

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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BALANCE OF PAYMENTS : QUARTERLY SUMMARY

SEPTEMBER QUARTER, 1967

This statement contains estimates of Australia's balance of payments for September quarter 1967 in comparison with estimates for previous quarters. Quarterly balance of payments estimates are preliminary, subject to revision and are available only in summary form. More detailed annual information and explanatory notes are to be published shortly in "Balance of Payments, 1966-67".

Preliminary estimates for the September quarter 1967 show, by comparison with the September quarter 1966, a marked increase in the current account deficit, a substantial rise in the net apparent capital inflow and an unfavourable net monetary movement of approximately the same magnitude.

The increase in the current account deficit from \$154 million in September quarter 1966 to \$279 million in September quarter 1967 was due in part to a rise of \$88 million in the debit balance of trade (from \$4 million to \$92 million) and partly to a \$37 million rise in the net deficit on invisibles. Exports in September quarter 1967 totalled \$712 million, \$19 million more than in the corresponding quarter of 1966, but imports rose in value during the same period by \$107 million to a total of \$804 million. Although the value of exports was only \$19 million higher in total, there were significant changes in the values of a number of important commodities. Increased values were recorded for exports of wheat and flour (up \$58 million), metalliferous ores and scrap (up \$27 million) and chemicals (up \$6 million), but there were falls in the values of exports of meats (down \$21 million), sugar (down \$17 million), wool and sheepskins (down \$24 million) and manufactures of iron and steel and non-ferrous metals (down \$14 million). The much greater increase in the total value of imports appears, on the basis of the details for the months of July and August, to be attributable largely to a substantial rise in the value of imports of manufactured goods, machinery and transport equipment.

As was the case with the balance of trade, the increase in the net deficit on invisibles during the September quarter 1967 was due to a relatively small rise in total credits (\$10 million) accompanied by a greater rise in total debits (\$47 million). Of the debit items, the most notable increases occurred in respect of transportation (up by \$15 million), property income payable (up \$11 million) and transfer payments (up \$17 million).

In the capital account preliminary estimates indicate that there was an increase of \$127 million in the net apparent capital inflow from the relatively low \$93 million in September quarter 1966 to \$220 million in September quarter 1967. Of the increase of \$127 million in the net apparent inflow, \$50 million is attributable to a fall in the net outflow resulting from government capital transactions. Loan transactions, which in the September quarter of 1966 resulted in a net outflow of \$69 million, in the quarter just ended resulted in a net inflow of \$9 million. Other government transactions, mainly associated with the financing of imports by the defence departments and government airlines, resulted in a net outflow of \$26 million compared with a net inflow of \$2 million in the September quarter last year.

Private capital transactions and the balancing item together accounted for a net inflow of \$237 million in the quarter just ended, an increase of \$77 million over the corresponding quarter of 1966. The net inflow from marketing authorities' transactions rose by \$15 million to \$33 million, and other company investment and the balancing item combined by \$62 million to \$204 million.

The net unfavourable monetary movement of \$59 million during the September quarter 1967 was \$2 million less than during the September quarter 1966.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

31 OCTOBER 1967.

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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.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS : SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1965 TO SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1967

(\$ million)

	1965-66					1966-67					1967-68p
	Sept. Qtr	Dec. Qtr	March Qtr	June Qtr	Year	Sept. Qtr	Dec. Qtr	March Qtr	June Qtr	Year	Sept. Qtr
CURRENT ACCOUNT (a)											
Exports f.o.b. (b)	636	660	637	696	2,629	693	704	746	797	2,940	712
Imports f.o.b. (b)	800	726	658	638	2,822	697	656	739	753	2,845	804
Balance of Trade	-164	-66	-21	58	-193	-4	48	7	44	95	-92
Invisible Credits -											
Gold production	6	6	6	7	25	6	6	6	6	24	6
Transportation	71	72	74	74	291	75	72	82	81	310	79
Travel	13	14	16	15	58	15	18	16	15	64	16
Property income	29	25	30	30	114	39	31	37	30	137	37
Government	18	17	22	20	77	19	22	20	19	80	19
Miscellaneous	15	17	13	11	56	13	12	13	16	54	18
Transfers	28	30	29	32	119	34	31	30	36	131	36
Invisible Debits -											
Transportation	126	132	123	131	512	126	129	134	142	531	141
Travel	27	23	30	42	122	29	26	33	45	133	32
Property income	110	113	96	106	425	105	132	121	121	479	116
Government	13	14	19	19	65	17	22	21	23	83	20
Miscellaneous	29	24	20	24	97	25	23	23	25	96	23
Transfers	44	51	48	59	202	49	57	62	60	228	66
Balance on Current Account	-333	-242	-167	-134	-876	-154	-149	-183	-169	-655	-279
CAPITAL ITEMS (a)											
Government loans overseas	-1	21	-34	-11	-25	-69	20	28	46	25	9
Other official capital movements	24	41	7	-28	44	2	-33	20	-21	-32	-26
Marketing authorities	-8	-6	34	14	34	18	-5	-47	-43	-77	33
Other identified capital movements (c)	208	211	177	288	631	142	127	127	218	614	204
Balancing item (c)					253						
Net Apparent Capital Inflow	223	267	184	263	937	93	109	128	200	530	220
Monetary Movements (a)											
Change in net I.M.F. position	22	9	..	9	40	19	7	26	-3
Change in international reserves	-133	18	15	121	21	-89	-38	-73	23	-177	-55
Other	1	-2	2	-1	..	28	-2	-1	1	26	-1
Net Monetary Movements	-110	25	17	129	61	-61	-40	-55	31	-125	-59

(a) For current account balances minus sign (-) denotes deficit; for capital items other than monetary movements, minus sign (-) denotes outflow; for monetary movements, minus sign (-) denotes decrease in international reserves or net I.M.F. position or an increase in foreign holdings of Australian currency. (b) The amounts shown represent the recorded trade figures adjusted for balance of payments purposes. Adjustments affect both coverage and valuation. (c) Particulars of the Survey of Overseas Investment are not available by quarters. Private capital movements for these periods are therefore combined with the balance of payments.