

# **INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE IMPORTS** AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 18 AUG 1998

## JULY IMPORTS

	<b>\$m</b>
Food and live animals	298
Beverages and tobacco	49
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	158
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	374
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	26
Chemical and related products n.e.s.	920
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 190
Machinery and transport equipment	4 113
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 429
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in SITC	394
<b>Total imports</b>	<b>8 951</b>

## 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.

### CHANGE IN THIS ISSUE

Commencing with July 1998, there has been a change to the value threshold used in the compilation of recorded import statistics to exclude goods of less than \$250 in value that have been formally lodged. The total value excluded from the July 1998 statistics is \$20m (0.2% of total imports). For details on the impact of this change to international merchandise trade statistics see the June quarter issue of *International Merchandise Trade* (Cat No 5422.0) also released today, or contact Margaret Hausknecht on 02 6252 5501. Imports on a balance of payments basis will not be affected by this change.

### DETAILED DATA

More detailed merchandise imports data, including dissections by commodity and country of origin, are available from Client Services Statistical Support on Canberra 02 6252 5400. This information can also be provided on subscription.

### FORTHCOMING ISSUE

The August 1998 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 16 September 1998.

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

## SELF-HELP ACCESS TO STATISTICS

*PHONE* Call 1900 986 400 for the latest statistics on CPI, Labour Force, Earnings, National Accounts, Balance of Payments and other topics (call cost is 75c per minute).

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*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.

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*POST* Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616

*EMAIL* [client.services@abs.gov.au](mailto:client.services@abs.gov.au)



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