

International Trade Statistics

International Trade Statistics

International Trade in Goods

Purpose

To produce consistent and timely international trade data for OECD member countries and ensure methodological soundness and comparability of international trade data. To conduct research to improve the quality of the concepts underlying international trade data and play an active role in the development of international standards.

Objectives and outputs

Collects and maintains two databases for analytical use: (a) monthly data of exports and imports at current prices by partner countries and main categories of commodities, and volume and average value indices for selected countries and main categories; and (b) detailed annual data of exports and imports by commodities and by partner countries using three classifications (SITC, HS, ISIC).

Full implementation of the OECD-UNSD data sharing agreement covering all OECD member countries. A successful completion of the first phase (data collection and transmission to UNSD) of this initiative has already resulted in a reduction of the response burden for member countries and has led in 2006 to identical trade figures published by both the UN and the OECD (processed data). The OECD meeting of experts in international trade will continue to stimulate the exchange of views and research on methodological issues. The 2010 ITS expert meeting attracted 130 participants.

OECD continues to participate in and contribute to the Inter-Agency Merchandise Trade Task Force and manages, and moderates together with WTO, the EDG "Tradenet" on methodological and co-ordination issues affecting various national and international organisations.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Chinese Taipei, Russian Federation

Databases

International trade by Commodity Statistics

Monthly Statistics of International Trade

Main Developments for 2011

General aspects:

In 2011, data quality and timeliness of processed data should be further improved as it is planned to implement "data capture" checks in order to facilitate the upload of data into ITCS.

ITCS in OECD.Stat has continued stabilizing in 2010 and efficiency results have been gained thanks to the new server and new architecture of ITCS on OECD.stat which resulted in better performances and better timeliness (through the implementation of a direct link between ITCS and OECD.stat).

The team will continue working on files data and metadata files received in the context of the accession of the new members to the OECD. Upload of data files into the database will be dealt with in the context of all the other priorities.

The team will be involved on the publication of the new Trade and Competitiveness at a Glance.

In the context of the 2011-2012 biennium project of implementation of Unit value Indexes to the annual trade database, research will be conducted on an outlier detection method that can fit with the data provided with the different members of the OECD

Data collection:

Concurrent use of the ITCS OECD-UNSD common data collection and processing system and the OECD trade ITCS in OECD.Stat. Full addition of ISIC classification.

International Trade Statistics

International Trade in Services

Purpose

To provide detailed, relevant and internationally comparable data for trade policy and economic analysis. The information needs of international trade negotiations including the General Agreement on Trade in Services and the observed increase in internationalisation of services production are driving new developments.

Objectives and outputs

An annual joint effort publication with Eurostat and database: "OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services - Detailed tables by category of service". This covers the 33 member countries. Data are based on the concepts of the IMF's 5th Balance of Payments Manual and are broken down according to the detailed EBOPS Classification of Trade in Services with the exception of Australia which has started compiling information according to BPM6. The publication "OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services - Detailed Tables by Partner Country" provides bilateral service trade flows for 31 member countries, Hong Kong SAR and Russian Federation.

Coordinate the work of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services including the finalisation of the paper version of the "The Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services" (MSITS 2010) and its online annexes. Prepare outline of the compilation guidance.

Contribute to organisation of the WP on trade in goods and trade in services statistics.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa

Databases

International trade in services by category of service (TIS)

OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services by Service Category and by Partner Country

Main Developments for 2011

General aspects:

Promote SDMX for exchanging trade in services data.

Facilitate to the extent possible links between the classifications EBOPS and ISIC.

Implement EBOPS 2010 in StatWorks and upload countries that have adopted the new standards, beginning with Australia.

Improve the timeliness, with rolling updates, and detail of published data. Monitor progress in the implementation of MSITS recommendations.

Contribute to OECD analytical work and in particular work closely with TAD and STI on data needs for the Services Trade Restrictiveness Index. Improve estimates of world trade flows of services.

Cooperate with Eurostat to collect and make available as far as possible partner country data on remittances.

Develop cooperation with UNSD and other agencies on data sharing in trade in services.

Data collection:

Pursue rolling update of trade in services by partner country data as data become available. Countries that are sent an excel questionnaire to will be asked to fill in. A second best would now be for them to provide us with their data in an SDMX format

International Trade Statistics

Intra-firm trade

Purpose

To create a dataset of intra-firm trade among OECD countries for TAD report on "Intra-firm trade".

Objectives and outputs

The project started in 2010 and will continue in 2011. A work-in-progress report has been presented in September 2010.

Main Developments for 2011

General aspects:

The database will include US data at a more disaggregated level (HS6) and estimates based on firm-level data (ORBIS) will be updated.

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Monthly International Trade

Purpose

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Objectives and outputs

Collect data and maintain database for analytical use: monthly data of exports and imports at current prices by partner countries and main categories of commodities, and volume and average value indices for selected countries and main categories. Continuous and close co-operation with key users at OECD. Updating cycles optimised to respond to needs of Economic Outlook. Online availability of OECD's detailed international trade data. OECD continues to actively participate and contribute to the International Trade Task Force (Inter-Agency TF)

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Russian Federation

Databases

Monthly Statistics of International Trade (MSIT)

Main Developments for 2011

General aspects:

Following the recommendations of the WPTGS and the work carried out by the Secretariat, it is planned for 2011 to continue work on implementation of the methodological questionnaire results; advance total trade data submission to MSIT to feed into MEI in a timely manner (after aligning methodologies between MSIT and MEI) and to produce identical, consistent monthly trade aggregate figures in the two publications; expand scope of countries to include the 5 Accession countries with help from additional resources marked to that effect.

International Trade Statistics

Services Trade Restrictiveness Index

Purpose

To provide a reliable and accurate regulatory database which can be easily updated for the Services Trade Restrictiveness Index.

Objectives and outputs

the STRI Regulatory Database inform on the existence of barriers to trade in services in the countries covered. This information is completed by direct links to the legal sources and comments clarifying the context.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa

Main Developments for 2011

General aspects:

The database has been completely refined and updated during the year.