

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE IMPORTS

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 16 MAY 2006

KEY FIGURES

	February 2006	March 2006	April 2006
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	457	483	478
Beverages and tobacco	80	88	88
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	142	185	160
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 972	1 943	1 797
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	24	30	40
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 562	1 638	1 490
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 380	1 555	1 463
Machinery and transport equipment	5 051	6 281	6 120
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 607	1 770	1 695
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	403	457	676
TOTAL	12 679	14 430	14 007

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. More detailed merchandise imports data are available from AusStats 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 2% in seasonally adjusted terms between March and April 2006.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The May 2006 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 19 June 2006, and the June 2006 to October 2006 issues are expected to be released on 27 July 2006, 22 August 2006, 18 September 2006, 18 October 2006 and 16 November 2006.

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 Ben Braysher on Canberra (02) 6252 6020.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

<i>INTERNET</i>	www.abs.gov.au the ABS web site is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.
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FREE ACCESS TO STATISTICS

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

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