



# MONTHLY TRADE TRENDS: April 2021 - May 2021

## MERCHANDISE TRADE

UPDATED ON 23 JULY 2021

Major traders recorded strong year-on-year growth of merchandise exports and imports in May. The United States of America recorded a 59% increase in exports and the United Kingdom reported a 54% increase in imports year-on-year in May.

Exports	Value, Bn\$		Monthly year-on-year growth (%)						
	Apr-21	May-21	Apr-20	May-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
China	264	264	3	-4	...	...	31	32	28
European Union Extra-Trade	214	209	-31	-32	-2	7	19	58	48
United States of America <sup>1</sup>	144	145	-30	-36	-1	-5	14	53	59
Japan	66	57	-19	-26	12	0	15	36	47
United Kingdom	39	39	-25	-34	-24	5	39	33	47
Korea, Republic of	51	51	-26	-24	11	9	16	41	46
<i>Memorandum items</i>									
<i>European Union Total Trade</i>	<i>546</i>	<i>546</i>	<i>-33</i>	<i>-30</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>54</i>
<i>European Union Intra-Trade</i>	<i>332</i>	<i>336</i>	<i>-35</i>	<i>-29</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>58</i>

Imports	Value, Bn\$		Monthly year-on-year growth (%)						
	Apr-21	May-21	Apr-20	May-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
China	221	218	-14	-16	...	...	38	43	51
European Union Extra-Trade	199	200	-26	-28	-9	8	28	47	49
United States of America	235	239	-20	-25	5	9	23	37	41
Japan	64	59	-4	-24	-5	17	5	12	26
United Kingdom	54	56	-30	-32	-11	-4	13	47	54
Korea, Republic of	51	48	-16	-21	4	14	19	34	38
<i>Memorandum items</i>									
<i>European Union Total Trade</i>	<i>521</i>	<i>526</i>	<i>-31</i>	<i>-29</i>	<i>-1</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>54</i>
<i>European Union Intra-Trade</i>	<i>321</i>	<i>326</i>	<i>-34</i>	<i>-30</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>58</i>

1. FAS: Free Alongside Ship.

## TRADE IN COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Major traders continued to show positive year-on-year growth of exports and imports of trade in commercial services. The Republic of Korea reported a 36% increase of exports and 32% increase of imports in May.

Selected traders	Value, Bn\$		Monthly year-on-year growth (%)						
	Apr-21	May-21	Apr-20	May-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
<b>Exports</b>									
European Union Extra-Trade <sup>1</sup>	86	...	-28	-28	1	4	13	29	...
United States of America <sup>2</sup>	58	59	-25	-26	-16	-16	-3	8	10
China	31	26	-4	-6	43	20	35	38	19
United Kingdom <sup>1,2</sup>	30	31	-21	-25	-15	-9	5	15	23
Japan	12	15	-33	-24	-26	1	1	7	7
India <sup>1</sup>	18	17	-9	-10	-9	1	15	7	4
Korea, Republic of	9	9	-27	-27	1	8	21	45	36
<b>Imports</b>									
European Union Extra-Trade <sup>1</sup>	71	...	-29	-28	-16	-17	-8	14	...
United States of America <sup>2</sup>	40	40	-34	-34	-17	-17	6	27	29
China	31	32	-36	-33	-16	-7	3	11	15
United Kingdom <sup>1,2</sup>	18	18	-27	-34	-27	-23	-5	9	23
Japan	21	18	-9	-5	-11	-10	-4	11	5
India <sup>1,3</sup>	10	10	-18	-20	-18	-6	10	6	3
Korea, Republic of	9	10	-23	-30	-20	-11	8	17	32

1. Total Services

2. Seasonally adjusted

3. Data do not include part of the costs for freight transport and insurance (i.e. cif/fob adjustment).

## NOTES

Annualized short-term statistics may differ from the annual statistics disseminated through the WTO's online databases, publications or press releases. Data for the latest period are provisional.

1. Data can be downloaded on our website [data.wto.org](https://data.wto.org) by selecting the following indicators:

- Total merchandise exports - monthly
- Total merchandise imports - monthly
- Commercial services exports of selected economies - monthly
- Commercial services imports of selected economies - monthly

2. The publication is updated with the same frequency as the data release - around the 25th of the month.

3. The economies/territories shown in the publication represent a selection of our coverage of reporting economies and territories. In particular, the reporter "European Union" now reflects the current membership of 27 economies (no longer including the United Kingdom).

For more information on the scope and methodology of the time series, please refer to the [metadata](#).

Questions? Comments?

Contact us at [statistics@wto.org](mailto:statistics@wto.org)