

TRADING PARTNERS

The pattern of OECD merchandise trade – where imports come from and where exports go to – has undergone significant shifts over the last decade. These shifts have occurred in response to changes in the distribution of global income and to globalisation – in particular, the outsourcing of manufacturing from OECD countries to the rest of the world.

Definition

The data shown here refer to total imports and exports declared by all 34 member economies of the OECD. It shows merchandise trade both within the OECD area and with selected countries of the rest of the world.

According to United Nations guidelines, international merchandise trade statistics record all goods which add to, or subtract from, the stock of material resources of a country by entering (as imports) or leaving (as exports) its economic territory. Goods being transported through a country or temporarily admitted or withdrawn (except for goods for inward or outward processing) are not included in merchandise trade statistics.

Comparability

OECD countries follow common definitions and procedures in compiling their merchandise trade statistics. These statistics are therefore comparable and of good quality. The removal of customs frontiers following the creation of a common market in Europe required EU countries to adopt a system of recording trade flows through sample surveys of exporters and importers. This led to a fall in the reliability of merchandise trade statistics for trade between the EU countries.

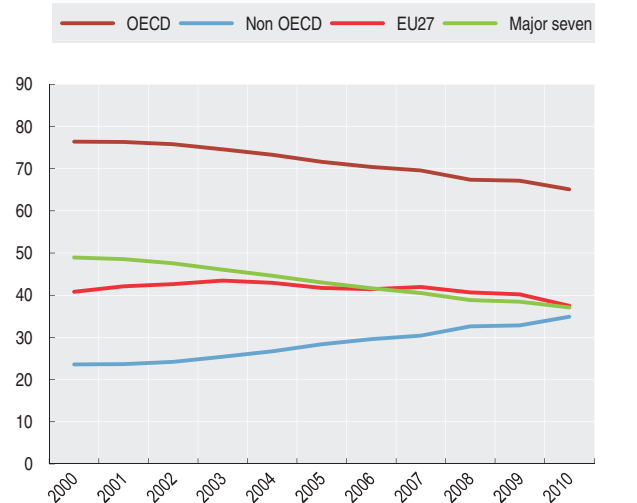
Overview

Since 2000, there has been a steady decline in the share of OECD imports and exports coming from other OECD countries. In 2000, imports from OECD countries accounted for about 74% of total world imports; by 2010, this share had fallen to 62%. For exports, the share directed to other OECD countries also declined from 79% in 2000 to 68% in 2010.

OECD imports from non-OECD countries have risen from 26% to 38% of the total over the same period, while exports to these countries have increased from 21% to 32%. A large change occurred in trade between OECD countries and China. In 2000, China supplied only 5% of total OECD imports but by 2010 this share had risen to 12%. China's importance as a destination for OECD exports has increased less sharply, rising from 2% in 2000 to 6% in 2010.

Partner countries and regions of OECD merchandise trade

As a percentage of total world merchandise trade



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Sources

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Further information

Analytical publications

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- OECD (2012), *Statistics on International Trade in Services*, OECD Publishing.

Methodological publications

- OECD, et al. (2010), *Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services*, United Nations.

Online databases

- *International Trade by Commodity Statistics*.
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- *STAN Bilateral Trade Database*.

Websites

- OECD International Trade and Balance of Payments Statistics, www.oecd.org/std/its.



Partner countries and regions of OECD merchandise trade

	Imports of OECD area As a percentage of total OECD merchandise imports				Exports of OECD area As a percentage of total OECD merchandise exports				Total merchandise trade (Imports+Exports) of OECD area As a percentage of total OECD merchandise trade			
	2000	2005	2009	2010	2000	2005	2009	2010	2000	2005	2009	2010
Australia	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.3
Austria	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
Belgium	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.5
Canada	5.1	4.2	3.1	3.2	4.4	3.5	3.0	3.0	4.8	3.9	3.1	3.1
Chile	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Czech Republic	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.0
Denmark	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7
Estonia	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Finland	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
France	4.9	4.5	4.3	3.8	5.6	5.5	5.3	4.8	5.3	5.0	4.8	4.3
Germany	9.1	10.0	9.6	8.9	8.6	8.4	8.2	7.8	8.8	9.2	8.9	8.4
Greece	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Hungary	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6
Iceland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ireland	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.3	1.0	0.9
Israel	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Italy	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.0	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.1
Japan	6.8	5.6	4.7	4.9	4.4	3.7	3.2	3.4	5.7	4.7	4.0	4.2
Korea	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.7
Luxembourg	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Mexico	3.0	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.8	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.9	2.3	2.2	2.3
Netherlands	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.7
New Zealand	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Norway	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8
Poland	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.5	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.3
Portugal	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Slovak Republic	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5
Slovenia	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Spain	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.8	2.7	3.1	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.0
Sweden	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.1
Switzerland	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
Turkey	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.9
United Kingdom	12.8	8.8	8.4	8.2	18.3	15.6	12.5	12.7	15.5	12.1	10.4	10.4
United States	4.8	3.8	3.1	2.9	5.9	5.3	4.8	4.5	5.3	4.5	3.9	3.7
EU 27	38.8	39.5	38.1	35.3	43.0	44.1	42.3	39.7	40.8	41.7	40.2	37.5
OECD	73.7	68.1	64.7	62.4	79.2	75.3	69.6	67.9	76.4	71.6	67.1	65.1
Brazil	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.2	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.3
China	5.3	9.4	11.6	12.2	2.1	3.9	5.4	6.2	3.8	6.7	8.5	9.2
India	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.5	0.8	1.4	1.5	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.3
Indonesia	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.9
Russian Federation	1.6	2.1	2.3	2.5	0.6	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.1	1.7	1.8	2.0
South Africa	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6

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Partner countries and regions of OECD merchandise trade

As a percentage of total world merchandise trade



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