6.6 Tariff barriers

	Year	All products			Primary products			Manufactured products		
		Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %	Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %	Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %
Algeria	1998	24.2	16.7	17.2	21.8	18.1	14.7	24.9	16.2	17.7
Argentina	1993	10.9	5.0	11.3	6.0	2.9	3.7	12.1	4.7	13.7
	1995	10.5	7.6	10.5	8.5	5.3	5.6	10.9	7.9	12.1
	1997	11.3	6.8	11.3	8.4	5.3	5.6	11.9	6.9	12.7
	1998	13.5	6.9	12.9	11.1	5.7	7.4	14.0	7.0	14.1
Australia	1993	9.8	11.9	7.7	2.5	4.8	1.3	11.7	12.4	9.7
	1997	5.7	8.2	3.9	1.2	2.2	0.7	6.8	8.7	4.6
	1998	5.3	7.4	3.7	1.2	2.2	0.7	6.4	7.8	4.4
	1999	5.0	6.7	3.5	1.2	2.2	0.7	6.0	7.1	4.2
Bangladesh	1999	22.1	14.6	19.0	21.1	13.1	21.0	22.4	15.0	18.5
Belarus	1996	12.3	10.4	13.5	10.3	7.9	7.8	13.2	11.2	15.4
	1997	12.6	8.4	13.7	11.0	6.7	8.4	13.3	8.9	15.0
Bolivia	1993	9.8	1.0	9.8	10.0	0.2	10.0	9.7	1.1	9.7
	1998	9.7	1.2	9.7	10.0	0.2	10.0	9.6	1.4	9.7
Brazil	1994	11.9	8.2	14.6	8.2	7.1	7.2	12.8	8.2	17.0
	1997	11.9	7.7	14.6	8.6	5.7	7.1	12.6	7.8	16.4
	1998	14.6	7.3	16.6	11.3	5.9	9.1	15.2	7.4	18.3
Canada	1993	8.7	7.0	6.8	4.7	5.8	2.7	9.7	6.9	8.0
	1995	10.1	24.2	7.2	14.2	49.3	5.5	8.9	6.6	7.7
	1996	9.1	27.2	5.6	16.5	55.7	7.8	7.0	6.6	5.2
	1997	5.9	8.0	4.4	4.0	12.2	3.0	6.4	6.3	4.7
	1998	7.5	26.5	3.8	16.1	54.9	6.7	5.1	6.1	3.2
	1999	7.1	25.7	3.6	15.6	54.1	6.4	4.9	6.0	2.9
Central African Republic	1995	18.6	9.6	17.1	20.6	9.7	16.2	17.9	9.5	17.4
Chile	1998	11.0	0.7	10.9	11.0	0.0	11.0	10.9	0.8	10.9
China	1993	39.9	29.9	38.4	33.3	24.7	20.9	41.8	31.0	44.0
	1994	36.3	27.9	35.5	32.1	24.3	19.6	37.6	28.8	40.6
	1996	23.6	17.4	22.6	25.4	22.1	20.0	23.1	15.8	23.2
	1997	17.6	13.0	18.2	17.9	18.1	20.0	17.5	11.0	17.8
	1998	17.5	13.0	18.7	17.9	18.6	20.0	17.4	10.8	18.5
Colombia	1994	11.8	6.3	12.0	12.1	6.0	10.6	11.7	6.4	12.4
	1995	13.3	4.9	12.7	12.7	5.9	10.7	13.5	4.6	13.4
	1998	11.7	6.2	10.6	12.4	6.1	11.0	11.4	6.3	10.5
Costa Rica	1999	7.2	13.8	4.3	12.2	24.8	7.6	5.7	7.3	3.5
Cuba	1997	10.7	6.9	9.7	7.6	7.3	4.9	11.6	6.5	11.5
Czech Republic	1999	6.8	11.0	5.8	10.4	18.8	5.8	5.4	4.2	5.8
Dominican Republic	1997	14.5	9.2	13.6	15.3	10.2	10.8	14.2	8.9	14.5
Ecuador	1993	9.3	6.0	8.5	9.4	5.8	7.6	9.2	6.1	8.8
	1995	12.3	5.6	11.9	12.2	6.2	10.4	12.4	5.4	12.4
	1998	11.3	6.4	10.4	11.8	6.5	10.2	11.2	6.3	10.4
El Salvador	1995	10.2	7.6	8.5	11.5	6.4	8.8	9.8	8.0	8.4
	1998	5.7	7.9	4.3	10.0	8.4	6.5	4.4	7.3	3.8
Estonia	1995	0.1	1.2	0.4	0.1	1.1	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.5
European Union	1994	7.7	6.3	6.6	10.3	10.6	4.9	6.9	3.8	7.0
	1996	6.7	5.8	4.9	10.3	8.8	3.8	5.5	3.7	5.1
	1998	6.0	5.6	3.5	9.4	8.1	3.4	4.8	3.9	3.5
	1999	5.6	5.9	3.2	9.8	8.1	3.3	4.1	3.9	3.2
Georgia	1999	10.6	2.8	8.6	11.9	1.0	11.8	10.2	3.1	7.8
Guatemala	1998	8.4	9.5	5.7	8.6	7.3	8.3	8.3	10.1	5.1
Honduras	1999	7.8	8.0	5.7	9.3	8.5	10.2	7.3	7.7	4.7
Hungary	1996	15.2	18.2	10.7	30.6	27.4	14.4	9.2	6.1	9.8
	1997	14.3	17.0	10.2	28.8	25.6	13.7	8.7	5.9	9.4
India	1997	30.0	14.0	27.7	25.7	22.6	22.6	31.3	9.8	29.5
	1999	32.9	12.7	27.6	28.8	21.7	25.9	34.2	8.0	28.0
Indonesia	1993	19.4	16.1	21.7	16.7	12.3	10.0	20.3	17.0	25.4
	1996	13.0	16.7	13.8	12.3	19.6	9.3	13.2	15.7	14.9
	1999	11.9	16.6	13.2	11.9	20.4	8.7	11.8	15.3	14.3

Tariff barriers | 6.6

	Year	All products			Primary products			Manufactured products		
		Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %	Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %	Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %
Jamaica	1999	19.0	11.1	19.2	23.2	15.4	19.8	16.8	7.0	19.0
Japan	1998	5.7	7.7	2.0	8.9	10.5	4.5	4.5	5.9	1.5
	1999	6.6	9.3	2.5	9.8	11.3	4.5	5.5	8.2	2.0
Kazakhstan	1996	9.4	10.9	7.1	9.9	8.7	7.1	9.2	11.7	7.1
Korea, Rep.	1996	11.1	26.1	9.5	21.0	47.2	17.0	8.2	13.5	7.8
	1999	9.4	7.6	7.4	13.9	13.6	9.0	7.8	2.4	7.0
Latvia	1996	4.5	7.9	2.5	8.5	11.0	3.0	2.9	5.3	2.3
	1997	5.9	10.7	2.5	11.5	16.2	4.3	3.5	5.7	2.0
Lebanon	1999	9.8	9.2	10.5	9.2	11.5	8.3	10.0	8.3	11.0
Libya	1996	21.5	31.8	30.5	18.0	26.4	22.0	22.3	32.9	33.0
Lithuania	1995	4.5	9.0	2.5	8.7	13.0	3.6	2.8	5.9	2.1
	1997	4.6	9.3	1.9	9.1	13.3	4.1	2.7	5.8	1.4
Malawi	1994	30.8	15.5	27.1	24.6	15.6	14.8	32.8	15.0	32.2
	1997	25.3	11.6	23.5	21.2	12.6	13.6	26.5	11.0	26.7
Malaysia	1993	14.3	14.1	11.1	10.9	12.7	6.0	15.3	14.3	12.6
	1996	8.7	14.4	8.1	2.4	6.5	2.7	11.8	16.1	9.3
	1997	9.1	19.6	9.4	4.1	22.2	9.8	12.0	17.2	9.4
Malta	1997	7.6	5.8	8.2	6.7	8.5	5.9	8.1	3.7	8.8
Mauritius	1997	29.1	26.2	31.9	19.7	19.1	19.1	31.7	27.3	36.0
Mexico	1995	12.6	5.4	11.8	12.3	6.0	10.8	12.6	5.3	12.2
	1998	13.3	13.5	12.5	16.8	29.0	14.6	12.6	7.8	12.0
Moldova	1996	6.7	9.4	4.0	11.2	11.9	4.3	4.9	7.5	3.8
Mozambique	1997	15.6	14.3	14.1	16.9	15.1	12.0	15.3	14.0	14.8
Nepal	1998	16.3	15.5	18.6	9.2	13.6	8.2	18.3	15.4	21.0
	1999	12.4	11.3	15.7	8.4	10.0	6.6	13.5	11.5	17.8
New Zealand	1993	8.5	10.3	7.7	4.3	6.0	2.1	9.7	11.0	9.4
	1996	6.1	7.8	4.7	3.1	4.3	1.6	7.0	8.4	5.4
	1997	5.3	7.0	4.1	2.6	3.8	1.4	6.1	7.5	4.7
	1998	4.5	6.0	3.5	2.0	3.3	1.1	5.2	6.4	4.0
	1999	3.8	5.1	2.9	1.7	2.8	0.9	4.4	5.4	3.4
Nicaragua	1998	5.9	7.3	4.0	8.3	10.1	5.9	5.2	5.9	3.6
	1999	10.9	7.5	8.5	13.6	10.3	11.3	10.1	6.1	7.8
Norway	1996	6.0	15.2	4.3	4.9	30.5	1.5	6.2	8.3	4.9
	1998	4.1	16.5	2.2	5.1	29.9	1.4	3.9	11.5	2.4
Panama	1998	9.2	5.9	8.0	11.4	6.9	9.3	8.5	5.4	7.7
Papua New Guinea	1997	20.5	19.2	18.4	30.5	22.9	23.9	17.6	16.9	17.2
Paraguay	1994	8.0	7.7	8.1	7.9	7.4	5.3	8.1	7.8	8.9
	1995	9.3	6.9	9.0	8.2	5.2	5.2	9.5	7.2	10.3
	1996	9.3	7.1	8.3	8.9	6.3	6.2	9.4	7.3	8.8
	1998	9.5	6.5	8.7	8.6	5.6	5.9	9.7	6.6	9.3
Peru	1993	17.6	4.4	17.1	17.3	4.2	16.3	17.7	4.4	17.3
	1998	13.2	2.9	12.6	13.7	3.3	13.0	13.1	2.7	12.5
Philippines	1993	22.5	14.1	20.2	23.9	15.3	17.9	22.1	13.7	21.0
	1994	21.6	13.3	19.5	22.3	14.0	16.8	21.5	13.1	20.4
	1995	20.0	11.0	18.4	21.6	12.8	16.8	19.5	10.4	18.9
	1998	11.2	11.4	9.3	14.4	17.8	10.2	10.3	8.3	9.1
	1999	10.2	9.7	8.7	13.1	14.7	9.4	9.3	7.3	8.5
Poland	1995	11.6	7.6	9.0	11.5	9.6	5.3	11.7	6.9	10.1
	1996	18.7	28.1	14.9	29.2	47.4	18.0	14.1	8.7	14.2
Romania	1999	19.4	18.1	13.5	26.7	28.9	13.7	16.4	9.1	13.5
Russian Federation	1993	7.3	9.8	9.7	3.8	12.2	5.7	8.7	8.2	10.9
	1994	11.5	12.4	14.0	8.0	8.4	5.1	12.9	13.4	16.8
	1996	10.9	8.3	11.3	10.3	7.5	7.8	11.1	8.5	12.1
	1997	12.6	8.4	13.8	10.9	6.6	8.4	13.4	8.9	15.1
Saudi Arabia	1999	12.2	4.0	12.1	12.3	6.7	12.7	12.2	2.8	11.9
Slovenia	1999	10.6	7.4	9.7	10.6	11.7	4.8	10.5	5.1	10.8
South Africa[a]	1993	19.7	21.9	14.3	9.4	11.7	5.2	21.2	22.6	16.9

	Year	All products			Primary products			Manufactured products		
		Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %	Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %	Mean tariff %	Standard deviation of tariff rates %	Weighted mean tariff %
	1997	8.7	10.9	6.6	8.0	11.3	4.4	8.9	10.8	7.1
	1999	7.2	10.0	5.2	6.6	10.5	3.8	7.3	9.9	5.5
Sri Lanka	1993	24.2	18.1	23.0	26.8	21.9	25.3	23.5	16.8	22.3
	1997	20.0	15.4	20.7	23.8	23.0	23.6	19.1	12.6	19.8
Taiwan, China	1996	9.7	11.0	7.2	17.2	16.8	10.0	6.7	5.4	6.5
Tanzania	1997	21.8	13.9	23.6	30.6	10.9	22.7	19.9	13.7	23.7
	1998	22.1	13.9	23.7	30.0	11.8	22.7	20.3	13.7	24.0
Thailand	1993	45.6	25.0	41.5	40.3	19.4	33.9	47.2	26.2	43.7
Trinidad and Tobago	1999	19.3	11.4	20.4	23.2	15.5	20.1	17.3	7.7	20.5
Tunisia	1998	29.9	12.8	23.4	31.0	11.7	23.2	29.6	13.0	23.5
Turkey	1997	13.5	25.4	7.4	34.1	42.2	14.8	6.0	4.6	5.7
Ukraine	1997	10.0	10.9	6.9	15.7	12.2	6.4	7.5	9.2	7.1
United States	1995	5.9	7.0	4.1	5.5	10.9	2.7	6.0	5.8	4.4
	1997	6.6	14.9	3.2	9.2	28.3	2.9	5.7	6.2	3.3
	1998	5.2	11.8	2.8	6.4	25.1	3.2	4.9	5.5	2.7
	1999	4.8	11.6	2.5	6.1	24.7	3.1	4.5	5.5	2.4
Uruguay	1995	9.3	7.1	8.9	8.4	5.4	5.3	9.5	7.4	10.1
	1996	9.5	7.3	8.0	8.6	5.6	5.6	9.7	7.6	8.6
	1997	10.0	6.9	8.3	8.8	5.3	5.5	10.3	7.3	9.0
	1998	12.2	7.9	10.0	11.4	5.5	7.2	12.4	8.4	10.7
Venezuela, RB	1995	13.4	4.8	12.8	12.8	5.8	10.9	13.5	4.5	13.4
	1997	11.9	6.1	10.9	12.4	6.1	10.9	11.8	6.1	10.9
	1998	12.0	6.1	10.9	12.5	6.1	10.9	11.9	6.1	10.9
Vietnam	1999	16.3	18.7	15.0	18.2	20.6	17.4	15.8	18.2	14.5
Zambia	1997	13.6	9.3	14.3	15.9	8.7	12.6	13.0	9.4	14.7
Zimbabwe	1997	24.0	23.1	21.7	21.9	20.1	17.1	24.7	23.9	22.8
	1998	22.2	17.8	20.0	22.0	20.1	17.7	22.3	17.1	20.5

a. Data refer to the South African Customs Union, which comprises Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa.

Tariff barriers | 6.6

Economies regulate their imports through a combination of tariff and nontariff measures. The most common form of tariff is an ad valorem duty, but tariffs may also be levied on a specific, or per unit, basis. Tariffs may be used to raise fiscal revenues or to protect domestic industries from foreign competition—or both. Nontariff barriers, which limit the quantity of imports of a particular good, take many forms. Some common ones are licensing schemes, quotas, prohibitions, export restraint arrangements, and health and quarantine measures. Nontariff barriers are generally considered more detrimental to economic efficiency than tariffs because efficient foreign producers cannot undercut the barriers by reducing their costs and thus their prices. A high percentage of products subject to nontariff barriers indicates a protectionist trade regime, but the frequency of nontariff barriers does not measure their restrictiveness. Moreover, a wide range of domestic policies and regulations (such as health regulations) may act as nontariff barriers. Because of the difficulty of combining nontariff barriers into an aggregate indicator, they are not included in this table.

The table shows both simple average tariffs and average tariffs weighted by world imports. Simple averages are a better indicator of tariff protection than averages weighted by the country's own import values, which are biased downward, especially when tariffs are set so high as to discourage trade. Weights based on world imports provide an alternative measure of a country's tariff barriers that reflects average world trading patterns.

Mean tariffs are calculated as the average ad valorem duty across all tariff lines. Specific duties—duties not expressed as a proportion of the declared value—are not included. Countries typically maintain a hierarchy of trade preferences applicable to specific trading partners. The rates used in calculating the indicators here are the applied most-favored-nation duties. Applied rates are less than or equal to the bound rates that countries have agreed to in World Trade Organization negotiations, but they may exceed the rates applied to partners in preferential trade agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement. (See table 6.5 for the membership of regional trade blocs and data on their exports.)

Some countries set fairly uniform tariff rates across all imports. Others are more selective, setting high tariffs to protect favored domestic industries and low tariffs on goods that have few domestic suppliers or that are necessary inputs for domestic industry. The standard deviation of tariffs is a measure of the dispersion of tariff rates around their mean value. Highly dispersed rates are evidence of discriminatory tariffs that may distort production and consumption decisions. But this tells only part of the story. The effective rate of protection—the degree to which the value added in an industry is protected— may exceed the nominal rate if the tariff system systematically differentiates among imports of raw materials, intermediate products, and finished goods.

The indicators in this table were calculated from data supplied by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Data are classified using the Harmonized System of trade codes at the six- or eight-digit level. Tariff line data were matched to Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) revision 2 codes to define the commodity groups and global import weights. Import weights were calculated for 1995 using the United Nations Statistics Division's Commodity Trade (COMTRADE) database. Data are shown only for the countries and years for which complete data are available and, to conserve space, observations were dropped when there was no change in the average tariff rate in successive years.

• **Primary products** are commodities classified in SITC revision 2 sections 0–4 plus division 68 (non-ferrous metals). • **Manufactured products** are commodities classified in SITC revision 2 sections 5–9, excluding division 68. • **Mean tariff** is the unweighted average of the applied rates for all products subject to tariffs. • **Standard deviation of tariff rates** measures the average dispersion of tariff rates around the simple mean. • **Weighted mean tariff** is the average of applied rates weighted by product shares in 1995 world imports.

Mean tariff rates and their standard deviations were calculated by World Bank staff using data from the UNCTAD Trade Analysis Information System. Data on global imports come from the United Nations Statistics Division's COMTRADE database.