

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 18 OCT 2006

KEY FIGURES

	July 2006	August 2006	September 2006
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	495	545	545
Beverages and tobacco	94	113	131
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	152	250	167
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 860	2 030	1 836
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	35	53	46
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 556	1 684	1 619
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 555	1 800	1 750
Machinery and transport equipment	5 843	6 383	6 372
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2 013	2 122	2 179
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	587	221	395
TOTAL	14 191	15 201	15 041

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 *International Merchandise Trade, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 5489.0) on the ABS web site. More detailed merchandise imports data are available on the ABS web site www.abs.gov.au from the Details tab of this issue 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 0.4% in seasonally adjusted terms between August and September 2006. This monthly movement has been calculated prior to the annual seasonal re-analysis, which is carried out on the September monthly and quarterly balance of payments data, and is therefore subject to revision.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The October 2006 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 16 November 2006, and the November 2006 to March 2007 issues are expected to be released on 18 December 2006, 17 January 2007, 16 February 2007, 16 March 2007 and 19 April 2007.

Peter Harper
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 . . .

INTERNET **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

LIBRARY A range of ABS publications are 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.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our web site, or purchase a hard copy publication. Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE 1300 135 070
EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au
FAX 1300 135 211
POST Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

FREE ACCESS TO STATISTICS

All ABS statistics can be downloaded free of charge from the ABS web site.

WEB ADDRESS www.abs.gov.au



2543900009066

ISSN 1328 2980

RRP \$22.00