



OCTOBER 2006

5439.0

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 16 NOV 2006

KEY FIGURES

	August 2006	September 2006	October 2006
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	544	544	602
Beverages and tobacco	113	131	132
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	250	167	253
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2 030	1 809	1 850
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	53	46	45
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 684	1 619	1 735
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 799	1 750	1 843
Machinery and transport equipment	6 381	6 370	6 956
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2 121	2 176	2 277
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	221	395	669
TOTAL	15 198	15 008	16 363

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 *International Merchandise Trade, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 5489.0) on the ABS web site. More detailed merchandise imports data are available on the ABS web site www.abs.gov.au from the Details tab of this issue or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service.

PRELIMINARY BALANCE OF PAYMENTS GOODS IMPORTS

Preliminary analysis shows that goods imports (debits) on a balance of payments basis increased by 6% in seasonally adjusted terms between September and October 2006.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The November 2006 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 18 December 2006, and the December 2006 to April 2007 issues are expected to be released on 17 January 2007, 16 February 2007, 16 March 2007, 19 April 2007 and 16 May 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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