Statistical sources

Most frequently used sources for statistics are:

**EUROSTAT**, Comext and on-line databases  
**FAO**, FAOSTAT Agriculture database  
**IMF**, Balance of Payments Statistics  
**IMF**, International Financial Statistics  
**IMF**, World Economic Outlook database  
**OECD**, Main Economic Indicators  
**OECD**, Measuring Globalisation: The Role of Multinationals in OECD Economies  
**UNIDO**, National Accounts Statistics Database  
**UNSD**, Comtrade database  
(for OECD members the UNSD-OECD Joint Trade Data Collection and Processing system)  
**UNSD**, International Trade Statistics Yearbook  
**UNSD**, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics  
**UNSD**, Servicetrade database  
**World Bank**, World Development Indicators

These sources are supplemented by national publications and other international databases and Secretariat estimates.

Figures for total merchandise trade are largely derived from IMF, International Financial Statistics. Data on merchandise trade by origin, destination and product are mainly obtained from Eurostat’s Comext database, the Trade Data Monitor and UNSD’s Comtrade database. Some inconsistencies in the aggregate export and import data for the same country or territory between sources are inevitable. These can be attributed to the use of different systems of recording trade, to the way in which for example IMF and UNSD have converted data expressed in national currencies into dollars, and revisions which can be more readily incorporated in the IMF data.

Statistics on trade in commercial services are mainly drawn from the IMF Balance of Payments Statistics or from the Trade in Services by Partner Country dataset of the OECD. Data for European Union members, as well as the EU(28) aggregate are drawn from Eurostat’s on-line database. For other economies that do not report to the IMF (e.g., Chinese Taipei) data are drawn from national sources. Estimations for missing data are mainly based on national statistics. GDP series in current dollars are mainly derived from the IMF World Economic Outlook database.

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Closing date for merchandise trade statistics (Customs basis) is 11 March 2018 and commercial services (Balance of Payments basis) is 30 April 2018. For foreign affiliates trade in services statistics the closing date is 10 May 2018.