

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 16 SEP 2005

KEY FIGURES

	June 2005	July 2005	August 2005
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	463	441	514
Beverages and tobacco	66	75	97
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	160	147	169
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 529	1 596	1 414
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	29	29	31
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 428	1 478	1 613
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 424	1 496	1 647
Machinery and transport equipment	5 909	5 771	5 911
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 588	1 746	2 027
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	276	190	362
TOTAL	12 872	12 969	13 785

NOTES

INTRODUCTION

This publication presents statistics of Australia's merchandise imports classified according to the broadest level (1 digit sections) of the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification. The data are compiled from information submitted by importers or their agents to the Australian Customs Service. More detailed merchandise imports data are available from AusStats or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW CUSTOMS SYSTEM

From 12 October 2005 all goods arriving in Australia will be recorded and monitored using Customs' Integrated Cargo System. For more information, including details of delays to ABS releases, refer to the article '*ABS Management of the Impact of the Implementation of the Imports Component of the New Customs System*' released on the ABS website concurrently with this issue. To access this article select: *Themes* then *International Trade* then *Topics of Interest*.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Information regarding future issues of this publication can be found in the article outlined in the previous paragraph.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more details see the ABS publication *International Merchandise Trade, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 5489.0) which is accessible on the ABS web site.

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Ben Braysher on Canberra (02) 6252 6020.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* This service now provides only current Consumer Price Index statistics call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

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ISSN 1328 2980

RRP \$20.00