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EXPORT PRICE INDEX, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER 1982

16 NOV 1982

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- MAIL INQUIRIES *write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.*

MAIN FEATURES

The All Groups index rose by 1.0% in September 1982.

The most significant price increases were for beef, iron ore, coal, alumina and lead and lead alloys

The All Groups index increased by 7.5% between September 1981 and September 1982.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

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 2 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 3 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 *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (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 values 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. All index numbers for the current month and the previous month are preliminary and subject to revision.

Percentage changes

11. Table 1 shows percentage changes for the 'All groups' index and for AECC Sections and ASIC Divisions. The following example illustrates the method of calculating percentage changes:

All groups

September 1982	200 (see Table 1)
less August 1982	198 (see Table 1)
Change in index points	+2

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{+2}{198} \times 100 = +1.0$$

Related publications

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

- Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (6412.0)—issued monthly
- Price Index of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (6411.0)—issued monthly
- Exports and Imports of Merchandise at Constant Prices, Australia* (5421.0)—issued quarterly
- Exports by Commodity Divisions, Australia (Preliminary)* (5402.0)—issued monthly

13. 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
- nil or rounded to zero

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Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. EXPORT PRICE INDEX—BROAD GROUPS

	AECC SECTIONS					ASIC DIVISIONS			
	All groups	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 (Base of each index : Year 1974-75 = 100)									
1979-80	174	145	191	198	169	188	137	180	190
1980-81	185	162	202	217	145	181	150	191	199
1981-82	187	147	219	247	139	178	153	221	191
1981-82—									
August	186	151	213	236	138	179	154	209	192
September	186	151	213	240	140	179	154	212	191
October	185	149	213	240	139	179	153	212	190
November	185	147	213	242	140	179	151	215	189
December	184	146	214	243	140	174	150	215	187
January	185	144	217	247	140	176	150	219	188
February	186	145	219	250	140	177	150	220	190
March	187	144	223	252	138	177	151	223	191
April	189	145	226	256	137	177	154	227	191
May	193	146	234	260	138	177	155	240	192
June	195	147	237	268	139	178	155	247	193
1982-83—									
July	195	144	239	274	137	178	155	252	192
August p	198	145	240	281	130	182	154	258	194
September p	200	146	243	285	133	186	153	263	197
PERCENTAGE CHANGES									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Change from previous year									
1979-80	+20.8	+21.8	+17.9	+16.5	+7.6	+28.8	+20.2	+10.4	+26.7
1980-81	+6.3	+11.7	+5.8	+9.6	-14.2	-3.7	+9.5	+6.1	+4.7
1981-82	+1.1	-9.3	+8.4	+13.8	-4.1	-1.7	+2.0	+15.7	-4.0
Change from corresponding month of previous year									
1981-82—									
August	+2.2	-3.8	+7.0	+12.4	-10.4	-2.2	+5.5	+11.8	-2.5
September	+1.1	-6.8	+8.1	+14.3	-7.9	-3.8	+6.2	+14.0	-5.4
October	—	-9.1	+8.1	+13.7	-2.1	-4.8	+4.8	+13.4	-5.9
November	—	-10.4	+7.0	+13.6	-3.4	-3.8	+3.4	+13.8	-6.9
December	-0.5	-12.6	+7.5	+15.2	-3.4	-4.4	+2.0	+15.0	-7.9
January	-0.5	-13.8	+8.0	+14.9	—	-1.1	-2.6	+17.1	-6.0
February	—	-12.7	+7.9	+15.2	+0.7	—	-3.2	+16.4	-4.5
March	+1.1	-11.1	+8.8	+15.6	+0.7	—	-3.2	+17.4	-3.5
April	+1.6	-9.9	+9.2	+15.8	-2.8	-1.1	-0.6	+17.0	-3.5
May	+3.8	-8.8	+12.5	+13.5	-2.8	—	+0.6	+17.6	-1.5
June	+3.7	-8.1	+12.3	+14.0	-2.1	+0.6	+0.6	+18.8	-1.0
1982-83—									
July	+4.8	-5.9	+13.3	+16.6	-4.2	—	+1.3	+21.2	-0.5
August p	+6.5	-4.0	+12.7	+19.1	-5.8	+1.7	—	+23.4	+1.0
September p	+7.5	-3.3	+14.1	+18.8	-5.0	+3.9	-0.6	+24.1	+3.1
Change from previous month									
1981-82—									
August	—	-1.3	+0.9	+0.4	-3.5	+0.6	+0.7	+0.5	-0.5
September	—	—	—	+1.7	+1.4	—	—	+1.4	-0.5
October	-0.5	-1.3	—	—	-0.7	—	-0.6	—	-0.5
November	—	-1.3	—	+0.8	+0.7	—	-1.3	+1.4	-0.5
December	-0.5	-0.7	+0.5	+0.4	—	-2.8	-0.7	—	-1.1
January	+0.5	-1.4	+1.4	+1.6	—	+1.1	-0.7	+1.9	+0.5
February	+0.5	+0.7	+0.9	+1.2	—	+0.6	—	+0.5	+1.1
March	+0.5	-0.7	+1.8	+0.8	-1.4	—	+0.7	+1.4	+0.5
April	+1.1	-0.7	+1.3	+1.6	-0.7	—	+2.0	+1.8	—
May	+2.1	+0.7	+3.5	+1.6	+0.7	—	+0.6	+5.7	+0.5
June	+1.0	+0.7	+1.3	+3.1	+0.7	+0.6	—	+2.9	+0.5
1982-83—									
July	—	-2.0	+0.8	+2.2	-1.4	—	—	+2.0	-0.5
August p	+1.5	+0.7	+0.4	+2.6	-5.1	+2.2	-0.6	+2.4	+1.0
September p	+1.0	+0.7	+1.3	+1.4	+2.3	+2.2	-0.6	+1.9	+1.5

TABLE 2. INDEX NUMBERS FOR SELECTED DIVISIONS OF AUSTRALIAN EXPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION (AECCL)
(Base of each index : Year 1974-75 = 100)

	<i>Meat and meat preparations (01)</i>	<i>Dairy products and eggs (02)</i>	<i>Fish and fish preparations (03)</i>	<i>Cereals and cereal preparations (04)</i>	<i>Fruit and vegetables (05)</i>	<i>Sugar and sugar preparations (06)</i>	<i>Hides, skins and furskins raw (21)</i>	<i>Textile fibres and their wastes (26)</i>	<i>Metalliferous ores and metal scrap (28)</i>
1979-80	285	123	230	107	184	95	326	181	189
1980-81	274	141	227	121	210	143	231	190	207
1981-82	250	164	254	120	211	92	226	200	231
1981-82—									
August	254	153	237	122	216	105	210	200	221
September	253	156	240	122	214	102	209	200	222
October	252	166	243	122	213	94	211	198	222
November	251	163	243	120	214	91	215	197	223
December	245	164	243	119	213	91	226	196	223
January	242	165	253	118	207	88	228	198	228
February	244	167	258	118	203	88	237	197	231
March	244	170	266	118	203	84	247	199	235
April	249	170	270	118	209	80	245	206	238
May	251	171	276	118	214	81	238	208	251
June	255	176	284	117	215	82	236	208	254
1982-83—									
July	257	173	288	117	221	71	230	208	258
August p	261	182	289	116	222	68	226	206	262
September p	268	183	295	117	225	67	227	205	266

TABLE 2. INDEX NUMBERS FOR SELECTED DIVISIONS OF AUSTRALIAN EXPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION (AEC)—continued
(Base of each index : Year 1974-75 = 100)

	Coal, coke and briquettes (32)	Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials (33)	Animal oils and fats (41)	Manufactures of—		Power generating machinery and equipment (71)	Specialised machinery for particular industries (72)	Road vehicles (78)	Gold (97)
				Iron and steel (67)	Non-ferrous metals (68)				
1979-80	180	241	169	145	255	173	195	166	347
1980-81	189	290	145	142	210	194	211	187	408
1981-82	231	307	139	139	176	214	234	211	290
1981-82—									
August	217	303	138	140	192	207	226	197	309
September	223	302	140	139	190	207	228	199	315
October	223	301	139	137	189	210	228	205	315
November	226	299	140	135	188	212	230	211	302
December	228	298	140	136	170	214	230	212	297
January	233	301	140	137	172	215	231	212	286
February	234	308	140	137	171	217	238	214	284
March	235	313	138	139	168	217	240	218	258
April	240	316	137	140	166	220	242	219	271
May	246	315	138	140	163	220	245	222	261
June	256	320	139	142	160	221	246	222	248
1982-83—									
July	261	325	137	145	158	221	248	225	267
August p	268	329	130	148	164	224	250	226	298
September p	272	332	133	151	170	224	251	233	372

TABLE 3. INDEX NUMBERS FOR SELECTED SUBDIVISIONS OF AUSTRALIAN STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (ASIC)
(Base of each index : Year 1974-75 = 100)

	<i>Metallic minerals (11)</i>	<i>Coal (12)</i>	<i>Food, beverages and tobacco (21)</i>	<i>Textiles (23)</i>	<i>Chemical, petroleum and coal products (27)</i>	<i>Basic metal products (29)</i>	<i>Transport equipment (32)</i>
1979-80	180	180	179	183	231	209	169
1980-81	191	189	190	192	266	204	186
1981-82	212	231	168	201	264	199	206
1981-82—							
August	202	217	172	200	261	203	196
September	204	223	171	200	261	201	196
October	203	223	169	198	260	200	200
November	207	226	168	197	258	198	205
December	206	228	166	197	257	193	205
January	208	233	164	199	260	197	206
February	210	234	165	198	265	199	210
March	214	235	165	200	269	200	213
April	217	240	165	206	270	200	215
May	235	246	166	208	268	200	216
June	240	256	168	208	271	199	216
1982-83—							
July	245	261	164	209	274	200	218
August p	252	268	165	207	283	202	224
September p	256	272	167	206	286	208	229