



INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE IMPORTS

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 17 JAN 2003

DECEMBER IMPORTS

	<i>\$m</i>
Food and live animals	466
Beverages and tobacco	80
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	168
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	961
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	29
Chemical and related products n.e.s.	1 146
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 292
Machinery and transport equipment	6 094
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 508
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in SITC	366
Total imports	12 112

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.

DETAILED DATA

More detailed merchandise imports data, including dissections by commodity and country of origin, are available through the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This information can also be provided on subscription.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The January 2003 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 18 February 2003, and the February to June 2003 issues are expected to be released on 19 March 2003, 16 April 2003, 16 May 2003, 18 June 2003 and 16 July 2003.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more details on the classifications used and basis of compilation, see the ABS publication *International Merchandise Trade, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 5489.0).

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Christine McLaughlin on 02 2652 5313 or the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

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* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

INFORMATION SERVICE

Data which have been published and can be provided within five minutes are free of charge. Our information consultants can also help you to access the full range of ABS information—ABS user-pays services can be tailored to your needs, time frame and budget. Publications may be purchased. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

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