

# **INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

**AUSTRALIA**

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 22 DEC 2005

## **KEY FIGURES**

	<b>September 2005</b>	<b>October 2005</b>	<b>November 2005</b>
	<b>\$m</b>	<b>\$m</b>	<b>\$m</b>
Food and live animals	501	478	573
Beverages and tobacco	102	106	119
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	188	138	172
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 479	1 723	1 630
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	32	29	38
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 533	1 369	1 684
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 589	1 506	1 712
Machinery and transport equipment	6 032	5 847	6 849
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2 025	2 066	2 151
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	252	130	269
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13 733</b>	<b>13 393</b>	<b>15 196</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. 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.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON NOVEMBER 2005 IMPORTS**

Due to the implementation of the imports component of the Customs Integrated Cargo System in October 2005, there may have been some temporary changes to the pattern of reporting and clearing imports. This may be a contributing factor to the large increase in the value of imports between October and November. Preliminary analysis shows that goods imports (debits) on a balance of payments basis increased by 8% in seasonally adjusted terms between October and November.

### **FORTHCOMING ISSUES**

The December 2005 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 18 January 2006, and the January 2006 to May 2006 issues are expected to be released on 16 February 2006, 16 March 2006, 20 April 2006, 16 May 2006 and 19 June 2006.

Susan Linacre  
Acting 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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