

## IMPORTS BY COMMODITY DIVISIONS, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mrs Rhoda Jarman on Canberra 525422 or our State offices, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen A.C.T. 2616.

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### MAIN FEATURES

- Imports for August 1979 rose by \$98 m to \$1,325 m an increase of 7.9% compared with July 1979.
- Major contributors to this increase were transport equipment (\$37 m) and manufactured articles (\$32 m).
- In seasonally adjusted terms August 1979 imports were 6.1% higher than in July 1979.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

This publication contains statistics of imports by Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the *Australian Import Commodity Classification* (A.I.C.C.) (1204.0). Statistics for 1978-79 and 1979-80 are preliminary and subject to revision.

2. More detailed figures will be published in the monthly publication *Imports, Australia* (5406.0).

#### Source of data

3. These statistics are compiled by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from information contained in import entries submitted by importers or their agents to the Bureau of Customs as required by the Customs Act.

#### Statistical period

4. Imports are recorded statistically in the month in which the entries are passed by the Bureau of Customs. Normally this is within a few days of discharge of cargo, but entries may be lodged early using the check-to-arrive system.

#### Valuation

5. For imports the recorded value is the value for duty for Customs purposes (VFD). On 1 July 1976, Australia adopted the internationally recognised Brussels Definition of Value (BDV) on a free-on-board (FOB)

basis (i.e. charges and expenses involved in delivering the goods from the place of exportation to the place of introduction in Australia, are excluded). The value for duty is based on the normal price i.e. the price the goods would fetch at the time when duty becomes payable on a sale in the open market between a buyer and a seller independent of each other. In practice, the basis for valuation is generally taken to be the invoice price subject to certain safeguards and adjustments where necessary.

#### Commodity classification

6. From 1 July 1978, imports have been classified according to the new A.I.C.C. which is based on the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 2. A detailed description of the commodity items included in this bulletin is contained in the A.I.C.C.. Copies of or extracts from this classification may be obtained from offices of the ABS in Canberra and in each capital city.

#### Merchandise and non-merchandise imports

7. Total imports are divided into merchandise and non-merchandise in accordance with international standards recommended by the United Nations. Merchandise imports are the equivalent of total imports less certain items specified as non-merchandise. A description of non-merchandise items is contained in the A.I.C.C..

#### Seasonally adjusted statistics

8. In carrying out seasonal adjustment of import statistics account is taken not only of seasonal factors but also of 'trading-day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, etc. in the month) and the influence of Easter, which may affect figures for different months in different years. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting this series are given in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* (1308.0). The statistics may also be subject to large irregular influences which are not removed by seasonal adjustment and may be affected by changes in the composition of imports. For these reasons care should be exercised in interpreting month-to-month movements.

### Revisions to previous figures

9. Where revisions have been made to the previously published figures for earlier months of the current financial year, appropriate adjustments are made to the year-to-date figures shown in this publication. For this reason, monthly figures published in previous issues for the current financial year will not necessarily add to the year-to-date figures shown in the latest issue.

### Related publications

10. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

*Imports of Assembled New Passenger Motor Cars, Australia* (5416.0)  
*Imports, Australia* (5406.0)

*Exports by Commodity Divisions, Australia (Preliminary)* (5402.0)  
*Exports, Australia* (5404.0)  
*Exports and Imports of Merchandise at Constant Prices, Australia* (5421.0)

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

### Symbols and other usages

— nil or less than half the final digit shown  
n.e.s. not elsewhere specified

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R. J. CAMERON  
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. MOVEMENTS IN MAJOR IMPORT COMMODITIES (a)  
% change in value from preceding period

|  | June<br>1979 | July<br>1979 | August<br>1979 | Year Ended<br>August 1979 (b) |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Food and live animals chiefly for food (0)         | -5.8         | +6.7         | +5.1           | +7.1                          |
| Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (2)        | -4.9         | -1.8         | -2.5           | +23.8                         |
| Petroleum, petroleum products, etc. (33)           | +9.5         | +30.7        | +8.5           | +7.3                          |
| Chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (5)         | +9.1         | -5.5         | +2.9           | +21.5                         |
| Paper, paperboard and articles thereof (64)        | -6.0         | +19.1        | -21.5          | +21.1                         |
| Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, etc. (65) | -12.1        | -2.2         | +20.8          | +23.7                         |
| Manufactures of metal (67-69)                      | -20.0        | +15.2        | +3.1           | +29.2                         |
| Machinery (71-77)                                  | -14.7        | -2.8         | -2.0           | +28.9                         |
| Transport equipment (78,79)                        | +27.2        | -45.7        | +26.8          | +47.6                         |
| Miscellaneous manufactured articles (8)            | -9.2         | +13.9        | +20.9          | +16.5                         |
| Total Imports - Original                           | -2.3         | -4.7         | +7.9           | +23.5                         |
| Seasonally adjusted                                | +7.6         | -15.4        | +6.1           | +23.7                         |

(a) Imports of the "major commodities" shown in this table are significant imports by particular Sections (1 digit) and Divisions (2 digits) of the *Australian Import Commodity Classification* (figures in brackets following commodity descriptions denote the relevant Sections and Divisions). These commodities represent 92% of total imports for the month of August 1979. (b) Percentage change compared with year ended August 1978.

TABLE 2. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION \$'000

| Section and Division   | June           | July           | August         | Two months ended August |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
|  | 1979           | 1979           | 1979           | 1978                    | 1979           |
| 0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD -   |                |                |                |                         |                |
| 00 Live animals chiefly for food   | 2,491          | 2,102          | 1,590          | 3,718                   | 3,691          |
| 01 Meat and meat preparations  | 614            | 764            | 665            | 501                     | 1,429          |
| 02 Dairy products and birds' eggs  | 1,882          | 2,733          | 1,985          | 4,614                   | 4,719          |
| 03 Fish, crustaceans and molluscs and preparations therefor                                      | 9,888          | 9,196          | 8,867          | 17,568                  | 18,063         |
| 04 Cereals and cereal preparations   | 951            | 1,174          | 1,801          | 3,128                   | 2,975          |
| 05 Vegetables and fruit  | 7,732          | 7,808          | 11,373         | 15,083                  | 19,181         |
| 06 Sugar, sugar preparations and honey   | 854            | 725            | 980            | 1,869                   | 1,705          |
| 07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof   | 17,291         | 20,608         | 19,296         | 36,898                  | 39,903         |
| 08 Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmilled cereals)                                    | 1,433          | 1,307          | 2,065          | 2,414                   | 3,372          |
| 09 Misc. edible products and preparations  | 2,096          | 1,845          | 2,078          | 3,155                   | 3,923          |
| <i>Total Section 0</i>   | <i>45,231</i>  | <i>48,261</i>  | <i>50,700</i>  | <i>88,947</i>           | <i>98,961</i>  |
| 1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO -  |                |                |                |                         |                |
| 11 Beverages   | 5,558          | 5,705          | 5,373          | 11,601                  | 11,078         |
| 12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures  | 4,982          | 4,119          | 6,963          | 8,275                   | 11,082         |
| <i>Total Section 1</i>   | <i>10,540</i>  | <i>9,824</i>   | <i>12,336</i>  | <i>19,875</i>           | <i>22,160</i>  |
| 2 CRUDE MATERIALS, INFEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS   |                |                |                |                         |                |
| 21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw  | 380            | 166            | 67             | 228                     | 233            |
| 22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit  | 134            | 278            | 192            | 491                     | 471            |
| 23 Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)  | 7,254          | 7,047          | 7,342          | 8,964                   | 14,388         |
| 24 Cork and wood   | 17,792         | 20,605         | 20,134         | 25,762                  | 40,739         |
| 25 Pulp and waste paper  | 3,444          | 7,783          | 5,441          | 9,474                   | 13,224         |
| 26 Textile fibres (other than wool tops) and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric) | 7,109          | 7,750          | 9,361          | 11,766                  | 17,111         |
| 27 Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum, precious stones)             | 15,309         | 11,492         | 6,854          | 27,071                  | 15,346         |
| 28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap  | 5,514          | 697            | 3,534          | 968                     | 4,231          |
| 29 Crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.  | 2,134          | 2,169          | 3,590          | 4,966                   | 5,759          |
| <i>Total Section 2</i>   | <i>59,071</i>  | <i>57,988</i>  | <i>56,516</i>  | <i>89,690</i>           | <i>114,504</i> |
| 3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS  |                |                |                |                         |                |
| 32 Coal, coke and briquettes   | 413            | 287            | 1,081          | 197                     | 1,368          |
| 33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials   | 119,176        | 155,744        | 168,926        | 199,160                 | 324,670        |
| 34 Gas, natural and manufactured   | 23             | 9              | 33             | 32                      | 42             |
| <i>Total Section 3</i>   | <i>119,612</i> | <i>156,040</i> | <i>170,040</i> | <i>199,389</i>          | <i>326,080</i> |
| 4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS, FATS AND WAXES -  |                |                |                |                         |                |
| 41 Animal oils and fats  | 195            | 77             | 67             | 86                      | 144            |
| 42 Fixed vegetable oils and fats   | 4,318          | 5,183          | 5,434          | 8,332                   | 10,617         |
| 43 Animal and vegetable oils and fats, processed, and waxes of animal or vegetable origin        | 1,130          | 1,112          | 486            | 1,833                   | 1,598          |
| <i>Total Section 4</i>   | <i>5,643</i>   | <i>6,373</i>   | <i>5,987</i>   | <i>10,250</i>           | <i>12,360</i>  |
| 5 CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS, N.E.S. -   |                |                |                |                         |                |
| 51 Organic chemicals   | 34,008         | 34,213         | 34,534         | 46,468                  | 68,747         |
| 52 Inorganic chemicals   | 16,444         | 11,866         | 12,912         | 26,696                  | 24,778         |
| 53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials   | 6,137          | 5,739          | 7,612          | 11,755                  | 13,351         |
| 54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products   | 12,262         | 12,726         | 12,794         | 20,714                  | 25,520         |
| 55 Essential oils and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations            | 6,324          | 6,560          | 6,384          | 10,903                  | 12,944         |
| 56 Fertilisers, manufactured   | 798            | 1,473          | 3,390          | 7,435                   | 4,863          |
| 57 Explosives and pyrotechnic products   | 1,661          | 213            | 297            | 393                     | 509            |
| 58 Artificial resins and plastic materials, and cellulose esters and ethers                      | 28,756         | 25,958         | 29,661         | 42,825                  | 55,619         |
| 59 Chemical materials and products, n.e.s.   | 15,827         | 16,733         | 11,270         | 23,668                  | 28,003         |
| <i>Total Section 5</i>   | <i>122,216</i> | <i>115,480</i> | <i>118,855</i> | <i>190,857</i>          | <i>234,335</i> |

TABLE 2. IMPORTS BY SECTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN  
IMPORT COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION - continued  
\$'000

| Section and Division |   | June<br>1979     | July<br>1979     | August<br>1979   | Two months<br>ended August<br>1978<br>1979 |                  |
|----------------------|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|------------------|
| 6                    | <b>MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY<br/>BY MATERIAL -</b>  |                  |                  |                  |  |                  |
| 61                   | Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s.<br>and dressed furskins   | 4,419            | 5,032            | 5,182            | 5,083                                      | 10,214           |
| 62                   | Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.   | 16,056           | 13,561           | 14,008           | 26,146                                     | 27,569           |
| 63                   | Cork and wood manufactures (excluding<br>furniture)   | 5,068            | 6,207            | 6,410            | 10,482                                     | 12,617           |
| 64                   | Paper, paperboard and articles of paper pulp,<br>of paper or of paperboard  | 29,985           | 35,727           | 28,036           | 57,324                                     | 63,764           |
| 65                   | Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up<br>articles, n.e.s. and related paperboard   | 70,107           | 68,597           | 82,868           | 130,654                                    | 151,465          |
| 66                   | Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.   | 23,777           | 23,077           | 25,230           | 44,575                                     | 48,307           |
| 67                   | Iron and steel  | 21,315           | 31,056           | 26,509           | 47,248                                     | 57,565           |
| 68                   | Non-ferrous metals  | 5,794            | 4,249            | 7,141            | 8,566                                      | 11,390           |
| 69                   | Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.   | 30,289           | 30,838           | 34,554           | 58,880                                     | 65,392           |
|                      | <i>Total Section 6</i>  | <i>206,810</i>   | <i>218,345</i>   | <i>229,938</i>   | <i>388,956</i>                             | <i>448,283</i>   |
| 7                    | <b>MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT -</b>  |                  |                  |                  |  |                  |
| 71                   | Power generating machinery and equipment  | 30,841           | 50,024           | 40,176           | 63,016                                     | 90,200           |
| 72                   | Machinery specialised for particular industries   | 76,887           | 67,121           | 59,610           | 102,264                                    | 126,731          |
| 73                   | Metalworking machinery  | 11,067           | 8,742            | 8,415            | 30,800                                     | 17,158           |
| 74                   | General industrial machinery and equipment,<br>n.e.s. and machine parts, n.e.s.   | 58,631           | 55,135           | 59,135           | 104,854                                    | 114,270          |
| 75                   | Office machines and automatic data<br>processing equipment  | 44,072           | 31,730           | 33,109           | 73,898                                     | 64,839           |
| 76                   | Telecommunications and sound recording<br>and reproducing apparatus and equipment   | 34,105           | 31,947           | 35,888           | 58,326                                     | 67,835           |
| 77                   | Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, n.e.s.<br>and electrical parts thereof (including non-electrical<br>counter-parts, n.e.s., of electrical household type<br>equipment) | 50,598           | 52,909           | 55,179           | 105,283                                    | 108,089          |
| 78                   | Road vehicles (including air cushion<br>vehicles)   | 134,277          | 126,218          | 131,318          | 228,462                                    | 257,536          |
| 79                   | Other transport equipment   | 120,441          | 11,986           | 43,934           | 101,512                                    | 55,920           |
|                      | <i>Total Section 7</i>  | <i>560,920</i>   | <i>435,812</i>   | <i>466,765</i>   | <i>868,414</i>                             | <i>902,577</i>   |
| 8                    | <b>MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES -</b>  |                  |                  |                  |  |                  |
| 81                   | Sanitary, plumbing, heating and<br>lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.   | 2,881            | 3,073            | 3,151            | 4,242                                      | 6,224            |
| 82                   | Furniture and parts thereof   | 5,811            | 6,599            | 7,519            | 11,665                                     | 14,118           |
| 83                   | Travel goods, handbags and similar containers   | 2,735            | 4,455            | 6,129            | 7,490                                      | 10,584           |
| 84                   | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories  | 15,790           | 21,039           | 30,582           | 54,149                                     | 51,621           |
| 85                   | Footwear  | 6,501            | 10,757           | 12,208           | 21,432                                     | 22,965           |
| 87                   | Professional, scientific and controlling<br>instruments and apparatus, n.e.s.   | 21,622           | 21,166           | 23,894           | 39,973                                     | 45,059           |
| 88                   | Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies<br>and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks   | 21,145           | 22,221           | 25,654           | 45,207                                     | 47,875           |
| 89                   | Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.   | 56,337           | 61,961           | 73,720           | 123,553                                    | 135,681          |
|                      | <i>Total Section 8</i>  | <i>132,821</i>   | <i>151,271</i>   | <i>182,857</i>   | <i>307,710</i>                             | <i>334,129</i>   |
| 9A                   | Commodities and transactions of merchandise trade,<br>not elsewhere classified  | 17,587           | 13,587           | 17,580           | 19,490                                     | 31,167           |
|                      | <i>Total Merchandise (a)</i>  | <i>1,280,452</i> | <i>1,212,980</i> | <i>1,311,574</i> | <i>2,183,578</i>                           | <i>2,524,554</i> |
| 9B                   | Non-merchandise (b)   | 7,239            | 14,069           | 13,018           | 19,694                                     | 27,087           |
|                      | <b>Total Imports</b>  |                  |                  |                  |  |                  |
|                      | Original  | 1,287,691        | 1,227,048        | 1,324,593        | 2,203,272                                  | 2,551,641        |
|                      | Seasonally adjusted   | 1,348,436        | 1,141,138        | 1,210,582        | 2,063,384                                  | 2,371,720        |

(a) The sum of Divisions 00 to 9A. (b) A complete description of non-merchandise items is contained in the Australian Import Commodity Classification (1204.0).