

**IMPORT ORDERS
OUTSTANDING FOR
SELECTED COMMODITIES,
AUSTRALIA
CATALOGUE NO. 5417.0**

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CANBERRA

Reference No. 8.29

NOON 4 AUGUST 1977

INQUIRIES

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· ring Mr B. Donaghue, Canberra 525710 or our State office, or
· write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616
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IMPORT ORDERS OUTSTANDING FOR SELECTED COMMODITIES
JUNE 1977

MAIN FEATURES

	Import orders outstanding expected to be cleared during the 4 months ending October 1977	
	Quantity	
Commodities with current orders in excess of recent clearances		
· knitted net fabrics	1,098,000	sq.m
· curtains	2,378,000	sq.m
· cold rolled uncoated iron or steel sheets and plates	33,700	tonnes
· galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates	34,900	tonnes
· stainless steel hoop, strip, sheets and plates	2,700	tonnes
· air conditioners	38,200	units
· assembled new passenger motor cars including station wagons	36,900	units
· assembled new light commercial – type motor vehicles	15,300	units (*)
Commodities with current orders below level of recent clearances		
· vinyl type sheets, plates, strip, film, etc.	1,038,000	kgs
· acrylic type sheets, plates, strip, film, etc.	928,000	kgs (*)
· tufted and axminster carpets in rolls	1,442,000	sq.m
· coated textile and bonded fibre fabrics	862,000	sq.m
· colour television receivers	156,000	units

(*) Includes orders expected to be cleared after October 1977.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

1. This bulletin provides, for selected commodities, preliminary estimates of the level of *import orders outstanding and not cleared* through Australian Customs at 30 June 1977. For comparative purposes, details of import orders outstanding for previous periods, together with import clearances during recent months, are also shown.

2. The estimates of import orders outstanding and not cleared have been derived from the monthly Survey of Import Orders, through which information is supplied by either complete collections or stratified random samples of enterprises engaged in importing the selected commodities. The Survey is designed to facilitate short term predictions of significant changes in the level of future imports for selected commodities. The individual commodities covered in this bulletin were chosen in consultation with appropriate Government authorities and are subject to change from time to time, as circumstances change.

3. The selected commodities listed are NOT intended to represent all commodities imported; consequently, movements in the figures for these commodities should not be taken as being indicative of the general trend of imports.

4. These statistics exclude all goods imported duty-free under Customs by-law provisions, including government imports, and certain other goods such as goods entered under security for re-export or re-imported after repair overseas.

5. Estimates of import orders outstanding and not cleared will probably differ from future actual import clearances, due to:
· new orders being placed and expected to be cleared within the particular time period;
· new orders having been placed by new or casual importers;
· orders being cancelled or revised at any stage.

Description of terms

6. *Imports cleared* - Goods cleared through Australian Customs for home consumption (either directly on arrival in Australia or from Customs bond). Details of clearances shown in this bulletin may differ from the ABS's official statistics on imports cleared for home consumption because they have been adjusted to exclude various categories of imports as listed in paragraph 4 above.

7. *Import orders outstanding and not cleared* - The aggregate of firm orders placed overseas for goods that are expected to be cleared through Australian Customs any time after the date specified; after allowance for cancellations, and including imports landed but held in Customs bond.

Precision of the estimates

8. Estimates for those commodities denoted in the tables by (b) have been derived from information supplied by a *sample* of enterprises; consequently they may differ from the results which would have been obtained by a complete collection. A measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error of each estimate. There are about 2 chances in 3 that a sample estimate will differ from the results which would be obtained from a complete collection by less than 1 standard error, and 19 chances in 20 that the difference would be less than 2 standard errors. The standard error

associated with the estimates of total import orders outstanding for each particular commodity is approximately 2 per cent. This means, for example, that for the June 1977 estimate of total import orders outstanding of 44,500 passenger motor cars there are 2 chances in 3 that a complete collection would give an estimate in the range of approximately 43,600 cars to 45,400 cars and 19 chances in 20 that the estimate would be in the range of 42,700 cars to 46,300 cars.

9. Sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by businesses. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error, and they can occur in any enumeration whether it is a complete collection or a sample.

Commodities

10. The selected commodities for which statistics are shown in this bulletin are listed below, together with their definitions in terms of the Tariff Items/Statistical Keys of the Australian Customs Tariff.

ABS publications

11. All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Publications of the Australian Bureau of Statistics* (Reference No. 1.8) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

COMMODITY	TARIFF ITEM(S)/STATISTICAL KEY(S)
Vinyl type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil	39.02.400.017/.028/.039/.04X/.050/.12X/.130/.108/.119, 39.02.520.011/.022/.033/.317/.328/.339/.34X/.237/.248/.18X/.190/.259/.26X/.215/.226
Acrylic type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil	39.02.800.030/.041/.10X/.110
Tufted and axminster carpets in rolls	58.02.510, 58.02.590, 58.02.610, 58.02.690
Coated textile and bonded fibre fabrics	59.03.190.162/.173, 59.08.100.108/.119, 59.08.200.2D/.7M/.8N/.5J/.6K
Knitted net fabrics	60.01.910.107/.118/.129
Curtains	60.05.900.12X/.130, 62.02.700.013/.024
Cold rolled uncoated iron or steel sheets and plates	73.13.100.113/.135/.157/.179
Galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates	73.13.300.136/.17X/.180/.191/.205 and part of stat. keys .158 and .169
Stainless steel hoop, strip, sheets and plates	73.15.300
Air conditioners; portable or fixed window type	84.12.000.050/.061
Refrigerators for domestic use, over 200 litres internal capacity	84.15.211.015/.026, 84.15.219.014/.025, 84.15.221.01X, 84.15.229.019
Tumble type clothes dryers; assembled	84.40.211.015, 84.40.219.014
Washing machines for domestic use; assembled	84.40.221.020/.031/.042/.053, 84.40.229.02X/.030/.041/.052
Precision ground steel ball bearings	84.62.200.207/.218/.229
Television receivers, colour; complete, screen not exceeding 49cm	85.15.100.494
Television receivers, colour; complete, screen exceeding 49 cm but not exceeding 53 cm	85.15.100.519
Television receivers, colour; complete, screen exceeding 53 cm	85.15.100.530
Passenger motor cars including station wagons; new, assembled	87.02.210.097
Commercial-type motor vehicles less than 2.72 tonnes gross vehicle weight (excl. four-wheel drive vehicles); new, assembled	87.02.210.053, 87.02.310
Four-wheel drive motor vehicles less than 2.72 tonnes gross vehicle weight; new, assembled	87.02.390 part of stat. key .237

TABLE 1. IMPORT ORDERS FOR SELECTED COMMODITIES - OUTSTANDING AND NOT CLEARED AT 30 JUNE 1977 (PRELIMINARY)

Import orders outstanding and not cleared at 30 June 1977				
Expected by importers to be cleared				
Commodity (a)	Unit of quantity	Between 1 July and 31 October 1977	Beyond 31 October 1977	Total orders outstanding
Vinyl type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil (b)	kg	1,038,000	188,000	1,226,000
Acrylic type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil (b)	kg	n.a.	n.a.	928,000
Tufted and axminster carpets in rolls (b)	sq.m	1,442,000	217,000	1,659,000
Coated textile and bonded fibre fabrics (b)	sq.m	862,000	56,000	918,000
Knitted net fabrics (b)	sq.m	1,098,000	222,000	1,320,000
Curtaons (b)	sq.m	2,378,000	533,000	2,911,000
Cold rolled uncoated iron or steel sheets and plates	tonne	33,700	6,400	40,100
Galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates	tonne	34,900	n.a.	n.a.
Stainless steel hoop, strip, sheets and plates	tonne	2,700	450	3,150
Air conditioners; portable or fixed window type	no.	38,200	1,800	40,000
Television receivers, colour; complete				
. screen not exceeding 49 cm	no.	76,000	15,000	91,000
. screen exceeding 49 cm but not exceeding 53 cm	no.	60,000	16,000	76,000
. screen exceeding 53 cm	no.	20,000	29,000	49,000
Total	no.	156,000	60,000	216,000
Passenger motor cars including station wagons; new, assembled (b)(c)				
. from Japan	no.	n.a.	n.a.	32,100
. from other countries	no.	n.a.	n.a.	12,400
Total	no.	36,900	7,600	44,500
Commercial-type motor vehicles less than 2.72 tonnes gross vehicle weight; new, assembled (d)				
. four-wheel drive	no.	n.a.	n.a.	6,400
. other	no.	n.a.	n.a.	8,900
Total	no.	n.a.	n.a.	15,300

(a) Tariff items/statistical keys are shown in the Explanatory Notes, page 2. (b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 8. (c) At the end of June 1977 there were 2,300 light commercial-type motor vehicles held in Customs bond. (d) At the end of June 1977 there were 2,300 light commercial-type motor vehicles held in Customs bond.

n.a. not available.

TABLE 1. IMPORT ORDERS FOR SELECTED COMMODITIES - OUTSTANDING AND NOT CLEARED AT 30 JUNE 1977 (PRELIMINARY)

Commodity (a)	Unit of quantity	Imports orders outstanding and not cleared at 30 June 1977				
		Expected by importers to be cleared		Total orders outstanding	Imports cleared in recent periods	
		Between 1 July and 31 October 1977	Beyond 31 October 1977		May 1977	Four months ended May 1977
Vinyl type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil (b)	kg	1,038,000	188,000	1,226,000	366,000	1,504,000
Acrylic type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil (b)	kg	n.a.	n.a.	928,000	389,000	1,632,000
Tufted and axminster carpets in rolls (b)	sq.m	1,442,000	217,000	1,659,000	601,000	2,090,000
Coated textile and bonded fibre fabrics (b)	sq.m	862,000	56,000	918,000	318,000	1,186,000
Knitted net fabrics (b)	sq.m	1,098,000	222,000	1,320,000	178,000	741,000
Curtains (b)	sq.m	2,378,000	533,000	2,911,000	326,000	1,380,000
Cold rolled uncoated iron or steel sheets and plates	tonne	33,700	6,400	40,100	8,000	32,500
Galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates	tonne	34,900	n.a.	n.a.	10,100	21,800
Stainless steel hoop, strip, sheets and plates	tonne	2,700	450	3,150	450	2,550
Air conditioners; portable or fixed window type	no.	38,200	1,800	40,000	950	4,150
Television receivers, colour; complete						
. screen not exceeding 49 cm	no.	76,000	15,000	91,000	19,300	102,000
. screen exceeding 49 cm but not exceeding 53 cm	no.	60,000	16,000	76,000	2,300	31,000
. screen exceeding 53 cm	no.	20,000	29,000	49,000	2,100	23,000
Total	no.	156,000	60,000	216,000	23,700	156,000
Passenger motor cars including station wagons; new, assembled (b)(c)						
. from Japan	no.	n.a.	n.a.	32,100	6,900	27,600
. from other countries	no.	n.a.	n.a.	12,400	1,900	7,500
Total	no.	36,900	7,600	44,500	8,800	35,200
Commercial-type motor vehicles less than 2.72 tonnes gross vehicle weight; new, assembled (d)						
. four-wheel drive	no.	n.a.	n.a.	6,400	n.a.	n.a.
. other	no.	n.a.	n.a.	8,900	1,350	7,550
Total	no.	n.a.	n.a.	15,300	n.a.	n.a.

(a) Tariff items/statistical keys are shown in the Explanatory Notes, page 1. (b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 8. (c) At the end of June 1977 there were 5,200 cars held in Customs bond. (d) At the end of June 1977 there were 2,300 light commercial-type motor vehicles held in Customs bond.

n.a. not available.

TABLE 2. IMPORT ORDERS FOR SELECTED COMMODITIES - OUTSTANDING AND NOT CLEARED AT 31 MAY 1977 (REVISED)

Commodity (a)	Unit of quantity	Import orders outstanding and not cleared at 31 May 1977			Imports cleared in recent periods	
		Expected by importers to be cleared			May 1977	Four months ended May 1977
		Between 1 June and 30 September 1977	Beyond 30 September 1977	Total orders outstanding		
Vinyl type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil (b)	kg	876,000	199,000	1,075,000	366,000	1,504,000
Acrylic type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil (b)	kg	n.a.	n.a.	855,000	389,000	1,632,000
Tufted and axminster carpets in rolls (b)	sq.m	1,603,000	142,000	1,745,000	601,000	2,090,000
Coated textile and bonded fibre fabrics (b)	sq.m	715,000	29,000	744,000	318,000	1,186,000
Knitted net fabrics (b)	sq.m	1,102,000	258,000	1,360,000	178,000	741,000
Curtains (b)	sq.m	1,960,000	695,000	2,655,000	326,000	1,380,000
Galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates	tonne	29,800	7,300	37,100	10,100	21,000
Air conditioners; portable or fixed window type	no.	n.a.	n.a.	35,400	950	4,150
Refrigerators for domestic use and over 200 litres internal capacity	no.	14,900	5,200	20,100	3,450	15,000
Tumble type clothes dryers; assembled	no.	n.a.	n.a.	35,700	10,300	19,700
Washing machines for domestic use; assembled	no.	39,900	10,700	50,600	8,550	53,700
Precision ground steel ball bearings (b)	no.	1,617,000	735,000	2,352,000	210,000	1,140,000
Television receivers, colour; complete						
screen not exceeding 49 cm	no.	82,000	19,000	101,000	19,300	102,000
screen exceeding 49 cm but not exceeding 53 cm	no.	71,000	15,000	86,000	2,300	31,000
screen exceeding 53 cm	no.	19,000	32,000	51,000	2,100	23,000
Total	no.	172,000	66,000	238,000	23,700	156,000
Passenger motor cars including station wagons; new, assembled (b)(c)						
from Japan	no.	n.a.	n.a.	33,100	6,900	27,600
from other countries	no.	n.a.	n.a.	13,600	1,900	7,600
Total	no.	38,700	8,000	46,700	8,800	35,200
Commercial-type motor vehicles less than 2.72 tonnes gross vehicle weight; new, assembled (d)						
four-wheel drive	no.	n.a.	n.a.	6,900	n.a.	n.a.
other	no.	n.a.	n.a.	9,800	1,350	7,550
Total	no.	n.a.	n.a.	16,700	n.a.	n.a.

(a) Tariff items/statistical keys are shown in the Explanatory Notes, page 2. (b) See Explanatory Notes paragraph 8. (c) At the end of May 1977 there were 4,750 cars held in Customs bond. (d) At the end of May 1977 there were 2,300 light commercial-type motor vehicles held in Customs bond.

n.a. not available.

TABLE 3. IMPORT ORDERS FOR SELECTED COMMODITIES - OUTSTANDING AND NOT CLEARED, JANUARY 1977 TO JUNE 1977

Commodity (a)	Unit of quantity	1977					
		January	February	March	April	May r	June p
Vinyl type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil (b)(d)	kg	1,118,000	1,083,000	1,128,000	1,199,000	1,075,000	1,226,000
Acrylic type sheets, plates, strip, film, roll film and foil (b)	kg	1,167,000	1,304,000	915,000	1,021,000	855,000	928,000
Tufted and axminster carpets in rolls (b)	sq.m	1,751,000	1,857,000	1,784,000	1,962,000	1,745,000	1,659,000
Coated textile and bonded fibre fabrics (b)	sq.m	855,000	767,000	1,803,000	1,796,000	744,000	918,000
Knitted net fabrics (b)	sq.m					1,360,000	1,320,000
Curtains (b)	sq.m					2,655,000	2,911,000
Cold rolled uncoated iron or steel sheets and plates	tonne		40,100	(c)	(e)43,500	(c)	40,100
Galvanised iron or steel sheets and plates	tonne	27,000	34,000	41,700	41,100	37,100	(e)34,900
Stainless steel hoop, strip, sheets and plates	tonne	3,000	2,550	(c)	2,700	(c)	3,150
Air conditioners; portable or fixed window type	no.					35,400	40,000
Refrigerators for domestic use and over 200 litres internal capacity	no.	(f)16,100	(c)	19,900	(c)	20,100	(c)
Tumble type clothes dryers; assembled	no.			43,900	(c)	35,700	(c)
Washing machines for domestic use; assembled	no.	(f)55,100	(c)	62,500	(c)	50,600	(c)
Precision ground steel ball bearings (b)	no.	2,403,000	(c)	2,653,000	(c)	2,352,000	(c)
Television receivers, colour; complete	no.						
screen not exceeding 49 cm	no.	1144,000	1123,000	1195,000	1193,000	101,000	91,000
screen exceeding 49 cm but not exceeding 53 cm	no.	1193,000	1189,000	1182,000	1176,000	86,000	76,000
screen exceeding 53 cm	no.	76,000	73,000	63,000	55,000	51,000	49,000
Total	no.	1313,000	1285,000	240,000	224,000	238,000	216,000
Passenger motor cars including station wagons; new, assembled (b)							
from Japan	no.	22,600	28,000	28,300	31,400	33,100	32,100
from other countries	no.	15,700	16,300	15,200	14,400	13,600	12,400
Total	no.	38,300	44,300	43,500	45,800	46,700	44,500
Commercial-type motor vehicles less than 2.72 tonnes gross vehicle weight; new, assembled							
four-wheel drive	no.	6,300	7,400	6,800	6,900	6,900	6,400
other	no.	10,100	10,600	10,500	9,400	9,800	8,900
Total	no.	16,400	18,000	17,300	16,300	16,700	15,300

(a) Tariff items/statistical keys are shown in the Explanatory Notes, page 2. (b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 8. (c) This commodity is surveyed in alternate months. (d) Tariff items/statistical keys for this commodity were changed in February 1977 by the inclusion of 39.02.520.317/328/339/34X and the exclusion of 39.02.400.083/094. (e) Includes only orders expected to be cleared in the subsequent four months. (f) Includes only goods attracting duty at rates in excess of quotas.

r - revised. p - preliminary.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician