

B. 380/920

9 JANUARY

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

S.B. 177

To be treated as strictly CONFIDENTIAL and NOT to be published, broadcast or cabled before 6.00 P.M. on MONDAY, 7TH JANUARY, 1963.

AUSTRALIAN OVERSEA TRADE : DECEMBER, 1962

MERCHANDISE TRADE ONLY (PRELIMINARY)

(Excluding Bullion and Specie)

(Note : Values are in Australian Currency f.o.b. Port of Shipment)

This preliminary statement of Oversea Trade is approximate and will be followed by the usual Monthly Bulletin of Oversea Trade Statistics containing details of Merchandise, Bullion and Specie.

Imports and Exports of merchandise are recorded statistically in the month in which the entries are passed by the Department of Customs and Excise. Normally this is within a few days of discharge or shipment of cargoes.

Imports of Merchandise recorded in December, 1962 were valued at approximately £A.75.4 million, compared with £A.61.9 million in December, 1961, an increase of £A.13.5 million.

Exports of Merchandise recorded in December, 1962 amounted to approximately £A.87.3 million, compared with £A.82.9 million in December, 1961, an increase of £A.4.4 million.

In December, 1962 the recorded excess of exports over imports was approximately £A.11.9 million compared with an excess of exports of £A.21.0 million in December, 1961.

For the first six months of 1962-63 recorded imports exceeded recorded exports by approximately £A.33.3 million compared with an excess of recorded exports of £A.113.4 million in the corresponding period of 1961-62.

AUSTRALIA : OVERSEA TRADE IN MERCHANDISE

(Excluding Bullion and Specie)

(£A. million f.o.b. Port of Shipment)

Period	1961-62 (a)			1962-63 (a)		
	Merchandise		Excess of Exports (+)	Merchandise		Excess of Exports (+)
	Imports	Exports	or Imports (-)	Imports	Exports	or Imports (-)
July	69.8	85.9	+ 16.1	89.0	79.8	- 9.2
August	73.0	77.1	+ 4.1	97.5	73.7	- 23.8
September	66.8	81.2	+ 14.4	87.6	74.1	- 13.5
October	68.7	95.6	+ 26.9	93.6	87.4	- 6.2
November	70.0	100.9	+ 30.9	95.1	102.6	+ 7.5
December	61.9	82.9	+ 21.0	75.4	87.3	+ 11.9
Six Months Total	410.2	523.6	+ 113.4	538.2	504.9	- 33.3
January	82.0	94.9	+ 12.9			
February	69.2	85.9	+ 16.7			
March	77.6	89.2	+ 11.6			
April	71.1	86.3	+ 15.2			
May	90.8	100.9	+ 10.1			
June	81.7	87.1	+ 5.4			
Twelve Months Total	882.6	1,067.9	+ 185.3			

(a) Preliminary, subject to revision.

NOTE: Freight and insurance payable on imports are not included above. These are estimated at approximately £A.126 million for the year ended 30th June, 1962.

Statistics relating to Oversea Trade do not measure Australia's total balance of payments during the periods shown. Particulars of other transactions entering into the balance of payments, for example, freight charges and oversea travel, payments of dividends, profits and interest, and government expenditure overseas, are provided in the Statistical Bulletin "Balance of Payments : Quarterly Summary" issued by the Commonwealth Statistician. For items such as naval ships, merchant vessels trading overseas, aircraft for use on oversea routes, uranium, and certain materials for inter-governmental defence projects, no customs entries are recorded, but these transactions are taken into account in estimating balance of payments.

K.M. ARCHER

COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 7TH JANUARY, 1963

NOTE: Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning UO413 Extension 320 or, in each State Capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.