

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 30 MAY 1991**

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS  
AUSTRALIA  
MARCH QUARTER 1991**

**IAN CASTLES**  
**Australian Statistician**

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**CATALOGUE NO. 5302.0**

© Commonwealth of Australia 1991

## CONTENTS

<i>Table</i>		<i>Page</i>
..	Main features	1
..	Graphs of principal balance of payments aggregates	2
..	Notes on the estimates	6
..	Special article — Recording of merchandise exports and the impact of the EXIT system	9
<b>Summary tables</b>		
1	Balance of payments — summary	12
2	Current account — summary	13
3	Current account — summary — seasonally adjusted	14
4	Capital account — summary	15
<b>Current account tables</b>		
5	Exports and imports of goods and services — at current and average 1984-85 prices original and seasonally adjusted	16
6	Exports and imports of goods and services — implicit price deflators, fixed-weighted indexes and terms of trade	17
7	Merchandise (balance of payment basis)	18
8	Merchandise (balance of payments basis) — at average 1984-85 prices	19
9	Merchandise (balance of payments basis) — seasonally adjusted	20
10	Merchandise (balance of payments basis) — at average 1984-85 prices, seasonally adjusted	21
11	Merchandise — comparison with foreign trade statistics	22
12	Services credits	23
13	Services debits	24
14	Income credits	25
15	Income debits	26
16	Unrequited transfers	27
<b>Capital account tables</b>		
17	Net capital transactions of general government	28
18	Net capital transactions of the Reserve Bank	29
19	Net capital transactions of the non-official sector	30
20	Net borrowing transactions of the non-official sector	31
<b>Supplementary table</b>		
21	Official reserve assets and exchange rates.	32
..	Explanatory notes	33
..	List of special articles in recent balance of payments and foreign investment publications	35

---

**INQUIRIES** • *for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Mr Zia Abbasi on Canberra (06) 252 6689 or Mr Neil Batty on Canberra (06) 252 5540, or any ABS State office.*

• *for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.*

---

## MAIN FEATURES

Estimates of the main balance of payments aggregates for the March quarter 1991 and the preceding quarter are shown in the following table together with related data on exchange rates and the trade weighted index.

### MAIN AGGREGATES, EXCHANGE RATES AND THE TRADE-WEIGHTED INDEX

	1990-91					
	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted		
	Dec qtr	Mar qtr	Per cent change (a)	Dec qtr	Mar qtr	Per cent change (a)
<b>MAIN AGGREGATES (\$ million)</b>						
Balance on current account	- 4,435	- 3,441	+ 22	- 4,348	- 3,609	+ 17
Balance on goods and services	- 323	203	..	- 129	- 128	+ 1
Balance on merchandise trade	298	759	+ 155	627	811	+ 29
Net services	- 621	- 556	+ 10	- 756	- 939	- 24
Net income	- 4,810	- 4,237	+ 12	- 4,851	- 4,113	+ 15
Net unrequited transfers	698	593	- 15	632	632	—
Balance on capital account	412	3,491	..	..	..	..
Official	- 2,607	751	..	..	..	..
Non-official	3,019	2,740	..	..	..	..
<b>EXCHANGE RATES - UNITS OF FOREIGN CURRENCY PER \$A (b)</b>						
United States dollar	.7825	.7785	- 0.5	..	..	..
Special drawing right	.5459	.5495	+ 0.7	..	..	..
<b>TRADE-WEIGHTED INDEX OF THE VALUE OF THE \$A (MAY 1970=100) (b)</b>						
	57.2	57.7	+ 0.9	..	..	..

(a) For the current account, a minus sign means an increase in the deficit or a decrease in the surplus and a plus sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (b) Period averages.

#### March quarter 1991 compared with December quarter 1990 —

• **Balance on current account (seasonally adjusted).** The current account deficit decreased by \$739 million, due to a decrease in the net income deficit and an increase in the surplus on merchandise trade, which were only partially offset by an increase in the net services deficit. The March quarter 1991 result is the lowest deficit since September quarter 1988.

• **Merchandise exports and imports (seasonally adjusted).** Merchandise exports rose only marginally while merchandise imports fell by 1 per cent. Within merchandise exports, rural exports fell by \$229 million due to decreases in all categories. Non-rural exports rose by \$267 million, due mainly to rises in the volume of coal, coke and briquettes and transport equipment exports. The only commodity to record a significant fall was gold, mainly on account of reduced volumes. The fall in imports was due largely to a fall in the volume of imports of transport equipment.

• **Services (seasonally adjusted)** The net services deficit increased by \$183 million, largely as a result of decreased credits for "other transportation" and "other services", coupled with increased travel debits.

• **Income (seasonally adjusted).** The net income deficit decreased by \$738 million. Income credits fell slightly.

Income debits fell \$759 million, due largely to decreased dividends payable abroad.

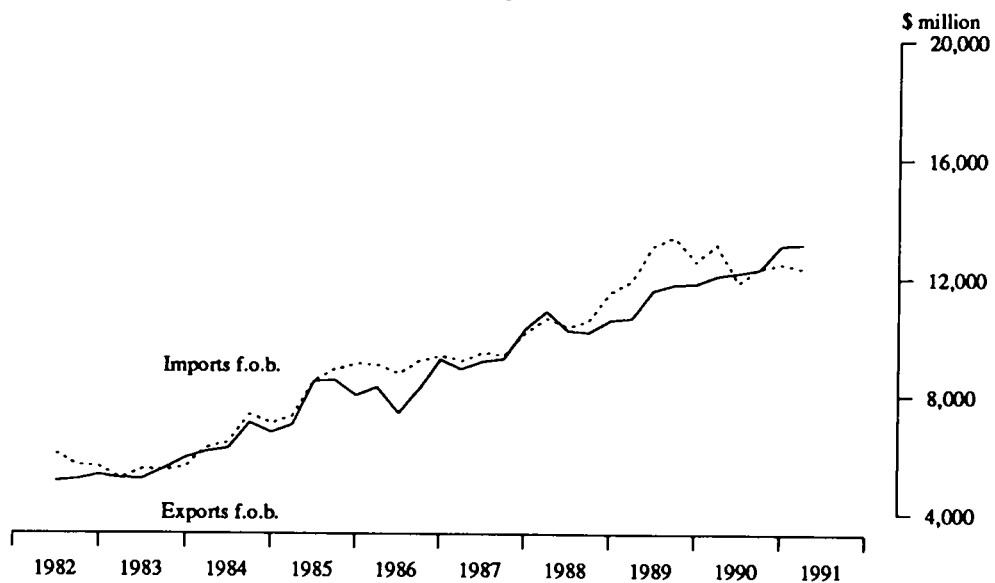
• **Unrequited transfers (seasonally adjusted).** The net unrequited transfers surplus was unchanged.

• **Official capital (not seasonally adjusted).** The turnaround of \$3,358 million, from a net outflow to a net inflow of \$751 million, mainly reflected a turnaround of \$2,133 million, to an inflow of \$676 million, in general government borrowing domiciled in Australia and a turnaround of \$1,204 million, to an inflow (or net sales of assets) of \$102 million, in official reserve assets.

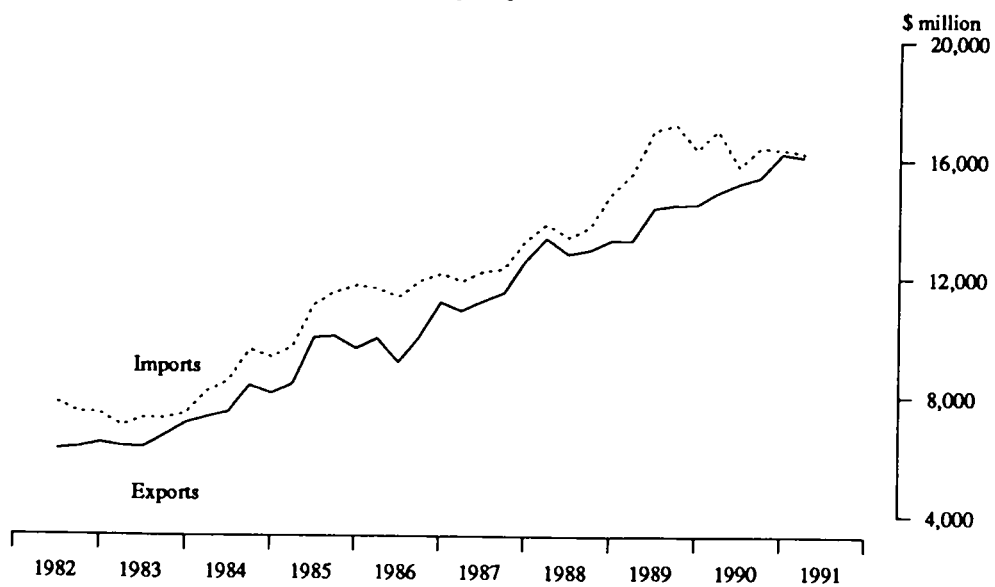
• **Non-official capital (not seasonally adjusted).** The fall of \$279 million in the net inflow was mainly due to a fall of \$264 million in the inflow from foreign investment in Australia. For foreign investment in Australia, the larger movements were a \$4,527 million turnaround (to a net inflow) in private sector borrowing from unrelated non-residents, a \$2,347 million turnaround (to a net outflow) in public sector borrowing and a \$1,869 million fall in the inflow of direct investment in Australian corporate equities. For Australian investment abroad, the most notable changes were an increased outflow (up \$585 million) on direct investment lending, a decreased outflow (down \$418 million) on direct investment in foreign corporate equities and a decreased inflow (down \$373 million) on lending to unrelated non-residents.

# GRAPHS OF PRINCIPAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AGGREGATES

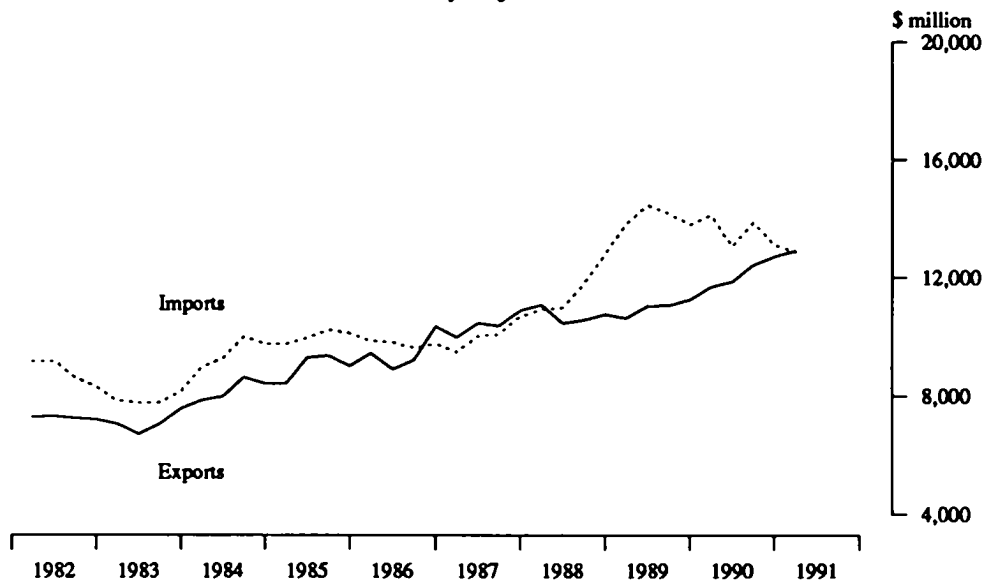
**Graph 1. Merchandise at current prices -  
seasonally adjusted**



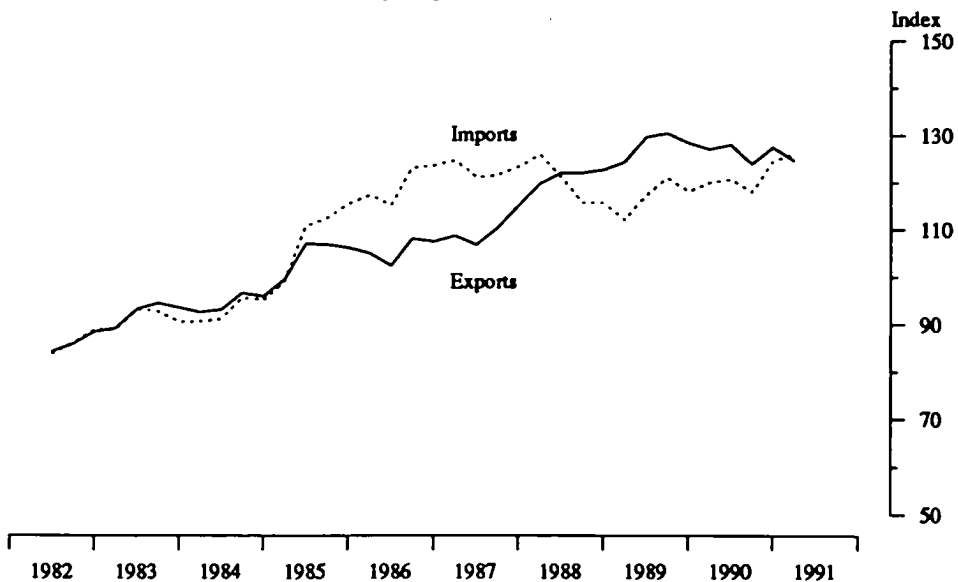
**Graph 2. Goods and services at current prices -  
seasonally adjusted**



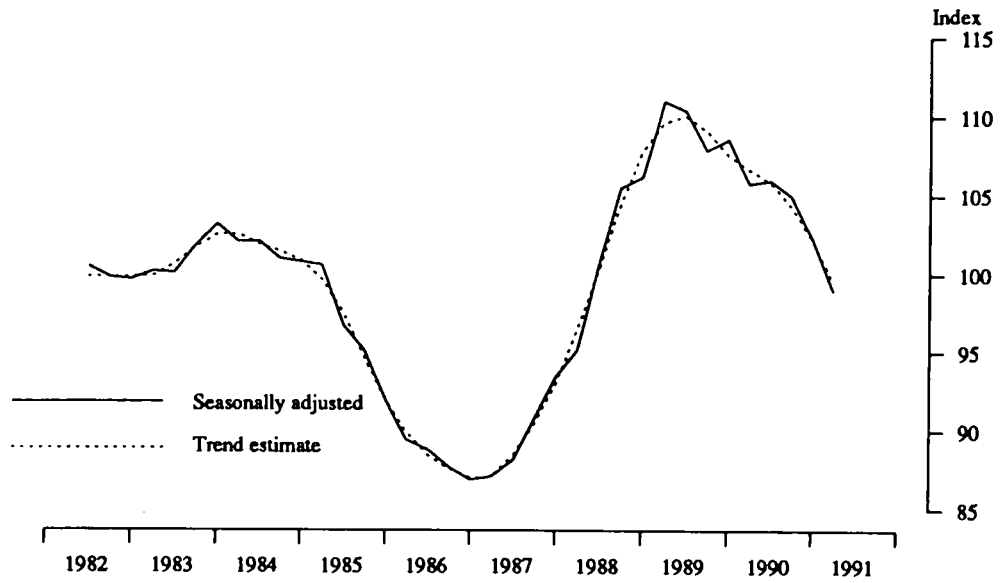
**Graph 3. Goods and services at average 1984-85 prices -  
seasonally adjusted**



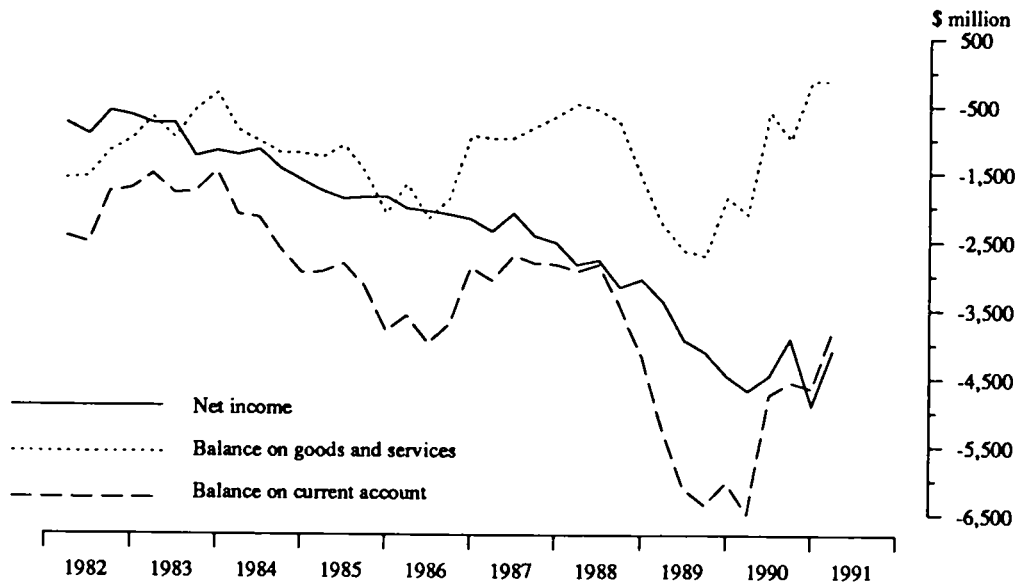
**Graph 4. Implicit price deflators for goods and services -  
based on seasonally adjusted data (1984-85=100)**



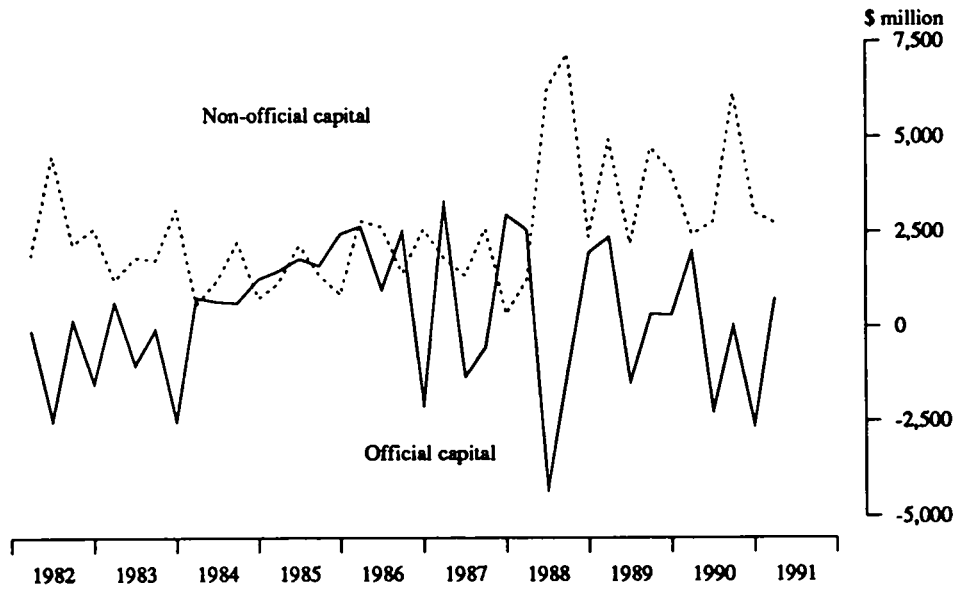
**Graph 5. Terms of trade for goods and services  
(1984-85=100)**



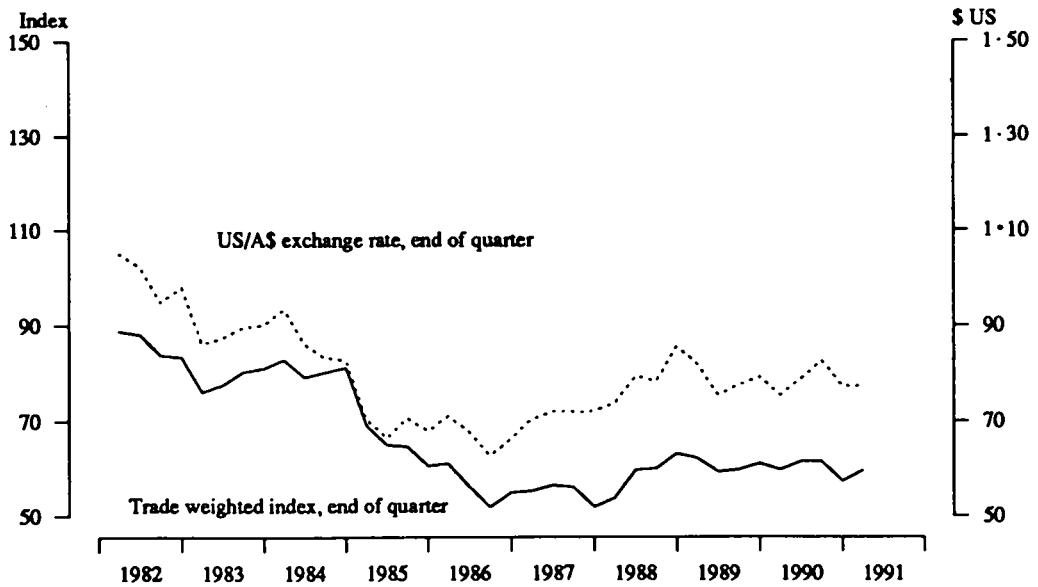
**Graph 6. Current account major aggregates at current prices  
- seasonally adjusted**



**Graph 7. Net capital transactions**



**Graph 8. Trade weighted index (May 1970=100) and US/A\$ exchange rate**





## NOTES ON THE ESTIMATES

## Goods and services

The following table shows, for the last eight quarters, the changes in exports and imports of goods and services, seasonally adjusted, at current and constant prices, and corresponding implicit price deflators, fixed-weighted price indexes, and terms of trade measures.

## PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES AND TERMS OF TRADE

	1988-89		1989-90			1990-91		
	Jun.	Sep.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sep.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>AT CURRENT PRICES, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b>								
Exports of goods and services	8.3	0.7	0.1	2.9	2.0	1.5	5.1	-0.7
Merchandise exports	8.9	1.6	0.2	2.3	0.8	1.2	6.4	0.3
Services credits	5.6	-2.7	-0.1	5.5	7.5	2.6	—	-4.7
Imports of goods and services	9.4	1.1	-4.8	4.0	-7.1	4.0	-0.4	-0.7
Merchandise imports	10.0	2.3	-6.4	4.5	-9.7	4.3	1.0	-1.2
Services debits	7.6	-2.8	0.6	2.4	1.4	3.1	-4.8	1.0
<b>AT CONSTANT (AVERAGE 1984-85) PRICES, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b>								
Exports of goods and services	4.0	—	1.8	3.9	1.3	4.7	2.3	1.6
Merchandise exports	4.1	1.5	2.5	3.9	0.6	5.4	3.3	2.6
Services credits	3.5	-6.1	-1.2	4.1	4.7	1.9	-2.7	-3.8
Imports of goods and services	4.5	-1.9	-2.6	2.4	-7.6	6.3	-5.6	-1.8
Merchandise imports	5.0	-1.3	-3.6	3.5	-9.3	7.1	-4.2	-2.0
Services debits	2.8	-4.1	1.4	-1.9	-1.1	3.4	-10.5	-0.9
<b>IMPLICIT PRICE DEFLATORS (a)</b>								
Exports of goods and services	4.1	0.7	-1.6	-1.0	0.7	-3.1	2.8	-2.2
Merchandise export	4.7	0.1	-2.2	-1.6	0.2	-3.9	3.0	-2.3
Services credits	2.1	3.5	1.1	1.3	2.6	0.6	2.8	-1.0
Imports of goods and services	4.7	3.1	-2.3	1.6	0.5	-2.2	5.5	1.1
Merchandise imports	4.7	3.7	-2.8	0.9	-0.3	-2.7	5.4	0.9
Services debits	4.7	1.3	-0.7	4.3	2.5	-0.2	6.3	1.9
<b>FIXED-WEIGHTED INDEXES (b)</b>								
Exports of goods and services	4.8	1.1	-1.5	0.9	1.2	-4.4	1.2	-1.3
Merchandise exports	5.7	0.8	-2.2	0.9	1.2	-5.5	0.7	-1.4
Services credits	—	2.5	1.8	0.9	1.8	0.9	3.5	-1.2
Imports of goods and services	5.0	2.6	-1.3	1.4	0.9	-1.6	6.2	0.8
Merchandise imports	4.8	3.1	-2.0	1.0	0.4	-2.3	5.3	1.3
Services debits	5.4	0.9	1.1	3.1	2.2	0.2	8.7	-0.4
<b>TERMS OF TRADE (c)</b>								
Goods and services	-0.5	-2.3	0.6	-2.6	0.2	-0.9	-2.6	-3.3
Merchandise trade	-0.1	-3.5	0.7	-2.6	0.6	-1.2	-2.4	-3.1
Services	-2.4	2.2	1.9	-2.8	—	0.8	-3.2	-2.9

(a) The implicit price deflators are derived by dividing seasonally adjusted current price estimates by the corresponding seasonally adjusted constant price estimates (base year 1984-85=100). (b) The fixed-weighted indexes are derived by combining individual component prices (base year 1984-85=100) with a weighting to reflect the relative importance of the components in the base year. (c) The terms of trade are derived by dividing the implicit price deflators for exports (of merchandise and services) by the implicit price deflators for imports (of merchandise and services).

March quarter 1991 compared with December quarter 1990, seasonally adjusted ("*Volume*" refers to values at average 1984-85 prices and "*price*" refers to implicit price deflators) —

*Exports of merchandise* at current prices were virtually unchanged from the December quarter. Rural exports fell \$229 million or 7 per cent, with falls being recorded in all commodity groupings. The volume of rural exports fell 5 per cent, with wool (up \$29 million) being the only commodity grouping to record a volume increase. Non-rural exports rose \$267 million or 3 per cent, with the largest increases occurring in transport equipment, up \$287 million; coal, coke and briquettes, up \$196 million; and "other non-rural" exports, up \$137 million. These increases were all due mainly to increased volumes. The increase in transport equipment volumes reflected the export of five civil aircraft by Qantas in the March quarter compared to none in the previous quarter. The largest fall was in gold, down \$329 million from the high December quarter exports, due largely to reduced volumes.

*Services credits* at current prices fell \$144 million or 5 per cent, as a result of a 1 per cent fall in prices and a 4 per cent fall in volume.

The *implicit price deflator* for total exports of goods and services fell 2 per cent. On a fixed-weighted basis export prices fell 1 per cent, indicating that compositional changes accounted for about half of the fall in the IPD.

### Exogenous imports

For purposes of analysing movements in merchandise imports, the categories exogenous and endogenous imports are shown in various tables in this publication. Statistics on the main components of exogenous imports at current

*Imports of merchandise* at current prices fell by \$146 million or 1 per cent. The largest fall occurred in transport equipment, down \$233 million, due mainly to a fall in volumes. Exogenous imports fell by \$127 million or 8 per cent, due to falls in fuel prices and reduced imports of civil aircraft. Endogenous imports fell marginally. The overall volume of endogenous imports fell 3 per cent, while prices rose by a similar amount. In terms of volume, consumption goods fell 8 per cent, capital goods fell 7 per cent and other goods rose 3 per cent.

*Services debits* at current prices rose \$39 million or 1 per cent, due to a 1 per cent fall in volumes being more than offset by a 2 per cent rise in prices.

The *implicit price deflator* for imports of goods and services rose 1 per cent. On a fixed-weighted basis, prices also rose 1 per cent, indicating that the rise in the IPD was caused almost exclusively by price changes, with compositional changes having little influence.

Australia's *terms of trade* fell 3 per cent, reflecting the fall in the IPD for exports of goods and services and the rise in the IPD for imports of goods and services. On a smoothed basis the terms of trade also fell 3 per cent.

It should be noted that at the time of compilation of the statistics in this publication the available information on the prices and quantities of internationally traded goods for the latest quarter is preliminary in nature and therefore subject to revision.

prices are shown in the following table so that the impact of identified and sizeable lumpy transactions upon total merchandise imports and other key aggregates can be more readily assessed.

EXOGENOUS MERCHANDISE IMPORTS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)  
(\$ million)

Period	Fuels (a)	Civil Aircraft (b)	Other (c)	Total	Per cent of total merchandise imports
1987-88	2,036	189	1,604	3,829	9.5
1988-89	2,014	837	1,335	4,186	8.9
1989-90	2,520	1,247	1,003	4,770	9.4
1988-89 —					
December qtr	295	471	373	1,139	9.6
March qtr	561	149	284	994	8.6
June qtr	747	135	372	1,254	9.9
1989-90 —					
September qtr	632	489	257	1,378	9.9
December qtr	697	173	248	1,118	8.6
March qtr	601	373	240	1,214	9.6
June qtr	590	212	258	1,060	9.2
1990-91 —					
September qtr	543	560	277	1,380	10.8
December qtr	1,060	423	216	1,699	13.2
March qtr	891	366	223	1,480	12.4

(a) SITC Section 3. (b) Acquisition of aircraft by selected major airline companies. (c) Acquisition of associated aircraft equipment (e.g. spare engines etc), defence equipment and ships by selected public sector enterprises and certain other government goods.

## Revisions

The current price (not seasonally adjusted) estimates in this publication for the current account are consistent with those published in the March 1991 issue of 5301.0, with the exception of estimates relating to investment income. The investment income estimates have been revised to take account of the latest available information from the Survey of Foreign Investment, including preliminary data for the March quarter 1991. The revisions have increased the net income deficit for 1989-90 by \$765 million and reduced the net income deficit for the year to March 1991 by \$711 million.

In addition, a further analysis of the pattern of student travel expenditure since the annual seasonal reanalysis undertaken in the December quarter 1990 has resulted in minor revisions to the seasonally adjusted current and constant price estimates for travel credits.

There was a downward revision of \$401 million to the seasonally adjusted constant price merchandise exports series. About half of this was due to incomplete quantity data for the December month when the December quarter 1990 constant price series were being compiled. There was also a misclassification of a component of gold which led to the use of an incorrect base year unit value; and a revision to the quantity of coal underlying the December quarter 1990 constant price estimates.

For the capital account, revisions are due to more up to date information from the Survey of Foreign Investment and other sources.

## RECORDING OF MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND THE IMPACT OF THE EXIT SYSTEM

### INTRODUCTION

In December 1988 the Australian Customs Service (ACS) commenced the progressive implementation of EXIT, a new system for exports electronic entry and cargo reporting. From about mid 1991 all exporters, or their agents, will be required to lodge entries for exportation *prior* to shipment by either utilising the EXIT computer system or presenting the appropriate documentation to the customs authorities.

When fully operational it is expected that EXIT will provide both more effective customs control over high risk exports and an improved timing basis on which exports statistics can be compiled.

As customs documentation is the prime source used in the compilation of foreign trade statistics and the related merchandise trade series in the balance of payments and national accounts, the impact of the implementation of EXIT on these statistical series is examined in this article. The following sections explain the previous and current arrangements employed by the ACS in exports entry and cargo reporting, the way the ABS uses the ACS source data in statistical compilation and the expected impact of the full implementation of EXIT on merchandise exports statistical series.

### PRE EXIT RECORDING PRACTICES

#### ACS Export Entries and the Export Return Scheme

Up until the late 1970s all traders wishing to export goods from Australia were required to lodge with the ACS, prior to shipment, an export *entry*. From the mid 1970s the Export Return Scheme (ERS) was introduced which allowed exporters to report exports either on an entry basis or on a periodic, retrospective *returns* basis. Under the ERS, these returns could be lodged post-shipment on a weekly or monthly basis, up to 7 days after the week or month in which the goods were exported.

The appropriate entry or return authority was required before goods intended for export could be legally included on a cargo manifest and a certificate of clearance given to the vessel or aircraft carrying the goods.

With the progressive implementation of EXIT, a decreasing proportion of exports have been lodged under the entry and return schemes over the last couple of years. Currently 40 per cent of exports by value are lodged under these arrangements.

#### Compilation of Merchandise Exports Statistics

For a variety of reasons the source data provided by the ACS from the entry and return schemes require further processing and amendment by the ABS before they can be used for statistical purposes. The main reasons for revision to these data before they can be incorporated in foreign trade and balance of payments statistics relate to inaccurate reporting, incomplete coverage or duplicate reporting.

Apart from basic checks to ensure that all returns are received and that relationships between reported items on either the entries or the returns are correct, the ABS makes additional checks to validate significant changes in the pattern of reported exports and to ensure that the data are consistent with independently-sourced information from exporters, exporter associations, monitoring agencies and other users of the statistics.

One consequence of post-shipment lodgement under the ERS is that information about goods exported from Australia is available only with some delay. To ensure the timely compilation of foreign trade statistics the ABS therefore adopted, in conjunction with the ACS's introduction of the ERS, a *statistical month* for recording exports data. For main ports (generally ports at which the main ACS office in each State is located) the statistical month incorporates all entries lodged in a calendar month together with all returns due to be lodged in that month. For other ports, or outports, the statistical month closes on the 21st day of each month. For these outports, entries lodged and returns due to be lodged after the 21st are incorporated into the next month's statistics.

This practice means that preliminary estimates of exports lodged under the entry and return schemes for a statistical month can be compiled for inclusion in foreign trade statistics within four working days after the end of that month. The data actually include only about 40 per cent of that month's exports lodged under the schemes, with 55 per cent to be recorded in the next statistical month and the balance in subsequent periods.

Merchandise exports series in the balance of payments and national accounts are compiled primarily using the foreign trade statistics. However, merchandise statistics on a "balance of payments" basis should, in principle, record transactions when change of ownership occurs. A number of adjustments are therefore made to the foreign trade statistics to approximate change of ownership. For exports, these adjustments can be broadly grouped into two categories: *coverage* and *timing*.

Coverage adjustments are made: to include exports for which customs entries are not required; to exclude bunkers and stores for ships and aircraft, which are included in the transportation item in the balance of payments; and to exclude goods which cross the customs frontier without change of ownership.

Timing adjustments are made for goods changing ownership either before or after crossing the customs frontier. For most merchandise transactions, the shipping date is regarded as a good approximation to the time of change of ownership. While the foreign trade statistics used in the compilation of the balance of payments (and national accounts) could be compiled on a shipping date basis, delays in reporting data under the ERS would mean that some delays would be experienced in producing the balance of payments (and national accounts). Timing adjustments are therefore made, where practicable, to compensate for the lags in processing inherent in the adoption of a statistical month for the compilation of foreign trade statistics. It is only practicable to make these adjustments for selected commodities for which export marketing is in the hands of a small number of organisations. Wheat and sugar are in

this category. Monthly details of exports of these commodities are obtained from the relevant marketing authorities and used to adjust foreign trade statistics for balance of payments (and national accounts) purposes. Timing adjustments are also made for certain goods, such as those shipped on consignment, where ownership is known to change either before or after crossing the customs frontier.

#### Data quality

As mentioned above, using statistical months to record exports lodged under the entry and return schemes enables preliminary estimates of exports, on a foreign trade statistics basis, to be compiled within four working days after the end of the month. Prior to 1990 this, in turn, enabled the very timely production of monthly balance of payments estimates. For example, during 1989 the monthly balance of payments publication (5301.0) was generally produced 12 working days after the end of the month.

Deficiencies in exports statistics compiled from the entry and return schemes are largely concerned with the time of recording. As mentioned earlier, in the compilation of the balance of payments and national accounts not all exports are adjusted to a change of ownership basis, although ideally they should be. It is not practical to contact all traders about the time when change of ownership occurs with each shipment. While shipping date might be a good practical approximation for change of ownership for most goods, imbalances occur between recording some exports on a statistical month basis and recording the related financing transactions on a change of ownership basis.

The recording of exports, at least partially, on a statistical month basis can also lead to further imbalances in the national accounts. Data on the stocks of goods held by producers and others will be on a change of ownership basis whereas one source for changes in those stocks, the export of the goods, will be on a statistical month basis. For example, a reported decline in stocks in one quarter may not appear in exports statistics until the following quarter.

Apart from the above mentioned timing problems associated with recording exports on a statistical month basis, the accuracy of merchandise exports statistics compiled from the entry and return schemes, in particular the more final estimates, is considered to be good. Recent comparisons of Australia's export statistics with our major trading partners' imports statistics reveal only very small differences.

The reliability of exports statistics compiled from these schemes, as measured by revisions to the first published estimates, is also considered to be very good.

### CURRENT SITUATION

#### Progressive implementation of EXIT

As mentioned earlier, the ACS is implementing the EXIT system in phases. The first phase, requiring exporters and agents to either lodge data electronically or provide pre-shipment documentation to the ACS for entry into the EXIT system, has been progressively implemented over the past two years, and is now expected to be completed by mid 1991. This phase requires exporters (or their agents)

to lodge with the ACS their pre-shipment expectations, which can be reported up to months in advance of any export occurring. These expectations can be revised, withdrawn or result in an eventual export. Export outcomes may or may not closely match the expectations initially lodged by the exporters and agents. Where outcomes do not match expectations provision exists to subsequently amend the export details.

At present, about 60 per cent of total exports by value are being lodged with the ACS through EXIT. The remainder of exports are still being lodged under the entry and returns schemes.

In the interim operation of EXIT where only the first phase is in place, the ACS notifies the ABS of export expectations which translate into export activity by providing certain shipment details.

This notification will eventually be replaced by the second phase of EXIT, which will allow for cargo manifests to be lodged electronically with the ACS. This phase is currently being trialled and the ACS expect implementation over the next few years as shipping and airline companies adopt this option. Where manifests continue to be lodged on paper, ACS will provide that information electronically to the ABS.

The third phase will involve the ACS in upgrading its audit and risk assessment activities.

#### Compilation of Merchandise Exports Statistics

In order to maintain a consistent time series, information being reported through EXIT is being adjusted by the ABS to compile foreign trade statistics on the same basis as they would have been compiled prior to EXIT, that is on the statistical month basis. As such, balance of payments and national accounts merchandise trade statistics are continuing to be compiled on a basis consistent with historical series.

#### Data quality

Problems associated with the partial and progressive implementation of EXIT over the last year have delayed the provision of exports information to the ABS by the ACS, with consequent delays in the compilation of foreign trade and balance of payments statistics. In particular, the timeliness of the monthly balance of payments publication has deteriorated significantly, from 12 working days after the end of the reference period in 1989 to about 24 working days at present. There have also been disruptions, although less severe, to the timeliness of the quarterly balance of payments publication and certain foreign trade releases.

The interim arrangements, with the dual processing of both ERS and EXIT data, have also affected the quality of reported information. The introduction of a dependence on two pieces of information (the lodgement of the expectation and the subsequent validation via an ACS notice of shipment) to enable the identification of exports under the EXIT system has made it more difficult to ensure good coverage of exports. Teething problems have also been encountered with the initial implementation of EXIT. The ABS and ACS are jointly working to overcome these problems and the ACS is progressively implementing sys-

tem enhancements. Nevertheless, the accuracy of aggregate statistics has suffered somewhat and the export series are now subject to greater revision.

The more detailed foreign trade statistics have also been affected by the interim arrangements. At the very detailed levels of classification by commodity, by country or by other indicatives, both for value but also for quantities exported, these statistics have been more subject to revision and are considered to be less accurate than before. Again, changes either being implemented by the ACS or under active consideration are designed to address these issues.

## **FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

### **Full implementation of EXIT**

As mentioned in the previous section, full implementation of all phases will not occur for some years but implementation of the first phase is expected to be completed by mid 1991. Legislation repealing the ERS and establishing EXIT as the new basis for exports reporting has recently been passed by both Houses of Parliament and is expected to be effective from 1 June 1991. When the ERS is fully phased out, pre-shipment information will be available for almost all exports, either lodged electronically by exporters and agents or submitted on paper to the ACS for entry into the EXIT system.

### **Change to Shipment Date Recording of Merchandise Trade Statistics**

As mentioned previously, the ACS are taking a number of measures to overcome the teething problems associated with the implementation of EXIT. The full implementation of EXIT phase one, coupled with the measures being undertaken by the ACS, are expected to allow timely compilation of merchandise exports statistics on a shipping date basis. This is currently expected to occur early in 1992. This development will provide for a somewhat better match of exports and related financing and stocks measures in the economic accounts and obviate the need for the ABS to undertake the special collections required to make some of the balance of payments timing adjustments.

The move to a shipping date basis for recording merchandise exports statistics will cause a break in the continuity of merchandise exports time series in foreign trade, balance of payments and national accounts statistics. In order to assist users in overcoming this discontinuity, exports series back to 1981 will be recompiled on the shipping date basis

and published at the same time as the new timing basis is introduced.

Further details of the move to a shipping date basis will be provided in this publication when the exact date of introduction is finalised.

### **Data quality**

The impact on exports statistics of full EXIT implementation will be monitored and significant changes in data timeliness and quality will be noted in the relevant publications.

Compared with the current situation, some improvement in timeliness of exports data can be expected by late 1991 as EXIT phase one is fully implemented and as the ACS enhancements to the system take effect. With the completion of the second phase of EXIT allowing, at least in part, electronic matching of exports details with ships' manifest details, further improvements in timeliness can be expected. It is unlikely, however, that statistics compiled on a shipping date basis will ever be as timely as those previously compiled on a statistical month basis. In particular, it is highly unlikely that there will be a return to the "12 working day" timeliness previously achieved for the release of the monthly balance of payments publication (5301.0).

As the ACS implement changes to EXIT, improvements in data quality compared with the current situation can be expected. The ABS will continue to monitor the quality of exports reporting under EXIT and liaise with the ACS to address system shortcomings. However, the uncertainties associated with the pre-shipment lodgement of exports information (for example, sales prices of goods might not have been established at the time an export entry is lodged) are likely to have a continuing impact upon the reliability of initial estimates. The ABS is working with the ACS to ensure that these risks are minimised.

Overall, the quality of exports statistics is expected to be much the same after full implementation of EXIT as it was prior to the progressive implementation of the new system. There will be gains in terms of the provision of timely data on a shipping date basis, offset by increased risk of revision from using pre-shipment lodgement details. While there should be an improvement in the timeliness of the monthly balance of payments publication compared to the current situation, it is not expected that there will be a return to the 12 working day timetable achieved prior to the introduction of EXIT.

TABLE 1. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS — SUMMARY  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Current transactions —</b>													
<i>Goods and services —</i>													
<i>Merchandise (a) —</i>													
Exports fob	40,541	43,073	47,815	10,670	10,435	11,911	11,732	11,899	11,722	12,462	12,397	13,207	12,705
Imports fob	-40,386	-47,032	-50,991	-11,860	-11,511	-12,697	-13,897	-12,943	-12,686	-11,465	-12,805	-12,909	-11,946
<i>Balance on merchandise trade</i>	155	-3,959	-3,176	-1,190	-1,076	-786	-2,165	-1,044	-964	997	-408	298	759
<i>Services —</i>													
Credits	9,517	10,729	11,115	2,765	2,830	2,562	2,514	2,722	3,091	2,788	2,909	3,168	3,248
Debits	-12,213	-13,830	-15,310	-3,249	-3,502	-3,829	-3,925	-3,719	-3,769	-3,897	-4,221	-3,789	-3,804
<i>Net services</i>	-2,696	-3,101	-4,195	-484	-672	-1,267	-1,411	-997	-678	-1,109	-1,312	-621	-556
<i>Balance on goods and services</i>	-2,541	-7,060	-7,371	-1,674	-1,748	-2,053	-3,576	-2,041	-1,642	-112	-1,720	-323	203
<i>Income —</i>													
Credits	3,995	4,126	4,602	959	1,108	1,136	1,105	1,108	1,080	1,309	1,373	1,076	1,025
Debits	-14,450	-17,657	-21,645	-4,095	-4,588	-5,065	-4,904	-5,415	-5,779	-5,547	-5,104	-5,886	-5,262
<i>Net income</i>	-10,455	-13,531	-17,043	-3,136	-3,480	-3,929	-3,799	-4,307	-4,699	-4,238	-3,731	-4,810	-4,237
<i>Unrequited transfers —</i>													
Credits	3,545	4,210	4,518	1,030	1,095	1,155	1,213	1,061	1,166	1,078	1,162	1,199	1,188
Debits	-1,881	-2,012	-2,172	-472	-559	-569	-450	-485	-662	-575	-493	-501	-595
<i>Net unrequited transfers</i>	1,664	2,198	2,346	558	536	586	763	576	504	503	669	698	593
<b>Balance on current account</b>	<b>-11,332</b>	<b>-18,393</b>	<b>-22,068</b>	<b>-4,252</b>	<b>-4,692</b>	<b>-5,396</b>	<b>-6,612</b>	<b>-5,772</b>	<b>-5,837</b>	<b>-3,847</b>	<b>-4,782</b>	<b>-4,435</b>	<b>-3,441</b>
<b>Net capital transactions —</b>													
<i>Official —</i>													
<i>General government —</i>													
Foreign investment in Australia	4,287	3,035	2,660	2,215	2,238	-1,500	949	1,364	756	-409	-64	-1,424	729
Australian investment abroad	415	-359	-86	96	-80	11	61	-607	430	30	207	-92	-167
<i>Total</i>	4,702	2,676	2,574	2,311	2,158	-1,489	1,010	757	1,186	-379	143	-1,516	562
<i>Reserve bank —</i>													
Foreign investment in Australia	-8	—	24	64	-18	-10	—	-6	-4	34	-23	11	87
Australian investment abroad	-3,924	-873	-2,156	-410	250	45	-672	-424	822	-1,882	-74	-1,102	102
<i>Total</i>	-3,932	-873	-2,132	-346	232	35	-672	-430	818	-1,848	-97	-1,091	189
<i>Total official</i>	770	1,803	442	1,965	2,390	-1,454	338	327	2,004	-2,227	46	-2,607	751
<i>Non-official —</i>													
Foreign investment in Australia	23,474	28,173	17,794	3,685	8,552	6,229	6,213	4,421	6,907	253	4,009	4,494	4,230
Australian investment abroad	-12,993	-11,419	-3,702	-1,303	-3,596	-4,017	-1,479	-327	-4,446	2,550	2,171	-1,475	-1,490
<i>Total non-official</i>	10,481	16,754	14,092	2,382	4,956	2,212	4,734	4,094	2,461	2,803	6,180	3,019	2,740
<b>Balance on capital account</b>	<b>11,251</b>	<b>18,557</b>	<b>14,534</b>	<b>4,347</b>	<b>7,346</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>5,072</b>	<b>4,421</b>	<b>4,465</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>6,226</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>3,491</b>
<i>Balancing item</i>	81	-164	7,534	-95	-2,654	4,638	1,540	1,351	1,372	3,271	-1,444	4,023	-50

(a) Balance of payments basis.

TABLE 2. CURRENT ACCOUNT — SUMMARY  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Current transactions —</b>													
<i>Goods and services —</i>													
<i>Merchandise (a) —</i>													
Exports fob	40,541	43,073	47,815	10,670	10,435	11,911	11,732	11,899	11,722	12,462	12,397	13,207	12,705
Imports fob	-40,386	-47,032	-50,991	-11,860	-11,511	-12,697	-13,897	-12,943	-12,686	-11,465	-12,805	-12,909	-11,946
<i>Balance on merchandise trade</i>	155	-3,959	-3,176	-1,190	-1,076	-786	-2,165	-1,044	-964	997	-408	298	759
<i>Services —</i>													
<i>Credits —</i>													
Shipment	537	554	535	134	143	147	144	129	121	141	145	140	144
Other transportation	3,142	3,209	3,437	839	805	771	798	827	939	873	918	1,044	996
Travel	3,565	4,345	4,231	1,209	1,203	874	873	1,047	1,325	986	1,066	1,197	1,378
Other services	2,273	2,621	2,912	583	679	770	699	719	706	788	780	787	730
<i>Total services credits</i>	9,517	10,729	11,115	2,765	2,830	2,562	2,514	2,722	3,091	2,788	2,909	3,168	3,248
<i>Debits —</i>													
Shipment	-2,856	-3,176	-3,269	-760	-808	-872	-871	-848	-795	-755	-792	-767	-738
Other transportation	-2,510	-2,912	-3,421	-711	-736	-804	-838	-869	-827	-887	-905	-888	-788
Travel	-3,712	-4,342	-5,070	-938	-1,045	-1,321	-1,382	-1,135	-1,250	-1,303	-1,554	-1,192	-1,298
Other services	-3,135	-3,400	-3,550	-840	-913	-832	-834	-867	-897	-952	-970	-942	-980
<i>Total services debits</i>	-12,213	-13,830	-15,310	-3,249	-3,502	-3,829	-3,925	-3,719	-3,769	-3,897	-4,221	-3,789	-3,804
<i>Net services</i>	-2,696	-3,101	-4,195	-484	-672	-1,267	-1,411	-997	-678	-1,109	-1,312	-621	-556
<i>Balance on goods and services</i>	-2,541	-7,060	-7,371	-1,674	-1,748	-2,053	-3,576	-2,041	-1,642	-112	-1,720	-323	203
<i>Income —</i>													
<i>Credits —</i>													
<i>Property income —</i>													
Reinvested earnings	2,163	2,029	1,592	507	507	508	398	398	398	398	368	368	368
Other	1,656	1,907	2,648	406	553	580	652	657	631	708	795	653	602
Labour and other income	176	190	362	46	48	48	55	53	51	203	210	55	55
<i>Total income credits</i>	3,995	4,126	4,602	959	1,108	1,136	1,105	1,108	1,080	1,309	1,373	1,076	1,025
<i>Debits —</i>													
<i>Property income —</i>													
Reinvested earnings	-2,428	-2,132	-1,536	-533	-533	-533	-384	-384	-384	-384	-355	-355	-355
Other	-11,812	-15,246	-19,765	-3,503	-3,968	-4,457	-4,439	-4,942	-5,302	-5,082	-4,663	-5,433	-4,813
Labour and other income	-210	-279	-344	-59	-87	-75	-81	-89	-93	-81	-86	-98	-94
<i>Total income debits</i>	-14,450	-17,657	-21,645	-4,095	-4,588	-5,065	-4,904	-5,415	-5,779	-5,547	-5,104	-5,886	-5,262
<i>Net income</i>	-10,455	-13,531	-17,043	-3,136	-3,480	-3,929	-3,799	-4,307	-4,699	-4,238	-3,731	-4,810	-4,237
<i>Unrequited transfers —</i>													
<i>Credits</i>	3,545	4,210	4,518	1,030	1,095	1,155	1,213	1,061	1,166	1,078	1,162	1,199	1,188
<i>Debits</i>	-1,881	-2,012	-2,172	-472	-559	-569	-450	-485	-662	-575	-493	-501	-595
<i>Net unrequited transfers</i>	1,664	2,198	2,346	558	536	586	763	576	504	503	669	698	593
<b>Balance on current account</b>	<b>-11,332</b>	<b>-18,393</b>	<b>-22,068</b>	<b>-4,252</b>	<b>-4,692</b>	<b>-5,396</b>	<b>-6,612</b>	<b>-5,772</b>	<b>-5,837</b>	<b>-3,847</b>	<b>-4,782</b>	<b>-4,435</b>	<b>-3,441</b>

(a) Balance of payments basis.



TABLE 3. CURRENT ACCOUNT — SUMMARY — SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(\$ million)

	Quarters ended-									
	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Current transactions —</b>										
<i>Goods and services —</i>										
<i>Merchandise (a) —</i>										
Exports fob	10,584	10,652	11,605	11,787	11,811	12,080	12,175	12,323	13,116	13,154
Imports fob	-11,527	-11,924	-13,117	-13,420	-12,564	-13,129	-11,861	-12,366	-12,489	-12,343
<i>Balance on merchandise trade</i>	<i>-943</i>	<i>-1,272</i>	<i>-1,512</i>	<i>-1,633</i>	<i>-753</i>	<i>-1,049</i>	<i>314</i>	<i>-43</i>	<i>627</i>	<i>811</i>
<i>Services —</i>										
<i>Credits —</i>										
Shipment	134	143	147	144	129	121	141	145	140	144
Other transportation	805	770	810	829	798	902	913	953	1,009	950
Travel	1,116	996	1,045	982	990	1,074	1,207	1,202	1,130	1,119
Other services	604	683	736	708	743	708	753	791	812	734
<i>Total services credits</i>	<i>2,659</i>	<i>2,592</i>	<i>2,738</i>	<i>2,663</i>	<i>2,660</i>	<i>2,805</i>	<i>3,014</i>	<i>3,091</i>	<i>3,091</i>	<i>2,947</i>
<i>Debits —</i>										
Shipment	-746	-836	-892	-841	-831	-822	-773	-766	-750	-762
Other transportation	-707	-764	-793	-824	-861	-857	-874	-885	-878	-815
Travel	-990	-1,096	-1,355	-1,228	-1,200	-1,309	-1,337	-1,381	-1,263	-1,354
Other services	-851	-892	-820	-857	-882	-875	-935	-1,010	-956	-955
<i>Total services debits</i>	<i>-3,294</i>	<i>-3,588</i>	<i>-3,860</i>	<i>-3,750</i>	<i>-3,774</i>	<i>-3,863</i>	<i>-3,919</i>	<i>-4,042</i>	<i>-3,847</i>	<i>-3,886</i>
<i>Net services</i>	<i>-635</i>	<i>-996</i>	<i>-1,122</i>	<i>-1,087</i>	<i>-1,114</i>	<i>-1,058</i>	<i>-905</i>	<i>-951</i>	<i>-756</i>	<i>-939</i>
<i>Balance on goods and services</i>	<i>-1,578</i>	<i>-2,268</i>	<i>-2,634</i>	<i>-2,720</i>	<i>-1,867</i>	<i>-2,107</i>	<i>-591</i>	<i>-994</i>	<i>-129</i>	<i>-128</i>
<i>Income —</i>										
<i>Credits —</i>										
Property income —										
Reinvested earnings	507	507	508	398	398	398	398	368	368	368
Other	405	560	567	648	689	677	669	763	669	645
Labour and other income	46	51	50	51	53	54	205	205	55	58
<i>Total income credits</i>	<i>958</i>	<i>1,118</i>	<i>1,125</i>	<i>1,097</i>	<i>1,140</i>	<i>1,129</i>	<i>1,272</i>	<i>1,336</i>	<i>1,092</i>	<i>1,071</i>
<i>Debits —</i>										
Property income —										
Reinvested earnings	-533	-533	-533	-384	-384	-384	-384	-355	-355	-355
Other	-3,488	-3,865	-4,435	-4,581	-4,971	-5,206	-5,094	-4,759	-5,495	-4,742
Labour and other income	-56	-81	-82	-85	-84	-86	-89	-90	-93	-87
<i>Total income debits</i>	<i>-4,077</i>	<i>-4,479</i>	<i>-5,050</i>	<i>-5,050</i>	<i>-5,439</i>	<i>-5,676</i>	<i>-5,567</i>	<i>-5,204</i>	<i>-5,943</i>	<i>-5,184</i>
<i>Net income</i>	<i>-3,119</i>	<i>-3,361</i>	<i>-3,925</i>	<i>-3,953</i>	<i>-4,299</i>	<i>-4,547</i>	<i>-4,295</i>	<i>-3,868</i>	<i>-4,851</i>	<i>-4,113</i>
<i>Unrequited transfers —</i>										
Credits	1,005	1,084	1,171	1,238	1,038	1,151	1,090	1,183	1,181	1,170
Debits	-479	-506	-512	-528	-535	-587	-525	-576	-549	-538
<i>Net unrequited transfers</i>	<i>526</i>	<i>578</i>	<i>659</i>	<i>710</i>	<i>503</i>	<i>564</i>	<i>565</i>	<i>607</i>	<i>632</i>	<i>632</i>
<b>Balance on current account</b>	<b>-4,171</b>	<b>-5,051</b>	<b>-5,900</b>	<b>-5,963</b>	<b>-5,663</b>	<b>-6,090</b>	<b>-4,321</b>	<b>-4,255</b>	<b>-4,348</b>	<b>-3,609</b>

(a) Balance of payments basis.

TABLE 4. CAPITAL ACCOUNT — SUMMARY  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Net capital transactions —</b>													
<i>Official —</i>													
<i>General government —</i>													
<i>Foreign investment in Australia —</i>													
Borrowing	4,358	3,223	2,734	2,234	2,262	-1,367	949	1,366	783	-364	—	-1,382	769
Other	-71	-188	-74	-19	-24	-133	—	-2	-27	-45	-64	-42	-40
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,287</b>	<b>3,035</b>	<b>2,660</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>2,238</b>	<b>-1,500</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>1,364</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>-409</b>	<b>-64</b>	<b>-1,424</b>	<b>729</b>
<i>Australian investment abroad</i>	415	-359	-86	96	-80	11	61	-607	430	30	207	-92	-167
<b>Total general government</b>	<b>4,702</b>	<b>2,676</b>	<b>2,574</b>	<b>2,311</b>	<b>2,158</b>	<b>-1,489</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>1,186</b>	<b>-379</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>-1,516</b>	<b>562</b>
<i>Reserve Bank —</i>													
<i>Foreign investment in Australia</i>	-8	—	24	64	-18	-10	—	-6	-4	34	-23	11	87
<i>Australian investment abroad —</i>													
Reserve assets	-3,924	-873	-2,156	-410	250	45	-672	-424	822	-1,882	-74	-1,102	102
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>-3,924</b>	<b>-873</b>	<b>-2,156</b>	<b>-410</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>-672</b>	<b>-424</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>-1,882</b>	<b>-74</b>	<b>-1,102</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>Total Reserve Bank</b>	<b>-3,932</b>	<b>-873</b>	<b>-2,132</b>	<b>-346</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-672</b>	<b>-430</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>-1,848</b>	<b>-97</b>	<b>-1,091</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>Total official</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>1,803</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>1,965</b>	<b>2,390</b>	<b>-1,454</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>2,004</b>	<b>-2,227</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>-2,607</b>	<b>751</b>
<i>Non official —</i>													
<i>Foreign investment in Australia —</i>													
<i>Direct investment —</i>													
Reinvestment of earnings	2,428	2,132	1,536	533	533	533	384	384	384	384	355	355	355
Other	5,728	9,556	5,143	1,681	1,968	2,723	1,427	1,363	1,720	633	2,126	3,174	840
Portfolio & other investment	15,318	16,485	11,115	1,471	6,051	2,973	4,402	2,674	4,803	-764	1,528	965	3,035
<b>Total foreign investment in Australia</b>	<b>23,474</b>	<b>28,173</b>	<b>17,794</b>	<b>3,685</b>	<b>8,552</b>	<b>6,229</b>	<b>6,213</b>	<b>4,421</b>	<b>6,907</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>4,009</b>	<b>4,494</b>	<b>4,230</b>
<i>Australian investment abroad —</i>													
<i>Direct investment —</i>													
Reinvestment of earnings	-2,163	-2,030	-1,592	-508	-507	-508	-398	-398	-398	-398	-368	-368	-368
Other	-8,347	-4,169	-1,220	-820	-1,293	-1,337	-944	1,475	-3,050	1,299	1,569	-678	-924
Portfolio & other investment	-2,483	-5,220	-890	25	-1,796	-2,172	-137	-1,404	-998	1,649	970	-429	-198
<b>Total Australian investment abroad</b>	<b>-12,993</b>	<b>-11,419</b>	<b>-3,702</b>	<b>-1,303</b>	<b>-3,596</b>	<b>-4,017</b>	<b>-1,479</b>	<b>-327</b>	<b>-4,446</b>	<b>2,550</b>	<b>2,171</b>	<b>-1,475</b>	<b>-1,490</b>
<b>Total non-official</b>	<b>10,481</b>	<b>16,754</b>	<b>14,092</b>	<b>2,382</b>	<b>4,956</b>	<b>2,212</b>	<b>4,734</b>	<b>4,094</b>	<b>2,461</b>	<b>2,803</b>	<b>6,180</b>	<b>3,019</b>	<b>2,740</b>
<b>Balance on capital account</b>	<b>11,251</b>	<b>18,557</b>	<b>14,534</b>	<b>4,347</b>	<b>7,346</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>5,072</b>	<b>4,421</b>	<b>4,465</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>6,226</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>3,491</b>

TABLE 5. EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES — AT CURRENT AND AVERAGE 1984-85 PRICES, ORIGINAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(\$million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
At current prices													
Merchandise exports fob	40,541	43,073	47,815	10,670	10,435	11,911	11,732	11,899	11,722	12,462	12,397	13,207	12,705
Services, credits	9,517	10,729	11,115	2,765	2,830	2,562	2,514	2,722	3,091	2,788	2,909	3,168	3,248
Total exports of goods and services	50,058	53,802	58,930	13,435	13,265	14,473	14,246	14,621	14,813	15,250	15,306	16,375	15,953
Merchandise imports fob	-40,386	-47,032	-50,991	-11,860	-11,511	-12,697	-13,897	-12,943	-12,686	-11,465	-12,805	-12,909	-11,946
Services, debits	-12,213	-13,830	-15,310	-3,249	-3,502	-3,829	-3,925	-3,719	-3,769	-3,897	-4,221	-3,789	-3,804
Total imports of goods and services	-52,599	-60,862	-66,301	-15,109	-15,013	-16,526	-17,822	-16,662	-16,455	-15,362	-17,026	-16,698	-15,750
At average 1984-85 prices													
Merchandise exports fob	35,100	34,772	37,861	8,780	8,378	9,185	9,080	9,410	9,417	9,954	10,295	10,676	10,571
Services, credits	7,622	8,334	8,048	2,140	2,188	1,980	1,877	1,978	2,209	1,984	2,054	2,140	2,204
Total exports of goods and services	42,722	43,106	45,909	10,920	10,566	11,165	10,957	11,388	11,626	11,938	12,349	12,816	12,775
Merchandise imports fob	-33,141	-41,314	-43,275	-10,338	-10,436	-11,048	-11,515	-11,126	-10,786	-9,848	-11,149	-10,746	-9,842
Services, debits	-9,618	-11,547	-11,963	-2,733	-2,978	-3,093	-3,148	-2,972	-2,919	-2,924	-3,190	-2,664	-2,645
Total imports of goods and services	-42,759	-52,861	-55,238	-13,071	-13,414	-14,141	-14,663	-14,098	-13,705	-12,772	-14,339	-13,410	-12,487
At current prices — seasonally adjusted													
Merchandise exports fob	..	..	..	10,584	10,652	11,605	11,787	11,811	12,080	12,175	12,323	13,116	13,154
Services, credits	..	..	..	2,659	2,592	2,738	2,663	2,660	2,805	3,014	3,091	3,091	2,947
Total exports of goods and services	..	..	..	13,243	13,244	14,343	14,450	14,471	14,885	15,189	15,414	16,207	16,101
Merchandise imports fob	..	..	..	-11,527	-11,924	-13,117	-13,420	-12,564	-13,129	-11,861	-12,366	-12,489	-12,343
Services, debits	..	..	..	-3,294	-3,588	-3,860	-3,750	-3,774	-3,863	-3,919	-4,042	-3,847	-3,886
Total imports of goods and services	..	..	..	-14,821	-15,512	-16,977	-17,170	-16,338	-16,992	-15,780	-16,408	-16,336	-16,229
At average 1984-85 prices — seasonally adjusted													
Merchandise exports fob	..	..	..	8,709	8,618	8,970	9,101	9,324	9,689	9,750	10,272	10,611	10,892
Services, credits	..	..	..	2,075	2,026	2,097	1,970	1,946	2,025	2,121	2,162	2,103	2,024
Total exports of goods and services	..	..	..	10,784	10,644	11,067	11,071	11,270	11,714	11,871	12,434	12,714	12,916
Merchandise imports fob	..	..	..	-10,035	-10,803	-11,343	-11,192	-10,784	-11,166	-10,123	-10,844	-10,388	-10,176
Services, debits	..	..	..	-2,788	-3,037	-3,122	-2,995	-3,037	-2,980	-2,948	-3,047	-2,728	-2,704
Total imports of goods and services	..	..	..	-12,823	-13,840	-14,465	-14,187	-13,821	-14,146	-13,071	-13,891	-13,116	-12,880

TABLE 6. EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES — IMPLICIT PRICE DEFLATORS, FIXED-WEIGHTED INDEXES AND TERMS OF TRADE (a)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Implicit price deflators</b>													
<i>Merchandise exports</i>													
Rural exports fob	128.6	142.1	139.2	144.2	141.0	142.5	142.6	140.0	138.5	136.9	126.8	121.9	119.6
Non-rural exports fob	108.8	115.3	121.0	110.4	115.7	122.9	123.4	121.2	119.2	120.4	117.4	124.2	121.1
<i>Total exports fob</i>	<i>115.5</i>	<i>123.9</i>	<i>126.3</i>	<i>121.5</i>	<i>123.6</i>	<i>129.4</i>	<i>129.5</i>	<i>126.7</i>	<i>124.7</i>	<i>124.9</i>	<i>120.0</i>	<i>123.6</i>	<i>120.8</i>
<i>Services, credits</i>	<i>124.9</i>	<i>128.7</i>	<i>138.1</i>	<i>128.1</i>	<i>127.9</i>	<i>130.6</i>	<i>135.2</i>	<i>136.7</i>	<i>138.5</i>	<i>142.1</i>	<i>143.0</i>	<i>147.0</i>	<i>145.6</i>
<i>Total exports of goods and services</i>	<i>117.2</i>	<i>124.8</i>	<i>128.4</i>	<i>122.8</i>	<i>124.4</i>	<i>129.6</i>	<i>130.5</i>	<i>128.4</i>	<i>127.1</i>	<i>128.0</i>	<i>124.0</i>	<i>127.5</i>	<i>124.7</i>
<i>Merchandise imports fob (b)</i>													
Exogenous imports fob	83.3	73.0	84.8	79.5	64.6	76.7	86.1	79.3	89.4	84.4	88.1	119.4	107.0
Endogenous imports fob	128.1	120.4	122.8	120.7	118.0	122.0	125.8	121.9	121.5	121.7	118.6	120.4	123.6
<i>Total imports fob</i>	<i>121.9</i>	<i>113.8</i>	<i>117.8</i>	<i>114.9</i>	<i>110.4</i>	<i>115.6</i>	<i>119.9</i>	<i>116.5</i>	<i>117.6</i>	<i>117.2</i>	<i>114.0</i>	<i>120.2</i>	<i>121.3</i>
<i>Services, debits (b)</i>	<i>127.0</i>	<i>119.8</i>	<i>128.0</i>	<i>118.1</i>	<i>118.1</i>	<i>123.6</i>	<i>125.2</i>	<i>124.3</i>	<i>129.6</i>	<i>132.9</i>	<i>132.7</i>	<i>141.0</i>	<i>143.7</i>
<i>Total imports of goods and services</i>	<i>123.0</i>	<i>115.1</i>	<i>120.0</i>	<i>115.6</i>	<i>112.1</i>	<i>117.4</i>	<i>121.0</i>	<i>118.2</i>	<i>120.1</i>	<i>120.7</i>	<i>118.1</i>	<i>124.6</i>	<i>126.0</i>
<b>Fixed-weighted indexes (c)</b>													
Merchandise exports fob	112.3	122.2	128.9	118.6	122.1	129.1	130.1	127.3	128.4	129.9	122.7	123.6	121.9
Services, credits	123.4	126.7	134.0	126.2	127.9	127.9	131.1	133.4	134.6	137.0	138.2	143.0	141.3
<i>Total exports of goods and services</i>	<i>114.0</i>	<i>122.9</i>	<i>130.0</i>	<i>119.8</i>	<i>123.0</i>	<i>128.9</i>	<i>130.3</i>	<i>128.3</i>	<i>129.4</i>	<i>131.0</i>	<i>125.2</i>	<i>126.7</i>	<i>125.0</i>
Merchandise imports fob (b)	128.5	121.8	127.1	121.6	118.7	124.4	128.2	125.7	126.9	127.4	124.5	131.1	132.8
Services, debits (b)	128.6	120.3	129.2	119.9	118.0	124.4	125.5	126.9	130.8	133.7	134.0	145.7	145.1
<i>Total imports of goods and services (b)</i>	<i>128.5</i>	<i>121.4</i>	<i>127.6</i>	<i>121.2</i>	<i>118.5</i>	<i>124.4</i>	<i>127.6</i>	<i>126.0</i>	<i>127.8</i>	<i>128.9</i>	<i>126.8</i>	<i>134.6</i>	<i>135.7</i>
<b>Terms of trade</b>													
Merchandise trade (d)	94.7	108.9	107.2	105.7	112.0	111.9	108.0	108.8	106.0	106.6	105.3	102.8	99.6
Services (e)	98.3	107.4	107.9	108.5	108.3	105.7	108.0	110.0	106.9	106.9	107.8	104.3	101.3
Goods and services (f)	95.3	108.4	107.0	106.2	111.0	110.4	107.9	108.6	105.8	106.0	105.0	102.3	98.9
<b>Terms of trade — trend estimates (g)</b>													
Merchandise trade	..	..	..	107.9	110.3	111.0	109.7	107.8	106.9	106.3	104.8	102.7	100.1
Services	..	..	..	108.5	107.8	107.4	107.9	108.3	108.2	107.5	106.3	104.5	102.1
Goods and services	..	..	..	107.9	109.6	110.0	109.1	107.6	106.7	105.9	104.4	102.2	99.5

(a) Quarterly figures are derived from seasonally adjusted data. (b) These entries carry the opposite sign to related entries in Tables 1,2,3,5,7,8,9,10 and 13. (c) The fixed-weighted indexes are derived by combining individual component prices (base year 1984-85=100) with a weighting to reflect the relative importance of the components in the base year. (d) Derived by dividing the implicit price deflator (IPD) for merchandise exports fob by the IPD for merchandise imports fob. (e) Derived by dividing the IPD for services, credits by the IPD for services, debits. (f) Derived by dividing the IPD for total exports of goods and services by the IPD for total imports of goods and services. (g) Derived by smoothing the terms of trade series using a tailored seven term Henderson moving average.

TABLE 7. MERCHANDISE (BALANCE OF PAYMENTS BASIS)  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Exports fob (a) —</b>													
<i>Rural exports fob —</i>													
Meat & meat preparations	2,555	2,249	2,913	601	481	633	699	776	709	729	801	838	682
Cereal grains & cereal preparations	2,202	2,738	3,201	501	719	1,065	708	599	1,033	861	537	520	664
Sugar, sugar preparations & honey	698	891	1,037	205	155	226	408	273	189	167	399	245	142
Wool and sheepskins	5,811	5,975	3,865	1,780	1,717	1,439	944	1,080	952	889	577	670	688
Other rural	3,976	3,979	4,289	1,024	889	1,049	1,170	996	1,002	1,121	1,228	1,039	981
<i>Total rural</i>	<i>15,242</i>	<i>15,832</i>	<i>15,305</i>	<i>4,111</i>	<i>3,961</i>	<i>4,412</i>	<i>3,929</i>	<i>3,724</i>	<i>3,885</i>	<i>3,767</i>	<i>3,542</i>	<i>3,312</i>	<i>3,157</i>
<i>Non-rural exports fob —</i>													
Metal ores & minerals	5,455	6,582	7,560	1,513	1,635	2,001	1,846	1,831	1,789	2,094	2,084	2,092	1,831
Mineral fuels —													
Coal, coke and briquettes	4,850	4,737	5,906	1,212	1,100	1,299	1,412	1,435	1,436	1,623	1,451	1,573	1,648
Other mineral fuels	1,779	1,258	2,077	261	271	352	371	432	641	633	744	995	1,050
Metals —													
Gold	2,563	2,731	3,114	612	745	613	636	828	834	816	784	1,258	1,018
Other metals	3,749	4,675	4,672	1,160	1,074	1,316	1,204	1,189	1,101	1,178	1,190	1,218	1,115
Machinery	1,835	1,870	2,452	482	405	508	580	658	551	663	730	814	708
Transport equipment	957	886	1,143	180	231	266	291	281	245	326	393	359	656
Manufactures nec	2,941	3,277	4,030	834	714	869	984	1,150	877	1,019	1,049	1,165	973
Other non-rural	1,170	1,225	1,556	305	299	275	479	371	363	343	430	421	549
<i>Total non-rural</i>	<i>25,299</i>	<i>27,241</i>	<i>32,510</i>	<i>6,559</i>	<i>6,474</i>	<i>7,499</i>	<i>7,803</i>	<i>8,175</i>	<i>7,837</i>	<i>8,695</i>	<i>8,855</i>	<i>9,895</i>	<i>9,548</i>
<b>Total exports fob</b>	<b>40,541</b>	<b>43,073</b>	<b>47,815</b>	<b>10,670</b>	<b>10,435</b>	<b>11,911</b>	<b>11,732</b>	<b>11,899</b>	<b>11,722</b>	<b>12,462</b>	<b>12,397</b>	<b>13,207</b>	<b>12,705</b>
<b>Imports fob (a) —</b>													
Food, beverages & tobacco	-2,013	-2,200	-2,285	-572	-584	-550	-584	-581	-588	-532	-579	-609	-561
Fuels	-2,036	-2,014	-2,520	-295	-561	-747	-632	-697	-601	-590	-543	-1,060	-891
Chemicals (including plastics)	-4,280	-4,973	-5,203	-1,198	-1,211	-1,341	-1,334	-1,248	-1,327	-1,294	-1,259	-1,216	-1,297
Textiles, fabrics etc	-1,931	-2,002	-1,946	-493	-473	-514	-554	-489	-461	-442	-493	-448	-432
Metals & metal manufactures	-2,205	-2,625	-2,764	-609	-657	-757	-770	-784	-634	-576	-632	-611	-630
Machinery	-12,230	-13,793	-15,522	-3,453	-3,304	-3,799	-4,065	-4,014	-3,895	-3,548	-3,631	-3,688	-3,401
Transport equipment	-4,152	-6,849	-7,759	-2,025	-1,669	-1,852	-2,484	-1,812	-1,921	-1,542	-2,241	-2,163	-1,720
Manufactures nec	-8,563	-9,766	-10,308	-2,482	-2,399	-2,454	-2,785	-2,639	-2,592	-2,292	-2,692	-2,584	-2,506
Other imports	-2,976	-2,810	-2,684	-733	-653	-683	-689	-679	-667	-649	-735	-530	-508
<b>Total imports fob</b>	<b>-40,386</b>	<b>-47,032</b>	<b>-50,991</b>	<b>-11,860</b>	<b>-11,511</b>	<b>-12,697</b>	<b>-13,897</b>	<b>-12,943</b>	<b>-12,686</b>	<b>-11,465</b>	<b>-12,805</b>	<b>-12,909</b>	<b>-11,946</b>
<i>Of which—</i>													
<i>Exogenous</i>	<i>-3,829</i>	<i>-4,186</i>	<i>-4,770</i>	<i>-1,139</i>	<i>-994</i>	<i>-1,254</i>	<i>-1,378</i>	<i>-1,118</i>	<i>-1,214</i>	<i>-1,060</i>	<i>-1,380</i>	<i>-1,699</i>	<i>-1,480</i>
<i>Endogenous —</i>													
Consumption goods	-9,348	-11,432	-12,125	-2,995	-2,903	-2,876	-3,377	-3,185	-2,935	-2,628	-3,242	-3,292	-2,903
Capital goods	-8,578	-10,583	-11,743	-2,708	-2,562	-2,883	-3,316	-2,974	-2,845	-2,608	-2,771	-2,930	-2,483
Other goods	-18,631	-20,831	-22,353	-5,018	-5,052	-5,684	-5,826	-5,666	-5,692	-5,169	-5,412	-4,988	-5,080
<i>Total endogenous</i>	<i>-36,557</i>	<i>-42,846</i>	<i>-46,221</i>	<i>-10,721</i>	<i>-10,517</i>	<i>-11,443</i>	<i>-12,519</i>	<i>-11,825</i>	<i>-11,472</i>	<i>-10,405</i>	<i>-11,425</i>	<i>-11,210</i>	<i>-10,466</i>
<b>Balance on merchandise trade</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>-3,959</b>	<b>-3,176</b>	<b>-1,190</b>	<b>-1,076</b>	<b>-786</b>	<b>-2,165</b>	<b>-1,044</b>	<b>-964</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>-408</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>759</b>

(a) From March quarter 1988 entries for categories of exports fob and imports fob are not strictly comparable with entries for earlier periods. See note on 'Changes in this issue' on page 8 of the September quarter 1988 issue of this publication.

TABLE 8. MERCHANDISE (BALANCE OF PAYMENTS BASIS) — AT AVERAGE 1984-85 PRICES  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Exports fob (a) —</b>													
<i>Rural exports fob —</i>													
Meat & meat preparations	2,130	1,866	2,240	489	420	513	529	584	547	580	645	676	573
Cereal grains & cereal preparations	2,752	2,542	2,676	499	662	889	583	510	855	728	539	573	760
Sugar, sugar preparations & honey	641	675	657	162	122	153	262	174	122	99	252	172	96
Wool and sheepskins	3,204	2,916	2,215	845	838	740	527	635	541	512	392	479	529
Other rural	3,126	3,140	3,210	825	707	802	893	755	728	834	955	805	714
<i>Total rural</i>	<i>11,853</i>	<i>11,139</i>	<i>10,998</i>	<i>2,820</i>	<i>2,749</i>	<i>3,097</i>	<i>2,794</i>	<i>2,658</i>	<i>2,793</i>	<i>2,753</i>	<i>2,783</i>	<i>2,705</i>	<i>2,672</i>
<i>Non-rural exports fob —</i>													
Metal ores & minerals	5,219	5,311	5,224	1,368	1,262	1,411	1,301	1,296	1,248	1,379	1,446	1,516	1,284
Mineral fuels —													
Coal, coke and briquettes	5,543	5,319	5,671	1,394	1,280	1,363	1,362	1,394	1,387	1,528	1,402	1,487	1,556
Other mineral fuels	2,542	2,250	3,235	552	489	545	596	681	1,008	950	1,073	937	1,011
Metals —													
Gold	1,561	2,060	2,335	461	592	471	490	633	590	622	619	980	815
Other metals	2,662	2,856	3,178	717	664	786	732	799	792	855	901	872	847
Machinery	1,648	1,664	2,233	436	365	446	511	606	493	623	665	730	723
Transport equipment	878	839	1,021	175	218	241	262	256	217	286	350	318	569
Manufactures nec	2,187	2,391	2,895	611	536	630	705	829	633	728	757	834	700
Other non-rural	1,007	943	1,071	246	223	195	327	258	256	230	299	297	394
<i>Total non-rural</i>	<i>23,247</i>	<i>23,633</i>	<i>26,863</i>	<i>5,960</i>	<i>5,629</i>	<i>6,088</i>	<i>6,286</i>	<i>6,752</i>	<i>6,624</i>	<i>7,201</i>	<i>7,512</i>	<i>7,971</i>	<i>7,899</i>
<b>Total exports fob</b>	<b>35,100</b>	<b>34,772</b>	<b>37,861</b>	<b>8,780</b>	<b>8,378</b>	<b>9,185</b>	<b>9,080</b>	<b>9,410</b>	<b>9,417</b>	<b>9,954</b>	<b>10,295</b>	<b>10,676</b>	<b>10,571</b>
<b>Imports fob (a) —</b>													
Food, beverages & tobacco	-1,633	-1,943	-1,991	-501	-528	-481	-501	-514	-513	-463	-507	-524	-498
Fuels	-2,936	-3,621	-3,602	-591	-1,107	-1,189	-913	-1,028	-815	-846	-799	-880	-869
Chemicals (including plastics)	-3,282	-3,779	-4,016	-902	-928	-1,021	-994	-979	-1,038	-1,005	-1,023	-964	-986
Textiles, fabrics etc	-1,453	-1,572	-1,455	-386	-380	-399	-413	-369	-347	-326	-375	-335	-330
Metals & metal manufactures	-1,603	-1,813	-1,830	-422	-461	-505	-501	-521	-423	-385	-427	-408	-419
Machinery	-10,837	-13,828	-15,299	-3,480	-3,371	-3,780	-3,862	-3,970	-3,854	-3,613	-3,805	-3,786	-3,374
Transport equipment	-2,806	-5,152	-5,627	-1,604	-1,278	-1,334	-1,809	-1,313	-1,408	-1,097	-1,687	-1,597	-1,233
Manufactures nec	-6,310	-7,416	-7,443	-1,881	-1,865	-1,815	-2,014	-1,925	-1,878	-1,626	-1,957	-1,830	-1,738
Other imports	-2,281	-2,190	-2,012	-571	-518	-524	-508	-507	-510	-487	-569	-422	-395
<b>Total imports fob</b>	<b>-33,141</b>	<b>-41,314</b>	<b>-43,275</b>	<b>-10,338</b>	<b>-10,436</b>	<b>-11,048</b>	<b>-11,515</b>	<b>-11,126</b>	<b>-10,786</b>	<b>-9,848</b>	<b>-11,149</b>	<b>-10,746</b>	<b>-9,842</b>
<i>Of which—</i>													
<i>Exogenous</i>	<i>-4,599</i>	<i>-5,731</i>	<i>-5,622</i>	<i>-1,441</i>	<i>-1,536</i>	<i>-1,644</i>	<i>-1,585</i>	<i>-1,417</i>	<i>-1,356</i>	<i>-1,264</i>	<i>-1,548</i>	<i>-1,423</i>	<i>-1,383</i>
<i>Endogenous —</i>													
Consumption goods	-6,990	-8,993	-9,265	-2,324	-2,338	-2,247	-2,538	-2,446	-2,280	-2,001	-2,523	-2,575	-2,210
Capital goods	-7,293	-10,042	-11,000	-2,581	-2,484	-2,710	-2,972	-2,830	-2,677	-2,521	-2,719	-2,790	-2,323
Other goods	-14,260	-16,548	-17,388	-3,992	-4,078	-4,447	-4,420	-4,433	-4,473	-4,062	-4,359	-3,958	-3,926
<i>Total endogenous</i>	<i>-28,542</i>	<i>-35,583</i>	<i>-37,653</i>	<i>-8,897</i>	<i>-8,900</i>	<i>-9,404</i>	<i>-9,930</i>	<i>-9,709</i>	<i>-9,430</i>	<i>-8,584</i>	<i>-9,601</i>	<i>-9,323</i>	<i>-8,459</i>
<b>Balance on merchandise trade</b>	<b>1,959</b>	<b>-6,542</b>	<b>-5,414</b>	<b>-1,558</b>	<b>-2,058</b>	<b>-1,863</b>	<b>-2,435</b>	<b>-1,716</b>	<b>-1,369</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>-854</b>	<b>-70</b>	<b>729</b>

(a) From March Quarter 1988 entries for categories of exports fob and imports fob are not strictly comparable with entries for earlier periods. See note on 'Changes in this issue' on page 8 of the September quarter 1988 issue of this publication.

TABLE 9. MERCHANDISE (BALANCE OF PAYMENTS BASIS) — SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(\$ million)

	Quarters ended-									
	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Exports fob —</b>										
<i>Rural exports fob —</i>										
Meat & meat preparations	584	532	614	679	750	783	707	780	809	752
Cereal grains & cereal preparations	593	605	975	809	708	873	784	615	616	563
Sugar, sugar preparations & honey	212	214	246	293	283	261	183	285	255	196
Wool and sheepskins	1,690	1,480	1,387	1,262	1,023	823	854	773	634	596
Other rural	1,060	961	1,023	1,080	1,032	1,080	1,095	1,133	1,079	1,057
<i>Total rural</i>	<i>4,139</i>	<i>3,792</i>	<i>4,245</i>	<i>4,123</i>	<i>3,796</i>	<i>3,820</i>	<i>3,623</i>	<i>3,586</i>	<i>3,393</i>	<i>3,164</i>
<i>Non-rural exports fob —</i>										
Metal ores & minerals	1,490	1,800	1,918	1,789	1,807	1,959	2,006	2,025	2,066	1,999
<i>Mineral fuels —</i>										
Coal, coke and briquettes	1,171	1,138	1,287	1,430	1,383	1,489	1,604	1,471	1,516	1,712
Other mineral fuels	253	263	358	386	425	618	643	767	997	1,009
<i>Metals —</i>										
Gold	640	711	584	684	850	786	793	841	1,282	953
Other metals	1,158	1,142	1,297	1,155	1,185	1,172	1,160	1,146	1,206	1,187
Machinery	448	460	501	564	610	625	655	710	755	803
Transport equipment	181	238	263	279	292	250	320	376	379	666
Manufactures nec	792	803	852	950	1,086	990	999	1,015	1,097	1,099
Other non-rural	312	305	300	427	377	371	372	386	425	562
<i>Total non-rural</i>	<i>6,445</i>	<i>6,860</i>	<i>7,360</i>	<i>7,664</i>	<i>8,015</i>	<i>8,260</i>	<i>8,552</i>	<i>8,737</i>	<i>9,723</i>	<i>9,990</i>
<b>Total exports fob</b>	<b>10,584</b>	<b>10,652</b>	<b>11,605</b>	<b>11,787</b>	<b>11,811</b>	<b>12,080</b>	<b>12,175</b>	<b>12,323</b>	<b>13,116</b>	<b>13,154</b>
<b>Imports fob —</b>										
Food, beverages & tobacco	-554	-551	-592	-597	-562	-555	-574	-592	-588	-529
Fuels	-285	-568	-714	-687	-662	-615	-558	-601	-993	-916
Chemicals (including plastics)	-1,233	-1,242	-1,306	-1,301	-1,283	-1,359	-1,262	-1,229	-1,250	-1,327
Textiles, fabrics etc	-489	-518	-516	-512	-486	-504	-444	-455	-446	-472
Metals & metal manufactures	-607	-692	-778	-718	-780	-667	-593	-589	-607	-663
Machinery	-3,327	-3,476	-3,846	-3,978	-3,860	-4,096	-3,591	-3,560	-3,542	-3,575
Transport equipment	-1,881	-1,749	-2,016	-2,362	-1,686	-2,003	-1,693	-2,118	-2,022	-1,789
Manufactures nec	-2,416	-2,435	-2,664	-2,617	-2,564	-2,626	-2,492	-2,532	-2,508	-2,537
Other imports	-735	-693	-685	-648	-681	-704	-654	-690	-533	-535
<b>Total imports fob</b>	<b>-11,527</b>	<b>-11,924</b>	<b>-13,117</b>	<b>-13,420</b>	<b>-12,564</b>	<b>-13,129</b>	<b>-11,861</b>	<b>-12,366</b>	<b>-12,489</b>	<b>-12,343</b>
<i>Of which—</i>										
<i>Exogenous</i>	<i>-1,129</i>	<i>-1,001</i>	<i>-1,221</i>	<i>-1,433</i>	<i>-1,083</i>	<i>-1,228</i>	<i>-1,028</i>	<i>-1,438</i>	<i>-1,632</i>	<i>-1,505</i>
<i>Endogenous —</i>										
Consumption goods	-2,826	-2,930	-3,212	-3,208	-3,003	-2,955	-2,942	-3,082	-3,099	-2,919
Capital goods	-2,420	-2,930	-2,900	-2,986	-3,142	-2,984	-2,662	-2,435	-2,716	-2,872
Other goods	-5,152	-5,063	-5,784	-5,793	-5,336	-5,962	-5,229	-5,411	-5,042	-5,047
<i>Total endogenous</i>	<i>-10,398</i>	<i>-10,923</i>	<i>-11,896</i>	<i>-11,987</i>	<i>-11,481</i>	<i>-11,901</i>	<i>-10,833</i>	<i>-10,928</i>	<i>-10,857</i>	<i>-10,838</i>
<b>Balance on merchandise trade</b>	<b>-943</b>	<b>-1,272</b>	<b>-1,512</b>	<b>-1,633</b>	<b>-753</b>	<b>-1,049</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>-43</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>811</b>

TABLE 10. MERCHANDISE (BALANCE OF PAYMENTS BASIS) — AT AVERAGE 1984-85 PRICES, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(\$ million)

	Quarters ended-									
	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Exports fob —</b>										
<i>Rural exports fob —</i>										
Meat & meat preparations	475	464	498	514	564	604	563	628	652	632
Cereal grains & cereal preparations	591	557	814	666	603	723	663	617	679	644
Sugar, sugar preparations & honey	167	169	155	198	179	169	102	188	177	133
Wool and sheepskins	783	736	730	688	584	478	504	513	439	468
Other rural	854	764	782	825	782	785	814	881	836	769
<i>Total rural</i>	<i>2,870</i>	<i>2,690</i>	<i>2,979</i>	<i>2,891</i>	<i>2,712</i>	<i>2,759</i>	<i>2,646</i>	<i>2,827</i>	<i>2,783</i>	<i>2,646</i>
<i>Non-rural exports fob —</i>										
Metal ores & minerals	1,347	1,389	1,353	1,261	1,279	1,366	1,321	1,405	1,497	1,402
Mineral fuels —										
Coal, coke and briquettes	1,347	1,324	1,351	1,379	1,343	1,438	1,511	1,421	1,433	1,616
Other mineral fuels	534	474	555	620	671	971	965	1,106	938	971
Metals —										
Gold	482	565	448	527	650	556	604	664	999	763
Other metals	716	706	775	702	796	843	842	868	863	902
Machinery	405	414	440	497	562	559	616	646	677	820
Transport equipment	176	225	238	251	266	221	281	335	335	577
Manufactures nec	580	603	618	681	783	714	714	732	786	791
Other non-rural	252	228	213	292	262	262	250	268	300	404
<i>Total non-rural</i>	<i>5,839</i>	<i>5,928</i>	<i>5,991</i>	<i>6,210</i>	<i>6,612</i>	<i>6,930</i>	<i>7,104</i>	<i>7,445</i>	<i>7,828</i>	<i>8,246</i>
<b>Total exports fob</b>	<b>8,709</b>	<b>8,618</b>	<b>8,970</b>	<b>9,101</b>	<b>9,324</b>	<b>9,689</b>	<b>9,750</b>	<b>10,272</b>	<b>10,611</b>	<b>10,892</b>
<b>Imports fob —</b>										
Food, beverages & tobacco	-485	-499	-518	-512	-497	-484	-500	-518	-506	-469
Fuels	-571	-1,121	-1,136	-992	-977	-833	-800	-884	-824	-893
Chemicals (including plastics)	-929	-952	-994	-969	-1,007	-1,063	-980	-998	-991	-1,009
Textiles, fabrics etc	-383	-416	-400	-382	-367	-379	-327	-346	-333	-360
Metals & metal manufactures	-421	-486	-519	-467	-518	-445	-396	-398	-405	-441
Machinery	-3,353	-3,547	-3,827	-3,780	-3,817	-4,053	-3,656	-3,730	-3,636	-3,547
Transport equipment	-1,490	-1,339	-1,452	-1,720	-1,222	-1,468	-1,205	-1,594	-1,493	-1,282
Manufactures nec	-1,831	-1,893	-1,971	-1,892	-1,870	-1,903	-1,768	-1,841	-1,776	-1,759
Other imports	-572	-550	-526	-478	-509	-538	-491	-535	-424	-416
<b>Total imports fob</b>	<b>-10,035</b>	<b>-10,803</b>	<b>-11,343</b>	<b>-11,192</b>	<b>-10,784</b>	<b>-11,166</b>	<b>-10,123</b>	<b>-10,844</b>	<b>-10,388</b>	<b>-10,176</b>
<i>Of which—</i>										
<i>Exogenous</i>	<i>-1,421</i>	<i>-1,550</i>	<i>-1,591</i>	<i>-1,664</i>	<i>-1,366</i>	<i>-1,374</i>	<i>-1,218</i>	<i>-1,633</i>	<i>-1,367</i>	<i>-1,407</i>
<i>Endogenous —</i>										
Consumption goods	-2,193	-2,360	-2,510	-2,411	-2,306	-2,296	-2,240	-2,398	-2,424	-2,222
Capital goods	-2,459	-2,634	-2,766	-2,900	-2,685	-2,840	-2,578	-2,652	-2,644	-2,465
Other goods	-3,962	-4,259	-4,476	-4,217	-4,427	-4,656	-4,087	-4,161	-3,953	-4,082
<i>Total endogenous</i>	<i>-8,614</i>	<i>-9,253</i>	<i>-9,752</i>	<i>-9,528</i>	<i>-9,418</i>	<i>-9,792</i>	<i>-8,905</i>	<i>-9,211</i>	<i>-9,021</i>	<i>-8,769</i>
<b>Balance on merchandise trade</b>	<b>-1,326</b>	<b>-2,185</b>	<b>-2,373</b>	<b>-2,091</b>	<b>-1,460</b>	<b>-1,477</b>	<b>-373</b>	<b>-572</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>716</b>



**TABLE 11. MERCHANDISE — COMPARISON WITH FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS**  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Exports —</b>													
Foreign trade statistics(a)	41,078	43,529	49,237	10,799	10,510	12,052	11,990	12,358	12,036	12,853	12,620	13,453	12,766
Adjustments —													
Coverage(b)	-523	-424	-574	-114	-85	-114	-176	-137	-142	-119	-115	-159	-196
Timing	-14	-32	-848	-15	10	-27	-82	-322	-172	-272	-108	-87	135
<b>Merchandise exports (balance of payments basis)</b>	<b>40,541</b>	<b>43,073</b>	<b>47,815</b>	<b>10,670</b>	<b>10,435</b>	<b>11,911</b>	<b>11,732</b>	<b>11,899</b>	<b>11,722</b>	<b>12,462</b>	<b>12,397</b>	<b>13,207</b>	<b>12,705</b>
<b>Imports —</b>													
Foreign trade statistics(a)	40,597	47,039	51,332	11,355	12,110	12,856	13,442	13,319	12,704	11,867	12,330	12,903	12,087
Adjustments —													
Coverage(b)	-134	-82	-14	-5	-86	12	-35	3	15	3	7	21	30
Timing	-51	72	-338	514	-519	-173	489	-391	-35	-401	466	-10	-156
Valuation	-26	3	11	-4	6	2	1	12	2	-4	2	-5	-15
<b>Merchandise imports (balance of payments basis) (c)</b>	<b>40,386</b>	<b>47,032</b>	<b>50,991</b>	<b>11,860</b>	<b>11,511</b>	<b>12,697</b>	<b>13,897</b>	<b>12,943</b>	<b>12,686</b>	<b>11,465</b>	<b>12,805</b>	<b>12,909</b>	<b>11,946</b>

(a) From 1 July 1987, gold coin and other coin that are legal tender are included in exports/imports of merchandise trade (b) Prior to 1 July 1987 a coverage adjustment is made to include exports/imports of gold coin and other coin that are legal tender (c) These entries carry the opposite sign to corresponding entries in Tables 1,2,3,5,7,8,9 and 10.

TABLE 12. SERVICES CREDITS  
(\$million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<i>Shipment —</i>													
Freight on exports	528	543	523	132	140	144	141	126	118	138	142	137	141
Insurance on exports	9	11	12	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
<i>Total</i>	<i>537</i>	<i>554</i>	<i>535</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>147</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>121</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>144</i>
<i>Other transportation —</i>													
Passenger services	1,511	1,531	1,504	414	398	332	342	355	442	365	394	496	516
Port services etc	1,631	1,678	1,933	425	407	439	456	472	497	508	524	548	480
<i>Total</i>	<i>3,142</i>	<i>3,209</i>	<i>3,437</i>	<i>839</i>	<i>805</i>	<i>771</i>	<i>798</i>	<i>827</i>	<i>939</i>	<i>873</i>	<i>918</i>	<i>1,044</i>	<i>996</i>
<i>Travel</i>													
Students' expenditure	457	661	843	122	310	101	119	161	402	161	175	165	413
Other	3,108	3,684	3,388	1,087	893	773	754	886	923	825	891	1,032	965
<i>Total</i>	<i>3,565</i>	<i>4,345</i>	<i>4,231</i>	<i>1,209</i>	<i>1,203</i>	<i>874</i>	<i>873</i>	<i>1,047</i>	<i>1,325</i>	<i>986</i>	<i>1,066</i>	<i>1,197</i>	<i>1,378</i>
<i>Other services —</i>													
Official	200	249	274	44	64	91	31	84	69	90	86	82	43
Non-official —													
Expenditure of foreign govts	84	87	97	23	19	23	30	23	22	22	23	22	22
Expenditure of foreign govt employees	73	76	73	19	19	19	19	18	18	18	18	18	18
Expenditure of resident entity employees	144	221	278	45	74	60	64	73	76	65	69	87	76
Financial services	208	192	216	35	46	75	69	48	42	57	52	53	56
Insurance services nec	29	22	24	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Miscellaneous services	1,535	1,774	1,950	412	451	496	480	467	473	530	526	519	508
<i>Total</i>	<i>2,073</i>	<i>2,372</i>	<i>2,638</i>	<i>539</i>	<i>615</i>	<i>679</i>	<i>668</i>	<i>635</i>	<i>637</i>	<i>698</i>	<i>694</i>	<i>705</i>	<i>687</i>
<i>Total other services</i>	<i>2,273</i>	<i>2,621</i>	<i>2,912</i>	<i>583</i>	<i>679</i>	<i>770</i>	<i>699</i>	<i>719</i>	<i>706</i>	<i>788</i>	<i>780</i>	<i>787</i>	<i>730</i>
<b>Total services credits</b>	<b>9,517</b>	<b>10,729</b>	<b>11,115</b>	<b>2,765</b>	<b>2,830</b>	<b>2,562</b>	<b>2,514</b>	<b>2,722</b>	<b>3,091</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>2,909</b>	<b>3,168</b>	<b>3,248</b>

TABLE 13. SERVICES DEBITS  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<i>Shipment —</i>													
Freight on imports	-2,832	-3,152	-3,245	-754	-802	-866	-865	-842	-789	-749	-786	-761	-732
Insurance on imports	-24	-24	-24	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6
<i>Total</i>	-2,856	-3,176	-3,269	-760	-808	-872	-871	-848	-795	-755	-792	-767	-738
<i>Other transportation —</i>													
Passenger services	-1,547	-1,849	-2,219	-440	-440	-523	-585	-550	-501	-583	-661	-576	-473
Port services etc	-963	-1,063	-1,202	-271	-296	-281	-253	-319	-326	-304	-244	-312	-315
<i>Total</i>	-2,510	-2,912	-3,421	-711	-736	-804	-838	-869	-827	-887	-905	-888	-788
<i>Travel</i>													
Students' expenditure	-129	-191	-231	-39	-55	-41	-61	-47	-72	-51	-87	-53	-102
Other	-3,583	-4,151	-4,839	-899	-990	-1,280	-1,321	-1,088	-1,178	-1,252	-1,467	-1,139	-1,196
<i>Total</i>	-3,712	-4,342	-5,070	-938	-1,045	-1,321	-1,382	-1,135	-1,250	-1,303	-1,554	-1,192	-1,298
<i>Other services —</i>													
<i>Official —</i>													
Defence services	-86	-83	-108	-13	-23	-26	-14	-20	-26	-48	-20	-19	-31
Financial services	-4	-3	-5	-1	-1	—	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	-1	-1
Miscellaneous services	-221	-221	-272	-45	-55	-70	-53	-80	-64	-75	-168	-66	-73
<i>Total</i>	-311	-307	-385	-59	-79	-96	-68	-101	-91	-125	-189	-86	-105
<i>Non-official —</i>													
Expenditure of Aust govt employees	-113	-102	-115	-24	-25	-26	-29	-30	-28	-28	-29	-33	-32
Expenditure of non-resident entity employees	-121	-132	-152	-32	-33	-33	-40	-38	-36	-38	-45	-41	-40
Financial services	-148	-302	-193	-65	-112	-61	-53	-43	-45	-52	-50	-51	-51
Insurance services nec	-288	-357	-360	-89	-89	-90	-90	-90	-90	-90	-93	-95	-97
Miscellaneous services	-2,154	-2,200	-2,345	-571	-575	-526	-554	-565	-607	-619	-564	-636	-655
<i>Total</i>	-2,824	-3,093	-3,165	-781	-834	-736	-766	-766	-806	-827	-781	-856	-875
<i>Total other services</i>	-3,135	-3,400	-3,550	-840	-913	-832	-834	-867	-897	-952	-970	-942	-980
<b>Total services debits</b>	<b>-12,213</b>	<b>-13,830</b>	<b>-15,310</b>	<b>-3,249</b>	<b>-3,502</b>	<b>-3,829</b>	<b>-3,925</b>	<b>-3,719</b>	<b>-3,769</b>	<b>-3,897</b>	<b>-4,221</b>	<b>-3,789</b>	<b>-3,804</b>

TABLE 14. INCOME CREDITS  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Property income —</b>													
<i>Investment income —</i>													
<i>Official —</i>													
General government	47	73	118	16	23	29	19	37	32	30	30	42	32
Reserve Bank (a)	706	998	1,260	204	285	287	307	315	297	341	364	433	369
<i>Total official</i>	753	1,071	1,378	220	308	316	326	352	329	371	394	475	401
<i>Non-official —</i>													
<i>Direct investment income —</i>													
Reinvested earnings	2,163	2,029	1,592	507	507	508	398	398	398	398	368	368	368
Distributed earnings —													
Remitted profits	79	60	47	43	4	7	13	9	11	14	15	14	16
Dividends	103	59	192	4	2	22	46	46	18	82	133	25	15
Interest	-60	-133	-110	-38	-23	2	9	-37	-35	-47	-47	-159	-93
Total	122	-14	129	9	-17	31	68	18	-6	49	101	-120	-62
<i>Total direct investment income</i>	2,285	2,015	1,721	516	490	539	466	416	392	447	469	248	306
<i>Portfolio and other investment income —</i>													
Dividends	135	251	331	41	83	83	59	88	98	86	65	74	59
Interest	452	424	634	92	135	102	155	155	166	158	187	176	155
Total	587	675	965	133	218	185	214	243	264	244	252	250	214
<i>Total non-official</i>	2,872	2,690	2,686	649	708	724	680	659	656	691	721	498	520
<i>Total investment income</i>	3,625	3,761	4,064	869	1,016	1,040	1,006	1,011	985	1,062	1,115	973	921
<i>Other property income</i>	194	175	176	44	44	48	44	44	44	44	48	48	49
<b>Total property income</b>	<b>3,819</b>	<b>3,936</b>	<b>4,240</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>1,088</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>1,163</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>970</b>
<b>Labour and other income —</b>													
<i>Labour income —</i>													
Earnings in Australia	54	58	60	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Earnings abroad	122	132	152	32	33	33	40	38	36	38	45	40	40
Total	176	190	212	46	48	48	55	53	51	53	60	55	55
<i>Insurance income</i>	—	—	150	—	—	—	—	—	—	150	150	—	—
<b>Total labour and other income</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Total income credits</b>	<b>3,995</b>	<b>4,126</b>	<b>4,602</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>1,108</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>1,108</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>1,309</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>1,076</b>	<b>1,025</b>

(a) Also includes interest/remuneration received from the IMF on behalf of the Commonwealth Government.

TABLE 15. INCOME DEBITS  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Property income —</b>													
<i>Investment income —</i>													
<i>Official —</i>													
General government —													
Interest on borrowing domiciled abroad	-1,761	-1,545	-1,862	-483	-386	-402	-393	-557	-422	-490	-363	-533	-476
Interest on borrowing domiciled in Australia	-1,216	-1,619	-2,210	-371	-498	-400	-535	-571	-572	-532	-570	-505	-513
Total	-2,977	-3,164	-4,072	-854	-884	-802	-928	-1,128	-994	-1,022	-933	-1,038	-989
Reserve Bank (a)	-22	-18	-34	-6	—	-7	-8	-8	-9	-9	-10	-10	-10
<i>Total official</i>	-2,999	-3,182	-4,106	-860	-884	-809	-936	-1,136	-1,003	-1,031	-943	-1,048	-999
<i>Non-official —</i>													
<i>Direct investment income —</i>													
Reinvested earnings	-2,428	-2,132	-1,536	-533	-533	-533	-384	-384	-384	-384	-355	-355	-355
Distributed earnings —													
Remitted profits	-227	-556	-591	-192	-127	-96	-102	-144	-242	-103	-103	-245	-288
Dividends	-934	-1,396	-2,126	-139	-308	-556	-216	-507	-859	-544	-354	-800	-301
Interest	-674	-1,186	-1,426	-337	-259	-358	-288	-425	-307	-406	-256	-337	-318
Total	-1,835	-3,138	-4,143	-668	-694	-1,010	-606	-1,076	-1,408	-1,053	-713	-1,382	-907
<i>Total direct investment income</i>	-4,263	-5,270	-5,679	-1,201	-1,227	-1,543	-990	-1,460	-1,792	-1,437	-1,068	-1,737	-1,262
<i>Portfolio and other investment income —</i>													
Dividends	-633	-1,139	-1,258	-231	-333	-441	-258	-398	-238	-364	-211	-377	-183
Interest —													
Public sector	-1,623	-1,920	-2,752	-341	-569	-548	-735	-576	-758	-683	-773	-679	-747
Private sector	-3,590	-4,782	-6,338	-1,137	-1,197	-1,372	-1,612	-1,464	-1,603	-1,659	-1,710	-1,634	-1,664
Total	-5,213	-6,702	-9,090	-1,478	-1,766	-1,920	-2,347	-2,040	-2,361	-2,342	-2,483	-2,313	-2,411
<i>Total portfolio and other investment income</i>	-5,846	-7,841	-10,348	-1,709	-2,099	-2,361	-2,605	-2,438	-2,599	-2,706	-2,694	-2,690	-2,594
<i>Total non-official</i>	-10,109	-13,111	-16,027	-2,910	-3,326	-3,904	-3,595	-3,898	-4,391	-4,143	-3,762	-4,427	-3,856
<i>Total investment income</i>	-13,108	-16,293	-20,133	-3,770	-4,210	-4,713	-4,531	-5,034	-5,394	-5,174	-4,705	-5,475	-4,855
<i>Other property income —</i>													
Cinema and TV film royalties	-374	-403	-433	-86	-118	-101	-109	-108	-108	-108	-116	-116	-116
Other	-758	-682	-735	-180	-173	-176	-183	-184	-184	-184	-197	-197	-197
Total	-1,132	-1,085	-1,168	-266	-291	-277	-292	-292	-292	-292	-313	-313	-313
<i>Total property income</i>	-14,240	-17,378	-21,301	-4,036	-4,501	-4,990	-4,823	-5,326	-5,686	-5,466	-5,018	-5,788	-5,168
<i>Labour and other income —</i>													
<i>Official</i>	-65	-58	-66	-14	-13	-15	-17	-16	-17	-16	-17	-17	-18
<i>Non-official —</i>													
Labour income	-145	-221	-278	-45	-74	-60	-64	-73	-76	-65	-69	-81	-76
Insurance income	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total non-official</i>	-145	-221	-278	-45	-74	-60	-64	-73	-76	-65	-69	-81	-76
<i>Total labour and other income</i>	-210	-279	-344	-59	-87	-75	-81	-89	-93	-81	-86	-98	-94
<b>Total income debits</b>	-14,450	-17,657	-21,645	-4,095	-4,588	-5,065	-4,904	-5,415	-5,779	-5,547	-5,104	-5,886	-5,262

(a) Also includes interest /charges paid to the IMF on behalf of the Commonwealth Government.

TABLE 16. UNREQUITTED TRANSFERS  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Credits —</b>													
<i>Official</i>	819	897	1,108	199	238	251	262	228	328	290	282	277	291
<i>Non-official —</i>													
Migrants' transfers	2,074	2,580	2,663	643	673	711	766	648	649	600	680	727	701
Foreign government pensions	34	24	27	8	4	4	5	5	9	8	8	8	8
Miscellaneous transfers	618	709	720	180	180	189	180	180	180	180	192	187	188
<i>Total</i>	2,726	3,313	3,410	831	857	904	951	833	838	788	880	922	897
<b>Total unrequited transfers credits</b>	<b>3,545</b>	<b>4,210</b>	<b>4,518</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>1,155</b>	<b>1,213</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>1,166</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>1,162</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>1,188</b>
<b>Debits —</b>													
<i>Official —</i>													
<i>Foreign aid —</i>													
Papua New Guinea aid	-323	-328	-361	-59	-87	-83	-81	-82	-94	-104	-87	-87	-86
Other foreign aid	-561	-620	-694	-147	-182	-218	-108	-134	-253	-199	-120	-129	-181
<i>Total</i>	-884	-948	-1,055	-206	-269	-301	-189	-216	-347	-303	-207	-216	-267
Pensions	-139	-148	-156	-37	-37	-37	-39	-39	-39	-39	-39	-40	-40
Miscellaneous transfers	-75	-61	-67	-17	-31	-5	-9	-6	-40	-12	-9	-5	-39
<i>Total official</i>	-1,098	-1,157	-1,278	-260	-337	-343	-237	-261	-426	-354	-255	-261	-346
<i>Non-official —</i>													
Migrants' transfers	-319	-349	-408	-86	-101	-85	-90	-102	-114	-102	-104	-106	-115
Withholding taxes	-28	-40	-30	-7	-5	-22	-9	-8	-8	-5	-9	-9	-9
Miscellaneous transfers	-436	-466	-456	-119	-116	-119	-114	-114	-114	-114	-125	-125	-125
<i>Total non-official</i>	-783	-855	-894	-212	-222	-226	-213	-224	-236	-221	-238	-240	-249
<b>Total unrequited transfers debits</b>	<b>-1,881</b>	<b>-2,012</b>	<b>-2,172</b>	<b>-472</b>	<b>-559</b>	<b>-569</b>	<b>-450</b>	<b>-485</b>	<b>-662</b>	<b>-575</b>	<b>-493</b>	<b>-501</b>	<b>-595</b>
<b>Net unrequited transfers</b>	<b>1,664</b>	<b>2,198</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>593</b>

TABLE 17. NET CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Foreign investment in Australia —</b>													
<i>Borrowing —</i>													
Domiciled abroad —													
Commonwealth Government —													
Drawings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repayments	-1,622	-3,175	-2,660	-1,117	-521	-540	-1,253	-670	-736	-1	-1,039	-683	-191
Total	-1,622	-3,175	-2,660	-1,117	-521	-540	-1,253	-670	-736	-1	-1,039	-683	-191
State government —													
Drawings	4,822	9,236	12,812	1,718	2,564	2,885	2,713	2,514	3,162	4,423	4,281	6,073	5,615
Repayments	-2,743	-6,477	-10,794	-1,548	-1,265	-2,365	-1,552	-1,953	-3,145	-4,144	-3,580	-5,315	-5,331
Total	2,079	2,759	2,018	170	1,299	520	1,161	561	17	279	701	758	284
Total domiciled abroad	457	-416	-642	-947	778	-20	-92	-109	-719	278	-338	75	93
Domiciled in Australia —													
Purchases by non — residents	24,685	25,229	19,288	8,068	6,933	3,928	5,295	5,000	6,251	2,742	4,465	3,292	6,226
Sales by non — residents	-20,784	-21,590	-15,912	-4,887	-5,449	-5,275	-4,254	-3,525	-4,749	-3,384	-4,127	-4,749	-5,550
Total domiciled in Australia	3,901	3,639	3,376	3,181	1,484	-1,347	1,041	1,475	1,502	-642	338	-1,457	676
<i>Total borrowing</i>	4,358	3,223	2,734	2,234	2,262	-1,367	949	1,366	783	-364	—	-1,382	769
<i>Other</i>	-71	-188	-74	-19	-24	-133	—	-2	-27	-45	-64	-42	-40
<b>Total foreign investment in Australia</b>	<b>4,287</b>	<b>3,035</b>	<b>2,660</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>2,238</b>	<b>-1,500</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>1,364</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>-409</b>	<b>-64</b>	<b>-1,424</b>	<b>729</b>
<b>Australian investment abroad —</b>													
Lending	-279	-249	43	114	-74	64	78	-475	434	6	64	-48	157
Accounts receivable/prepayments made	120	-104	-29	-18	-6	-53	-17	-81	-50	119	70	27	40
Other	574	-6	-100	—	—	—	—	-51	46	-95	73	-71	-364
Total Australian investment abroad	415	-359	-86	96	-80	11	61	-607	430	30	207	-92	-167
<b>Total general government</b>	<b>4,702</b>	<b>2,676</b>	<b>2,574</b>	<b>2,311</b>	<b>2,158</b>	<b>-1,489</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>1,186</b>	<b>-379</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>-1,516</b>	<b>562</b>

TABLE 18. NET CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS OF THE RESERVE BANK  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Foreign investment in Australia —</b>													
Use of IMF credit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	-8	—	24	64	-18	-10	—	-6	-4	34	-23	11	87
<b>Total foreign investment in Australia</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>-18</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>-23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Australian investment abroad —</b>													
<i>Reserve assets —</i>													
<i>Official reserve assets —</i>													
Monetary gold	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SDRs	20	18	29	6	—	7	8	8	6	7	10	8	8
Reserve position in IMF	—	-96	9	-26	14	-84	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign exchange	-3,944	-795	-2,194	-390	236	122	-689	-432	816	-1,889	-84	-1,110	94
<i>Total</i>	<i>-3,924</i>	<i>-873</i>	<i>-2,156</i>	<i>-410</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>-672</i>	<i>-424</i>	<i>822</i>	<i>-1,882</i>	<i>-74</i>	<i>-1,102</i>	<i>102</i>
Allocation of SDRs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total reserve assets</i>	<i>-3,924</i>	<i>-873</i>	<i>-2,156</i>	<i>-410</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>-672</i>	<i>-424</i>	<i>822</i>	<i>-1,882</i>	<i>-74</i>	<i>-1,102</i>	<i>102</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>
<b>Total Australian investment abroad</b>	<b>-3,924</b>	<b>-873</b>	<b>-2,156</b>	<b>-410</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>-672</b>	<b>-424</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>-1,882</b>	<b>-74</b>	<b>-1,102</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>Total Reserve Bank</b>	<b>-3,932</b>	<b>-873</b>	<b>-2,132</b>	<b>-346</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-672</b>	<b>-430</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>-1,848</b>	<b>-97</b>	<b>-1,091</b>	<b>189</b>



TABLE 19. NET CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS OF THE NON-OFFICIAL SECTOR  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Foreign investment in Australia —</b>													
<i>Direct investment —</i>													
Reinvestment of earnings	2,428	2,132	1,536	533	533	533	384	384	384	384	355	355	355
Corporate equities	1,312	3,916	2,498	604	1,186	709	176	570	661	1,091	903	2,630	761
Net equity in branches	1,483	2,222	1,505	255	584	934	123	283	896	203	350	502	116
Borrowing	2,869	3,290	1,997	948	17	1,039	970	663	780	-416	811	451	-3
Other	64	128	-857	-126	181	41	158	-153	-617	-245	62	-409	-34
<i>Total direct investment</i>	<i>8,156</i>	<i>11,688</i>	<i>6,679</i>	<i>2,214</i>	<i>2,501</i>	<i>3,256</i>	<i>1,811</i>	<i>1,747</i>	<i>2,104</i>	<i>1,017</i>	<i>2,481</i>	<i>3,529</i>	<i>1,195</i>
<i>Portfolio and other investment —</i>													
Corporate equities	2,337	2,126	1,255	528	475	749	213	207	654	181	293	541	539
Borrowing —													
Public sector	3,949	4,217	4,570	629	1,874	593	752	860	1,594	1,364	-1,041	2,075	-272
Private sector	8,957	9,506	5,750	81	3,752	1,449	3,461	1,570	3,064	-2,345	2,298	-1,685	2,842
Total	12,905	13,726	10,321	710	5,628	2,042	4,214	2,429	4,659	-981	1,258	390	2,571
Accounts payable/prepayments received —													
Public sector	-582	10	37	-3	-10	-2	14	-2	30	-5	—	1	-5
Private sector	658	623	-498	236	-42	184	-39	40	-540	41	-23	33	-70
Total	76	633	-461	233	-52	182	-25	38	-510	36	-23	34	-75
<i>Total portfolio and other investment</i>	<i>15,318</i>	<i>16,485</i>	<i>11,115</i>	<i>1,471</i>	<i>6,051</i>	<i>2,973</i>	<i>4,402</i>	<i>2,674</i>	<i>4,803</i>	<i>-764</i>	<i>1,528</i>	<i>965</i>	<i>3,035</i>
<b>Total foreign investment in Australia</b>	<b>23,474</b>	<b>28,173</b>	<b>17,794</b>	<b>3,685</b>	<b>8,552</b>	<b>6,229</b>	<b>6,213</b>	<b>4,421</b>	<b>6,907</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>4,009</b>	<b>4,494</b>	<b>4,230</b>
<b>Australian investment abroad —</b>													
<i>Direct investment —</i>													
Reinvestment of earnings	-2,163	-2,030	-1,592	-508	-507	-508	-398	-398	-398	-398	-368	-368	-368
Corporate equities	-7,730	-2,825	-3,297	-1,459	-358	-500	-858	-855	-2,007	423	1,096	-439	-21
Net equity in branches	-143	-261	65	-185	-77	-80	-32	67	48	-18	-37	-33	-2
Lending	-398	-1,085	1,768	727	-732	-787	31	2,241	-1,402	898	411	-263	-848
Other	-76	2	244	97	-126	30	-85	22	311	-4	99	57	-53
<i>Total direct investment</i>	<i>-10,510</i>	<i>-6,199</i>	<i>-2,812</i>	<i>-1,328</i>	<i>-1,800</i>	<i>-1,845</i>	<i>-1,342</i>	<i>1,077</i>	<i>-3,448</i>	<i>901</i>	<i>1,201</i>	<i>-1,046</i>	<i>-1,292</i>
<i>Portfolio and other investment —</i>													
Corporate equities	89	-3,431	2,154	-43	-1,326	-1,040	721	-1,085	2,145	373	509	-1,079	-765
Lending —													
Banks	-241	-774	-299	-421	30	-794	379	219	-1,161	264	-195	211	812
Non-bank enterprises	-1,687	-150	-2,495	522	-235	-57	-1,179	-541	-1,613	838	594	418	-556
Total	-1,928	-924	-2,794	101	-205	-851	-800	-322	-2,774	1,102	399	629	256
Accounts receivable/prepayments made —													
Public sector	-29	-603	-277	60	-208	-283	22	-114	-246	61	101	49	80
Private sector	-615	-262	27	-93	-57	2	-80	117	-123	113	-39	-28	231
Total	-644	-865	-250	-33	-265	-281	-58	3	-369	174	62	21	311
<i>Total portfolio and other investment</i>	<i>-2,483</i>	<i>-5,220</i>	<i>-890</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>-1,796</i>	<i>-2,172</i>	<i>-137</i>	<i>-1,404</i>	<i>-998</i>	<i>1,649</i>	<i>970</i>	<i>-429</i>	<i>-198</i>
<b>Total Australian investment abroad</b>	<b>-12,993</b>	<b>-11,419</b>	<b>-3,702</b>	<b>-1,303</b>	<b>-3,596</b>	<b>-4,017</b>	<b>-1,479</b>	<b>-327</b>	<b>-4,446</b>	<b>2,550</b>	<b>2,171</b>	<b>-1,475</b>	<b>-1,490</b>
<b>Total non-official</b>	<b>10,481</b>	<b>16,754</b>	<b>14,092</b>	<b>2,382</b>	<b>4,956</b>	<b>2,212</b>	<b>4,734</b>	<b>4,094</b>	<b>2,461</b>	<b>2,803</b>	<b>6,180</b>	<b>3,019</b>	<b>2,740</b>

TABLE 20. NET BORROWING TRANSACTIONS OF THE NON-OFFICIAL SECTOR  
(\$ million)

	Year			Quarters ended										
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91				
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	
<b>Direct investment borrowing —</b>														
<i>Domiciled abroad —</i>														
Drawings	27,996	51,123	15,685	11,531	6,382	10,378	798	6,634	4,159	4,094	2,601	8,699	9,749	
Repayments	-24,749	-47,871	-13,833	-10,893	-6,033	-9,400	-64	-6,227	-3,217	-4,325	-1,597	-8,364	-9,639	
<i>Total</i>	<i>3,247</i>	<i>3,252</i>	<i>1,852</i>	<i>638</i>	<i>349</i>	<i>978</i>	<i>734</i>	<i>407</i>	<i>942</i>	<i>-231</i>	<i>1,004</i>	<i>335</i>	<i>110</i>	
<i>Domiciled in Australia</i>	<i>-378</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>310</i>	<i>-332</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>236</i>	<i>256</i>	<i>-162</i>	<i>-185</i>	<i>-193</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>-113</i>	
<b>Total direct investment borrowing</b>	<b>2,869</b>	<b>3,290</b>	<b>1,997</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>-416</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>-3</b>	
<b>Other borrowing —</b>														
<i>Domiciled abroad —</i>														
<i>Banks —</i>														
Drawings	28,780	44,042	64,027	7,912	11,034	13,187	12,329	12,427	26,721	12,550	13,881	13,100	19,729	
Repayments	-26,034	-36,058	-59,943	-6,997	-7,122	-11,142	-10,828	-11,225	-24,097	-13,793	-12,178	-12,898	-16,814	
<i>Total</i>	<i>2,746</i>	<i>7,984</i>	<i>4,084</i>	<i>915</i>	<i>3,912</i>	<i>2,045</i>	<i>1,501</i>	<i>1,202</i>	<i>2,624</i>	<i>-1,243</i>	<i>1,703</i>	<i>202</i>	<i>2,915</i>	
<i>Non-bank enterprises —</i>														
Drawings	76,540	113,649	128,117	27,305	27,250	31,209	27,181	29,062	36,634	35,240	30,438	33,031	31,632	
Repayments	-68,589	-108,389	-123,119	-26,555	-24,985	-32,067	-25,183	-28,676	-33,483	-35,777	-30,651	-33,798	-30,620	
<i>Total</i>	<i>7,951</i>	<i>5,260</i>	<i>4,998</i>	<i>750</i>	<i>2,265</i>	<i>-858</i>	<i>1,998</i>	<i>386</i>	<i>3,151</i>	<i>-537</i>	<i>-213</i>	<i>-767</i>	<i>1,012</i>	
<i>Total domiciled abroad</i>	<i>10,697</i>	<i>13,244</i>	<i>9,082</i>	<i>1,665</i>	<i>6,177</i>	<i>1,187</i>	<i>3,499</i>	<i>1,588</i>	<i>5,775</i>	<i>-1,780</i>	<i>1,490</i>	<i>-565</i>	<i>3,927</i>	
<i>Domiciled in Australia —</i>														
<i>Banks —</i>														
Securities	126	17	344	-242	-213	107	393	226	-232	-43	165	-11	219	
Deposits	1,446	360	845	96	375	373	881	731	-1,371	604	563	1,033	-1,283	
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,572</i>	<i>377</i>	<i>1,189</i>	<i>-146</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>480</i>	<i>1,274</i>	<i>957</i>	<i>-1,603</i>	<i>561</i>	<i>728</i>	<i>1,022</i>	<i>-1,064</i>	
<i>Non-bank enterprises</i>	<i>636</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>-809</i>	<i>-711</i>	<i>375</i>	<i>-559</i>	<i>-116</i>	<i>487</i>	<i>238</i>	<i>-960</i>	<i>-67</i>	<i>-292</i>	
<i>Total domiciled in Australia</i>	<i>2,208</i>	<i>482</i>	<i>1,239</i>	<i>-955</i>	<i>-549</i>	<i>855</i>	<i>715</i>	<i>841</i>	<i>-1,116</i>	<i>799</i>	<i>-232</i>	<i>955</i>	<i>-1,356</i>	
<i>of which —</i>														
Public sector securities (a)	1,080	-352	-213	-564	-508	111	-338	-162	223	64	-851	39	195	
<b>Total other borrowing</b>	<b>12,905</b>	<b>13,726</b>	<b>10,321</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>5,628</b>	<b>2,042</b>	<b>4,214</b>	<b>2,429</b>	<b>4,659</b>	<b>-981</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>2,571</b>	
<b>Total borrowing (b)</b>	<b>15,774</b>	<b>17,016</b>	<b>12,318</b>	<b>1,658</b>	<b>5,645</b>	<b>3,081</b>	<b>5,184</b>	<b>3,092</b>	<b>5,439</b>	<b>-1,397</b>	<b>2,069</b>	<b>841</b>	<b>2,568</b>	

(a) Excludes bank securities. (b) Corresponds to the sum of direct investment borrowing and total portfolio and other investment borrowing in Table 19.

TABLE 21. OFFICIAL RESERVE ASSETS AND EXCHANGE RATES

	Year			Quarters ended									
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			
				Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
<b>Official reserve assets (\$ million) —</b>													
<i>Levels at end of year/month</i>	20,182	20,410	21,871	19,772	19,509	20,410	20,774	21,487	21,065	21,872	22,281	24,989	23,593
<i>Changes in levels</i>	2,588	228	1,462	-856	-263	901	364	713	-422	807	409	2,708	-1,396
<i>Of which —</i>													
Changes due to effects of revaluations	-1,336	-645	-694	-1,266	-13	946	-308	289	400	-1,075	335	1,606	-1,294
Changes included in the balance of payments (a)	3,924	873	2,156	410	-250	-45	672	424	-822	1,882	74	1,102	-102
<b>Exchange rates —</b>													
<i>Units of foreign currency per \$A —</i>													
<i>End of year/quarter (b) —</i>													
United States dollar	0.7940	0.7553	0.7890	0.8555	0.8194	0.7553	0.7764	0.7927	0.7542	0.7890	0.8265	0.7733	0.7752
United Kingdom pound	0.4612	0.4882	0.4536	0.4764	0.4855	0.4882	0.4788	0.4927	0.4584	0.4536	0.4412	0.4031	0.4467
West German mark	1.441	1.480	1.318	1.528	1.550	1.480	1.453	1.339	1.278	1.318	1.293	1.160	1.331
Japanese yen	105.17	108.79	120.41	107.71	108.64	108.79	108.23	113.61	118.79	120.41	114.05	104.34	108.40
Special drawing right	0.6059	0.6051	0.5967	0.6382	0.6332	0.6051	0.6109	0.5990	0.5803	0.5967	0.5939	0.5472	0.5719
<i>Period average (c) —</i>													
United States dollar	0.7290	0.8160	0.7697	0.8392	0.8475	0.7777	0.7638	0.7811	0.7659	0.7681	0.8088	0.7825	0.7785
United Kingdom pound	0.4167	0.4755	0.4733	0.4688	0.4844	0.4776	0.4786	0.4927	0.4626	0.4592	0.4342	0.4024	0.4080
West German mark	1.262	1.512	1.367	1.488	1.567	1.501	1.469	1.416	1.296	1.288	1.288	1.175	1.191
Japanese yen	97.58	106.95	113.27	105.04	108.76	107.09	108.71	111.77	113.27	119.33	117.35	102.28	104.10
Special drawing right	0.5448	0.6244	0.5958	0.6246	0.6439	0.6126	0.6065	0.6089	0.5821	0.5858	0.5905	0.5459	0.5495
<b>Trade-weighted index of value of the Australian dollar (May 1970 = 100) —</b>													
End of year/quarter (b)	59.8	59.4	61.6	63.2	62.2	59.4	59.8	61.1	59.8	61.6	61.6	57.3	59.7
Period average (c)	54.8	61.6	60.0	62.0	63.4	60.0	59.5	60.5	59.5	60.5	61.4	57.2	57.7

(a) The entries carry the opposite sign to corresponding entries in Tables 1 and 4. (b) These exchange rates and index numbers relate to the last trading day of the reference period. (c) These exchange rates and index numbers are derived by averaging figures for each trading day.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

This publication provides detailed estimates of Australia's balance of payments for the March quarter 1991 together with revised estimates for previous quarters and financial years. Longer term estimates, from September quarter 1959, consistent with those shown in this issue, will shortly be made available on request for a charge.

2. Tables 1 to 4 in this publication provide summary statistics; they show the main aggregates and the more important components of the aggregates. The remaining tables, Tables 5 to 21, provide additional breakdowns, related series (e.g. exchange rates and the trade-weighted index) and reconciliations of selected balance of payments series with other series (i.e. with foreign trade statistics and levels of official reserve assets).

## Concepts, sources and methods

3. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of the balance of payments and the sources and methods used in compiling the estimates are presented in *Balance of Payments, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (5331.0). The publication also provides item definitions, explanations of seasonal adjustment, constant price estimates, implicit price deflators and the terms of trade; and an analysis of the quality of the estimates.

## Commodity breakdowns of merchandise

4. Commodity breakdowns of merchandise exports and imports are provided in Table 7 (at current prices), 8 (at average 1984-85 prices), 9 (at current prices, seasonally adjusted) and 10 (at average 1984-85 prices, seasonally adjusted). The groupings shown are based on the third revision of the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification (SITC rev 3) as follows:

<i>Exports</i>	<i>SITC rev 3 Section or Division</i>
Rural -	
Meat & meat preparations	01
Cereal grains and cereal preparations	04
Sugar, sugar preparations & honey	06
Wool and sheepskins	21(part),26(part)
Other rural	00,02,03,05,07 to 09, 12,21(part),22 to 25, 26(part),29,4
Non-rural -	
Metal ores & minerals	27,28
Mineral fuels -	
Coal, coke and briquettes	32

*Exports (cont.)*

	<i>SITC rev 3 Section or Division</i>
Other mineral fuels	33 to 35
Metals -	
Gold	95,97
Other metals	67,68
Machinery	71 to 77
Transport equipment	78,79
Manufactures nec	5,61 to 66,69,8
Other non-rural	11,93,96,98

*Imports*

Food, beverages & tobacco	0,1
Fuels	3
Chemicals (incl. plastics)	5
Textiles, fabrics etc	65
Metals and metal manufactures	67 to 69
Machinery	71 to 77
Transport equipment	78,79
Manufactures nec	61 to 64,66,8
Other imports	2,4,9

Note: Division 98 is not part of the SITC. In the balance of payments it comprises confidential items, which are removed from their actual division and combined in Division 98 to prevent disclosure of their values.

## Seasonal adjustment

5. 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. However, seasonally adjusted statistics in this publication should not be regarded as in any way definitive as results from seasonal adjustment vary according to the method used.

6. The factors to be used in compiling seasonally adjusted estimates for certain series (principally components of merchandise trade and investment income) up to and including December quarter 1991 can be obtained, for a charge, from Mr Trevor Jolly on Canberra (06) 252 6820.

## Accuracy and reliability of estimates

7. Because the transactions recorded in the balance of payments are of many different kinds, compilation of balance of payments estimates entails the use of a very wide range of statistical data of varying degrees of accuracy and timeliness.

8. Therefore care should be exercised in the use and interpretation of estimates in this publication. The latest estimates are *preliminary and subject to revision* as more accurate data come to hand. Also, the more detailed estimates may be less accurate in relative terms than broader items and aggregates of which they form components.

### Investment income and capital transactions

9. Additional information about capital account and investment income transactions is available in the quarterly publications *Foreign Investment, Australia* (5306.0) and *Foreign Investment, Australia, Preliminary* (5307.0) and in the annual publication *Foreign Investment, Australia* (5305.0). Statistics in foreign investment publications are consistent with those in balance of payments publications. Foreign investment publications also provide comprehensive statistics on the level of foreign investment in Australia, the level of Australian investment abroad and Australia's external debt.

### Transportation transactions

10. The quarterly publication *International Transportation Services, Australia* (5350.0) has been discontinued. However, the additional information it contained on freight and other transportation transactions is now available on request for a charge from Mr. John Rattur on (06) 252 5738.

### Comparability with capital expenditure statistics

11. Tables 7 and 9 in this publication contain current price estimates of *imports of endogenous capital goods*. Shorter-term movements in this series can differ quite significantly from the corresponding movements in the *new private capital expenditure on equipment, plant and machinery* series published in *Private New Capital Expenditure, Australia* (5625.0 and 5626.0). The main reasons for the differences are:

- The imports series includes all goods defined as endogenous capital goods, whereas the capital expenditure series relates only to goods classified as equipment, plant and machinery that are acquired by private enterprises in selected industries.
- The capital expenditure series includes all plant, machinery and equipment, irrespective of whether it has been imported or manufactured in Australia.
- Imports are valued f.o.b. at the point of export whereas estimates of capital expenditure are measured at domestic market prices, including international transport margins, government duties and domestic trade and transport margins.

12. Accordingly, while movements in imports of endogenous capital goods can provide a broad indication of movements in the *import component* of new private capital expenditure on equipment, plant and machinery, they do not necessarily provide an accurate indication of movements in total new private capital expenditure on these goods.

### Series available on request

13. Detailed quarterly export and import series at constant (average 1984-85) prices can be obtained by contacting Mr Stephen Waugh on Canberra (06) 252 6716. These series are based on foreign trade statistics (ie they are not adjusted to a balance of payments basis) and relate to

selected divisions and sections of the SITC rev 3. Quarterly tables showing components of services can also be obtained from Mr Waugh. These tables provide original and seasonally adjusted current and constant price estimates, corresponding to the series shown (in original current price terms) in Tables 12 and 13 of this publication. Both sets of estimates are working estimates only and may not always be completely consistent with published estimates.

### Related publications

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

*Balance of Payments Australia* (5301.0) - issued monthly  
*Balance of Payments, Australia* (5303.0) - issued annually

*Balance of Payments, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (5331.0)

*Information paper - Seasonally Adjustment of Australia's Monthly Balance of Payments Statistics* (5359.0).

*Exports, Australia: Monthly Summary Tables* (5432.0) - issued monthly

*Imports, Australia: Monthly Summary Tables* (5433.0) - issued monthly

*Export Price Index, Australia* (6405.0) - issued monthly

*Import Price Index, Australia* (6414.0) - issued quarterly

*Foreign Investment, Australia 1988-89* (5305.0)

*Foreign Investment, Australia (Preliminary)* (5307.0) - issued quarterly

*Foreign Investment, Australia* (5306.0) - issued quarterly

15. 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

f.o.b.	free on board
n.a.	not available
n.y.a.	not yet available
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.e.i.	not elsewhere included
—	nil or rounded to zero
..	not applicable.

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

**SPECIAL ARTICLES IN RECENT BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND  
FOREIGN INVESTMENT PUBLICATIONS**

<i>Article</i>	<i>Publication (ABS Catalogue no)</i>	<i>Issue</i>	<i>Page reference</i>
The relationship between balance of payments and foreign investment statistics	5302.0	Dec qtr 1990	10-11
Trends in Australian travellers expenditure abroad	5302.0	Sept qtr 1990	9-11
Measurement of Australia's terms of trade	5302.0	Sept qtr 1990	12-16
Balancing item	5302.0	June qtr 1990	10-11
Balance of payments ratios	5302.0	June qtr 1990	11-16
International comparisons of balance of payments statistics	5302.0	June qtr 1990	17-18
Impact of trading days on merchandise trade estimates	5301.0	June 1990	5-7
Fixed-weighted price indexes	5302.0	Mar qtr 1990	8
Treatment of insurance services in the balance of payments	5302.0	Dec qtr 1989	8-11
New publication: international trade in services statistics	5302.0	Sept qtr 1989	9-10
Quarterly survey of international travel enterprises	5302.0	Sept qtr 1989	10-11
Measurement of foreign investment in Australian real estate in foreign investment statistics	5306.0	Sept qtr 1989	8-10
Survey of international travel enterprises - results for 1987-88	5302.0	June qtr 1989	13
Survey of international trade in services	5302.0	June qtr 1989	14
Time series decomposition of balance of payments statistics	5302.0	Mar qtr 1989	8
Reliability of quarterly balance of payments estimates	5302.0	Dec qtr 1988	12-15
Reliability of monthly balance of payments estimates	5301.0	Sept 1988	4-5
Foreign debt ratios	5306.0	June qtr 1988	6-7
Changed methodology for measuring foreign borrowing domiciled in Australia	5307.0	June qtr 1988	2-3
Foreign ownership of Australian real estate - treatment in foreign investment statistics	5306.0	March qtr 1988	5-6
The balance of payments as a record of transactions, not payments	5302.0	Sept qtr 1987	9-10
Exchange rates and the trade weighted index	5302.0	June qtr 1987	9
Conversion of balance of payments aggregates expressed in domestic currency into foreign currency equivalents	5302.0	June qtr 1987	10-11
The puzzle of a global balance of payments discrepancy	5302.0	June qtr 1987	14-16
Changed methodology for measuring foreign portfolio investment in Australian corporate equities	5307.0	June qtr 1987	2-3

Copies of the above articles, at \$5 each, may be obtained from Mr Trevor Jolly, Balance of Payments Section (Phone (06) 252 6820). Facsimilies will be charged for at current Australia Post rates.



## *For more information ...*

The ABS publishes a wide range of information on Australia's economic and social conditions. A catalogue of publications and products is available from any of our Offices (see below for contact details).

### **Information Consultancy Service**

Special tables or in-depth data investigations are provided by the ABS Information Consultancy Service in each of our Offices (see below for contact details).

### **Electronic Data Services**

A growing range of our data are available on electronic media. Selections of the most frequently requested data are available, updated daily, on DISCOVERY (Key \*656#). Our TELESTATS service delivers major economic indicator publications ready to download into your computer on the day of release. Our AUSSTATS service enables on-line access to a data base of thousands of up-to-date time series. Selected datasets are also available on diskette or CD-ROM. For more details on our electronic data services, contact Information Services in any of our Offices on the numbers below.

### **Bookshops and Subscriptions**

There are over 500 titles available from the ABS Bookshops in each of our Offices. You can also receive any of our publications on a regular basis. Join our subscription mailing service and have your publications mailed to you in Australia at no additional cost. Telephone our Publications Subscription Service toll free on 008 02 06 08 Australia wide.

## *Sales and Inquiries*



SYDNEY (02) 268 4611  
MELBOURNE (03) 615 7000  
BRISBANE (07) 222 6351  
PERTH (09) 323 5140

ADELAIDE (08) 237 7100  
HOBART (002) 20 5800  
DARWIN (089) 81 3456  
CANBERRA (06) 252 6627



Information Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616  
or any ABS State office.