

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 16 DEC 2004

KEY FIGURES

	September 2004	October 2004	November 2004
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	465	488	501
Beverages and tobacco	88	100	103
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	168	151	184
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 227	1 299	1 350
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	43	27	29
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 498	1 422	1 391
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 509	1 515	1 577
Machinery and transport equipment	5 805	5 690	5 941
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 981	1 916	1 907
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	290	193	206
TOTAL	13 074	12 801	13 190

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 December 2004 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 19 January 2004, and the January 2005 to May 2005 issues are expected to be released on 16 February 2005, 16 March 2005, 18 April 2005, 17 May 2005 and 17 June 2005.

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 web site <<http://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 Artur Andrysiak on Canberra (02) 6252 6792.

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.
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