International trade

July 2026 | Economic brief

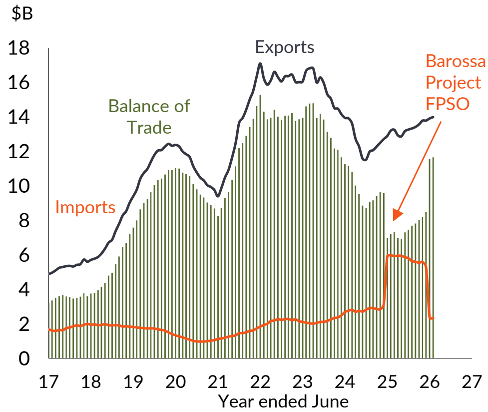
The Territory's international trade in goods data is only reported in original terms and current prices.

Balance of trade

Balance of trade	NT	Aust
Year to date value	$11.7B	$23.1B

The Territory's balance of trade surplus widened by 0.9% to $11.7 billion over the 12 months to July 2026, up from $11.6 billion over the 12 months to June 2026. This reflects an increase in the value of goods exported to $14.0 billion over the 12 months to July 2026, and a decline in the value of goods imported to $2.3 billion over the same period (Chart 1). The improved goods exports reflects both Ichthys and Darwin LNG plant ramping up to their full production capacity and elevated gas prices in the past few months. INPEX experienced unplanned maintenance outage in the second-half of 2024 and carried out planned maintenance activities from mid-August to early November 2025. Santos' Darwin LNG plant had a shutdown from mid-March 2026 for repairs related to the floating, production, storage and offtake vessel, with exports resuming in late-May 2026.

Chart 1: Territory's goods trade balance (moving annual total, current prices)



Source: ABS, *International Trade in Goods*; DTF

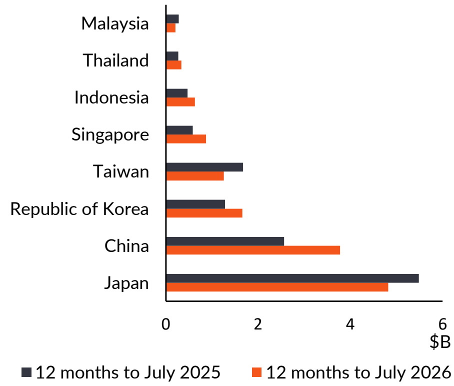
The Territory's trading partners

Exports

The Territory's major exports are confidential items (most likely liquefied natural gas), metalliferous ores and metal scrap, and petroleum products. For the 12 months to July 2026, the Territory's top export destinations (Chart 2) were:

- Japan, down by $661 million to $4.8 billion
- China, up by $1.2 billion to $3.8 billion
- Republic of Korea, up by $372 million to $1.7 billion.

Chart 2: Territory's major export destinations (year to date, current prices)



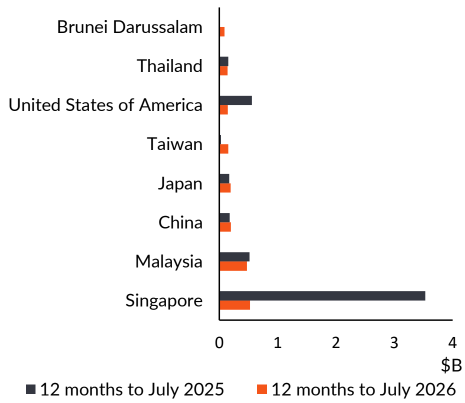
Source: ABS, *International Trade in Goods*; DTF

Imports

The Territory's major imports are transport equipment, petroleum products, and confidential items. For the 12 months to July 2026, the Territory's top import sources (Chart 3) were:

- Singapore, down by $3.0 billion to $526 million
- Malaysia, down by $43 million to $473 million
- China, up by $19 million to $196 million.

Chart 3: Territory's major import sources (year to date, current prices)



Source: ABS, *International Trade in Goods*; DTF

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

Table 1: International trade in goods

	Period				Change (%)		
	Jul-25	Jun-26	Jul-26	Year to date	Monthly[1]	Year-ended[2]	Year-average[3]
Northern Territory ($M)							
Original							
Balance of goods trade	1 037	1 214	1 142	11 656	n.p.	10.1	61.2
– goods exports	1 341	1 446	1 421	14 000	n.p.	6.0	5.9
– goods imports	304	232	279	2 344	n.p.	-8.2	-60.8
Australia ($M)							
Original							
Balance of goods trade	4 355	4 135	42	23 094	n.p.	-99.0	-58.8
– goods exports	44 537	49 923	45 680	536 528	n.p.	2.6	4.2
– goods imports	40 182	45 788	45 638	513 434	n.p.	13.6	11.8
Seasonally adjusted							
Balance of goods trade	6 223	2 341	1 923	23 113	-17.9	-69.1	
– goods exports	45 079	47 837	46 261	536 670	-3.3	2.6	
– goods imports	38 856	45 496	44 339	513 558	-2.5	14.1	

Table 2: Territory's major goods trading partners, original data

	Period				Change ($M)	
	Jul-25	Jun-26	Jul-26	Year to date	Monthly[1]	Year-average[3]
Exports ($M)						
Japan	579	462	552	4 820	90	- 661
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	339	510	318	3 775	- 192	1 214
Republic of Korea	0	235	315	1 656	80	372
Taiwan	129	109	129	1 259	20	- 413
Singapore	162	0	32	874	32	291
Indonesia	39	53	45	629	- 8	159
Thailand	0	0	0	336	0	67
Malaysia	60	17	4	207	- 13	- 73
Brunei Darussalam	0	112	2	117	- 110	44
India	0	0	0	100	0	42
Imports ($M)						
Singapore	83	97	50	526	- 47	- 3 005
Malaysia	28	25	50	473	25	- 43
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	14	23	21	196	- 2	19
Japan	10	11	12	194	1	27
Taiwan	2	13	78	152	65	124
United States of America	41	13	13	143	0	- 414
Thailand	14	12	16	142	4	- 10
Brunei Darussalam	0	11	0	89	- 11	89
Republic of Korea	9	3	5	83	2	9
Italy (includes Holy See and San Marino)	11	8	1	68	- 7	17

SAR: Special Administrative Region.
n.p.: not provided
1 Compares the latest month with the previous month.
2 Compares the latest month with the same month last year.
3 Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest month with the previous 12 month period.
The ABS no longer report on exchange rates as part of this publication.
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS, *International Trade in Goods*

Term	Definition
Balance of trade	Balance of trade is the difference between a jurisdiction's exports and imports. A surplus indicates a jurisdiction exports more than it imports. A deficit indicates a jurisdiction imports more than it exports.
Monthly change	Compares the latest month with previous month.
Year-ended change	Compares the latest month with the same month last year.
Year-average change	Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest month with the previous 12-month period.
Seasonally adjusted	A seasonally adjusted series involves estimating and removing the cyclical and seasonal effects from the original data. Seasonally adjusting a time series is useful if you wish to understand the underlying patterns of change or movement in a population, without the impact of the seasonal or cyclical effects.

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, as it is often derived from small samples and can be highly volatile. Although due care has been exercised in preparing this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

International Trade in Goods, Australia | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)

More information

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