Comtrade Explanatory Notes

Metadata on (i) Trade System, (ii) Trade Valuation, (iii) Commodity Classification, (iv) Trading Partners (Origin/LastKnownDestination), and (v) Exchange Rate.


National Compilation and Reporting Practices (NCDP)

The Trade Statistics Branch of the United Nations Statistics Division has conducted national compilation and reporting practices surveys in 2006 and 1996. They contain metadata, inter alia, on coverage, trade system, commodity classification, valuation, quantity measurement, and partner country.


A summary of the surveys and a comparison between 2006 and 1996 results, as far as possible, are available on the main page:
http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradereport/introduction_MM.asp

Comtrade Publication Notes

Information as to when and from where data was received:


Responsible Agency, National WebPages for Data and Metadata

- Responsible agency and national web page: National Institute of Statistics and Censuses
  http://www.inec.go.cr/
**Additional Notes:**

1) Costa Rica stated that Export Processing Zones are included in Merchandise Trade Statistics (and made available in UN Comtrade).


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**IMF Data Dissemination Standards GDDS/SDDS on Merchandise Trade**

The IMF’s data dissemination standards consist of two tiers: the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS), which would apply to all Fund members, and the more advanced Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS), for those member countries having or seeking access to international capital markets. In general, a country subscribes to either GDDS or SDDS.

SDDS provides information on Trade Data Coverage, Periodicity, and Timeliness, Access by the Public, Integrity, Quality as well as Contact Persons.


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**Additional Information about Country Metadata**

For concepts and definitions, please go to the Glossary of this Knowledgebase:


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Trade Knowledgebase