

MERCHANDISE TRADE VOLUME

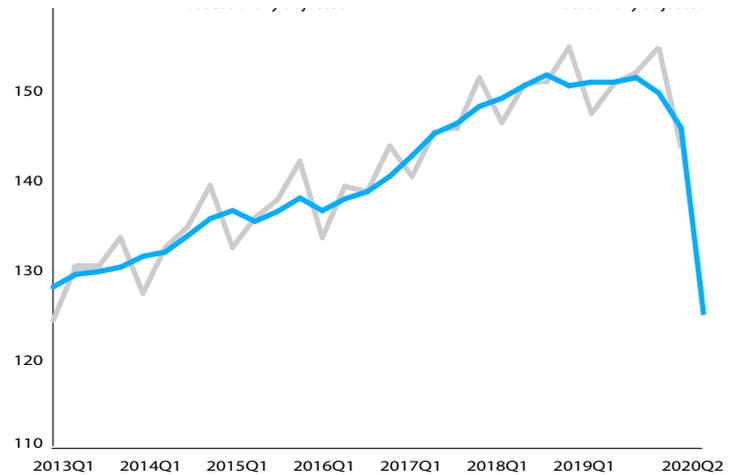
UPDATED ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2020

-14.3%

World merchandise trade volume¹ decreased by 14.3% in the second quarter of 2020 over the previous quarter, in seasonally adjusted terms. Economies across the globe implemented strict lockdown measures throughout the period to combat the spread of Covid-19, which led to the sharp decline in trade volume.

1. Average of exports and imports.
Source: WTO-UNCTAD

Indices, 2005=100



World merchandise exports decreased by 15% in Q2. All regions recorded declines, with exports falling most sharply in North America (-24.5%). South & Central America and Asia's exports fell the least (-5.3% and -6.1%) as Asia began to re-emerge from imposed lockdowns and demand for its inputs rose. World imports contracted by 13.6% with Europe recording the steepest decline (-19.3%).

Quarter-over-quarter growth, %, seasonally adjusted

	Exports				Imports			
	2019Q3	2019Q4	2020Q1	2020Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4	2020Q1	2020Q2
World	0.4	-0.8	-2.8	-15.0	0.2	-1.4	-2.5	-13.6
North America	0.4	-0.4	-1.5	-24.5	0.3	-2.4	-2.2	-14.5
South & Central America	-2.3	0.7	-1.6	-5.3	-0.1	-3.5	-1.1	-13.7
Europe	0.2	0.6	-4.3	-21.8	-0.3	-1.7	-2.9	-19.3
Asia	1.4	-2.2	-1.7	-6.1	0.2	-0.9	-0.7	-7.1
Other ¹	-0.1	-2.6	-3.3	-2.6	1.7	0.4	-8.7	-9.1

Color Key -  +

1. Includes the Caribbean
2. Comprise of Africa, Middle East and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
Source: WTO-UNCTAD

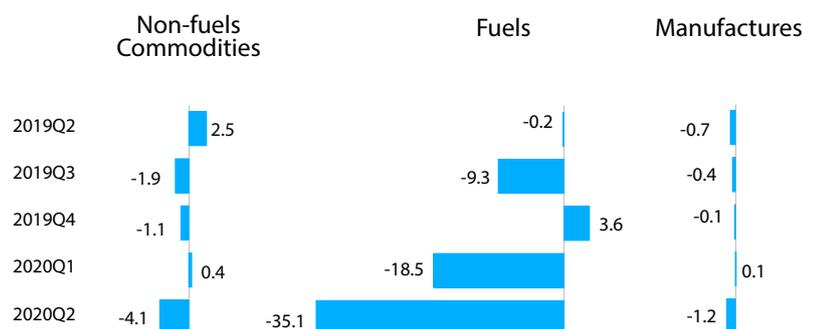
Data can be retrieved in [WTO Data](#) by selecting "Merchandise export volume indices, seasonally adjusted - quarterly" and "Merchandise import volume indices, seasonally adjusted - quarterly"

MERCHANDISE TRADE PRICES & VALUES

Prices for fuels continued to fall registering a second quarter of declines (-35.1%) as economies came to a halt in an attempt to counter the Covid-19 pandemic. Non-fuel commodities also fell by 4.1% and manufactures declined by 1.2% year-on-year.

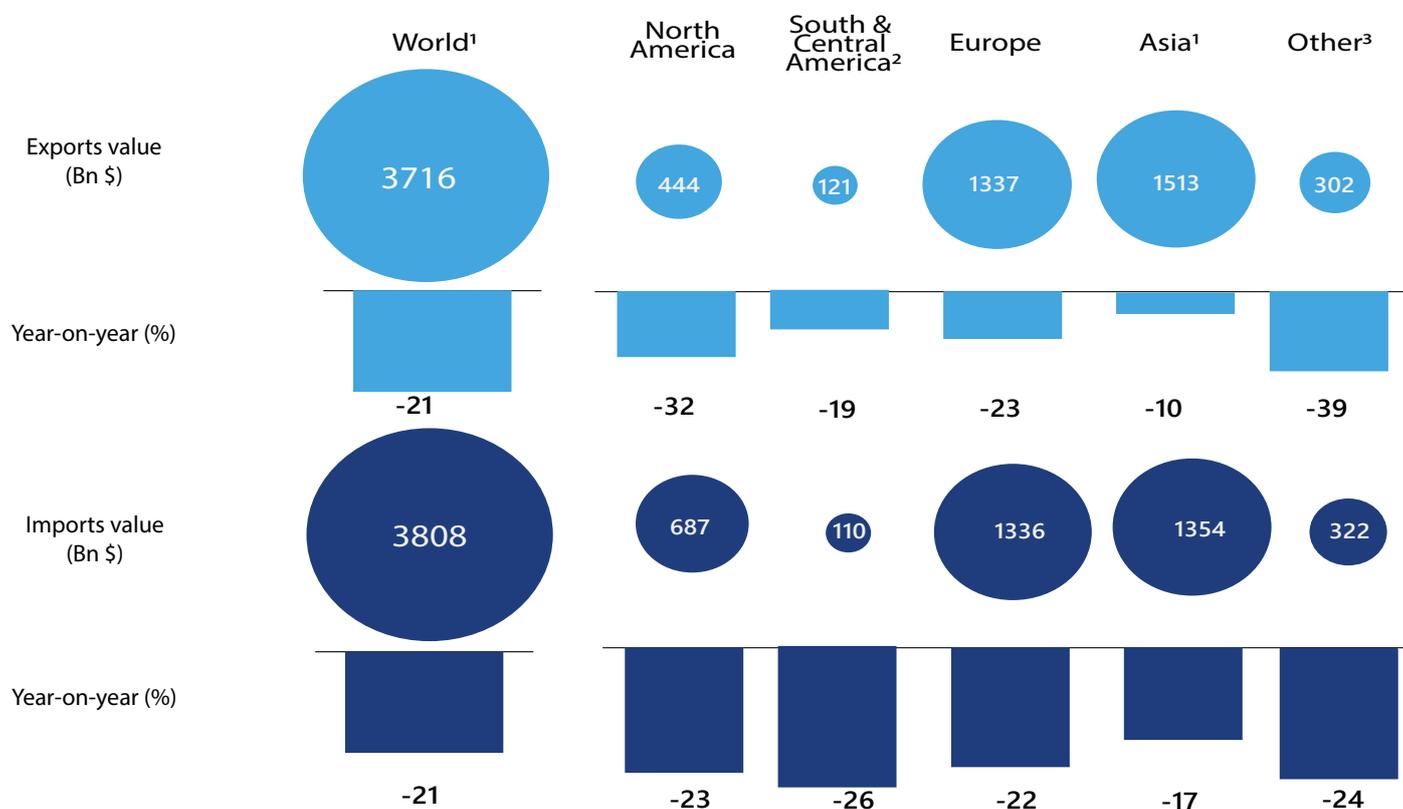
Data can be retrieved in [WTO Data](#) by selecting "Export and Import prices of manufacturing goods - Monthly"
Source: WTO

Quarter-over-quarter growth, %



SECOND QUARTER 2020 MERCHANDISE TRADE

World trade also dropped in value terms, falling by a fifth (21%) year-over-year. All regions recorded negative growth in Q2. The Americas were particularly affected. North America's exports plunged by 32% while South & Central America's imports were down 26%.



1. Includes significant re-exports or imports for re-exports.

2. Includes the Caribbean

3. Comprising Africa, the Middle East and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

Source: WTO

Data can be retrieved in [WTO Data](#) by selecting "Total merchandise exports - quarterly" and "Total merchandise imports - quarterly"

NOTES

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

1. The publication is updated with the same frequency as the data release.

Q1 Around the 20th of June

Q2 Around the 20th of September

Q3 Around the 20th of December

Q4 end-March / early April, along with the release of annual data.

2. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the [metadata](#).

Questions? Comments?

Contact us at statistics@wto.org