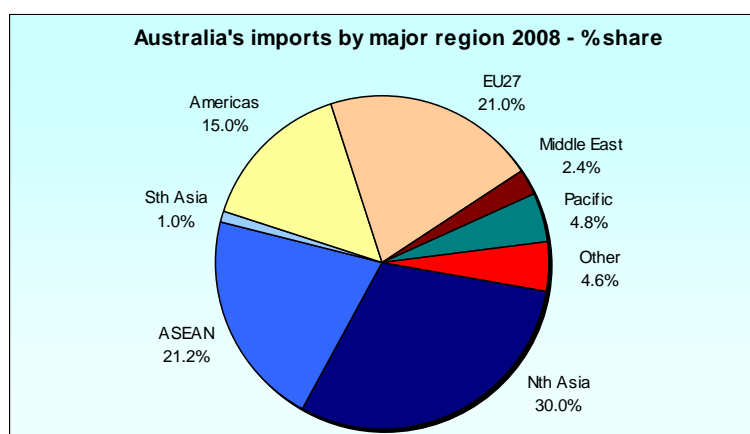
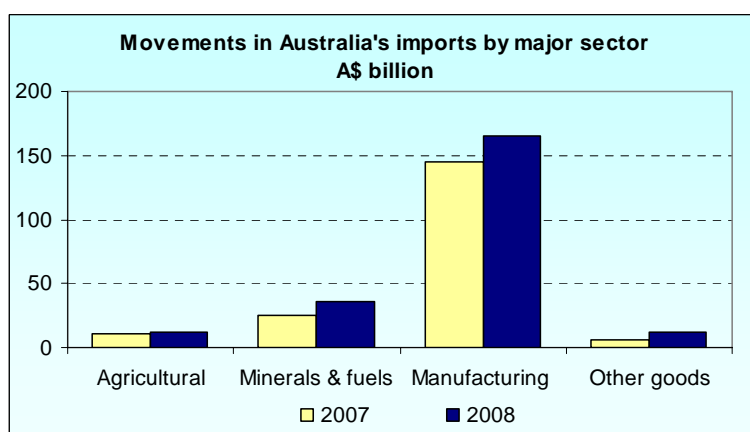
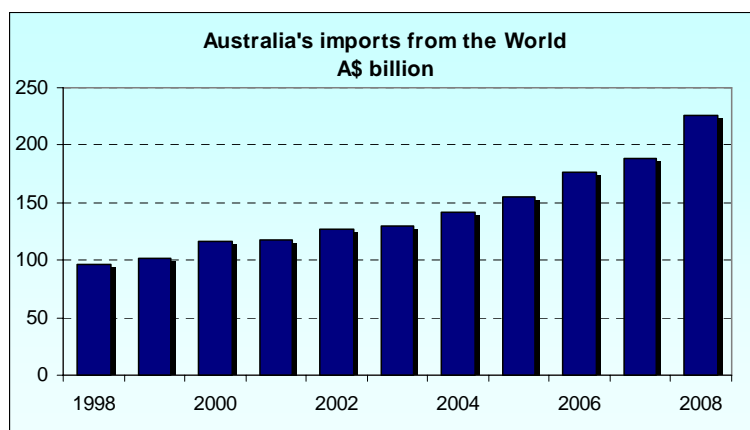


# Direction of Merchandise Imports 2008

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**



## World

In 2008, Australia's merchandise imports increased 20.2% to \$226 billion, following growth of 6.7% in 2007. Imports have been rising by an average annual rate of 11.3% over the past five years.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 14.3% to \$12.3 billion, while *Minerals & fuels* increased 44.2% to \$36.5 billion. Imports of *Manufactures* rose 13.5% to \$165 billion and imports of *Other goods* (mainly gold and confidential items) increased 85.2% to \$12.2 billion.

The major commodity movements were:

- *Refined petroleum* (\$15.1 billion)  
– up \$6.8 billion (+82.5%)
- *Gold* (\$9.7 billion)  
– up \$3.6 billion (+58.8%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$17.9 billion)  
– up \$3.2 billion (+21.9%)
- *Fertilisers (excl crude)* (\$2.3 billion)  
– up \$1.3 billion (+143.7%)
- *Aircraft, spacecraft & parts* (\$4.2 billion) (a)  
– up \$1.2 billion (+39.1%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$14.8 billion)  
– up \$901 million (+6.5%)
- *Goods vehicles* (\$6.6 billion)  
– up \$865 million (+15.1%)
- *Civil engineering equipment & parts* (\$4.2 billion)  
– up \$714 million (+20.7%)

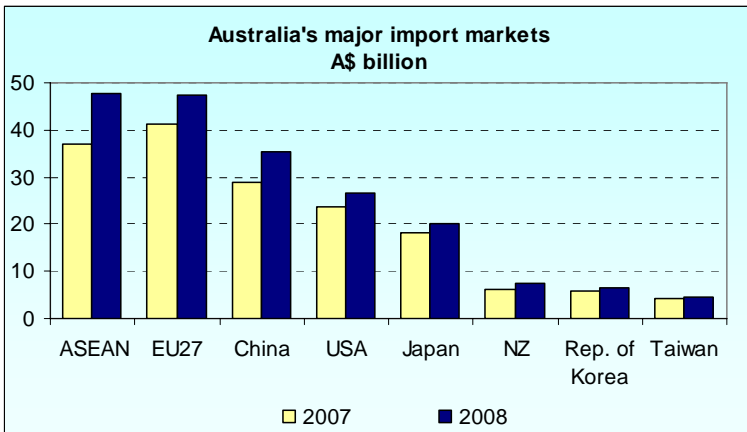
## Relative import shares

In 2008, North Asian partners accounted for 30.0% of total merchandise imports.

Imports from ASEAN accounted for 21.2% of total merchandise imports. Imports from the European Union 27 (EU27) accounted for 21.0%, from the Americas 15.0%, from Pacific 4.8%, from the Middle East 2.4% and imports from South Asia 1.0%.

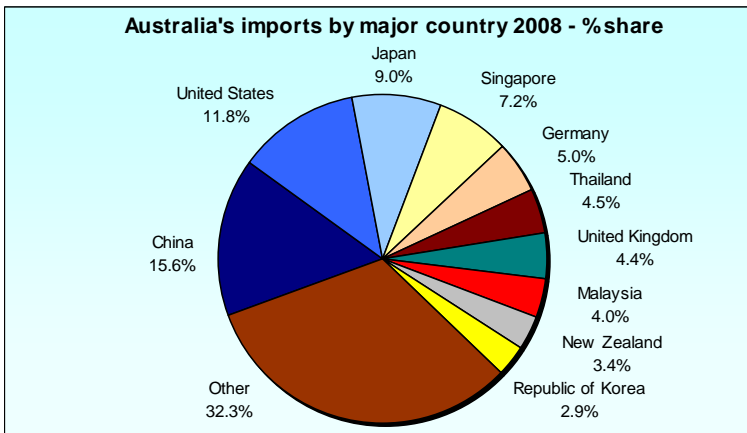
(a) Excludes imports of large aircraft from September 2008 onwards.

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**



### Relative import shares

In terms of Australia's major trading partners, imports from ASEAN was the highest with 21.2% of Australia's merchandise trade in 2008, followed by the EU27 with 21.0%, China with 15.6%, United States with 11.8%, Japan with 9.0%, New Zealand with 3.4%, Republic of Korea with 2.9% and Taiwan with 2.0%.

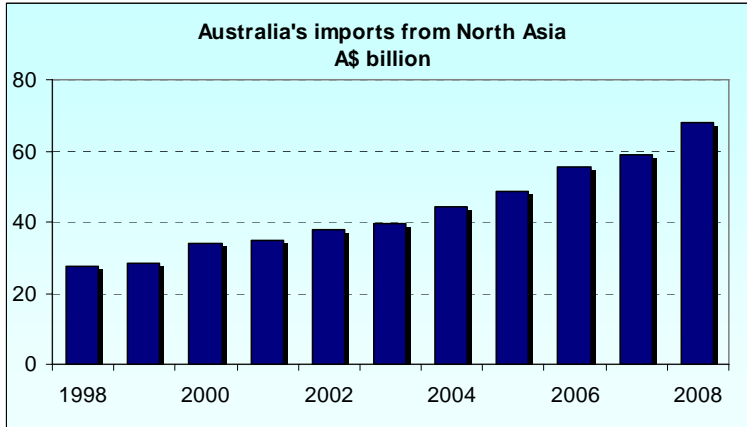


### Top ten import markets - by country

In 2008, Australia's top ten merchandise country import markets accounted for 68% of total merchandise imports. Our major import markets in were:

- **China** (\$35.3 billion)  
– up \$6.2 billion (+21.5%)
- **United States** (\$26.7 billion)  
– up \$3.0 billion (+12.9%)
- **Japan** (\$20.2 billion)  
– up \$2.2 billion (+12.1%)
- **Singapore** (\$16.2 billion)  
– up \$5.7 billion (+54.6%)
- **Germany** (\$11.4 billion)  
– up \$1.6 billion (+16.6%)
- **Thailand** (\$10.2 billion)  
– up \$2.3 billion (+29.5%)
- **United Kingdom** (\$10.0 billion)  
– up \$1.9 billion (+22.9%)
- **Malaysia** (\$8.9 billion)  
– up \$1.6 billion (+21.9%)
- **New Zealand** (\$7.6 billion)  
– up \$1.4 billion (+21.8%)
- **Republic of Korea** (\$6.4 billion)  
– up \$499 million (+8.4%)

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**



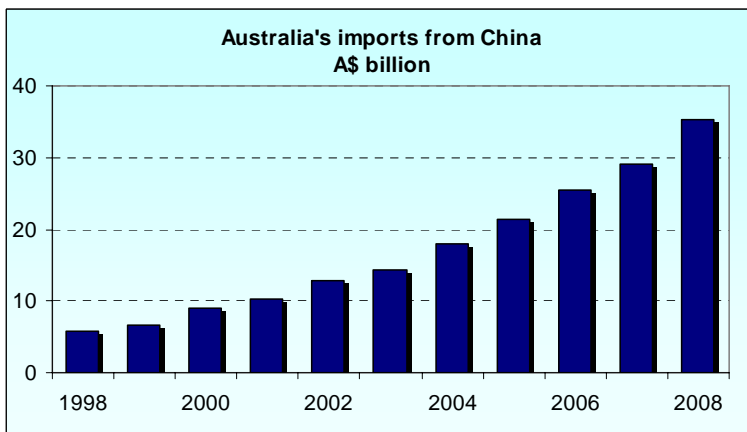
## North Asia

Imports from North Asia increased 15.5% to \$67.8 billion in 2008 following a 5.9% increase in the previous year. Over the past five years imports have risen 11.0% per annum on average.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 18.8%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 104.8%, *Manufactures* rose 12.7%, and *Other goods* increased 16.0%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Refined petroleum* (\$3.0 billion)  
– up \$1.6 billion (+110.2%)
- *Prams, toys, games & sporting goods* (\$2.2 billion)  
– up \$554 million (+33.3%)
- *Gold* (\$622 million)  
– down \$300 million (-32.6%)



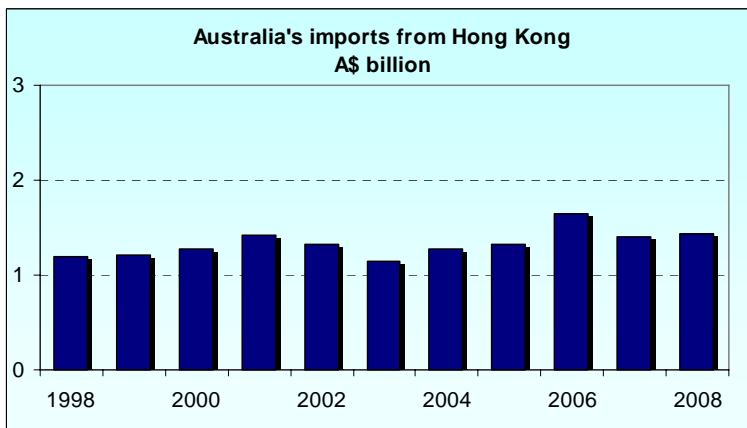
## China

In 2008, imports from China increased 21.5% to \$35.3 billion following an increase of 13.4% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have increased 19.2% each year on average.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 20.5%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 100.0%, *Manufactures* rose 20.4%, and *Other goods* increased 70.4%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Prams, toys, games & sporting goods* (\$2.0 billion)  
– up \$535 million (+36.7%)
- *Computers* (\$2.8 billion)  
– up \$402 million (+17.1%)
- *Telecom equipment & parts* (\$2.9 billion)  
– up \$400 million (+16.0%)



## Hong Kong

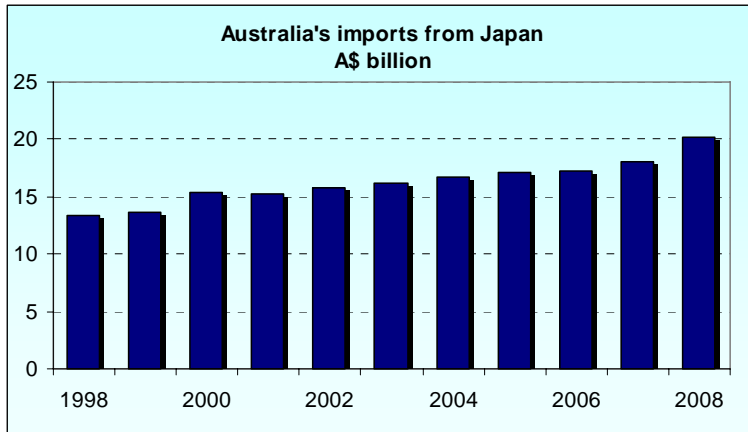
Imports from HK increased 2.9% to \$1.4 billion in 2008 following a 15.3% decrease in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have risen by an average annual rate of 4.8%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* fell 0.3%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 83.7%, *Manufactures* rose 3.7%, while *Other goods* decreased 63.6%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Telecom equipment & parts* (\$159 million)  
– up \$20 million (+14.0%)
- *Computer parts & accessories* (\$48 million)  
– down \$13 million (-21.0%)
- *Monitors, projectors & TVs* (\$28 million)  
– up \$13 million (+81.4%)

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**



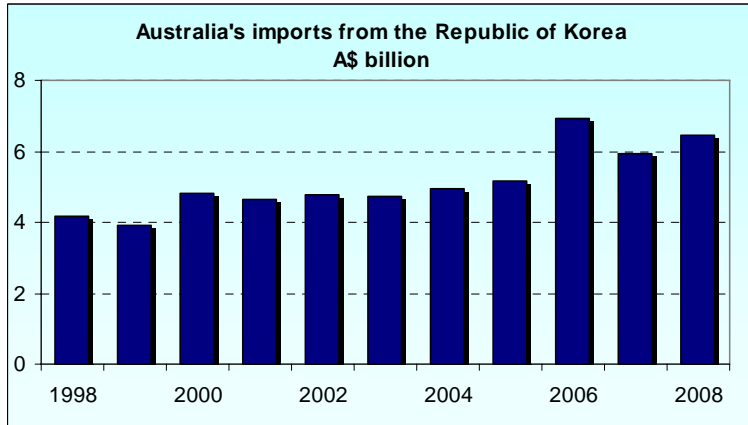
## Japan

In 2008, imports from Japan increased 12.2% to \$20.2 billion after a rise of 4.5% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 3.9%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 35.2%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 142.2%, *Manufactures* rose 9.1%, and *Other goods* decreased 14.4%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Refined petroleum* (\$1.4 billion)  
– up \$854 million (+154.0%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$6.8 billion)  
– up \$575 million (+9.2%)
- *Gold* (\$412 billion)  
– down \$336 million (-44.9%)



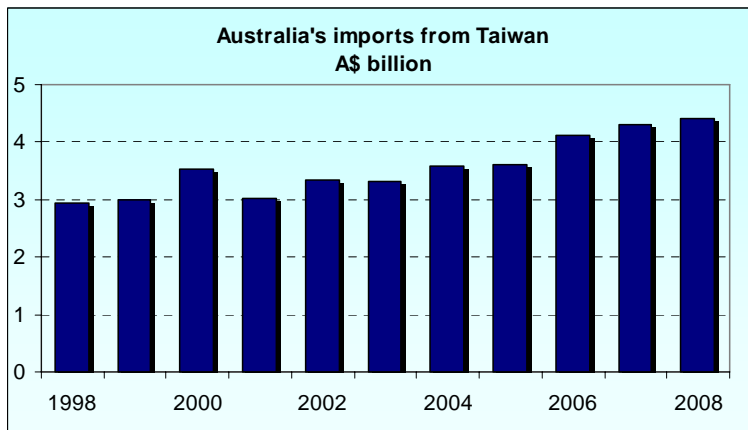
## Republic of Korea

Imports from the Republic of Korea increased 8.4% to \$6.4 billion in 2008 following a 14.0% decrease in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 7.0%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 12.0%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 201.4%, *Manufactures* fell 8.6%, while *Other goods* increased 28.2%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Refined petroleum* (\$1.1 billion)  
– up \$747 million (+217.8%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$1.1 billion)  
– down \$291 million (-21.5%)
- *Telecom equipment & parts* (\$678 million)  
– down \$161 million (-19.1%)



## Taiwan

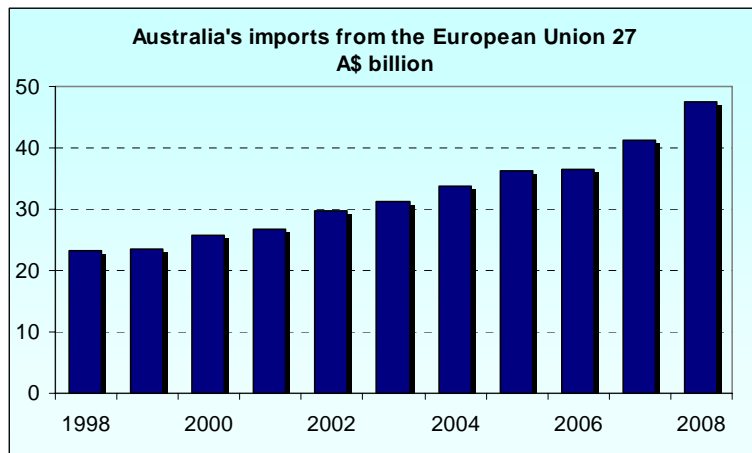
In 2008, imports from Taiwan rose 2.3% to \$4.4 billion after rising 4.9% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have risen at an average annual rate of 6.2%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 7.3%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 1.1%, *Manufactures* fell 0.5%, while *Other goods* rose 21.7%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Computers* (\$151 million)  
– down \$81 million (-35.0%)
- *Monitors, projectors & TVs* (\$49 million)  
– down \$75 million (-60.6%)
- *Computer parts & accessories* (\$83 million)  
– down \$36 million (-30.1%)

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**



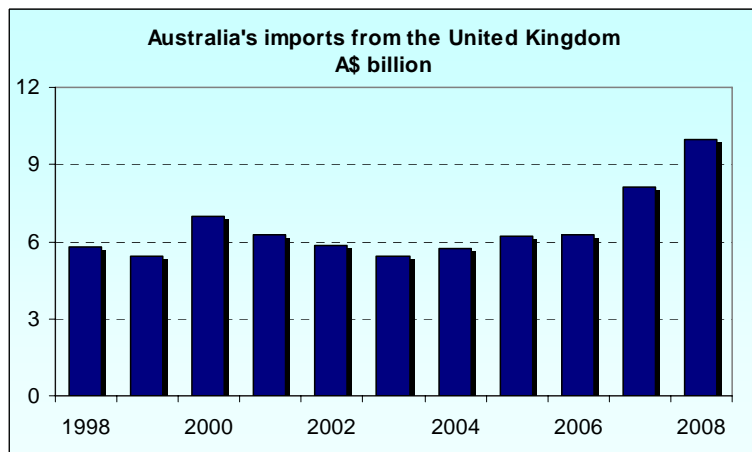
### European Union 27 (a)

In 2008, imports from the EU27 increased 15.4% to \$47.5 billion after rising 12.7% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 8.0%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 11.6%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 43.4%, *Manufactures* rose 12.3%, and *Other goods* increased 65.4%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$3.4 billion)  
– up \$1.6 million (+88.2%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$3.9 billion)  
– up \$571 million (+17.4%)
- *Rotating electric plant & parts* (\$875 million)  
– up \$370 million (+73.2%)



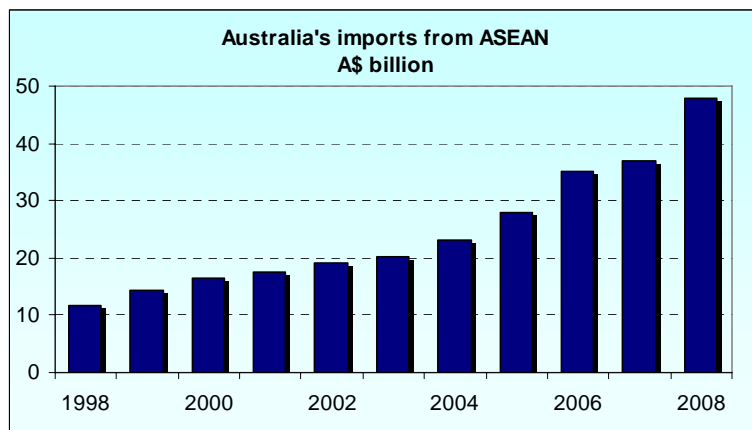
### United Kingdom

Imports from the United Kingdom increased 22.9% to \$10.0 billion in 2008 following a 29.4% rise in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 12.3%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 10.3%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 27.9%, *Manufactures* rose 4.3%, and *Other goods* increased 85.3%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$3.3 billion)  
– up \$1.6 billion (+88.1%)
- *Medicaments (incl veterinary)* (\$855 million)  
– down \$194 million (-18.5%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$504 million)  
– up \$103 million (+25.6%)



### ASEAN

In 2008, imports from ASEAN increased 29.0% to \$47.8 billion after rising 5.5% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 18.6%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 21.6%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 43.1%, *Manufactures* increased 11.5%, and *Other goods* rose 48.7%.

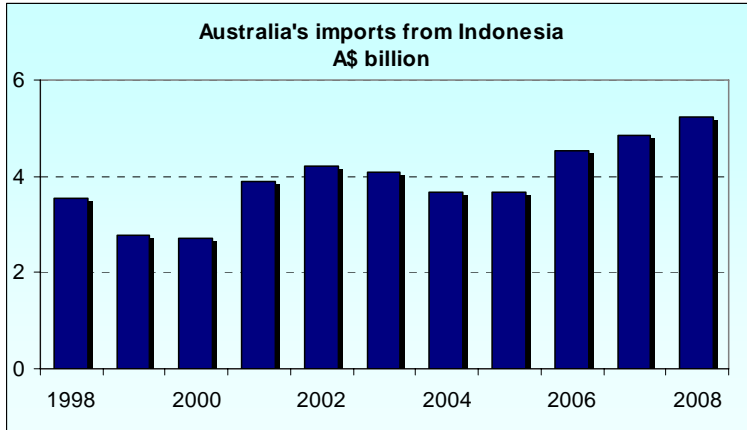
The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Refined petroleum* (\$10.8 billion)  
– up \$4.8 billion (+81.8%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$11.6 billion)  
– up \$1.9 billion (+20.1%)
- *Gold* (\$3.2 billion)  
– up \$1.1 billion (+56.2%)

(a) Excludes imports of large aircraft from September 2008 onwards.

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**

## Indonesia



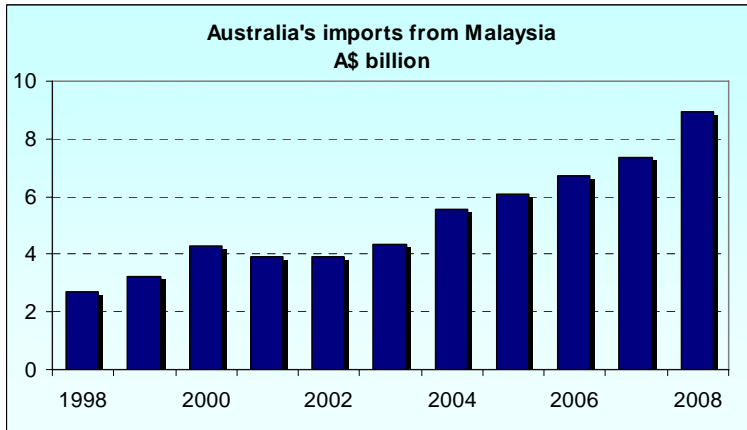
In 2008, imports from Indonesia increased 8.3% to \$5.3 billion after rising 6.7% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 6.8%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 8.8%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 16.0%, *Manufactures* fell 12.2%, and *Other goods* rose 51.0%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Pumps (excl liquid pumps) & parts* (\$17 million)  
– down \$445 million (-96.4%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$2.4 billion)  
– up \$371 million (+18.4%)
- *Gold* (\$420 million)  
– up \$155 million (+58.5%)

## Malaysia



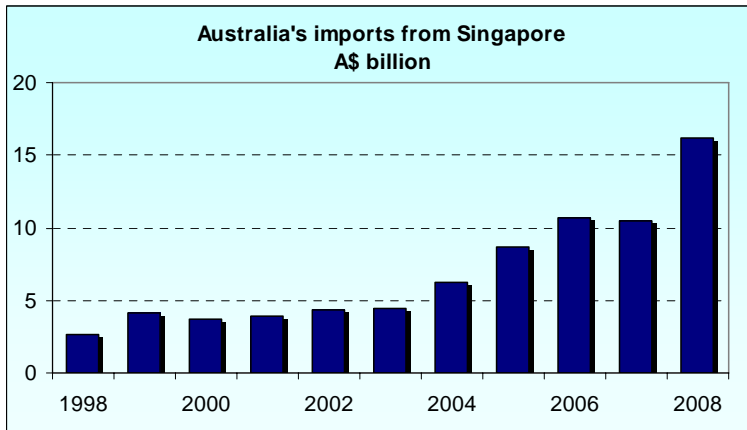
Imports from Malaysia rose 21.9% to \$8.9 billion in 2008 following a 9.1% increase in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 13.9%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 25.3%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 31.2%, *Manufactures* increased 15.4%, while *Other goods* rose 21.0%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Crude petroleum* (\$3.2 billion)  
– up \$740 million (+30.1%)
- *Monitors, projectors & TVs* (\$744 million)  
– up \$265 million (+55.4%)
- *Civil engineering equipment & parts* (\$183 million)  
– up \$168 million from \$15 million

## Singapore



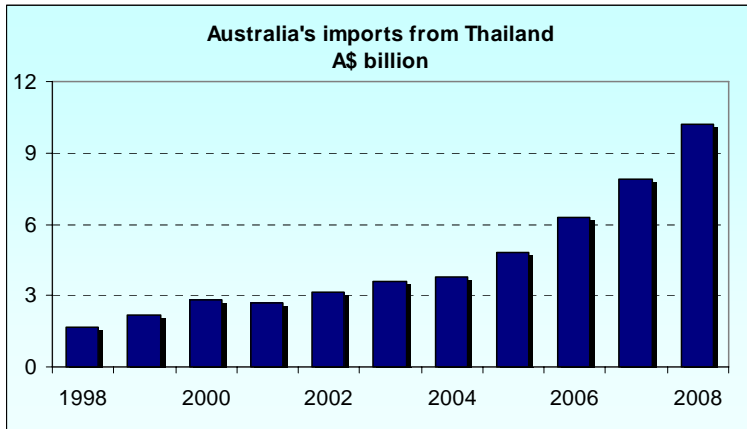
In 2008, imports from Singapore rose 54.6% to \$16.2 billion after decreasing 2.2% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have risen by an average annual rate of 26.6%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 36.7%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 79.0%, *Manufactures* increased 22.2%, and *Other goods* rose 18.5%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Refined petroleum* (\$10.5 billion)  
– up \$4.7 billion (+81.4%)
- *Ships & boats (incl hovercraft)* (\$621 million)  
– up \$559 million from \$62 million
- *Gold* (\$990 million)  
– up \$109 million (+12.4%)

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**



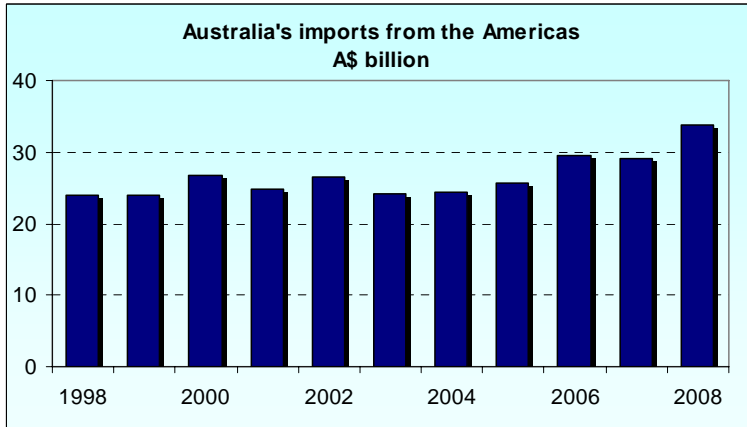
### Thailand

Imports from Thailand rose 29.5% to \$10.2 billion in 2008 following a 26.1% increase in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 24.6%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 30.2%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 208.9%, *Manufactures* rose 12.7%, while *Other goods* rose 111.1%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$1.5 billion)  
– up \$838 million (+126.5%)
- *Goods vehicles* (\$2.3 billion)  
– up \$313 million (+15.7%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$365 million)  
– up \$225 million (+161.1%)



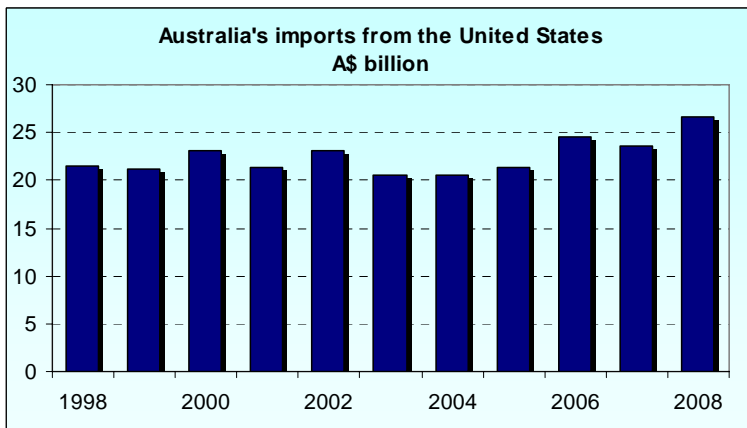
### Americas (a)

In 2008, imports from the Americas increased 16.0% to \$33.8 billion after decreasing 1.4% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have risen at an average annual rate of 7.0%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 14.3%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 38.4%, *Manufactures* increased 14.6%, and *Other goods* rose 63.5%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Aircraft, spacecraft & parts* (\$2.7 billion)  
– up \$945 million (+55.2%)
- *Fertilisers (excl crude)* (\$930 million)  
– up \$649 million (+230.4%)
- *Computers* (\$713 million)  
– down \$414 million (-36.7%)



### United States (a)

Imports from the United States rose 12.9% to \$26.7 billion in 2008 following a 3.7% decrease in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 5.5%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 21.6%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 28.9%, *Manufactures* rose 11.0%, and *Other goods* increased 64.1%.

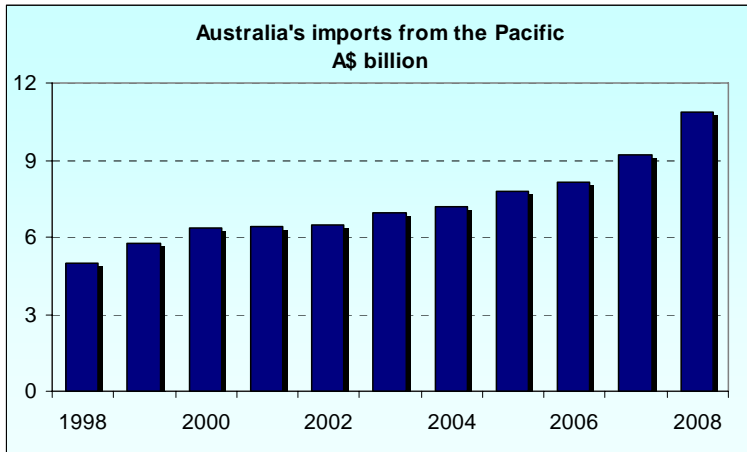
The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Aircraft, spacecraft & parts* (\$2.2 billion)  
– up \$735 million (+50.0%)
- *Fertilisers (excl crude)* (\$770 million)  
– up \$532 million (+223.9%)
- *Computers* (\$538 million)  
– down \$439 million (-44.9%)

(a) Excludes imports of large aircraft from September 2008 onwards.

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**

## Pacific



In 2008, imports from the Pacific rose 18.5% to \$10.9 billion after rising 13.0% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 9.1%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 11.1%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 31.8%, *Manufactures* fell 3.0%, while *Other goods* increased 56.2%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$2.1 billion)  
– up \$813 million (+63.7%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$2.9 billion)  
– up \$729 million (+33.4%)
- *Household-type equipment* (\$116 million)  
– down \$89 million (-43.5%)

## New Zealand



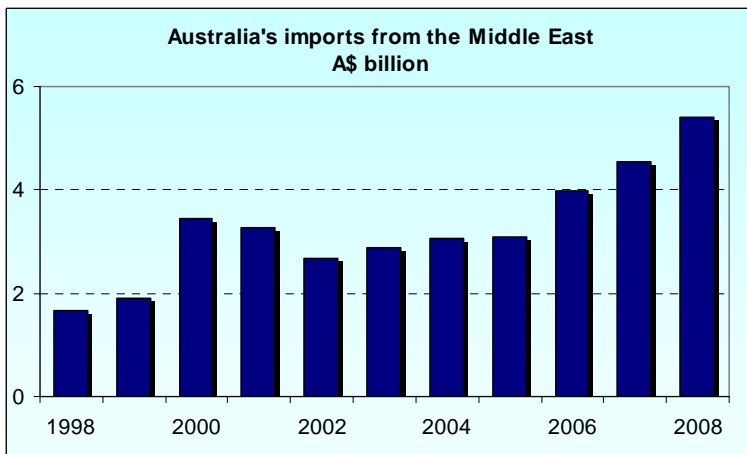
Imports from New Zealand increased 21.8% to \$7.6 billion in 2008 following a 13.8% rise in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 7.9%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 12.0%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 126.1%, *Manufactures* fell 2.5%, while *Other goods* increased 46.5%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Crude petroleum* (\$1.7 billion)  
– up \$950 million (+122.2%)
- *Gold* (\$429 million)  
– up \$191 million (+80.4%)
- *Household-type equipment* (\$116 million)  
– down \$89 million (-43.5%)

## Middle East



In 2008, imports from the Middle East increased 19.4% to \$5.4 billion after rising 13.8% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have risen by an average annual rate of 14.0%.

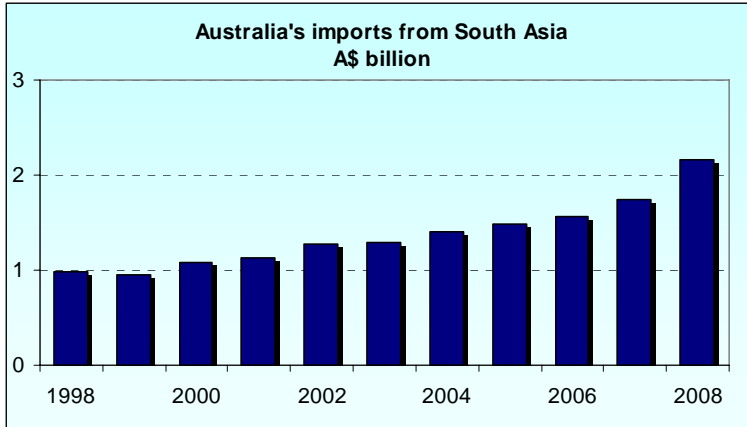
Imports of *Agricultural products* fell 4.0%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 4.6%, *Manufactures* rose 53.7%, and *Other goods* increased 27.8%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Fertilisers (excl crude)* (\$675 million)  
– up \$380 million (+129.1%)
- *Liquefied propane & butane* (\$469 million)  
– up \$213 million (+83.5%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$2.4 billion)  
– down \$94 million (-3.7%)

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all data relates to merchandise imports only**

## South Asia

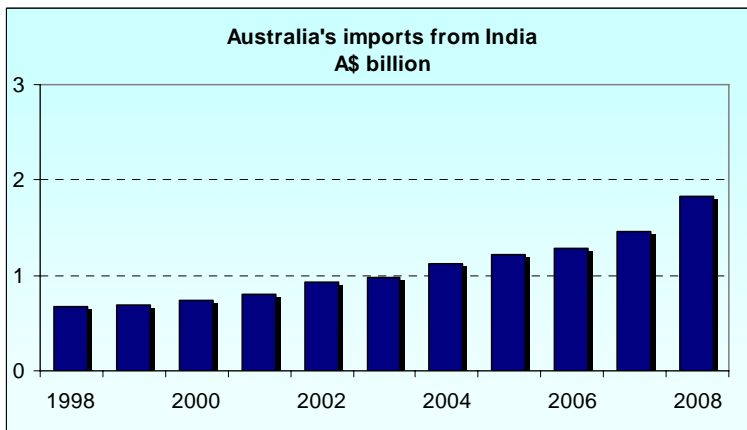


Imports from South Asia increased 24.0% to \$2.2 billion in 2008 following an 11.6% increase in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have increased at an average annual rate of 10.0%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 21.0%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 4.6%, *Manufactures* increased 25.6%, and *Other goods* decreased 9.9%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Rotating electric plant & parts* (\$189 million)  
– up \$100 million (+113.7)
- *Pig-iron* (\$30 million)  
– up \$30 million from zero
- *Rice* (\$49 million)  
– up \$24 million (+92.1%)



## India

In 2008, imports from India rose 25.6% to \$1.8 billion after rising 13.9% in 2007. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 12.0%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 15.6%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 6.5%, imports of *Manufactures* rose 28.3%, and *Other goods* decreased 11.2%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Rotating electric plant & parts* (\$189 million)  
– up \$100 million (+113.7)
- *Pig-iron* (\$30 million)  
– up \$30 million from zero
- *Crustaceans, f.c.f.* (\$4 million)  
– down \$18 million (-81.3%)