Technical notes

Ranks in world trade of merchandise and commercial services are defined first referring to European Union (EU) members as individual traders and second referring to the EU as one trader (i.e. excluding individual EU members).

Merchandise trade (customs-based statistics)

The share in world total exports and imports of merchandise for individual economies is calculated using world trade including intra-EU trade. For the EU as one trading partner the share is calculated on the basis of world trade excluding intra-EU trade.

Breakdown by main commodity group according to the definitions contained in the WTO World Trade Statistical Review 2020.

Agricultural products refer to food (SITC Rev. 3 sections 0, 1, 4 and division 22) and raw materials (SITC Rev. 3 divisions 21, 23, 24, 25 and 26). It differs from the definition contained in the WTO Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) (see below).

Fuels and mining products include ores and other minerals; fuels and non-ferrous metals.

Manufactures refer to iron and steel, chemicals, other semi-manufactures, machinery and transport equipment, textiles, clothing and other consumer goods. Please note that due to the products not classified in the three main product groups, the sum of shares may not add up to a 100.

Breakdown by main destination and origin: EU members are grouped as one trading partner. Re-imports are also included.

Agricultural Products, Top exported products and Top imported products are the top five traded agricultural goods of an economy at the HS 4-digit level. According to the definition of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), agricultural goods refer to HS chapters 1 to 24 (excluding fish and fish products) and a number of manufactured agricultural products (for further information see “The Legal Texts, The Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Negotiations”, WTO). This definition does not correspond to the definition of agricultural products presented in the breakdown of merchandise trade by main commodity group (see above).

Non-Agricultural Products, Top exported products and Top imported products (NAMA products) are the top five non-agricultural goods of an economy at the HS 4-digit level. Non-agricultural goods refer to the products not covered by the WTO Agreement on Agriculture.

Trade in Commercial Services (Balance of Payments based statistics)

Commercial services equal total services minus “government goods and services, not included elsewhere”.

The share of commercial services in world total exports and in world total imports for individual economies is calculated using world trade including intra-EU trade. For the EU as one trading reporter the share is calculated on the basis of world trade excluding intra-EU trade.

The breakdown by main services item follows the definition of the 6th edition of the IMF Balance of Payments Manual (BPM6).

Transport cover sea, air and other including land, internal waterway, space and pipeline transport services that are performed by residents of one economy for those of another and that involve the carriage of passengers, the movement of goods (freight), rentals (charters) of carriers with crew, and related supporting and auxiliary services, including postal and courier services. Please note that due to postal and courier services not classified in the breakdown by mode of transport, the sum of shares may not add up to a 100.

General Notes

Minor discrepancies between constituent figures and totals are due to rounding.

Annual average percentage changes are calculated using a geometric average. In case of data unavailability for the year 2019, the average annual percentage change 2010 – 2019 refers to 2010 - latest available year.

Unless otherwise indicated,
(i) all value figures are expressed in U.S. dollars;
(ii) trade figures include the intra-trade of free trade areas, customs unions, geographical and other groups;
(iii) merchandise trade figures are on a customs basis;
(iv) merchandise exports are f.o.b. and merchandise imports are c.i.f.
(v) European Union refers to the latest member composition as of 1 February 2020 (excluding the United Kingdom).

Data for the latest year are provisional.

The statistical data in this publication are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant statistical authorities. The use of such data by the WTO is without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, or to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries.

Due to limitations in data availability, the data for “breakdown by main commodity group”, “breakdown by main destination and origin” and “top traded products” may be less recent than data for total merchandise trade.

Comments and enquiries on this booklet should be addressed to statistics@wto.org

Closing date: 14 August 2020.
Symbols and abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>na</td>
<td>Not available, not reported</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOA</td>
<td>WTO Agreement on Agriculture</td>
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<td>NAMA</td>
<td>WTO Non-Agricultural Market Access</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System</td>
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<tr>
<td>GATS</td>
<td>General Agreement on Trade in Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>FATS</td>
<td>Foreign AffiliaTes Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICTs</td>
<td>Refers to “Telecommunications, computer, and information services”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual property</td>
<td>Refers to “Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal &amp; cultural</td>
<td>Refers to “Personal, cultural and recreational services”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Travel covers the goods and services acquired by a traveller while outside the territory of residence. Travel can be undertaken for personal or business reasons.

Other commercial services include Construction; Insurance and pension services; Financial services; Charges for the use of intellectual property, n.i.e.; Telecommunications, computer and information services; Other business services; Personal, cultural and recreational services.

Goods-related services cover Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others and Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.

Breakdown by main destination and origin: EU members (current membership, not including the United Kingdom) are grouped as one trading partner. If data on EU as a trading partner is not available, data on EU (28) as trading partner may be taken.

FATS (Foreign AffiliaTes Statistics) refer to data for foreign affiliates for which foreign investors own more than 50 per cent of the voting power at each stage of the ownership chain. Sales measure gross operating revenues, less rebates, discounts and returns. In the profiles FATS sales refer to affiliates primarily engaged in services activities and exclude wholesale and retail trade and repair activities. For individual economy’s coverage refer to tables A61 and A62 in the publication WTO World Trade Statistical Review 2020.

Industrial property

Data refer to the annual number of applications for patents, trademarks and industrial designs in the name of residents and non-residents of the considered economy, recorded by filing office.

Statistical sources

Eurostat; the International Monetary Fund; the International Trade Centre; the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; the United Nations Statistics Division; the United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database; the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; the World Intellectual Property Organization; the World Trade Organization and national statistics.

EU refers to the EU members Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. The Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu is referred to as Chinese Taipei in the tables.