

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

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

KEY FIGURES

	November 2005	December 2005	January 2006
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	572	532	485
Beverages and tobacco	119	97	87
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	172	161	152
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 614	1 692	1 800
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	38	31	35
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 683	1 446	1 487
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 709	1 456	1 463
Machinery and transport equipment	6 842	6 138	5 565
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2 150	1 715	1 741
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	269	370	543
TOTAL	15 167	13 638	13 358

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 3% in seasonally adjusted terms between December 2005 and January 2006.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The February 2006 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 16 March 2006, and the March 2006 to July 2006 issues are expected to be released on 20 April 2006, 16 May 2006, 19 June 2006, 18 July 2006 and 16 August 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 . . .

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ISSN 1328 2980

RRP \$22.00