



## 4.5 Structure of merchandise exports

	Merchandise exports		Food		Agricultural raw materials		Fuels		Ores and metals		Manufactures	
	\$ millions		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total	
	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998
Albania	367	208	..	10	..	9	..	1	..	13	..	68
Algeria	13,652	..	1	..	0	..	98	..	0	..	0	..
Angola	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Argentina	8,021	26,434	65	51	6	2	3	8	2	3	23	35
Armenia	..	229	..	11	..	5	..	1	..	26	..	54
Australia	21,892	55,839	34	22	11	7	11	20	17	17	22	29
Austria	17,227	62,826	4	5	8	2	2	1	4	3	83	83
Azerbaijan	..	678	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bangladesh	793	5,141	12	7	19	2	0	0	0	0	68	91
Belarus	..	7,123	..	9	..	3	..	0	..	1	..	76
Belgium <sup>a</sup>	57,573	153,160	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Benin	164	..	62	..	25	..	4	..	1	..	3	..
Bolivia	942	1,104	8	30	3	6	24	8	62	26	3	30
Bosnia and Herzegovina	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Botswana	545	2,061	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazil	20,132	51,136	46	30	4	4	2	1	9	10	37	55
Bulgaria	8,091	4,299	..	14	..	3	..	8	..	11	..	61
Burkina Faso	161	..	41	..	48	..	0	..	0	..	11	..
Burundi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cambodia	..	705	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cameroon	1,657	..	48	..	16	..	31	..	2	..	4	..
Canada	67,532	217,238	12	8	11	7	14	8	14	5	48	66
Central African Republic	147	..	31	..	43	..	0	..	0	..	26	..
Chad	71	..	4	..	81	..	0	..	0	..	15	..
Chile	4,705	14,831	15	29	10	9	1	0	64	43	9	17
China <sup>†</sup>	..	183,527	..	7	..	1	..	3	..	2	..	87
Hong Kong, China <sup>b</sup>	19,743	173,996	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	96	95
Colombia	3,986	11,363	72	32	5	5	3	30	0	1	20	32
Congo, Dem. Rep.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congo, Rep.	911	..	1	..	2	..	90	..	0	..	7	..
Costa Rica	1,001	5,547	64	39	1	4	1	0	0	1	28	56
Côte d'Ivoire	3,013	4,575	64	..	28	..	2	..	0	..	5	..
Croatia	..	4,613	..	11	..	4	..	6	..	2	..	76
Cuba	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Czech Republic	..	26,395	..	5	..	2	..	3	..	2	..	88
Denmark	11,807	47,829	33	23	5	3	3	3	2	1	55	65
Dominican Republic	962	4,981	73	11	0	0	0	0	3	0	24	8
Ecuador	2,520	4,203	33	63	1	5	63	21	0	0	3	10
Egypt, Arab Rep.	3,854	4,403	7	12	16	6	64	30	2	6	11	44
El Salvador	1,075	2,451	47	47	12	1	3	4	3	2	35	47
Eritrea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Estonia	..	2,690	..	16	..	9	..	6	..	3	..	66
Ethiopia	419	568	74	..	18	..	7	..	0	..	0	..
Finland	14,070	43,394	3	2	19	6	4	2	4	3	70	86
France	109,691	301,702	16	13	2	1	4	2	4	2	73	80
Gabon	2,084	..	..	..	..	..	88	..	12	..	..	..
Gambia, The	48	..	98	..	0	..	..	..	3	..	7	..
Georgia	..	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Germany <sup>c</sup>	191,162	539,993	5	5	1	1	4	1	3	2	85	86
Ghana	1,104	1,813	78	..	4	..	0	..	17	..	1	..
Greece	4,175	..	26	..	2	..	16	..	9	..	47	..
Guatemala	1,520	2,847	53	61	16	4	1	2	5	1	24	33
Guinea	..	693	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Guinea-Bissau	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Haiti	216	299	31	15	1	0	0	0	4	0	63	84
Honduras	860	2,017	75	79	5	2	0	0	6	2	12	17
† Data for Taiwan, China	19,696	110,178	9	3	2	1	1	1	0	1	88	93



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	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998
Hungary	..	20,747	..	11	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	82
India	8,303	34,076	28	18	5	2	0	1	7	3	59	74
Indonesia	..	50,371	..	11	..	5	..	19	..	4	..	45
Iran, Islamic Rep.	12,338	12,982	1	..	1	..	93	..	0	..	5	..
Iraq	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ireland	8,229	65,032	37	10	2	1	1	0	3	0	54	84
Israel	5,946	22,972	12	4	4	2	0	1	2	1	82	92
Italy	78,106	242,572	7	6	1	1	6	1	2	1	84	89
Jamaica	963	1,613	14	24	0	0	2	0	21	6	63	70
Japan	126,740	374,044	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	95	94
Jordan	575	1,802	25	..	1	..	0	..	40	..	34	..
Kazakhstan	..	5,839	..	8	..	2	..	39	..	26	..	23
Kenya	1,431	2,013	44	59	8	7	33	9	2	3	12	24
Korea, Dem. Rep.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Korea, Rep.	17,245	132,122	7	2	1	1	0	4	1	2	90	91
Kuwait	20,633	9,614	1	0	0	0	89	85	0	0	10	14
Kyrgyz Republic	..	535	..	28	..	11	..	15	..	6	..	38
Lao PDR	..	342	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Latvia	..	2,011	..	10	..	27	..	2	..	3	..	58
Lebanon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lesotho	58	193	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Libya	21,919	..	0	..	0	..	100	..	0	..	0	..
Lithuania	..	3,962	..	14	..	4	..	19	..	2	..	61
Macedonia, FYR	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madagascar	436	538	80	54	4	6	6	3	4	7	6	28
Malawi	281	..	91	..	2	..	0	..	0	..	6	..
Malaysia	12,963	71,974	15	10	31	3	25	6	10	1	19	79
Mali	205	..	30	..	69	..	0	..	0	..	1	..
Mauritania	196	359	16	..	1	..	0	..	83	..	0	..
Mauritius	434	1,738	72	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	73
Mexico	18,031	117,459	12	6	2	1	67	6	6	2	12	85
Moldova	..	644	..	72	..	1	..	0	..	1	..	25
Mongolia	..	462	..	2	..	28	..	0	..	60	..	10
Morocco	2,450	7,144	28	31	3	3	5	2	41	15	24	49
Mozambique	281	248	68	69	7	9	2	1	5	4	18	17
Myanmar	429	1,171	40	..	33	..	9	..	10	..	7	..
Namibia	..	1,278	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nepal	102	485	21	10	48	1	..	0	0	30	77	
Netherlands	73,230	171,271	20	17	3	3	22	6	4	2	50	70
New Zealand	5,394	12,156	48	47	26	13	1	2	4	5	20	32
Nicaragua	450	579	75	88	8	3	2	1	1	1	14	8
Niger	576	..	11	..	1	..	1	..	85	..	2	..
Nigeria	25,945	8,971	2	..	0	..	97	..	0	..	0	..
Norway	18,649	40,637	7	10	3	1	48	43	10	9	32	30
Oman	3,748	..	1	..	0	..	96	..	0	..	3	..
Pakistan	2,628	8,658	24	14	20	2	7	0	0	0	48	84
Panama	2,519	6,325	67	77	0	0	23	4	1	2	9	17
Papua New Guinea	985	1,773	33	..	7	..	0	..	50	..	3	..
Paraguay	400	3,824	38	72	50	13	0	0	0	0	12	15
Peru	3,916	5,735	16	26	4	2	21	5	43	42	17	24
Philippines	5,788	29,496	36	7	6	1	1	1	21	2	21	90
Poland	14,043	32,467	6	11	3	2	13	5	7	5	61	77
Portugal	4,668	26,016	12	7	9	3	6	1	2	1	70	87
Puerto Rico	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Romania	11,024	8,302	..	5	..	4	..	5	..	5	..	81
Russian Federation	..	74,799	..	2	..	3	..	38	..	16	..	28



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	\$ millions		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total	
	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998	1980	1998
Rwanda	134	65	82	..	7	..	0	..	10	..	0	..
Saudi Arabia	101,574	39,772	0	1	0	0	99	90	0	0	1	9
Senegal	470	..	43	..	3	..	19	..	20	..	15	..
Sierra Leone	227	..	24	..	1	..	0	..	34	..	40	..
Singapore <sup>b</sup>	19,430	110,379	8	3	10	1	25	8	2	1	47	86
Slovak Republic	..	10,720	..	4	..	2	..	3	..	4	..	84
Slovenia	..	9,096	..	4	..	2	..	1	..	4	..	90
South Africa <sup>d</sup>	25,698	29,234	9	12	2	4	4	8	7	10	18	54
Spain	20,547	109,814	18	15	2	1	4	2	5	2	72	78
Sri Lanka	1,062	4,735	47	..	18	..	15	..	1	..	19	..
Sudan	689	596	47	68	51	28	1	0	1	0	1	3
Sweden	30,662	85,179	2	3	10	5	4	1	5	3	78	82
Switzerland	41,708	93,859	3	3	1	1	0	0	5	3	90	93
Syrian Arab Republic	2,112	3,135	4	17	9	7	79	65	1	1	7	10
Tajikistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tanzania	583	589	58	65	18	23	5	0	5	0	14	10
Thailand	6,449	52,747	47	19	11	4	0	2	14	1	25	71
Togo	476	..	21	..	2	..	26	..	40	..	11	..
Trinidad and Tobago	2,728	2,258	2	11	0	0	93	45	0	0	5	44
Tunisia	2,195	5,725	7	9	1	1	52	6	4	1	36	82
Turkey	2,910	31,220	51	17	14	1	1	1	7	2	27	77
Turkmenistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uganda	319	..	96	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	1	..
Ukraine	..	13,699	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Arab Emirates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Kingdom	109,620	271,845	7	6	1	1	13	4	5	2	71	85
United States	224,250	672,207	18	8	5	2	4	2	5	2	66	82
Uruguay	1,059	2,832	39	51	22	9	0	1	1	1	38	39
Uzbekistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Venezuela, RB	19,275	17,564	0	4	0	0	94	72	4	6	2	19
Vietnam	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
West Bank and Gaza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yemen, Rep.	..	1,501	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yugoslavia, FR (Serb./Mont.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Zambia	1,457	..	1	..	0	..	0	..	82	..	16	..
Zimbabwe	1,441	..	40	..	3	..	3	..	17	..	36	..
<b>World</b>	<b>1,900,797 t</b>	<b>5,397,430 t</b>	<b>12 w</b>	<b>8 w</b>	<b>4 w</b>	<b>2 w</b>	<b>11 w</b>	<b>4 w</b>	<b>5 w</b>	<b>3 w</b>	<b>66 w</b>	<b>80 w</b>
<b>Low income</b>	89,218	344,253	..	9	..	2	..	6	..	2	..	77
Excl. China & India	80,493	126,650	20	..	14	..	50	..	5	..	11	..
<b>Middle income</b>	443,065	978,169	21	12	7	3	28	12	8	6	33	65
Lower middle income	175,395	339,759	..	13	..	3	..	23	..	7	..	46
Upper middle income	267,670	638,410	17	12	7	2	30	7	7	4	39	74
<b>Low &amp; middle income</b>	532,283	1,322,422	21	11	8	2	30	10	8	5	32	68
East Asia & Pacific	69,163	533,638	18	6	12	2	16	5	7	2	45	82
Europe & Central Asia	105,745	256,604	..	7	..	3	..	19	..	9	..	57
Latin America & Carib.	97,994	289,318	32	25	4	3	31	13	12	9	20	49
Middle East & N. Africa	167,875	108,409	3	4	1	1	87	76	3	2	6	17
South Asia	13,606	53,681	28	16	10	2	3	1	5	2	54	78
Sub-Saharan Africa	77,900	80,772	22	..	6	..	27	..	9	..	12	..
<b>High income</b>	1,368,514	4,075,008	11	7	4	2	7	3	4	2	73	82
Europe EMU	574,503	1,715,780	11	9	3	1	6	2	3	2	75	83

**Note:** Components may not sum to 100 percent due to unclassified trade.

a. Includes Luxembourg. b. Includes reexports. c. Data prior to 1990 refer to the Federal Republic of Germany before unification. d. Data on export commodity shares refer to the South African Customs Union, which comprises Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa.



## Structure of merchandise exports 4.5

### About the data

Data on merchandise trade come from customs reports of goods entering an economy or from reports of the financial transactions related to merchandise trade recorded in the balance of payments. Because of differences in timing and definitions, estimates of trade flows from customs reports are likely to differ from those based on the balance of payments. Furthermore, several international agencies process trade data, each making estimates to correct for unreported or misreported data, and this leads to other differences in the available data.

The most detailed source of data on international trade in goods is the Commodity Trade (COMTRADE) database maintained by the United Nations Statistics Division. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) also collects customs-based data on exports and imports of goods. The value of exports is recorded as the cost of the goods delivered to the frontier of the exporting country for shipment—the f.o.b. (free on board) value. Many countries report trade data in U.S. dollars. When countries report in local currency, the United Nations Statistics Division applies the average official exchange rate for the period shown.

Countries may report trade according to the general or special system of trade (see *Primary data documentation*). Under the general system exports comprise outward-moving goods that are (a) goods wholly or partly produced in the country; (b) foreign goods, neither transformed nor declared for domestic consumption in the country, that move outward from customs storage; and (c) goods previously included as imports for domestic consumption but subsequently exported without transformation. Under the special system exports comprise categories a and c. In some compilations categories b and c are classified as reexports. Because of differences in reporting practices, data on exports may not be fully comparable across economies.

The data on total exports of goods (merchandise) in this table come from the World Trade Organization (WTO). The WTO uses two main sources, national statistical offices and the IMF's *International Financial Statistics*. It supplements these with the COMTRADE database and publications or databases of regional organizations, specialized agencies, and economic groups (such as the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Eurostat, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Commonwealth of Independent States, and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries). It also consults private sources, such as country reports of the Economist Intelligence Unit and press clippings. In recent years country websites and direct contacts through

email have helped significantly improve the collection of up-to-date statistics for many countries, reducing the proportion of estimated figures. The WTO database now covers most of the major traders in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, which together with the high-income countries account for nearly 90 percent of total world trade. There has also been a remarkable improvement in the availability of recent, reliable, and standardized figures for countries in Europe and Central Asia.

The shares of exports by major commodity group were estimated by World Bank staff from the COMTRADE database. The values of total exports reported here have not been fully reconciled with the estimates of exports of goods and services from the national accounts (shown in table 4.9) or those from the balance of payments (table 4.17). The classification of commodity groups is based on the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) revision 1. Most countries now report using later revisions of the SITC or the Harmonized System. Concordance tables are used to convert data reported in one system of nomenclature to another. The conversion process may introduce some errors of classification, but conversions from later to early systems are generally reliable. Shares may not sum to 100 percent because of unclassified trade.

### Definitions

- **Merchandise exports** show the f.o.b. value of goods provided to the rest of the world valued in U.S. dollars.
- **Food** comprises the commodities in SITC sections 0 (food and live animals), 1 (beverages and tobacco), and 4 (animal and vegetable oils and fats) and SITC division 22 (oil seeds, oil nuts, and oil kernels).
- **Agricultural raw materials** comprise SITC section 2 (crude materials except fuels) excluding divisions 22, 27 (crude fertilizers and minerals excluding coal, petroleum, and precious stones), and 28 (metalliferous ores and scrap).
- **Fuels** comprise SITC section 3 (mineral fuels).
- **Ores and metals** comprise the commodities in SITC divisions 27, 28, and 68 (non-ferrous metals).
- **Manufactures** comprise the commodities in SITC sections 5 (chemicals), 6 (basic manufactures), 7 (machinery and transport equipment), and 8 (miscellaneous manufactured goods), excluding division 68.

### Data sources

The WTO publishes data on world trade in its *Annual Report*. Estimates of total exports of goods are also published in the IMF's *International Financial Statistics* and *Direction of Trade Statistics* and in the United Nations Statistics Division's *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) publishes data on the structure of exports and imports in its *Handbook of International Trade and Development Statistics*. Tariff line records of exports and imports are compiled in the United Nations' COMTRADE database.