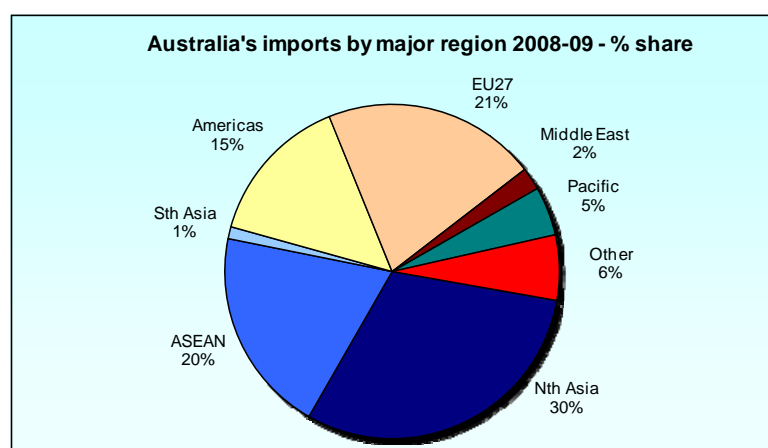
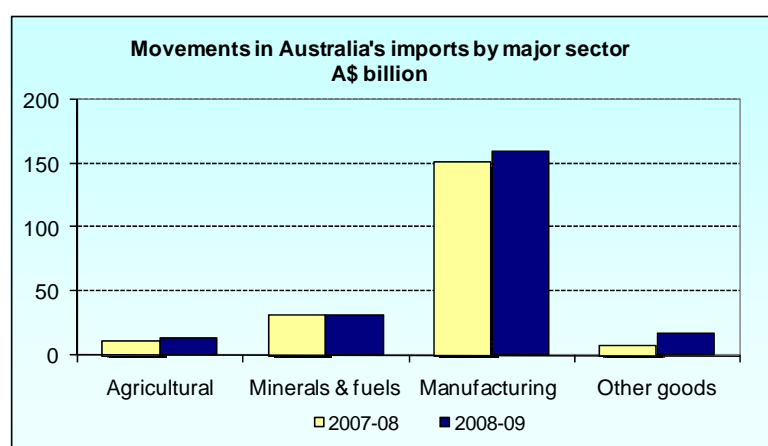
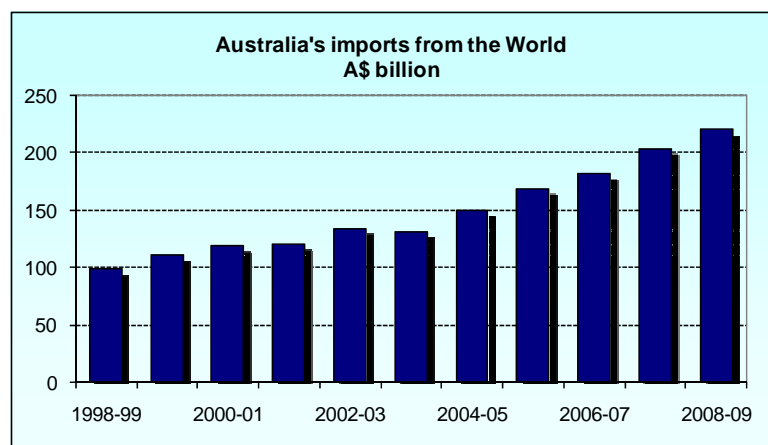


# Direction of Merchandise Imports 2008-09

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



## World

In 2008-09, Australia's merchandise imports increased 9% to \$219.5 billion, following growth of 12% in 2007-08. Imports have risen by an average annual rate of 11% over the past five years.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 12% to \$12.6 billion, while *Minerals & fuels* decreased 1% to \$31.0 billion. Imports of *Manufactures* rose 5% to \$159.8 billion and imports of *Other goods* (mainly gold and confidential items) increased 105% to \$16.2 billion.

The major commodity movements were:

- *Gold* (\$11.3 billion)  
– up \$3.9 billion (+54%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$11.6 billion)  
– down \$3.5 billion (-23%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$14.4 billion)  
– down \$2.3 billion (-14%)
- *Aircraft, spacecraft & parts*  
– fell \$2.3 billion (-57%) due to aircraft imports being classified to confidential items in ABS statistics - see footnote (a)
- *Natural Gas* (\$2.2 billion)  
– up \$1.4 billion (+199%)
- *Pumps & parts* (\$2.8 billion)  
– up \$1.1 billion (+66%)
- *Goods vehicles* (\$5.0 billion)  
– down \$1.1 billion (-18%)
- *Medicaments* (\$7.4 billion)  
– up \$880 million (+14%)

## Relative import shares

In 2008-09, North Asian partners accounted for 30.5% of total merchandise imports.

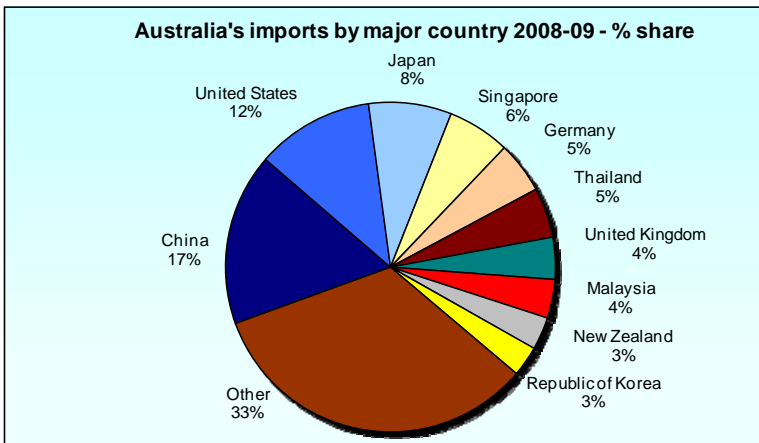
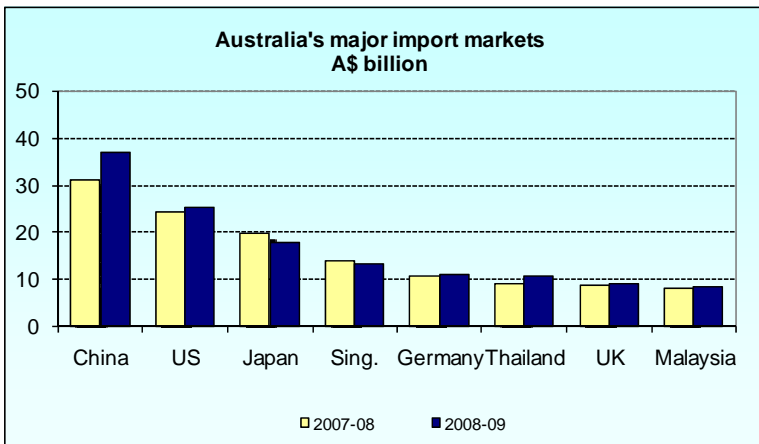
Imports from the European Union 27 accounted for 21% of total merchandise imports. Imports from ASEAN accounted for 20%, from the Americas 15%, from the Pacific 5%, from the Middle East 2% and imports from South Asia 1%.

(a) Excludes imports of aircraft from September 2008 onwards as this data is now confidential in ABS statistics. It is estimated that aircraft imports actually rose by around \$500m to \$4.6 billion in 2008-09.

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

## Relative import shares

In terms of Australia's major trading partners, imports from China was the highest with 17% of Australia's merchandise trade in 2008-09, followed by United States with 12%, Japan with 8%, Singapore with 6%, Germany with 5%, Thailand with 5%, the United Kingdom with 4% and Malaysia with 4%.



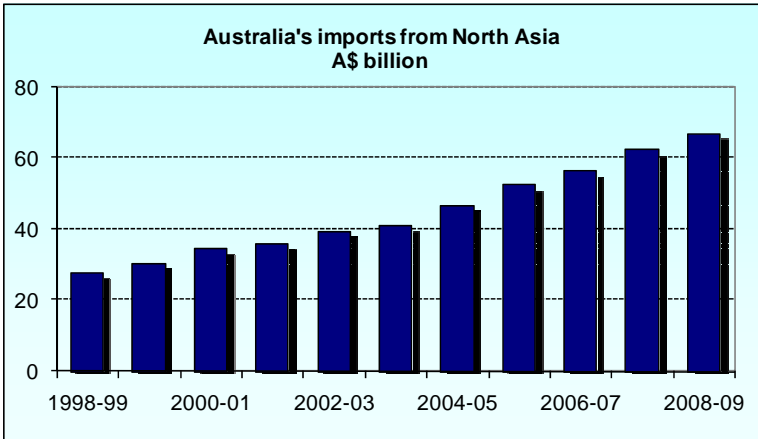
## Top 10 import sources - by country

In 2008-09, Australia's top 10 merchandise country import sources accounted for 66.7% of total merchandise imports. Our major import sources were:

- **China** (\$37.0 billion)  
– up \$6.1 billion (+20%)
- **United States** (\$25.3 billion)  
– up \$1.0 billion (+4%)
- **Japan** (\$17.8 billion)  
– down \$1.8 billion (-9%)
- **Singapore** (\$13.5 billion)  
– down \$235 million (-2%)
- **Germany** (\$11.1 billion)  
– up \$531 million (+5%)
- **Thailand** (\$10.7 billion)  
– up \$1.9 billion (+22%)
- **United Kingdom** (\$9.0 billion)  
– up \$526 million (+6%)
- **Malaysia** (\$8.3 billion)  
– up \$245 million (+3%)
- **New Zealand** (\$7.1 billion)  
– up \$6 million (+0.1%)
- **Republic of Korea** (\$6.5 billion)  
– up \$362 million (+6%)

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

## North Asia



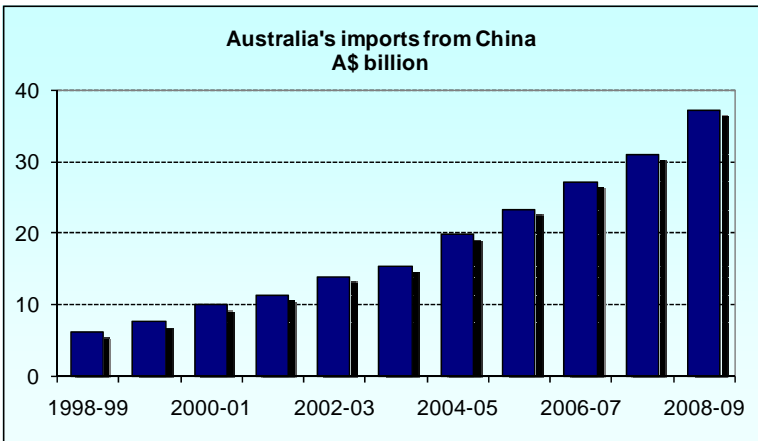
Imports from North Asia increased 7% to \$66.9 billion in 2008-09 following a 11% increase in the previous year. Over the past five years imports have risen 10% per annum on average.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 19%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 32%, *Manufactures* rose 7.1% and *Other goods* decreased 13%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$6.6 billion) – down \$1.6 billion (-20%)
- *Refined Petroleum* (\$3.0 billion) – up \$769 million (+34%)
- *Gold* (\$280 million) – down \$760 million (-73%)

## China



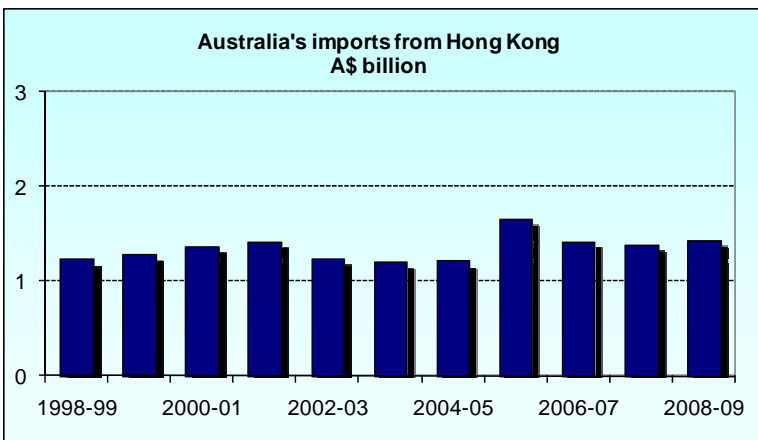
In 2008-09, imports from China increased 20% to \$37.0 billion following an increase of 14% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have increased 18% each year on average.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 19%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 55%, *Manufactures* rose 19% and *Other goods* increased 32%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Prams, toys, games & sporting goods* (\$2.2 billion) – up \$565 million (+35%)
- *Telecom equipment & parts* (\$3.1 billion) – up \$514 million (+20%)
- *Computers* (\$2.8 billion) – up \$269 million (+11%)

## Hong Kong (SAR of China)



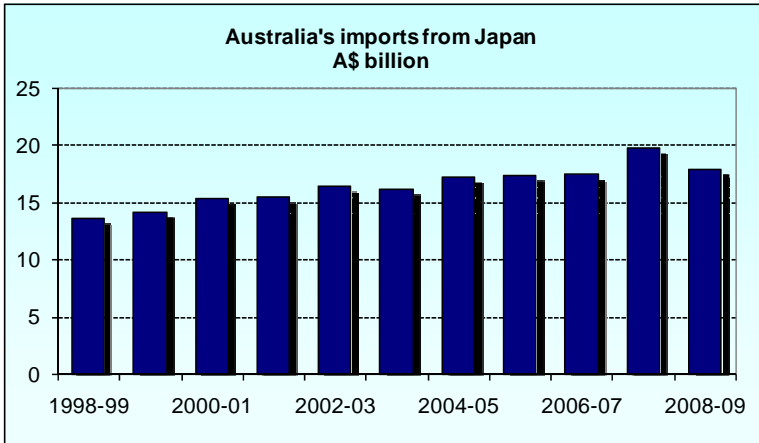
Imports from Hong Kong increased 3% to \$1.4 billion in 2008-09 following a 3% decrease in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have risen by an average annual rate of 3%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 10%, *Minerals & fuels* decreased 30%, *Manufactures* rose 4%, while *Other goods* decreased 57%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Monitors, projectors & TVs* (\$42 million) – up \$26 million (+174%)
- *Computers* (\$43 million) – down \$20 million (-32%)
- *Telecom equipment & parts* (\$142 million) – down \$20 million (-13%)

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



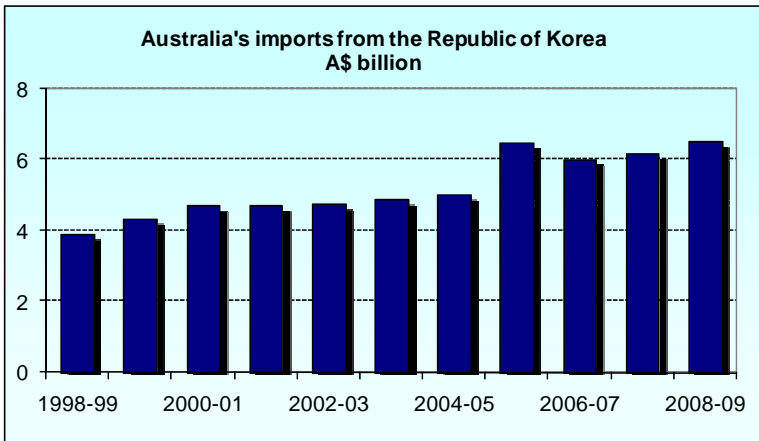
## Japan

In 2008-09, imports from Japan decreased 9% to \$17.8 billion after a rise of 13% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 3%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 36%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 28%, *Manufactures* fell 9% and *Other goods* decreased 46%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$5.5 billion) – down \$1.4 billion (-21%)
- *Gold* (\$40 million) – down \$710 million (-95%)
- *Goods vehicles* (\$1.1 billion) – down \$598 million (-35%)



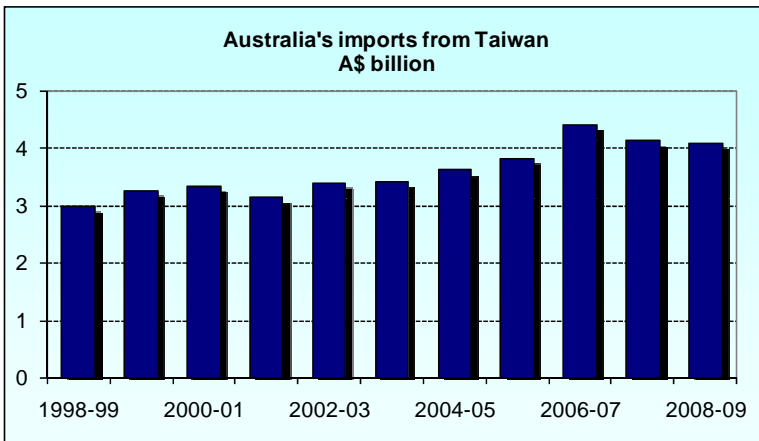
## Republic of Korea

Imports from the Republic of Korea increased 6% to \$6.5 billion in 2008-09 following a 3% increase in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 6%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 15%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 84%, *Manufactures* fell 4%, while *Other goods* decreased 3%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Refined petroleum* (\$1.2 billion) – up \$550 million (+87%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$1.1 billion) – down \$150 million (-12%)
- *Telecom equipment & parts* (\$772 million) – down \$72 million (-9%)



## Taiwan

In 2008-09, imports from Taiwan fell 1% to \$4.1 billion after falling 6% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have risen at an average annual rate of 4%.

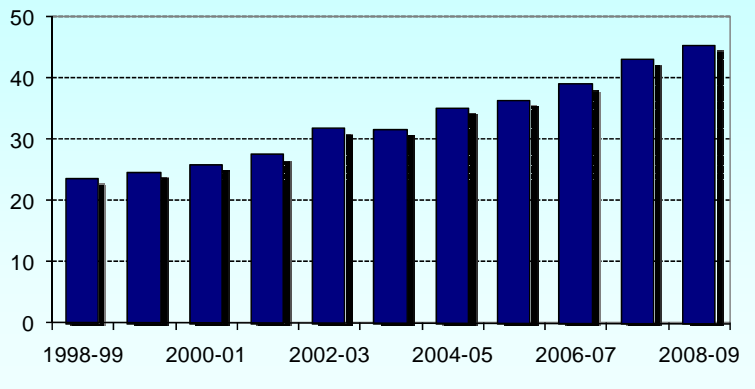
Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 10%, *Minerals & fuels* decreased 26%, *Manufactures* rose 3%, while *Other goods* rose 4%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Refined petroleum* (\$420 million) – down \$144 million (-26%)
- *Computers* (\$110 million) – down \$82 million (-43%)
- *Motorcycles & cycles* (\$154 million) – up \$54 million (+53%)

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

**Australia's imports from the European Union 27  
A\$ billion**



### European Union 27 (b)

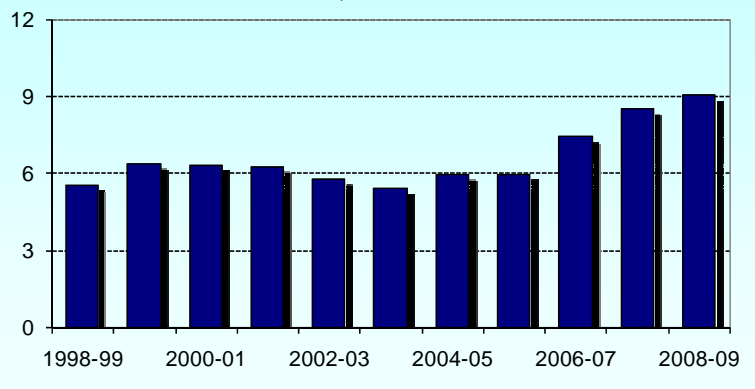
In 2008-09, imports from the EU27 increased 5% to \$45.4 billion (excluding aircraft imports from Sep-08 onwards) after rising 11% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 7%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 9%, *Minerals & fuels* decreased 28%, *Manufactures* rose 4% and *Other goods* increased 22%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Aircraft, spacecraft & parts* (b)  
– down \$726 million (-54%)
- *Gold* (\$2.7 billion)  
– up \$702 million (+35%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$3.0 billion)  
– down \$687 million (-19%)

**Australia's imports from the United Kingdom  
A\$ billion**



### United Kingdom

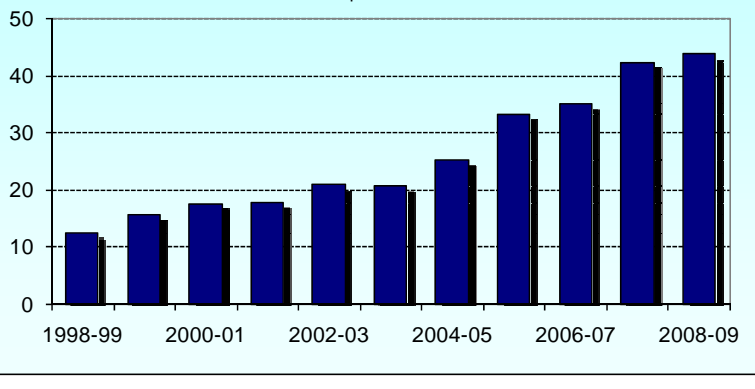
Imports from the United Kingdom increased 6% to \$9.0 billion in 2008-09 following a 15% rise in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 12%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* were steady, *Minerals & fuels* increased 11.1%, *Manufactures* fell 2.7% and *Other goods* increased 34.0%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$2.7 billion)  
– up \$688 million (+35%)
- *Organo-inorganic compounds* (\$218 million)  
– down \$418 million (-66%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$342 million)  
– down \$171 million (-33%)

**Australia's imports from ASEAN  
A\$ billion**



### ASEAN

In 2008-09, imports from ASEAN increased 3% to \$43.6 billion after rising 21% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 17%.

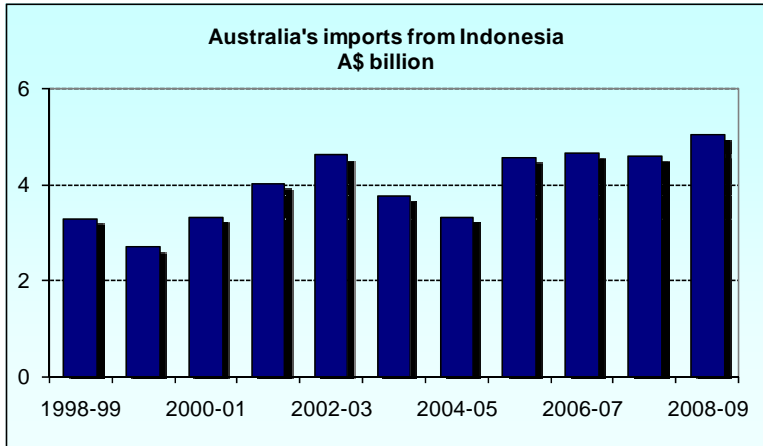
Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 21%, *Minerals & fuels* fell 9%, *Manufactures* increased 3% and *Other goods* rose 59%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$4.8 billion)  
– up \$2.3 billion (+90%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$9.6 billion)  
– down \$1.1 billion (-11%)
- *Pumps & parts* (\$798 million)  
– up \$678 million (+565%)

(b) Excludes imports of aircraft from September 2008 onwards as this data is now confidential in ABS statistics. It is estimated that aircraft imports from the EU27 actually rose by around \$1.2 billion to \$2.3 billion in 2008-09.

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



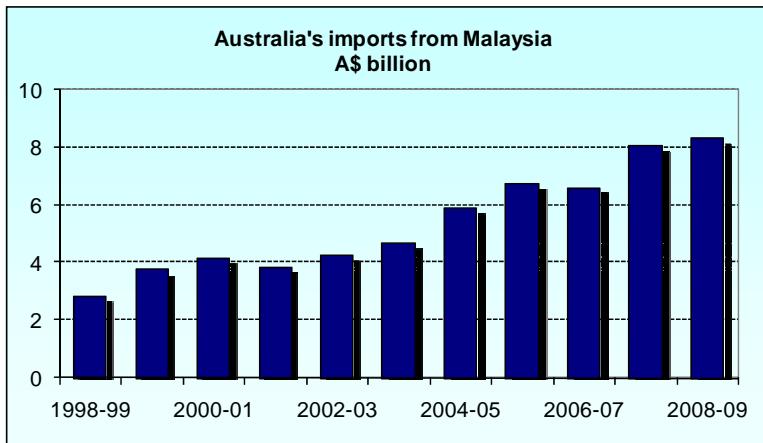
## Indonesia

In 2008-09, imports from Indonesia increased 10% to \$5.0 billion after falling 1% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 7%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 12%, *Minerals & fuels* decreased 5%, *Manufactures* rose 12% and *Other goods* rose 74%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$513 million)  
– up \$253 million (+97%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$2.1 billion)  
– down \$81 million (-4%)
- *Iron ore & concentrates* (\$25 million)  
– down \$50 million (-67%)



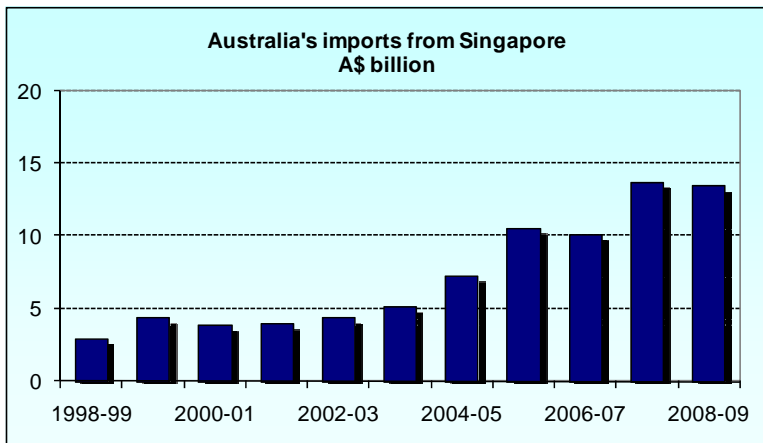
## Malaysia

Imports from Malaysia rose 3% to \$8.3 billion in 2008-09 following a 22% increase in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 11%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 19% *Minerals & fuels* fell 5%, *Manufactures* increased 5%, while *Other goods* rose 24%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Monitors, projectors & TVs* (\$900 million)  
– up \$232 million (+35%)
- *Refined petroleum* (\$115 million)  
– down \$178 million (-61%)
- *Civil engineering equipment & parts* (\$20 million)  
– down \$159 million (-89%)



## Singapore

In 2008-09, imports from Singapore fell 2% to \$13.5 billion after increasing 35% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have risen by an average annual rate of 21%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 27%, *Minerals & fuels* fell 6%, *Manufactures* decreased 13% and *Other goods* rose 41%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$1.7 billion)  
– up \$747 million (+83%)
- *Ships & boats (incl hovercraft)* (\$46 million)  
– down \$591 million (-93%)
- *Refined petroleum* (\$7.8 billion)  
– down \$488 million (-6%)

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

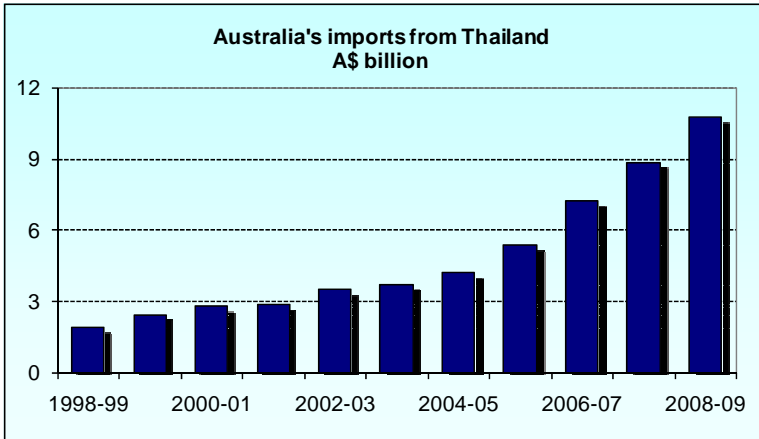
## Thailand

Imports from Thailand rose 22% to \$10.7 billion in 2008-09 following a 23% rise in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 25%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 27%, *Minerals & fuels* fell 20%, *Manufactures* rose 6%, while *Other goods* rose 105%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$2.4 billion)  
– up \$1.4 billion (+128%)
- *Pumps & parts* (\$708 million)  
– up \$661 million from \$48 million
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$750 million)  
– down \$517 million (-41%)



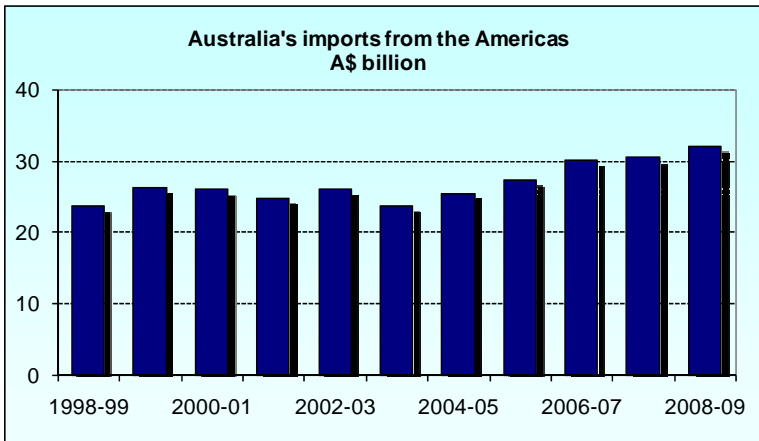
## Americas (c)

In 2008-09, imports from the Americas increased 5% to \$31.9 billion (excluding aircraft imports from Sep-08) after rising 1% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have risen at an average annual rate of 6%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 19%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 50%, *Manufactures* rose 1% and *Other goods* rose 100%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Aircraft, spacecraft & parts(c)*  
– down \$1.5 billion (-60%)
- *Gold* (\$825 million)  
– up \$682 million (+479%)



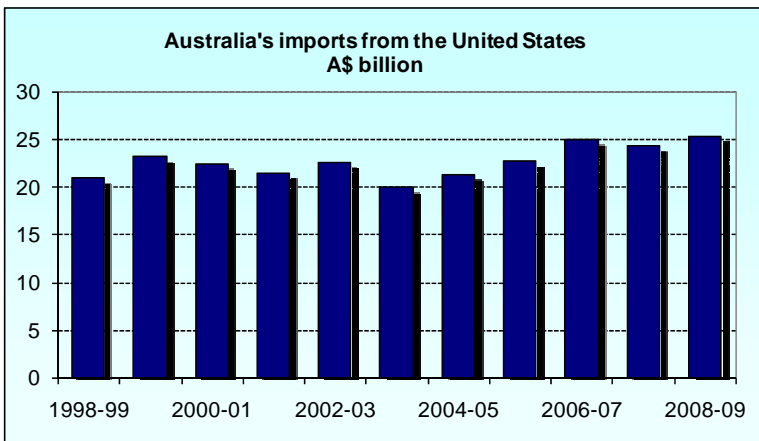
## United States (c)

Imports from the United States rose 4% to \$25.3 billion in 2008-09 (excluding aircraft imports from Sep-08) following a 2% fall in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 5%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* rose 22%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 26%, *Manufactures* rose 0.3% and *Other goods* increased 109%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

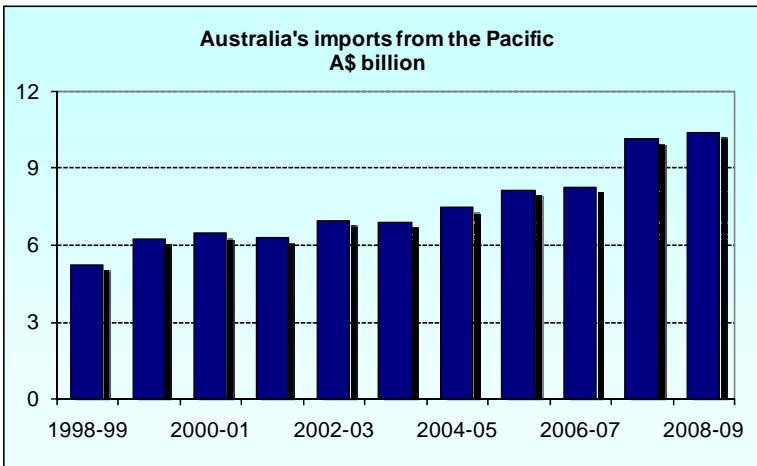
- *Aircraft, spacecraft & parts(c)*  
– down \$1.3 billion (-64%)
- *Gold* (\$825 million)  
– up \$682 million (+480%)
- *Passenger motor vehicles* (\$650 million)  
– down \$280 million (-30%)



(c) Excludes imports of aircraft from September 2008 onwards as this data is now confidential in ABS statistics. It is estimated that aircraft imports from the United States actually fell by around \$500 million to \$1.6 billion in 2008-09.

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

## Pacific



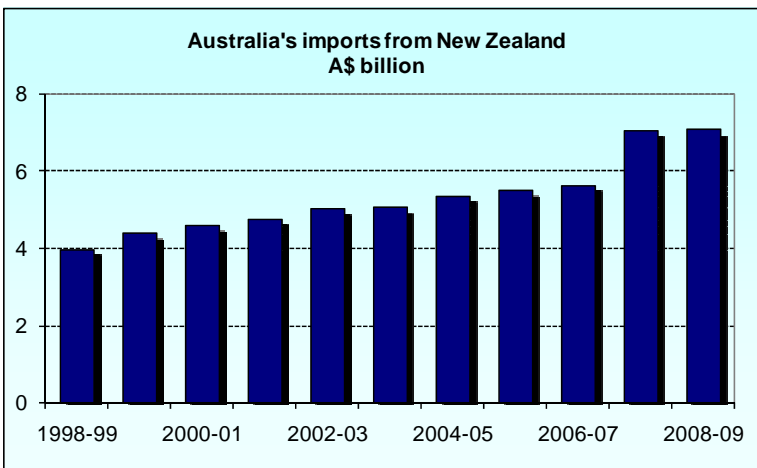
In 2008-09, imports from the Pacific rose 2% to \$10.4 billion after rising 23% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 9%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* fell 2%, *Minerals & fuels* decreased 18%, *Manufactures* fell 6%, while *Other goods* increased 60%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$2.6 billion)  
– up \$1.1 billion (+70%)
- *Crude petroleum* (\$2.2 billion)  
– down \$623 million (-22%)
- *Refined petroleum* (\$143 million)  
– up \$108 million (+310%)

## New Zealand



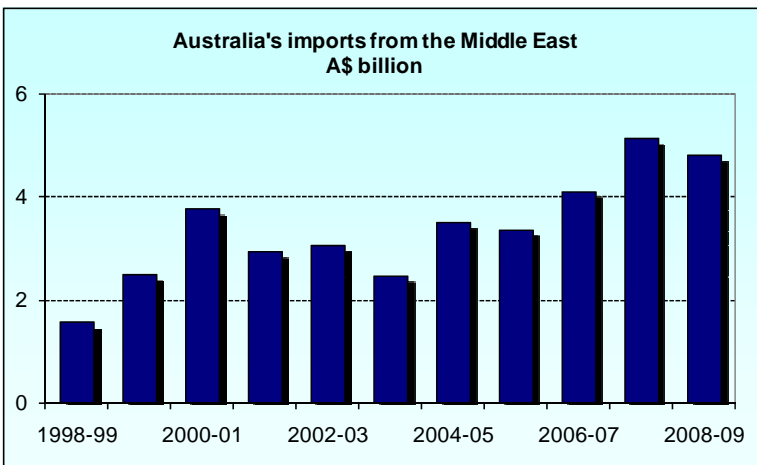
Imports from New Zealand increased 0.1% to \$7.1 billion in 2008-09 following a 25% rise in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 8%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* fell 3%, *Minerals & fuels* increased 7%, *Manufactures* fell 5%, while *Other goods* increased 25%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Gold* (\$505 million)  
– up \$183 million (+57%)
- *Refined petroleum* (\$118 million)  
– up \$93 million (+372%)
- *Household-type equipment* (\$93 million)  
– down \$89 million (-49%)

## Middle East



In 2008-09, imports from the Middle East decreased 6% to \$4.8 billion after rising 25% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have risen by an average annual rate of 14%.

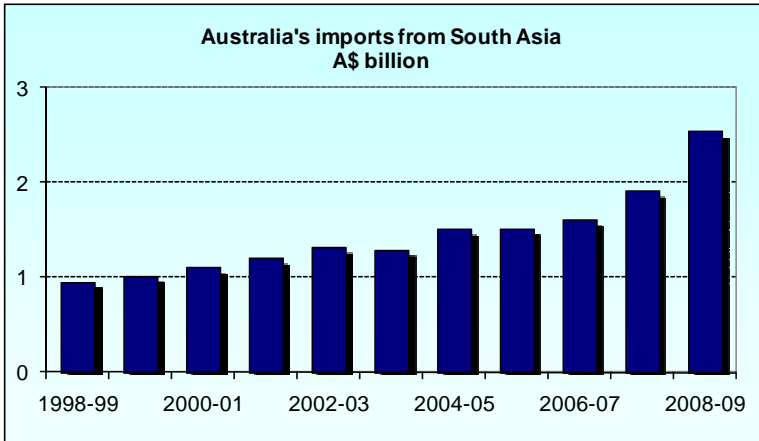
Imports of *Agricultural products* fell 2%, *Minerals & fuels* decreased 19%, *Manufactures* rose 15% and *Other goods* increased 12%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Crude petroleum* (\$2.1 billion)  
– down \$524 million (-20%)
- *Fertilisers (excl crude)* (\$539 million)  
– up \$98 million (+22%)
- *Liquefied propane & butane* (\$333 million)  
– down \$94 million (-22%)

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

## South Asia



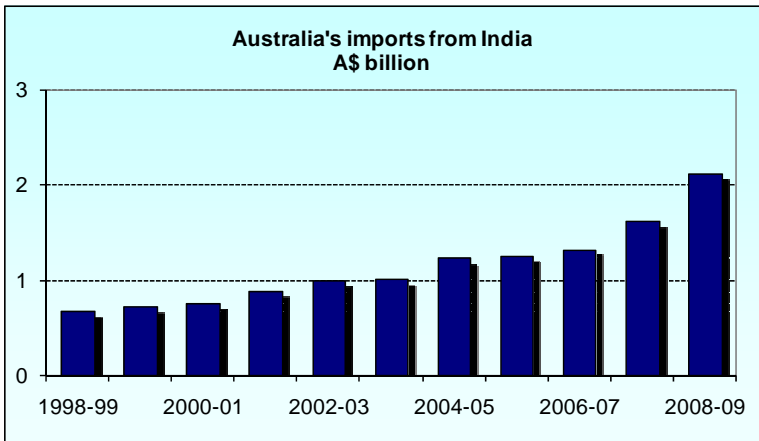
Imports from South Asia increased 33% to \$2.5 billion in 2008-09 following a 19% increase in the previous year. Over the past five years, imports have increased at an average annual rate of 13%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 14%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 14%, *Manufactures* increased 36% and *Other goods* increased 21%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Rotating electric plant & parts* (\$368 million) – up \$213 million (+139)
- *Other textile clothing* (\$65 million) – up \$36 million (+125%)
- *Fertilisers (excl crude)* (\$30 million) – up \$30 million from \$1 million

## India



In 2008-09, imports from India rose 32% to \$2.1 billion after rising 22% in 2007-08. Over the past five years, imports have grown by an average annual rate of 14%.

Imports of *Agricultural products* increased 9%, *Minerals & fuels* rose 14%, imports of *Manufactures* rose 35% and *Other goods* increased 21%.

The major commodity movements during the year were:

- *Rotating electric plant & parts* (\$368 million) – up \$213 million (+139)
- *Pig-iron* (\$29 million) – up \$29 million from zero
- *Medicaments*. (\$73 million) – up \$26 million (+56%)

Source: DFAT STARS database