AUSTRALIA AIR CARGO TRADE PROFILE

ICAO - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - 2025

US$164M
of goods leave Australia by plane every day

17.8%
1 in 6 by air
of goods exports*
24.3% of imports

REAL GDP GROWTH
+2.0% ▲
change in real GDP, 2025 (IMF)

AIR TRADE DEFICIT
US$15.4B
air exports minus air imports, 2025

ONE KILO, AIR-FREIGHTED
US$153*
gross weight

AIR EXPORTS 2025

US$59.7B

+37% in a single year, from US$43.7B in 2024

Precious stones and metals (HS 71)	68%
Optical, medical and precision instruments (HS 90)	5%
Electrical machinery and equipment (HS 85)	5%

MAIN PARTNERS

1 United States 2 United Kingdom 3 Hong Kong, China

AIR IMPORTS 2025

US$75.1B

+19% in a single year, from US$63.2B in 2024

Precious stones and metals (HS 71)	22%
Machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84)	21%
Electrical machinery and equipment (HS 85)	20%

MAIN PARTNERS

1 United States 2 China 3 Papua New Guinea

WHAT DROVE EXPORT GROWTH

Contribution to air export growth, percentage points

Precious stones and metals (HS 71)	+35.4%
Optical, medical and precision instruments (HS 90)	+0.4%
Electrical machinery and equipment (HS 85)	+0.6%
All other products	+0.2%

VALUE AND WEIGHT

Gross weight flown*
-2.3%
399k → 390k tonnes

Value flown
+37%
US$43.7B → US$59.7B

HOW AUSTRALIA'S GOODS TRAVEL

	EXPORTS*	IMPORTS
Air	18%	24%
Sea	81%	75%
Other	1%	1%

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2025, Australia flew US$59.7B of goods (17.8% of its goods exports) and received US$75.1B by air.
- The United States is the main destination of air exports (24.6%, 1 of every 4 dollars), followed by the United Kingdom and Hong Kong, China.
- Air export value rose 36.6% and gross weight fell 2.3%; the average value per kilogram rose from US$110 to US$153, partly reflecting the mix of goods.

Sources: Australian Bureau of Statistics, international merchandise trade (SITC, monthly); IMF IMTS and real GDP growth. Coverage: All partners; exports include re-exports. Current US$; exports FOB, imports CIF.
*Air exports and the export air share exclude HS27 (inherited convention). *Gross weight as reported (incl. packaging); not comparable with net weight.
TEST EDITION. Figures rounded; shares may not sum to 100%. 2026-11-09, base_consolidada_v17_20261021, status ready_for_test_render.

AUSTRALIA AIR CARGO TRADE PROFILE METHODOLOGY AND DATA STATUS

DATA STATUS - 2025

Trade source	Australian Bureau of Statistics, international merchandise trade (SITC, monthly)
Coverage	All partners; exports include re-exports
Valuation	Exports: FOB. Imports: CIF. Current US$; same-year IMF average rates where conversion was needed.
Data layer and status	capas_aus_20261021; readiness: ready_for_test_render.
Mode of transport	Exports: available. Imports: available.
Weight	REPORTED gross weight kg: ABS gross weight (incl. packaging, not net); air cells > 100 t at < US$0.10/kg excluded as capture errors (ledger)
Products	HS 2-digit chapters
Partners	Explicit code mappings to ISO3; unassigned or aggregate partners: 0.0% of air exports (kept in totals, not ranked).
IMF check (C1)	Exports -0.1% vs IMF (XG_FOB_USD), within 3%. Imports -1.8% vs IMF (MG_CIF_USD), within 3%.
GDP	IMF real GDP growth, user-supplied file (NGDP_RPCH); vintage as supplied.

METHODOLOGY BY BLOCK

Headline ribbon	Air export value per day for every State (the same fact everywhere): 2025 air exports / 365, same coverage as the air exports KPI.
Air share	100 x air exports / all-mode exports of the same flow, year, coverage and adjustment basis; also shown as a simple "k in n" fraction when within 1.6 points of one, otherwise "1 in N". EU and ASEAN averages are value-weighted over the group.
Air exports and imports	Sum of air records; growth = 100 x (2025 / 2024 - 1), shown only with a positive 2024 base.
One kilo, air-freighted	Air export value / matching air export weight (net kg from customs; Mexico, South Africa: calculated kg). Without customs weight the box shows ICAO Form B tonnes flown out on direct flights instead (no value per kg); growth hidden when over 25% of tonnes are in corridors reported in one year only.
Products and partners	Top 3 HS2 chapters (Canada: NAPCS) and top 3 partners by 2025 value; shares of the air total. Aggregates and unallocated partners stay in totals but are never ranked.
What drove growth	Contribution (pp) = 100 x (product 2025 - product 2024) / air exports 2024; top 3 plus all other products, summing to total growth.
Value and weight	Value growth and weight growth for the same records; value per kg changes also reflect product mix.
How goods travel	Mode shares of all-mode trade on the adjusted basis; Air plus the two largest other modes and Other (remaining modes).
GDP growth and balance	Real GDP growth (IMF supplied file); air trade balance = air exports - air imports (headline row).
Key highlights	Three rule-generated statements from the same record: air exports, air share and air imports; the main destination of air exports and its share; the 2025 change in value, weight and value per kg (which also reflects product mix).
Units and abbreviations	B = billion (US$1B = 1,000 million US dollars); M = million (US$1M = 1,000,000 US dollars); k = thousand (US$480k = 480 thousand US dollars); t = metric tonnes; k t / k tonnes = thousand tonnes; pp = percentage points; HS = Harmonized System chapter.

EXCLUSIONS, EXCEPTIONS AND NOTES

- HS27 (mineral fuels) removed from air exports and from the adjusted export denominator (inherited convention, not a verified aircraft-fuel classification): 2024: US$2.1B; 2025: US$2.0B.
- Method decision (products (SITC to HS2), exclusions and weight): Australia (ABS) reports products in SITC Rev.4. Each SITC code is mapped to HS2 through the HS6 codes the UN HS2022-SITC4 conversion sheet assigns to it (exact, without ABS trailing zeros, then 4/3-digit prefix); codes spanning several chapters go to the chapter holding most of their HS6 (ties: lowest chapter); 95100 gold coin -> HS71. SITC 99999 'commodities and transactions not included in Merchandise trade' is excluded (with it, totals are 3-6% above IMF). Air weight is ABS gross weight as reported.
- Products: ABS SITC Rev.4 mapped to HS2 via the HS2022-SITC4 conversion table (2025 air value in one chapter: 97% exports, 95% imports; rest by dominant chapter); ranks after HS71 are sensitive to the mapping (correlation-sheet check in layer_controls)
- SITC 99999 (commodities and transactions not included in merchandise trade) excluded (ledger); with it totals are 3-6% above IMF
- Air weight = ABS gross weight (incl. packaging), not net; aviation fuel loaded by air leaves with the HS27 rule
- Mode 'not available for publication' kept as Unknown (0.8% of exports, 2.2% of imports in 2025)