

Kansas Trades with Australia

Australia is the 8th largest market for Kansas goods exports, worth over \$281.5 million in 2007. Kansas's major exports to Australia include airplanes, pet food, civil engineering equipment and aircraft parts.

Product	Value (\$)	Percent
Transportation Equipment	131,529,978	46.7
Machinery Manufactures	47,757,109	17.0
Computers & Electronic Products	25,610,218	9.1
Processed Foods	25,543,478	9.1
Spec. Classification Provisions	15,936,993	5.7
Plastic & Rubber Products	14,243,633	5.1
All Others	20,900,313	7.4
TOTAL	281,521,722	100%

Source: US Department of Commerce 2007 CY

Australia Invests in Kansas

- **Amtcor PET Packaging**, part of the global Amtcor packaging group, manufactures packaging for the consumer products industry, and has a production plant in Shawnee Mission.
- **Macquarie DDR Trust** owns two shopping centers in Merriam and in Overland Park.
- **Manildra USA**, part of an Australian group, is a leading supplier of wheat gluten to the US baking industry and is based in Shawnee Mission.
- **Planet Gas**, an Australian coal exploration and development company, has a project in Cherokee Basin in southeast Kansas.
- **QBE the Americas**, a division of Australia's largest international insurance and reinsurance group, has an office in Lenexa.

Did you know?

The **University of Kansas** has direct student exchange arrangements with **Deakin University** in Victoria and with the **University of New South Wales**, **Newcastle University** and **Wollongong University**, all in New South Wales.

Australia: Strong economy, important trading partner

- Total trade between Australia and the United States was \$44 billion in 2007, with US exports to Australia amounting to \$29 billion. Australia ranks in the top 10 export markets for 14 states and the top 25 markets for 48 states.
- Australia is among the most highly developed and economically successful countries in the world with a gross domestic product (GDP) of \$1 trillion for the 2007/08 financial year.
- Australia has one of the world's most open and innovative economies. The OECD's 2008 annual review of economic reform assesses that Australia's economy is the least regulated among OECD member countries and imposes the least impact on economic behaviour.

AUSFTA

The **Australia-US Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** came into force on 1 January 2005. The FTA gives US businesses price advantages and preferential access over international competitors in the Australian market. The FTA eliminates 99% of Australia's manufacturing tariffs, giving US firms a 5% average cost advantage over their international competitors in the Australian market. Additionally the FTA:

- Grants enhanced preferential access for American service exporters to Australia.
- Grants tariff-free access to Australia's agricultural market for US exporters.
- Removes foreign investment screening for a range of foreign investment activities, including establishment of all new businesses in Australia.