

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 17 JUN 2004

KEY FIGURES

	March 2004	April 2004	May 2004
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	428	398	411
Beverages and tobacco	71	75	60
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	161	154	151
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	957	1 017	1 004
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	38	29	35
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 415	1 394	1 290
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 352	1 347	1 298
Machinery and transport equipment	5 184	4 758	5 145
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 571	1 446	1 441
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	242	224	166
Total imports	11 420	10 841	11 000

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, a 24 hour Internet access service to all ABS statistics, or by tailored subscription (telephone 1300 135 070).

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The June 2004 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 16 July 2004, and the July 2004 to November 2004 issues are expected to be released on 17 August 2004, 16 September 2004, 19 October 2004, 16 November 2004 and 16 December 2004.

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 website <www.abs.gov.au>, select Themes then International Trade then Publications.

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 Siddhartha De on Canberra (02) 6252 6519.

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.
- 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, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

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