

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 16 NOV 2004

KEY FIGURES

	August 2004	September 2004	October 2004
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	453	465	488
Beverages and tobacco	79	88	100
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	173	168	151
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 038	1 234	1 276
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	36	42	27
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 385	1 498	1 422
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 512	1 509	1 515
Machinery and transport equipment	5 422	5 810	5 706
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 878	1 981	1 917
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	211	290	193
TOTAL	12 187	13 086	12 796

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

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 Artur Andrysiak on (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.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is 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.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
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