

DECEMBER 1967

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Ref. no. 10.19

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Introduction. - This bulletin contains statistics relating to the principal minerals and mineral products produced in Australia, overseas trade in selected minerals and mineral products, relevant prices and data on Commonwealth Government payments to sectors of the mineral industry.

More detailed statistics on various aspects of the mineral industry are contained in The Australian Mineral Industry, Part II - Quarterly Statistics, which is published in conjunction with the Bureau of Mineral Resources. The most recently issued copy of this publication is Vol. 20 No.1 September 1967 contains detailed statistics for the March quarter 1967.

2. Sources of data. - Statistics contained in this bulletin are derived from a variety of sources and the more important of these sources are discussed below.

Table 1. - Mine production of principal minerals

Current statistics in this table are derived mainly from collections carried out by the Commonwealth Bureau of Mineral Resources and the various State Mines Departments. Preliminary annual statistics are derived from the same sources, but final annual statistics are derived from the annual Census of Mining and Quarrying which is conducted by this Bureau in collaboration with the State Mines Departments.

Table 2. - Production of principal manufactured products of mineral origin

Statistics of non-ferrous metal production and refined silver are collected by the Bureau of Mineral Resources. Data on refined gold production are provided by the Reserve Bank. Other data in this table, relating to Fuels, Building Materials and Chemicals, are derived from returns collected by the Deputy Commonwealth Statisticians in the States, except the data relating to superphosphate which are collected by the Department of Primary Industry, and petroleum and products which are collected by the Department of National Development.

Table 3, 4 and 5. - Overseas trade

These statistics are extracted from this Bureau's compilations of overseas trade statistics, which are derived from documents obtained under the Customs Act by the Department of Customs and Excise.

Table 6 and 7. - Prices

Price data are obtained from a number of sources. Australian prices are derived from information collected and compiled by the Bureau of Mineral Resources. Overseas prices are derived from various authoritative journals, principally the Metal Bulletin.

Table 8. - Wholesale and export price indexes

Data in this table are derived from this Bureau's compilation of price indexes.

Table 9. - Commonwealth Government payments

Data in this table are provided by the various Departments responsible for the administration of the specified Acts.

3. Revision of data. Statistics for current months are subject to revision. Revision of data, based on figures derived from the established quarterly compilation of mineral statistics, the annual Census of Mining and Quarrying and various special purpose collections will be incorporated in this Bulletin as soon as possible after the revised information becomes available.

4. Commodity groupings. For the convenience of users of this bulletin, commodities included in Tables 1-5 are grouped according to conventions generally accepted in the mineral industry.

5. Seasonal adjustment. A seasonally adjusted series of statistics for Portland Cement production is shown in Table 2 on page 8. In the seasonal adjustment, account has been taken of both normal seasonal factors and "trading-day" effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the month). Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these and other series are given in "Seasonally Adjusted Indicators 1967" issued on 18 July 1967.

6. Rounding. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

7. Symbols used. For convenience the following symbols are used in this bulletin:

- p preliminary ; figure or series subject to revision
- r figure or series revised since previous issue
- .. nil or less than half the final digit shown
- n.a. not available or not available for publication

A blank space in a column of figures means that the figure concerned is not yet available.

PRODUCTION

Table 1 shows details of mine production of the principal metallic and fuel minerals produced in Australia. The data for the non-ferrous group (except bauxite) and the precious metals group relate to the metallic contents of minerals produced, estimated on the basis of chemical assay data.

For the other metallic minerals (bauxite, the ferrous and alloy group and mineral sands) the quantities shown are the gross output.

TABLE 1. - MINE PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL MINERALS : AUSTRALIA

Period	METALLIC MINERALS						
	Non-ferrous					Ferrous and alloy (b)	
	Copper (a)	Lead (a)	Zinc (a)	Tin (a)	Bauxite (b)	Iron ore	Tungsten concentrates
	- tons -					'000 tons	tons
Year - 1965	90,388	362,137	349,231	3,849	1,167,671	6,695	1,637
1966	109,260	364,932	369,334	4,838	1,798,261	11,425	1,805
1967	87,668	372,221	398,020	5,379			1,646
Latest 3 months	19,990	95,231	105,372	1,461	1,114,391	4,919	398
Same 3 months previous year	26,066	84,486	92,174	1,060	454,488	3,553	436
Month - 1966 October	9,579	30,344	32,201	359	637,694	3,880	436
November	8,650	33,791	35,934	317			
December	7,837	20,351	24,039	394			
1967 January	7,148	18,691	20,314	295	863,599	3,711	403
February	7,296	31,299	34,291	385			
March	8,487	32,566	33,712	374			
April	7,473	30,625	32,258	598	1,118,988	4,756	402
May	7,808	35,754	39,646	343			
June	6,865	34,624	35,457	600			
July	7,671	19,702	19,364	452	1,114,391	4,919	443
August	7,727	37,987	40,845	357			
September	7,203	35,742	36,761	514			
October	7,058	36,611	40,755	439			398
November	6,699	36,372	39,623	464			
December	6,233	22,248	24,994	558			

- (a) Quantities shown are metallic contents of mine products based on chemical assay.
 (b) Quantities shown are gross output.

TABLE 1. - MINE PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL MINERALS : AUSTRALIA - continued

Period	METALLIC MINERALS - continued				
	Precious (a)		Mineral sands (b)		
	Gold	Silver	Rutile concentrates	Ilmenite concentrates	Zircon concentrates
	- '000 f oz -			- tons -	
Year - 1965	878	17,281	217,330	441,034	226,863
1966	916	18,876	247,500	513,015	244,159
1967		19,765	271,748		
Latest 3 months	208	4,956	68,809	138,290	76,690
Same 3 months previous year	210	4,362	65,693	128,794	61,864
Month - 1966 November	68	1,700	22,675	39,708	21,356
December	78	1,204	20,454	38,397	18,522
1967 January	70	1,132	21,355	40,947	21,356
February	62	1,576	21,345	42,324	18,522
March	63	1,678	22,123	45,248	23,096
April	74	1,634	22,539	43,723	24,259
May	66	1,865	24,253	44,312	26,542
June	75	1,945	21,922	44,142	25,046
July	68	1,298	22,201	43,562	24,540
August	60	1,861	24,484	53,760	27,592
September	64	1,820	22,717	46,217	25,311
October	77	1,872	23,792	46,334	26,341
November	67	1,800	23,807	45,739	25,038
December		1,283	21,210		

Period	FUEL MINERALS					
	Black coal			Brown coal	Crude petroleum	Natural gas
	Under-ground	Open cut	Total			
	- '000 tons -				'000 gal	'000 cu ft
Year - 1965	26,876	4,562	31,439	20,659	91,676	143,402
1966	28,084	5,250	33,334	21,783	118,533	142,977
1967	29,290	5,420	34,710	23,387	265,777	152,360
Latest 3 months	7,601	1,446	9,047	5,613	105,003	36,156
Same 3 months previous year	7,283	1,292	8,575	5,270	27,064	33,780
Month - 1966 October	2,475	448	2,923	1,831	27,064	33,780
November	2,682	480	3,163	1,862		
December	2,126	364	2,490	1,577		
1967 January	1,485	317	1,803	1,685	27,449	39,238
February	2,422	419	2,841	1,627		
March	2,220	435	2,655	1,903		
April	2,432	367	2,799	1,800	57,140	37,473
May	2,928	494	3,422	2,008		
June	2,532	421	2,953	2,292		
July	2,657	485	3,142	2,207	76,184	14,643
August	2,614	496	3,111	2,240		
September	2,399	538	2,938	2,011		
October	2,648	511	3,159	1,997	105,003	10,502
November	2,884	504	3,388	1,969		
December	2,068	432	2,500	1,648		

(a) Quantities shown are metallic contents of mine products based on chemical assay.

(b) Quantities shown are gross output.

Table 2 shows particulars of the production of certain important manufactured products of mineral origin. Secondary metal is excluded from the metal production statistics except in the case of ingot steel. For blister copper and lead bullion, the figures shown relate to the copper and lead content respectively.

TABLE 2. - PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS OF MINERAL ORIGIN : AUSTRALIA

Period	METALS						
	Non-ferrous						
	Refined alu- minium	Blister copper (a)	Refined copper	Lead bullion (a) (b)	Refined lead	Refined zinc	Refined tin
	- tons -						
Year - 1965	86,379	73,414	59,956	86,907	193,306	198,988	3,179
1966	90,560	90,487	89,960	74,295	193,128	194,410	3,666
1967		73,329	66,030	100,264	190,695	194,472	3,594
Latest 3 months	23,382	18,737	16,959	21,054	48,267	45,691	1,177
Same 3 months previous year	23,173	19,409	17,923	14,063	45,856	49,140	881
Month - 1966 December	7,844	5,747	3,413	5,990	14,267	14,944	259
1967 January	7,818	5,195	6,653	8,003	16,876	17,489	147
February	7,358	5,595	4,045	7,792	15,815	15,256	299
March	7,804	6,330	4,197	8,311	16,780	17,104	360
April	7,668	5,993	3,420	8,944	13,878	15,945	88
May	7,778	6,110	7,828	9,609	17,131	16,680	213
June	7,601	5,409	5,793	7,472	13,339	14,806	261
July	7,825	6,942	4,700	10,684	15,233	18,345	256
August	7,863	6,667	6,054	9,551	17,194	16,815	434
September	7,694	6,346	6,381	8,844	16,182	16,541	353
October		6,188	6,514	8,437	16,144	16,269	271
November		7,844	5,943	6,181	17,077	15,666	569
December		4,705	4,502	6,386	15,040	13,756	337

Period	METALS - continued						
	Ferrous				Precious		
	Pig iron	Steel ingots	Blooms and slabs	Tinplate	Refined gold (c)	Refined silver	
	- tons -				- '000 t oz -		
Year - 1965	4,183,678	5,373,049	4,783,284	237,995	820	8,696	
1966	4,666,885	5,796,813	5,023,892	251,761	789	8,864	
1967	4,977,334	6,188,780	5,359,716	271,339	672	9,771	
Latest 3 months	1,233,186	1,551,154	1,361,993	70,442	187	2,269	
Same 3 months previous year	1,265,621	1,581,226	1,352,270	68,157	202	2,320	
Month - 1966 December	412,835	515,756	446,063	22,902	89	725	
1967 January	418,796	507,622	427,481	22,678	51	966	
February	355,134	459,704	419,768	20,936	53	719	
March	400,006	523,043	441,692	21,350	52	764	
April	381,765	461,957	392,855	19,176	50	886	
May	446,140	552,958	464,289	22,320	52	894	
June	427,249	530,104	449,535	24,621	70	876	
July	438,408	525,531	468,171	23,531	53	922	
August	449,328	539,863	460,655	23,703	52	688	
September	427,322	540,844	467,279	22,582	53	787	
October	415,777	529,692	472,534	23,054	67	680	
November	382,364	477,209	431,977	23,394	72	819	
December	435,045	544,253	457,482	23,994	48	770	

(a) Metallic content. (b) Lead bullion for export. (c) Newly-won gold of Australian origin.

TABLE 2. - PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS OF MINERAL ORIGIN :
AUSTRALIA - continued

Period	FUELS					
	Coal products		Petroleum products			
	Metal-lurgical coke	Brown coal briquettes	Motor spirit	Furnace fuel	Automotive distillate	Industrial diesel fuel
	- '000 tons -		mill gal		- '000 tons -	
Year - 1965	3,192	1,903	1,522	5,070	1,697	912
1966	3,184	1,859	1,622	5,527	2,019	851
1967	3,593	1,843	1,835	5,936	2,206	947
Latest 3 months	928	424	479	1,604	590	289
Same 3 months previous year	847	452	424	1,406	576	231
Month - 1966 December	309	112	171	479	214	56
1967 January	304	85	159	431	188	79
February	228	133	138	515	189	73
March	308	164	156	483	175	57
April	284	160	156	463	188	60
May	311	176	140	536	172	74
June	303	162	141	405	164	63
July	309	177	150	487	178	76
August	313	180	157	488	165	93
September	305	177	159	524	197	84
October	314	175	163	557	169	101
November	304	144	151	546	188	106
December	310	105	165	501	233	81

Period	BUILDING MATERIALS AND CHEMICALS						
	Building materials				Chemicals		
	Portland cement		Bricks	Plaster of Paris	Asbestos cement sheets - non-acoustic	Sulphuric acid	Super-phosphate (b)
	Original	Seasonally adjusted (a)					
	- '000 tons -		million	'000 tons	'000 sq yd	- '000 tons -	
Year - 1965	3,742		1,393	275	n.a.	1,686	3,725
1966	3,616		1,385	265	n.a.	1,895	4,443
1967	3,760		1,418	266	33,284	1,980	4,564
Latest 3 months	955	n.a.	368	71	9,814	474	1,075
Same 3 months previous year	896		348	67	9,077	478	1,087
Month - 1966 December	267	289	101	18	2,622	156	341
1967 January	221	291	81	11	1,113	186	438
February	290	317	113	22	2,333	103	388
March	307	292	120	23	3,267	194	451
April	309	305	117	20	2,363	177	411
May	353	326	133	27	2,955	171	389
June	315	314	118	22	2,535	151	422
July	336	326	118	22	2,753	136	262
August	341	321	127	26	2,515	155	342
September	333	324	123	22	3,036	173	386
October	304	326	127	24	3,211	160	361
November	324	312	132	28	3,583	153	350
December	277	301	109	19	3,020	161	364

(a) See explanatory notes, paragraph 5, page 4. (b) From June 1964 includes double and triple superphosphate and ammonium phosphate, expressed in terms of single superphosphate, i.e. 22% P₂O₅ equivalent.

OVERSEAS TRADE

In Tables 3, 4 and 5 particulars are shown of overseas trade in selected minerals and mineral products. All values are expressed as \$A f.o.b. port of shipment. All statistics of metallic minerals in Table 3 are in terms of gross quantities and not in terms of metallic contents. Available data on metallic contents of minerals exported are given in Table 4.

TABLE 3. - EXPORTS OF SELECTED MINERALS AND MINERAL PRODUCTS : AUSTRALIA

Commodity		1966	1967p	1967p				
				August	September	October	November	December
METALLIC MINERALS AND METALS (a)								
Non-ferrous -								
Aluminium (b) -								
Refined	tons	16,210	10,506	901	206	495	578	225
aluminium	\$'000	7,050	4,930	414	96	245	285	115
Copper -								
Concentrates	tons	47,455	44,926	..	6,838	1,477	4,701	5,944
	\$'000	9,603	9,589	..	1,418	278	1,097	1,560
Blister	tons	6,538	6,892	274	778	..	475	893
copper	\$'000	10,787	9,681	351	1,065	..	658	1,326
Refined	tons	7,484	9,324	3,245	..	351	1,700	1,744
copper	\$'000	9,050	8,976	2,874	..	332	1,705	2,070
Lead -								
Concentrates	tons	109,134	123,601	(c)26,510	(c)4,297	33	(c)14,455	(c)10,507
	\$'000	19,369	24,802	(c)4,909	(c)769	1	(c)2,620	(c)2,342
Lead bullion	tons	79,534	100,358	8,751	10,101	6,000	14,702	8,502
	\$'000	21,901	26,841	2,410	2,777	1,547	4,170	2,619
Refined lead	tons	159,465	147,606	10,454	16,826	11,481	12,933	9,660
	\$'000	37,770	30,315	2,170	3,579	2,173	2,659	2,014
Zinc -								
Concentrates	tons	226,561	289,757	27,865	12,798	3,758	21,333	35,790
	\$'000	15,442	19,694	1,724	929	212	1,535	2,346
Refined zinc	tons	119,989	96,896	12,217	4,595	9,360	8,193	4,875
	\$'000	30,886	23,631	2,922	1,095	2,234	1,911	1,146
Tin -								
Concentrates	tons	2,605	3,281	361	237	r321	r301	700
	\$'000	3,574	4,429	569	379	r423	r503	424
Ferrous and alloy -								
Iron -								
Iron ore	tons	2,011,499	8,781,449	864,339	817,739	906,351	918,355	917,349
	\$'000	16,885	73,593	7,481	6,627	r7,501	7,477	7,515
Pig iron	tons	95,590	149,550	16,555	16,930	5,464	31,976	9,060
	\$'000	3,870	6,170	665	686	228	1,277	392
Steel ingots,	tons	347,896	409,633	37,261	24,303	46,853	33,273	5,018
blooms (d)	\$'000	19,789	23,727	2,052	1,371	2,844	1,730	304
Tungsten -								
Scheelite	tons	1,295	1,239	45	61	125	151	75
concentrates	\$'000	2,842	3,332	129	170	331	431	207
Wolfram	tons	520	401	28	17	28	76	32
concentrates	\$'000	1,261	1,105	86	46	81	229	85
Precious -								
Refined gold	'000 f oz	753	561	37	33	73	41	48
	\$'000	23,583	17,401	1,099	1,037	2,299	1,217	1,458
Refined	'000 f oz	346	5,249	493	1,195	324	155	405
silver	\$'000	404	7,173	737	1,889	490	252	646
Mineral sands -								
Titanium -								
Rutile	tons	231,289	255,054	30,121	30,497	20,858	30,291	20,847
concentrates	\$'000	17,844	20,416	2,233	2,408	1,728	2,369	1,651
Ilmenite	tons	356,462	384,271	29,523	20,592	57,041	34,461	28,527
concentrates	\$'000	3,721	3,894	315	205	537	380	274
Zirconium -								
Zircon	tons	210,428	244,605	22,697	22,594	20,342	22,239	25,579
concentrates	\$'000	8,978	10,627	974	1,008	833	911	1,038
FUEL MINERALS								
Black coal	'000 tons	8,326	9,259	702	672	1,078	904	727
	\$'000	65,626	76,255	5,715	5,754	8,690	7,270	5,942

(a) Quantities shown for metallic minerals are gross quantities not metallic contents.

(b) In addition to refined aluminium, significant quantities of alumina and bauxite are exported but details are not available for publication. (c) Includes lead-zinc middlings.

(d) Includes billets and coils for re-rolling.

Table 4 shows details for selected metals of the estimated metallic contents of ores and concentrates exported, based on chemical assay data. The metallic contents of intermediate metallurgical products and slags and residues are excluded from this table.

**TABLE 4 - PRINCIPAL METALLIC CONTENTS OF SELECTED ORES AND CONCENTRATES
EXPORTED : AUSTRALIA (a)**

Particulars	Estimated metallic contents						
	Copper	Lead	Zinc	Tin	Tungstic oxide	Gold	Silver
	- tons -					- oz -	
Year - 1964	14,109	74,653	123,845	252	1,333	47,361	2,894,575
1965	10,971	77,083	111,573	634	1,327	49,844	2,731,213
1966p	11,710	72,200	110,166	1,285	1,240	47,195	2,590,259
1967p - March Quarter	1,758	22,772	48,745	343	1,102	9,040	790,175
June "	2,211	20,744	37,398	322	271	12,706	666,126
Sept. "	4,538	27,543	41,800	426	285	10,449	697,594
October	360	6	1,939	157	105	..	1,485
November	1,105	10,941	11,855	182	158	4,044	242,314
November 1967p							
Copper concentrates	1,096	..	..	..	..	3,800	14,083
Lead concentrates	9	10,728	762	..	..	244	219,698
Zinc concentrates	..	213	11,093	..	..	..	8,533
Tin concentrates	..	..	..	182	..	..	..
Wolfram concentrates	..	..	..	..	55	..	..
Scheelite concentrates	..	..	..	..	103	..	..
TOTAL	1,105	10,941	11,855	182	158	4,044	242,314

(a) Details of metallic contents for December 1967 for which quantities and values are shown in Table 3 are not yet available.

TABLE 5 - IMPORTS OF SELECTED MINERALS AND MINERAL PRODUCTS : AUSTRALIA

Commodity		1966	1967 p	1967 p				
				Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
METALS								
Refined tin	tons	203	692	2	15	14	10	5
	\$ '000	661	2,066	6	45	42	30	15
Nickel - pigs	tons	973	1,389	133	113	134	1102	51
anodes etc.	\$ '000	1,585	2,886	300	234	291	183	126
Ferro-alloys	tons	20,007	23,497	1,093	4,092	995	1,875	3,955
	\$ '000	4,495	6,691	238	1,408	283	495	1,434
FUEL MINERALS								
Crude petroleum (a)	mill gal	4,616	5,036	391	447	465	512	346
	\$ '000	201,922	211,039	16,246	18,101	19,440	20,848	14,526
NON-METALLIC MINERALS								
Asbestos	short tons	55,152	52,702	3,818	5,034	4,353	6,576	3,565
	\$ '000	6,437	6,448	493	619	570	875	366
Phosphate rock	'000 tons	3,286	3,265	259	328	292	332	221
	\$ '000	27,479	30,355	2,554	3,035	3,030	3,262	2,061
Sulphur	tons	434,045	513,963	52,064	61,791	42,392	44,781	35,843
	\$ '000	11,930	17,296	1,737	2,160	1,557	1,542	1,245
Industrial diamonds	carats	445,616	525,051	53,516	47,729	39,981	41,987	47,364
	\$ '000	1,696	1,980	220	178	160	145	169
Potassium fertilisers	tons	90,266	114,067	5,727	9,661	844	16,787	12,781
	\$ '000	2,968	3,743	222	381	35	551	311

(a) Includes enriched crudes and other refinery feedstock.

PRICES

In Tables 6 and 7 prices are shown for selected metals and minerals in Australia and overseas markets.

TABLE 6. - AVERAGE DAILY PRICES OF SELECTED METALS (a) : AUSTRALIAN AND OVERSEAS MARKETS

Metal Market	Copper			Lead			Zinc			
	Aust. \$A- ton	L.M.E. ton	Prod. Estg- ton	Aust. \$A- ton	L.M.E. ton	U.S.A. US.c- lb	Aust. \$A- ton	L.M.E. ton	Prod. Estg- ton	U.S.A. US.c- lb
Unit										
Price basis (b)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Year - 1965	985.1	468.8	281.9	281.1	115.0	16.00	286.0	112.9	110.0	14.50
1966	960.4	553.7	n.a.	248.8	95.2	15.12	270.5	102.0	103.3	14.50
1967	1043.0	404.0	n.a.	217.5	83.8	14.00	260.7	100.5	101.9	13.86
Highest 1967	1250.0	606.8	n.a.	225.0	95.4	14.00	266.0	113.7	114.3	14.50
Lowest 1967	950.0	346.5	n.a.	210.0	78.1	14.00	256.0	94.6	98.0	13.50
Month - 1966 December	1150.0	440.3	)	(225.0	81.4	14.00	266.0	103.6	102.0	14.50
1967 January	1150.0	450.8	)	(225.0	79.9	14.00	266.0	101.4	102.0	14.50
February	1150.0	442.4	)	(225.0	80.5	14.00	266.0	102.4	102.0	14.50
March	1097.6	398.1	)	(225.0	82.9	14.00	266.0	101.4	102.0	14.50
April	970.0	360.6	)	(225.0	82.2	14.00	266.0	98.7	102.0	14.50
May	950.0	375.4	)	(225.0	82.9	14.00	266.0	99.9	102.0	13.67
June	950.0	368.1	) (c)	(225.0	82.8	14.00	262.8	99.6	101.0	13.60
July	950.0	361.6	)	(210.0	83.9	14.00	256.0	97.0	98.0	13.50
August	950.0	378.7	)	(210.0	84.5	14.00	256.0	97.1	98.0	13.50
September	954.8	384.4	)	(210.0	82.4	14.00	256.0	96.0	98.0	13.50
October	1000.0	412.8	)	(210.0	82.0	14.00	256.0	95.8	98.0	13.50
November	1204.6	523.5	)	(210.0	87.8	14.00	256.0	104.2	104.2	13.50
December	1250.0	560.1	)	(210.0	94.2	14.00	256.0	112.7	114.3	13.50

Metal Market	Aluminium		Aust. \$A- ton	Tin		Nickel	Gold		Silver
	Aust. \$A- ton	U.S.A. US.c- lb		L.M.E. ton	Strait \$Mal- picul		Aust. \$A- f oz	U.K. Estg- f oz	
Unit									
Price basis (b)	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Year - 1965	516.2	24.5	3628.9	1412.7	702.8	642	31.25	12.56	111.6
1966	520.0	24.5	3869.1	1295.8	645.3	642	31.25	12.59	111.8
1967	520.0	25.0	3113.7	1222.9	600.1	737	31.25	12.84	142.0
Highest 1967	520.0	25.0	3270.0	1369.5	632.5	902	31.25	14.66	221.0
Lowest 1967	520.0	24.8	2989.0	1180.5	572.5	702	31.25	12.56	111.5
Month - 1966 December	520.0	24.5	3143.5	1210.0	604.5	702	31.25	12.61	112.0
1967 January	520.0	24.8	3122.7	1198.5	600.4	702	31.25	12.61	111.9
February	520.0	25.0	3131.2	1201.1	603.2	702	31.25	12.59	111.8
March	520.0	25.0	3125.6	1203.8	602.0	702	31.25	12.57	111.7
April	520.0	25.0	3132.3	1216.2	604.3	702	31.25	12.57	111.5
May	520.0	25.0	3129.3	1218.7	604.1	702	31.25	12.58	118.8
June	520.0	25.0	3160.5	1221.9	609.3	702	31.25	12.60	145.3
July	520.0	25.0	3155.0	1220.2	609.3	702	31.25	12.62	150.9
August	520.0	25.0	3115.0	1194.5	601.3	702	31.25	12.63	151.3
September	520.0	25.0	3074.0	1185.4	593.2	774	31.25	12.64	145.9
October	520.0	25.0	3082.4	1190.5	595.1	774	31.25	12.65	154.5
November	520.0	25.0	3103.3	1273.1	597.5	774	31.25	13.37	181.0
December	520.0	25.0	3032.8	1351.4	581.5	902	31.25	14.62	209.3

(a) Where a daily market does not actually exist for a commodity, daily prices have been imputed from price data which are available. (b) The numerals in the "Price basis" column are reference numbers which relate to detailed price specifications set out in Appendix A. (c) Price quotations discontinued due to multiplicity of producer prices from April 1966 onwards.

TABLE 7. - PRICES OF SELECTED ORES AND CONCENTRATES (a) : AUSTRALIAN AND OVERSEAS MARKETS

Mineral	Tin		Wolfram		Rutile		Ilmenite		Zircon	
Market	Aust.	U.K.	Aust.	U.K.	Aust.	U.K.	Aust.	U.K.	Aust.	U.K.
Unit	\$A- l.t.u.	£stg- l.t.u.	\$A- ton	£stg- ton	\$A- ton	£stg- ton	\$A- ton	£stg- ton	\$A- ton	£stg- ton
Price basis (b)	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
Year - 1965	31.45	10.38-10.88	78-82	37-38	8-10	7.25-7.5	46-50	20-22		
1966	29.07	14.41-15.21	92-96	43.68-45.04	8-10	7-7.25	49-54	27-28		
1967	26.80	17.38-18.04	92-96	43.78-44.92	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
Highest 1967	27.43	20.13-20.88	92-96	47.88-49.25	9-10	7-7.25	47-51	28-30		
Lowest 1967	25.94	15.75-16.50	92-96	43.00-43.75	8-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
Month - 1966 December	27.03	14.50-15.50	92-96	43.75-45.00	8-10	7-7.25	47-51	25-27		
1967 January	26.88	16.50-17.00	92-96	43.75-45.00	8-10	7-7.25	47-51	25-27		
February	26.83	17.63-18.13	92-96	43.75-45.00	8-10	7-7.25	47-51	25-27		
March	27.04	17.63-18.13	92-96	43.75-45.00	8-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
April	26.84	16.50-17.50	92-96	43.75-45.00	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
May	26.95	16.25-17.00	92-96	43.75-45.00	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
June	27.07	17.75-18.25	92-96	43.75-45.00	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
July	27.25	18.25-18.88	92-96	43.00-43.75	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
August	27.05	18.25-18.75	92-96	43.00-43.75	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
September	26.59	15.75-16.50	92-96	43.00-44.75	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
October	26.46	17.00-17.63	92-96	43.00-43.75	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
November	26.64	16.88-17.88	92-96	43.00-43.75	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	25-26		
December	25.94	20.13-20.88	92-96	47.88-49.25	9-10	7-7.25	46-50	28-30		

(a) Prices refer to the first trading day of the period indicated except for quotations of lowest and highest prices. (b) See footnote (b) to Table 6.

Price indexes relevant to the Australian mineral industry are shown in Table 8. Brief notes on these indexes are given in Appendix B.

TABLE 8. - WHOLESALE AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index (Base : Average of three years ended June 1932 = 100)			Export Price Index (Base : Year 1959-60 = 100)		
	Metals and coal	Metals	Total basic materials	Metals and coal	Gold	All groups
Year - 1965	394	485	349	122	101	103
1966	392	484	361	122	101	108
1967	p396	495	p360			
Month - 1966 December	398	501	363	116	101	p104
1967 January	400	501	363	114	101	p103
February	400	501	362	115	101	p105
March	398	501	362	116	101	p103
April	397	499	361	115	101	p103
May	395	492	361	113	101	p104
June	395	492	358	116	101	p103
July	394	490	358	116	101	p102
August	394	490	358	117	101	p99
September	394	489	360	117	101	p99
October	p394	490	p360	117	101	p101
November	p395	492	p360	116	101	p99
December	p398	501	p360			

GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS

Details of Commonwealth Government assistance to the mineral industry are given on pages 1071 - 1074 of Official Year Book No. 53. Table 9 below shows payments by the Commonwealth Government under specified Acts of Parliament to mining and mineral processing industries in Australia.

TABLE 9. - COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS TO THE MINERAL INDUSTRY : AUSTRALIA

(\$'000)

Period	Petroleum exploration (a)	Gold mining (b)	Pyrites mining (c)	Sulphuric acid production (d)	Phosphate fertiliser production (e)
Year - 1965	10,413	1,985	1,114	2,139	22,605
1966	10,155	3,759	288	1,398	25,818
1967	10,312	3,859	46	1,382	25,544
Latest 3 months	2,297	1,773	..	282	2,989
Same 3 months previous year	1,823	1,554	47	304	3,889
Month - 1966 December	913	713	15	76	1,731
1967 January	399	92	40	31	2,747
February	230	346	6	214	3,648
March	873	56	..	23	4,298
April	714	311	..	51	4,032
May	1,413	438	..	267	4,004
June	3,835	118	..	295	1,727
July	41	709	..	..	645
August	199	10	..	151	654
September	312	6	..	69	800
October	843	115	..	211	905
November	463	1,136	..	72	1,215
December	992	522	..	..	869

(a) Petroleum Search Subsidy Act 1959-1964. (b) Gold-Mining Industry Assistance Act 1954-1966 and Gold Mines Development Assistance Act 1962 (expired 30 June 1965).

(c) Pyrites Bounty Act 1960-1965. (d) Sulphuric Acid Bounty Act 1954-1966.

(e) Phosphate Fertilizers Bounty Act 1963-1966.

The Copper Bounty Act 1958-1966 ceased to operate from 31 December 1966. The last payment made under this Act was in April 1966. For details of payments made in earlier years see the November-December 1966 issue of this bulletin.

K. M. ARCHER
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600.

16 APRIL 1968

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 Extension 2278 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

APPENDIX A : PRICE BASIS (TABLES 6 AND 7)Reference
number

1. Refined electrolytic copper, ex smelter Port Kembla; includes allowance for the following surcharges imposed by the Imported Copper Pool -

From	1 July	1964	\$ 56 per ton
	1 October	1964	\$112 per ton
	20 November	1964	\$280 per ton
	1 January	1965	\$448 per ton
	4 May	1965	\$378 per ton
	2 August	1965	\$ 56 per ton
- The surcharge was eliminated as from 1 October 1965
2. Refined electrolytic copper wirebars, London Metal Exchange (L.M.E.) warehouse, mid-day cash price, average of buyers' and sellers' quotes, London Metal Exchange.
3. Refined electrolytic copper wirebars, c.i.f. Europe, Zambian producers' price.
4. Refined soft pig lead, f.o.b. Port Pirie.
5. Refined soft pig lead, L.M.E. warehouse, mid-day cash price, average of buyers' and sellers' quotes, London Metal Exchange.
6. Refined soft pig lead, ex-warehouse, mid-day New York.
7. Zinc, good ordinary brand (g.o.b.) grade, f.o.r. Cockle Creek.
8. Zinc, g.o.b. grade, L.M.E. warehouse, mid-day cash price, average of buyers' and sellers' quotes, London Metal Exchange.
9. Zinc, g.o.b. grade, producers' base price.
10. Zinc, Prime Western, f.o.b. East St Louis.
11. Refined aluminium, 99.5%, domestic, 1-20K ingots, c.i.f. capital cities.
12. Refined aluminium, min. 99.5% domestic, delivered.
13. Refined tin, domestic, 5 ton lots, ex-works or delivered buyer's premises.
14. Refined tin, L.M.E. warehouse, mid-day cash price, average of buyers' and sellers' quotes, London Metal Exchange.
15. Refined tin, ex-works, Penang. (A picul is 133-1/3 lb).
16. Refined nickel, delivered.
17. Reserve Bank official price.
18. Refined gold, spot, London open market.
19. Refined silver, spot, London.
20. Concentrates, per long ton unit (l.t.u.) of contained tin, 70% Sn grade, delivered Sydney.
21. Concentrates, per long ton unit of WO_3 content, 65% WO_3 grade, standard quality, c.i.f. Europe.
22. Concentrates, 95-97% TiO_2 , f.o.b. nominal.

23. Concentrates, 95-97% TiO_2 , Australian Origin, c.i.f. Europe.
24. Concentrates, 52-54% TiO_2 , f.o.b. Bunbury, nominal.
25. Concentrates, 52-54% TiO_2 , Malaysian origin, c.i.f. Europe.
26. Concentrates, standard grade, minimum 65.2% ZrO_2 , f.o.b. nominal.
27. Concentrates, 66-67% ZrO_2 , c.i.f. Europe.

NOTE: \$A1 is equivalent to \$US1.12
 Estg1 is equivalent to \$A2.14; prior to 18 November 1967 \$A2.50
 \$A1 is equivalent to \$Mal. 3.4

APPENDIX B : PRICE INDEXES (TABLE 8)

Wholesale Price Index

1. The base of each index is -
 Average of three years ended June 1939 = 100
2. The metals and coal group is composed of the following commodities -
 Aluminium, iron and steel, briquettes, copper wirebars, coal, soft pig lead, tin ingots, and zinc ingots.
3. The metals group consists of the metals listed in para. 2 (coal and briquettes are excluded).
4. The total basic materials group includes metals and coal, oils, fats and waxes, textiles, chemicals, rubber and hides, and building materials.
5. The construction of the index is shown and the quantity multipliers (weights) included are listed in the latest issue of the Labour Report published by this Bureau (No. 51, 1964 - See Chapter II - Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes).

Export Price Index

1. The base of each index is -
 Year 1959-60 = 100
2. The metals and coal groups is composed of the following commodities -
 Coal, iron and steel, copper, zinc, lead, silver.
3. The all groups index includes wool, meats, dairy produce, cereals, dried and canned fruit, sugar, hides and tallow, metals and coal, and gold.
4. The construction of the index is shown and commodities included are listed with their percentage contribution to the all groups index in Official Year Book No. 53, 1967 page 310.