GRADUATION PROGRESS

Criteria monitored by the United Nations for graduation from the LDC category:

- **GNI**: Gross National Income per capita, $  
- **EVI**: Economic Vulnerability Index  
- **HAI**: Human Assets Index

The Solomon Islands met the criteria for graduation. It is scheduled to graduate in 2024. (Resolution adopted by the General Assembly: A/RES/73/133)

Trade Impacts of LDC Graduation examines the implications of graduation in terms of LDCs' participation in the multilateral trading system, market access opportunities and development assistance.

EVOLUTION OF EXPORTS

**Merchandise exports** of the Solomon Islands averaged USD 470 million during 2011-2019. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, they decreased from USD 461 million in 2019 to USD 366 million in 2020, below the 2011 level.

**Commercial services exports** of the Solomon Islands averaged USD 117 million during 2011-2019. They stood at USD 125 million in 2019 but dropped below USD 50 million in 2020, mainly due to a collapse of travel services induced by the pandemic.

The Solomon Islands’ trade deficit averaged USD 135 million over the period 2011-2019 and stood at USD 197 million in 2020. With notable exceptions in 2019 and 2020, it was mainly attributable to trade in commercial services.

Top-5 export destinations accounted for more than three quarters of all goods exports of the Solomon Islands in 2020.

The biggest market was China, accounting for more than half of its goods exports.

Wood products represented roughly two thirds of its goods exports.

Top-5 export product groups, 2020
Share of global imports from the Solomon Islands

Bound tariffs (simple average)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Group</th>
<th>Average preference underutilization rate (2016-2019)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-agricultural goods</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Binding coverage

| Total | 100% |

Tariffs applied by the Solomon Islands to their imports (simple average)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Agricultural products</th>
<th>Non-agricultural products</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: WTO and SDG Trade Monitor.