                       | 262                           | 355                                                          | 394                                                                 | 324                      | 534          |
| November   | 248                                     | 260                                                                     | 184                                | 180                       | 281                           | 355                                                          | 419                                                                 | 326                      | 560          |
| December   | 249                                     | 255                                                                     | 175                                | 185                       | 302                           | 355                                                          | 419                                                                 | 324                      | 564          |
| January    | 247                                     | 251                                                                     | 172                                | 184                       | 299                           | 376                                                          | 402                                                                 | 325                      | 553          |
| February   | 246                                     | 256                                                                     | 176                                | 184                       | 301                           | 379                                                          | 404                                                                 | 327                      | 511          |
| March      | 242                                     | 245                                                                     | 183                                | 191                       | 289                           | 379                                                          | 399                                                                 | 327                      | 499          |
| April      | 239                                     | 249                                                                     | 188                                | 191                       | 297                           | 379                                                          | 399                                                                 | 329                      | 497          |
| May        | 232                                     | 241                                                                     | 183                                | 192                       | 302                           | 379                                                          | 398                                                                 | 328                      | 477          |
| June       | 230                                     | 235                                                                     | 184                                | 183                       | 294                           | 379                                                          | 396                                                                 | 327                      | 459          |
| 1988-89—   |                                         |                                                                         |                                    |                           |                               |                                                              |                                                                     |                          |              |
| July       | 234                                     | 206                                                                     | 181                                | 183                       | 323                           | 384                                                          | 399                                                                 | 333                      | 451          |
| August     | 234                                     | 203                                                                     | 180                                | 182                       | 307                           | 384                                                          | 400                                                                 | 333                      | 445          |
| September  | 240                                     | 193                                                                     | 183                                | 186                       | 316                           | 384                                                          | 401                                                                 | 333                      | 445          |
| October p  | 241                                     | 184                                                                     | 181                                | 192                       | 331                           | 384                                                          | 386                                                                 | 333                      | 409          |
| November p | 230                                     | 184                                                                     | 175                                | 193                       | 326                           | 384                                                          | 379                                                                 | 333                      | 406          |

TABLE 4. INDEX NUMBERS FOR SELECTED SUBDIVISIONS OF AUSTRALIAN STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (ASIC)  
(Base of each index : Year 1974-75 = 100)

|                 | <i>Agriculture<br/>(01)</i> | <i>Metallic<br/>minerals<br/>(11)</i> | <i>Coal<br/>(12)</i> | <i>Food,<br/>beverages<br/>and<br/>tobacco<br/>(21-22)</i> | <i>Textiles<br/>(23)</i> | <i>Chemical,<br/>petroleum<br/>and coal<br/>products<br/>(27)</i> | <i>Basic<br/>metal<br/>products<br/>(29)</i> | <i>Transport<br/>equipment<br/>(32)</i> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1985-86         | 184                         | 282                                   | 299                  | 216                                                        | 249                      | 304                                                               | 228                                          | 278                                     |
| 1986-87         | 182                         | 297                                   | 295                  | 242                                                        | 273                      | 233                                                               | 238                                          | 294                                     |
| 1987-88         | 240                         | 279                                   | 243                  | 256                                                        | 418                      | 250                                                               | 270                                          | 300                                     |
| <i>1987-88—</i> |                             |                                       |                      |                                                            |                          |                                                                   |                                              |                                         |
| September       | 218                         | 275                                   | 246                  | 248                                                        | 377                      | 250                                                               | 245                                          | 296                                     |
| October         | 217                         | 278                                   | 243                  | 246                                                        | 375                      | 255                                                               | 252                                          | 300                                     |
| November        | 216                         | 288                                   | 248                  | 251                                                        | 366                      | 254                                                               | 262                                          | 305                                     |
| December        | 229                         | 283                                   | 249                  | 255                                                        | 400                      | 253                                                               | 272                                          | 300                                     |
| January         | 234                         | 287                                   | 247                  | 261                                                        | 406                      | 252                                                               | 280                                          | 303                                     |
| February        | 241                         | 289                                   | 246                  | 268                                                        | 408                      | 256                                                               | 281                                          | 304                                     |
| March           | 268                         | 282                                   | 242                  | 265                                                        | 471                      | 250                                                               | 282                                          | 302                                     |
| April           | 276                         | 272                                   | 239                  | 262                                                        | 493                      | 250                                                               | 291                                          | 301                                     |
| May             | 291                         | 265                                   | 232                  | 262                                                        | 527                      | 244                                                               | 296                                          | 303                                     |
| June            | 292                         | 268                                   | 230                  | 259                                                        | 531                      | 235                                                               | 294                                          | 292                                     |
| <i>1988-89—</i> |                             |                                       |                      |                                                            |                          |                                                                   |                                              |                                         |
| July            | 278                         | 269                                   | 234                  | 261                                                        | 490                      | 216                                                               | 307                                          | 298                                     |
| August          | 274                         | 263                                   | 234                  | 267                                                        | 478                      | 214                                                               | 301                                          | 298                                     |
| September       | 271                         | 271                                   | 240                  | 273                                                        | 463                      | 207                                                               | 301                                          | 303                                     |
| October p       | 266                         | 270                                   | 241                  | 266                                                        | 444                      | 203                                                               | 302                                          | 303                                     |
| November p      | 273                         | 267                                   | 230                  | 260                                                        | 466                      | 200                                                               | 297                                          | 298                                     |

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