

# Guidelines of the Trade Statistics

2023/11

Item	Description
Source of Data	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Records of customs export and import declarations.</li> <li>2. Fish caught and sold overseas by national fishing vessels : Provided by Fisheries Agency, Ministry of Agriculture.</li> </ol>
Scope of Recording	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Imports:           <p>Goods are included in trade statistics once entering the economic territory of the Republic of China (Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu) except for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Transshipment, through (unloaded) cargoes;</li> <li>(2) Goods imported by foreign agencies and personnel who are entitled to diplomatic privileges for official or personal use;</li> <li>(3) Goods for personal use brought in by government agencies officials returning from overseas posts following the expiry of their terms of service;</li> <li>(4) Duty-free personal effects carried by inward passengers;</li> <li>(5) Goods temporarily admitted, such as exhibition goods, costumes and paraphernalia of entertainment troupes, containers; goods for experiments, repair or maintenance, etc., will be withdrawn in the same state within a statutory period of time;</li> <li>(6) Goods temporarily dispatched abroad and returned in the same state within a statutory period of time;</li> <li>(7) Goods under lease of less than one year;</li> <li>(8) Compensation or replacement goods;</li> <li>(9) Official and private documents;</li> <li>(10) Issued banknotes, securities, and coins in circulation;</li> <li>(11) Monetary gold;</li> <li>(12) Fishery products caught overseas by national vessels;</li> <li>(13) Goods seized, returned, abandoned or overdue for completion of customs clearance procedures;</li> <li>(14) Goods of ATA Carnet.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Exports:           <p>Goods (including fish caught and sold overseas by national fishing vessels) out of the economic territory of the Republic of China (Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu) are included except for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Transshipment, through (unloaded) cargoes;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(2) Goods exported by foreign agencies and personnel who are entitled to diplomatic privileges for official or personal use;</li> <li>(3) Goods dispatched to the government agencies stationed overseas for official or personal use ;</li> <li>(4) Personal effects carried by outward passengers;</li> <li>(5) Goods temporarily dispatched, such as exhibition goods, costumes and paraphernalia of entertainment troupes, containers; goods for experiments, repair or maintenance, etc., will be returned in the same state within a statutory period of time;</li> <li>(6) Goods temporarily admitted are withdrawn in the same state within a statutory period of time;</li> <li>(7) Bunker oil, materials and goods for the use of national vessels, aircrafts and other means of conveyance engaged in international trade;</li> <li>(8) Goods under lease of less than one year;</li> <li>(9) Compensation or replacement goods;</li> <li>(10) Official and private documents;</li> <li>(11) Issued banknotes, securities and coins in circulation;</li> <li>(12) Goods of ATA Carnet.</li> </ul>
Definition of Re-imports and Re-exports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Re-imports refer to exported domestic goods returned in the same state or without acquiring foreign origin through processing for any reason.</li> <li>2. Re-exports refer to imported foreign goods exported in the same state or without acquiring domestic origin through processing for any reason.</li> </ul>
Time of Recording	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Records of customs declarations: The import and export merchandises released by Customs are recorded in the trade statistics in the month which the corresponding declarations have undergone review, which ends on the 2nd day of the following calendar month.</li> <li>2. Fish caught and sold overseas by national fishing vessels: The month of data received from Fisheries Agency, Ministry of Agriculture.</li> </ul>

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Commodity Classification	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Goods are classified according to the <i>Customs Import Tariff and Import and Export Commodity Classification of the Republic of China</i>. Any addition or deletion to the code of commodity classification will be effective on announcement by the International Trade Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs.</li> <li>2. Tariff quota goods will be included in trade statistics in accordance with their respective commodity classification code instead of those in Chapter 98 specializing for tariff quota in the <i>Customs Import Tariff and Import and Export Commodity Classification of the Republic of China</i>.</li> <li>3. For statistical purposes, a specific commodity classification code “9899.00.00.00-6” is used for goods unclassified by commodity (including parcels, express consignments cleared through by simplified declarations, shipments with C.I.F./F.O.B. value under NT\$50,000, the miscellaneous and other specific goods).</li> </ol>
Valuation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Imports, re-imports: Based on C.I.F. value.</li> <li>2. Exports, re-exports: Based on F.O.B. value.</li> </ol>
Value Unit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NT\$: thousand</li> <li>2. US\$: thousand</li> </ol>
Exchange Rate ( for statistics use only )	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The same currency exchange rate from NT dollar to US dollar is applied to either imports or exports, which is the average of selling and buying rates announced by Customs every 10 days in a month for filling Customs declaration purpose (since 2014).</li> <li>2. Please refer to Reference Information/Exchange Rate Search for the details.</li> </ol>
Units of Measurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The units of measurement are shown by their abbreviations on the list of “Units of Measurement”; and the quantity of weight stands for net weight.</li> <li>2. Please refer to Reference Information/Units of Measurement for the details.</li> </ol>
Country(Area)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Imports: country(area) of origin</li> <li>2. Re-imports: country(area) of origin (since 2014)</li> <li>3. Exports: country(area) of last known destination</li> <li>4. Re-exports: country(area) of last known destination</li> </ol>
Data Dissemination Timetable	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please refer to Reference Information/Calendar of Data Release for the details.</li> <li>2. The Calendar of Data Release will be updated in Dec.</li> </ol>
Period of Data Release	Monthly
Revision	For December statistical month release, the adjustments are applied to the prior month data of the same year. Annual revisions are made in September of next year.
Notes	1. From 2006, the total value of imports includes imports and re-imports; the

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	<p>total value of exports includes exports and re-exports.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Before 2014, the average selling/average buying rate from NT dollar to US dollar is applied to monthly imports/exports respectively, where the selling/buying rates are announced by Customs every 10 days in a month for filling Customs declaration purpose;</li> <li>3. Before 2014, the re-imports country is based on country (area) of sale.</li> <li>4. From 2016, the scope of recording is amended: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Due to the adoption of general trade system, goods stored and re-exported subsequently in customs bonded warehouses, logistics centers, and non-manufacturing enterprises (i.e. warehouses, logistics centers) in free trade zones are included in the trade statistics;</li> <li>(2) Bunker oil for the use of national vessels, aircrafts and other means of conveyance engaged in international trade is excluded from export trade statistics;</li> <li>(3) Foreign goods for the use of foreign vessels, aircrafts and other means of conveyance engaged in international trade are included in export trade statistics;</li> <li>(4) Humanitarian aid is included in the trade statistics.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Annual revision is made since 2019.</li> <li>6. From 2019, aircraft engines stored for repair or maintenance in customs bonded warehouses, logistics centers and free trade zones and re-exported subsequently are excluded from trade statistics by case review. So are exported aircraft materials for repair and maintenance. This change is also applied to the data from 2016 to 2018 retrospectively.</li> <li>7. Measure of statistical confidentiality has been adopted since Feb. 26, 2020. The suppressed data is reported at specific codes for confidentiality and for statistics only, which are “product code for suppression” and “confidential country code”.</li> <li>8. Trade statistics is released by reported countries (areas) individually, instead of by main countries (areas) or combined groups starting in August 2021. The change is applied retrospectively since 2003. Meanwhile, the country of origin “TW” in the import statistics is published individually instead of being classified into “OTHER”.</li> <li>9. Due to rounding, individual figures may not add up exactly to the total.</li> </ol>