

Missouri Trades with Australia

Australia is the 10th largest market for Missouri goods exports, worth over \$206.7 million in 2007. Missouri's major exports to Australia include chemicals, pharmaceuticals, aircraft parts and munitions.

Product	Value (\$)	Percent
Chemical Manufactures	84,030,820	40.6
Machinery Manufactures	31,942,591	15.4
Transportation Equipment	20,778,967	10.0
Fabricated Metal Products	12,377,800	6.0
Computers & Electronic Products	10,939,018	5.3
Miscellaneous Manufactures	10,553,494	5.1
All Others	36,174,924	17.5
TOTAL	206,797,614	100%

Source: US Department of Commerce 2007 CY

Australia Invests in Missouri

- **Butler Manufacturing**, producer of pre-engineered metal building systems, is owned by Australia's BlueScope Steel (formerly BHP Steel) and has its US headquarters in Kansas City.
- **Macquarie DDR Trust** owns Independence Commons, a shopping center in Kansas City.
- **Orica**, a leading supplier of commercial explosives for the mining and construction industries, has a manufacturing facility in Bonne Terre and offices in Liberty and Washington.
- **Pratt Industries USA**, sister to Visy, Australia's largest packaging and recycling company, has a production plant in Kansas City.
- **Smorgon Steel Group** (which has merged with OneSteel Limited) owns Grinding Systems America, a Kansas City-based manufacturer of grinding balls used to crush iron ore.
- **Westfield**, one of the world's largest retail property groups, owns the Crestwood shopping center in St Louis.

Did you know?

During the 2005-2006 academic year, more than 175 Missouri college students participated in **study abroad programs in Australia**, an increase of almost 9% on the previous year.

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.