Norway’s domestic value added content of its exports in 2009 was, at 85%, relatively high compared to other OECD economies (Fig. 1). This reflects Norway’s specialisation in Mining (oil extraction), an upstream activity which plays a significant role in its economy – it accounted for just over half its total exports in value added terms in 2009, up from about 40% in 1995. There are signs of fragmentation of production in other sectors, although in many of them, the foreign value added content was lower in 2009 than in 1995 (Fig. 2).

The share of foreign content in Norway’s exports fell in most sectors between 1995 and 2009. Exceptions including Basic metals and Transport equipment which by 2009 had foreign content shares of 46% and 38% respectively (Fig. 2).
In total, in 2009, just above 40% of the value of imported intermediate goods and services were subsequently used in exports – similar to that in 1995 (Fig. 3). The greatest share concerned Mining where 70% of imported intermediates from this sector where exported. For manufactures goods, the largest shares concerned Basic metals (63%) and Machinery (52%).

**Figure 3: Share of imported intermediate inputs that are exported, by import category, % (REI)**

The drop in the foreign value added content of Norway’s exports between 1995 and 2009 (Fig. 2) was mainly due to a fall in European content (from 13% to 10%), most notably from the Transport and telecommunications sector (Fig. 4). North American content fell from 3% to 2% while the presence of East and S.E. Asian content remained low at around 1½%.

**Figure 4: Foreign value added in Total economy, by originating region and industry, %**

[Figure 4 illustrates how the TiVA infrastructure can be used to focus on the origins of foreign value added in the output of a particular sector in a particular country].

The importance of UK and Sweden as export markets for Norway in 2009 is diminished in value added terms as a Norwegian imports are present in these countries’ exports to others – notably USA whose share of Norway’s exports increases significantly (Fig. 5). Similarly, USA becomes the biggest source of imports as its value added is present in Norwegian imports from some of its neighbours – notably Sweden and Denmark.
Domestic value added embodied in exports, and intermediate imports embodied in exports, combine to reveal notable differences in Norway’s trade balance positions with some of its major trading partners (as recorded in the OECD-WTO TiVA database). Main changes include notable reductions in surpluses with UK and the Netherlands and an increased surplus with USA for reasons outlined above (Fig. 6). Interestingly, while Sweden’s shares of both Norway’s exports and imports are reduced significantly in value added terms, the consequent balance hardly changes compared to the gross measure.

**Figure 5a: Exports, partner shares, in gross and value added terms (as a % of total), 2009**

**Figure 5b: Imports, partner shares, in gross and value added terms (as a % of total), 2009**

**Figure 6: Bilateral trade balances, USD million, 2009**
In value added terms about 36% of Norway’s exports reflect services, relatively low compared to other OECD countries but quite typical for mineral resource rich countries (Fig. 7). Services contributed about 30% to Norwegian exports of manufactures in 2009, showing modest increases since 1995 in all industries except Chemicals and minerals (Fig. 8).

Figure 7: Services content of gross exports, 2009  
(EXGR_*_SV; SERV_VAGR)

Figure 8: Services content of gross exports, by industry, 2009  
(EXGR_*_SV; SERV_VAGR)

The information included in this note is based on the May 2013 release of the Trade in Value Added (TiVA) database. The data can be accessed from www.oecd.org/trade/valueadded. For further information, please contact us (tiva.contact@oecd.org).