



JUNE 2006

5439.0

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE IMPORTS

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 27 JUL 2006

KEY FIGURES

	April 2006	May 2006	June 2006
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	478	502	483
Beverages and tobacco	88	97	90
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	160	177	183
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 835	2 354	2 286
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	40	52	42
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 488	1 689	1 488
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 457	1 585	1 599
Machinery and transport equipment	6 114	6 446	6 553
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 679	1 800	1 843
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	676	734	589
TOTAL	14 015	15 436	15 155

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. 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.

PRELIMINARY BALANCE OF PAYMENTS GOODS IMPORTS

Preliminary analysis shows that goods imports (debits) on a balance of payments basis decreased by 2% in seasonally adjusted terms between May and June 2006.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

The treatment of goods for processing in merchandise trade and Balance of Payments statistics has changed from this issue. A feature article describing the change can be accessed on the ABS web site from the summary page of the May 2006 issue of *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia* (cat. no. 5368.0). This will impact on the time series of merchandise imports presented by treatment code 721.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The July 2006 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 22 August 2006, and the August to December 2006 issues are expected to be released on 18 September 2006, 18 October 2006, 16 November 2006, 18 December 2006 and 17 January 2007.

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 Olivia Lam on Canberra (02) 6252 7406.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

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All ABS statistics can be downloaded free of charge from the ABS web site.

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