



Seminar on International Trade statistics:

Finding answers for a changing world,
new challenges and opportunities



Thursday, 25 February 2010
Conference Room A
Temporary North Lawn Building
3:00 - 5:00pm

Highlights of the UNSD current trade statistics outputs and future work

Presentation by Matthias Reister

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Trade Statistics Branch, United Nations Statistics Division

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Highlights

of International Merchandise Trade Statistics at UNSD - besides our methodological work on concepts and definitions (IMTS2010), compiler guidance and trade classification (SITC)

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- UN Comtrade  UN comtrade

-  New Trade Statistics Yearbook

- Analytical trade tables  (published in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics)

- New Trade Statistics knowledgebase 

-  Newsletter

What is UN comtrade ?

- The United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database maintained by UN Statistics Division / Trade Statistics Branch
- Contains detailed imports and exports statistics reported by statistical authorities of close to 200 countries or areas since year 1962 in various commodity classifications
- Considered the most comprehensive merchandise trade database available in Internet with more than 1.75 billions records
- Referenced by other databases as ITC's tools, BACI, WITS, etc

From data providers to end users

In 2009, 4.1 millions data queries and 4.3 billions records downloaded

End users: governments, academics, companies, international organizations, etc

Analytical databases:
BACI, WITS, ECLAC SIGCI

Re-dissemination:
UNData, ITC's Tools, ESCWA Comtrade

UN Comtrade Dissemination

UN Comtrade Collection and Processing System

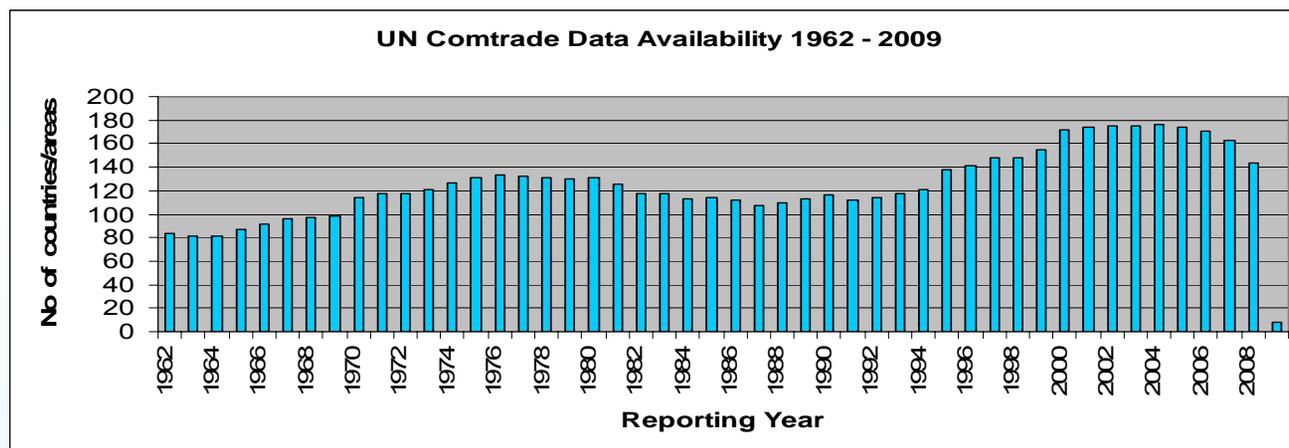
In 2009, collection of
350 datasets and
release of 501 datasets

Data Providers

Data Providers

Data Providers

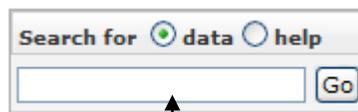
Coverage & Data Availability



- A typical record is – for instance – the exports of cars from Germany to the United States in 2009 in terms of value (US dollars), weight and supplementary quantity (number of cars)
- Data available in various commodity classifications: HS (up to 6 digits), SITC, and BEC
- The database is continuously updated. Whenever trade data are received, they are standardized by the UN Statistics Division and then added to UN Comtrade

Main Features

Data Extraction



- Various basic extraction methods: Text search, Short Cut Query, Basic Selection, Express Selection
 - Bulk download up to 20 millions records per query
- Comtrade data also disseminated in UNdata → 
- Data extraction via Web Service/API for large unattended data transfer and possibility of data reusability by others

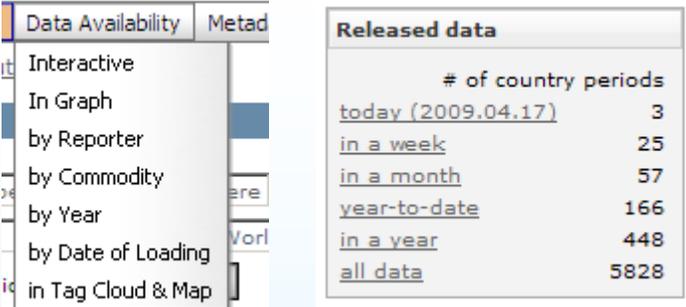
Personalization

- Save frequently used query; Set new data alert; Automated data extraction
- Create country or commodity groupings; Set frequently used countries / commodities
- Customize download/output format

Main Features (cont.)

Data Availability and Metadata

- Multiple way to view available data
- Each data release accompanied by Explanatory and Publication notes
- Individual footnote records also available



Released data	
	# of country periods
today (2009.04.17)	3
in a week	25
in a month	57
year-to-date	166
in a year	448
all data	5828

Support and Help

- Browse Knowledge Base for any questions
- Use Community Forum for peer support
- Chat during business hours 
- Single Point of Contact: comtrade@un.org

Most Popular Articles...

- ▶ [Q10062 - INFO: First Time User](#)
- ▶ [Q10173 - INFO: Commodity Trade Statistics Publications](#)
- ▶ [Q10102 - INFO: UN Comtrade Reference Tables](#)
- ▶ [Q10104 - INFO: Comtrade: Manuals & Documentations](#)
- ▶ [Q10146 - INFO: Data Query & Extraction Manual](#)

Latest Additions...

- ▶ [Q10259 - INFO: Areas NES codes redefined](#)
- ▶ [Q10050 - INFO: UN Comtrade SDMX](#)
- ▶ [Q10102 - INFO: UN Comtrade Reference Tables](#)
- ▶ [Q10256 - INFO: Areas not elsewhere specified \(Areas, NES\)](#)
- ▶ [Q10255 - FAQ: Values on different levels of HS/SITC Classification](#)

Summary

- Any individual records are available for free
- Updated continuously as data is received (usually within 3 days)
- Detailed data available in various commodity classifications
- Multiple ways of data extraction
- Comprehensive metadata
- Early SDMX adoption
- Navigation through data availability
- Personalization: customized aggregation, automated extraction
- Bulk data download and web services
- Users can re-disseminate limited number of records without explicit permission
- Referenced by others

Analytical Trade Tables

Monthly Bulletin of Statistics



Monthly (data t+3 months)

- Imports and exports for countries and regions in U.S. dollars and in national currency

Quarterly (most data t+3 months)

- External trade conversion factors
- Imports and exports trade indices, for countries and regions
- Trade values and indices for manufactured goods exports
- Trade values and indices for fuel imports

Annual:

- World exports by provenance and destination (in US dollars):
 - Totals
 - By commodity, total and for developed economies

Analytical Trade Tables

Annual Total Trade Tables

- Comparison of trade totals from two different sources:
 - UN Comtrade (UNSD)
 - International Financial Statistics (IFS)
- Provides totals of imports and exports for all countries beginning with the year 2000
- Latest edition: November 2009;
- Can be freely downloaded at:
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/imts/annual%20totals.htm>

International Trade Statistics Yearbook

Key Features

2008

International Trade Statistics Yearbook

Volume I
Trade by Country

Economic & Social Affairs



United States of America, including Puerto Rico and U.S.V.I.

Reports: CIF, by origin Reports: FOB, by last known destination Trade System: General

Overview (See graphs 1, 2, 3 and tables 1 and 2):
Since 2004, exports of the USA increased on average by 12.3 percent each year and amounted to 1 200 billion USD in 2008. During the same period, imports increased on average by 9.1 percent each year to 2 165 billion USD. The trade deficit increased 159 billion USD to 965 billion USD in 2008. Trade was in deficit with nearly all MDG regions. The largest deficit was recorded with Eastern Asia and amounted to 255 billion USD. Other major deficits were recorded with Developed Europe (-159 billion USD) and Latin America and the Caribbean (-97.3 billion USD). Trade was well diversified across partners: in 2008, 23 (respectively 20) major partners accounted for 80 percent of exports (respectively imports).

Graph 1: Total imports, exports and trade balance

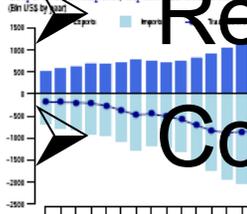


Table 2: Imports by SITC sections

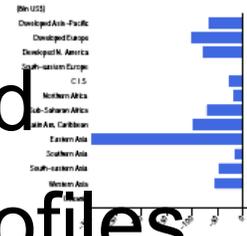
SITC	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
0-1	211 654	6.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
2-4	1 590.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
5	1 763.9	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
6	1 059.9	12.3	11.0	9.9	9.9
7	1 045.8	6.6	5.7	5.2	5.2
8	285.6	0.0	0.0	4.3	4.3
9	1 045.8	6.6	5.7	5.2	5.2

Table 3: Top 10 export commodities in 2008

HS Code	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	Unit
All COMMODITIES	1 200.8	1 233.1	1 100.0	1 000.0	1 000.0	USD bn
8803 Other motor cars, for example, self-propelled, assembled, complete	45.5	33.5	48.4	30.1	30.1	701
8703 Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport	35.4	44.8	50.7	37.6	37.6	701
8542 Electronic integrated circuits and microassemblies	46.3	42.0	41.0	37.6	37.6	701
8500 Commodities not specified according to heading	22.5	17.7	27.4	30.1	30.1	701
2710 Petroleum oils, other than crude	22.2	35.7	51.9	35.4	35.4	701
8708 Parts and accessories of the motor vehicles of heading 8701 to 8703	33.5	34.0	31.7	28.4	28.4	702
8411 Turbines, turbo-propellers and other gas turbines	22.7	37.2	32.6	32.6	32.6	704
8471 Automatic data processing machines and units thereof	26.6	25.3	28.7	28.7	28.7	702
8503 Parts of goods of heading 8501 or 8502	21.7	22.2	21.4	16.6	16.6	702
8518 Instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary	15.4	17.3	21.1	17.3	17.3	702

United States of America, including Puerto Rico and U.S.V.I.

Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG Regions in 2008



Graph 3: Partner concentration of trade in 2008

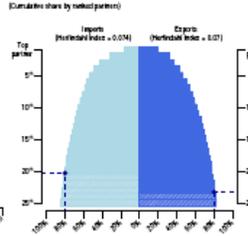


Table 4: Exports by principal countries and SITC sections in 2008

Country	Total	0-1	2-4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Canada	1 200 866.9	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	42.6	10.3	4.3	100
China	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.9	0.0	13.7	100
Mexico	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	100
China	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	100
Japan	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Germany	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
United Kingdom	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Netherlands	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Rip of Korea	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
India	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
France	1 200 866.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100

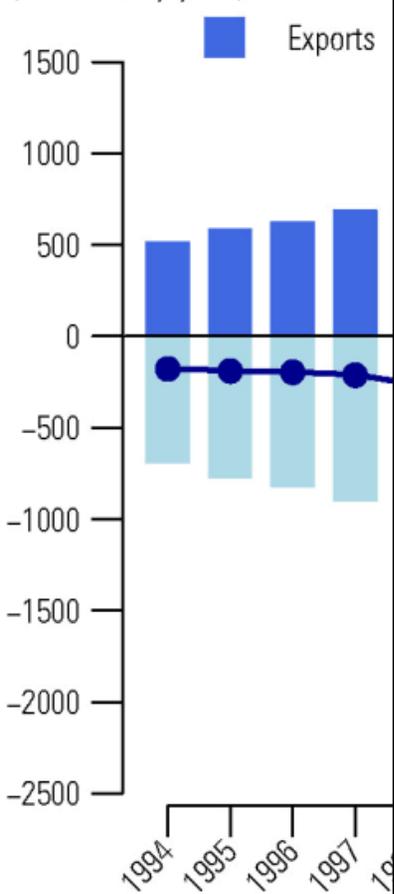
Imports Profile (See tables 2 and 5):
In 2008, imports of machinery and transport equipment (SITC section 7) dropped by 3.3 percent and accounted for 34 percent of imported goods while imports of mineral fuels, lubricants and related products (SITC section 3) increased by 34.6 percent in 2008 (and overall, by 100 percent since 2004) and accounted for 31.2 percent of imports. Top imported products over the last three years were crude petroleum with HS code 2709, motor vehicles for the transport of persons (HS code 8703) and iron ores and concentrates (HS code 2601).

Table 5: Top 10 import commodities in 2008

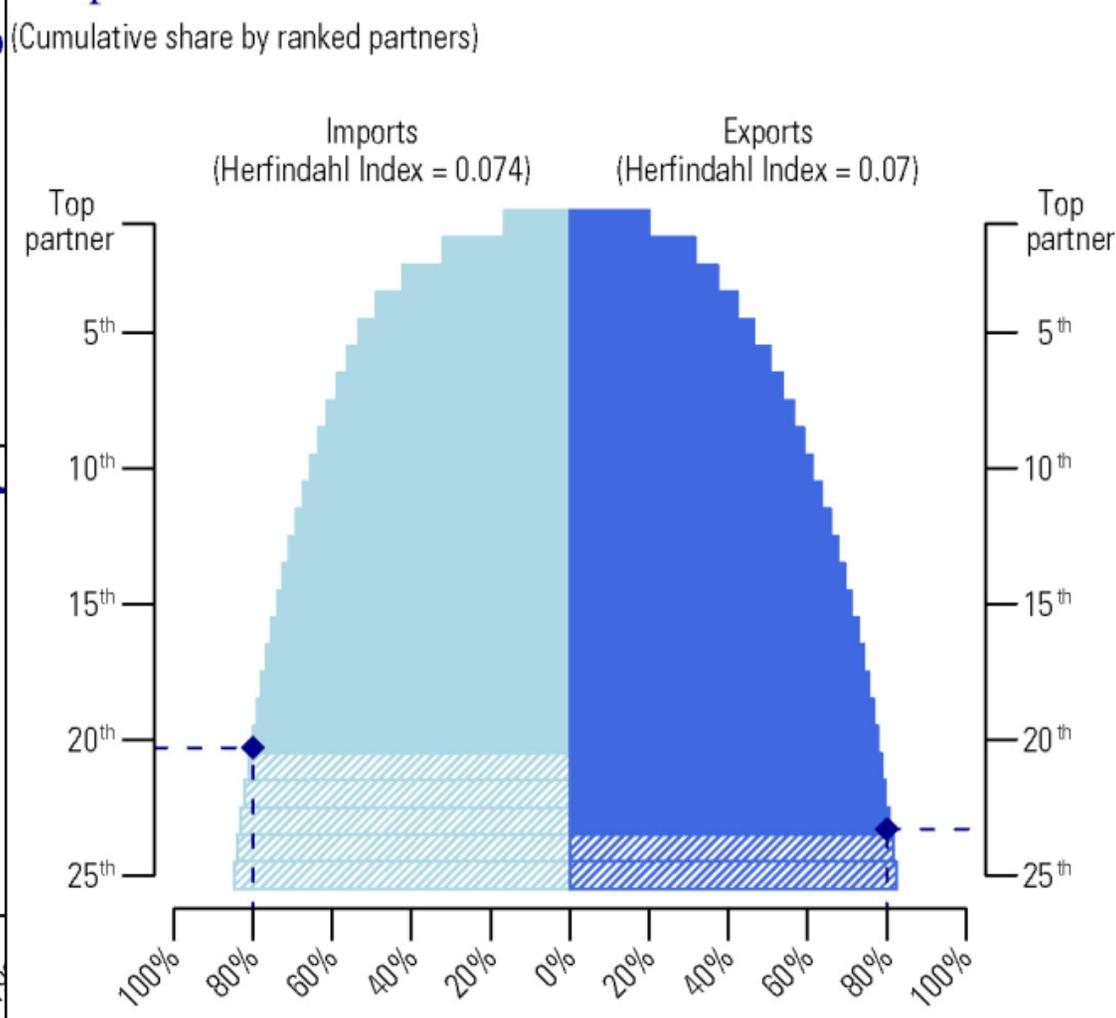
HS Code	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	Unit
All COMMODITIES	2 165.0	2 017.1	2 164.8	2 164.8	2 164.8	893
2710 Petroleum oils, crude	233.2	233.0	353.4	353.4	353.4	701
8703 Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport	137.5	136.3	127.4	127.4	127.4	701
2711 Petroleum oils, other than crude	66.1	77.1	60.3	60.3	60.3	701
8471 Automatic data processing machines and units thereof	68.7	68.6	65.2	65.2	65.2	702
8400 Compressors not specified according to kind	59.0	61.2	64.9	64.9	64.9	701
8708 Parts and accessories of the motor vehicles of heading 8701 to 8703	44.4	45.5	41.0	41.0	41.0	704
8523 Transceivers (excluding goods of heading 8523.20, 30.08 or 30.09)	38.2	40.6	44.5	44.5	44.5	704
3304 Medicaments (excluding goods of heading 3302, 30.08 or 30.09)	34.0	40.1	40.2	40.2	40.2	702
2711 Petroleum oils and other gas-hydrates	34.5	33.5	36.4	36.4	36.4	701
8518 Reception apparatus for television	27.0	32.5	34.1	34.1	34.1	701

Country Profile (US)

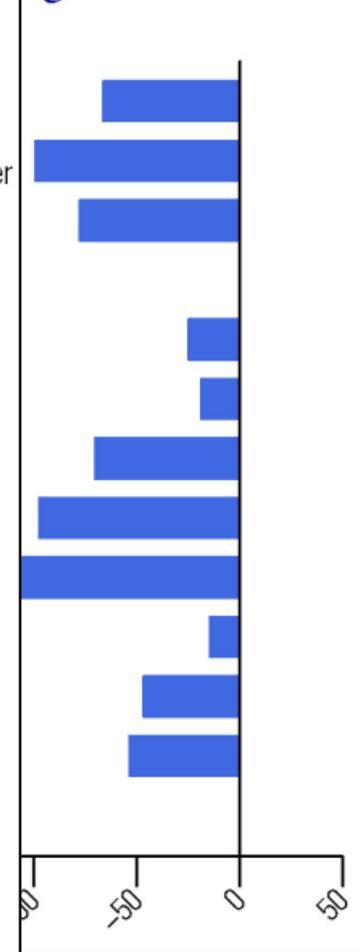
Graph 1: Total imp
(Bln US\$ by year)



Graph 3: Partner concentration of trade in 2008
(Cumulative share by ranked partners)

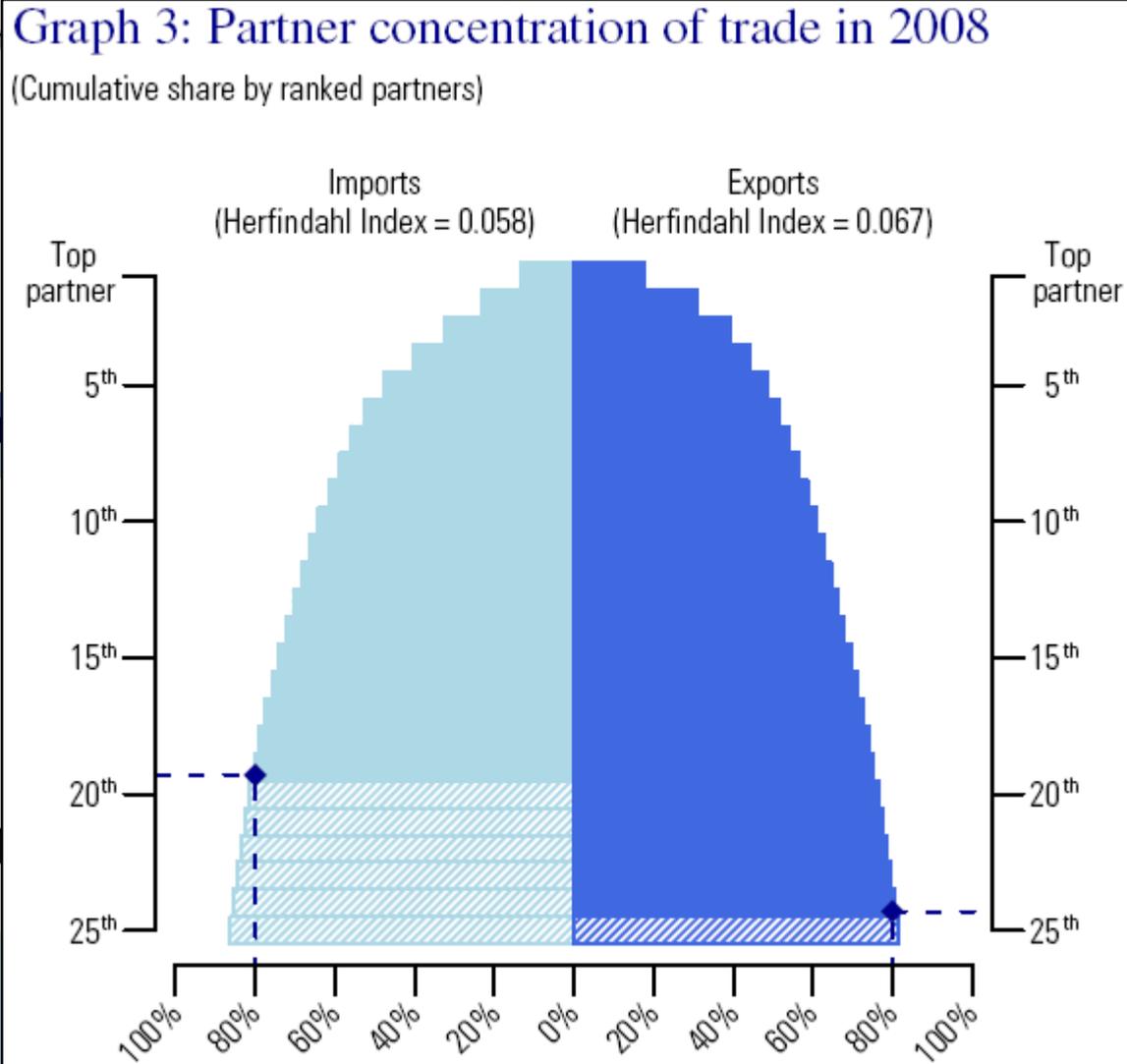
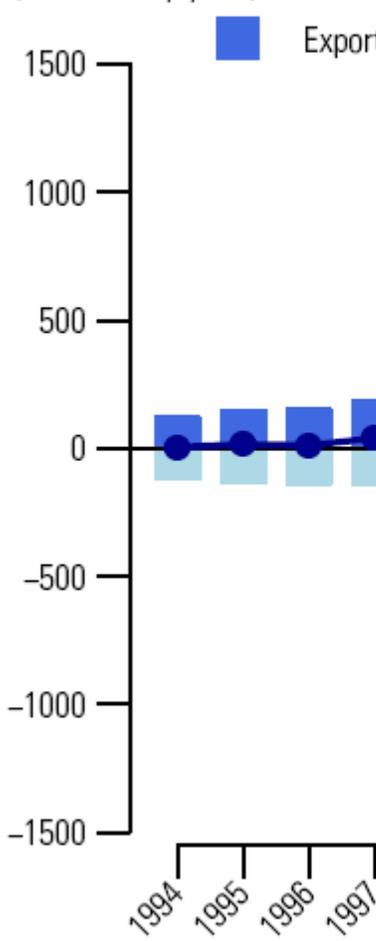


Regions in 2008



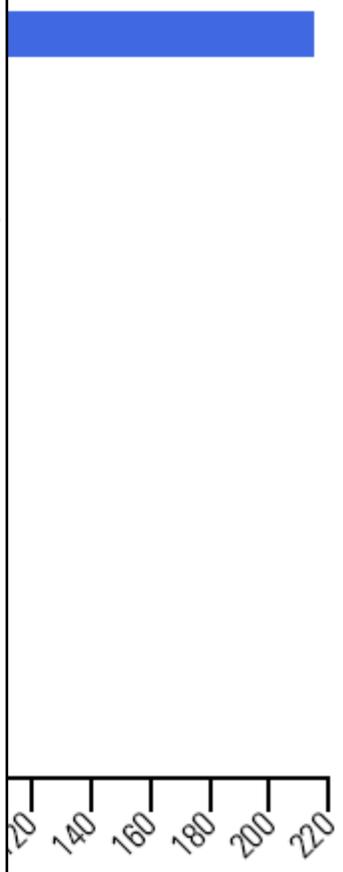
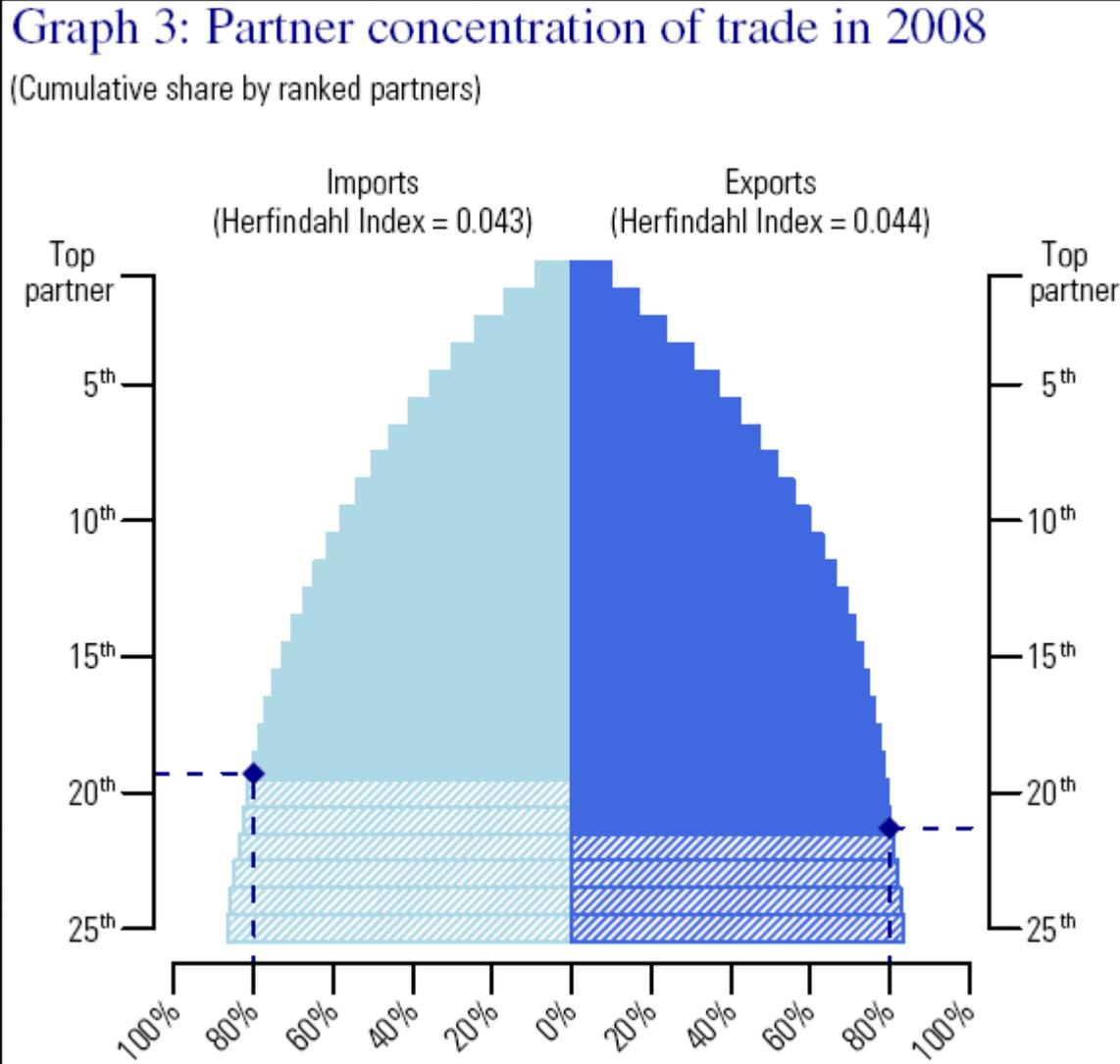
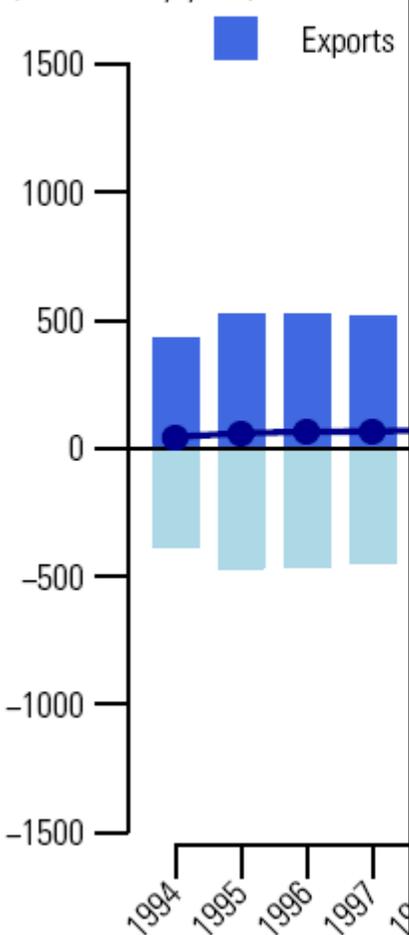
Country Profile (China)

Graph 1: Total imports, exports and trade balance (Bln US\$ by year) Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG Regions in 2008



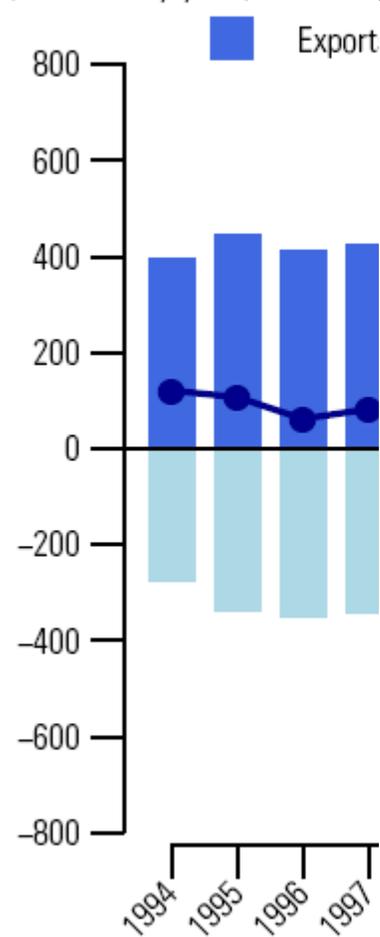
Country Profile (Germany)

Graph 1: Total imports, exports and trade balance (Bln US\$ by year) Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG Regions in 2008 (Bln US\$)



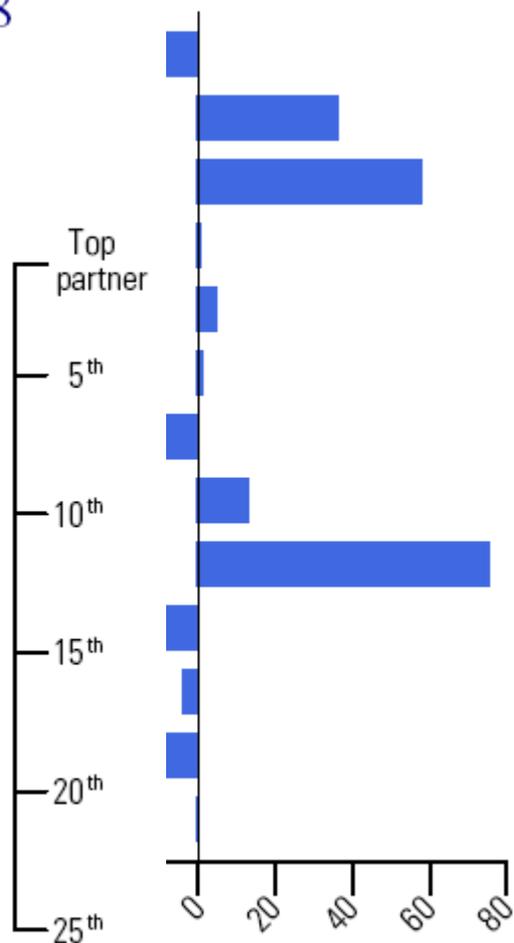
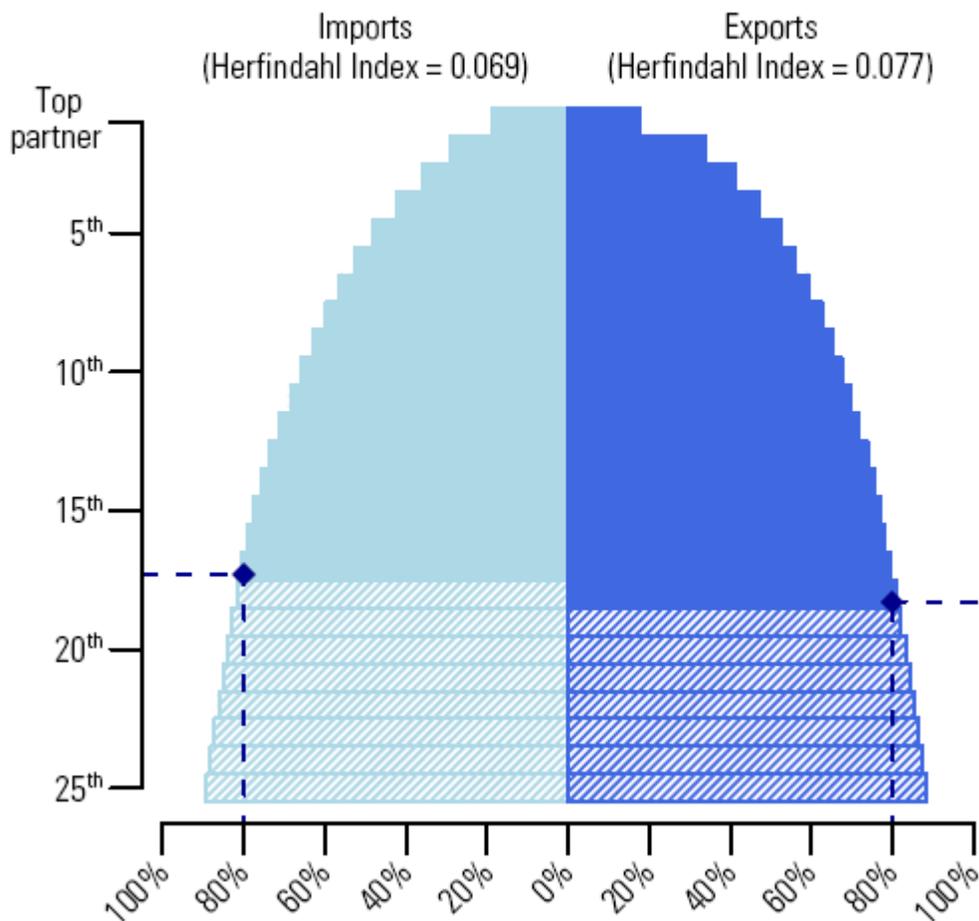
Country Profile (Japan)

Graph 1: Total imports, exports and Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG Regions in 2008
(Bln US\$ by year)



Graph 3: Partner concentration of trade in 2008
(Cumulative share by ranked partners)

(Cumulative share by ranked partners)



2008 Edition: Commodity Profile

Includes

- A short analysis of trade by commodity
- Trade values 1994-2008
- Top importing and exporting countries
- Trade balance by MDG regions

Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude 333

Since 2004, the value (in current prices) of exports of crude petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (SITC group 333) increased on average by 28.8 percent each year and amounted to US\$1.5 trillion in 2008 (table 2). Graph 1 shows that in 2008, its exports increased by 40.8 percent, compared by 42.9 percent for world exports of mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (SITC section 3) and 15.3 percent for total world exports. It accounted for 53.9 percent of world exports of mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (SITC section 3) and 8.4 percent of total world exports (table 1).

Top exporting countries were Saudi Arabia, Russian Federation and Iran (table 2). They accounted respectively for 15.8, 10.1 and 5.7 percent of world exports (see table 2). USA, the top importing country accounted for 23.3 percent of world imports (see table 3). Other major importing countries were Japan and China. By MDG regions (graph 2), top trade surplus was recorded by Western Asia (US\$459.8 bn), Commonwealth of Independent States (US\$222.4 bn) and Sub-Saharan Africa (US\$165.2 bn). Top trade deficits were recorded by Developed North America (US\$329.5 bn), Developed Europe (US\$329.8 bn) and Eastern Asia (US\$245.3 bn).

Table 1: Imports (Imp.) and exports (Exp.), 1994-2008, in current prices

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Values in Bln US\$	Imp. 181.0	204.8	240.0	258.5	177.5	235.6	362.0	340.2	340.2	427.5	577.0	700.0	901.6	1076.0	1592.8
	Exp. 196.0	208.1	250.0	241.3	162.5	233.2	326.3	316.1	323.6	360.8	547.0	732.6	945.3	1098.7	1539.2
As a percentage of															
SITC section 3	Imp. 53.5	53.6	54.5	54.6	50.7	54.6	53.3	54.5	55.1	54.6	55.3	55.6	56.0	55.3	55.4
	Exp. 53.0	55.1	55.0	53.1	48.1	55.1	55.0	53.3	54.3	54.6	54.6	54.9	54.3	54.7	53.0
As a percentage of															
world trade	Imp. 4.2	4.0	4.7	4.6	3.2	4.0	6.0	5.4	5.2	5.6	6.2	7.6	8.1	7.7	9.7
	Exp. 4.4	4.1	4.8	4.4	3.0	4.2	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.3	6.0	7.6	7.0	7.7	10.4

Graph 1: Annual growth rates of exports, 1994-2008
(in percentage by year)

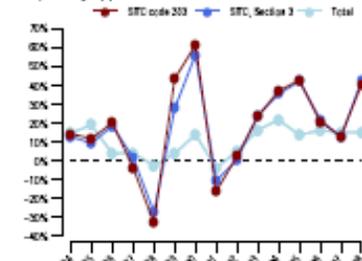


Table 2: Top exporting countries or areas in 2008

Country or area	Value (million US\$)	Exp. Growth (%) 04/08	World share (%) 07/08	Exp. Growth (%) 07/08
World	1505 175.2	28.8	40.8	100.0
Saudi Arabia	249162.6	26.8	16.4	15.0
Russian Federation	151857.0	25.8	10.1	25.0
Iran	257126.7	25.0	17.1	41.7
United Arab Emirates	80481.7	24.5	5.3	27.1
Venezuela	77862.0	24.3	5.2	42.2
Nigeria	74832.1	26.0	5.0	47.2
Angola	70344.9	53.7	4.6	51.0
Netherlands	63395.3	15.6	4.4	55.3
Canada	62983.1	24.6	4.2	60.5
Iraq	58200.0	24.6	3.9	64.3
Libya	57182.7	24.7	3.8	68.1
Kuwait	52070.7	24.1	3.6	71.7
Algeria	44454.0	25.1	3.0	74.7
Azerbaijan	44 170.9	110.2	2.9	77.6
Kazakhstan	43 517.0	24.7	2.9	80.5

Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG regions 2008

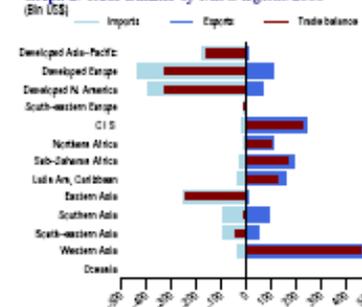


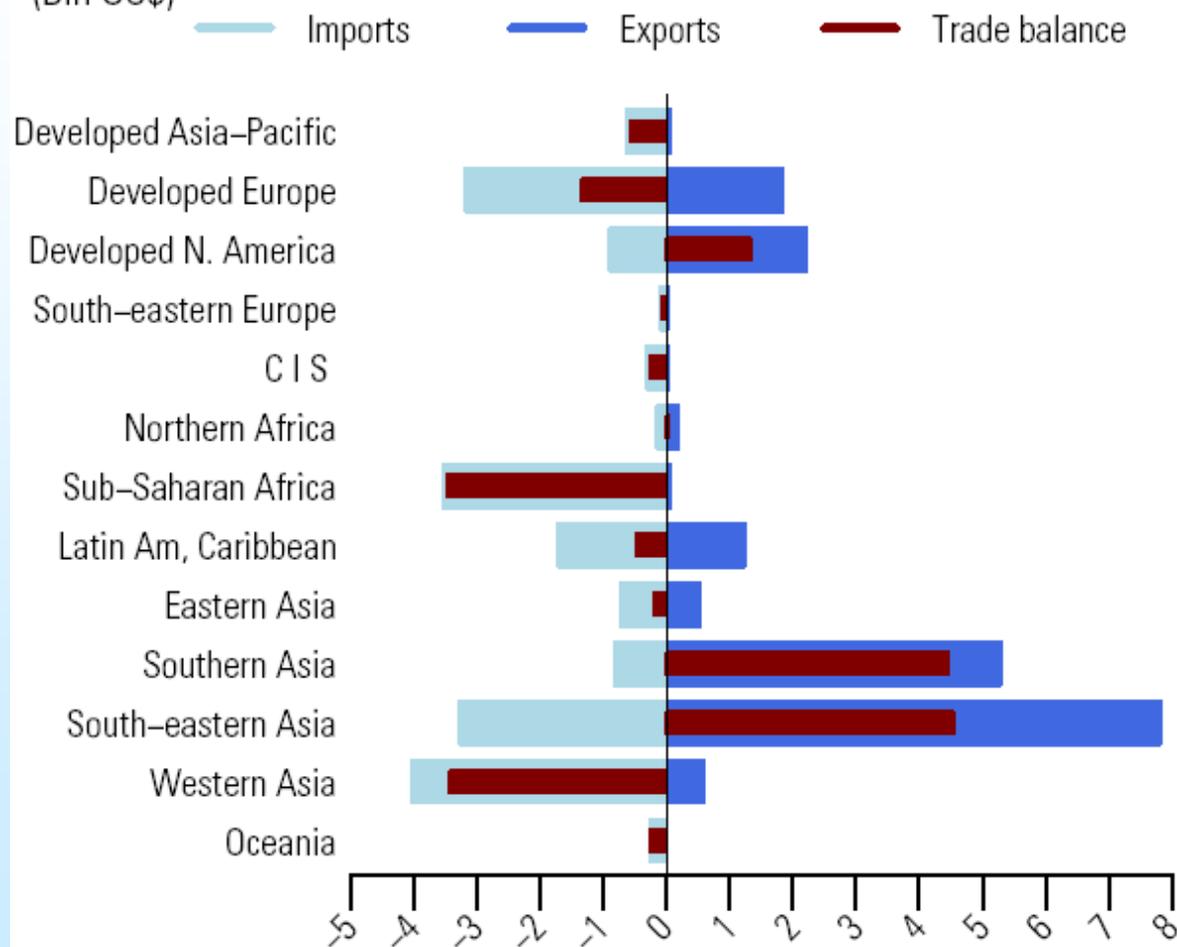
Table 3: Top importing countries or areas in 2008

Country or area	Value (million US\$)	Imp. Growth (%) 04/08	World share (%) 07/08	Exp. Growth (%) 07/08
World	1505 741.0	28.2	44.7	100.0
USA	355 241.1	26.2	23.3	23.3
Japan	154 731.6	25.1	10.3	32.1
China	120 330.0	52.7	8.0	41.5
India	86 582.5	37.0	5.7	47.1
Rep. of Korea	85 856.2	30.2	5.6	52.6
Germany	70 124.1	26.4	4.6	57.6
France	59 821.0	24.9	3.9	61.5
Italy	50 957.4	25.6	3.4	65.2
Netherlands	41 045.1	25.1	2.7	67.8
Spain	41 000.0	25.8	2.6	70.6
United Kingdom	37 008.6	24.0	2.4	78.0
Singapore	36 354.7	20.6	2.3	75.3
Other Asia, incl.	32 487.7	26.0	2.1	77.4
Canada	30 817.6	25.9	2.0	76.5
Thailand	20 225.6	22.6	1.3	81.4

2008 Edition: Commodity Profile

Rice (SITC group 042)

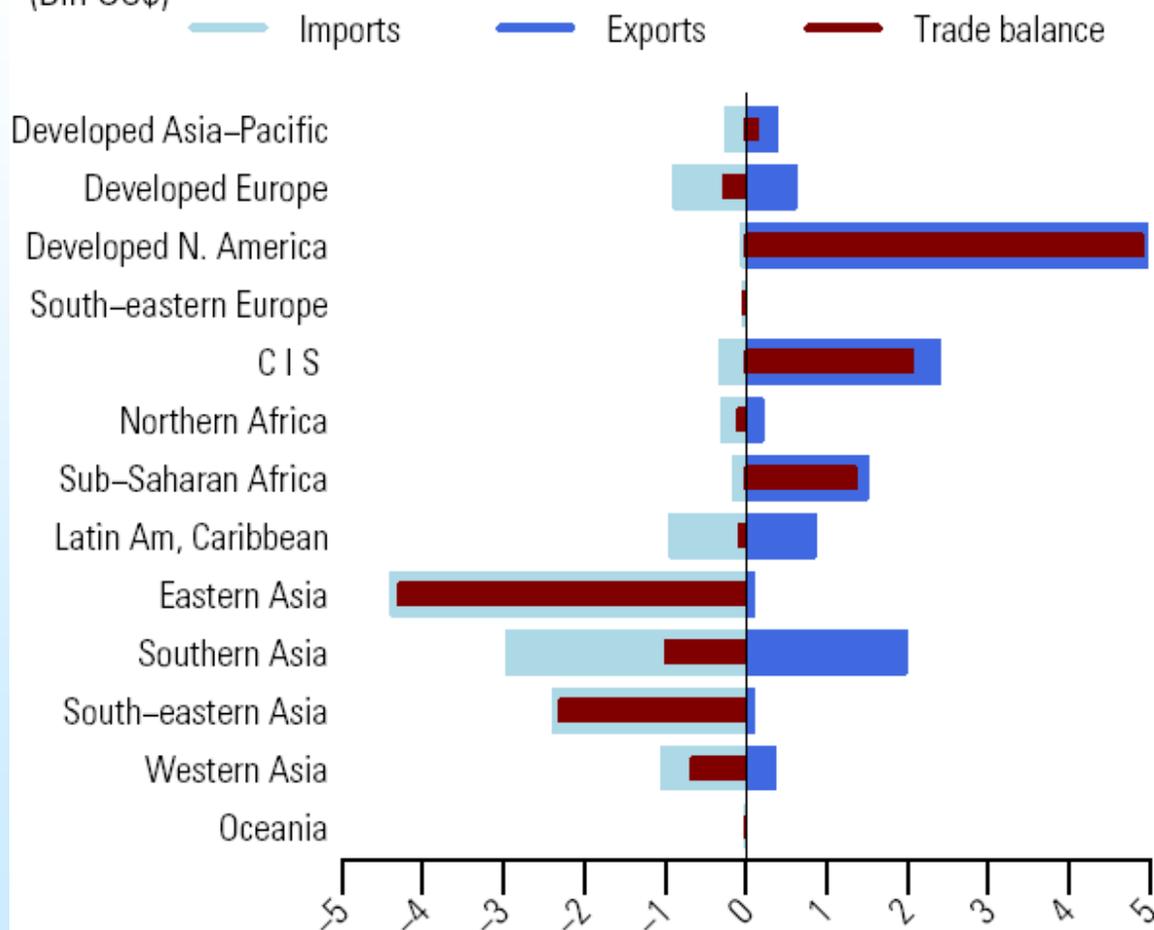
Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG regions 2008
(Bln US\$)



2008 Edition: Commodity Profile

Cotton (SITC group 263)

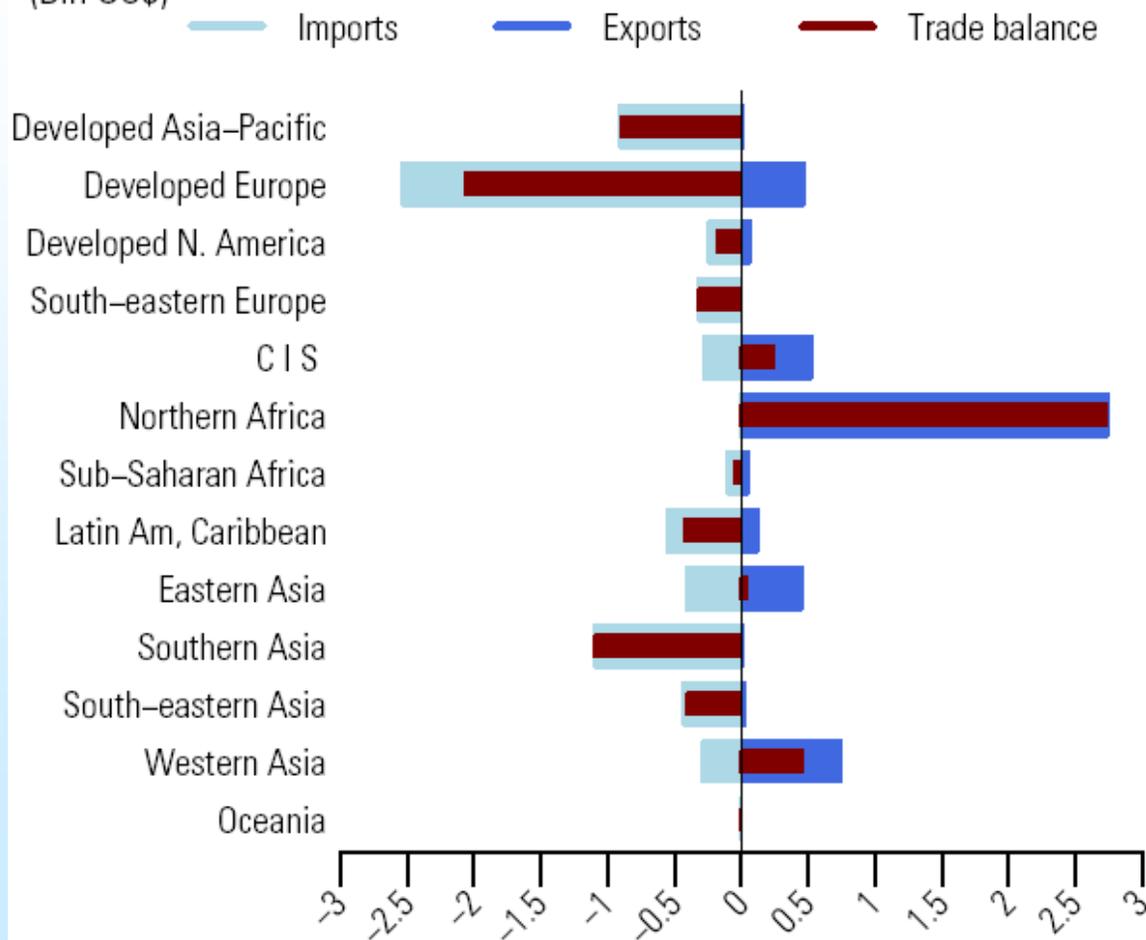
Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG regions 2008
(Bln US\$)



2008 Edition: Commodity Profile

Crude fertilizers (SITC group 272)

Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG regions 2008
(Bln US\$)

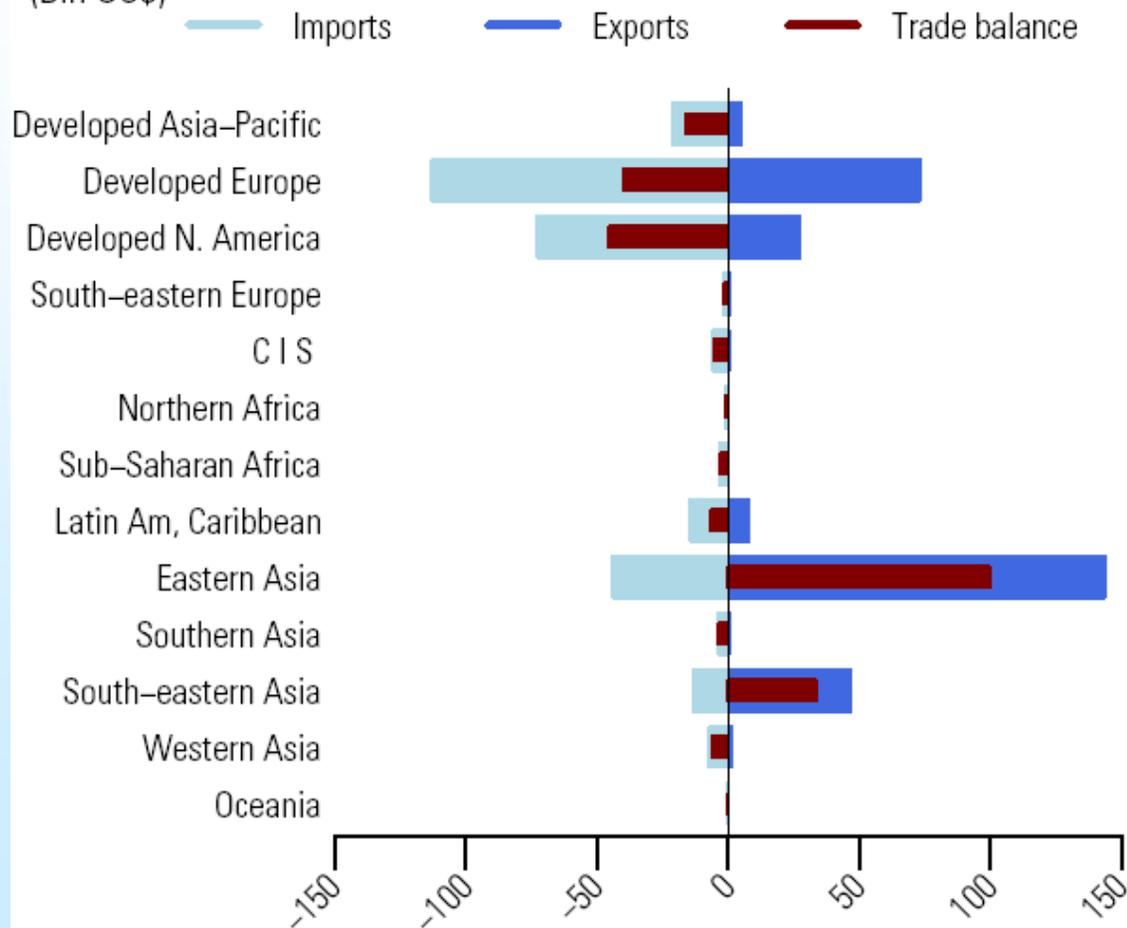


2008 Edition: Commodity Profile

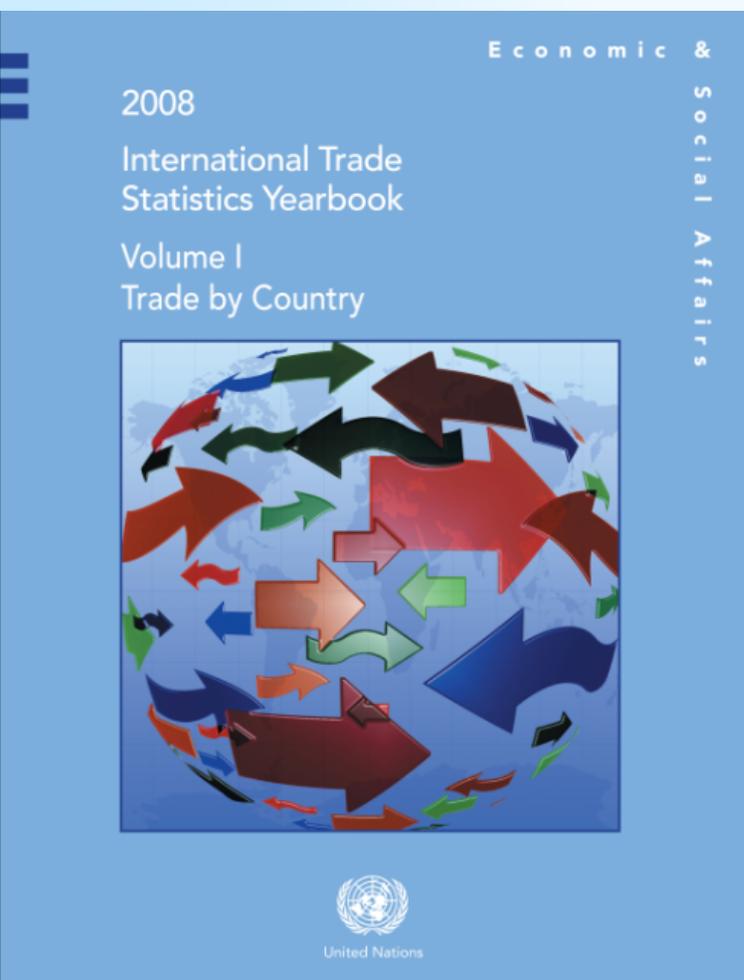
Automatic data processing machines (SITC group 752)

Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG regions 2008

(Bln US\$)



International Trade Statistics Yearbook



available

- Print and electronic version at
- Individual files for download at:

<https://unp.un.org/>

<http://comtrade.un.org/pb/>

Trade Statistics Knowledgebase

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradekb/Knowledgebase/>



Trade Statistics Branch | Statistics Division

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 - Analytical tables (publications)
 - Trade Indicators, Analysis and Tools
 - International Cooperation and Workshops
 - UN Service Trade

Latest Articles 		
	Title	Last Modified 
	ComtradeTools (BETA) Posted Monday, 07 December, 2009 by comtrade_admin , Tags: ComtradeTools	Tuesday, 16 February, 2010
	Data Extraction Using Comtrade Web... Posted Tuesday, 10 November, 2009 by comtrade_admin , Tags: Data extraction , Services , Web Services...	Friday, 12 February, 2010
	Access Points and Parameters for Web... Posted Tuesday, 10 November, 2009 by comtrade_admin , Tags: Data extraction , Services , Web Services...	Friday, 12 February, 2010
	Brazil Metadata  Posted Friday, 22 January, 2010 by comtrade_admin , Tags: Brazil , Data quality , Metadata...	Thursday, 11 February, 2010
	Trade Value Estimation  Posted Friday, 22 January, 2010 by comtrade_admin , Tags: Estimate , trade matrix	Thursday, 04 February, 2010

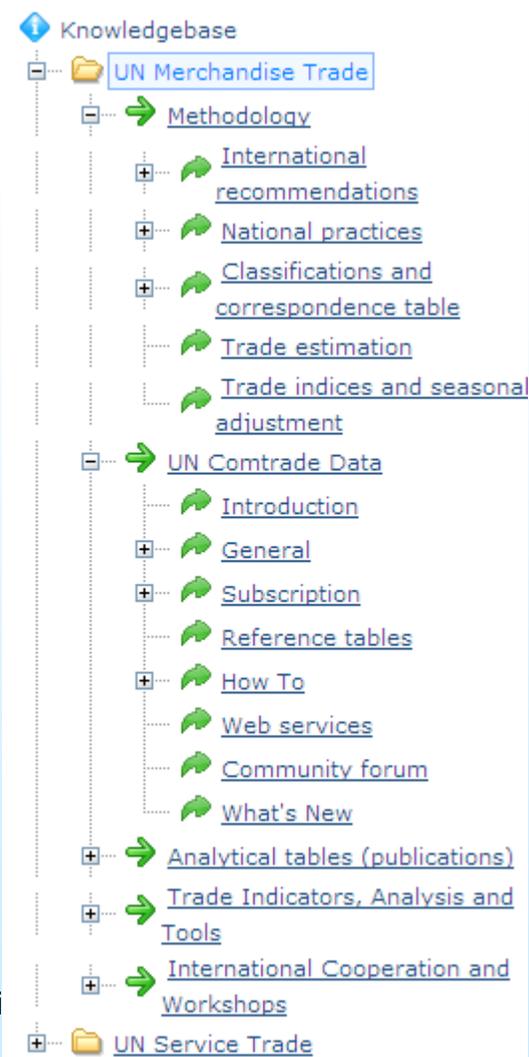
Popular Articles 

Key Features

- Serve as a single web-based access point for the information on the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of international trade statistics;
- Metadata at both international and national levels;
- A single reference point for trade statistics with glossary for key trade statistics definitions;
- Users can look for information via 1) key words, 2) tree structure, and 3) 'Tags'.

Basic Structure of Merchandise Trade

- Methodology
 - International recommendations
 - National practices
 - Classifications and correspondence table
- UN Comtrade Data
- Analytical tables (publications)
- Trade Indicators, Analysis and Tools
- International Cooperation and Workshops



Country Metadata and Best Practices

- Currently includes 293 articles;
- Country Metadata article serves as a single web-access point for the country;
- Will make 186 countries metadata and best practices available.

Knowledgebase

Home » Knowledgebase » UN Merchandise Trade » Methodology » National practices » Developing » Brazil » Brazil Metadata

Brazil Metadata

Brazil Metadata

Brazil [Metadata](#) on International Merchandise Trade Statistics

Comtrade Explanatory Notes
 Provide [metadata](#) on (i) [Trade System](#), (ii) [Trade Valuation](#), (iii) [Commodity Classification](#), (iv) Trading Partner Notes (Origin/LastKnownDestination), and (v) Exchange Rate. They are available at <http://comtrade.un.org/db/mr/daExpNoteDetail.aspx?r=76>

National Compilation and Reporting Practices (NCDP)
 The Trade Statistics Branch of the United Nations Statistics Division has conducted national compilation and reporting practices surveys in 2006 and 1996. The results of both surveys contain [metadata](#), *inter alia*, on coverage, [trade system](#), commodity classification, valuation, quantity measurement, and partner country. 2006 Survey results are available at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradereport/countryform_MM.asp?cid=076 1996 Survey results are available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradereport/countryform.asp?cid=076>

Comtrade Publication Notes
 Contain information when and from where the data was received. They are available at <http://comtrade.un.org/db/mr/daPubNoteDetail.aspx?r=76>

National WebPages for Data and Metadata
 For Data, See: <http://www.bcb.gov.br/?INDICATORS>
 For Metadata, See: External Trade Secretariat (in Portuguese) <http://www.desenvolvimento.gov.br/sitio/>

IMF SDDS on Merchandise Trade
 The [metadata](#) page locates at International Monetary Fund Special Data Dissemination Standards provides additional information on Data Coverage, Periodicity, and Timeliness, Access by the Public, Integrity, and Quality. They are available at <http://dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/sddsctycatbaselist/?strcode=BRA&strcat=MET00>

Two-way Communications

- Latest development about international standards and recommendations and other key outputs:

The screenshot shows a 'Knowledgebase' interface. On the left is a navigation tree with categories like 'UN Merchandise Trade', 'Methodology', 'International recommendations', 'National practices', 'Classifications and correspond', and 'Trade estimation'. The 'Latest Development' section is highlighted. On the right, a table titled 'Latest Development' lists recent updates.

	Title	Last Modified
	EG-IMTS: UN Expert Group on... ★★☆☆☆ Posted Friday, 30 October, 2009 by comtrade_admin , Tags: Expert Group on IMTS , IMTS2010 , International Merchandise Trade Statistics...	Wednesday, 27 January, 2010
	IMTS: Concepts and Definitions, Rev. 3... @★★★★☆ Posted Monday, 26 October, 2009 by comtrade_admin , Tags: IMTS2010 , International Merchandise Trade Statistics , International Recommendation...	Tuesday, 26 January, 2010

- Feedback from users and more ...

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Department of Economic and Social Affairs - United Nations Statistics Division

International Trade Statistics

Newsletter

It covers

- Special feature (IMTS Rev. 3, EG meetings...)
- Databases and Publications
- Cooperation with Countries and Agencies (workshops,...)
- Questions from UN Comtrade users
- Upcoming events (SC, Task Forces meetings,...)

Quarterly, available at

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/newsletter.htm>

Future work

- **Revision of IMTS Compilers Manual**
- **UN Comtrade upgrade – new data items, metadata**
 - **Second partner country**
 - **Second value for imports (FOB in addition to CIF)**
 - **Mode of transport**
- **Trade Statistics Knowledgebase**
 - **Easy access support for compilers**
 - **Metadata on national and international level for data users**
 - **Access to all UNSD outputs and activities on merchandise trade**
- **Research agenda**
 - **Study of asymmetries in trade data**
 - **Linking trade and business statistics**
 - **Trade indices**
 - **Automated data transfer**
 - **Other issues (trade by value added, environmental concerns, developing use of quantity information etc.)**



Thank you very much for your attention