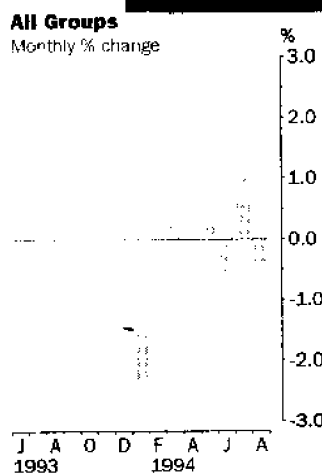
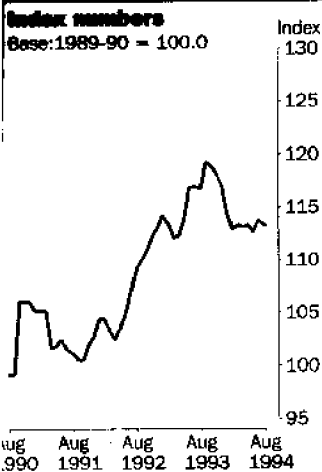


# IMPORT PRICE INDEX AUSTRALIA

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30AM FRI 21 OCTOBER 1994



## AUGUST KEY FIGURES

	% change Jul 94 to Aug 94	% change Aug 93 to Aug 94
<b>All groups</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-3.0</b>
Food and live animals	1.4	0.9
Beverages and tobacco	0.0	-13.5
Crude materials	-0.1	-0.2
Mineral fuels, etc.	1.1	2.4
Animal and vegetable oils, etc.	2.8	-1.9
Chemical products	0.2	-3.0
Manufactured goods, by material	-0.3	-2.9
Machinery and transport equipment	-0.9	-3.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	-0.4	-5.0
Commodities and transactions n.e.s.	-2.4	-7.0

## AUGUST KEY POINTS

### ALL GROUPS INDEX

- An increase in the value of the Australian dollar against the major trading currencies led to small price falls in a wide range of items in August.

### MAJOR MOVEMENTS

- Falls in the prices for machinery and transport equipment were partly offset by rises in world prices for crude petroleum and coffee.

## INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Geoff Brown on 06 252 5348, or any ABS Office.

PRICE INDEX NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE

RELEASE DATE

September 1994

21 November 1994

October 1994

20 December 1994

November 1994

20 January 1995

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

\*\*\*\*\*

RICHARD MADDEN  
ACTING AUSTRALIAN STATISTICIAN

## IMPORT PRICE INDEX, All Groups

<i>Period</i>	<i>Index numbers<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>% change from corresponding month of previous year</i>	<i>% change from previous period</i>
<b>1991-92</b>	102.7		-0.5
<b>1992-93</b>	112.1		9.2
<b>1993-94</b>	115.6		3.1
<b>1993</b>			
June	116.8	11.3	2.6
July	116.9	9.3	0.1
August	116.7	6.9	-0.2
September	119.3	8.5	2.2
October	118.9	7.2	-0.3
November	118.2	5.3	-0.6
December	117.1	3.6	-0.9
<b>1994</b>			
January	114.4	0.2	-2.3
February	112.9	-0.4	-1.3
March	113.3	1.1	0.4
April	113.1	0.7	-0.2
May	113.3	-0.4	0.2
June	112.6	-3.6	-0.6
July	113.7	-2.7	1.0
August	113.2	-3.0	-0.4

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

IMPORT PRICE INDEX, Contribution to All Groups Index<sup>1</sup>

Category	July 1994	August 1994	Change
All groups	113.7	113.2	-0.5

## SITC SECTIONS: Contribution to All Groups Index (index points)

0 Food and live animals chiefly for food	3.83	3.89	0.06
1 Beverages and tobacco	0.85	0.85	0.00
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	3.80	3.80	0.00
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and other related materials	5.12	5.18	0.06
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0.31	0.31	0.00
5 Chemicals and related products n.e.s.	10.84	10.86	0.02
6 Manufactured goods classified by material	18.52	18.47	-0.05
7 Machinery and transport equipment	55.13	54.63	-0.50
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	14.82	14.76	-0.06
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	0.49	0.47	-0.02

## SITC DIVISIONS: Contribution to All Groups Index (index points)

03 Fish, crustaceans and molluscs and preparations thereof	1.08	1.07	-0.01
24 Cork and wood	2.07	2.05	-0.02
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	5.12	5.18	0.06
51 Organic chemicals	2.33	2.35	0.02
52 Inorganic chemicals	0.62	0.64	0.02
59 Chemical materials and products n.e.s.	1.76	1.75	-0.01
64 Paper, paperboard and articles of paper pulp, paper and paperboard	2.60	2.61	0.01
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles n.e.s. and related products	4.49	4.48	-0.01
69 Manufactures of metals n.e.s.	3.44	3.38	-0.06
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	3.57	3.54	-0.03
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	6.57	6.54	-0.03
74 General industrial machinery and equipment n.e.s.	7.57	7.48	-0.09
75 Office machines and automatic data processing machines	6.37	6.32	-0.05
76 Telecommunications and sound recording equipment	4.05	4.00	-0.05
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus, appliances n.e.s.	6.01	5.99	-0.02
78 Road vehicles	15.79	15.60	-0.19
79 Other transport equipment	5.19	5.15	-0.04
87 Professional, scientific and controlling instruments and apparatus n.e.s.	2.97	2.94	-0.03
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles n.e.s.	5.84	5.83	-0.01
Other	26.26	26.30	0.04

<sup>1</sup> For an explanation of this table see paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes

IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By SITC Section<sup>1</sup>

Period	Food and live animals chiefly for food (0)	Beverages and tobacco (1)	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (2)	Mineral fuels, lubricants and other related materials (3)	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes (4)	Chemicals and related products n.e.s. (5)	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material (6)	Machinery and transport equipment (7)	Miscellaneous manufactured articles (8)	Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere (9)
<b>1991-92</b>	98.1	115.7	90.8	92.5	116.6	100.5	103.3	104.8	105.7	91.4
<b>1992-93</b>	104.7	121.8	101.1	100.1	126.6	106.2	109.3	116.8	114.9	98.7
<b>1993-94</b>	106.8	111.5	116.3	93.5	120.9	103.3	112.1	123.1	117.0	110.4
<b>1993</b>										
June	106.7	121.9	117.6	100.5	123.1	106.9	112.0	123.2	119.5	111.9
July	106.9	121.6	119.0	99.0	125.6	107.3	112.6	123.2	119.1	116.8
August	106.3	122.0	114.8	95.4	123.5	105.0	112.2	124.2	119.4	111.0
September	108.1	116.9	116.2	99.2	125.0	106.7	115.3	127.3	121.0	109.8
October	109.1	113.7	120.8	98.8	126.8	105.7	115.2	126.7	120.1	111.0
November	108.1	110.3	120.9	98.4	127.6	105.1	114.9	125.6	119.4	114.4
December	108.3	109.0	119.6	94.1	125.4	104.5	113.9	124.6	118.5	114.6
<b>1994</b>										
January	107.6	108.2	114.9	87.9	119.4	103.2	112.3	121.5	115.8	111.8
February	105.5	107.8	113.7	89.0	117.0	101.5	110.5	120.0	114.1	107.0
March	105.5	107.6	113.6	87.5	114.6	100.4	110.1	121.3	114.7	109.6
April	105.0	107.3	114.0	85.3	113.2	99.5	110.0	121.5	114.6	106.0
May	105.3	107.0	114.7	93.8	115.7	100.1	109.5	121.1	114.1	106.2
June	105.3	106.8	113.1	93.8	117.1	100.4	109.0	120.1	113.2	106.0
July	105.8	105.5	114.7	96.6	117.8	101.6	109.3	121.4	113.9	105.7
August	107.3	105.5	114.6	97.7	121.1	101.8	109.0	120.3	113.4	103.2

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By Selected SITC Division<sup>1</sup>

Period	<i>Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials</i> (33)	<i>Organic chemicals</i> (51)	<i>Paper, paperboard and articles made of paper</i> (64)	<i>Textile yarn, fabrics and related products</i> (65)	<i>Power generating machinery and equipment</i> (71)	<i>Machinery specialised for particular industries</i> (72)
<b>1991-92</b>	92.5	90.5	99.8	103.5	111.6	105.0
<b>1992-93</b>	100.1	97.0	100.7	106.9	122.3	119.3
<b>1993-94</b>	93.5	98.1	99.6	110.7	132.8	122.2
<b>1993</b>						
June	100.5	97.5	99.7	109.9	128.9	124.4
July	99.0	98.3	102.5	110.6	129.8	123.4
August	95.4	95.4	101.7	109.1	130.7	124.5
September	99.2	99.2	100.8	115.7	136.9	127.4
October	98.8	99.4	101.6	115.3	137.2	125.6
November	98.4	100.5	101.7	114.9	135.8	124.5
December	94.1	98.6	101.8	111.5	134.5	123.9
<b>1994</b>						
January	87.9	97.5	100.6	110.5	132.9	120.3
February	89.0	95.8	98.8	108.3	130.6	118.4
March	87.5	98.1	97.6	108.0	131.8	120.5
April	85.3	96.4	96.7	107.9	131.4	120.2
May	93.8	97.4	95.8	108.3	131.6	119.8
June	93.8	100.1	95.4	108.0	130.9	118.4
July	96.6	101.8	95.0	108.2	131.5	119.1
August	97.7	102.7	95.4	108.1	130.6	118.6

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By Selected SITC Division<sup>1</sup> *continued*

Period	General industrial machinery, equipment and parts (74)	Office machines and ADP machines (75)	Telecommunications and sound recording equipment (76)	Electrical machinery, etc. and parts thereof (77)	Road vehicles (78)	Other transport equipment (79)
<b>1991-92</b>	109.5	89.6	95.3	100.1	110.5	109.1
<b>1992-93</b>	125.0	89.5	104.4	109.0	130.0	122.4
<b>1993-94</b>	130.0	88.7	110.4	112.3	145.4	124.9
<b>1993</b>						
June	130.5	90.1	111.0	112.9	142.7	127.5
July	130.7	89.7	111.8	112.7	143.5	127.0
August	132.2	90.3	112.1	112.9	145.4	126.9
September	135.7	92.3	115.0	114.6	148.2	131.8
October	134.6	91.1	114.5	116.8	147.9	130.2
November	132.9	90.9	112.9	115.3	146.9	129.4
December	131.8	90.2	111.9	114.6	145.7	128.1
<b>1994</b>						
January	128.2	87.3	108.9	111.9	142.8	123.9
February	126.4	85.7	107.0	109.7	143.2	120.3
March	127.2	86.5	108.3	109.7	145.1	121.8
April	127.0	87.6	107.9	109.3	146.4	121.0
May	127.3	86.8	107.5	110.0	145.5	119.7
June	126.5	86.4	106.5	109.5	144.2	118.3
July	127.7	85.8	106.7	109.8	148.4	119.0
August	126.2	85.1	105.3	109.5	146.6	118.1

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By Selected ATSN Section<sup>1</sup>

Period	Prepared foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco (4)	Mineral products (5)	Chemical industry products (6)	Plastics and rubber, and articles thereof (7)	Wood pulp, paper and paper products (10)	Textiles and textile articles (11)	Base metals and articles thereof (15)	Machinery and electrical equipment (16)	Transport equipment (17)	Instruments, clocks and watches, optical and photographic apparatus (18)
<b>1991-92</b>	104.9	100.7	101.0	99.4	97.7	101.2	103.1	99.4	110.3	105.0
<b>1992-93</b>	112.3	108.8	104.6	106.8	99.5	106.2	108.9	107.4	128.2	120.5
<b>1993-94</b>	108.7	101.2	99.2	111.4	98.0	109.5	110.5	110.5	140.2	125.9
<b>1993</b>										
June	112.6	109.1	104.3	110.6	98.9	109.1	110.6	111.2	139.1	127.7
July	112.9	107.7	103.8	112.0	100.5	109.5	111.1	111.2	139.5	127.2
August	112.9	102.8	100.8	112.4	100.2	108.6	111.3	111.8	141.0	128.7
September	111.9	106.6	102.4	113.7	99.4	113.2	113.7	114.7	144.2	131.2
October	111.5	106.4	101.3	113.9	99.7	112.8	113.8	114.2	143.5	129.7
November	109.5	106.0	100.5	113.7	99.9	112.5	112.7	113.1	142.5	128.9
December	109.1	101.7	100.0	112.8	99.7	110.8	112.1	112.3	141.4	127.5
<b>1994</b>										
January	107.2	95.4	98.7	111.2	98.8	109.4	110.9	109.4	138.0	123.5
February	105.7	96.6	97.3	109.7	97.3	107.3	109.1	107.4	137.3	122.2
March	105.6	95.2	96.7	109.4	95.6	107.5	108.3	108.4	139.2	123.3
April	105.6	93.0	96.1	109.4	95.4	107.3	108.5	108.3	139.9	123.3
May	106.3	101.4	96.6	108.5	94.7	107.5	107.5	108.1	138.9	123.2
June	106.0	101.4	96.1	109.7	94.8	107.4	106.9	107.4	137.5	122.5
July	106.3	104.3	96.3	111.5	95.5	107.7	107.3	107.6	140.7	124.5
August	106.2	105.4	96.6	111.3	96.3	107.4	106.7	106.6	139.3	124.1

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0





## IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By Selected ASIC Industry of Origin Division<sup>1</sup>

<i>Period</i>	<i>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (A)</i>	<i>Mining (B)</i>	<i>Manufacturing (C)</i>
<b>1991-92</b>	99.7	105.5	102.6
<b>1992-93</b>	102.6	113.7	111.7
<b>1993-94</b>	107.3	97.8	115.5
<b>1993</b>			
June	107.7	110.9	116.4
July	107.3	108.5	116.6
August	107.5	100.8	116.6
September	107.7	104.5	119.2
October	107.9	104.9	118.7
November	107.3	105.0	118.0
December	106.6	98.3	117.2
<b>1994</b>			
January	107.9	91.0	114.5
February	106.1	93.5	112.9
March	105.7	89.7	113.4
April	106.4	87.0	113.4
May	106.7	94.5	113.3
June	110.6	96.4	112.5
July	109.9	100.9	113.4
August	116.0	104.5	112.7

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By Selected ASIC Industry of Origin Subdivision<sup>1</sup>

Period	Agriculture (1)	Oil and gas (13)	Food, beverages and tobacco (21)	Textiles (23)	Clothing and footwear (24)	Wood, wood products and furniture (25)	Paper, paper products, printing and publishing (26)
<b>1991-92</b>	99.7	106.6	103.6	103.8	103.7	98.8	99.8
<b>1992-93</b>	102.6	115.8	111.7	108.5	111.3	113.7	101.3
<b>1993-94</b>	107.3	98.6	109.5	112.8	109.5	138.1	99.5
<b>1993</b>							
June	107.7	112.0	111.3	111.9	114.1	135.8	100.4
July	107.3	109.2	112.0	112.4	113.4	137.1	102.0
August	107.5	102.4	111.2	111.2	112.5	135.6	101.6
September	107.7	106.7	111.9	117.0	114.6	138.0	101.0
October	107.9	106.9	112.4	116.7	112.4	143.5	101.2
November	107.3	107.0	110.9	116.3	110.9	143.2	101.4
December	106.6	99.2	110.8	113.6	110.1	144.6	101.2
<b>1994</b>							
January	107.9	90.6	109.0	112.7	107.7	138.3	100.2
February	106.1	93.6	107.4	110.5	106.1	136.2	98.6
March	105.7	89.1	107.3	110.4	106.9	136.0	97.0
April	106.4	85.9	106.6	110.3	106.9	136.2	96.9
May	106.7	95.0	107.5	110.9	106.6	136.3	96.2
June	110.6	97.3	107.3	111.2	105.9	131.9	96.1
July	109.9	102.7	107.9	111.6	106.4	131.7	96.7
August	116.0	106.9	108.1	111.4	105.8	130.9	97.4

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By Selected ASIC Industry of Origin Subdivision<sup>1</sup> *continued*

<i>Period</i>	<i>Chemical, petroleum and coal products (27)</i>	<i>Non-metallic mineral products (28)</i>	<i>Basic metal products (29)</i>	<i>Fabricated metal products (31)</i>	<i>Transport equipment (32)</i>	<i>Other machinery and equipment (33)</i>	<i>Miscellaneous manufacturing (34)</i>
<b>1991-92</b>	93.9	110.7	96.6	108.4	108.6	103.1	101.2
<b>1992-93</b>	98.5	118.8	99.2	120.0	125.4	112.2	109.7
<b>1993-94</b>	95.3	117.9	101.7	123.6	136.8	115.4	114.6
<b>1993</b>							
June	99.2	118.7	102.3	124.5	135.5	116.5	114.7
July	98.9	116.9	104.2	124.1	135.9	116.4	115.1
August	96.7	116.9	102.3	124.8	137.2	117.2	115.6
September	98.7	122.7	103.1	128.2	140.7	120.0	117.2
October	97.9	120.3	103.7	126.9	140.0	119.3	116.9
November	97.1	121.2	104.2	126.3	139.3	118.1	116.8
December	96.2	121.4	104.2	125.3	138.1	117.2	115.7
<b>1994</b>							
January	94.1	118.0	102.3	123.6	135.0	113.9	114.0
February	92.9	116.6	100.5	121.3	134.1	112.0	112.6
March	92.5	115.4	100.3	120.9	135.6	113.1	113.4
April	91.6	115.3	99.5	120.7	136.2	113.1	113.3
May	94.3	115.6	98.1	121.4	135.3	112.7	112.3
June	93.2	114.9	97.9	119.9	134.1	111.9	112.7
July	94.1	115.9	98.2	120.0	137.0	112.5	113.4
August	93.9	116.1	97.9	117.8	135.5	111.5	113.1

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



## IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By BEC Category<sup>1</sup>

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food and beverages</i>	<i>Industrial supplies n.e.s.</i>	<i>Fuels and lubricants</i>	<i>Capital goods, and parts and accessories thereof</i>	<i>Transport equipment, and parts and accessories thereof</i>	<i>Consumer goods n.e.s.</i>
<b>1991-92</b>	102.1	98.8	94.7	102.3	108.5	106.0
<b>1992-93</b>	108.0	104.1	103.2	110.9	124.6	114.6
<b>1993-94</b>	107.8	105.0	95.4	114.0	135.9	117.7
<b>1993</b>						
June	108.9	107.1	102.7	115.1	134.4	118.8
July	109.0	108.0	101.0	115.0	134.8	118.5
August	108.4	106.2	97.2	115.8	136.0	118.8
September	109.3	107.5	101.4	118.7	139.4	121.9
October	109.9	107.7	100.9	117.8	139.1	120.9
November	108.6	107.3	100.6	116.5	138.4	120.4
December	108.8	106.8	95.8	115.6	137.2	119.2
<b>1994</b>						
January	108.1	105.1	89.1	112.4	134.2	116.8
February	106.4	103.1	90.8	110.5	133.3	115.2
March	106.2	102.5	89.0	111.6	134.8	115.6
April	105.9	102.3	86.8	111.7	135.3	115.3
May	106.2	102.0	96.0	111.4	134.5	115.1
June	106.3	101.8	96.1	110.7	133.3	114.4
July	107.0	102.5	99.4	111.2	136.0	114.6
August	108.9	102.4	100.8	110.3	134.6	114.2

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



## IMPORT PRICE INDEX, By BEC End Use Class<sup>1</sup>

<i>Period</i>	<i>Capital goods</i>	<i>Intermediate goods</i>	<i>Consumption goods</i>
<b>1991-92</b>	105.1	98.6	107.0
<b>1992-93</b>	117.0	105.1	116.9
<b>1993-94</b>	122.8	106.6	121.1
<b>1993</b>			
June	123.3	108.4	121.8
July	123.5	108.6	121.9
August	124.3	107.6	122.2
September	127.5	109.7	124.8
October	126.5	109.7	124.0
November	125.3	109.2	123.3
December	124.2	108.2	122.4
<b>1994</b>			
January	120.6	106.1	119.9
February	119.1	104.5	118.5
March	120.8	104.0	119.2
April	121.2	103.5	119.1
May	120.8	104.1	119.0
June	119.8	103.7	118.4
July	120.7	104.9	119.2
August	119.7	104.9	118.5

<sup>1</sup> Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## INTRODUCTION

- 1 This publication presents index numbers measuring changes in the prices of imports of merchandise landed in Australia — the Import Price Index. It is calculated on a reference base of 1989–90 = 100.0.
- 2 Index numbers for the current month and the previous month are preliminary and subject to revision.

## SCOPE

- 3 The Import Price Index, either directly or indirectly, covers about ninety five per cent of merchandise imported during 1988–89 and 1989–90.
- 4 The remaining imports are not represented because of the inherent difficulties in pricing the items to a constant quality. These unrepresented items include:
  - live animals (not for food)
  - jewellery and other articles of precious metal n.e.s.
  - military equipment
  - special transactions
  - commodities not classified according to kind
  - works of art, collectors' pieces, antiques
  - ships of various types.
- 5 The index numbers for each month relate to prices of those imports of merchandise that are physically landed in Australia during that month.

## CLASSIFICATION

- 6 Index numbers for sections and selected divisions of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Revision 3 are provided in Tables 3 and 4, while index numbers for selected sections of the Combined Australian Customs Tariff and Statistical Nomenclature (ATSN) are provided in Table 5.
- 7 Tables 6 and 7 contain index numbers for selected Divisions and Subdivisions, on an 'industry of origin' basis, of the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC). The 'industry of origin' is the industry in which the imported commodity would be classified as primarily produced had it been produced in Australia, determined in accordance with the classification rules of the ASIC.
- 8 Table 8 contains index numbers for categories of the United Nations' Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC). Table 9 contains index numbers for these categories rearranged to form the broader end use classes: Capital goods, Intermediate goods and Consumption goods. Each category has been allocated wholly to one of these classes except for:
  - category 321, Motor spirit (which has been allocated in part to Intermediate goods and in part to Consumption goods)
  - category 51, Passenger motor cars (which has been allocated in part to Capital goods and in part to consumption goods)

## ITEMS AND WEIGHTS

- 9 The index is a fixed weights index. The commodities directly represented in the index (the index items), were selected on the basis of their import values during 1988–89 and 1989–90. They constituted approximately 95 per cent of the total value of imports of merchandise to Australia during these years. The selected items were allocated weights in accordance with the average value of imports for each item during 1988–89 and 1989–90. These weights were then revalued to reflect 1989–90 price levels. Many of the items carry not only their own weight but also the weight of unpriced commodities whose prices are considered to move in a similar manner. The weighting pattern of the Import Price Index, i.e. the percentage contributions for index items and groups, was shown in the September 1991 issue of this publication.

PRICE MEASUREMENT

**10** Prices of individual shipments are obtained from importers of the selected items and relate to the month in which the goods arrive in Australia. Imports are priced on a 'free on board' (f.o.b.), country of origin basis. Freight and insurance charges involved in shipping goods from foreign to Australian ports are therefore excluded from the prices used in the index, as are Australian import duties.

**11** As the prices used in the index are expressed in Australian currency, changes in the relative value of the Australian dollar and overseas currencies can have a direct impact on price movements for the many commodities that are bought in currencies other than Australian dollars. Prices reported in a foreign currency are converted to Australian dollars using the exchange rate prevailing at the time of departure from the foreign port. Where imports are purchased at prices expressed in terms of a foreign currency and forward exchange cover is used, the prices in the index *exclude* the forward exchange cover.

**12** The price series used relate to specified standards, grades, types, etc. of each commodity. The aim is to incorporate in the index price changes for imports of representative goods of constant quality. Wherever possible, prices from predominant countries of origin are used for each of the specified goods priced in order to lessen the impact of price variations attributable solely to changes, over time, in the mix of countries of origin. In most cases prices are combined using fixed weights between markets. Weights between countries are reviewed from time to time and revised where necessary.

INDEX NUMBERS

**13** Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of monthly index numbers.

REVISIONS

**14** Index numbers for the current month and the previous month are preliminary and subject to revision. From time to time index numbers for earlier months may also be revised. This will occur whenever the ABS obtains more complete information or discovers that incorrect prices have been used.

ANALYSIS OF INDEX CHANGES

**15** Care should be exercised when interpreting month-to-month movements in the indexes as short-term movements do not necessarily indicate changes in trend.

**16** Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in 'index points' or as percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating index points changes and percentage changes between any two periods:

All groups index numbers —

August 1994	113.2	(see Table 1)
less August 1993	116.7	(see Table 1)
Change in index points	-3.5	
Percentage change =	$\frac{-3.5}{116.7} \times 100$	= -3.0

**17** Table 2 provides an analysis of the contribution which selected categories of imports make to the All groups index. For example, Road vehicles contributed 15.60 index points to the All groups index number of 113.2 for August 1994 and -0.19 index points to the net change of -0.5 index points.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- 18** The September 1991 issue of this publication contains a more detailed description of the index. A detailed description of the previous Import Price Index is contained in the December Quarter 1982 issue of this publication.
- 19** Further information on the index is presented in the publication *Producer and Foreign Trade Price Indexes: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (6419.0).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

- 20** Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from ABS Bookshops:
  - *Export Price Index, Australia* (6405.0)
  - *Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (6412.0)
  - *Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia* (6411.0)
- 21** Other ABS publications that may be of interest include *Balance of Payments, Australia* (5302.0).
- 22** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, 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.

UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

- 23** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Geoff Brown on 06 252 5348 or to any ABS office.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ATSN	Combined Australian Tariff and Statistical Nomenclature
ASIC	Australian Standard Industrial Classification
BEC	Classification by Broad Economic Categories
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
f.o.b.	free on board
n.e.s.	not elsewhere specified or included
r	figure or series revised since previous issue









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