

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) MON 19 JUN 2006

KEY FIGURES

	March 2006	April 2006	May 2006
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	483	478	502
Beverages and tobacco	88	88	97
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	185	160	177
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 940	1 819	2 334
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	30	40	52
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 638	1 489	1 690
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 554	1 463	1 586
Machinery and transport equipment	6 280	6 116	6 447
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 769	1 679	1 801
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	447	676	744
TOTAL	14 414	14 007	15 431

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 4% in seasonally adjusted terms between April and May 2006.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

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

Jonathan Palmer
Acting 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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