



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

IMPORTS BY COMMODITY DIVISIONS, AUSTRALIA JANUARY 1981 (PRELIMINARY)

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MAIN FEATURES

Imports for January 1981 fell by \$133m to \$1,406m, a decrease of 9% compared with December 1980.

Major decreases were recorded in machinery (-\$61m), petroleum (-\$43m) and chemicals (-\$19m).

Imports for the seven months ended January 1981 rose by \$1,277m, an increase of 14% compared with the seven months ended January 1980.

The major contributors to this increase were machinery (+\$612m) and petroleum (+\$212m).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains statistics of imports by Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the *Australian Import Commodity Classification* (AICC) (1204.0). Statistics for 1980-81 are preliminary and subject to revision.

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

Source of data

3. These statistics are compiled by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from information contained in import entries submitted by importers or their agents to the Bureau of Customs as required by the Customs Act.

Statistical period

4. Imports are recorded statistically in the calendar month in which the import entries were both finalised by the Bureau of Customs and passed to the ABS for further processing. Normally this is within a few days of discharge of cargo. However, import entries may be lodged early using the check-to-arrive system or may be delayed because of various validation checks before being passed on to the ABS. Because of this, import statistics for a particular month do not necessarily represent entries lodged or commodities actually imported during the month in question. Analysis of past data has shown that in aggregate approximately 70% of import trade by value recorded for a particular month was actually imported during that month, 25% was actually imported during the previous month with the remaining 5% being imported in earlier months. For individual commodities the percentage by value representing actual imports in a month may vary considerably.

Valuation

5. For imports the recorded value is the value for duty for Customs purposes (VFD). On 1 July 1976, Australia adopted the internationally recognised Brussels Definition of Value (BDV) on a free-on-board (fob) basis (i.e. charges and expenses involved in delivering the goods from the place of exportation to the place of introduction in Australia, are excluded). The value for duty is based on the normal price, i.e. the price the goods would fetch at the time when duty becomes payable on a sale in the open market between a buyer and a seller independent of each other. In practice, the basis for valuation is generally taken to be the invoice price subject to certain safeguards and adjustments where necessary.

Commodity classification

6. From 1 July 1978, imports have been classified according to the AICC which is based on the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 2. A detailed description of the commodity items included in this publication is contained in the AICC. Copies of or extracts from this classification may be obtained from offices of the ABS in Canberra and in each capital city.

Merchandise and non-merchandise imports

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

Revisions 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 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.

Special returns system

9. More detailed and/or timely statistics at a more specific commodity level are available by subscription to the pre-paid Overseas Trade Special Return Service.

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Related publications

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

- Imports of Assembled New Passenger Motor Cars, Australia (5416.0)—issued monthly*
- Imports, Australia (5406.0)—issued monthly*
- Exports by Commodity Divisions, Australia (Preliminary) (5402.0)—issued monthly*
- Exports, Australia (5404.0)—issued monthly*
- Exports and Imports of Merchandise at Constant Prices, Australia (5421.0)—issued quarterly.*

11. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia (1101.0)* which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- n.e.s. not elsewhere specified
- n.a. not available.

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

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. INDEXES OF CURRENT PRICE VALUES OF MAJOR IMPORT COMMODITIES(a)

Commodity description	Average monthly value 1979-80	November 1980	December 1980	January 1981
Food and live animals chiefly for food (0)	100	81	101	97
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (2)	100	113	105	90
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	100	87	92	68
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (5)	100	74	107	92
Paper, paperboard and articles thereof (64)	100	85	97	122
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, etc. (65)	100	90	107	91
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	100	99	108	114
Machinery (71-77)	100	101	139	121
Transport equipment (78,79)	100	104	116	112
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (8)	100	89	111	115
Total imports	100	94	114	104

For footnotes see Table 2.

TABLE 2. PERCENTAGE SHARE BY VALUE OF MAJOR COMMODITIES IMPORTED(a)

Commodity description	1979-80	November 1980	December 1980	January 1981
	%	%	%	%
Food and live animals chiefly for food (0)	4.0	3.5	3.6	3.8
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (2)	4.3	5.2	4.0	3.7
Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)	12.9	12.0	10.5	8.4
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (5)	9.7	7.7	9.1	8.6
Paper, paperboard and articles thereof (64)	2.6	2.3	2.2	3.0
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, etc. (65)	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.2
Manufactures of metal (67-69)	5.4	5.6	5.1	5.9
Machinery (71-77)	24.2	25.9	29.7	28.1
Transport equipment (78,79)	10.6	11.7	10.8	11.5
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (8)	12.4	11.7	12.0	13.6
Total imports	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Imports of the 'major commodities' shown in these tables are significant imports by particular Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the *Australian Import Commodity Classification* (figures in brackets following commodity descriptions denote the relevant Sections and Divisions).

TABLE 3. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION
(£'000)

Section and division	November 1980	December 1980	January 1981	Seven months ended January	
				1980	1981
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD					
00 Live animals chiefly for food	958	838	1,893	10,377	10,270
01 Meat and meat preparations	891	1,646	1,056	5,072	6,751
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	2,853	4,006	2,926	18,693	24,576
03 Fish, crustaceans and molluscs and preparations thereof	17,282	19,934	19,751	85,462	112,391
04 Cereals and cereal preparations	1,173	1,208	1,418	10,798	12,299
05 Vegetables and fruit	7,911	9,922	9,135	64,490	71,541
06 Sugar, sugar preparations and honey	951	892	732	6,005	6,225
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof	8,871	12,762	11,979	142,544	110,212
08 Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmilled cereals)	1,868	1,619	2,101	15,810	15,843
09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	1,428	2,184	2,013	13,853	13,615
<i>Total section 0</i>	<i>44,186</i>	<i>55,011</i>	<i>53,003</i>	<i>373,102</i>	<i>383,723</i>
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO					
11 Beverages	9,748	8,200	7,392	41,585	56,183
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	6,650	8,284	6,568	40,030	46,618
<i>Total section 1</i>	<i>16,398</i>	<i>16,484</i>	<i>13,960</i>	<i>81,615</i>	<i>102,801</i>
2 CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS					
21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw	141	157	211	1,278	1,293
22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit	1,490	2,492	464	4,506	7,914
23 Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)	5,014	3,343	5,548	47,419	39,760
24 Cork and wood	11,973	14,562	13,548	116,069	107,314
25 Pulp and waste paper	10,449	9,247	11,295	54,927	71,196
26 Textile fibres (other than wool tops) and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	6,371	5,569	5,298	52,835	44,975
27 Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum, precious stones)	25,522	20,337	10,923	94,179	141,212
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	2,198	2,235	1,211	15,777	21,637
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.	2,722	3,518	4,156	24,091	23,966
<i>Total section 2</i>	<i>65,881</i>	<i>61,460</i>	<i>52,653</i>	<i>411,081</i>	<i>459,266</i>
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS					
32 Coal, coke and briquettes	161	151	114	2,697	1,748
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	152,670	160,972	118,021	1,183,931	1,396,014
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	37	10	9	137	134
<i>Total section 3</i>	<i>152,867</i>	<i>161,133</i>	<i>118,144</i>	<i>1,186,764</i>	<i>1,397,896</i>
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS, FATS AND WAXES					
41 Animal oils and fats	32	18	38	332	361
42 Fixed vegetable oils and fats	3,137	4,389	3,933	42,079	27,449
43 Animal and vegetable oils and fats, processed, and waxes of animal or vegetable origin	1,020	1,870	1,914	7,266	10,195
<i>Total section 4</i>	<i>4,189</i>	<i>6,276</i>	<i>5,886</i>	<i>49,677</i>	<i>38,005</i>
5 CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS, N.E.S.					
50 Combined confidential items from 513 and 582	132	586	596	n.a.	2,891
51 Organic chemicals	21,125	47,239	31,975	292,192	256,778
52 Inorganic chemicals	18,141	10,978	16,259	89,436	121,394
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	5,324	5,898	6,964	50,765	45,094
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	8,212	11,680	10,731	86,373	81,421
55 Essential oils and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	5,052	7,146	6,801	48,236	49,702
56 Fertilisers, manufactured	1,232	2,555	406	17,023	21,181
57 Explosives and pyrotechnic products	184	2,291	204	5,392	3,745
58 Artificial resins and plastic materials, and cellulose esters and ethers	25,849	31,881	30,894	217,586	197,118
59 Chemical materials and products, n.e.s.	12,738	20,585	16,761	114,326	125,432
<i>Total section 5</i>	<i>97,990</i>	<i>140,840</i>	<i>121,590</i>	<i>921,330</i>	<i>904,757</i>

TABLE 3. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN
IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION—continued
('000)

Section and division	November 1980	December 1980	January 1981	Seven months ended January	
				1980	1981
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL					
60 Combined confidential items from 661, 694 and 695	252	—	85	n.a.	2,713
61 Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s. and dressed furskins	2,742	3,351	2,477	27,955	22,051
62 Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	18,018	20,506	188,845	107,859	137,017
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	6,835	8,349	7,787	45,751	55,568
64 Paper, paperboard and articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	29,907	33,924	42,672	243,677	268,645
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s. and related products	71,220	84,771	72,630	549,822	569,550
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	27,016	33,093	30,783	184,887	219,397
67 Iron and steel	30,831	26,120	33,633	196,201	233,778
68 Non-ferrous metals	6,575	9,536	5,714	48,569	61,151
69 Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	34,260	42,795	43,510	250,650	283,573
<i>Total section 6</i>	<i>227,657</i>	<i>262,444</i>	<i>258,137</i>	<i>1,655,371</i>	<i>1,853,443</i>
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT					
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	34,090	63,420	37,849	295,292	307,503
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	68,877	100,375	95,209	468,633	675,456
73 Metalworking machinery	16,909	26,855	14,158	63,865	128,166
74 General industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s. and machine parts, n.e.s.	75,285	93,360	80,236	447,639	565,152
75 Office machines and automatic data processing equipment	38,540	57,997	54,675	274,333	362,896
76 Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	39,809	46,130	44,667	240,750	296,088
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)	56,721	68,712	68,935	392,370	459,660
78 Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)	130,211	146,017	140,271	858,696	949,971
79 Other transport equipment	19,512	20,040	21,293	170,796	150,443
<i>Total section 7</i>	<i>479,953</i>	<i>622,906</i>	<i>557,293</i>	<i>3,212,374</i>	<i>3,895,334</i>
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES					
81 Sanitary, plumbing, heating and lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.	3,078	3,134	2,514	22,110	22,085
82 Furniture and parts thereof	6,589	9,182	7,201	46,387	53,583
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	4,698	5,557	5,488	32,900	39,338
84 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	13,608	24,258	37,791	169,449	172,443
85 Footwear	5,131	7,342	11,953	66,355	65,883
87 Professional, scientific and controlling instruments and apparatus, n.e.s.	23,957	31,190	29,808	158,734	203,718
88 Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks	26,662	30,258	27,015	177,615	206,221
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	65,436	74,353	69,817	499,448	553,131
<i>Total section 8</i>	<i>149,160</i>	<i>185,274</i>	<i>191,587</i>	<i>1,172,998</i>	<i>1,316,403</i>
9A Commodities and transactions of merchandise trade, not elsewhere classified					
	22,888	14,909	25,367	112,370	136,463
<i>Total merchandise(a)</i>	<i>1,261,168</i>	<i>1,526,736</i>	<i>1,397,619</i>	<i>9,176,681</i>	<i>10,488,091</i>
9B Non-merchandise(b)					
	13,380	12,992	8,716	121,757	87,248
Total imports	1,274,548	1,539,728	1,406,334	9,298,438	10,575,340

(a) The sum of Divisions 00 to 9A. (b) A complete description of non-merchandise items is contained in the *Australian Import Commodity Classification* (1204.0).