

## Balance of Trade

(value in the year, year on year % change, original data)

Northern Territory (goods)	\$1.6B	↓	32.6%
Australia (goods and services)	-\$7.4B	↑	17.9%

Australia's balance of trade has improved in 2009 when compared to 2008. In 2009, Australia recorded a trade deficit of \$7.5B compared to a trade deficit of \$9.1B in 2008 (Chart 1). The year on year change was driven by a 10.2% or \$29.1B decrease in imports, partly offset by a 9.9% or \$27.5B decrease in exports.

## Australia

Seasonally adjusted data

Australia's trade deficit has increased by \$524M from \$1.7B recorded in November 2009 to \$2.3B in December 2009 (Chart 2). The larger trade deficit was driven by the value of imports increasing more than the value of exports.

### Exports

In December 2009, Australian exports increased by \$675M or 3.5% to \$19.8B. This was driven by a \$659M or 4.5% increase in 'total goods'. 'Total services' exports increased by \$15M or 0.3% in the month.

The main components of the increase in exports were 'non rural goods' exports (up \$571M or 5.0%), 'non-monetary gold' exports (down \$29M or 3.0%) and 'rural goods' exports (up \$135M or 7.0%). Non-monetary gold exports fell \$46M (4.0%).

### Imports

In December 2009, Australian imports increased by \$1.2B or 5.8% to \$22.0B, predominately driven by a 7.1% or \$1.2B increase in 'total good' imports.

The main components of the increase in imports were 'intermediate and other goods' (up \$760M or 11.0%), 'capital goods' (up \$246M or 7.0%) and 'non-monetary gold' (up \$224M or 51.0%). The other major component of imports, 'consumption goods' fell by \$74M or 1.0%.

## Northern Territory

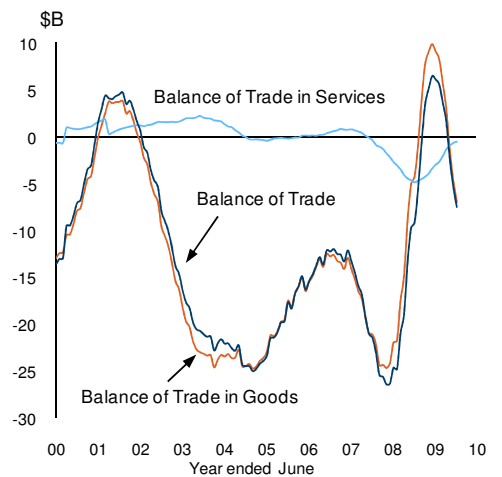
Original data

In 2009, the Northern Territory's goods trade surplus decreased by \$750M or 32.6% to \$1.6B (Chart 3). This was predominantly driven by a fall in exports.

Exports decreased by \$753M or 12.5% to \$5.3B in the year, mainly due to lower commodity prices.

Imports decreased by \$3M or 0.1% to \$3.8B in the year. This largely reflects a decrease in the value of petroleum imports from Singapore due to lower prices. A fall in aircraft imports in the year also contributed to the decrease in imports. This was partly offset by increased feedstock gas imports for the ConocoPhillips Wickham Point LNG plant.

Chart 1: Balance of Trade, Australia (Moving annual total)



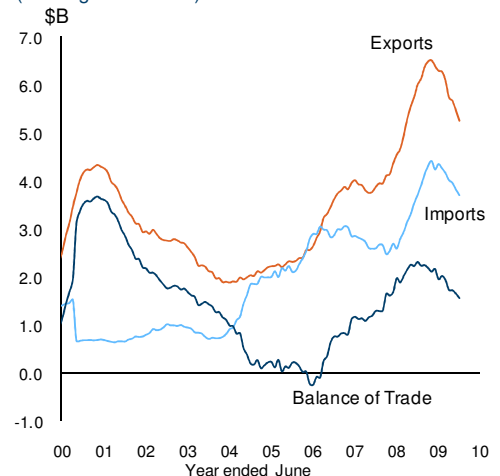
Source: ABS Cat. No. 5368.0

Chart 2: Balance of Trade, Australia (Monthly, seasonally adjusted)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 5368.0

Chart 3: Goods Trade Balance, NT (Moving annual total)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 5368.0, 5439.0

## International Trade in Goods and Services (\$M)

	December		change		
	month	year to date	monthly <sup>1</sup>	annual <sup>2</sup>	year on year <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>					
original					
<i>bal of goods trade</i>	206	1 553	33.8%	-30.9%	-32.6%
<i>goods exports</i>	487	5 252	20.5%	-30.1%	-12.5%
<i>goods imports</i>	281	3 699	12.4%	-29.6%	-0.1%
<b>Australia</b>					
original					
<i>exports</i>	20 768	249 713	9.2%	-18.5%	-9.9%
<i>goods</i>	16 345	196 466	12.5%	-22.2%	-12.4%
<i>services</i>	4 423	53 247	-1.7%	-1.3%	0.8%
<i>imports</i>	- 22 896	- 257 204	5.2%	-9.9%	-10.2%
<i>goods</i>	- 17 997	- 203 444	3.7%	-11.4%	-11.0%
<i>services</i>	- 4 899	- 53 760	11.2%	-4.0%	-6.8%
<i>balance of trade</i>	- 2 128	- 7 491	22.1%	-3015.1%	17.9%
<i>goods</i>	- 1 652	- 6 978	41.5%	-338.7%	-64.0%
<i>services</i>	- 476	- 513	-617.4%	23.1%	89.5%
seasonally adj					
<i>exports</i>	19 767	249 974	3.5%	-18.9%	
<i>goods</i>	15 290	196 684	4.5%	-23.0%	
<i>services</i>	4 476	53 289	0.3%	-0.9%	
<i>imports</i>	- 22 018	- 257 086	5.8%	-10.6%	
<i>goods</i>	- 17 421	- 203 373	7.1%	-12.1%	
<i>services</i>	- 4 597	- 53 712	0.9%	-4.3%	
<i>balance of trade</i>	- 2 252	- 7 114	-30.3%	-797.2%	
<i>goods</i>	- 2 131	- 6 689	-30.4%	-6367.6%	
<i>services</i>	- 121	- 423	-28.7%	57.5%	
trade weighted index	70	63	-1.4%	27.5%	-4.7%

<sup>1</sup> compares the latest month with the previous month

<sup>2</sup> compares the latest month with the same month last year

<sup>3</sup> compares the 12 months up to and including the latest month with the previous 12 month period

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile.

Source: ABS Cat. No. 5368.0, 5439.0

Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.