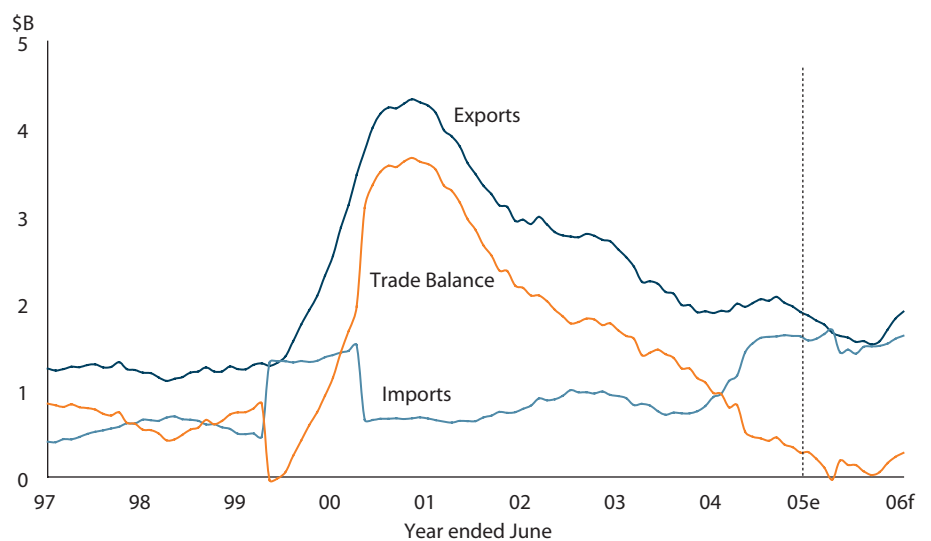


International Trade

- Mineral and energy commodities dominate Northern Territory international merchandise exports, while tourism-related activities are the major international services exports.
- Refined fuels, manufactured goods and machinery and equipment make up the majority of international imports. Significant levels of international imports enter the Territory via other states and are therefore classified as interstate imports.
- Oil production has had a significant impact on Territory export levels since the Laminaria-Corallina fields commenced operation in 1999-2000.
- Territory exports are estimated to fall marginally in 2004-05 as declining oil production is largely offset by higher oil prices. Imports are forecast to increase significantly as material for the liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant and fuel tank facility enter the Territory and significant aircraft imports are attributed to the Territory.
- In 2005-06, exports are forecast to increase by 4 per cent as LNG production late in the period more than offsets the continuing decline in oil production. Imports are forecast to increase marginally, and remain at a high level, as work on major projects continues.
- Over time, the operational phase of the Adelaide to Darwin railway is expected to generate increased international trade opportunities. Landbridge trials are continuing, and by 2007 it is anticipated that 50 000 containers of international freight will be moved by rail through the East Arm Port.

Chart 5: Territory International Merchandise Trade



e: estimate; f: forecast

Source: NT Treasury, ABS data service 5432.0.65.001