



## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, AUSTRALIA, MARCH QUARTER 1985

**PHONE INQUIRIES** for more information about these statistics - contact Mr Neil Patterson on Canberra (062) 525519 or any of our State offices.

other inquiries including copies of publications - contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 526627 or in any of our State offices.

**MAIL INQUIRIES** write to Information Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616 or any of our State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

#### March quarter 1985 -

The deficit on trade account, at \$366 million, was \$83 million down from the deficit for the December quarter 1984. A small increase in exports and a slight decline in imports contributed equally to lowering the deficit. In seasonally adjusted terms the trade deficit fell \$330 million.

The net invisibles deficit fell \$92 million to \$2,272 million, and together with the lower trade deficit caused the deficit on current account to fall \$175 million to \$2,638 million. Seasonally adjusted, the current account deficit fell \$393 million.

Net apparent capital inflow was \$1,795 million, down \$818 million from the December quarter 1984.

Official reserve assets were reduced by \$815 million on account of transactions, \$636 million more than the fall which occurred in the previous quarter.

The trade weighted index of the value of the Australian dollar (base May 1970 = 100) stood at 69.2 at the end of March 1985, down 14.9 per cent on the end of December 1984 and 16.5 per cent on the end of March 1984. Through the March quarter 1985, the dollar fell against the \$US (14.8 per cent), the £UK (20.9 per cent), the West German Mark (16.6 per cent) and the Japanese Yen (14.6 per cent).

#### Nine months ended March 1985 -

The trade balance turned around in the nine months to March 1985 to reach a deficit of \$1,604 million, compared with the surplus of \$161 million for the nine months ended March 1984. Imports increased 27 per cent over this period, more than offsetting the 16 per cent rise in exports.

The net invisibles deficit rose \$1,217 million or 22 per cent to \$6,704 million.

The current account deficit widened considerably, up \$2,982 million or 56 per cent on the deficit for the same period the previous financial year, to reach \$8,308 million.

Net apparent capital inflow, at \$7,309 million, was down \$379 million from the nine months ended March 1984.

Official reserve assets declined by \$926 million on account of transactions, in sharp contrast with the increase of \$2,413 million which occurred for the corresponding period in the previous financial year. The increase in the earlier period was substantially recorded under the prefloat exchange rate regime.

### ANALYSIS OF SELECTED MAJOR AGGREGATES

#### March quarter 1985 compared with December quarter 1984

##### Current account

Exports f.o.b. were \$6,644 million, up \$41 million or 1 per cent on the December quarter 1984.

Seasonally adjusted exports f.o.b. rose 4 per cent. Rural exports rose 6 per cent while non-rural exports rose 2 per cent. Within rural exports, all broad commodity groups rose with the exception of cereals which fell by 20 per cent. The most significant increases were in sugar (up 200 per cent on an unusually low December quarter), wool (up 15 per cent) and meat (up 10 per cent). Within non-rural exports, increases in the 'other' commodity group (up 13 per cent), metal ores and minerals (up 6 per cent), and a small increase in coal were partly offset by an

11 per cent fall in metals and metal manufactures and much smaller falls in mineral fuels other than coal and machinery and transport equipment.

. **Imports f.o.b.** at \$7,010 million were down \$42 million or 1 per cent on the previous quarter.

. **Seasonally adjusted imports f.o.b.** fell 1 per cent. The most significant contributor to this small fall was the 9 per cent decline in imports of metals and metal manufactures. Imports of textiles and fabrics also fell by 9 per cent and there were much smaller falls in the imports of chemicals (including plastics) and machinery and transport equipment. Fuel imports remained virtually unchanged while small increases were recorded in all remaining broad commodity groups.

. The **net invisibles** deficit of \$2,272 million was down \$92 million or 4 per cent.

. The **seasonally adjusted net invisibles** deficit fell by \$63 million or 3 per cent. On a seasonally adjusted basis, invisible credits rose \$124 million while invisible debits rose \$60 million. The increase in invisible credits was mainly due to increases in travel, property income and private transfers. A 7 per cent increase in investment income payable abroad was the main factor contributing to the increase in invisible debits. Largely offsetting this increase was a 31 per cent decline in government transfers.

#### Capital account

. Transactions in **government securities** yielded a net inflow of \$295 million following a net inflow of \$672 million in the December quarter 1984. Of the decrease of \$377 million, net overseas borrowings was responsible for \$159 million and net foreign investment in securities domiciled in Australia was responsible for \$218 million. The estimate for the March quarter 1985 took account of a Swiss Franc 500 million (\$A259 million) borrowing, the major part of which was used in the same period to refinance an earlier Swiss Franc 400 million (\$A207 million) loan.

. **Other government capital movements** were recorded at a net outflow of \$140 million, up \$78 million on the outflow for the preceding quarter. Larger prepayments for major items of defence equipment mainly explained the increase.

. Interim estimates of **foreign investment in enterprises in Australia** indicated a quarterly net inflow of \$2,945 million, up \$542 million on the previous quarter. The estimate for direct investment, excluding undistributed income, turned around from a net outflow of \$115 million to a net inflow of \$356

million, while the net inflow on account of portfolio investment and institutional loans rose by \$71 million. (See Table 8 for further details).

. Interim estimates of **Australian investment abroad** indicated a net outflow of \$988 million, up \$446 million on the outflow for the December quarter 1984. The estimate for the March quarter 1985 includes the withdrawal of Australian investment abroad arising from the sale of the overseas assets of Nicholas Kiwi Ltd to a United States enterprise. However, this disinvestment was more than offset by several large direct investment transactions overseas and a higher than usual investment in foreign securities by Australian resident enterprises.

**Nine months ended March 1985 compared with nine months ended March 1984 -**

#### Current account

**Exports f.o.b.** were up \$2,821 million or 16 per cent on the nine months ended March 1984. Rural exports rose 17 per cent, with most of the increase attributable to the 52 per cent increase in cereal exports. The 'other rural' group and wool and sheepskins recorded increases of about 10 per cent. The only rural commodity group to record a significant decline was meat (down 12 per cent). Sugar exports fell marginally. Non-rural exports rose 16 per cent. Apart from metals and metal manufactures, which remained virtually unchanged, all non-rural commodity groups contributed to the rise. The most significant increase was in coal which increased by 30 per cent on the previous corresponding period. All other commodity groups showed increases of around 20 per cent with the exception of the metal ores and minerals group which increased by 7 per cent.

. **Imports f.o.b.** were \$4,586 million or 27 per cent higher than for the first 9 months of 1983-84. All broad commodity groups recorded increases with machinery and transport, up 37 per cent, responsible for more than half of the overall increase. Imports of fuels recorded the smallest increase at 6 per cent with all other broad commodity groups increasing in the range of 12 per cent to 32 per cent.

. **Invisible credits** rose \$883 million or 18 per cent. All items rose with the most significant increase being attributable to property income which rose 36 per cent. Within property income, significant increases were recorded in earnings on international reserves and undistributed income. Other items to record significant increases were transportation, travel and private transfers.

. **Invisible debits** increased \$2,100 million or 20 per cent. Investment income payable abroad was up 21 per cent, representing both the increased

profitability of direct investment enterprises in Australia and higher charges on Australia's external debt. Travel debits increased 27 per cent and freight on imports rose 22 per cent in line with higher import values.

#### **Capital account**

. Net government capital movements were recorded at an inflow of \$1,336 million, up \$731 million on the inflow for the nine months ended March 1984. Of the increase, transactions in government securities contributed \$430 million, with both overseas borrowings and foreign investment in Australian dollar securities up by \$238 million and \$192 million respectively. Other government transactions accounted for the remaining \$301 million, partly reflecting the reduction in financial assets abroad in the September quarter 1984 consequent on the delivery of a naval frigate and several other large items of equipment.

. The net inflow of foreign investment in enterprises in Australia rose \$596 million to \$7,731 million in the nine months ended March 1985, with the fall of \$814 million in the inflow on account of direct investment being more than offset by the rise of \$1,410 million in the inflow from portfolio investment and institutional loans.

. The net outflow on account of Australian investment abroad was \$2,138 million, up \$564 million

on the net outflow for the corresponding period the previous financial year.

#### **Levels of reserves**

At 31 March 1985, Australia's holdings of official reserve assets valued at market rates of exchange and with gold holdings at market related value stood at \$13,130 million.

---

#### **TECHNICAL NOTE**

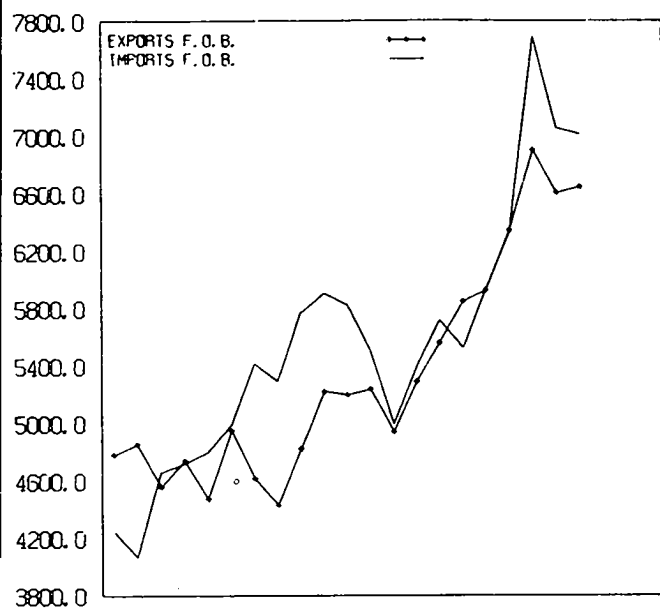
In deriving the March quarter 1985 estimate for imports f.o.b. in the balance of payments, a negative timing adjustment of \$600 million was applied to the value of imports recorded in foreign trade statistics to more truly reflect the actual flow of goods into the country. Positive adjustments of \$300 million each had previously been made in the September and December quarters of 1984 to overcome distortions arising from extraordinary changes in the volume of import transactions processed in those months by the Australian Customs Service (ACS) (see paragraphs 19 and 20 of the Explanatory Notes to the December 1984 issue of Balance of Payments, Australia (5302.0)). The negative adjustment in the March quarter 1985, which fully offsets the previous positive adjustments, represents a catch-up in the processing of import entries by the ACS.

---

## GRAPHS OF PRINCIPAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AGGREGATES

GRAPH 1 - EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

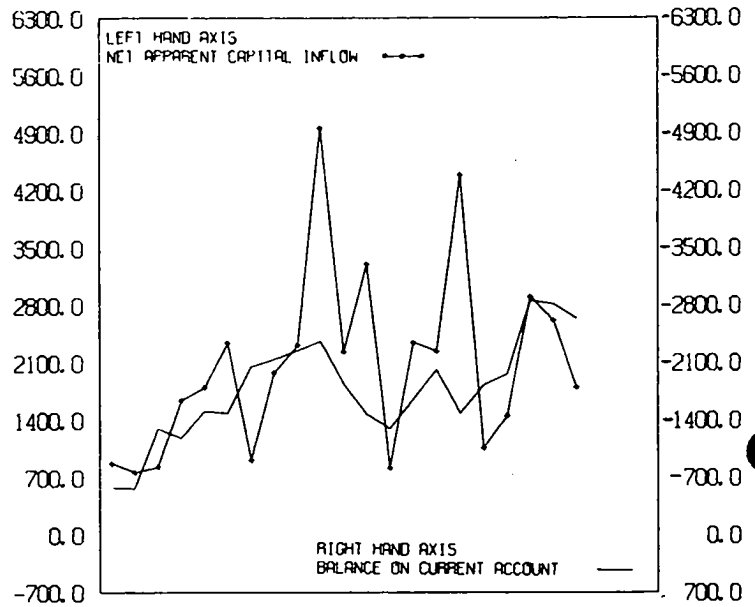
\$ MILLION



M J J S O M J J S O M J J S O M J J S O  
1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985

GRAPH 3 - BALANCE ON CURRENT ACCOUNT AND NET APPARENT CAPITAL INFLOW

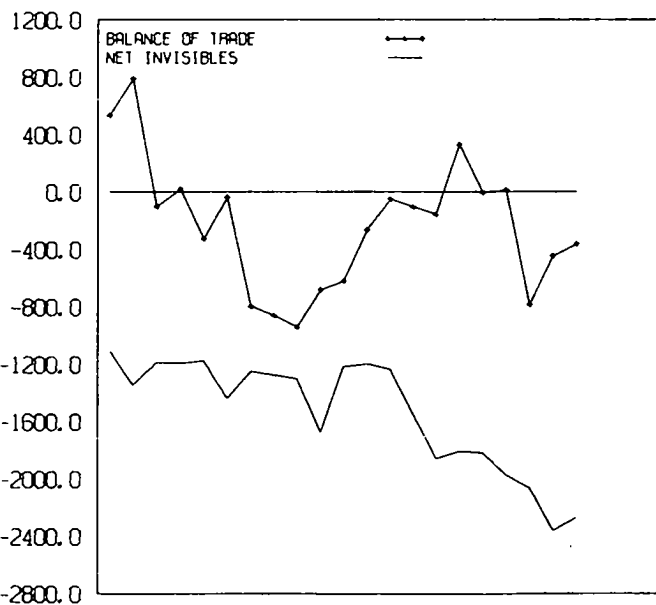
\$ MILLION



M J J S O M J J S O M J J S O M J J S O  
1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985

GRAPH 2 - BALANCE OF TRADE AND NET INVISIBLES

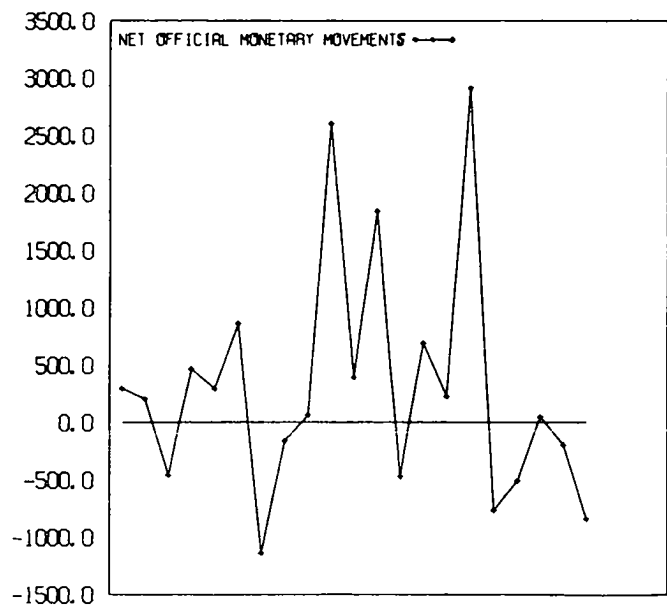
\$ MILLION



M J J S O M J J S O M J J S O M J J S O  
1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985

GRAPH 4 - NET OFFICIAL MONETARY MOVEMENTS

\$ MILLION



M J J S O M J J S O M J J S O M J J S O  
1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## INTRODUCTION

This publication contains preliminary estimates of Australia's international balance of payments for the March quarter 1985, together with revised estimates for previous quarters and financial years. More detailed estimates are published annually in **Balance of Payments, Australia** (5303.0). Descriptions of the concepts, data sources and methods used in compiling such estimates are to be found in the publication **Balance of Payments, Australia, Concepts, Sources and Methods** (5331.0) released on 19 March 1981. Changes to concepts, sources and methods since that publication are described in the 1982-83 issue of the annual balance of payments publication (5303.0), in the December quarter 1983, March quarter 1984 and September quarter 1984 issues of this publication.

2 Included are corresponding seasonally adjusted estimates of the current account. Notes on the statistics and their seasonal adjustment are provided below. Unless otherwise stated, figures reported in the commentary and tables refer to the original estimates.

3 Estimates for the more recent periods are preliminary and subject to revision. The items which can be most affected by revisions are those for which benchmark data are derived from annual surveys where long time lags in collection and processing are inevitable.

## AUSTRALIAN CURRENCY VALUES

4 The Australian currency equivalents shown in these statistics for transactions originally denominated in foreign currencies were derived by converting into Australian dollars at market rates of exchange.

## ADJUSTMENTS TO EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

5 The figures for exports and imports represent recorded trade figures adjusted in respect of coverage, timing and valuation for balance of payments purposes. Table 7 sets out the values for these adjustments. Reference should be made to the annual publication **Balance of Payments, Australia** (5303.0) for a description of the adjustments.

## NET OFFICIAL MONETARY MOVEMENTS

6 The aggregate net official monetary movements, the main component of which is changes in official reserve assets, excludes changes that do not arise from international economic transactions. The main exclusions are the allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) by the International Monetary Fund (included in changes in official reserve assets but excluded from net official monetary movements by means of the counterpart item shown in the table) and changes in the Australian dollar value of official reserve assets due to revaluations.

7 The measurement of official reserve assets is based on market valuations. Changes in the value of these assets occur not only as a result of economic transactions and certain other changes (such as the allocation of SDRs) but also as a result of fluctuations in the market value of certain assets and in the market rates of exchange used to convert them into Australian dollars. Table 9 sets out separately the changes in official reserve assets which result from transactions and certain other changes, which are recorded in the balance of payments, and revaluation changes, which are excluded from the balance of payments.

## EXCHANGE RATES AND TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX

8 Table 9 also shows the exchange rate of the Australian dollar with four major currencies and a trade-weighted index of the value of the Australian dollar.

9 The exchange rates shown are provided by the Reserve Bank of Australia and relate to the last trading day of the quarter. Prior to 12 December 1983, the rate for the US dollar was the mid-point of the rates at which the Reserve Bank was prepared to deal with Australian trading banks. From that date, the rate is a representative mid-point determined by the Reserve Bank on the basis of market quotations at 4pm Eastern Australian time. Rates for the other currencies are calculated by crossing the rate for the US dollar with the mid-points of closing buying and selling rates in New York (prior to 31 October 1983) or largely in Asian markets (from 31 October 1983); in the case of New Zealand, the rate is based on the rate between the US and New Zealand dollars as set by the

Reserve Bank of New Zealand. The rates shown are indications of market value only and could differ from those quoted by Australian banks.

10 The trade weighted index is also provided by the Reserve Bank and is an index of the average value of the Australian dollar vis-a-vis currencies of Australia's trading partners. Prior to 12 December 1983, the index was as published each morning by the Reserve Bank; from that date, the index is as calculated at 4pm on the basis of the representative rate for the US dollar and rates for other currencies, mainly from Asian markets.

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE ARRANGEMENTS

11 Effective from 12 December 1983 the Government floated the Australian dollar. An appendix to the March 1984 issue of this publication explains in detail how the interpretation of balance of payments statistics has been affected by the change.

#### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

12 Most of the current account series in this publication are affected to some extent by seasonal influences and it is useful to recognise and take account of this element of variation.

13 While some degree of seasonality may be evident in some capital account items over certain periods, the overall seasonal element is likely to be small compared with the large cyclical and irregular movements which have characterised capital flows in recent years. For these reasons, capital account items are, as in most countries, not seasonally adjusted.

14 Seasonal adjustment may be carried out by various methods and the results may vary slightly according to the procedure adopted. Accordingly, seasonally adjusted statistics are in fact only estimates and should not be regarded as in any way definitive. In interpreting particular seasonally adjusted statistics it is important, therefore, to bear in mind the methods by which they have been derived and the limitations to which the methods used are subject. Details of the seasonal adjustment methods used, together with selected measures of variability for these series, are given in **Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, Australia** (1308.0).

15 Particular care should be taken in interpreting quarter to quarter movements in the adjusted figures, especially for those items showing substantial irregular movement.

16 In order to maintain an accounting identity, the balance items (balance of trade, net invisibles and balance on current account) are derived by differencing independently adjusted series and could contain irregular fluctuations somewhat larger than those appearing in the individual series being differenced.

#### SERIES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

17 Estimates for quarters prior to those shown in this publication and in more detail are available back to the September quarter 1959. Estimates of the levels of foreign investment in Australia and Australian investment abroad as at the end of each financial year from 1979-80 to 1982-83 are also available. These series can be obtained by contacting Mr Alan Puckeridge on Canberra (062) 525507. More detailed quarterly statistics relating to transportation and international trade credit can be obtained from Mr Ross Saunders on Canberra (062) 526057.

#### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

18 Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

**Balance of Payments, Australia (5301.0) - issued monthly**

**Balance of Payments, Australia 1982-83 (5303.0)**

**Balance of Payments, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods (5331.0) - published 19 March 1981**

**Imports by Commodity Divisions, Australia (Preliminary) (5405.0) - issued monthly**

**Exports by Commodity Divisions, Australia (Preliminary) (5402.0) - issued monthly**

**Exports and Imports (Balance of Payments Basis) at Constant Prices, Australia (5332.0) - issued quarterly**

**Foreign Investment, Australia, (5305.0)**

**Foreign Investment in Enterprises in Australia (5306.0) - issued quarterly**

19 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the **Catalogue of Publications, Australia** (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a **Publications Advice** (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

## SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

nya not yet available  
 - nil or rounded to zero

20 In the following tables, minus signs (-) are used to denote current and capital account debits (ie the acquisition of goods and services from non-residents, income payable to non-residents and increases in foreign financial assets or decreases in foreign liabilities) except in the case of official monetary movements where they denote credits (ie decreases in assets, increases in liabilities, or counterpart entries to increases in official reserve assets due to either the allocation of SDRs or the monetisation of gold). Correspondingly, the absences of sign are used to denote current and capital account credits (ie the provision of goods and services to non-residents, income receivable from non-residents and decreases in

foreign financial assets or increases in foreign liabilities) except in the case of official monetary movements where they indicate debits (ie increases in assets, decreases in liabilities or the counterpart entries to decreases in official reserve assets due to either the cancellation of SDRs or the demonetisation of gold).

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

R.J. CAMERON  
 Australian Statistician

TABLE 1

## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS - CURRENT ACCOUNT

\$ MILLION

	YEAR				QUARTERS ENDED-									
	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1982-83			1983-84			1984-85			
					DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.
VISIBLE TRADE-														
EXPORTS FOB	18718	19083	20656	23669	5235	4937	5288	5557	5848	5923	6341	6902	6603	6644
IMPORTS FOB	-19169	-22376	-21705	-23497	-5501	-4989	-5394	-5715	-5520	-5932	-6330	-7691	-7052	-7010
BALANCE OF TRADE	-451	-3293	-1049	172	-266	-52	-106	-158	328	-9	11	-789	-449	-366
INVISIBLE CREDITS-														
TRANSPORTATION	2013	2095	2185	2273	561	542	530	547	581	568	577	615	643	655
TRAVEL	898	1030	1113	1277	301	311	246	283	335	350	309	308	381	414
GOVERNMENT	126	161	194	207	51	46	48	54	52	49	52	49	53	56
MISCELLANEOUS	247	288	322	362	79	82	84	87	90	92	93	95	99	101
PROPERTY INCOME	736	673	1145	1496	241	316	315	316	349	365	466	451	465	484
TRANSFERS	711	798	948	970	235	255	233	240	253	235	242	262	285	313
TOTAL INVISIBLE CREDITS	4731	5044	5907	6585	1468	1552	1456	1527	1660	1659	1739	1780	1926	2023
INVISIBLE DEBITS -														
TRANSPORTATION -														
FREIGHT ON IMPORTS	-1717	-1960	-1795	-1998	-468	-416	-424	-486	-478	-497	-537	-623	-589	-567
OTHER TRANSPORTATION	-1638	-1782	-1868	-1848	-467	-463	-447	-465	-440	-450	-493	-529	-513	-523
TRAVEL	-1561	-1696	-1857	-2053	-452	-448	-452	-507	-485	-493	-568	-628	-629	-634
GOVERNMENT	-287	-321	-371	-387	-89	-101	-104	-91	-94	-96	-106	-99	-106	-100
MISCELLANEOUS	-386	-422	-492	-611	-115	-138	-129	-142	-147	-170	-152	-180	-174	-220
PROPERTY INCOME -														
INVESTMENT INCOME -														
UNDISTRIBUTED	-829	-247	603	-625	151	151	151	-156	-156	-156	-157	-220	-220	-220
OTHER	-2127	-2770	-3781	-4852	-873	-986	-1144	-1136	-1289	-1199	-1228	-1192	-1596	-1586
ROYALTIES AND COPYRIGHTS	-126	-135	-150	-165	-38	-37	-38	-39	-39	-42	-45	-46	-46	-46
TRANSFERS -														
GOVERNMENT	-627	-733	-803	-874	-163	-211	-255	-195	-171	-233	-275	-165	-243	-238
PRIVATE	-439	-491	-600	-635	-153	-142	-165	-168	-168	-145	-154	-166	-174	-161
TOTAL INVISIBLE DEBITS	-9736	-10557	-11114	-14048	-2667	-2791	-3007	-3385	-3467	-3481	-3715	-3848	-4290	-4295
NET INVISIBLES	-5005	-5513	-5207	-7463	-1199	-1239	-1551	-1858	-1807	-1822	-1976	-2068	-2364	-2272
BALANCE ON CURRENT ACCOUNT	-5456	-8807	-6256	-7291	-1465	-1291	-1657	-2016	-1479	-1831	-1965	-2857	-2813	-2638



TABLE 2

## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS - CAPITAL ACCOUNT

\$ MILLION

	YEAR				QUARTERS ENDED-									
	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1982-83			1983-84			1984-85			
					DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.
CAPITAL INFLOW (NET) -														
GOVERNMENT CAPITAL MOVEMENTS -														
SECURITIES	-83	541	967	1184	443	107	-198	342	608	117	117	530	672	295
OTHER	35	-78	-154	-578	-83	92	-141	-165	-161	-138	-116	41	-62	-140
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	-48	463	813	606	360	199	-339	177	448	-20	1	571	610	155
PRIVATE CAPITAL MOVEMENTS -														
FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN														
ENTERPRISES IN AUSTRALIA -														
UNDISTRIBUTED INCOME	829	247	-603	625	-151	-151	-151	156	156	156	157	220	220	220
OTHER DIRECT INVESTMENT	1559	1936	1495	1588	352	365	618	724	1448	20	-604	945	-115	356
PORTFOLIO INVESTMENT AND														
INSTITUTIONAL LOANS	3646	7197	7642	6461	2445	1901	1531	693	1795	1987	1986	1218	2298	2369
TOTAL IN ENTERPRISES (A)	6034	9380	8534	8674	2646	2115	1998	1573	3399	2163	1539	2383	2403	2945
AUSTRALIAN INVESTMENT ABROAD	-455	-1012	-1455	-1738	-307	-634	-79	-223	-110	-1241	-164	-608	-542	-988
TRADE CREDIT NEI -														
PUBLIC ENTERPRISES	82	135	27	-205	16	-114	77	171	-70	-135	-171	-197	-153	-163
OTHER	-150	63	-328	224	-57	-235	18	45	-44	-4	227	-52	-4	-93
TOTAL PRIVATE	5512	8566	6779	6955	2298	1132	2014	1566	3175	783	1431	1526	1704	1701
NON-OFFICIAL MONETARY SECTOR														
TRANSACTIONS	-65	106	661	201	327	2	122	122	141	-215	153	842	544	(B)
NET IDENTIFIED														
CAPITAL INFLOW	5400	9134	8253	7762	2985	1333	1797	1865	3764	548	1585	2939	2858	1857
BALANCING ITEM	1205	1027	439	1379	318	-518	547	374	625	513	-132	-38	-245	-61 (C)
NET APPARENT														
CAPITAL INFLOW	6605	10161	8692	9141	3303	815	2344	2239	4388	1061	1453	2901	2613	1795
OFFICIAL MONETARY MOVEMENTS -														
CHANGES IN OFFICIAL														
RESERVE ASSETS	1101	1364	2460	1855	1876	-482	660	241	2924	-752	-558	68	-179	-815
ALLOCATION OF SDRS	-86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER TRANSACTIONS	134	-10	-24	-5	-38	6	27	-18	-15	-19	46	-24	-21	-28
NET OFFICIAL														
MONETARY MOVEMENTS	1149	1354	2436	1850	1838	-476	687	223	2909	-770	-512	44	-200	-843

(A) SEE TABLE 8 FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN ENTERPRISES IN AUSTRALIA.

(B) NOT YET AVAILABLE, INCLUDED IN THE BALANCING ITEM. (C) INCLUDES ITEM FOOTNOTED (B).

TABLE 3 BALANCE OF PAYMENTS - CURRENT ACCOUNT - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
\$ MILLION

	QUARTERS ENDED-									
	1982-83				1983-84			1984-85		
	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.
VISIBLE TRADE-										
EXPORTS FOB	5271	5190	5106	5478	5868	6087	6136	6935	6713	6948
IMPORTS FOB	-5626	-5036	-5441	-5456	-5659	-6020	-6378	-7347	-7237	-7142
BALANCE OF TRADE	-355	154	-335	22	209	67	-242	-412	-524	-194
INVISIBLE CREDITS-										
TRANSPORTATION	549	537	545	548	570	564	591	615	632	650
TRAVEL	278	283	280	300	309	320	351	327	352	378
GOVERNMENT	51	46	48	54	52	49	52	49	53	56
MISCELLANEOUS	79	82	84	87	90	92	93	95	99	101
PROPERTY INCOME	255	347	286	305	379	402	427	434	498	528
TRANSFERS	230	261	235	237	247	241	244	259	279	323
TOTAL INVISIBLE CREDITS	1442	1556	1478	1532	1648	1667	1758	1779	1912	2036
INVISIBLE DEBITS -										
TRANSPORTATION -										
FREIGHT ON IMPORTS	-471	-426	-430	-465	-481	-510	-544	-596	-592	-583
OTHER TRANSPORTATION	-474	-475	-442	-450	-449	-461	-488	-507	-526	-541
TRAVEL	-463	-460	-454	-481	-495	-508	-572	-594	-642	-655
GOVERNMENT	-91	-98	-96	-100	-95	-94	-99	-109	-108	-98
MISCELLANEOUS	-120	-125	-134	-145	-153	-155	-158	-183	-180	-203
PROPERTY INCOME -										
INVESTMENT INCOME -										
UNDISTRIBUTED	151	151	151	-156	-156	-156	-157	-220	-220	-220
OTHER	-850	-1064	-1021	-1250	-1253	-1279	-1113	-1273	-1565	-1681
ROYALTIES AND COPYRIGHTS	-38	-37	-38	-39	-39	-42	-45	-46	-46	-46
TRANSFERS -										
GOVERNMENT	-198	-191	-219	-216	-206	-211	-235	-179	-312	-216
PRIVATE	-145	-154	-166	-164	-160	-157	-154	-162	-166	-174
TOTAL INVISIBLE DEBITS	-2699	-2879	-2849	-3465	-3487	-3573	-3564	-3868	-4356	-4416
NET INVISIBLES	-1257	-1323	-1372	-1933	-1839	-1907	-1806	-2089	-2444	-2381
BALANCE ON CURRENT ACCOUNT	-1612	-1169	-1707	-1911	-1630	-1840	-2048	-2501	-2968	-2575

TABLE 4 BALANCE OF PAYMENTS - CURRENT ACCOUNT - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PRECEDING QUARTER									
	1982-83				1983-84			1984-85		
	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.
EXPORTS FOB	1.5	-1.5	-1.6	7.3	7.1	3.7	0.8	13.0	-3.2	3.5
INVISIBLE CREDITS	0.1	7.9	-5.0	3.7	7.6	1.1	5.5	1.2	7.5	6.5
IMPORTS FOB	0.6	-10.5	8.0	0.3	3.7	6.4	5.9	15.2	-1.5	-1.3
INVISIBLE DEBITS	0.4	6.7	-1.0	21.6	0.6	2.5	-0.3	8.5	12.6	1.4

TABLE 5

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS - EXPORTS FOB AND IMPORTS FOB  
\$ MILLION

	YEAR				QUARTERS ENDED-									
	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1982-83			1983-84			1984 -85			
					DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.
EXPORTS FOB -														
RURAL EXPORTS FOB -														
MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS	1593	1380	1675	1393	438	370	409	422	381	279	311	383	293	281
CEREALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS	2339	2484	1848	2817	539	504	280	297	481	1091	948	893	884	1064
SUGAR, SUGAR PREPS. AND HONEY	1199	784	608	675	154	56	183	191	225	61	198	241	115	111
WOOL AND SHEEPSKINS	1920	1875	1789	2000	464	527	453	388	517	580	515	383	522	699
OTHER (DAIRY PRODUCE, FRUIT, ETC)	1636	1752	1985	2132	505	425	554	544	510	511	567	637	560	521
TOTAL RURAL	8687	8275	7905	9017	2100	1882	1879	1842	2114	2522	2539	2537	2374	2676
NON-RURAL EXPORTS FOB -														
METAL ORES AND MINERALS	3409	3456	3852	4229	1016	849	943	1111	1130	871	1117	1140	1149	1051
MINERAL FUELS-														
COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES	1981	2295	3078	3338	686	832	871	814	827	917	780	1144	1077	1104
OTHER (1)	517	867	1058	1437	313	283	241	311	328	353	445	453	383	372
METALS AND METAL MANUFACTURES	1686	1627	1912	2156	440	468	537	569	526	508	553	529	576	496
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	912	1053	1150	1366	283	225	322	355	398	277	336	487	422	319
OTHER (2)	1528	1510	1701	2126	397	398	495	555	525	475	571	612	622	626
TOTAL NON-RURAL	10032	10808	12751	14652	3135	3055	3409	3715	3734	3401	3802	4365	4229	3968
TOTAL EXPORTS FOB	18718	19083	20656	23669	5235	4937	5288	5557	5848	5923	6341	6902	6603	6644
IMPORTS FOB -														
FOOD, BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	818	902	1017	1211	255	251	258	283	291	326	311	328	374	386
FUELS	2715	2987	3087	2209	952	746	582	501	489	610	609	694	488	520
BASIC MATERIALS	821	846	728	873	152	153	217	224	209	214	226	285	244	243
CHEMICALS (INCLUDING PLASTICS)	1563	1813	1769	2155	421	400	480	514	496	581	564	643	590	593
TEXTILES, FABRICS, ETC	978	1094	1009	1304	264	215	255	311	316	328	349	398	351	318
METALS AND METAL MANUFACTURES	1052	1357	1193	1143	300	252	251	262	246	298	337	368	363	335
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	7559	9014	8595	9261	2038	1974	2301	2300	2215	2194	2552	3236	2997	2939
OTHER	3663	4364	4307	5341	1119	998	1050	1320	1258	1381	1382	1739	1645	1676
TOTAL IMPORTS FOB	19169	22376	21705	23497	5501	4989	5394	5715	5520	5932	6330	7691	7052	7010

(1) UNTIL JULY 1981 EXCLUDES DIVISION 34

(2) UNTIL JULY 1981 INCLUDES DIVISION 34

TABLE 6 BALANCE OF PAYMENTS - EXPORTS FOB AND IMPORTS FOB - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
\$ MILLION

	QUARTERS ENDED-									
	1982-83			1983-84			1984-85			
	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE	SEPT	DEC.	MAR.
EXPORTS FOB -										
RURAL EXPORTS FOB -										
MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS	435	418	396	390	379	318	301	352	292	322
CEREALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS	624	399	260	375	562	851	883	1137	1031	824
SUGAR, SUGAR PREPS. AND HONEY	136	156	169	133	202	170	180	168	103	310
WOOL AND SHEEPSKINS	459	448	434	506	511	492	494	501	514	592
OTHER (DAIRY PRODUCE, FRUIT, ETC)	517	492	508	509	521	594	519	596	572	607
TOTAL RURAL	2171	1913	1767	1913	2175	2425	2377	2754	2512	2655
NON-RURAL EXPORTS FOB -										
METAL ORES AND MINERALS	974	929	952	1052	1080	961	1132	1073	1097	1165
MINERAL FUELS-										
COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES	725	876	801	799	874	968	718	1119	1140	1168
OTHER	296	271	253	326	313	337	472	471	365	354
METALS AND METAL MANUFACTURES	444	490	530	546	531	533	546	506	584	521
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	263	267	329	320	370	331	344	438	392	383
OTHER	398	444	474	522	525	532	547	574	623	702
TOTAL NON-RURAL	3100	3277	3339	3565	3693	3662	3759	4181	4201	4293
TOTAL EXPORTS FOB	5271	5190	5106	5478	5868	6087	6136	6935	6713	6948
IMPORTS FOB -										
FOOD, BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	252	250	266	279	287	324	321	324	369	384
FUELS	969	702	592	516	496	575	619	718	493	491
BASIC MATERIALS	162	165	216	196	224	232	225	250	262	263
CHEMICALS (INCLUDING PLASTICS)	442	403	473	493	522	585	556	617	621	597
TEXTILES, FABRICS, ETC	267	220	260	294	321	336	356	376	358	326
METALS AND METAL MANUFACTURES	316	262	244	246	260	311	326	345	385	350
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	2087	2032	2284	2196	2274	2268	2521	3091	3079	3044
OTHER	1131	1002	1106	1236	1275	1389	1454	1626	1670	1687
TOTAL IMPORTS FOB	5626	5036	5441	5456	5659	6020	6378	7347	7237	7142

TABLE 7 FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS : ADJUSTMENTS FOR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PURPOSES  
\$ MILLION

YEARS/ QUARTERS	EXPORTS				IMPORTS				
	TRADE BASIS	ADJUSTMENTS		BALANCE OF PAYMENTS BASIS	TRADE BASIS	ADJUSTMENTS			BALANCE OF PAYMENTS BASIS
		COVERAGE	TIMING			COVERAGE	TIMING	VALUATION	
1980-81	19177	-488	30	18718	18965	-62	422	-147	19169
1981-82	19575	-434	-58	19083	23005	-546	3	-86	22376
1982-83	22123	-1265	-202	20656	21806	-407	322	-16	21705
1983-84	24767	-1203	105	23669	24061	-456	-151	43	23497
1982-83 DECEMBER	5703	-422	-46	5235	5767	-148	-113	-5	5501
MARCH	5304	-316	-51	4937	4843	-53	202	-3	4989
JUNE	5578	-201	-89	5288	5191	-45	253	-5	5394
1983-84 SEPTEMBER	5850	-295	2	5557	5878	-55	-117	9	5715
DECEMBER	6082	-237	3	5848	5624	-72	-42	10	5520
MARCH	6228	-340	35	5923	6098	-149	-30	13	5932
JUNE	6607	-331	65	6341	6461	-180	38	11	6330
1984-85 SEPTEMBER	7294	-236	-156	6902	7254	-285	708 (A)(B)	14	7691
DECEMBER	6974	-414	43	6603	6898	-62	205 (B)	11	7052
MARCH	6818	-217	43	6644	7482	74	-555 (C)	9	7010

(A) A NEW TIMING ADJUSTMENT IS COMMENCED WITH THE SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1984. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE. (B) INCLUDES A POSITIVE TIMING ADJUSTMENT OF \$300 MILLION, SEE FOOTNOTE (A). (C) INCLUDES A NEGATIVE TIMING ADJUSTMENT OF \$600 MILLION, SEE FOOTNOTE (A).

TABLE 8 FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN ENTERPRISES IN AUSTRALIA  
\$ MILLION

YEARS/ QUARTERS	DIRECT INVESTMENT					PORTFOLIO INVESTMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL LOANS				
	UNDISTRI- BUTED INCOME	OTHER DIRECT INVESTMENT			TOTAL	CORPORATE EQUITIES	BORROWINGS		TOTAL	TOTAL
		CORPORATE EQUITIES	BORROWINGS	OTHER			PUBLIC NON- MONETARY ENTERPRISES	OTHER		
1980-81	829	529	570	460	2388	1290	433	1923	3646	6034
1981-82	247	-135	1109	962	2183	654	1164	5379	7197	9380
1982-83	-603	392	448	655	892	865	1694	5083	7642	8534
1983-84	625	246	1383	-41	2213	537	2289	3635	6461	8674
1982-83 DECEMBER	-151	210	131	11	201	65	516	1864	2445	2646
MARCH	-151	113	343	-91	214	229	350	1322	1901	2115
JUNE	-151	21	128	469	467	346	65	1120	1531	1998
1983-84 SEPTEMBER	156	81	-3	646	880	324	133	236	693	1573
DECEMBER	156	112	1125	211	1604	54	510	1231	1795	3399
MARCH	156	12	-75	83	176	209	1375	403	1987	2163
JUNE	157	41	336	-981	-447	-50	271	1765	1986	1539
1984-85 SEPTEMBER	220	-192	750	387	1165	20	251	947	1218	2383
DECEMBER	220	76	-18	-174	104	-191	1369	1120	2298	2402
MARCH	220	34	317	5	576	143	1178	1048	2369	2945

TABLE 9 OFFICIAL RESERVE ASSETS AND EXCHANGE RATES

YEARS/ QUARTERS	OFFICIAL RESERVE ASSETS \$ MILLION				EXCHANGE RATES (END OF YEAR/QUARTER) UNITS OF FOREIGN CURRENCY PER \$A				TRADE- WEIGHTED INDEX (END OF YEAR/QUARTER) OF VALUE OF AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR, MAY 1970 = 100	
	CHANGES INCLUDED IN THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS	CHANGES DUE TO EFFECTS OF REVALUATIONS	RESERVE BANK SERIES		U.S.A. DOLLAR	U.K. POUND	W.GERMAN MARK	JAPAN YEN		
			CHANGES IN LEVELS	LEVELS AT END OF YEAR/ QUARTER						
1980-81	1101	-1072	29	5709	1.1480	0.5895	2.747	259.51	92.9	
1981-82	1364	-556	808	6517	1.0223	0.5870	2.506	260.18	88.2	
1982-83	2460	1771	4231	10748	0.8745	0.5730	2.227	209.38	77.7	
1983-84	1855	-186	1669	12417	0.8613	0.6378	2.399	204.60	79.2	
1982-83	DECEMBER	1876	-178	1698	10094	0.9806	0.6050	2.335	229.51	83.4
	MARCH	-482	753	270	10365	0.8629	0.5867	2.094	206.99	76.1
	JUNE	660	-277	383	10748	0.8745	0.5730	2.227	209.38	77.7
1983-84	SEPTEMBER	241	-317	-76	10672	0.8965	0.6001	2.365	212.43	80.4
	DECEMBER	2924	-246	2679	13350	0.9020	0.6205	2.451	209.22	81.1
	MARCH	-752	-357	-1110	12241	0.9350	0.6461	2.426	210.22	82.9
	JUNE	-558	734	176	12417	0.8613	0.6378	2.399	204.60	79.2
1984-85	SEPTEMBER	68	(A)	(A)	12431(B)	0.8330	0.6696	2.526	204.67	80.3
	DECEMBER	-179	-194	-374	12058	0.8278	0.7130	2.606	207.24	81.3
	MARCH	-815	1886	1072	13130	0.7051	0.5641	2.172	176.94	69.2

(A) NOT AVAILABLE, SEE FOOTNOTE (B). (B) FROM SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1984, FIGURES FOR OFFICIAL RESERVE ASSETS ARE NOT FULLY COMPARABLE WITH EARLIER DATA DUE TO CHANGES IN THE RESERVE BANK'S ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES.