

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 19 OCT 2004

KEY FIGURES

	July 2004	August 2004	September 2004
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	450	454	465
Beverages and tobacco	77	78	88
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	151	173	168
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 067	1 032	1 236
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	36	36	42
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 393	1 385	1 498
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 423	1 516	1 508
Machinery and transport equipment	6 018	5 422	5 807
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 755	1 878	1 981
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	179	207	286
TOTAL	12 550	12 182	13 081

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

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 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.
- 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.
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