

**INTERNATIONAL  
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

**AUSTRALIA**

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 18 MAY 2004

**KEY FIGURES**

	<b>February 2004</b>	<b>March 2004</b>	<b>April 2004</b>
	<b>\$m</b>	<b>\$m</b>	<b>\$m</b>
Food and live animals	353	428	398
Beverages and tobacco	61	71	75
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	132	161	154
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	885	958	995
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	24	38	29
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 198	1 415	1 394
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 134	1 352	1 348
Machinery and transport equipment	4 078	5 183	4 762
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 397	1 571	1 446
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	196	242	224
<b>Total imports</b>	<b>9 459</b>	<b>11 418</b>	<b>10 824</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.

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 May 2004 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 17 June 2004, and the June 2004 to October 2004 issues are expected to be released on 16 July 2004, 17 August 2004, 16 September 2004, 19 October 2004 and 16 November 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](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 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.
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ISSN 1328 2980

RRP \$19.00