



4.5

Structure of merchandise imports

	Merchandise imports		Food		Agricultural raw materials		Fuels		Ores and metals		Manufactures	
	\$ millions		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total	
	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007
Afghanistan	387	2,950	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Albania	714	4,196	34	16	1	1	3	15	1	3	61	65
Algeria	10,100	27,631	29	20	3	2	1	1	2	2	65	75
Angola	1,468	11,400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Argentina	20,122	44,780	5	4	2	1	4	6	3	3	86	85
Armenia	674	3,282	31	17	0	1	27	16	0	3	39	59
Australia	61,283	165,334	5	5	2	1	5	13	1	1	86	76
Austria	66,237	162,351	6	6	3	2	4	10	4	5	82	75
Azerbaijan	668	5,712	39	16	1	1	5	3	2	2	53	78
Bangladesh	6,694	18,595	17	17	3	7	8	13	2	3	69	60
Belarus	5,564	28,674	..	7	..	1	..	35	..	4	..	48
Belgium	164,934 ^a	413,163	11 ^a	8	2 ^a	1	6 ^a	11	5 ^a	5	71 ^a	74
Benin	746	1,500	36	30	4	4	0	20	1	1	59	45
Bolivia	1,424	3,444	10	10	2	1	5	8	3	1	81	79
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,082	9,772	..	16	..	1	..	14	..	4	..	64
Botswana	1,911	4,035	..	13	..	1	..	16	..	2	..	67
Brazil	54,137	126,581	11	5	3	1	12	19	3	5	71	64
Bulgaria	5,660	29,983	8	6	3	1	34	5	4	9	48	62
Burkina Faso	455	1,650	21	..	2	..	14	..	1	..	62	..
Burundi	234	319	21	12	2	1	11	28	1	1	64	58
Cambodia	1,187	5,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cameroon	1,199	3,760	17	18	3	2	2	31	6	3	72	46
Canada	168,426	389,600	6	6	2	1	4	9	3	3	83	77
Central African Republic	175	230	16	17	10	27	9	17	2	2	64	37
Chad	365	1,500	24	..	1	..	18	..	1	..	57	..
Chile	15,900	47,114	7	7	2	1	9	26	2	4	79	62
China†	132,084	955,950	7	4	5	4	4	12	4	12	79	68
Hong Kong, China	196,072	370,132	5	3	2	1	2	3	2	2	87	90
Colombia	13,853	32,897	9	9	3	1	3	3	2	3	78	83
Congo, Dem. Rep.	871	3,700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congo, Rep.	670	2,900	21	..	1	..	20	..	1	..	58	..
Costa Rica	4,036	12,955	10	8	1	1	9	12	2	2	77	74
Côte d'Ivoire	2,931	6,160	21	17	1	1	19	30	1	1	57	49
Croatia	7,352	25,830	12	8	2	1	12	15	3	3	67	73
Cuba	2,825	10,083	..	12	..	0	..	0	..	1	..	50
Czech Republic	25,085	117,900	7	5	3	1	8	8	4	4	77	81
Denmark	45,939	99,621	12	12	3	2	3	6	2	2	73	77
Dominican Republic	5,170	13,817	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ecuador	4,152	13,565	8	8	3	1	6	21	2	1	82	67
Egypt, Arab Rep.	11,760	27,064	28	19	7	4	1	15	3	4	61	42
El Salvador	3,329	8,677	15	17	2	2	9	18	2	1	72	62
Eritrea	454	515	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Estonia	2,546	15,516	14	8	3	3	11	14	1	1	71	66
Ethiopia	1,145	5,395	14	7	2	1	11	13	1	1	72	77
Finland	29,470	81,491	6	5	4	3	9	14	6	10	74	66
France	289,391	615,229	11	8	3	1	7	14	3	3	76	74
Gabon	882	2,250	19	17	1	0	3	4	1	1	76	78
Gambia, The	182	315	36	31	1	2	14	17	0	1	46	49
Georgia	392	5,217	36	16	0	1	39	18	0	1	24	60
Germany	463,872	1,058,580	10	7	3	1	6	11	4	5	70	67
Ghana	1,906	8,043	8	15	1	1	6	2	3	2	75	81
Greece	25,898	76,149	16	11	2	1	7	15	3	4	71	68
Guatemala	3,292	13,578	12	11	2	1	12	18	1	1	73	68
Guinea	819	1,190	31	..	1	..	19	..	1	..	47	..
Guinea-Bissau	133	140	44	..	0	..	16	..	0	..	40	..
Haiti	653	1,682	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
†Data for Taiwan, China	103,558	219,649	5	3	4	2	7	20	6	9	74	65

Structure of merchandise imports

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ECONOMY

	Merchandise imports		Food		Agricultural raw materials		Fuels		Ores and metals		Manufactures	
	\$ millions		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total	
	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007
Honduras	1,879	8,556	13	15	1	1	12	20	1	1	74	64
Hungary	15,465	95,041	6	4	3	1	12	9	4	3	75	76
India	34,707	216,622	4	3	4	2	24	33	7	6	53	46
Indonesia	40,630	92,381	9	11	6	4	7	30	5	4	73	53
Iran, Islamic Rep.	13,882	46,000	21	2	2	1	2	4	3	0	70	16
Iraq	665	32,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ireland	32,340	82,472	8	9	1	1	3	9	2	2	76	73
Israel	29,578	59,039	7	6	2	1	6	16	2	2	82	74
Italy	205,990	504,454	11	8	6	2	7	12	5	6	67	65
Jamaica	2,818	5,899	14	13	2	1	13	34	1	0	68	49
Japan	335,882	621,091	16	9	6	2	16	28	7	9	53	51
Jordan	3,697	13,511	21	15	2	1	13	22	2	3	61	57
Kazakhstan	3,807	32,756	10	7	2	1	25	11	5	2	58	79
Kenya	2,991	8,989	10	11	2	2	15	21	2	2	71	62
Korea, Dem. Rep.	1,380	3,460	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Korea, Rep.	135,119	356,846	5	4	5	2	14	27	6	8	67	58
Kuwait	7,790	23,642	16	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	81	..
Kyrgyz Republic	522	2,417	18	15	3	2	36	31	3	2	41	50
Lao PDR	589	1,065	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Latvia	1,815	15,285	10	10	2	3	21	11	1	2	66	70
Lebanon	7,278	12,251	19	..	2	..	8	..	2	..	63	..
Lesotho	1,107	1,730	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Liberia	510	499	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Libya	5,392	7,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lithuania	3,650	24,207	13	9	4	2	19	16	4	2	58	70
Macedonia, FYR	1,719	5,228	17	12	3	1	12	19	3	6	54	62
Madagascar	628	2,590	16	15	2	1	14	17	1	0	65	67
Malawi	475	1,450	14	11	1	1	11	14	1	1	73	74
Malaysia	77,691	146,982	5	6	1	1	2	9	3	5	84	75
Mali	772	2,255	20	15	1	1	16	22	1	1	63	62
Mauritania	431	1,510	..	25	..	1	..	27	..	0	..	47
Mauritius	1,976	3,895	17	19	3	2	7	18	1	1	72	58
Mexico	75,858	296,275	6	6	2	1	2	7	2	3	80	76
Moldova	840	3,690	8	12	3	2	46	21	2	1	42	64
Mongolia	415	2,117	14	12	1	0	19	27	1	1	65	60
Morocco	10,023	31,695	20	12	6	3	14	20	4	4	56	61
Mozambique	704	3,300	22	18	3	1	10	16	1	0	62	47
Myanmar	1,348	3,250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Namibia	1,616	3,420	..	15	..	1	..	10	..	1	..	73
Nepal	1,333	2,904	12	..	6	..	13	..	5	..	63	..
Netherlands	185,232	491,583	14	9	2	1	8	14	4	4	72	61
New Zealand	13,957	30,890	7	8	1	1	5	14	3	3	82	73
Nicaragua	975	3,579	18	16	1	0	18	23	1	0	63	60
Niger	374	970	32	24	1	5	13	17	3	1	51	53
Nigeria	8,222	29,500	18	18	1	1	1	3	2	3	77	76
Norway	32,968	80,281	7	7	3	2	3	4	7	10	80	77
Oman	4,379	16,100	20	10	1	1	2	3	2	5	68	81
Pakistan	11,515	32,590	18	9	5	5	16	26	3	4	57	55
Panama	2,510	6,872	11	10	1	0	14	18	1	1	73	68
Papua New Guinea	1,452	2,909	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paraguay	3,144	7,280	19	7	0	0	7	13	1	1	74	78
Peru	7,584	20,180	14	10	2	2	9	19	1	1	75	65
Philippines	28,341	57,985	8	7	2	1	9	17	3	2	58	48
Poland	29,050	162,674	10	6	3	2	9	10	3	4	74	75
Portugal	32,610	78,138	14	12	4	2	8	14	2	3	72	65
Puerto Rico



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Structure of merchandise imports

	Merchandise imports		Food		Agricultural raw materials		Fuels		Ores and metals		Manufactures	
	\$ millions		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total		% of total	
	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007	1995	2007
Romania	10,278	69,863	8	6	2	1	21	11	4	3	63	77
Russian Federation	60,945	223,421	18	13	1	1	3	1	3	2	44	77
Rwanda	236	737	19	14	3	2	12	9	3	3	64	73
Saudi Arabia	28,091	90,157	16	13	1	1	0	0	3	5	75	81
Senegal	1,412	4,452	25	25	2	1	30	27	1	1	42	45
Serbia	..	18,350	14	6	4	2	14	17	7	6	60	69
Sierra Leone	133	445	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Singapore	124,507	263,155	5	3	1	0	8	20	2	2	83	71
Slovak Republic	8,770	60,218	9	5	3	1	13	11	6	3	70	79
Slovenia	9,492	31,534	8	6	5	3	7	9	4	7	74	74
Somalia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Africa	30,546 ^b	90,990	7 ^b	5	2 ^b	1	8 ^b	19	2 ^b	3	78 ^b	65
Spain	113,537	372,569	14	9	3	1	8	15	4	4	71	70
Sri Lanka	5,306	11,300	16	12	2	1	6	13	1	3	75	69
Sudan	1,218	8,775	24	5	2	0	14	0	0	0	59	93
Swaziland	1,008	2,650	..	21	..	1	..	16	..	1	..	61
Sweden	65,036	151,269	7	7	2	2	6	11	4	5	80	72
Switzerland	80,152	161,232	6	5	2	1	3	7	3	4	85	82
Syrian Arab Republic	4,709	14,500	..	13	..	3	..	27	..	3	..	52
Tajikistan	810	2,455	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tanzania	1,675	5,337	10	12	1	1	1	30	4	1	84	55
Thailand	70,786	140,795	4	4	4	2	7	18	3	5	80	69
Timor-Leste	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Togo	594	1,440	18	15	2	1	30	27	1	2	49	55
Trinidad and Tobago	1,714	7,450	16	8	1	1	1	33	6	7	77	50
Tunisia	7,902	18,980	13	10	4	2	7	13	3	3	73	71
Turkey	35,709	170,057	7	3	6	3	13	14	6	8	69	63
Turkmenistan	1,365	4,460	24	..	0	..	3	..	2	..	71	..
Uganda	1,056	3,466	16	12	3	1	2	19	2	1	78	63
Ukraine	15,484	60,670	8	7	2	1	48	26	3	4	38	62
United Arab Emirates	23,778	132,000	15	6	0	1	4	1	6	4	75	62
United Kingdom	267,250	619,575	10	9	2	1	4	10	3	4	80	72
United States	770,852	2,020,403	5	4	2	1	8	18	3	3	79	70
Uruguay	2,867	5,726	10	9	4	3	10	22	1	1	74	65
Uzbekistan	2,750	4,848	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Venezuela, RB	12,649	46,097	14	7	4	1	1	0	4	1	76	64
Vietnam	8,155	60,830	5	6	2	4	10	15	2	4	76	66
West Bank and Gaza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yemen, Rep.	1,582	6,500	..	25	..	1	..	22	..	1	..	51
Zambia	700	3,971	10	5	2	0	13	12	2	5	72	76
Zimbabwe	2,660	2,420	6	11	2	4	9	18	2	6	78	54
World	5,228,953 t	14,144,532 t	9 w	6 w	3 w	1 w	7 w	15 w	4 w	5 w	75 w	69 w
Low income	74,778	257,014	14	13	3	3	12	17	2	3	66	62
Middle income	948,310	3,651,462	8	6	3	2	7	14	4	5	75	68
Lower middle income	452,835	1,955,705	9	6	4	3	8	17	4	7	72	63
Upper middle income	495,317	1,691,013	8	6	3	1	7	11	3	4	77	72
Low & middle income	1,023,140	3,908,450	8	7	3	2	7	14	3	5	74	68
East Asia & Pacific	366,057	1,476,968	6	5	4	3	5	14	4	8	78	67
Europe & Central Asia	200,774	939,184	11	7	3	2	14	12	4	4	61	70
Latin America & Carib.	241,363	734,326	8	7	2	1	5	11	2	3	78	72
Middle East & N. Africa	77,167	238,291	22	12	4	2	6	14	3	2	64	50
South Asia	60,322	286,538	8	4	4	2	21	32	6	6	55	48
Sub-Saharan Africa	78,377	242,243	11	10	2	1	10	18	2	2	73	64
High income	4,205,548	10,242,758	9	6	3	1	7	15	4	4	75	70
Euro area	1,644,739	4,068,352	11	8	3	2	7	12	4	5	72	69

Note: Components may not sum to 100 percent because of unclassified trade.

a. Includes Luxembourg. b. Refers to the South African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland).

About the data

Data on imports of goods are derived from the same sources as data on exports. In principle, world exports and imports should be identical. Similarly, exports from an economy should equal the sum of imports by the rest of the world from that economy. But differences in timing and definitions result in discrepancies in reported values at all levels. For further discussion of indicators of merchandise trade, see *About the data* for tables 4.4 and 6.2.

The value of imports is generally recorded as the cost of the goods when purchased by the importer plus the cost of transport and insurance to the frontier of the importing country—the cost, insurance, and freight (c.i.f.) value, corresponding to the landed cost at the point of entry of foreign goods into the country. A few countries, including Australia, Canada, and the United States, collect import data on a free on board (f.o.b.) basis and adjust them for freight and insurance costs. 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 to the U.S. dollar 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 imports include goods imported for domestic consumption and imports into bonded warehouses and free trade zones. Under the special system imports comprise goods imported for domestic consumption (including transformation and repair) and withdrawals for

domestic consumption from bonded warehouses and free trade zones. Goods transported through a country en route to another are excluded.

The data on total imports of goods (merchandise) in the table come from the World Trade Organization (WTO). For further discussion of the WTO's sources and methodology, see *About the data* for table 4.4. The import shares by major commodity group are from the United Nations Statistics Division's Commodity Trade (Comtrade) database. The values of total imports reported here have not been fully reconciled with the estimates of imports of goods and services from the national accounts (shown in table 4.8) or those from the balance of payments (table 4.15).

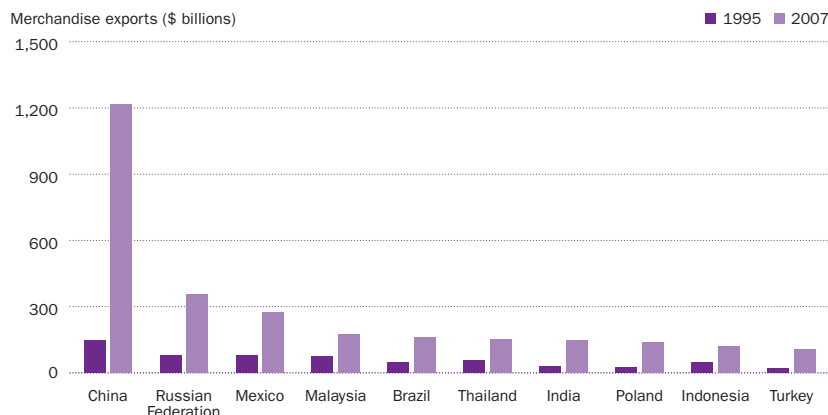
The classification of commodity groups is based on the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) revision 3. Previous editions contained data based on the SITC revision 1. Data for earlier years in previous editions may differ because of this change in methodology. Concordance tables are available to convert data reported in one system to another.

Definitions

- **Merchandise imports** are the c.i.f. value of goods purchased from the rest of the world valued in U.S. dollars.
- **Food** corresponds to 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** correspond to 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** correspond to SITC section 3 (mineral fuels).
- **Ores and metals** correspond to the commodities in SITC divisions 27, 28, and 68 (nonferrous metals).
- **Manufactures** correspond to the commodities in SITC sections 5 (chemicals), 6 (basic manufactures), 7 (machinery and transport equipment), and 8 (miscellaneous manufactured goods), excluding division 68.

Top 10 developing economy exporters of merchandise goods in 2007

4.5a



China continues to dominate merchandise exports among developing economies. Even when developed economies are included, China ranks as the third leading merchandise exporter.

Source: World Development Indicators data files and World Trade Organization.

Data sources

Data on merchandise imports are from the WTO. Data on shares of imports by major commodity group are from Comtrade. The WTO publishes data on world trade in its *Annual Report*. The International Monetary Fund publishes estimates of total imports of goods in its *International Financial Statistics* and *Direction of Trade Statistics*, as does the United Nations Statistics Division in its *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*. And the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development publishes data on the structure of imports in its *Handbook of Statistics*. Tariff line records of imports are compiled in the United Nations Statistics Division's Comtrade database.