

MERCHANDISE TRADE VOLUME

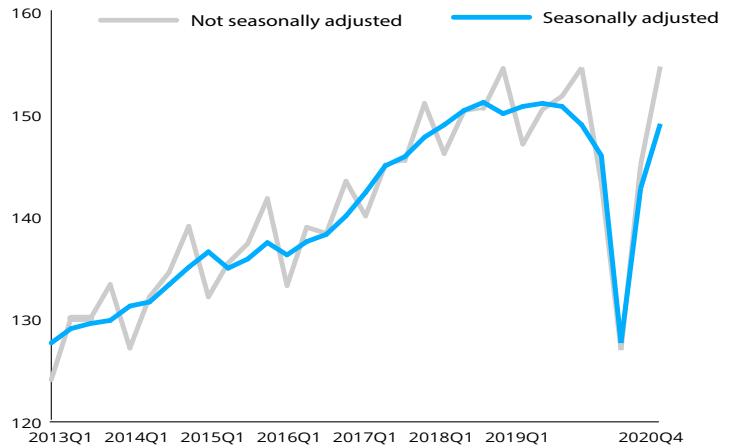
UPDATED ON 31 MARCH 2021

4.4%

World merchandise trade volume¹ increased by **4.4%** in the fourth quarter of 2020 over the previous quarter, in seasonally adjusted terms. Growth continued in the fourth quarter, but at a more moderate rate as the resurgence of the COVID-19 virus necessitated tighter restrictions in certain economies.

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

Indices, 2005=100

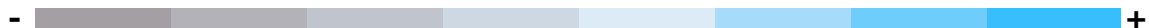


World merchandise exports increased by 3.9% in Q4 2020. Exports from North America (5.5%), Europe (4.9%), and Asia (3.5%) grew in Q4 2020 but at a less dramatic rate than the previous quarter. On the import side, South and Central America reported a rebound in imports in Q4 2020, increasing 16.5% from Q3 2020. Other regions showed continued positive growth of imports.

Quarter-on-quarter growth, %, seasonally adjusted

	Exports				Imports			
	2020Q1	2020Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4	2020Q1	2020Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4
World	-2.2	-13.5	13.8	3.9	-1.8	-11.6	9.9	5.0
North America	-0.1	-24.7	22.4	5.5	-1.8	-14.3	16.3	5.4
South & Central America ¹	-1.0	-6.6	5.0	0.0	-1.3	-13.3	-0.6	16.5
Europe	-4.3	-17.8	18.7	4.9	-2.9	-15.0	15.6	4.3
Asia	-0.3	-6.1	10.0	3.5	0.4	-5.9	2.5	4.4
Other	-4.1	-7.1	2.2	0.8	-5.9	-11.8	5.0	5.0

Color Key



1. Includes the Caribbean

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"

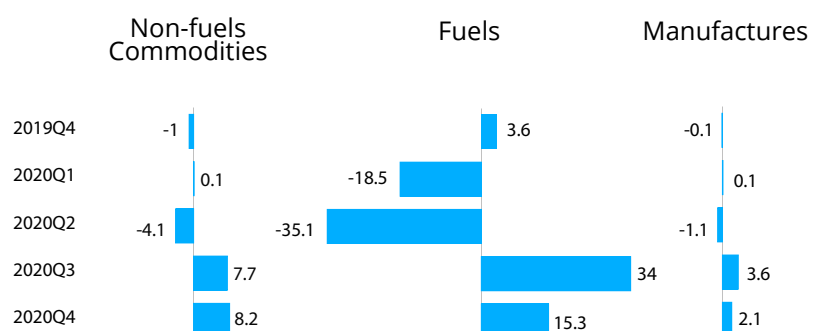
MERCHANDISE TRADE PRICES

Prices for fuels continued to grow, rising 15.3% in 2020Q4, but at a slower rate compared to the previous quarter as COVID-19 lockdowns weighed on demand. Prices for non-fuel commodities (8.2%) and manufactures (2.1%) also continued to increase.

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

Source: IMF and WTO.

Quarter-on-quarter growth, %





NOTES

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