# BALANCE OF PAYMENTS : QUARTERLY SUMMARYSEPTEMBER QUARTER 1972Reference No. 8.2

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### NOTES ON THE STATISTICS

This statement contains estimates of Australia's balance of payments for the September quarter 1972, together with revised estimates for previous quarters and financial years. More detailed estimates are published in the mimeographed bulletin "Balance of Payments" (Reference No. 8.1).

2. Quarterly estimates are <u>preliminary and subject to revision</u>. The items most subject to revision are those for which the basic data are derived from annual surveys which inevitably involve substantial time lags before the results become available. In particular, the 1971-72 estimates of overseas investment in Australian companies are still provisional.

3. Estimates for 1971-72 have been generally revised in this bulletin. In addition, the transportation estimates for 1970-71 have been revised on the basis of the results of the 1970-71 Survey of Overseas Shipping and Airline Operations; revisions have been made to travel credits from 1968-69 onwards; and a large revision has been made to Australian investment overseas in 1970-71.

4. The Australian currency equivalents shown in these statistics for transactions originally denominated in foreign currencies were derived by converting into Australian dollars at market rates of exchange, except for changes in official reserve assets and in other foreign assets, which were converted at par rates.

5. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in the accompanying table, or between aggregates quoted in the text and their components, are due to rounding.

## SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1972

6. Highlights of the preliminary estimates of the balance of payments for the September quarter 1972 were :

- A trade surplus of \$437 million, the largest quarterly surplus since 1959-60 when quarterly estimates were first compiled; this stands slightly higher than the trade surplus of June quarter 1972 and is \$299 million higher than the trade surplus for the September quarter 1971.
- . Record exports of \$1,332 million, up \$147 million, or 12 per cent, on the September quarter 1971.
- . Imports of \$895 million, down \$152 million, or 15 per cent, on imports in the previous September quarter.

(continued p.4)

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#### BALANCE OF PAYMENTS - SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1969 TO SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1972 AND YEARS 1967-68 TO 1971-72

• <del>••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••</del>	• • • • • • • • •		T									Quarters ended -					······································			
			Year ended June -					1969-70				1970-71				[			1972-73	
			1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.
CURRENT ACCCUNT (a) -								1												
Exports f.o.b. (b)	••	••		3,217	3,967	4,216	4,729	963	970	1,013	1,021	1,038	1,033	993	1,153	1,185	1,112	1,154	1,278	1,332 🛼
Imports f.o.b. (b)	••	••	-3.159		-3.553	-3.790	-3.790	-894	-897	-856	-906	-962	-938	-909	-981	-1.047	-987	-912	<u>-844</u>	<u>-895 %</u>
Balanco of trade	••	••	-218	14	414	426	939	69	74	158	115	76	95	84	171	138	125	24 <b>2</b>	434	437
Invisible credits -								ł												
Gold production	••	••	22	20	18	15	13	4	4	5	5	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	3	4
Transportation	••	••	362	392	445	472	524	107	112	115	112	119	118	113	122	135	131	128	130	147
Travel	••	••	88	107	120	136	135	26	34	33	29	30	39	36	31	30	41	36	27	33
Government	••	••	76	80	87	81	83	21	20	21	25	20	20	19	22	20	21	22	21	21 ∷
Miscellaneous	••	••	78	85	118	134	158	23	24	36	34	35	32	25	42	32	40	-49	37	43
Property income	• •	••	129	150	155	176	222	31	42	36	46	44	39	42	51	57	58	53	55	64
Transfers	••	••	159	168	186	181	223	46	. 45		47	46	50	41	44	51	56	53		65
Total invisible cred.	its		914	1,001	1,129	1,195	1,357	257	280	292	299	298	302	280	316	329	349	343	336	376
Invisible debits -			1																	
Transportation	••	••	-655	-699	-754	-836	-850	-175	-187	-192	-201	-200	-211	-213	-212	-213	-218	-217	-202	-201
Travol	••	••	-147	-157	-186	-199	-255	-44	-33	-43	-65	-49	-38	-43	-69	-53	-48	-55	99	-68
Government	••	••	-95	-111	-124	-127	-124	-29	-29	-28	-38	-27	-32	-29	-39	-28	-30	-30	-36	-28
Miscellaneous	••	••	-99	-106	-147	-170	-209	1 -34	-37	-40	-37	-39	-37	-47	-47	· -53·	·· -53/	-52	-51	-59
Property income -								1												
Investment income	• •	••	-539	-654	-734	-750	-866	-149	-196	-193	-197	-162	-210	-179	-199	-189	-258	-197	-221	-238
Royalties and copyrigh	ts	••	-64	-63	-68	-64	-55	-18	-19	-16	-14	-20	-18	-13	-13	-15	-15	-15	-11	-16
Transfers -									-			1		-	-		-	-		
Government	••		-154	-159	-180	-185	-205	-41	-55	-39	-46	-49	-54	-42	-40	-54	-48	-41	-62	-66
Privato	••	••	-86	-92	114	-134	-167	-28	-29	-26	-31	-32	-35	-33	-35	-40	-42	-41	-44	-47
Total invisible debi	ts		-1.839	-2.041	-2.306	-2.465	-2,730	-517	-585	-576	-628	-578	-636	-599	-653	-645	-712	-648	-725	-723
Net invisibles			-925	-1.040	-1.178	-1.270	-1.373	-260	-305	-284	-329	-280	-334	-319	-337	-316	-363	-305	-389	-347
Balance on current account CAPITAL INFLOW (NET) (a) -		_	-1.143	-1.025	-763	-844	-434	_191	-232	-126	-214	-204	-239	-235	-165	-178	-238	-62	45	90
Government capital movemen	ts -											ł								
Government securities		••	145	136	-125	-48	-48	-75	-10	-6	-33	-30	-42	44	-20	-3	-24	11	-32	35
Other government capital	movement		-61	-67	-60	-15	-9	-25	4	-26	-12	13	-8	-18	-3	10	13	-12	-20	-12
Total rovernment capi			84	70	-185	-63	-57		-6	32	-45	-17	-49	26	-23	7	-11		-52	23
Private capital movements		0			-101	-97_		<u>  = 1 V ·</u>				<u> </u>		<u> </u>		· · · · · ·				
Oversess investment in A		noniog -	1									1								
Undistributed income		•	228	281	283	300	350	71	71	71	71	75	75	75	75	88	88	88	88	+
Other direct investmen		••	333	352	506	637	546	42	76	159	230	86	87	180	285	183	95	108	160	•
Fortfolio investment a		••	, ,,,	<i>)</i> )2	500	0)1	540	42	70	179	2,0		07	100	20)		37	100	100	
institutional loans			401	412	291	637	735	. 25		102	70	56	154	161	266	132	234	194	175	
Total companies (c)	••	••	962	1,046	1.080	1.573	1,631	138	241	332	370	216	316	416	625	403	417	389	423	
Australias Suvesteent		(a)	-43	-60	-140	-89		-	-38	-28	-47	-15	-33	-29	-13		417 –19		-28	
Encleting authorities		(6)	-45	-60	-140	-	-80	-27	-28		-47 -16	-12	-22			-25		-9		14
Total private capital		- (	953	1.013	<u>-47</u> 894	-43	-45	1	181	<u>-9</u> 294	307	204	268	-22	-8	25	-12	-19	-39	14
						1,441	1,506	112		294				366	605	403	386	361	356	
Nonetary sector transaction			42	-6	34	28	41	11	-8		31	-4	8		-27	18	2	12	12	36
<u>Pet identified capits</u> Balancing item	AL INITOM		1,078 143	1,077 97	743	1,406	1,490	22	167	262	293	182	226	442	555	428	374	373	316	(a)73
-	••	••			58		387	-15	21	-118	170	-48			9	15	126	50	195	( <u>e)481</u>
<u>Net apparent capital</u> MOMETARY ECVENENTS (a) -	TUTTOM		1.222	1.174	800	1.441	1,876	77	187	143	463	134	264	497	546	443	500	423	<u> </u>	554
			(0)		()	()				()				()			(.)	()		<i>c</i>
Changes in official reserve		••	(f)73	143	(g)118		g,h)1,544	-184	-110	(g)106	306	-34	7	(g)343	426	256	(h)251		585	637
Allocation of Special Draw				••	-75	-64	-63	• • :	•••	-75	•••			-64	•••		(.)	-63		••
Changes in other foreign as	ssets	••	8	26	6	-71	(h)-31	_1	72	-14	-51	-34	22	-21	-38	9	(h)17	-30	-28	7
Other monotary movements	••	••	-3	-20	-12	_10	-8				6	-2		3	-7	<u> </u>	-6	1	3	<u>-1</u> -
Not sonetary movement	t <u>9</u>		79	148	37	598	1.443	_184	-45	17	249	-70	25	262		265	262	360	555	643

(a) For current account minus sign (-) denotes debit; for capital inflow minus sign (-) denotes outflow; for monetary movements minus sign (-) denotes a decrease in assets or an increase in liabilities or the receipt of an allocation of Special Drawing Rights in the I.M.F. (b) Recorded trade figures adjusted in respect of coverage and valuation for balance of payments purposes. (c) Details of the Survey of Overseas Investment are not available for the September Quarter 1972 and for this period the items marked (\*) are included with the balance items. (d) Excludes items marked (\*). (e) Includes items marked (\*). (f) Excludes the effects of the November 1967 devaluation of the pound sterling and other surrencies thich reduced by £111 million and \$2 million, respectively, the Australian dollar equivalents of official reserve assets and other foreign assets. (g) Includes the effects of the reduced by \$60 million and \$1 million, respectively, the Australian dollar equivalents of official reserve assets and other foreign assets.

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\$ million

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(continued from p.1)

- An increase of \$47 million (14 per cent) in total invisible credits compared with the September quarter of 1971; component items mainly responsible for this rise were transportation, property income (in particular, interest on international reserves) and transfers.
- A rise of \$78 million (12 per cent) in total invisible debits compared with the corresponding quarter of 1971, with the most notable rises occurring in travel debits (up 23 per cent) and investment income (up 26 per cent), in particular remitted profits and interest of subsidiaries and interest on overseas borrowings.
- . A \$90 million surplus on current account, which is the largest quarterly surplus on record and represents a turnaround of \$268 million from the deficit of \$178 million in the September quarter of 1971.
- A net apparent capital inflow of \$554 million, another quarterly record, and 25 per cent up on the net apparent inflow for September quarter 1971; government capital transactions accounted for \$23 million of the inflow (mainly owing to an official loan raised in Japan).
- A record overall surplus of \$643 million as measured by net monetary movements, more than double that of the September quarter 1971; included in the overall surplus was a rise of \$637 million in official reserve assets and a rise of \$7 million in other foreign assets.

## Level of reserves

7. At 30 September 1972, gold and net foreign assets of Australia's official and banking institutions totalled \$4,405 million, comprising official reserve assets of \$4,401 million and other foreign assets of \$4 million.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111, extension 2192 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.