

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) MON 18 APR 2005

KEY FIGURES

	January 2005	February 2005	March 2005
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	469	438	458
Beverages and tobacco	77	60	82
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	165	148	168
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	978	1 007	1 432
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	28	22	40
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 354	1 507	1 652
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 405	1 414	1 509
Machinery and transport equipment	4 909	4 702	5 532
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 562	1 633	1 512
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	203	181	218
TOTAL	11 150	11 112	12 603

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 are available through the National Information and Referral Service, by subscription to AusStats, an Internet access service to all ABS statistics, or by tailored subscription (telephone 1300 135 070).

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The April 2005 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 17 May 2005, and the May 2005 to September 2005 issues are expected to be released on 17 June 2005, 18 July 2005, 16 August 2005, 16 September 2005 and 19 October 2005.

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) which is accessible on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>, select *Themes* then *Economy* then *International Trade* then *Publications*.

Susan Linacre
Acting 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.
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