

Document and Entity Information	Fiscal Year Ended		
	August 31, 2011	10/26/2011	2/28/2011
Entity Registrant Name	ACUITY BRANDS INC		
Entity Central Index Key	0001144215		
Document Type	10-K		
Document Period End Date	Aug 31, 2011		
Amendment Flag	false		
Document Fiscal Year Focus	2011		
Document Fiscal Period Focus	FY		
Current Fiscal Year End Date	8/31/2011		
Entity Well-known Seasoned Issuer	Yes		
Entity Voluntary Filers	No		
Entity Current Reporting Status	Yes		
Entity Filer Category	Large Accelerated Filer		
Entity Share Price			\$56.52
Entity Common Stock, Shares Outstanding		42,116,530	
Entity Public Float			\$ 2,444,007,150