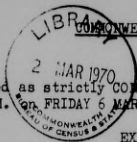


C.S.
338/1305
AUS.
H



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

To be treated as strictly CONFIDENTIAL and NOT to be published, broadcast or cabled before 6 P.M.

EXPORT PRICE INDEX, DECEMBER 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. 55, 1969 (pages 257-260).

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 December 1969, from the preceding month (November 1969) and from the corresponding month of the previous year (December 1968).

TABLE 1. - EXPORT PRICE INDEX NUMBERS - DECEMBER 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
November 1969 and December 1969	+1.4	-18.9	-2.1	+2.1	-8.0	-1.0
December 1968 and December 1969	-13.0	+9.4	+1.4	-6.7	+2.1	+42.6	+32.9	+21.5	-8.0	-2.9

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

Period	Wool	Meats	Dairy produce	Cereals	Dried and canned fruits	Sugar	Hides and tallow	Metals and coal	Gold	All 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	
1968-69	99	p131	72	104	p97	72	73	123	117	p102	
1967-68	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	95	81	64	120	119	101
	August	96	128	73	107	95	86	65	118	107	101
	September	98	128	73	107	95	95	66	120	111	102
	October	102	134	73	106	95	66	66	120	114	104
	November	104	130	72	107	95	53	68	119	112	104
	December	100	p127	72	105	96	54	70	121	112	p102
	January	100	p127	72	103	p97	69	71	121	116	p102
	February	100	p129	72	103	p97	65	74	123	121	p102
	March	98	p128	72	102	p98	66	79	123	122	p101
	April	98	p130	72	101	p99	75	84	127	124	p102
	May	98	p136	72	102	p98	79	86	128	125	p103
	June	96	p144	72	101	p98	78	86	130	121	p103
1969-70	July	92	p150	72	101	p99	86	86	134	119	p102
	August	92	p148	72	99	p99	107	92	137	118	p103
	September	92	p156	72	98	p99	89	95	138	118	p103
	October	89	p149	73	98	p98	111	94	138	117	p102
	November	p87	p139	72	98	p98	95	95	144	112	p100
	December	p87	p139	73	98	p98	77	93	147	p103	p 99

p - preliminary, subject to revision.

This document is published by the Commonwealth Statistician and contains statistics or abstracts thereof compiled and tabulated by the Commonwealth Statistician pursuant to the Census and Statistics Act 1905-1966.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

6 MARCH 1970

J.P. O'NEILL

ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

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.