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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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EXPORT PRICE INDEX, MAY 1969

This bulletin contains Export Price Index numbers on the reference base: Year 1959-60 = 100. A full description of the index and its relationship with the previous index is given in Commonwealth Year Book No. 54, 1968 (pages 272-276).

2. The Export Price Index is a fixed-weights index. Its purpose is to provide comparisons monthly over a limited number of years of the level of export prices of the selected items, making no allowance for variations in quantities exported. The index numbers are thus measures of price change only.

3. The price series used in the index relate to specified standards for each commodity and in most cases are combinations of prices for a number of representative grades, types, etc. For some commodities price movements in the predominant market, or markets, are used, while for other commodities average realisations in all export markets are used. As nearly as possible, prices used are on the basis f.o.b. at the main Australian ports of export.

4. There are 29 items in the index with weights based on average annual values of exports during the 5 years 1956-57 to 1960-61. During that period these items constituted 83% of the total value of Australian exports. In recent years this proportion has decreased and in 1966-67 and 1967-68 was less than 75% of the total value. A review of the content and weighting pattern of the index is proceeding.

5. The Export Price Index has been compiled for each month from July 1959. Index numbers for each of the groups and All Groups are shown in Table 2 on page 2. The yearly index numbers are simple averages of the twelve monthly index numbers in each year.

6. Table 1 below shows for each index the percentage change of the index numbers for the month of May 1969, from the preceding month (April 1969) and from the corresponding month of the previous year (May 1968).

TABLE 1. - EXPORT PRICE INDEX NUMBERS - MAY 1969

Percentage change from previous periods

| Percentage change between - | Wool | Meats | Dairy produce | Cereals | Dried and canned fruits | Sugar | Hides and tallow | Metals and coal | Gold  | All groups |
|-----------------------------|------|-------|---------------|---------|-------------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|-------|------------|
| April 1969 and May 1969     | ..   | +4.6  | ..            | +1.0    | ..                      | +5.3  | +2.4             | +0.8            | ..    | +1.0       |
| May 1968 and May 1969       | ..   | +11.5 | -1.4          | -5.6    | +8.8                    | +41.1 | +34.4            | +7.6            | +11.7 | +3.0       |



Ref. No. 9.2

**TABLE 2. - EXPORT PRICE INDEX NUMBERS**  
(Base of each index : Year 1959-60 = 100)

| Period        | Wool | Meats | Dairy<br>produce | Cereals | Dried<br>and<br>canned<br>fruits | Sugar | Hides<br>and<br>tallow | Metals<br>and<br>coal | Gold | All<br>groups |
|---------------|------|-------|------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-------|------------------------|-----------------------|------|---------------|
| 1959-60       | 100  | 100   | 100              | 100     | 100                              | 100   | 100                    | 100                   | 100  | 100           |
| 1960-61       | 92   | 104   | 82               | 99      | 99                               | 101   | 92                     | 97                    | 100  | 95            |
| 1961-62       | 97   | 100   | 81               | 106     | 95                               | 91    | 84                     | 91                    | 100  | 96            |
| 1962-63       | 104  | 101   | 88               | 107     | 90                               | 107   | 72                     | 89                    | 100  | 101           |
| 1963-64       | 120  | 105   | 93               | 107     | 98                               | 175   | 73                     | 101                   | 100  | 114           |
| 1964-65       | 102  | 110   | 94               | 107     | 100                              | 100   | 91                     | 123                   | 101  | 105           |
| 1965-66       | 107  | 120   | 86               | 107     | 102                              | 84    | 107                    | 122                   | 101  | 107           |
| 1966-67       | 103  | 124   | 84               | 114     | 101                              | 67    | 89                     | 117                   | 101  | 105           |
| 1967-68       | 95   | 125   | 79               | 109     | 95                               | 67    | 67                     | 120                   | 104  | 100           |
| 1966-67 April | 100  | 128   | 85               | 113     | 100                              | 56    | 80                     | 115                   | 101  | 103           |
| May           | 102  | 128   | 85               | 115     | 100                              | 57    | 77                     | 113                   | 101  | 104           |
| June          | 100  | 126   | 85               | 115     | 100                              | 59    | 76                     | 116                   | 101  | 103           |
| 1967-68 July  | 98   | 127   | 85               | 113     | 99                               | 59    | 72                     | 116                   | 101  | 102           |
| August        | 92   | 127   | 85               | 112     | 99                               | 61    | 70                     | 117                   | 101  | 99            |
| September     | 92   | 126   | 85               | 111     | 99                               | 73    | 69                     | 117                   | 101  | 99            |
| October       | 92   | 128   | 85               | 112     | 98                               | 122   | 68                     | 117                   | 101  | 101           |
| November      | 92   | 127   | 82               | 108     | 99                               | 72    | 65                     | 116                   | 101  | 98            |
| December      | 94   | 121   | 75               | 106     | 98                               | 63    | 65                     | 123                   | 101  | 99            |
| January       | 94   | 126   | 75               | 105     | 97                               | 58    | 65                     | 119                   | 101  | 98            |
| February      | 98   | 124   | 75               | 106     | 90                               | 60    | 66                     | 122                   | 101  | 101           |
| March         | 98   | 121   | 75               | 109     | 90                               | 62    | 66                     | 125                   | 100  | 101           |
| April         | 98   | 121   | 74               | 107     | 91                               | 61    | 65                     | 125                   | 105  | 101           |
| May           | 98   | 122   | 73               | 108     | 91                               | 56    | 64                     | 119                   | 111  | 100           |
| June          | 98   | 126   | 73               | 109     | 92                               | 62    | 65                     | 120                   | 119  | 101           |
| 1968-69 July  | 96   | 127   | 73               | 107     | p95                              | 81    | 64                     | 120                   | 119  | p101          |
| August        | 96   | 128   | 73               | 107     | p95                              | 86    | 65                     | 118                   | 107  | p101          |
| September     | 98   | 128   | 73               | 107     | p95                              | 95    | 66                     | 120                   | 111  | p102          |
| October       | 102  | 134   | 73               | 106     | p95                              | 66    | 66                     | 120                   | 114  | p104          |
| November      | 104  | 130   | 72               | 107     | p95                              | 53    | 68                     | 119                   | 112  | p104          |
| December      | 100  | p127  | 72               | 105     | p95                              | 54    | 70                     | 121                   | 112  | p102          |
| January       | 100  | p127  | 72               | 103     | p97                              | p69   | 71                     | 121                   | 116  | p102          |
| February      | 100  | p129  | 72               | 103     | p97                              | p65   | 74                     | 123                   | 121  | p102          |
| March         | p98  | p128  | 72               | 102     | p98                              | p66   | 79                     | 123                   | 122  | p101          |
| April         | p98  | p130  | 72               | 101     | p99                              | p75   | 84                     | 127                   | 124  | p102          |
| May           | p98  | p136  | 72               | 102     | p99                              | p79   | 86                     | 128                   | 124  | p103          |

p - preliminary, subject to revision.

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9 JULY 1969

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2053 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.