Analysis

The value of Western Australia’s exports reached $76.9 billion in the year to December, compared to $83.4 billion a year ago. The value of the State’s imports fell $3.3 billion over the year to $29.5 billion, with the State’s trade surplus\(^1\) at $47.3 billion over the period.

Nationally, the value of Australia’s exports reached $196.1 billion in the year to December, with imports valued at $200.6 billion. A national trade deficit of $4.5 billion was recorded over the year.

Key Facts

Exports

Merchandise exports in Western Australia decreased by 20.4% to $18.5 billion in the 3 months to December compared to the same period the previous year. Exports fell by 7.8% in the 12 months to December 2009.

The value of exports in Australia decreased by 30.3% to $46.6 billion in the three months to December compared to the same period the previous year. Exports fell by 11.8% over the year.

Over the year to December, the smallest decrease in exports by State was 7.8%, in Western Australia. The largest decrease was 20.7%, in South Australia.

Imports

The value of imports in Western Australia decreased by 17.5% to $7.7 billion in the 3 months to December 2009 compared to the same period in 2008, and fell by 10.1% over the year to December.

Australia’s imports decreased by 15.4% to $53.1 billion in the 3 months to December compared to the same period a year earlier. Imports fell by 11.2% over the year.

Over the year to December, the smallest decrease in imports by State was 8.3%, in New South Wales. The largest decrease was 20.5%, in Queensland.

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1 Data are in nominal terms, incorporating movements in both prices and volumes. Data are for merchandise trade only (and not services)\(^1\)

Data sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics Cat. 5439.0, 5368.0

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