

MERCHANDISE TRADE VALUE

UPDATED ON 31 MARCH 2021

2%

World merchandise trade increased by **2%** in the fourth quarter of 2020 over the previous year, a return to positive year-on-year growth after several months of declines. The increase was largely driven by Asia and Europe, while in other regions trade performance remained subdued.

Source: WTO

Billions USD

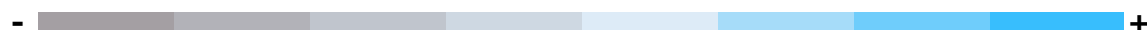


World merchandise exports increased by **3% in Q4 2020**. Exports expanded by 5% in Europe and by 9% in Asia, led by China. However, in Other regions, exports contracted by 20% compared with the same period of 2019. Imports were up 5% in Europe and 3% in North America, while they stagnated in Asia.

Year-on-year growth, %

	Exports				Imports			
	2020Q1	2020Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4	2020Q1	2020Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4
World	-7	-21	-4	3	-5	-21	-6	2
North America	-2	-32	-11	-3	-5	-23	-7	3
South & Central America ¹	-7	-19	-10	-4	-6	-26	-23	-2
Europe	-5	-23	-2	5	-6	-22	-3	5
Asia	-7	-10	2	9	-4	-17	-6	0
Other	-16	-39	-23	-20	-4	-23	-12	-5

Color Key



1. Includes the Caribbean

Source: WTO

NOTES

Annualized short-term statistics may differ from the annual statistics disseminated through [WTO Data Portal](#), 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 25th of June
- Q2 Around the 25th of September
- Q3 Around the 20th of December
- Q4 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

Source: WTO