

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Additional Budget Estimates 2009

26 February 2009

Question: AR-16
Topic: Australia's iron ore exports
Proof Hansard Page: E62

Senator Joyce asked:

Senator JOYCE—What percentage of Australia's export wealth is determined by mining exports?

Mr Hartwell—Our minerals and energy exports this year will be around \$160 billion. As a percentage of our total exports, minerals and energy would probably account for around 60 per cent.

Senator JOYCE—So 60 per cent of our nation's exports are minerals.

Mr Hartwell—We can get you a statistical compendium, if you like, but I do not have one directly in front of me.

Senator JOYCE—Can you please give me, in some sort of priority order, the ratios of where our mineral exports go to? Is China our first and major export destination?

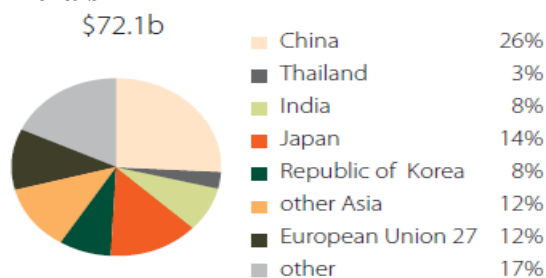
Answer:

1) The total value of Australian exports in 2007-08 was \$179.6 billion. Of this, mineral exports was \$72.1 billion, or 40.1 per cent, while the total value of energy exports was \$45.4 billion or 25.2 per cent, with mineral and energy exports combined making up 65.4 per cent (*source: ABARE*).

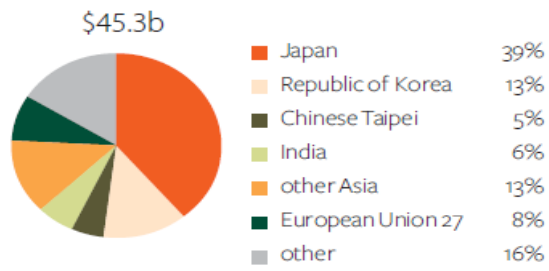
2) The main markets for Australia's mineral exports in descending order are China, Japan, the European Union, Republic of Korea and India. Further detail on destinations for Australian mineral and energy exports is provided in the charts below.

Markets for Australian Exports in 2007-08 Dollars

Minerals



Energy



Source: *Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE), Australian Commodities March Quarter 2009.*