

International trade

April 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	\$7.9B	\$35.1B

The Territory's balance of trade surplus declined slightly by 0.3% to \$7.9 billion over the 12 months to April 2026 from \$8.0 billion over the 12 months to March 2026. This reflects an increase in the value of goods imports to \$5.6 billion an increase in the value of goods imports to \$5.6 billion offset by an increase in the value of goods exports to \$13.5 billion over the same period (Chart 1). The elevated imports was due to the arrival of the floating, production, storage and offtake vessel for the Barossa Project. 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.

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 April 2026, the Territory's top export destinations (Chart 2) were:

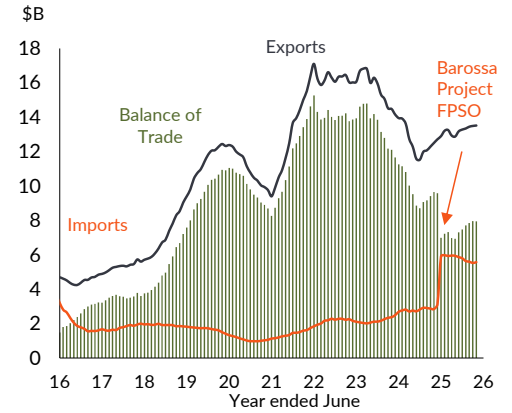
- Japan, down by \$277 million to \$4.9 billion
- China, up by \$1.1 billion to \$3.3 billion
- Taiwan, down by \$207 million to \$1.5 billion.

Imports

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

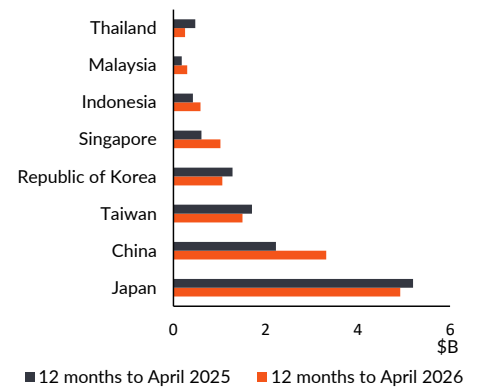
- Singapore, up by \$2.9 billion to \$3.5 billion
- United States of America, up by \$137 million to \$493 million
- Malaysia, down by \$104 million to \$403 million.

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



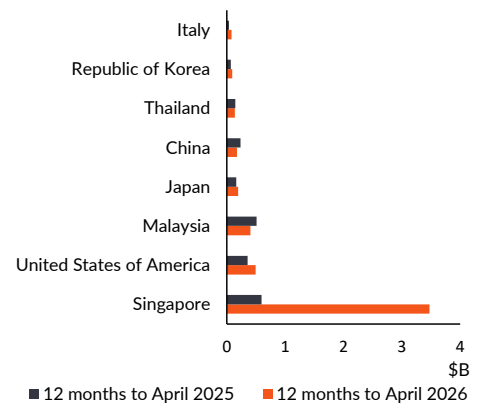
Source: ABS, International Trade in Goods; DTF

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



Source: ABS, International Trade in Goods; DTF

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



Source: ABS, International Trade in Goods; DTF

Table 1: International trade in goods

	Period				Change (%)		
	Apr-25	Mar-26	Apr-26	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²	Year-average ³
Northern Territory (\$M)							
Original							
Balance of goods trade	998	1 197	973	7 942	n.p.	-2.5	-17.8
- goods exports	1 174	1 322	1 198	13 522	n.p.	2.0	8.1
- goods imports	176	125	225	5 580	n.p.	27.8	95.6
Australia (\$M)							
Original							
Balance of goods trade	4 152	1 309	1 150	35 127	n.p.	-72.3	-39.6
- goods exports	41 492	45 510	45 842	530 413	n.p.	10.5	3.6
- goods imports	37 340	44 201	44 692	495 286	n.p.	19.7	9.1
Seasonally adjusted							
Balance of goods trade	4 399	- 1 024	1 791	35 041	-274.9	-59.3	
- goods exports	42 889	44 011	47 191	530 266	7.2	10.0	
- goods imports	38 490	45 035	45 400	495 225	0.8	18.0	

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

	Period				Change (\$M)	
	Apr-25	Mar-26	Apr-26	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Year-average ³
Exports (\$M)						
Japan	443	502	442	4 920	- 60	- 277
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	173	271	192	3 312	- 79	1 090
Taiwan	141	214	154	1 498	- 60	- 207
Republic of Korea	220	158	113	1 061	- 45	- 221
Singapore	75	64	98	1 019	34	412
Indonesia	44	26	112	591	86	165
Malaysia	0	4	11	300	7	120
Thailand	0	68	0	255	- 68	- 220
India	0	0	66	113	66	71
United Arab Emirates	26	0	0	109	0	28
Imports (\$M)						
Singapore	18	2	68	3 476	66	2 882
United States of America	16	8	10	493	2	137
Malaysia	40	56	44	403	- 12	- 104
Japan	19	15	6	194	- 9	32
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	25	9	19	174	10	- 60
Thailand	17	9	11	138	2	- 7
Republic of Korea	4	2	5	92	3	25
Italy (includes Holy See and San Marino)	8	2	34	80	32	45
Brunei Darussalam	0	0	0	78	0	78
Taiwan	2	6	3	65	- 3	37

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 \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/international-trade-in-goods-australia)

More information

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