World merchandise trade volume fell by -0.8% in the third quarter of 2021 over the previous quarter, in seasonally adjusted terms. Quarterly growth rates are to a considerable extent a function of the decline suffered by each region in 2020, explaining the regional disparity in the data below.

World merchandise exports declined by 1% in Q3 2021 with exports from South and Central America contracting the most (-2.5%). North America, Europe and Asia also recorded a dip in exports due to a weaker than expected import demand in the quarter. On the import side, Asian imports declined the most (-1.3%) in Q3 2021.

Prices for fuels showed an increase of 23.7% in Q3 2021, as economies competed to secure natural gas supplies for the winter, thus driving up the price. Prices for non-fuel commodities fell by 1.7% while manufactures became 0.7% more expensive as compared to the previous quarter.
NOTES

Annualized short-term statistics may differ from the annual statistics disseminated through the WTO Stats 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