

EXTERNAL TRADE

GENERAL INFORMATION

Historical background

From a traditional pattern of partnership with the United Kingdom, Australia has become in recent years more a trading partner of Japan and the United States of America and this is also the trading pattern in Victoria. Similarly, the place occupied by European countries such as France and Italy in the 1950s has diminished proportionately in Victoria's trading pattern since the implementation of the European Economic Community. In 1980-81, the proportion of Australian trade at Victorian ports was 31.3 per cent of imports and 25.0 per cent of exports. Major imports were road vehicles, textile yarns, and industrial machinery, while major exports were wool, meat, wheat, dairy products, textile fibres, and petroleum products. The major countries contributing to imports were the United States of America, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the German Federal Republic, while the major countries receiving exports were Japan, New Zealand, the United States of America, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Further reference: *Victorian Year Book* 1977, pp. 527-8

Constitutional provisions and legislation

Constitutional provisions

By the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act, section 51 (1), the power to make laws with respect to trade and commerce with other countries was conferred on the Australian Parliament. Under section 86 of the Constitution, the collection and control of duties of customs and excise passed to the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on 1 January 1901. Other references to trade and commerce are contained in sections 87 to 95 of the Constitution.

Commonwealth Government legislation

Commonwealth Government legislation affecting overseas trade includes the *Customs Act* 1901, the *Customs Tariff Act* 1966, and the *Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Act* 1975. The *Customs Tariff Act* 1966 provides the statutory authority for imposing the actual rates of duty operative from time to time, while the *Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Act* 1975 provides protection for Australian industry against various forms of unfair trading.

Customs Tariff

The first Australian Customs Tariff was introduced by Resolution on 8 October 1901, from which date uniform duties came into effect throughout Australia. The Australian Customs Tariff has been developed in conformity with the policy of protecting economic and efficient Australian industries and of granting preferential treatment to certain imports from countries of the Commonwealth and certain developing countries. Customs collections are a major source of revenue, but in its protective character the tariff has an important influence on the Australian economy.

The customs value of imported goods is established in accordance with the provisions of the *Customs Act* 1901. Valuation must follow precise rules and practices to ensure

consistency and equity in the treatment of goods subject to *ad valorem* rates of duty. Customs values are also the basis for import trade statistics.

For some years, Australian valuation legislation was modelled on the Brussels Definition of Value, an international system adopted by a number of countries. The customs value was defined as the price the goods would have fetched on a sale on the open market between a buyer and a seller independent of each other.

During 1981, Australia moved towards acceptance of another international valuation system which is expressed in the Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

This GATT Agreement provides that the customs value shall be based, as far as is possible, on the actual price of the goods. The price may be subject to a limited range of adjustments for such matters as packing costs and other consideration, passing from the buyer to the seller. The price cannot be used as a basis for valuation if the buyer and seller are related and the price has been influenced by that relationship.

Where there is no price, or the price cannot be used, the agreement provides other valuation methods.

Further information may be obtained from Collectors of Customs in capital cities or from the Department of Industry and Commerce, Canberra.

Preferential rates

Preferential rates apply to certain goods which are the produce or manufacture of Canada, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Forum Islands, and of certain specified developing and declared preference countries, provided that such goods comply with the laws in force at the time affecting the grant of preference.

Details of the rules covering the application of preferential rates may be found by reference to sections 151 and 151A of the *Customs Act 1901*.

A full list of developing and declared preference countries and goods excluded from the special rates of duty normally applicable, in the case of developing countries, is given in the *Australian Customs Tariff*.

General rates

General rates apply to goods from all countries which do not qualify for preferential rates of duty under a particular tariff classification.

By-law provisions

Customs by-laws and Ministerial Determinations are legal instruments, made in accordance with the provisions of the *Customs Act 1901*, to authorise admission of imported goods at rates of duty lower than those normally applicable. The rates of duty that apply where concessional entry has been granted are contained in the *Customs Tariff Act 1966* and are normally identified by the words "as prescribed by by-law". The most frequently used by-law provision is Item 19 in Schedule 2 to the *Customs Tariff Act 1966* which allows admission of goods at concessional rates, "being goods a suitable equivalent of which that is the produce or manufacture of Australia is not reasonably available". Normally, by-laws identify goods by general description, have neither quantity nor time limitations and may be used by any importer. Ministerial Determinations may be either in that form or, if it is necessary to limit the availability of concessions to ensure that the tariff protection accorded to local industry is maintained, be restricted in some way, e.g., quantity or time limitations. By-laws and notices of the making of Ministerial Determinations are published in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*.

Anti-Dumping duties

The *Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Act 1975* provides protection for Australian industry against various forms of unfair trading. Under this Act, dumping duty may be imposed on goods that are sold to Australian importers at a price which is less than the normal value of the goods, where this causes or threatens material injury to an Australian industry.

For details on the calculation of dumping duty see the *Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Act 1975* and the publication *Facts about the Australian Dumping Law* which is available from the Department of Industry and Commerce, Canberra.

Import controls

Import controls, by global tariff quotas or import licensing, are introduced to assist local industry following inquiry and report by the Industries Assistance Commission and the Temporary Assistance Authority. At present, the textile, apparel, footwear, and motor vehicle industries are assisted by import control. Import licensing firmly limits import quantities, provides for penal and seizure action, and may be selectively applied to particular goods or countries. As such, it differs from global tariff quotas which allow imports up to a predetermined level, above which additional duties may be imposed. At present, some 58 commodities or groups of commodities are subject to import controls. Further information on import controls may be obtained from the Australian Customs Service, Department of Industry and Commerce, Canberra.

*Export controls**Export restrictions*

Section 112 of the *Customs Act 1901* provides that the Governor-General may, by regulation, prohibit the exportation of goods from Australia and that this power may be exercised by: (1) prohibiting the exportation of goods absolutely; (2) prohibiting the exportation of goods to a specified place; and (3) prohibiting the exportation of goods unless prescribed conditions or restrictions are complied with. Goods subject to this export control are listed in the Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations.

Exchange control—Banking Act 1959

As an integral part of the framework of exchange control, a control over goods exported from Australia is maintained under the provisions of Part III of the Banking (Foreign Exchange) Regulations to ensure that the full proceeds of such goods are received into the Australian banking system and that these proceeds are received in the currency and in the manner prescribed by the Reserve Bank of Australia. This action is complementary to that taken under other parts of the Banking (Foreign Exchange) Regulations to control the movement out of Australia of capital in the form of securities and currency.

*Trade descriptions**Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act 1905*

This Act, administered by the Australian Customs Service of the Department of Industry and Commerce, gives power to require the application of a proper trade description to certain prescribed goods imported into or exported from Australia. Goods which must bear a prescribed trade description upon importation into Australia are specified in the Commerce (Imports) Regulations. As regards exports from Australia, marking requirements are prescribed in regulations issued under the Act and in relation to specified export commodities.

Further reference: *Victorian Year Book 1981*, pp. 422-7

Trade promotion and incentives

Each year the Commonwealth Government through the Department of Trade and Resources undertakes an extensive overseas trade promotion and publicity programme.

Trade displays, fairs, and exhibitions

For many years Australia has organised or participated in numerous major trade fairs, exhibitions, and displays, throughout the world.

Initially, the emphasis was on participation in general trade fairs directed toward the public and the general commercial community. However, with the development of specialised export promotion techniques and the diversity of goods available for export, emphasis is now being placed on individual Australian trade displays and participation in specialised trade shows directed almost entirely at the business community. In addition, display rooms in Trade Commissioner offices are currently in use in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Seoul, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Port Moresby, Suva, Bangkok, and Wellington. Limited display space is also available in Tokyo and Manila.

Trade missions

At present, the following types of trade missions are in use:

Survey missions

These are organised to obtain precise knowledge about the export trade potential for specific products in one or more overseas markets. Such methods are used to explore export prospects in new or developing areas where commercial intelligence is not readily available or where a complex industry is involved and the industry requires special export knowledge.

Specialised and general trade missions

Arrangements are made for specific industries or groups of firms representing a number of industries to participate in a planned selling campaign in overseas markets with known sales potential. The mission visits the market, publicises its products, and negotiates sales.

Publications and advertising

The Department of Trade and Resources produces a range of English and multi-lingual publications for distribution overseas through its Trade Commissioner posts. Special publications are produced for major Australian promotional activities overseas. The promotional activities are also supported by appropriate editorial publicity and advertising in foreign media publications.

Export education

The Commonwealth Government recently completed a three year "Export Now" campaign. This has been replaced by an "Export Education" programme involving seminars, workshops, and training activities to help Australian exporters to gain access to overseas markets.

Export awards

The Department of Trade and Resources in conjunction with the Confederation of Australian Industry runs an annual programme of Export Awards for Outstanding Export Achievement. In addition, various other awards are also given from time to time.

Export incentives

The Commonwealth Government provides financial incentives to encourage exports. The Export Market Development Grants Act was introduced in 1974 and will operate until 30 June 1988. The scheme, administered by the Export Development Grants Board which is responsible to the Minister for Trade and Resources, is designed to encourage exporters and potential exporters to seek out and develop overseas markets. The scheme covers exporters of primary products, industrial goods, certain services including tourism, know-how and industrial property rights, whether the exporter is an individual, partnership, company, or marketing organisation.

The scheme operates by way of taxable grants, to a maximum of \$200,000 in respect to eligible expenditure incurred on overseas market research and development.

The Board also administers the Export Expansion Grants Act which will be allowed to lapse on 30 June 1983. This scheme, which was introduced on 1 July 1978, was designed to reward improved export performance. Grants, which are taxable, are calculated on a formula applied to the increase in exports in a year, over the average annual exports in the three preceding years. Although the scheme covers a wide range of goods and services some products are specifically excluded from the scheme. These include minerals, greasy wool, wheat, sugar, livestock, most meats, woodchips, hides, skins and tallow from sheep and cattle, meat meal, unwrought aluminium, unrefined lead and copper, gold and silver, gold coins, and waste and scrap materials.

*Government authorities**Export Finance and Insurance Corporation*

The Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC) was established by the Commonwealth Government in 1975 to provide Australian exporters with a specialised range of insurance guarantee and finance facilities not normally available from

commercial sources. The EFIC took over the functions of the Export Payments Insurance Corporation which had been operating since 1956.

Australian Overseas Projects Corporation

The Australian Overseas Projects Corporation was established in November 1978 as a statutory authority of the Commonwealth Government to encourage the export of Australian goods and services. Its prime objective is to assist Australian consultancy and construction organisations to compete for contracts for overseas development projects, particularly those which are beyond the resources of individual organisations and require an introduction and multi-disciplinary approach, or require a government-to-government involvement. The Corporation's major functions are, on request, to act as prime contractor, consortium member, or agent on behalf of Australian organisations.

Trade relations

Trade policy

Australia is very reliant on international trade for its economic well-being. A substantial proportion of Australia's agricultural and mineral production is exported. Australia is a major world exporter of a range of commodities including coal, iron ore, bauxite, alumina, manganese, mineral sands, wool, meat, wheat, and sugar. Imports, particularly capital equipment, play a vital role in the country's economic development. Consequently, Australia is dependent on a stable international trade and payments system to secure its general trading objectives.

Australia's fundamental trade policy objectives include:

- (1) The maintenance of an open international trade and payments system;
- (2) the maintenance of an equitable framework of rates based on the principles of multilateralism, non-discrimination, predictability and transparency, and which provides for progressive trade liberalisation;
- (3) in relation to agricultural trade, fair and predictable access to major markets, restraints on subsidised competition in third markets, and stability in commodity markets; and
- (4) the maintenance of secure and stable markets for minerals and assistance in obtaining stable and remunerative prices for mineral exports.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is a multilateral treaty which provides the main framework of rules for the conduct of world trade. It also provides a forum in which countries can discuss and seek to overcome their trade problems as well as negotiate to enlarge world trading opportunities. The aim of the GATT is to liberalise world trade and place it on a secure basis, thereby contributing to economic growth and development.

The GATT entered into force in January 1948 with Australia being an original signatory. Since that date, GATT membership has expanded to 87 countries, with a further 32 countries applying its rules on a *de facto* basis.

Seven rounds of multilateral negotiations to liberalise world trade have been held under the GATT, the most recent of which was the Tokyo Round (1973-1979). Concessions negotiated by member countries are incorporated in their "Schedules of Concessions" which form an integral part of each country's obligations under the GATT. These concessions generally involve commitments not to increase tariffs on specific products above specified levels. The Tokyo Round negotiations also resulted in a number of agreements on non-tariff measures which clarified and expanded the existing rules of the GATT. These agreements included codes of conduct on subsidies and countervailing duties, government procurement, customs valuation, standards, import licensing, anti-dumping, trade in civil aircraft, and a group of texts under the heading "Framework for the Conduct of International Trade". The latter includes texts which deal with reciprocity, more favourable treatment and fuller participation for developing countries, trade measures for balance of payments purposes, safeguard action for development purposes, consultation, dispute settlement, and surveillance. There are also arrangements relating to bovine meat and dairy products.

All major developed countries have acceded or intend to accede to most of these agreements and Australia has already acceded or intends to accede to those on customs

valuation, anti-dumping, import licensing, standards, subsidies, countervailing duties, the "Framework", texts and the arrangements on bovine meat and dairy products.

An important aspect of the GATT's work is to oversee the application of the trade rules established under its auspices. The main features of the General Agreement are:

- (1) Trade without discrimination: the guarantee of most-favoured-nation tariff treatment to all Contracting Parties;
- (2) agreement on commercial policy rules for international trade, including restrictions on the use of subsidies and quantitative restrictions;
- (3) provision of a mechanism for consultations and dispute settlement;
- (4) safeguard, or emergency protection provisions, enabling countries to apply temporary measures to industries seriously threatened by imports; and
- (5) special recognition of the needs and capabilities of developing countries.

The highest body of GATT is the Session of Contracting Parties which usually meets annually. GATT decisions are generally arrived at by consensus rather than vote, although two-thirds majority votes are required for the granting of "waivers" (authorisations for members to depart from specific GATT obligations). Between Sessions of the contracting parties the Council of Representatives is authorised to act on both routine and urgent matters. The Council meets about six times a year.

In 1975, a Consultative Group of 18 comprising high level officials from key member countries was established to operate essentially as an executive steering group to assist GATT members carry out some of their major responsibilities more effectively.

The Committee on Trade and Development (CTD) reflects the GATT's increased focus on the problem of developing countries and has the duty of following all activities of GATT to ensure that problems of concern to developing countries are given priority attention. The CTD was formed after the introduction, in 1965, of Part IV of GATT which embodies commitments to individual and joint action by Contracting Parties, aimed at ensuring that the developing countries can increasingly find the means to raise living standards and promote rapid economic development through increased participation in international trade. This commitment has been elaborated by the Framework agreement enabling differential and more favourable treatment for developing countries, as a permanent legal feature of the world trading system.

A number of other committees have also been established to supervise implementation of the Tokyo Round agreements, examine the situation of countries using trade restrictions for balance of payments purposes, the agreement on textiles, anti-dumping practices, and financial/administrative questions. Working parties are set up to deal with current questions, such as requests for accession, verification that agreements concluded by members are in conformity with GATT, and to investigate disputes.

The developed country contracting parties to the GATT have introduced tariff preferences for developing country products under the Generalised System of Preferences.

The Australian System of Tariff Preferences for Developing Countries, in common with those of other donors, is a unilateral, non-reciprocal and non-contractual provision of specified preferential tariff advantages. Accordingly, Australia reserves the right at any time to modify, withdraw, suspend, or limit the preferential treatment for any item or with respect to any beneficiary.

Australia's system of tariff preferences was introduced in 1966 (the first in the world) and has since been substantially revised and expanded through reviews in 1974, 1976, and 1979. On 1 January 1981, the system was further extended to include most textile, clothing, and footwear products. Most dutiable manufactured and substantially processed primary products are now covered by the system. Margins of preference offered under the system are generally 10 to 15 per cent below the General Tariff rate.

The system is designed to assist developing countries to overcome their disadvantages in competing with other countries in the Australian market, providing always that such imports do not cause or threaten injury to Australian industry. A range of products where developing countries generally are already competitive on the Australian market are excluded from the system and preferences on a number of additional products have been withdrawn because of disruption to local industry. In some cases specific beneficiaries have been excluded from a preference.

Proposals for the addition or withdrawal of products from the system are referred to the Industries Assistance Commission for inquiry and report within 45 days. This procedure gives all interested parties the opportunity to submit their views in evidence to a public inquiry.

Market advisory services

The Australian Government has established a Market Advisory and Preferences Section in the Department of Trade and Resources to advise and assist developing countries, and countries with centrally planned economies, in the marketing of their products in Australia. The Section, which is located in Canberra, is supported by two Australian Trade Commissioners — one located in Sydney and the other in Melbourne — to maintain contact with the commercial sector and provide direct practical assistance.

Bilateral arrangements

West Europe

Although the EEC has formal trading arrangements with a large number of countries providing either free trade or preferential treatment, no such arrangement has been concluded with Australia. However, in the context of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, Australia was able to gain improved access into Community markets for a number of agricultural products. In addition, Australian exports of a range of agricultural and industrial products are benefiting from progressive tariff reductions which have been implemented by the EEC from 1 January 1980.

In recent years, Australia has suffered a large and growing trade deficit with the EEC which has reflected an imbalance of trading opportunities. Since 1977, Ministerial and high level officials' discussions between Australia and the EEC have been directed towards correcting this situation. In May 1979, a bilateral settlement with the EEC was concluded within the Multilateral Trade Negotiations which provides certain Australian agricultural exports, particularly beef and cheese, with valuable new openings and guaranteed levels of access in EEC markets.

While agriculture remains the dominating feature of the bilateral relationship, there is significant potential for developing Australia's role as a supplier of a wide range of minerals and energy resources and in attracting increased European investment to resource based development projects in Australia.

Trade agreements

Asia

People's Republic of China — signed 1973. The Agreement provides, *inter alia*, for reciprocal most favoured nation treatment for imports, while recognising the preferential arrangements extended by both countries. The Agreement includes schedules of goods which each country is interested in exporting to the other. It also provides that exchanges of goods and technical services under contracts and agreements will be at reasonable international market prices; that payments in relation to trade will be in freely convertible currency; and that each country will promote the inter-change of trade representatives, groups, and delegations, and encourage the commercial exchange of industrial and technical expertise. The Agreement also established a Joint Trade Committee to further the aims of the Agreement. A protocol on Economic Co-operation to the Trade Agreement was signed in September 1981. The Protocol has the objective of notifying to enterprises and organisations of the two countries that their governments have agreed on a range of industry and industry sectors regarded as holding prospects for co-operation between the two countries, and the form in which co-operation projects may be implemented.

Japan — signed 1957. The current Agreement on Commerce between Australia and Japan was initially signed in 1957, amended in 1963, and formally ratified on 27 May 1964. It provides for reciprocal most favoured nation treatment of imports while recognising the preferential arrangements of both countries; for certain commitments by Japan in regard to some important Australian export commodities including wool, soft wheat, sugar, canned meat, leather, butter, and cheese; and for equal opportunity for Japanese products in relation to Commonwealth Government purchases from suppliers overseas. It also provides for close consultation between the two countries on matters relating to trade.

Republic of Korea — signed 1975. The current Agreement replaced an earlier Agreement entered into by Australia and the Republic of Korea in 1965. The present Agreement states that the two governments are to take all appropriate measures to facilitate, strengthen, and diversify bilateral trade in accordance with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade; recognises the need to improve the conditions of world commodity trade; declares support in principle for international commodity agreements; and expresses support in principle for the conclusion of long-term commercial contracts between organisations and enterprises of the two countries. The Agreement also established a Joint Trade Committee to further the aims of the Agreement.

Philippines — signed 1975. The current Agreement replaces an earlier Agreement entered into in 1965. It provides, *inter alia*, for reciprocal most favoured nation treatment of imports from either country; recognises preferential agreements of both countries; encourages Australian investment and joint ventures in the Philippines. It provides for a Joint Commission to meet annually, or more frequently if required. The Agreement was entered into force in May 1979.

Thailand — signed 1979. It provides, *inter alia*, for strengthening and diversification of bilateral trade; supports trading arrangements among Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries; supports international commodity agreements; and encourages economic, commercial, and industrial co-operation, including investment in joint ventures. It provides for a Joint Trade Committee to meet annually or as required.

Socialist Republic of Vietnam — signed 1974. It provides, *inter alia*, for reciprocal most favoured nation treatment for imports and expresses support for the principle of long-term commercial contracts.

Indonesia — signed 1972. The current Agreement replaced an earlier Agreement signed in 1959. It provides, *inter alia*, for reciprocal most favoured nation treatment of imports; expresses support for trade initiatives and arrangements among member countries of ASEAN; and declares support in principle for international commodity agreements and encouragement for Australian commercial investment in Indonesia and provides for consultations as required on trade matters.

Malaysia — signed 1958. The Agreement provides for each country to accord preferences to the other on certain specified goods. The exchange of these preferences was placed on a more flexible basis by an Exchange of Letters on 21 February 1975. The Agreement further provides for protection of Malaysia's tin and rubber exports to Australia and of Australia's wheat exports to Malaysia against dumped or subsidised competition. There are also certain guarantees of market access for Australian wheat in the Malaysian market and for natural rubber in the Australian market provided that the Papua New Guinea natural rubber crop is absorbed. The Agreement also assures Malaysia that Australian tariff or import licensing treatment of natural rubber will be the same as for synthetic rubber.

Pacific

New Zealand — The New Zealand Australia Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), signed in 1965, came into force on 1 January 1966 and formally established a free trade area between Australia and New Zealand. The Agreement provides for free trade only in certain scheduled goods. Provision is made for additions to the free trade schedule. It also provides, in respect of non-scheduled goods, for the two governments to agree on special measures (including the remission or reduction of duties) beneficial to the trade and development of each country.

Following the termination in early 1973 of the trade agreements which they had with Britain, Australia and New Zealand entered into an interim arrangement on tariffs and tariff preferences on 7 May 1973. This has been replaced by the Agreement on Tariffs and Preferences which came into effect on 1 December 1977 and allows for the continuation of the contractual right of both countries to margins of preferences in each others' markets.

In March 1980, the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand agreed upon a framework for further detailed exploration and examination of possible arrangements for a closer economic relationship with the central objective of the gradual and progressive liberalisation of trade in all goods between the two countries. This agreement was signed in December 1982.

Papua New Guinea — The Papua New Guinea Australia Trade and Commercial Relations Agreement (PATCRA) which came into force in 1977 provides, *inter alia*, that subject to certain exceptions, trade between Australia and Papua New Guinea shall be free of duties and other restrictions.

Pacific Islands — The South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement (SPARTECA) which came into force in January 1980 provides, *inter alia*, that Australia will progressively provide duty free and unrestricted access for as wide a range of Forum Island country products as possible.

Americas

Canada — signed 1960. It provides for each country to give the other tariff preferences on specific goods and for the exchange of preferences in each country's tariff derived from the preferential agreements each had with Britain. The termination of these agreements with Britain created a need for Canada and Australia to review their own preferential trading arrangements. An Exchange of Letters governing the future operation of the 1960 Agreement was signed on 25 October 1973. The Exchange provides for a continuation of the tariff preferences, but on a more flexible basis, with some other modifications of provisions of the 1960 Agreement, particularly those relating to indirect shipment of goods and to anti-dumping procedures.

Brazil — signed 1978. The Agreement represented a significant development in strengthening trade and economic links between Australia and Brazil. It basically confirms GATT rights and obligations and emphasises industrial co-operation including investment. A significant feature is the ten year initial life of the Agreement to cover long-term commodity contracts. It also establishes a Joint Consultative Committee.

Europe

East Europe — The development of Australia's trade relations with the countries of East Europe began as part of a policy of market diversification away from West Europe in the mid-1960s.

The formal trade agreements Australia has signed with the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Bulgaria (all in 1974), Romania (in 1975), and Poland (in 1978 — supplementary to the earlier 1966 Agreement) are broadly similar in their provisions. They either confirm reciprocal most favoured nation treatment of imports while recognising preferential arrangements or, as in the Trade Agreements with Hungary, Poland, and Romania, acknowledge that trade between Australia and these countries is to be in accordance with the rights and obligations of both countries under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. They provide for the encouragement and facilitation of the further development of mutually beneficial trade and economic relations, and express support in principle for the conclusion of relevant international commodity agreements aimed at improving the conditions of international trade in primary products.

There are provisions to encourage and facilitate the development of economic co-operation and the negotiation of long-term commercial contracts between respective enterprises and organisations and the interchange of commercial trade and technical representations, groups, and delegations. Mixed Commissions are also established by these Agreements to provide a forum for regular bilateral discussions on trade development and trade related issues and problems.

In addition, the Agreements with the German Democratic Republic and Bulgaria provide for the exchange of indicative lists of goods each country is interested in exporting to the other.

The Agreement with the USSR (signed 1965) provides for reciprocal most favoured nation treatment of imports and recognises the preferential agreements of both countries. A supplementary Agreement on the Development of Trade and Economic Relations was signed in 1973 and provides, *inter alia*, for encouragement and facilitation of trade between the two countries, encouragement of industrial and technical co-operation, and support for international commodity agreements; it also established a Mixed Commission to provide a forum for regular consultations on measures to develop bilateral trade and on bilateral trade problems, and to further the aims of the Agreement.

Other Trade Agreements are in force with Yugoslavia (signed 1970) and Czechoslovakia (signed 1972). A protocol (to the Trade Agreement with the German Democratic Republic) on Industrial and Technical Co-operation was signed in Berlin in 1977.

Middle East

Bahrain — The Agreement on Trade, Economic, and Technical Co-operation was signed in May 1979. The Agreement expresses the intention of the two Governments to develop and expand trade and economic relations by the establishment of a Joint Committee, the facilitation of joint ventures in the two countries, and encouraging the exchange of technology and technical expertise between commercial enterprises.

Iraq — The Agreement on Trade, Economic, and Technical Co-operation was signed in March 1980. The Agreement provides, *inter alia*, for the exchange of most favoured nation treatment between Australia and Iraq, encouragement to the negotiation of commercial contracts between relevant organisations and commercial enterprises, and the establishment of a Joint Governmental Commission.

Saudi Arabia — The Agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation was signed in March 1980 and provides for the facilitation of joint ventures in each country, encouraging the exchange of scientific and technological research, and the establishment of a Joint Commission.

Oman — The Agreement on Trade, Economic and Technical Co-operation was signed in October 1981. The Agreement expresses the intention of the two governments to develop and expand trade and economic relations, provides for the facilitation of joint ventures in the two countries, and encourages the exchange of technology and technical expertise. The Agreement also establishes a Joint Commission.

Kuwait — The Agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation was signed in April 1982 and expresses the intention of the two governments to develop and expand trade and economic relations. The Agreement provides for the facilitation of joint ventures in the two countries and encourages the exchange of technology and technical expertise and establishes a Joint Commission.

Others

India — signed 1976. The Agreement confirms that trade between the two countries shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of GATT. It provides for encouragement and co-operation between India and Australia and establishes a Joint Trade Committee to meet annually and review the operation of the Agreement and advance its objectives.

Trade services*Trade Commissioner Service*

The stimulation of interest abroad in Australia's exports is an important government activity in which the Australian Trade Commissioner Service plays a prominent part. Since the Second World War, the Service increased steadily until late 1981. There has been a decrease since to an establishment of 162 Trade Commissioners and Assistant Trade Commissioners in Australia and at 54 posts in 43 countries by late 1982.

Trade Commissioners are responsible for providing commercial information in their territories in the fields of manufactured goods, rural commodities, resources, energy, and technical and allied services. Particular facilities provided for Australian exporters and export organisations include: surveying market prospects; advising on selling and advertising methods; arranging introductions with buyers and agents; providing reports on the standing of overseas firms; advising and assisting business visitors; helping to organise and carry through trade missions, trade displays, newspaper supplements, and other promotion and publicity media; providing information on import duties, import licensing, economic conditions, quarantine and sanitary requirements, and other factors affecting the entry and sale of goods and services; and helping to attract desirable investment.

In some countries Trade Commissioners also participate in inter-governmental negotiations in the resources and commercial fields. In certain countries where there is no diplomatic or consular mission, Trade Commissioners are called upon to act as the Australian Government representative.

Trade Commissioners and Assistant Trade Commissioners are drawn from both private enterprise and the public service. Applications for entry are invited periodically by public advertisement.

The Trade Commissioner Service is administered by the Department of Trade and Resources (as distinct from the diplomatic and consular services administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs), but in countries where there is an Australian diplomatic or consular mission it is the practice for Trade Commissioners to be attached to that mission and to hold an appropriate diplomatic or consular rank — Minister (Commercial), Counsellor (Commercial), or First or Second Secretary (Commercial).

The countries where Australian Trade Commissioner posts are located are shown in the following list: (except where indicated the missions are located in capital cities only) Algeria; Argentina; Austria; Bahrain; Belgium; Brazil (Rio de Janeiro); Britain; Canada (Vancouver, Toronto, Ottawa); China, People's Republic of; Egypt, Arab Republic of; Fiji; France; Germany, Federal Republic of; Greece; Hong Kong; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Israel; Italy (Rome, Milan); Japan (Tokyo, Osaka); Kenya; Korea, Republic of; Kuwait; Malaysia; Mexico; Netherlands; New Zealand (Wellington, Auckland); Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Saudi Arabia (Jeddah, Riyadh); Singapore; South Africa (Johannesburg); Spain; Sweden; Switzerland (Geneva); Thailand; United Arab Emirates (Abu Dhabi); United States of America (Washington DC, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco); USSR; Venezuela; and Yugoslavia, Socialist Federal Republic of.

Full details of the Australian Trade Commissioner posts are available from the Department of Trade and Resources, Canberra.

Australian Trade Correspondents and Marketing Officers

Detached Australian Trade Correspondents and Marketing Officers supplement the work of the Trade Commissioner in whose territory they are located. Correspondents are situated in various locations throughout the world.

Further reference: *Victorian Year Book* 1981, pp. 427-30

Victoria's business representation overseas

The State of Victoria is represented overseas by an Agent-General's Office in London and Victorian Economic Development Corporation Offices in London, Tokyo, Frankfurt, and Los Angeles. The Tokyo office is administered by the Department of the Premier although it reports to the Victorian Economic Development Corporation on trade and investment matters. It serves Japan, China, the Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, and the Philippines.

The activities of the offices administered by the Victorian Economic Development Corporation include attracting overseas industries and capital to Victoria, promoting the export of Victorian products, and linking overseas and local interests in joint ventures or technological expertise and licensing agreements.

In various ways, all the overseas offices seek to promote investment in Victoria and communication and trade with other countries. Consequently they maintain direct liaison with a number of government departments and other organisations. For instance, the Ministry for Economic Development, and the Victorian Economic Development Corporation co-operate to provide comprehensive information to overseas inquirers. Topics include the extent of investment opportunities in Victoria, economic analyses of industrial and commercial proposals, detailed submissions on industrial locations, and the use overseas of Victorian expertise and skills.

In order to maintain and promote an awareness of the export potential of the State, Victorian Government officers organise and conduct overseas promotional projects and displays in important overseas markets. Assistance is provided to co-ordinate and service incoming and outgoing overseas trade missions and group visits.

The Victorian Government also maintains current information on interstate and overseas channels of distribution and marketing of commercial intelligence, undertakes market surveys, and identifies areas of comparative advantage for Victorian products.

The overseas offices handle inquiries relating to contracts and tenders, and the supply of a wide range of goods and services. Where practicable, these inquiries are directed to Victorian manufacturers or suppliers.

Further references: *Victoria's pattern of trade*, *Victorian Year Book* 1964, pp. 781-5; *Export Payments Insurance Corporation*, 1975, pp. 531-2; *Historical background*, 1977, pp. 527-8; *World Trade Centre*, Melbourne, 1980, pp. 431-2; *Industries Assistance Commission*, 1981, pp. 423-4; *Temporary Assistance Authority*, 1981, p. 424

EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS

Collection and presentation of statistics

Source of data

Overseas trade statistics are compiled by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from documentation submitted by exporters or importers or their agents to the Bureau of Customs as required by the Customs Act.

Scope of the statistics

The statistics presented in the following tables are recorded on a general trade basis, i.e., total exports include both Australian produce and re-exports, and total imports comprise goods entered directly for domestic consumption together with goods imported into Customs warehouses.

Exports of Australian produce are goods, materials, or articles which have been produced, manufactured, or partly manufactured in Australia.

Re-exports are goods, materials, or articles originally imported which are exported either in the same condition in which they were imported or after undergoing repair or minor operations which leave them essentially unchanged.

Total exports are the aggregate of exports of Australian produce and re-exports.

The statistics are not confined to goods which are the subject of a commercial transaction; generally, all goods imported into or exported from Australia are recorded. Among the items included are exports and imports on government's accounts, including defence equipment. For exports, the value recorded for each item includes the value of the outside package or covering in which the goods were exported. Since 1 July 1976, the recorded value of imports also includes the value of the outside package.

State statistics

From 1 July 1978, State statistics for exports comprise State of origin and State of final shipment. State of origin is defined as the State in which the final stage of production or manufacture occurs. Previously, State was defined as the State in which the export document was lodged with the Bureau of Customs. Because of this change, figures from 1 July 1978 are not directly comparable with those for previous periods.

For imports, the State is that in which the import entry was lodged with the Bureau of Customs.

Statistical period

Exports and imports are recorded statistically in the month in which the documentation is processed. Normally this is within a few days of shipment or discharge of cargo. However, delays may occur in the processing of documentation, and in some cases the documentation may be cleared prior to discharge or shipment of cargo.

Valuation

Exports

Goods sold to overseas buyers before export are valued at the free on board (f.o.b.) Australian port of shipment equivalent of the actual price paid to the exporter. Goods shipped on consignment are valued at the f.o.b. Australian port of shipment equivalent of the current price offering for similar goods of Australian origin in the principal markets of the country to which they are dispatched for sale. The value of outside packages is included.

Imports

The recorded value is the value for duty for Customs purposes. On 1 July 1976, Australia adopted the internationally recognised Brussels Definition of Value (BDV) on a f.o.b. 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.

Merchandise and non-merchandise trade

Total trade is divided into merchandise and non-merchandise trade in accordance with international standards recommended by the United Nations. Merchandise trade is the

equivalent of total exports or imports less certain items specified as non-merchandise. Complete descriptions of commodities classified as non-merchandise are contained in the *Australian Export and Import Commodity Classifications* (1203.0, 1204.0) published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Country

A country is defined as a geographical entity which trades, or has the potential to trade, with Australia in accordance with Australian Customs provisions. For exports, "country" refers to the country to which the goods were consigned at the time of export. Where the country of consignment is not determined at the time of export, goods are recorded as exported "For orders" and in those cases where it was found to be impossible to determine the destination, as "Destination unknown". For imports, "country" refers to the country of origin of the goods which is defined as the country of production for Customs purposes.

Commodity classification

Exports and imports are classified according to the Australian Export Commodity Classification (AECC) and the Australian Import Commodity Classification (AICC) which from 1 July 1978 have been based on the second revision of the Standard International Trade Classification.

Overseas trade statistics

VICTORIA—OVERSEAS TRADE: RECORDED VALUES OF IMPORTS INTO, AND EXPORTS FROM, VICTORIAN PORTS (\$'000)

Year	Imports	Exports			Excess of imports
		Australian produce	Re-exports	Total	
1976-77	3,665,917	2,131,432	84,803	2,216,235	1,449,682
1977-78	3,855,619	2,421,256	84,512	2,505,768	1,349,851
1978-79	4,693,631	3,129,109	125,473	3,254,582	1,439,049
1979-80	5,506,400	r3,570,304	212,628	r3,782,932	r1,723,468
1980-81	5,929,278	3,786,553	202,876	3,989,429	1,939,849

AUSTRALIA AND VICTORIA—VALUE OF AUSTRALIAN TRADE AND PROPORTION HANDLED AT VICTORIAN PORTS

Year	Australian trade			Proportion of Australian trade handled at Victorian ports		
	Imports	Exports	Total	Imports	Exports	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	per cent	per cent	per cent
1976-77	10,410,617	11,646,412	22,057,029	35.2	19.0	26.7
1977-78	11,166,553	12,269,530	23,436,083	34.5	20.4	27.1
1978-79	13,751,845	14,242,747	27,994,592	34.1	22.9	28.4
1979-80	16,217,505	18,870,079	35,087,584	34.0	r20.0	r26.5
1980-81	18,964,266	19,169,243	38,133,509	31.3	20.8	26.0

Classification of overseas imports and exports

The value of trade according to Australian Import Commodity Classification (AICC) and Australian Export Commodity Classification (AECC) classifications is shown in the following table for the years 1979-80 and 1980-81:

VICTORIA—CLASSIFICATION OF OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS (\$'000)

Division number	Description	Imports		Exports (a)	
		1979-80	1980-81	1979-80	1980-81
00	Live animals chiefly for food	8,641	6,928	26,070	22,269
01	Meat and meat preparations	1,507	1,592	322,802	380,338
02	Dairy products and birds' eggs	16,762	21,038	215,434	219,778
03	Fish, crustaceans, and molluscs	48,622	56,032	18,364	24,963
04	Cereals and cereal preparations	6,337	6,925	768,259	689,486

VICTORIA—CLASSIFICATION OF OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS—*Continued*
(\$'000)

Division number	Description	Imports		Exports (a)	
		1979-80	1980-81	1979-80	1980-81
05	Vegetables and fruit	41,542	38,143	126,738	148,224
06	Sugar, sugar preparations, and honey	3,698	4,435	3,592	2,653
07	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, and manufactures thereof	128,795	63,781	17,301	24,048
08	Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmilled cereals)	6,627	7,657	6,439	9,235
09	Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	7,133	6,356	3,067	3,304
11	Beverages	16,223	19,694	10,563	6,072
12	Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	20,047	23,544	3,154	1,773
21	Hides, skins, and fur skins, raw	2,495	2,386	148,582	95,757
22	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit	2,686	6,447	2,915	251
23	Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)	50,037	44,201	2,024	1,102
24	Cork and wood	46,034	39,376	1,413	1,488
25	Pulp and waste paper	26,420	36,153	1,042	1,455
26	Textile fibres and their wastes	53,023	51,568	469,045	596,607
27	Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum, and precious stones)	39,244	49,923	1,840	1,312
28	Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	3,134	3,824	32,134	8,531
29	Crude animal and vegetable materials n.e.s.	14,561	15,840	12,296	18,329
32	Coal, coke, and briquettes	427	361	5,888	8,355
33	Petroleum, petroleum products, and related materials	158,301	238,288	244,518	247,970
34	Gas, natural and manufactured	73	45	(b)	(b)
41	Animal oils and fats	339	237	29,023	24,723
42	Fixed vegetable oils and fats	24,910	20,124	524	1,489
43	Animal and vegetable oils and fats, processed, and waxes of animal or vegetable origin	7,428	9,506	3,252	3,689
51	Organic chemicals	195,024	157,674	21,623	22,880
52	Inorganic chemicals	35,889	35,501	16,505	16,012
53	Dyeing, tanning, and colouring materials	39,867	35,775	8,474	8,170
54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	46,470	38,343	24,232	25,430
55	Essential oils and perfume materials; toilet, polishing, and cleansing preparations	17,266	19,499	4,370	4,269
56	Fertilisers, manufactured	7,834	10,473	214	161
57	Explosives and pyrotechnic products	5,517	5,538	2,474	29
58	Artificial resins and plastic materials, and cellulose esters and ethers	179,773	171,632	45,961	22,987
59	Chemical materials and products, n.e.s.	86,287	85,114	34,784	33,295
61	Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s., and dressed fur skins	22,969	22,971	6,985	7,623
62	Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	60,615	69,294	5,932	4,784
63	Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	24,572	25,890	997	1,549
64	Paper, paperboard, and articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	149,350	164,126	18,720	21,843
65	Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., and related products	436,648	431,545	30,834	23,295
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	105,301	95,857	16,415	20,592
67	Iron and steel	136,391	156,013	52,615	63,085
68	Non-ferrous metals	33,986	33,252	93,551	33,029
69	Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	179,098	199,069	62,996	72,660
71	Power generating machinery and equipment	193,790	209,811	13,136	14,405
72	Machinery specialised for particular industries	319,814	375,739	54,960	61,131
73	Metalworking machinery	59,774	111,599	6,723	7,268
74	General industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s. and machine parts n.e.s.	327,091	379,051	44,020	55,418
75	Office machines and automatic data processing equipment	77,625	86,156	8,212	6,722
76	Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	138,659	166,856	12,137	20,096

VICTORIA—CLASSIFICATION OF OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS—*continued*
(\$'000)

Division number	Description	Imports		Exports (a)	
		1979-80	1980-81	1979-80	1980-81
77	Electrical machinery, apparatus, and appliances, n.e.s. and electrical parts thereof	277,908	293,551	26,115	32,425
78	Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)	577,108	591,283	100,559	113,272
79	Other transport equipment	97,668	154,143	58,732	40,337
81	Sanitary, plumbing, heating, and lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.	16,757	15,405	1,069	1,101
82	Furniture and parts thereof	28,487	31,873	1,951	3,608
83	Travel goods, handbags, and similar containers	17,445	21,337	111	116
84	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	121,222	127,859	10,806	7,556
85	Footwear	50,383	54,765	1,879	2,243
87	Professional, scientific, and controlling instruments and apparatus, n.e.s.	107,625	142,666	32,291	32,424
88	Photographic apparatus, equipment, and supplies, and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks	136,162	136,616	47,677	57,223
89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	281,755	278,347	40,387	40,841
9A	Commodities and transactions of merchandise trade, n.e.c.	98,239	192,048	(c)359,982	(c)532,188
	Total merchandise	5,425,415	5,901,075	3,744,708	3,953,268
9B	Commodities and transactions not included in merchandise trade	80,985	28,203	38,224	36,161
	Total	5,506,400	5,929,278	3,782,932	3,989,429

(a) State of origin. For further information dealing with State statistics, refer page 406.

(b) Included in Division 9A.

(c) Includes Division 34.

Trade with overseas countries

The value of trade with overseas countries for the years 1978-79 to 1980-81 is shown in the following table:

VICTORIA—OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS: COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND CONSIGNMENT
(\$'000)

Country	Imports			Exports		
	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1978-79 (a)	1979-80 (a)	1980-81 (a)
Arab Republic of Egypt	28	24	64	68,243	143,143	158,846
Belgium-Luxembourg	38,022	48,029	42,410	14,503	20,059	26,339
Brazil	16,700	22,257	23,966	6,388	8,039	10,993
Canada	103,779	144,246	136,143	46,135	51,543	52,059
China—						
Excluding Taiwan						
Province	52,601	74,580	85,163	53,700	217,983	172,611
Taiwan Province only	139,313	183,766	204,555	50,584	56,405	98,654
Denmark	17,181	21,773	19,150	3,046	4,376	4,858
Fiji	2,700	4,014	2,355	38,192	67,092	73,863
Finland	22,556	43,678	36,056	1,511	1,547	1,502
France	103,238	120,299	118,012	75,271	99,900	89,360
Germany, Federal						
Republic of	451,758	444,030	501,028	82,825	68,603	79,467
Hong Kong	130,625	155,335	164,335	75,971	85,385	117,039
India	38,910	45,139	40,824	36,506	31,870	37,118
Indonesia	33,511	32,585	80,319	45,685	69,751	104,481
Iran	2,271	5,007	1,706	14,032	33,840	49,216
Italy	122,096	148,529	141,515	65,257	71,682	86,982
Japan	798,105	796,565	1,029,188	535,138	750,269	685,277
Korea, Republic of	62,870	65,947	91,074	82,048	52,676	64,571
Kuwait	7,895	28,160	97,453	10,031	17,410	20,625
Malaysia	59,308	68,254	65,894	49,512	53,695	66,321
Nauru, Republic of	10,952	13,144	19,859	8,486	15,381	10,789
Netherlands	66,955	84,315	82,382	25,716	31,017	26,639

VICTORIA—OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS: COUNTRIES OF
ORIGIN AND CONSIGNMENT—*continued*
(\$'000)

Country	Imports			Exports		
	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1978-79 (a)	1979-80 (a)	1980-81 (a)
New Zealand	171,055	211,171	239,569	289,680	316,729	310,859
Pakistan	5,134	5,668	7,165	4,968	18,078	13,847
Papua New Guinea	29,979	45,387	33,704	72,729	95,114	134,689
Philippines	30,138	28,612	30,380	49,256	59,475	74,924
Poland	3,707	4,342	5,886	19,495	20,549	26,275
Saudi Arabia	14,785	20,287	44,661	59,924	80,513	93,451
Singapore	62,057	114,238	61,324	64,756	102,505	131,936
South Africa	25,676	37,644	30,650	19,810	17,676	42,262
Spain	19,025	19,786	21,934	7,911	9,139	8,113
Sweden	100,768	121,769	119,549	8,165	11,469	12,401
Switzerland	69,499	57,075	72,254	4,861	3,984	4,690
Thailand	12,680	19,454	22,430	30,220	43,515	29,456
United Kingdom	606,123	673,465	605,882	88,367	129,546	121,220
United States of America	1,086,714	1,351,825	1,464,327	289,950	294,273	310,236
U.S.S.R.	1,852	57,789	2,268	80,318	313,392	303,863
Yugoslavia	2,811	3,741	3,251	27,611	23,673	21,703
Other and unknown	170,254	184,471	180,593	201,364	291,636	311,894
Total	4,693,631	5,506,400	5,929,278	2,708,165	3,782,932	3,989,429

(a) State of origin. For further information dealing with State statistics, refer page 406.

Interstate trade statistics

Statistics of trade between Victoria and other Australian States are incomplete and relate mainly to seaborne trade. Although a substantial quantity of freight is carried by road and rail transport between Victoria and neighbouring States, no details of this traffic are available. A small tonnage of freight is carried interstate by air.

Interstate trade by sea

In terms of quantity, the principal cargoes carried interstate by ship to and from Victorian ports are petroleum and petroleum products, steel, sugar and sugar preparations, and timber. However, there is also a considerable trade in foodstuffs, motor vehicles, and other manufactured goods, particularly through the Port of Melbourne.

Port of Melbourne

Interstate exports during 1980-81 totalled 2,964,492 tonnes. The principal commodities were petroleum products, 934,297 tonnes; miscellaneous manufactures, 757,371 tonnes; transport equipment (including touring passenger cars), 367,019 tonnes; fruit and vegetables, 58,201 tonnes; chemicals, 31,949 tonnes; food preparations, 48,591 tonnes; iron and steel, 41,814 tonnes; and beverages, 49,757 tonnes.

Interstate imports during the same period totalled 3,143,344 tonnes, the principal commodities being iron and steel, 361,276 tonnes; paper and newsprint, 300,497 tonnes; petroleum products, 243,593 tonnes; timber, 207,715 tonnes; gypsum, 193,917 tonnes; raw sugar, 235,582 tonnes; touring passenger cars, 214,450 tonnes; fruit and vegetables, 204,463 tonnes; and chemicals, 90,819 tonnes.

Port of Geelong

Total interstate exports during 1981 amounted to 1,739,817 tonnes, of which petroleum and petroleum products accounted for 1,732,562 tonnes. Total interstate imports for the same period amounted to 503,364 tonnes, and consisted mainly of alumina, 350,039 tonnes; petroleum products, 42,425 tonnes; and steel and pig iron 43,830 tonnes.

Trade of Victoria with Western Australia and Tasmania

Details of trade between Victoria and other States are available only for trade with Western Australia and trade with Tasmania.

Western Australia

For 1980-81, the value of exports from Victoria to Western Australia totalled \$1,313.3m. Machinery and transport equipment, \$421.7m; manufactured goods classified

chiefly by material, \$244.7m; miscellaneous manufactured articles, \$155.6m; and food and live animals chiefly for food, \$132.2m, were the main types of commodities included in this total.

Imports from Western Australia during the same period were valued at \$209.1m. Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material, \$34.8m; machinery and transport equipment, \$26.2m; and miscellaneous manufactured articles, \$19.9m, were the main types of commodities imported.

Tasmania

Details of trade between Victoria and Tasmania include both air and sea trade. Both exports and imports are valued on an f.o.b. basis. Two changes to trade documentation recording commenced on 1 July 1978 and affected interstate trade figures; see page 406.

For 1978-79, exports by sea and air from Victoria to Tasmania were valued at \$472.4m. Petroleum products, \$89.8m; transport equipment, \$68.0m; clothing and accessories, \$39.3m; and machinery other than electric, \$34.7m, were the main types of commodities exported. The value of tourists' motor vehicles included in the total for 1978-79 was approximately \$42.6m.

Imports from Tasmania during the same period amounted to \$387.6m. Major items for which no figures can be released were confectionery, newsprint, and printing and writing papers. Values for other main imports were timber, \$28.2m; preserved vegetables, \$35.9m; and refined zinc, \$25.3m. The value of tourists' motor vehicles included in the total for 1978-79 was approximately \$42.0m.

Further reference: Customs and excise revenue, *Victorian Year Book* 1979, pp. 418-19

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