8 Commerce

Introduction

This chapter covers retail and wholesale trade; retail and producer price indexes; external trade, both imports and exports; and household expenditure surveys.

The term 'wholesale trade' is used in the broad sense to include the resale (as agents or principals) of new or used goods to retailers or other business users (including farmers and builders). A sample survey of wholesale establishments was conducted in respect of the year ended 30 June 1982, the results of which are presented in the 1986 edition of the *Victorian Year Book*. 'Retail trade' refers to the resale of new or used goods to final consumers for personal or household consumption.

Overview

Wholesale and Retail Trade contributed 13.7 per cent of Australia's and 14.3 per cent of Victoria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost in 1986-87. The Australian share of GDP at factor cost held by Retail and Wholesale trade declined from 13.8 per cent in 1981-82 to 13.0 per cent in 1983-84 before rising to 13.6 per cent in 1984-85. A slight decrease from 13.9 per cent to 13.7 per cent then occurred between 1985-86 and 1986-87. The Victorian share declined gradually from 13.9 per cent to 12.8 per cent between 1981-82 and 1983-84 before rising again to the 1986-87 level.

RETAILING IN THE 1980s

Victoria compared with Australia

In 1985-86, Victoria accounted for 26.2 per cent of the retail establishments in Australia and 28.1 per cent of their turnover. Victorian establishments employed 26.9 per cent of persons engaged in retailing.

During the six year period 1979-80 to 1985-86, the number of retail establishments in Australia increased by 12.7 per cent. The number of establishments in Victoria increased by 5.7 per cent during the same period. All other States recorded larger percentage increases.

Employment by Victorian retailers rose during the period by 19.0 per cent compared with a 17.4 per cent increase for Australia.

Turnover of Victorian retailers at constant prices increased over the same period by 23.6 per cent, while the Australian turnover figure rose by 24.6 per cent.

The above figures suggest that the decline in the number of establishments in Victoria in recent years was due to structural change in the industry rather than a contraction in the level of activity.

Retail industries

Department and general stores accounted for only 0.3 per cent of retail establishments in Victoria in 1985-86. This group however, employed 10.2 per cent of persons engaged in retailing in Victoria and contributed 6.9 per cent of total industry turnover.

Almost one third of retail establishments were Food stores. Food stores employed 37.4 per cent of the Victorian retail workforce and contributed 25.2 per cent to industry turnover.

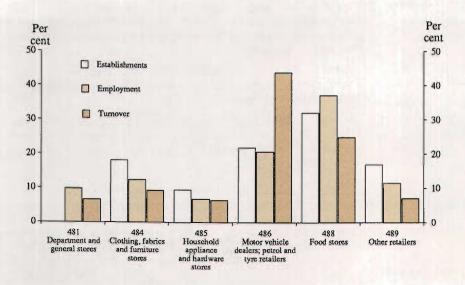
The industry group with the largest turnover during 1985-86 was the Motor vehicle dealers; petrol and tyre retailers group. This group accounted for 44.1 per cent of the Victorian retail industry's turnover and 20.9 per cent of retail employment.

TABLE 8.1 RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS: SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS BY INDUSTRY GROUP, VICTORIA 1985-86

Asic code	Industry group	Establish- ments at 30 June	Persons employed at 30 June ('000)	Wages and salaries (\$m)	Retail sales (\$m)	Turnover (\$m)	Value added (\$m)	Total floor space ('000m²)
481	Department and							
	general stores	131	25.3	302.0	1685.5	1,784.4	534.6	829
484	Clothing, fabrics							
	and furniture stores	7,714	31.6	306.7	2,430.7	2,483.9	692.6	1,523
485	Household appliance							
	and hardware stores	4,070	17.7	178.7	1,524.0	1,759.2	428.9	834
486	Motor vehicle dealers,	•						
	petrol and tyre retailers	9,270	52.2	637.1	7,064.1	11,466.8	1,863.5	
488	Food stores	13,520	93.2	687.6	6,485.3	6,549.0	1,271.0	2,305
489	Other retailers	7,191	29.4	210.5	1,870.1	1,934.8	583.1	1,195
	Total	41,896	249.5	2,322.6	21,059.7	25,978.2	5,373.7	

TABLE 8.2 RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS: SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS BY INDUSTRY GROUP, PERCENTAGE OF AUSTRALIAN TOTALS, VICTORIA, 1985-86 (per cent)

_			(per cent)					
Asic code	Industry Group	Establish- ments at 30 June	Persons employed at 30 June	Wages and salaries	Retail sales	Turnover	Value added	Total floor space
481	Department and					-		
	general stores	20.0	25.1	25.7	22.2	22.1	22.6	20.7
484	Clothing, fabrics							
	and furniture stores	29.9	31.1	31.8	30.3	30.4	30.9	30.3
485	Household appliance							
	and hardware stores	26.9	28.5	28.4	29.3	29.3	27.0	32.3
486	Motor vehicle dealers,							
	petrol and tyre retailers	24.1	24.4	24.8	26.2	30.0	27.9	
488	Food stores	26.2	27.3	27.9	26.4	26.4	26.3	26.5
489	Other retailers	25.2	27.0	27.0	27.1	27.0	27.1	25.5
	Total	26.2	26.9	27.1	26.6	28.1	27.1	



Survey of retail establishments

During the period between Retail censuses, monthly estimates of the value of retail sales by industry group are obtained by means of a sample survey of representative retail establishments. Estimates of retail sales by commodity groups were collected on a quarterly basis until June quarter 1987. It is proposed that an annual commodity collection will replace the former quarterly collection.

TABLE 8.3 VALUE OF RETAIL SALES (a), BY INDUSTRY GROUP, VICTORIA

	(2)	m)				
Industry group	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Grocers, confectioners,			11 11 - 010	A LANC. ALC.		
tobacconists	3,566.2	4,051.4	4,337.0	4,733.9	5,084.6	5,286.1
Butchers	414.3	392.6	400.6	539.3	534.9	518.7
General stores	105.1	118.1	129.6	144.4	137.5	126.8
Other food stores	661.8	676.4	664.6	728.5	966.9	1,125.1
Hotels, liquor stores,						
licensed clubs	1,200.1	1,246.4	1,218.0	1,325.3	1,406.4	1,555.6
Clothing and fabrics						
stores	1,191.6	1310.4	1,359.2	1,534.1	1,588.0	1,675.0
Department stores	932.2	1,000.0	1,142.5	1,228.2	1,354.2	1,499.1
Footwear stores	188.6	220.2	226.7	227.5	280.9	311.0
Domestic hardware						
stores, jewellers	396.4	385.0	344.2	404.1	481.7	555.6
Electrical goods stores	658.2	760.2	725.2	835.7	884.5	930.8
Furniture stores	315.6	298.8	329.2	438.6	438.5	426.2
Floor coverings stores	126.0	123.1	127.3	165.5	188.8	203.0
Chemists	390.8	411.5	422.9	483.3	555.1	629.5
Newsagents	338.7	393.2	449.9	434.7	447.0	442.0
Other	473.8	494.0	537.6	628.6	780.6	849.5
Total	10,959.7	11,881.4	12,414.5	13,851.9	15,129.6	16,134.3

⁽a) The surveys for the years 1982-83 to 1987-88 are based on the 1979-80 retail census.

PRICE INDEXES

Introduction

Price indexes are designed to measure the changes in prices over time of a constant basket of goods and services. They measure the proportionate change in the aggregate cost of specified quantities and qualities of the items included in the index.

Examples of price indexes compiled by the ABS are retail price indexes, producer price indexes, and foreign trade price indexes. The current retail price index, the Consumer Price Index (CPI), was first published in August 1960 and was compiled retrospectively back to 1948. Retail prices of food and groceries and average rentals of houses have been collected by the ABS since 1901. The current series (the eleventh) of the CPI was introduced in March 1987.

During the sixties, the ABS began producing a range of price indexes covering materials used and articles produced by defined sectors of the Australian economy. The following producer price indexes (previously known as Wholesale Price Indexes) are now published monthly; Price Index of Materials Used in House Building; Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building; Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry; Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry and Price Indexes of Copper Materials. Only the Building indexes are produced on a State basis.

The ABS also compiles price indexes for merchandise imported into and exported from Australia. The Import Price Index is released quarterly while the Export Price Index is monthly. The first isssue of the Import Price Index was released in May 1983 and covers the period September quarter 1981 to December quarter 1982. The current Export Price Index was introduced in July 1979 although prior to this an annual index of export prices was published dating back to 1901. Both the Import Price Index and Export Price Index are produced on a national basis only.

Consumer Price Index

In 1987-88, the Consumer Price Index for Melbourne stood at 175.9 (base year 1980-81=100.0). By comparison, the weighted average of the eight Australian capital cities was 174.5.

The greatest price rise between 1980-81 and 1987-88 in Melbourne and for the weighted average of the eight Australian capital cities occurred in Tobacco and alcohol, with increases of 92.9 per cent and 97.8 per cent respectively. For Melbourne, the next largest price increase occurred in Housing with a rise of 85.8 per cent, while for the weighted average of the eight Australian capital cities it occurred in Transportation, with a rise of 86.4 per cent.

The lowest price rise for both Melbourne and the weighted average of the eight Australian capital cities occurred in Clothing, with increases of 64 per cent and 64.2 per cent respectively.

TABLE 8.4 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, MELBOURNE

Year	Food	Clothing	Housing	Household equip- ment and operation	Trans- portation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care (a)	Recrea- tion and education (b)	All
1982-83	119.3	113.4	123.7	123.0	120.5	121.4	160.1	108.7	122.8
1983-84	128.9	119.9	136.0	132.2	131.1	139.4	155.1	115.6	132.1
1984-85	135.4	127,4	149.6	138.9	138.3	151.1	128.3	120.5	138.1
1985-86	146.3	138.3	163.3	150.0	149.3	163.1	141.3	131.8	149.8
1986-87	158.9	151.6	175.6	162.0	165.6	178.7	164.2	144.5	163.9
1987-88	167.7	164.0	185.8	173.6	179.3	192.9	181.9	156.1	175.9

⁽a) The Health and personal care group index for 1983-84 was affected by price changes for hospital and medical services resulting from changes to health insurance arrangements, with the introduction of the Medicare scheme on 1 February 1984.

(b) Base year: March Quarter 1982 = 100.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, MELBOURNE, 1987-88

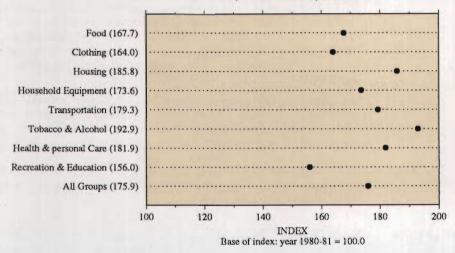


TABLE 8.5 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, ALL GROUPS, EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES (Base year: year 1980-81 = 100.0)

Year	Eight capitals (a)	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
1982-83	123.1	123.4	122.8	122,9	123.5	122.5	121.8	123.1	124.0
1983-84	131.6	130.9	132.1	131.7	132.3	131.0	129.9	130.2	132.3
1984-85	137.2	136.0	138.1	137.9	138.7	136.1	136.1	135.1	138.8
1985-86	148.7	147.5	149.8	149.0	150.2	147.1	147.9	146.2	150.8
1986-87	162.6	161.4	163.9	161.8	164.0	161.8	162.5	159.3	163.4
1987-88	174.5	173.7	175.9	173.1	175.0	173.3	174.4	170.6	174.7

⁽a) Weighted average of eight capital cities.

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TABLE 8.6 RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS: AUSTRALIA (a) LONG TERM LINKED SERIES

(Base year: 1945 = 100.0)

Year	Index number	Year	Index number	Year	Index number	Year	Index number
1919	91	1936	75	1953	205	1971	332
1920	103	1937	78	1954	206	1972	352
		1938	80	1955	211	1973	385
1921	90	1939	82	1956	224	1974	443
1922	87	1940	85	1957	229	1975	510
1923	89			1958	233	1976	579
1924	88	1941	89	1959	237	1977	650
1925	88	1942	97	1960	245	1978	702
1926	90	1943	101			1979	766
1927	89	1944	100	1961	252	1980	844
1928	89	1945	100	1962	251		
1929	91	1946	102	1963	252	1981	926
1930	87	1947	106	1964	258	1982	1,028
		1948	117	1965	268	1983	1,132
1931	78	1949	128	1966	276	1984	1,177
1932	74	1950	140	1967	286	1985	1,257
1933	71			1968	293	1986	1,370
1934	73	1951	167	1969	302	1987	1,487
1935	74	1952	196	1970	313		

⁽a) The index numbers relate to the weighted average of six State capital cities up to 1980; from 1981 they relate to the weighted average of eight capital cities

TABLE 8.7 PRICE INDEXES OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING, MELBOURNE

Group	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
House Building						
(Base year: $1985-86 = 100.0$) -						
All groups	-	-	93.3	100.0	105.7	114.3
Other Than House Building						
(Base year: $1979-80 = 100.0$) -						
Structural timber	127.0	145.0	167.9	181.2	184.7	190.2
Clay bricks	153.3	171.9	184.3	198.7	213.7	233.8
Ready mixed concrete	128.4	132.7	150.3	152.3	156.3	159.7
Precast concrete products	132.4	140.5	148.1	154.0	161.0	173.1
Galvanised steel decking, etc.	129.3	128.6	133.5	135.8	142.0	155.5
Structural steel	132.2	133.3	140.8	150.5	160.4	175.5
Reinforcing steel bar, mesh, etc.	138.4	152.7	152.9	164.3	174.2	179.2
Aluminium windows	128.5	133.2	140.8	149.3	156.5	170.4
Steel windows, doors, louvres, etc.	134.7	140.3	149.8	157.5	169.8	180.5
Builders' hardware	146.7	160.7	170.2	187.3	201.9	212.1
Paint	150.6	163.4	176.7	193.8	215.7	231.0
Non-ferrous pipes	109.5	117.7	126.3	142.0	153.7	195.2
All groups excluding electrical material	s					
and mechanical services	135.3	142.6	152.2	162.1	172.2	184.7
All electrical materials	136.1	143.3	151.6	165.4	188.4	222.0
All mechanical services	138.8	147.1	156.7	180.3	199.5	214.6
All plumbing materials	135.1	143.0	148.1	158.3	171.8	194.9
All groups	135.9	143.4	152.8	165.2	177.8	192.6

HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEYS

The 1984 survey

In 1984, Victorian households had a higher average weekly household income and a higher average weekly household expenditure than Australian households (incomes of \$472.22 and \$453.60 respectively, and expenditures of \$370.31 and \$361.84 respectively). However, there was very little difference in the expenditure patterns of Victorian and Australian households.

The four broad commodity/service groups on which most (61.2 per cent) of the total commodity/service expenditure of Victorian households was spent were: food and non-alcoholic beverages (accounting for 19.8 per cent of total weekly household expenditure), transport (16.7 per cent), recreation (12.4 per cent), and current housing costs (12.3 per cent). Current housing costs refer to ongoing housing costs at the time of the survey, as opposed to capital housing expenses.

TABLE 8.8 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY REGIONS

		198	34	11-11-1-1	1975-76
Particulars	Melbourne	Urban regions (a)	Rural regions (b)	Victoria	Victoria
Number of households in sample Estimated total number of households	1,325	471	151	1,947	1,327
in population ('000)	945.3	283.2	92.1	1,320.6	1,163.0
Average number of persons per household	2.83	2.77	3.01	2.83	3.10
Average age of household head (years)	47.43	48.48	47.17	47.64	45.95
Average weekly household income (\$)	492.49	433.27	383.97	472.22	232.10
Average weekly household expenditure (\$)- Commodity or service expenditure -					
Current housing costs (selected dwelling) (c)	50.46	35.42	28.49	45.70	24.18
Fuel and power	12.47	11.58	11.16	12.19	4.75
Food and non-alcoholic beverages -					
Bread, cakes, and cereals	8.65	7.79	7.91	8.41	3.91
Meat and fish	16.67	14.68	15.94	16.19	8.64
Dairy products, oils, and fats	9.23	8.72	10.29	9.19	5.27
Fruit and vegetables	9.74	7.91	8.15	9.23	4.92
Miscellaneous food	9.56	9.07	8.94	9.41	1
Non-alcoholic beverages	4.67	4.30	3.29	4.49	12.34
Meals out and take-away food	17.20	14.76	10.95	16.24	,
Total food and non-alcoholic beverages	75.71	67.23	65.46	73.18	35.07
Alcoholic beverages	11.36	10.32	11.04	11.11	1
Tobacco	6.72	5.86	4.95	6.41	} 10.75
Clothing and footwear	25.65	21.77	16.94	24.21	16.56
Household furnishings and equipment	27.52	28.80	25.70	27.67	1
Household services and operations	16.25	15.01	14.45	15.86	17.92
Medical care and health expenses	15.89	14.19	14.09	15.40	5.54
Transport and communication	60.38	62.49	75.95	61.92	34.14
Recreation	48.25	39.72	40.55	45.89	17.02
Personal care	7.32	5.99	5.17	6.89	1
Miscellaneous commodities and services	25.24	21.28	18.01	23.89	} 14.56
Total commodity or service expenditure	383.23	339.66	331.98	370.31	180.49

TABLE 8.8 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY REGIONS - continued

		198	34		1975-76
Particulars	Melbourne	Urban regions (a)	Rural regions (b)	Victoria	Victoria
Selected other payments - (\$)					
Income tax	91.09	74.99	58.21	85.35	n.a.
Mortgage payments - principal (selected dwelling)	6.77	5.90	4.52	6.43	n.a,
Other capital housing costs (d)	20.54	(e) 6.63	*	16.70	n.a.
Superannuation and life insurance	12.04	12.72	10.30	12.07	n.a.
Total selected other payments	130.44	100.23	81.28	120.54	46.43
Total	513.67	439.89	413.26	490.85	226.92

(a) All towns and urban centres with a population of more than 500 persons (excluding the capital city) as defined for purposes of the 1981 Census of Population and Housing.

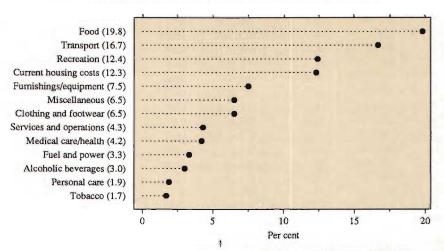
(b) Localities with a population of less than 500 persons and rural areas (excluding remote areas).

(c) Included in current housing costs is the interest component of any housing loan repayments. Excluded are outright purchase, or deposit on, dwellings or land and other payments of a capital nature.

(d) The main components of this item are the principal component of any housing loan repayment for property other than the selected dwelling, purchase of and deposit on dwellings and land or other property, and home improvements.

(e) Subject to high standard error and therefore should be used with caution.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY COMMODITY/SERVICE GROUP, VICTORIA, 1984



Expenditure on each commodity or service as a proportion of expenditure on all commodities and services

EXTERNAL TRADE

Victorian ports

In the period 1981-82 to 1986-87, Victorian ports increased their share of trade with the rest of the world. The proportion of Australian imports handled by Victorian ports (by value)increased from 31 per cent in 1981-82 to 37 percent in 1986-87. Over the same period the Victorian proportion of exports increased from 21 per cent to 24.5 per cent.

Exports

Exports of Victorian origin increased by 80 per cent from \$3,982m in 1981-82 to \$7,187m in 1986-87, compared with an increase of 83 per cent in Australian exports over the same period.

In 1986-87, the significant importers of Victorian origin exports were Japan (\$1,077m), United States of America (\$1,052m), and New Zealand (\$586m). The major commodities exported from Victoria were Petroleum and petroleum products (\$960m), Textile fibres (\$1,279m), and Cereals and cereal preparations (\$483m).

Exports and re-exports through Victorian ports were \$9,058m in 1986-87, of which \$7,187m was of Victorian origin. Exports from other States of origin and re-exports increased from \$195m in 1981-82 to \$1,871m in 1986-87, an increase from 5 per cent to 21 per cent in the percentage of total exports from Victorian ports.

Imports

In the period 1981-82 to 1986-87, imports landed in Victorian ports increased by 92 per cent, compared with an increase of 61 per cent in imports into Australia. Available statistics do not enable assessment of the end destination of commodities imported.

In 1986-87 the significant exporters of commodities landed in Victorian ports were the United States of America (\$3,396m), Japan (\$2,638m), Federal Republic of Germany (\$1,329m), and the United Kingdom (\$996m). The major commodities landed in Victorian ports were Road vehicles (\$1,109m), Textile yarns, fabrics, and made up articles (\$933m), Electrical machinery, apparatus, and appliances (\$740m), and other Transport equipment (\$823m).

TABLE 8.9 OVERSEAS TRADE: RECORDED VALUES OF IMPORTS INTO, AND EXPORTS FROM, VICTORIAN PORTS

(Sm)

		Exports		
Year	Imports	Victorian origin (a)	Total (b)	Excess of imports
1981-82	7,176	3,982	4,177	2,999
1982-83	6,988	3,991	4,363	2,625
1983-84	8,186	4,708	5,060	3,126
1984-85	10,502	6,452	7,578	2,924
1985-86	12,409	r6,681	r7,952	r4,457
1986-87	13,751	7,187	9,058	4,693

⁽a) Exports for which the final stage of production or manufacture occurred in Victoria.

⁽b) Includes re-exports and other States of origin.

TABLE 8.10 VALUE OF AUSTRALIAN TRADE AND PROPORTION HANDLED AT VICTORIAN PORTS

	,,,	CIOMIMI	01110				
	Proportion of Austra Australian trade handled at Victori						
Year	Imports	Exports	Total	Imports	Exports	Total	
	\$m	\$m	\$m	per cent	per cent	per cent	
1981-82	23,005	19,575	42,580	31.2	21.3	26.7	
1982-83	21,810	22,122	43,932	32.1	19.7	25.8	
1983-84	24,061	24,766	48,827	34.0	20.4	27.1	
1984-85	30,026	30,406	60,432	35.0	24.9	29.9	
1985-86	34,691	32,817	67,508	35.8	24.2	30.1	
1986-87	37,022	35,783	72,805	37.1	25.3	31.3	

TABLE 8.11 CLASSIFICATION OF OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, VICTORIA (\$m)

Division			Imports		Exports			
number	Description	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	
00	Live animals chiefly for food	10	22	29	58	61	72	
01	Meat and meat preparations	4	4	4	232	310	423	
02	Dairy products and birds' eggs	31	32	34	363	379	397	
03	Fish, crustaceans, and molluscs	78	86	103	29	38	55	
04	Cereals and cereal preparations	20	25	28	830	608	483	
05	Vegetables and fruit	102	91	87	139	189	304	
06	Sugar, sugar preparations, and honey	8	8	11	5	6	7	
07	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices,							
	and manufactures thereof	109	152	138	31	46	54	
08	Feeding stuff for animals (not							
	including unmilled cereals)	12	14	19	38	52	71	
09	Miscellaneous edible products							
	and preparations	16	19	23	5	6	14	
11	Beverages	36	48	52	4	5	21	
12	Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	28	24	30	1	2	3	
21	Hides, skins, and fur skins (raw)	3	3	3	133	168	230	
22	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit	8	3	4	6	2	9	
23	Crude rubber (including synthetic							
	and reclaimed)	44	45	50	2	4	5	
24	Cork and wood	104	105	105	2	-	2	
25	Pulp and waste paper	27	25	45	5	8	14	
26	Textile fibres and their wastes	67	76	92	837	1,010	1,279	
27	Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal,	47	(2)	£ 1	1	2		
28	petroleum, and precious stones)	47	62	51	1	2	2	
28 29	Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	1	1	2	15	10	20	
29	Crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.	21	29	35	15	20	32	
32	Coal, coke, and briquettes	4	1	1	10	14	7	
33	Petroleum, petroleum products, and		•	•			,	
	related materials	314	276	369	1,704	1,576	960	
41	Animal oils and fats		-		23	18	12	
42	Fixed vegetable oils and fats	24	14	26	6	4	4	

TABLE 8.11 CLASSIFICATION OF OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, VICTORIA - continued (Sm)

Exports Imports Division 1986-87 1084-85 1985-86 1986-87 1984-85 1985-86 number Description Animal and vegetable oils and fats. processed and waxes of animal or vegetable origin Organic chemicals Inorganic chemicals Dyeing, tanning, and colouring Q materials Medicinal and pharmaceutical products Essential oils and perfume materials: toilet, polishing, and cleansing preparations Fertilisers manufactured Explosives and pyrotechnic products Artificial resins and plastic materials, cellulose esters and ethers Chemical materials and products, n.e.s. Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s., and dressed fur skins Rubber manufactures, n.e.s. Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture Paper, paperboard, and articles of paper pulp, of paper, or of paperboard Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., and related products Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s. Iron and steel Non-ferrous metals Manufactures of metal n.c.s. Power generating machinery and equipment Machinery specialised for particular industries Metalworking machinery General industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s. and machine parts n.e.s. Office machines and automatic data processing equipment Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment Electrical machinery, apparatus, and appliances n.e.s., and electrical parts thereof

TABLE 8.11 CLASSIFICATION OF OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, VICTORIA - continued (\$m)

Division number		Imports			Exports		
	Description	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
78	Road vehicles (including air cushion						2019
	vehicles)	1,192	1,452	1,109	178	141	248
79	Other transport equipment	140	97	823	19	19	29
81	Sanitary, plumbing, heating, and						
	lighting fixtures and fittings n.e.s.	28	31	31	3	4	6
82	Furniture and parts thereof	71	86	82	7	9	15
83	Travel goods, handbags, and similar						
	containers	48	53	66	-	-	
84	Articles of apparel and clothing						
	accessories	287	323	360	8	9	14
85	Footwear	88	99	119	2	2	3
87	Professional, scientific and controlling instruments, and						
	apparatus n.e.s.	228	319	354	49	52	69
88	Photographic apparatus, equipment	220	319	334	49	32	09
00	and supplies and optical goods						
	n.e.s.; watches and clocks	221	260	273	128	139	155
89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles n.e.s.	486	561	625	59	55	70
9A	Commodities and transactions of						
	merchandise trade n.e.c.	656	997	1,140	753	1,012	1,087
	Total	10,502	12,409	13,743	6,452	6,806	7,398

TABLE 8.12 OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND CONSIGNMENT, VICTORIA (\$m)

	(ψn					
				Exports		
Country	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Belgium-Luxembourg	89	113	118	12	26	25
Brazil	82	85	81	1	3	12
Canada	167	188	220	50	79	101
China -						
Excluding Taiwan Province	150	189	264	268	322	396
Taiwan Province only	447	495	616	163	171	252
Denmark	49	70	73	4	2	3
Egypt, Arab Republic of	_		-	133	129	100
Fiji	9	5	5	84	128	65
Finland	86	89	107	1	2	4
France	283	269	278	114	134	147
Germany, Federal Republic of	932	1,333	1,328	143	157	293
Hong Kong	277	285	331	170	234	406
India	69	68	73	44	63	82
Indonesia	93	79	71	68	62	67
Iran	1	2	2	182	113	93
Italy	310	403	405	93	132	156
Japan 2,104	2,640	2,634	999	1,526	1,077	

TABLE 8.12 OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND CONSIGNMENT, VICTORIA - continued

(\$m)

(2m)								
		Exports						
Country	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87		
Korea, Republic of	191	229	313	132	150	282		
Kuwait	131	103	64	35	25	37		
Malaysia	123	136	151	114	123	137		
Nauru, Republic of	17	20	16	8	10	9		
Netherlands	128	162	174	39	39	62		
New Zealand	411	519	542	498	467	586		
Pakistan	14	22	35	47	18	21		
Papua New Guinea	50	65	55	158	164	168		
Philippines	44	47	44	67	105	93		
Poland	5	6	7	26	27	26		
Saudi Arabia	54	45	114	129	87	90		
Singapore	138	159	200	428	279	315		
South Africa	35	40	39	48	22	29		
Spain 51	56	50	22	42	85			
Sweden	204	289	257	11	11	10		
Switzerland	174	142	155	10	6	10		
Thailand	58	86	121	73	77	94		
U.S.S.R.	9	3	5	194	214	141		
United Kingdom	748	952	996	193	221	268		
United States of America	2,471	2,701	3,395	1,094	878	1,052		
Yugoslavia	9	14	16	50	19	33		
Other and unknown	289	300	391	541	539	571		
Total	10,502	12,409	13,743	6,452	6,806	7,398		

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The latest year for which ABS estimates are available for State Gross Domestic product (GDP) at factor cost is 1985-86. In order to bring the series up to 1986-87, use has been made of estimates for gross operating surplus prepared by the Victorian Department of Management and Budget.

Wholesale trade statistics were last produced from a Wholesale Trade Survey which the ABS conducted in respect of the year 1981-82.

Retail trade statistics are collected by the ABS through periodical censuses and regular sample surveys. Statistics on the performance and structure of the retail sector have been compiled from periodical censuses for the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1952-53, 1956-57, 1961-62, 1968-69, 1973-74, 1979-80, and 1985-86.

The CPI measures quarterly changes in the price of a 'basket' of goods and services which account for a high proportion of expenditure by metropolitan wage and salary earner households. This 'basket' covers a wide range of goods and services, arranged in the following eight groups: food; clothing; housing; household equipment and operation; transportation; tobacco and alcohol; health and personal care; and recreation and education. Each group is in turn divided into sub groups, and the sub groups into expenditure classes.

Producer Price Indexes were formerly described as Wholesale Price Indexes. Index numbers for each month, together with more detailed information concerning the methods used in compiling these indexes, are shown in the bulletins published for each index. For further information refer to the *Victorian Year Book 1986*, pages 331-7.

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The ABS has conducted three surveys of household expenditure to obtain data about the expenditure patterns of private households. These took place during 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1984. A fourth Household Expenditure Surveys is currently being conducted in respect of 1988-89. Note that comparison of results from the 1984 Householdhold Expenditure Survey with those from the 1975-76 must be made with care as there are significant methodoloical and conceptual differences. Further information on the 1974-75 and 1975-76 surveys can be found in the *Victorian Year Book* 1979, pages 505-10.

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

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

State statistics for exports comprise State of origin or State of final shipment. 'State of origin' is defined as the State in which the final stage of production or manufacture occurs. For imports, the State is that in which the import entry was lodged with the Australian Customs Service.

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Background: An ESSO/BHP Petroleum oil and gas platform in the Bass Strait Petroleum development - BHP Co. Ltd.

Inset: (Top) Control-room, Hot Strip Mill, Western Port - BHP Co. Ltd.

(Centre) Coated product ready for the market. Western Port - BHP Co.

(Centre) Coated product ready for the market, Western Port - BHP Co. Ltd.

(Below) Roughnecks at work on the drill floor of an oil and gas platform in Bass Strait - BHP Co. Ltd.

