# Quality report on European statistics on international trade in goods

2016-2019 DATA

2020 edition

Quality report
on European statistics on
international trade in goods

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Abbreviations

BoP	Balance of payments
CN	Combined Nomenclature
CPA	Classification of Products by Activity
EA	Euro area
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
ESS	European Statistical System
EU	European Union
HS	Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System
ITGS	International trade in goods statistics
PSI	Provider of statistical information
NACE	The Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community
NSA	National Statistical Authority
NSI	National Statistical Institute
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
SME	Small- and medium-size enterprise
TEC	Trade by Enterprise Characteristics
TIC	Trade by invoicing currency
UN	United Nations
VAT	Value added tax
VIES	VAT Information Exchange System

1 | **Introduction**

1.1. Purpose of this Report

This Quality Report aims to provide the users with a tool for assessing the quality of the international trade in goods statistics (ITGS) disseminated by Eurostat.

The data quality can be evaluated against indicators covering the following components:

- **Relevance** — Degree to which statistical outputs meet current and potential user needs. It depends on whether all the statistics that are needed are produced and the extent to which concepts used (definitions, classifications etc.) reflect user needs.

- **Accuracy** — degree of closeness of estimates to the true values.

- **Timeliness and punctuality** — The timeliness is the length of time between the event or phenomenon they describe and their availability. The punctuality is the time lag between the release date of data and the target date on which they were scheduled for release as announced in an official release calendar, laid down by Regulations or previously agreed among partners.

- **Accessibility and clarity** — The accessibility of statistical outputs is the measure of the ease with which users can obtain the data. It is determined by the physical conditions by means of which users obtain data: where to go, how to order, delivery time, pricing policy, etc. The clarity of statistical outputs is the measure of the ease with which users can understand the data. It is determined by the information environment within which the data are presented.

- **Comparability and coherence** — The coherence of two or more statistical outputs refers to the degree to which the statistical processes by which they were generated used the same concepts — classifications, definitions and target populations — and harmonised methods. Comparability is a special case of coherence, where the statistical outputs refer to the same data items and the aim of combining them is to make comparisons over time, or across regions, or across other domains.

Note that output quality components are not mutually exclusive in the sense that there are relationships between the factors that contribute to them. But there are also cases where the factors leading to improvements with respect to one component result in deterioration with respect to another. For those case, **trade-offs between output quality components** should be sought.

This report also provides information on **users' needs**, **respondents' burden** and **confidentiality** measures.

The purpose of this report is not to rank countries from best to worst for each quality indicator, but to provide users with information on the different factors affecting statistics so that they can appraise the data quality for themselves.

1.2. Scope of this Report

1.2.1. COUNTRY COVERAGE

This Report provides qualitative information on the international trade in goods statistics disseminated by Eurostat for the Member States of the European Union (EU) and the members of the European Free Trade Association (hereinafter referred to as EFTA countries):

- **EU Member States** in protocol order: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and United Kingdom

   NB: This report includes quality indicators relating to reference periods prior to the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union (Brexit). The United Kingdom is therefore still included in the list of EU Member States.

- **EFTA countries** in protocol order: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

Note that all quality indicators are not relevant for the EFTA countries. This is in particular the case of the indicators relating to the trade between the EU Member States (intra-EU trade).

1.2.2. DATA COVERAGE

This Report covers all data flows from the EU Member States and EFTA countries to Eurostat as set up by the EU legislation on trade in goods statistics (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/international-trade-in-goods/legislation):

- **Aggregated data —** Monthly statistics on total trade by broad categories of products as defined by the one-digit codes of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) and with the following partner areas: intra- and extra-EU for all the EU Member States and intra- and extra-euro area for the EU Member States belonging to the euro area.

   Note that aggregated data are not required from EFTA countries as only collected to speed up the publication of first results for the euro area and the EU.

- **Detailed data —** Monthly statistics on intra- and extra-EU trade broken down by 8-digit codes of the Combined Nomenclature (CN) and by individual partner country.

   Note that the split between intra- and extra-EU trade is not relevant for EFTA countries. The product classification shall be the respective national nomenclature corresponding to a further breakdown of the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System (HS).

- **Trade by enterprise characteristics (TEC) data —** Annual statistics combining trade in goods data (intra-EU, extra-EU and world trade for the EU Member States; world trade only for the EFTA countries) with the characteristics of enterprises actively engaged in importing and exporting, such as the number of employees or type of activity (NACE classification). For TEC data, goods are classified according to the Classification of Products by Activity (CPA).

   Note that Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data and that Switzerland had a derogation to start providing those data only from 2016 as reference year, i.e. in 2018 as transmission year.

- **Trade by invoicing currency (TIC) data —** Annual statistics on extra-EU trade for EU Member States and on world trade for EFTA countries broken down by product groups based on 1-digit SITC codes and by the following currencies or groups of currencies: euro, national currencies of EU Member States not belonging to the euro area, US dollar and 'other' (i.e. aggregated group of currencies of all non-EU countries except the United States).

   Note that Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TIC data.

1.2.3. TIME COVERAGE

This Report focuses on the latest reference year for which data are available and considered as final. Note that the annual indicators relating to monthly statistics have been compiled on the basis of cumulated monthly data.

Aggregated data	2019 as reference year — 2016-2018 data are provided in annex for comparison purposes. Note that aggregated data are never revised as they are exclusively used to speed up the dissemination of first results. Therefore, they can all be considered as provisional figures.
Detailed data	2019 as reference year — 2016-2018 data are provided in annex for comparison purposes. Note that for most countries, final data are provided by October of the following reference year. However, exceptional revisions are always possible.
TEC data	2018 as reference year — 2016-2017 data are provided in annex for comparison purposes. Note that TEC data are not likely to be revised as based on the linkage of final detailed data (available 18 months after the reference year) with the Business Register.
TIC data	2018 as the latest reference year for which TIC data were mandatorily compiled — 2016 data are provided in annex for comparison purposes. As TIC data shall be provided to Eurostat only every two years, 2016 corresponds to the latest reference year for which the data transmission was mandatory.

1.3. Source of information

In 2005, the ITGS legislation made annual quality reporting mandatory for the intra-EU trade statistics. A similar legal requirement was set up in 2009 for the extra-EU trade statistics.

EU Member States have to provide Eurostat with an annual report covering the standard quality criteria within a fixed deadline. In practice, this reporting process has been harmonised: the national statistical authorities fulfil their quality reporting obligation by completing a report pre-filled by Eurostat. The results of the key quality indicators are presented in this summary Quality Report.

The sources of information for this Report are the national quality and metadata reports collected in 2019.

Note that Iceland, Norway and Switzerland have to comply with the annual quality reporting requirement from 2012 onwards. Liechtenstein was granted a derogation for not providing quality reports to Eurostat. However all the indicators which can be compiled by Eurostat on the basis of the transmitted statistics are also available for this country.

2 Background information

2.1. Key terms and definitions for ITGS

Note that concepts and definitions are thoroughly described and explained in the ITGS publications accessible at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/international-trade-in-goods/methodology/manuals-and-guidelines.

Goods	All movable property, including electricity. Note that 'goods' has the same meaning than 'merchandises' as used in the United Nations Statistics Division publication 'International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions (IMTS 2010)'
Extra-EU trade	Trade with the non-EU countries
Intra-EU trade	Trade between the EU Member States
Extrastat	Data collection system for trade in goods of the Member States with non-EU countries – Extrastat data are collected by customs authorities and are based on the records of trade transactions in customs declarations. This system is set up by the so-called Extrastat legislation *Note that EFTA countries collect all their trade in goods data mainly via customs declarations and following the concepts and definitions set up by the Extrastat legislation except where the EU provisions are not relevant or where derogations have been granted.*
Intrastat	Data collection system for trade in goods between the EU Member States – The advent of the Single Market on 1 January 1993, with its removal of customs formalities between Member States and subsequent loss of traditional trade statistics data sources, required the establishment of a new data collection system: Intrastat. Intrastat data are directly collected from intra-EU traders once a month. This system is set up by the so-called Intrastat legislation
Exports	Goods which subtract from the stock of material resources of a country by leaving its economic territory.
Imports	Goods which add to the stock of material resources of a country by entering its economic territory. At EU level, the 'economic territory' is the statistical territory of a Member State, which corresponds to its customs territory with one exception — the statistical territory of Germany includes Heligoland but the customs territory does not. So the EU ITGS record the flows of goods to and from the statistical territories of the Member States.

Country of origin	The country where the goods originate. Goods that are wholly obtained or produced in a country originate in that country. Goods whose production involved more than one country are deemed to originate in the country where they underwent their last, substantial, economically justified processing or processing resulting in the manufacture of a new product.
Country of consignment	The non-member country or the Member State from which the goods were dispatched to the Member State in which the goods are located at the time of their release into customs procedure, without any commercial transaction or other operation which changed the legal status of the goods, taking place in any intermediate country (e.g. sale or processing under contract).
Country of last known destination	The last country - as far as it is known at the time of exportation - to which goods are to be delivered, irrespective of where they have been initially dispatched to and whether or not, on their way to that last country, they are subject to any commercial transactions or other operations that change their legal status
Quasi transit	Operation when goods are imported by non-residents into the reporting economy from outside the EU and subsequently dispatched to another Member State as well as when the goods exported from a Member State to a non-EU country are cleared for export in another Member State.
Transit	Operation/movements of goods when the goods are transported through the reporting economy on the way to their final destination without any halt or with a halt only inherent to the transport.
Combined Nomenclature	The Combined Nomenclature (CN) is the primary product nomenclature as it is the one used by the EU Member States to collect detailed data on their trading of goods. The CN is based on the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System (managed by the World Customs Organisation (WCO)). It corresponds to the HS plus a further breakdown at eight-digit level defined to meet EU needs. It includes around 9 500 eight-digit codes and is subject to annual revisions that ensure it is kept up to date in the light of changes in technology or patterns of international trade in goods.
SITC	The Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) is managed by the United Nations and correlated with the subheadings of the Harmonised System. Aggregated data on trade are often presented in the one-and two-digit categories of the SITC.
CPA	The Classification of Products by Activity (CPA) is a European version of the United Nations' Central Product Classification (CPC), but arranged so that each product heading is assignable to a single heading of the European activity classification commonly referred to as NACE.
NACE	The Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE) is derived from the United Nations' International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC) but is more detailed. NACE is correlated with CPA: each CPA product — whether transportable or non-transportable goods or services — is assigned to one single NACE activity.
Geonomenclature	The 'Nomenclature of countries and territories for the external trade statistics of the Community and statistics of trade between Member States', known as the 'Geonomenclature', is used to collect and disseminate trade in goods data. It is subject to revisions in order to incorporate the adjustments needed for statistical and customs purposes and to take into account any geopolitical changes that may have occurred. The alphabetical coding of countries and territories is based on the current version of the standard ISO alpha 2 (ISO 3166), insofar as it is compatible with the requirements of the EU legislation.

National statistical authority (NSA)	Within the meaning of the Extrastat and Intrastat legislations, the NSAs are the national statistical institutes and other bodies responsible in each Member State for producing international trade in goods statistics.
Provider of statistical information (PSI)	Any business, 'institutional' body (e.g. public and non-profit institution, school, hospital) or individual who provides statistical information.

2.2. Stakeholders in data compilation and dissemination

- The **EU Member States and EFTA countries** have the responsibility to compile the European ITGS in line with the established rules and send them to Eurostat within the legal deadlines. The National Statistical Authority (NSA) responsible for ITGS is usually the national statistical institute (NSI), but in some countries it may involve customs authorities and, for Belgium, even the National Bank. In practice, the division of responsibilities for collecting, processing and publishing trade data may be quite complex and vary from one country to another.

- As the Statistical Office of the European Union, **Eurostat** has responsibility for overseeing and developing work on ITGS and for making the trade in goods statistics of the EU, its Member States and the euro area publicly available. In addition, Eurostat not only draws up the proposals for legislation and monitors its correct application but also provides methodological and technical assistance. This work is carried out in close cooperation with the countries in working groups and task forces.

2.3. Legal background

As regards the compilation of international trade in goods statistics, the EU legislation aims at ensuring all Member States follow a harmonised approach. It sets out the rules, concepts and definitions to be applied and the obligations of every stakeholder in European ITGS. The EU provisions apply directly to European statistics only; they do not regulate the methods of compiling data required for national purposes.

The provisions on European ITGS are determined in several regulations and address intra- and extra-EU trade separately. The main sets of legal acts are commonly known as '**Intrastat legislation**' and '**Extrastat legislation**'. The basic regulations adopted by the European Parliament and the Council establish the essential rules governing ITGS. The implementing provisions are adopted by the European Commission and contain more detail on implementing certain articles of the basic regulations. The Commission can lay down implementing rules only for the articles for which it has been given the implementing power.

Besides the Intrastat and Extrastat legislations, there is a range of other European legislation which has relevance to ITGS. These include the regulation relating to European statistics — Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council —, which provides a reference framework for all statistics including those for trade, the customs regulations — particularly the Union Customs Code — and regulations for product and country nomenclatures.

All regulations relevant for the European statistics on international trade in goods can be consulted from the 'Legislation' page of the 'International trade in goods' section on Eurostat website.

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Intra-EU trade

Basic regulation:

Regulation (EC) No 638/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council

- amended by
  - o Regulation (EC) No 222/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council
  - o Commission Regulation (EU) No 1093/2013
  - o Regulation (EU) No 659/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Implementing provisions:

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1982/2004

- amended by
  - o Commission Regulation (EC) No 1915/2005
  - o Commission Regulation (EU) No 91/2010
  - o Commission Regulation (EU) No 96/2010
  - o Commission Regulation (EU) No 1093/2013

NB: This set of legal acts is commonly referred to as 'Intrastat legislation'.

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Extra-EU trade

Basic regulation:

Regulation (EC) No 471/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council

- amended by
  - o Regulation (EU) 2016/1724 of the European Parliament and of the Council
  - o Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/2119

Implementing provisions:

Commission Regulation (EU) No 113/2010

- amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/2119

Commission Regulation (EU) No 92/2010

- amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/1253

NB: This set of legal acts is commonly referred to as 'Extrastat legislation'.

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Note that EFTA countries are not legally bound as such by the EU legislation. However they voluntarily adhere to the established EU rules. This adhesion is formalized by specific agreements.

2.4. Documents to be read in conjunction with this Report

- The International Trade Data Reference Metadata in Euro SDMX Metadata Structure (ESMS) — Those metadata cover methodological, qualitative and quantitative information in a standardised structure.

- The Statistical Explained article International trade in goods statistics – background — This article answers some frequently asked questions on European ITGS.

- The User Guide on European statistics on international trade in goods — The purpose of this Guide is to explain to a wide range of users how the statistics relating to trade in goods, both between EU Member States and with non-EU countries, are collected, compiled, processed and published at European level. The different issues are tackled in a question and answer format.

- The Compilers Guide on European Statistics on international trade in goods — This Guide, which is a revised version of the 'Guidelines for the implementation of the Intrastat and Extrastat legislation', provides clarifications, often through concrete examples, to help the compilers to better interpret and apply the complex legislation on ITGS.

- The Compilers guide on European statistics on international trade in goods by enterprise characteristics (TEC) — The main objective of this Guide is to provide a comprehensive overview of the compilation of indicators on trade in goods by enterprise characteristics (TEC). It aims to serve as a methodological handbook providing the necessary definitions, instructions and methodological guidance for the regular compilation of TEC statistics.

- The National requirements for the Intrastat system — This document is primarily aimed at the Providers of Statistical Information (PSIs) within the Intrastat system; it informs on how and what to report, in accordance with the respective national requirements. At the same time it may be of interest to anyone who wants to understand how the Intrastat data collection works, both at national level and between the National Statistical Authorities and Eurostat.

- The Geonomenclature applicable to European statistics on international trade in goods — The purpose of this publication is to provide the compilers and users of European statistics on international trade in goods with sound information on the nomenclature used to classify the reporting and partner countries. Besides including the latest version of the nomenclature of countries and territories for the external trade statistics of the Union and statistics of trade between Member States — known as the 'Geonomenclature' and abbreviated to GEONOM —, it also contains all the supplementary information that is essential to understand the content of this country classification and the evolution of its codes. A further aim of this publication is to document the geographical and economic areas covered by the trade in goods statistics as disseminated by Eurostat.

- The Legislation on European statistics on international trade in goods — The purpose of this publication is to provide compilers and users of European statistics on international trade in goods with an exhaustive overview of the legal acts laying down the rules to be followed for the data collection, compilation and dissemination. To complete the picture it also addresses the other Union legal acts which impact trade in goods statistics, namely the customs and fiscal legislation. Furthermore it provides useful legislative background information, as well as summaries of the legal acts and short descriptions of their key features.

- The Frequently Asked Questions

3 Global quality assessment

Relevance

The key users of European ITGS and their respective needs are very well known. The data relevance can be assessed as good thanks to regular satisfaction surveys and frequent contacts with users.

Accuracy

The European ITGS benefit from well-established data collection systems supported by effective validation and compilation tools. However, the intra-EU trade statistics may suffer from late or non-response from the trade operators liable to statistical reporting. The issue is however limited to the detailed levels of the product classification as the Intrastat legislation makes mandatory the compilation of estimates for any missing data at least at the 2-digit level of the Combined Nomenclature (HS2) and by partner Member States. Over the last years, actions were also carried out to push the Member States facing high issues of non- or late-response to implement any necessary measures to ensure the data exhaustiveness.

Additionally, confidentiality has an impact on data accuracy at very detailed (i.e. CN eight-digit) level. Aggregated levels are in general much less impacted thanks to the legal obligation for reporting countries to ensure dissemination at least at two-digit level of the Combined Nomenclature. The EU legislation however foresees derogation to that principle when the dissemination of real trade values at chapter level would disclose confidentiality information and would then harm the interest of the economic operator. In such a case, it is allowed to use the HS chapter 99 instead of the real chapter.

That said, it should be kept in mind that basic data consist of millions of records to be produced every month, which means that it is impossible to achieve complete accuracy. As in all statistical work, a balance has to be struck between the resources devoted to checking and the likely benefit. Therefore the users should be aware of the margin of inaccuracy in the data used, at least at the most detailed level of data.

Timeliness and punctuality

The current timeliness is assessed as good for all data flows and no further acceleration is requested by the users except for data by enterprise characteristics which should be available only within 18 months after the reference year. This late availability is not due to the standard trade in goods data (first annual results available within 3 months after the reference year) but to the late update of the Business Register which is the information source for the enterprise characteristics.

Thanks to well-established data collection and compilation procedures, the punctuality of data transmissions to Eurostat is very good. Issues are very rare and generally minor in terms of delay.

Accessibility and clarity

The accessibility of trade in goods data is very good thanks to the use of all Eurostat standard dissemination channels: news releases, pdf and on-line publications, visualisation tools, predefined tables, databases and bulk download facility allowing users to download Eurostat datasets in a

format which can easily be imported into a chosen tool for further analysis.

The dissemination of the European ITGS is supported by a complete set of structural metadata that make it easy to identify, retrieve and browse the data. The reference metadata describing the contents and the data quality are also quite exhaustive. In particular, it is worth mentioning the User Guide on European statistics on international trade in goods and this Quality Report.

Coherence

The coherence is first ensured by the Intrastat and Extrastat regulations which set up the concepts and definitions applicable to the compilation of European ITGS and secondly by a set of recommendations promoting the best methods and practices among the reporting countries.

The coherence is further strengthened by Eurostat's harmonised approach to data production and dissemination regardless of the type of data and the reporting country.

Comparability

- Comparability over time — The European ITGS benefit from a high level of comparability over time thanks to the stability of the concepts, definitions and classifications. As far as possible, this comparability is also maintained when methodological changes occur, thanks to the retroactive recalculation of the time series.

- Comparability across countries — The European ITGS benefit from a high level of comparability across countries thanks to the implementation of harmonised rules for data collection and compilation. The comparability across countries could be however improved through further harmonisation in the national practices as regard some specific goods or movements.

- Comparability across domains — The European ITGS constitute an essential source of information for the compilation of the balance of payments statistics and national accounts. Nevertheless, comparability across domains is affected by differences in concepts and definitions like, for instance, the application of the principle of physical movements through the national frontier for trade in goods statistics versus the change of economic ownership between residents and non-residents for the balance of payments.

4 | Relevance

ESS definition

Relevance is the degree to which statistical outputs meet current and potential user needs. It depends on whether all the statistics that are needed are produced and the extent to which concepts used (definitions, classifications etc.) reflect user needs.

4.1. User needs

4.1.1. TYPES OF USERS AND REQUIREMENTS

As international trade forms a major part of the world economy, statistics on trade in goods are an instrument of primary importance for numerous public and private sector decision makers. For example, international trade statistics

- enable EU authorities to prepare multilateral and bilateral negotiations under the common commercial policy;

- enable EU authorities to evaluate the progress of the Single Market and the integration of EU economies;

- constitute an essential source of information for balance of payments statistics, national accounts and economic studies; and

- help EU businesses conduct market research and define their commercial strategy.

Statistics satisfy these needs in a variety of ways. Users may need either annual aggregated or detailed monthly data on products or partner countries. They may be interested in trade values in current prices or at constant prices. Alternatively, their interest may be in quantities rather than in values. These examples, which are far from exhaustive, show the diversity of users and their requirements. Eurostat tries to meet these various needs and to adapt to a changing environment, such as changes due to globalisation.

4.1.2. USE OF TRADE DATA BY OTHER STATISTICAL FIELDS

One important use of international trade statistics in the majority of countries is as a data source for estimating the components of the balance of payments and the national accounts which relate to trade in goods. The most appropriate definitions for these components are agreed internationally in the *Balance of Payments Manual (Sixth edition)* (BPM6) published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 2009 and in the *System of National Accounts — 2008* adopted by the United Nations.

The United Nations *International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions 2010* (IMTS 2010) takes into account the recommendations of BPM6 and recommends a move towards

harmonising different concepts. However, there are differences between the recommendations for international trade in goods statistics and the goods account of the balance of payments in terms of, for example, coverage, valuation and some other specific aspects. These reflect both the differing priorities of users and the problems of data collection due to the more detailed requirements of international trade statistics.

It is outside the scope of this Report to discuss in detail the adjustments that need to be made to international trade in goods statistics to convert them to figures on a balance of payments basis. Users should nevertheless bear in mind that these adjustments may have a substantial effect on the figures, for example as a result of the different methods of valuation used for imports.

4.2. User satisfaction

User needs are monitored regularly. At EU level, there are regular contacts with key institutional users (e.g. Commission services or the European Central Bank) and with other main user groups such as trade associations. In daily work, users can easily communicate their requests and needs to Eurostat by using dedicated tools integrated in the data dissemination. Many countries also conduct regular user satisfaction surveys.

4.2.1. ASSESSMENT AT EU LEVEL

Eurostat undertook its last large-scale user satisfaction survey focusing on ITGS in 2007. The survey found a very high level of satisfaction among users: 85 % were very or fairly satisfied with the data. This high level of satisfaction has been confirmed by every general User Satisfaction Survey carried out by Eurostat on an annual (or biennial) basis since then.

In the 2020 general survey, 72.6 % of the users of the statistical area 'International trade' rated the data quality as very good or good and 19.2 % as adequate. These values are above the averages calculated for all areas. This result is consistent over time (see 2013-2020 data in **Chart 1**), and valid across most quality dimensions assessed by users: completeness and comparability in particular, as shown in **Chart 2**.

Chart 1: Assessment of overall data quality — ITGS versus all statistical areas, 2013-2020
(%)
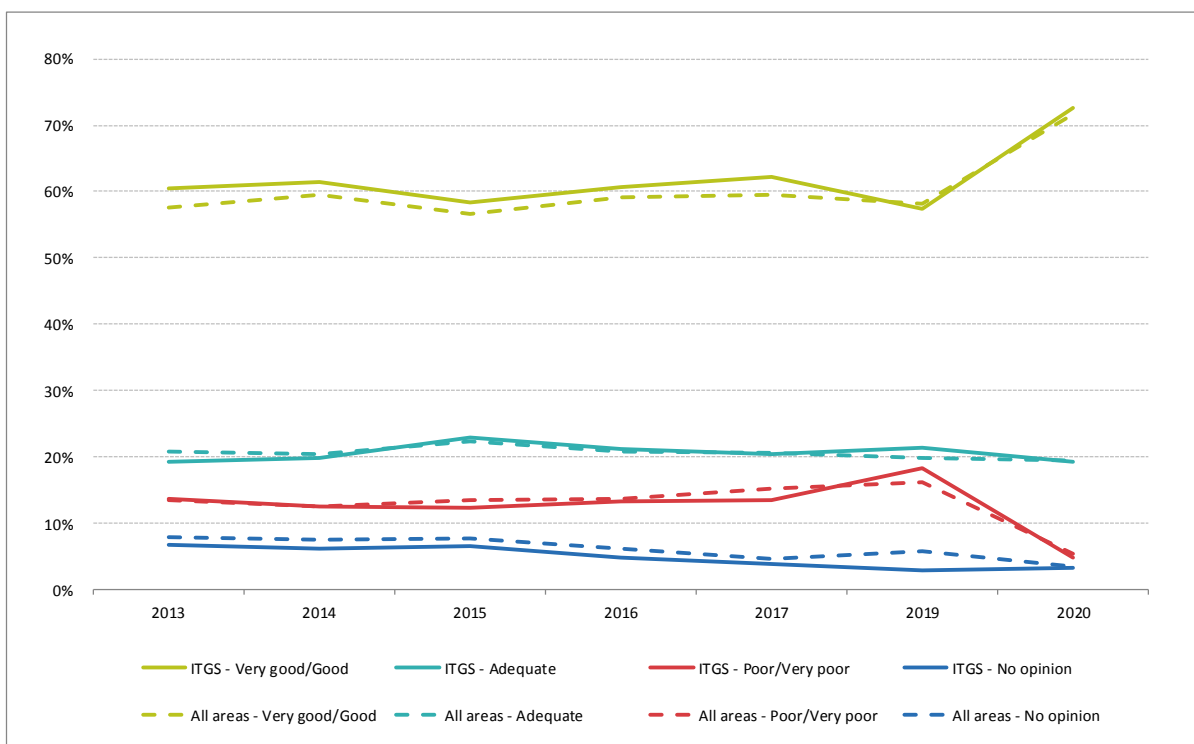
Source: Eurostat's user satisfaction surveys

Chart 2: Assessment of main quality aspects — Focus on ITGS, 2020
(%)
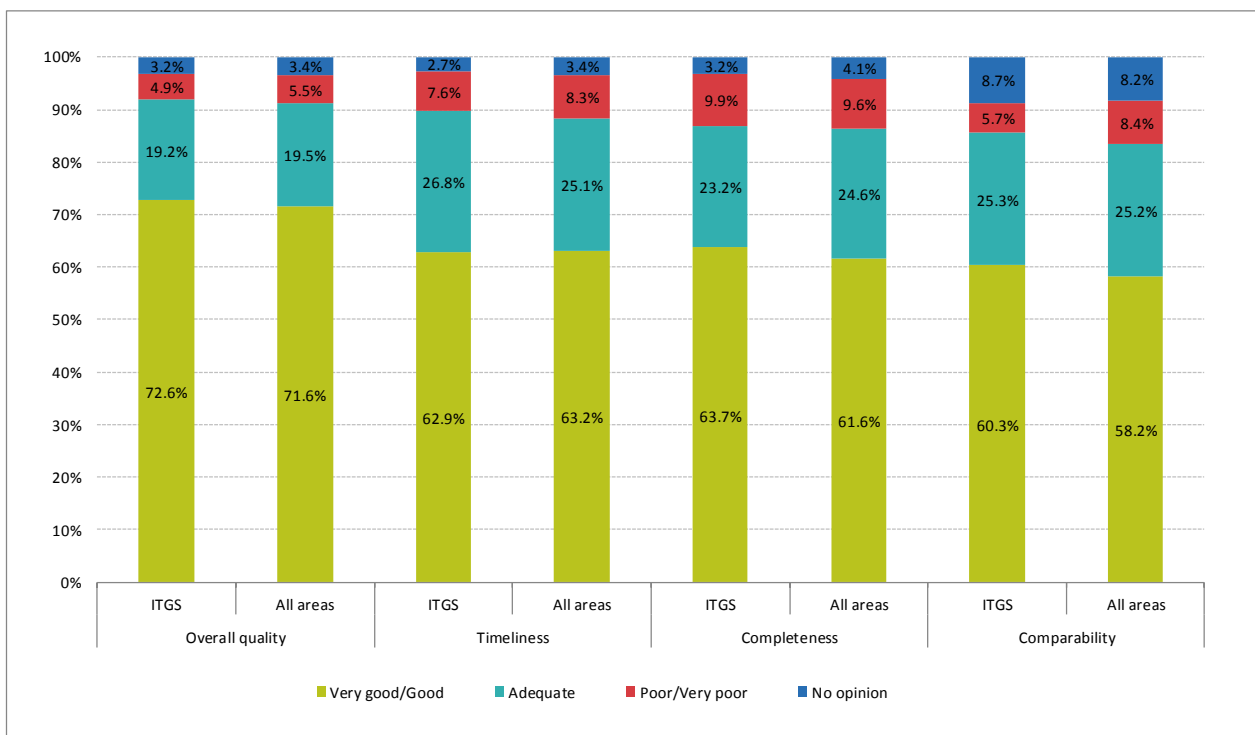
Source: Eurostat's user satisfaction survey carried out in 2020

4.2.2. ASSESSMENT AT NATIONAL LEVEL

User satisfaction surveys are regularly carried out by many countries. All surveys show a very high level of satisfaction as regards international trade in goods statistics.

The main reasons for dissatisfaction are the following:

- the timeliness of Intrastat data, as well as quality issues such as asymmetries and estimates;

- the lack of metadata, including information on data revisions; and

- the data confidentiality.

Users are interested in obtaining more statistical information such as domestic exports and re-exports, but they mostly request data at enterprise level.

Table 3: **Regular user satisfaction survey, 2019**

Yes	17 country(ies) (55%)	DE	EE	IE	EL	CY	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	CH
No	14 country(ies) (45%)	BE	BG	CZ	DK	ES	FR (¹)	HR	IT	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NO			

(¹) No regular survey but regular contacts.
Note: Information not available for Liechtenstein.
Source: National quality and metadata reports

Table 4: **Estimated degree of user satisfaction, 2019**
(Scoring between 0 for totally unsatisfied up to 5 for fully satisfied)

5 : Fully satisfied	3 country(ies) (13%)	AT	PL	UK											
4 – 5 : Highly satisfied	15 country(ies) (63%)	CZ	DE	IE	EL	FR	LV	HU	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	NO	CH
3 – 4 : Very satisfied	6 country(ies) (25%)	EE	HR	CY	MT	NL	IS								

Note: Information not available for the other countries.
Source: National quality and metadata reports

4.3. Data completeness

4.3.1. MONTHLY AGGREGATED DATA

Data are provided by all the EU Member States. The statistical variables and indicators to be mandatorily provided are listed below:

- For all the EU Member States:

    - Total values of intra- and extra-EU flows (imports and exports)

    - Values of extra-EU flows by broad categories of products as defined by the one-digit codes of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC)

- Only for the EU Member States belonging to the euro area:

    - Total values of intra- and extra-euro area flows (imports and exports)

    - Values of extra-euro area flows by broad categories of products as defined by the one-digit codes of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC)

Note that aggregated data are not required from EFTA countries as only collected to speed up the publication of first results for the euro area and the EU.

4.3.2. MONTHLY DETAILED DATA

Data are provided by all the EU Member States and by all the EFTA countries. It should be however noted that, because of technical issues, the transmission of detailed data by Norway was temporarily interrupted.

The statistical variables and indicators to be mandatorily provided are listed below:

Partner country	This is the last known country of destination for intra- and extra-EU exports, the country of origin for extra-EU imports, and the country of consignment for intra-EU imports.
	Note that EFTA countries shall provide the country of origin for any imports.
Other partner country	This is the country of consignment for extra-EU imports (no 'other partner country' to be provided for the exports)
	Note that EFTA countries shall provide the country of consignment for any imports.
Product code	Goods classified by commodity code of the Combined Nomenclature for the EU Member States and of the respective national product nomenclature (further breakdown of the Harmonised System) for the EFTA countries.
	Note that a further breakdown of the Combined Nomenclature (9th and 10th digits) is collected for the extra-EU imports. This further breakdown relates to the integrated Tariff of the European Union (TARIC).
Statistical procedure (only for extra-EU trade)	This relates to EU customs procedures and distinguishes between different types of imports and exports: imports/exports covered by the customs inward processing procedure and imports/exports covered by the customs outward processing procedure are distinguished from normal transactions or transactions not recorded from customs declarations.
	Note that EFTA countries are exempted from the reporting of the statistical procedure (not relevant information for non-EU countries).
Tariff regime (only for extra-EU imports)	This indicates whether reduced or zero rates of customs duty apply to a transaction. In particular, the EU Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) enables the least developed and developing countries to access the European market and encourages them to become more established.
	Note that EFTA countries are exempted from the reporting of the tariff regime (not relevant information for non-EU countries).
Mode of transport (only for extra-EU trade)	This identifies the active means of transport (e.g. road, rail, sea) by which the goods leave/enter the EU statistical territory for extra-EU trade.
	Note that EFTA countries shall provide the information for any imports and exports.
Container (only for extra-EU trade)	In addition to the mode of transport, for extra-EU trade, information is collected on whether or not goods are transported in containers (except when the mode of transport is postal consignment, fixed transport installation or the own propulsion category).
	Note that EFTA countries shall provide the information for any imports and exports.

Nationality of the active means of transport (only for extra-EU trade)	In addition to the mode of transport, for extra-EU trade, information is collected on the nationality of the active means of transport of the goods when they leave/enter the statistical territory of the EU (except when the mode of transport is rail, postal consignment, fixed transport installations and own propulsion).
	Note that the nationality of the means of transport became optional in 2010. Therefore the information is not available for all the EU Member States since January 2010 as reference month.
Trade value	This is the statistical value, i.e. the amount that would be invoiced in the event of sale or purchase at the national border of the reporting country. It is said to be a FOB valuation for exports/dispatches and a CIF valuation for imports/arrivals.
Quantity	This is the weight of the goods in kilograms without packaging; this quantity is referred to as the 'net mass'. For certain goods, a supplementary quantity is available. The supplementary unit varies according to the goods; it can be litres, number of pieces, carats, terajoules, square metres, etc.

4.3.3. ANNUAL DATA BY ENTERPRISE CHARACTERISTICS

Data are provided by all the EU Member States and by all the EFTA countries liable to provide TEC data (i.e. all except Liechtenstein), although with some serious delays for a few countries.

The datasets to be mandatorily provided are listed below:

1. Trade by type of trader — This dataset provides information on how traders are involved in international trade. It shows the number of companies trading within only one flow (imports or exports) or in both flows (imports and exports) and the trade value these companies account for.

2. Trade by activity sector and enterprise size class — Trade by activity sector and employment size class shows the contributions of economic activities and size classes (measured in terms of number of employees) to total trade.

3. Concentration of trade by activity — International trade being typically dominated by a few businesses, this indicator shows the share of the total trade accounted for by the top 5, 10, 20, etc. companies.

4. Trade by partner country and activity — Trade by partner country shows how many companies were trading with certain partner countries or country zones, and the value they accounted for.

5. Trade by number of partner countries and activity — Trade by number of partner countries shows how geographically diversified the export markets are. For imports, it shows the number of countries from which goods are imported.

6. Trade by commodity and activity — Trade by commodity and activity sector allocates the trade of each commodity to the activity of the trading enterprise. This indicator shows which sectors were involved in the trading of each product group.

4.3.4. ANNUAL DATA BY INVOICING CURRENCY

Data are provided by all the EU Member States and by all the EFTA countries liable to provide TIC data (i.e. all except Liechtenstein).

The mandatory information corresponds to the total extra-EU trade (world trade for the EFTA countries) broken down by product groups and currencies as described below:

- Product groups: Raw materials without oil (SITC sections 0-4, excluding division 33), Oil (SITC division 33) and Manufactured products (SITC sections 5-8);

- Currencies: euro, national currencies of EU Member States not belonging to the euro area, US dollar and 'other' (i.e. aggregated group of currencies of all non-EU countries except the United States).

5 | Accuracy

ESS definition

The **accuracy** of statistical outputs in the general statistical sense is the degree of closeness of estimates to the true values.

5.1. Detailed data — Estimated vs collected data

5.1.1. ESTIMATES FOR MISSING TRADE

5.1.1.1. Missing intra-EU trade

In order to reduce the statistical burden on businesses, intra-EU trade data are collected only from the biggest intra-EU traders. Only traders whose annual intra-EU trade exceeds a certain threshold have to submit Intrastat declarations. This means that the Intrastat data collection does not cover 100 % of the intra-EU trade. To achieve complete coverage, the loss caused by the thresholds and by non-response from non-exempted traders shall be compensated with estimates.

The estimates are compiled on the basis of the amounts of intra-EU supplies and acquisitions reported by the traders via their fiscal declarations — VAT returns or recapitulative statements (VIES data). Intrastat declarations collected from the non-exempted traders are used to allocate the estimated total trade values by partner and product.

Table 5 shows the shares of collected and estimated data (for trade below the exemption threshold and for non- or late response) in total intra-EU trade for each Member State.

Table 6 and **Table 7** indicate the levels of details at which the estimates are compiled. Under EU legislation, estimates shall be broken down at least by partner Member State and two-digit codes of the Combined Nomenclature.

Table 5: Shares of collected and estimated data in intra-EU trade, 2019
(%)

	Collected data		Estimated data			
			Below exemption threshold		Non response	
	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports
Belgium	92.8	97.1	6.4	2.0	0.8	0.9
Bulgaria	94.2	98.0	5.7	2.0	0.0	0.0
Czechia	96.5	98.2	3.4	1.7	0.1	0.1
Denmark	91.6	95.7	7.1	3.3	1.3	1.0
Germany	93.7	97.4	3.8	1.6	2.5	1.0
Estonia	92.0	95.2	5.2	2.3	2.8	2.6
Ireland	95.4	98.4	3.0	0.9	1.6	0.7
Greece	94.9	97.6	3.9	1.5	1.2	0.9
Spain	94.4	96.6	3.9	2.2	1.7	1.2
France	97.8	98.5	2.0	1.2	0.1	0.2
Croatia	93.6	97.4	6.4	2.5	0.0	0.0
Italy	95.3	97.2	4.6	2.7	0.1	0.1
Cyprus	95.3	98.2	4.5	1.7	0.2	0.1
Latvia	93.9	97.0	4.8	1.9	1.3	1.1
Lithuania	95.6	98.0	4.0	1.8	0.4	0.2
Luxembourg	96.1	97.5	1.6	0.8	2.3	1.7
Hungary	93.2	96.7	4.8	1.5	2.1	1.8
Malta (*)	95.0	98.0	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.
Netherlands	88.1	94.6	6.3	2.4	5.6	3.0
Austria	94.2	97.2	5.3	2.1	0.5	0.7
Poland	95.0	96.8	4.0	1.8	1.0	1.3
Portugal	94.1	97.7	4.7	1.8	1.3	0.5
Romania	95.6	97.7	3.6	1.1	0.8	1.2
Slovenia	97.0	98.2	2.9	1.8	0.2	0.0
Slovakia	92.0	95.1	3.1	2.0	4.9	2.9
Finland	93.7	97.5	4.9	1.9	1.4	0.7
Sweden	94.1	98.0	5.1	1.6	0.8	0.5
United Kingdom	92.8	96.9	6.6	2.5	0.6	0.6

Note: The share of estimated data refers to the share in the final data transmitted to Eurostat. It might be much higher in first and intermediate data deliveries.

(*) No estimate is compiled for trade below the exemption threshold and non-response.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries.

Table 6: Estimates in intra-EU trade for trade below the exemption threshold — Level of details, 2019

CN8 / partner countries	13 MS (46%)	BE	CZ	DK	HR	IT	CY	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK
HS4 / partner countries	1 MS (4%)	HU												
HS2 / partner countries	12 MS (43%)	BG	DE	EE	EL	ES	FR	LV	LT	LU	FI	SE	UK	
By partner only	1 MS (4%)	IE												
No estimate	1 MS (4%)	MT												

Note: CN8 refers to the 8-digit level of the Combined Nomenclature, HS4 to the 4-digit level and HS2 to the 2-digit level.
Source: Information derived from the detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 7: Estimates in intra-EU trade for non- or late response — Level of details, 2019

CN8 / partner countries	15 MS (54%)	BE	CZ	DK	IE	HR	IT	CY	LU	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK
HS4 / partner countries	1 MS (4%)	HU														
HS2 / partner countries	11 MS (39%)	BG	DE	EE	EL	ES	FR	LV	LT	FI	SE	UK				
No estimate	1 MS (4%)	MT														

Note: CN8 refers to the 8-digit level of the Combined Nomenclature, HS4 to the 4-digit level and HS2 to the 2-digit level.
Source: Information derived from the detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

5.1.1.2.   Missing extra-EU trade

Theoretically, the problem of late or non-response should not exist for extra-EU trade data as Extrastat, the data collection system, is based on customs declarations. Nevertheless, estimates may be still necessary to compensate for delayed or incomplete customs records.

It should also be noted that, for simplification purposes, the reporting countries are allowed to compile less detailed information for transactions below the statistical threshold of EUR 1 000 and 1 000 kilograms.

Table 8 shows the proportions of collected (with full or less details) and estimated data in total extra-EU trade (world trade for EFTA countries). The extra-EU trade refers to the data compiled in the frame of the Extrastat legislation.

Table 9 indicates the levels of details of the estimates and of the transactions below the statistical threshold. Under EU legislation, estimates shall be broken down at least by partner country and two-digit codes of the Combined Nomenclature. Only a total trade value (i.e. no allocation of the trade by product and partner country) is required for the transactions below the statistical threshold.

Table 8: Shares of collected and estimated data in extra-EU trade, 2019
(%)

	Collected data				Estimated data	
	Standard category		Less detailed data (below statistical threshold)		Delayed or incomplete records	
	Extra-EU imports	Extra-EU exports	Extra-EU imports	Extra-EU exports	Extra-EU imports	Extra-EU exports
Belgium	100.0	100.0				
Bulgaria	99.9	99.9	0.1	0.1		
Czechia	100.0	100.0				
Denmark	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0		
Germany	100.0	100.0				
Estonia	100.0	100.0				
Ireland	100.0	100.0				
Greece	100.0	100.0				
Spain	100.0	100.0				
France	100.0	100.0				
Croatia	100.0	100.0				
Italy	99.4	98.2	0.6	1.8		
Cyprus	99.6	100.0	0.4		0.0	
Latvia	100.0	100.0				
Lithuania	100.0	100.0				
Luxembourg	100.0	100.0				
Hungary	100.0	100.0				
Malta	99.7	100.0	0.3			
Netherlands	99.7	100.0			0.3	0.0
Austria	100.0	100.0				
Poland	100.0	100.0				
Portugal	100.0	100.0				
Romania	100.0	100.0				
Slovenia	100.0	100.0				
Slovakia	100.0	100.0				
Finland	100.0	100.0				
Sweden	100.0	100.0				
United Kingdom	97.9	96.3	2.1	3.7		
Iceland	100.0	100.0				
Liechtenstein	100.0	100.0				
Norway	:	:				
Switzerland	100.0	100.0				

: Data not available

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to their total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.

Norway: Missing information as detailed data not available for 2019 as reference year.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries.

Table 9: Estimates in extra-EU trade — Level of details, 2019

	Data below the statistical threshold	Estimates for delayed or incomplete records
Bulgaria	By partner only	
Denmark	CN8 / partner countries	
Italy	No product or partner breakdown	
Cyprus	No product or partner breakdown	By partner only
Malta	CN8 / partner countries	
Netherlands		CN8 / partner countries
United Kingdom	No product or partner breakdown	

Note: CN8 refers to the 8-digit level of the Combined Nomenclature and HS2 to the 2-digit level.
Source: Information derived from the detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

5.1.2. ESTIMATES FOR NON-COLLECTED STATISTICAL VALUE

In ITGS, the trade value corresponds to the statistical value, i.e. to the amount which would be paid in the event of sale or purchase at the time and place the goods cross the national border of the reporting country. It is said to be a FOB type value (free on board) for exports and a CIF type value (cost, insurance, freight) for imports.

In intra-EU trade, only the invoice value — the amount agreed on the sales agreement — is systematically collected from the providers of statistical information (PSIs). When not provided by the PSIs, the statistical value shall be estimated by the National Statistical Authority. Note that, in extra-EU trade, the statistical value is based on the value determined for customs purposes; therefore, there is generally no need to estimate it.

Table 10 indicates in which Member States PSIs are totally or partially exempted from the reporting of the statistical value. Most Member States either do not collect the statistical value at all or collect it only from PSIs whose annual trade value is above a certain threshold.

Table 11 shows the method used to estimate the non-collected statistical value. The statistical value is always estimated on the basis of the invoice value which is systematically collected. It actually corresponds to an adjustment of the invoice value by means of a coefficient fixed differently according to Member State.

Table 12 shows the discrepancy between total estimated statistical value and total collected invoice value (aggregation of values at transaction level). At transaction level, the discrepancy can be positive or negative depending on the proportion of transport costs included in the invoice. The biggest discrepancies are recorded when the invoice relates to a processing activity like repainting, labelling or packaging. In such cases, the statistical value will be much higher, as it corresponds to the total amount which would have been invoiced if the goods had been sold or purchased.

Table 10: Intra-EU trade — Exemption from statistical value reporting, 2019

All PSIs exempted	10 MS (36%)	BE	CZ	DK	EE	FR	NL	SK	FI	SE	UK			
PSIs below the statistical value threshold	14 MS (50%)	BG	DE	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI
No exemption	4 MS (14%)	EL	ES	HR	MT									

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

Table 11: Intra-EU trade — Estimation method for non-collected statistical value, 2019

Correcting coefficient computed from above the threshold data for trade data below the threshold	14 MS (50%)	CZ	DE	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI
Correcting coefficient computed from historical data, where both invoice and statistical values were collected	2 MS (7%)	EE	FR												
Correcting coefficient computed from extra-EU data (customs declarations)	1 MS (4%)	NL													
Correcting coefficient derived from a survey	7 MS (25%)	BE	BG	DK	SK	FI	SE	UK							
No estimation since both invoice and statistical values are collected	4 MS (14%)	EL	ES	HR	MT										

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

Table 12: Intra-EU trade — Estimated statistical value vs collected invoice value, 2019 (%)

	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports
Belgium	0.1	0.2
Bulgaria	1.2	-0.7
Czechia	0.0	-0.8
Denmark	0.8	-1.0
Germany	-0.4	-0.6
Estonia	1.3	-1.3
Ireland	0.1	0.0
Greece	No est.	No est.
Spain	No est.	No est.
France	-0.1	-0.5
Croatia	No est.	No est.
Italy	0.0	0.1
Cyprus	0.7	-0.8
Latvia	0.8	-0.6
Lithuania	0.3	-0.1
Luxembourg	0.5	-0.8
Hungary	0.2	-0.1
Malta	No est.	No est.
Netherlands	-0.8	-0.7
Austria	0.1	-0.4
Poland	0.1	0.0
Portugal	0.2	-0.5
Romania	0.8	-0.3
Slovenia	0.2	-0.7
Slovakia	1.5	-0.4
Finland	0.9	-0.7
Sweden	0.9	-0.3
United Kingdom	0.1	-0.3

Formula = [Statistical value estimated for the PSIs below the "statistical value" threshold / Invoiced value reported by the same PSIs - 1] * 100

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

5.1.3. ESTIMATES FOR NON-COLLECTED NET MASS

The most common unit of measurement of quantity is the net mass expressed in kilograms. It corresponds to the weight of the goods without packaging. The net mass is available for all goods classified according to the Combined Nomenclature except for a few ones under HS chapter 89 'Ships, boats and floating structures' and for the electrical energy (product code 2716 00 00).

For certain goods, a supplementary quantity is provided in addition to the net mass. This quantity is expressed in a unit which adds useful information. Supplementary units are units other than kilograms, e.g. litres, numbers of pieces, carats, terajoules or square metres. For each CN8 code, the Combined Nomenclature indicates whether a supplementary quantity should be provided and, if so, in which supplementary unit.

Under the legal provisions on intra-EU trade statistics, where there is a supplementary unit laid down for a specific CN product code (e.g. litres, m², pieces), it is not mandatory to request the specification of net mass from the PSIs. EU Member States can decide whether the information about net mass is collected systematically for all CN8 codes or only for some.

Table 13 shows which Member States collect the net mass for any CN8 codes and which apply fully or partially the net mass simplification.

Table 14 indicates the share of the records for which the net mass is estimated in the total trade value.

Table 13: Collection of net mass in intra-EU trade, 2019

Net mass collected for all CN8 codes	16 MS (57%)	BG	CZ	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	LV	LT	MT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK
Net mass collected for all CN8 codes except for some with a supplementary unit	2 MS (7%)	CY	SE														
Net mass collected for all CN8 codes except the ones with a supplementary unit	10 MS (36%)	BE	DK	DE	IT (¹)	LU	HU	NL	AT	FI	UK						

(¹) Only PSIs below the optional variable threshold are exempted from reporting the net mass for all CN codes with a supplementary unit.

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

Table 14: Intra-EU trade — Share in total trade value of records with estimated net mass, 2019

(%)

	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports
Belgium	24.7	29.8
Denmark	12.1	8.1
Germany	4.4	4.8
Italy	1.7	1.6
Cyprus	10.5	3.2
Luxembourg	33.4	35.5
Hungary	24.9	39.7
Netherlands	24.5	27.1
Austria	:	:
Finland	9.3	2.3
Sweden	3.8	3.5
United Kingdom	5.4	4.3

: Data not available

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries.

5.2. TEC data — Linkage with Business Register

The Business Register Regulation defines the link between the legal unit and the enterprise. The same regulation also establishes a link between the business registers and the registers of intra- and extra-EU trade operators through a common unit of reference, namely the legal unit.

The enterprise is the statistical unit to be used for TEC data, which means that trade data must be linked to characteristics available in the Business Register for the enterprise through the legal unit. In this way, trade data are connected with the characteristics of an enterprise and they can be reported in terms of the economic activity and number of employees of the whole enterprise concerned.

The accuracy of the trade in goods data by enterprise characteristics is then measured on the basis of the matching of the Trade Register with the Business Register.

Tables 15 to 17 show the proportions of traders which have been successfully matched with enterprises in the Business Register, distinguishing between intra-EU, extra-EU and world trade.

Table 15: Matching rate between trade and business registers in intra-EU trade, 2018 (%)

	Intra-EU imports		Intra-EU exports	
	Number of enterprises successfully matched	Trade value successfully matched	Number of enterprises successfully matched	Trade value successfully matched
Belgium (*)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Bulgaria	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Czechia	99.2	97.0	99.0	94.8
Denmark	98.4	93.1	99.0	96.4
Germany	93.8	98.3	95.7	98.0
Estonia (*)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ireland	99.8	97.7	99.6	97.7
Greece	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0
Spain	98.5	99.9	98.5	100.0
France	96.7	99.7	98.9	99.7
Croatia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Italy	70.7	93.5	96.2	97.9
Cyprus	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Latvia	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lithuania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Luxembourg	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hungary	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Malta	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Netherlands	96.7	97.8	98.3	94.7
Austria	95.9	99.9	97.0	99.9
Poland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Portugal	99.7	100.0	99.8	100.0
Romania	99.2	93.5	98.5	92.2
Slovenia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Slovakia	99.7	100.0	99.9	100.0
Finland	99.8	100.0	99.4	100.0
Sweden	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
United Kingdom	98.7	99.7	97.3	99.6

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data
Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 16: Matching rate between trade and business registers in extra-EU trade, 2018
(%)

	Extra-EU imports		Extra-EU exports	
	Number of enterprises successfully matched	Trade value successfully matched	Number of enterprises successfully matched	Trade value successfully matched
Belgium (*)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Bulgaria	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Czechia	99.6	100.0	99.8	100.0
Denmark	99.5	90.6	99.5	96.8
Germany	68.5	95.2	82.8	98.0
Estonia (*)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ireland	99.8	99.3	99.7	99.9
Greece	96.8	99.9	98.9	100.0
Spain	98.9	99.9	99.1	99.9
France	88.8	99.7	96.4	99.6
Croatia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Italy	96.5	88.4	92.6	97.8
Cyprus	99.5	100.0	99.7	100.0
Latvia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lithuania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Luxembourg	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hungary	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Malta	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Netherlands	95.9	94.3	93.6	97.3
Austria	99.1	99.9	99.3	100.0
Poland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Portugal	99.5	100.0	99.6	100.0
Romania	98.4	99.4	98.8	97.5
Slovenia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Slovakia	99.1	100.0	99.9	100.0
Finland	98.0	100.0	96.8	100.0
Sweden	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
United Kingdom	82.0	96.7	93.8	96.1

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 17: Matching rate between trade and business registers in world trade, 2018 (%)

	World imports		World exports	
	Number of enterprises successfully matched	**Trade value successfully matched**	**Number of enterprises successfully matched**	**Trade value successfully matched**
Belgium (*)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Bulgaria	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Czechia	99.3	97.5	99.3	95.6
Denmark	98.6	92.3	99.1	96.5
Germany	87.0	97.3	89.4	98.0
Estonia (*)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ireland	99.7	98.3	99.6	98.7
Greece	97.7	99.9	99.3	100.0
Spain	98.4	99.9	98.5	100.0
France	90.0	99.7	96.8	99.7
Croatia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Italy	72.0	91.5	93.8	97.9
Cyprus	99.8	100.0	99.9	100.0
Latvia	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lithuania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Luxembourg	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hungary	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Malta	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Netherlands	96.1	96.1	96.8	95.4
Austria	96.0	99.9	97.2	99.9
Poland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Portugal	99.7	100.0	99.7	100.0
Romania	98.9	95.0	98.4	93.4
Slovenia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Slovakia	99.7	100.0	99.9	100.0
Finland	99.3	100.0	98.0	100.0
Sweden	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
United Kingdom	91.1	98.2	95.1	97.8
Iceland	99.7	100.0	99.9	100.0
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	96.8	100.0	98.6	70.6
Switzerland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

5.3. Data revisions

This section on data revisions focuses exclusively on the monthly detailed statistics considering that:

- Aggregated data are never revised as they are exclusively used to speed up the dissemination of first results. They are used only if detailed data relating to the same reference month are not yet available at the time Eurostat's monthly press release is prepared.

- TEC data are not likely to be revised as based on the linkage of final detailed data (available 18 months after the reference year) with the Business Register.

- TIC data are not revised as only compiled once for each reference year. The data source is the information recorded from customs declarations; except possibly for the exports. A survey shall be carried out in the case the invoicing currency for exports is not available on the customs declarations.

5.3.1. REVISION POLICY

International trade in goods statistics, like many published statistics, must balance the need for timely information with the need for accuracy. Inevitably, the detailed data sent for a given month are subject to the possibility of later revision as a consequence of errors, omissions or — particularly with the Intrastat system — late declarations by the providers of the statistical information.

Data are revised frequently according to national needs and practices. However, it is recommended that the countries provide Eurostat with final detailed data at the latest by October following the reference year. At that time data become 'final' and should not be revised further except in exceptional and well-justified cases.

When monthly results already transmitted to Eurostat are subject to revision at national level, revised results shall be transmitted no later than the month following their availability.

Table 18: Date of final revision, 2019

Y + 5 months	**4 countries (13%)**	IS	LI	NO (¹)	CH				
Y + 6 months	**3 countries (9%)**	BE	HR	SI					
Y + 7 months	**1 country (3%)**	LT							
Y + 8 months	**4 countries (13%)**	LV	PL	FI	UK				
Y + 9 months	**7 countries (22%)**	BG	CZ	LU	HU	NL	AT	PT	
Y + 10 months	**9 countries (28%)**	DE	IE	EL	ES	FR (²)	CY	RO (³)	SK	SE
Y + 11 months	**2 countries (6%)**	IT	MT						
Y + 22 months	**1 country (3%)**	EE							
Y + 30 months	**1 country (3%)**	DK (⁴)							

(¹) Final figures are released twice: for the first time at Y + 5, while the corrected final figures are published one year later, at Y + 17.

(²) After provision to Eurostat at Y + 10 months, minor or less minor revisions are still possible.

(³) Semi-final data are provided to Eurostat at Y + 10 months and final data at Y + 22 months (with some minor revisions resulting from annual bilateral asymmetries - different CN code or different EU partner). Usually there are minor changes in trade value.

(⁴) Last planned revision at Y + 30 months, when correction from the compilation of National accounts is implemented.

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

Table 19: Possibility of exceptional revisions, 2019

Yes	24 countries (77%)	BE	BG	DE	EE	IE	EL (¹)	FR	CY	LV	LU	HU	MT	NL	PL	PT (²)	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	NO	CH
No	7 countries (23%)	CZ	DK (³)	ES	HR	IT	LT	AT																	

(¹) According to ELSTAT's revision policy, pre-announced scheduled revisions refer to an exceptional revision, thus it is a rare case. Non-scheduled revisions only occur exceptionally and are not announced in advance because they are the result of unforeseeable events such as errors or accidents, thus it is also a rare case.

(²) Only exceptional revisions if the value to be revised is significant and justifies the revision.

(³) Only scheduled revisions, but it can be planned release of exceptional revisions, e.g. when making major revisions of many reference years, e.g. when National Accounts and Balance of Payments are revised for several years.

Note: Information not available for Liechtenstein.

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

5.3.2. MAIN REASONS FOR DATA REVISIONS

Data revisions are an important step towards data quality improvements. They generally aim at:

- correcting erroneous data;
- improving the completeness of the data (by limiting data omissions); or
- replacing estimated values of missing data with actual data or preliminary data with final data.

More exceptionally, revisions may also occur:

- as a result of implementing new estimation or compilation methods; or
- when a new legal provision was not implemented in due time.

Note that the practice in balance of payments statistics of re-compiling time series when methodological changes occur does not generally apply in ITGS. Changes in concept and definitions introduced by new legal provisions on intra- and extra-EU trade in goods apply only to future reference periods.

5.3.3. IMPACT OF THE REVISIONS

The importance of a revision will depend very much on the data user and the use made of the data. To aid both the monitoring of revisions and users' understanding of their impact, Eurostat and EU Member States have agreed on thresholds to define different levels of revision at the aggregate level.

Monitoring reports are published every month showing the revisions (in absolute value and percentage) to EU and euro area aggregates and to individual reporting country's data. A first report (Revisions between subsequent data deliveries) shows how much the data have changed since their just previous delivery. A second report (Revisions between first and last data deliveries) shows how much the data have changed since their first delivery. Both reports contain explanations of the agreed revision levels and indicate which level the revision is classified as. They are accompanied by a document including the dates of the latest data revisions. All this material is made available to users via the 'Focus on Comext' page of the 'International trade in goods' section on Eurostat website.

Table 20 shows the impact of revisions by comparing the latest values with the first ones in relative terms. A negative revision rate indicates a higher first value while a positive rate indicates a lower first value. In most cases, the values transmitted first are underestimated. Underestimations in intra-EU trade are generally due to Intrastat declarations not submitted in due time by PSIs.

The average extent of the revisions is generally greater for intra-EU trade than for extra-EU trade and greater for imports than for exports. The exceptionally high revisions which can be observed for Ireland and Cyprus are due to the application of the principle of transfer of economic ownership for

the recording of the trade in aircraft (Ireland) and sea-going vessels (Cyprus). Tracking changes in economic ownership require some extra processing time, which may lead to corrections of data already published.

Table 20: Impact of revisions in intra- and extra-EU trade, 2019
(%)

	Intra-EU trade		Extra-EU trade	
	Imports	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**
EU-28	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.1
Belgium	2.5	2.1	1.7	-0.7
Bulgaria	0.4	0.1	24.8	7.9
Czechia	3.2	1.1	-0.5	-0.5
Denmark	0.9	1.9	0.4	-0.8
Germany	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Estonia	-0.5	0.1	0.2	-0.7
Ireland	3.8	-0.7	17.2	1.6
Greece	2.4	1.6	-0.8	0.3
Spain	1.6	1.1	0.7	0.2
France	-0.4	0.0	1.9	0.4
Croatia	2.3	0.9	1.5	0.4
Italy	0.6	1.8	0.0	-0.1
Cyprus	-0.3	1.0	0.6	6.1
Latvia	3.0	2.4	0.3	1.4
Lithuania	3.2	1.1	-3.0	-0.3
Luxembourg	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Hungary	1.2	0.3	0.5	-0.8
Malta	0.7	0.9	0.0	0.0
Netherlands	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.2
Austria	0.9	0.3	0.0	-0.2
Poland	2.6	2.2	-1.5	-0.4
Portugal	-0.9	0.0	-0.2	-0.4
Romania	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0
Slovenia	0.3	0.3	0.1	-0.7
Slovakia	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.3
Finland	1.7	0.9	0.1	0.4
Sweden	0.5	-0.4	1.6	-0.1
United Kingdom	2.1	1.0	0.0	0.4
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	-1.0	2.6
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	0.0
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	:	:
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	1.0	0.3

: Data not available

Revision rate = (Last figure - First figure) / First figure * 100

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on the first and last versions of detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

5.4. Confidentiality

As a general definition, data used by national and EU authorities for producing statistics are considered confidential if statistical units can be identified, either directly or indirectly, and information about individuals or businesses is disclosed as a result.

Note that confidential information can be found only in detailed data or in data by enterprise characteristics. The aggregated data or the data by invoicing currency are not detailed enough to make it possible to identify a specific trader.

5.4.1. CONFIDENTIALITY IN DETAILED DATA

Confidentiality rules

Principle of passive confidentiality — The National Statistical Authority has to take appropriate measures only if requested to do so by companies which feel that their interests would be harmed by publication of the data. This principle is recommended by the United Nations in its IMTS 2010 publication and set out in the EU legislation for detailed statistics on intra- and extra-EU trade. It has the great advantage of limiting the loss of information for users and thus making the data more useful.

Criteria for granting confidentiality — The choice of the criteria to be met by the company is left to the National Statistical Authority. The most common criteria are the following:

- the number of companies on the market is limited, e.g. fewer than three companies contribute to a single data cell; or

- the company is in a dominant position on the market (by representing, for instance, at least 75 % of the total trade) or is at least an important stakeholder for a specific data cell.

Data elements possibly hidden

In detailed data, confidentiality can apply to the product code and/or the partner country. Information about a product or partner may be considered commercially sensitive by the provider of the statistical information for the trade value, the quantity or the unit value (value/quantity) which can be considered a proxy for the price.

When confidentiality is granted, data are hidden at the detailed level, which means that the trade is not allocated to the real product code and/or the real partner. It is nevertheless included in the total trade of the reporting country (EU Member State or EFTA country) and even, wherever possible, allocated to the real chapter (i.e. to the real HS2 code). This minimum level of provision is set out in the EU legislation: *Member States shall transmit data declared confidential to Eurostat so that they may be published at least at chapter level of the CN provided confidentiality is thereby ensured*.

Impact of the confidentiality

Table 21 and **Table 22** show the impact of confidentiality in intra- and extra-EU trade (world trade for the EFTA countries), in terms of number of eight-digit product codes affected, trade value and net mass. The impact varies considerably depending on the type of trade, the flow and the reporting country.

Table 23 indicates the number of CN8 codes according to the type of confidentiality: partner confidentiality only, product confidentiality only or a combination of the two. For most of the Member States, product confidentiality seems to affect intra/extra-EU exports more than intra/extra-EU imports. Only one type of confidentiality is systematically used by a few countries.

Table 21: Impact of confidentiality in intra-EU trade, 2019

	Number of CN8 codes affected		Impact on trade value (%)		Impact on net mass (%)	
	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports
Belgium	18	27	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.5
Bulgaria						
Czechia	28	38	0.3	0.3	1.4	0.4
Denmark	37	89	0.8	9.2	1.3	6.9
Germany	64	173	2.4	2.6	15.2	19.0
Estonia						
Ireland	11	8	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2
Greece	11	11	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.5
Spain	11	33	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.9
France	44	309	0.4	2.8	14.5	8.9
Croatia						
Italy	36	99	0.2	0.9	0.1	0.9
Cyprus	3	1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Latvia						
Lithuania		1				0.0
Luxembourg	4	7	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.3
Hungary	72	59	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.2
Malta						
Netherlands	268	583	2.0	4.8	4.5	12.9
Austria	83	218	1.5	4.4	7.5	9.8
Poland	1		0.0		0.0	
Portugal						
Romania	81	61	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.1
Slovenia	28	24	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.9
Slovakia	28	24	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
Finland	97	143	2.8	5.2	12.5	10.2
Sweden	27	66	0.1	1.8	0.1	1.1
United Kingdom	2	40	0.1	1.0	2.5	1.6

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 22: Impact of confidentiality in extra-EU trade, 2019

	Number of CN8 codes affected		Impact on trade value (%)		Impact on net mass (%)	
	Extra-EU imports	Extra-EU exports	Extra-EU imports	Extra-EU exports	Extra-EU imports	Extra-EU exports
Belgium	18	25	0.3	0.8	0.4	1.2
Bulgaria						
Czechia	15	28	0.2	0.6	0.6	1.0
Denmark	30	92	3.0	29.3	11.5	12.9
Germany	52	170	3.4	1.1	23.2	5.2
Estonia						
Ireland	10	12	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4
Greece	13	10	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.1
Spain	10	34	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.9
France	48	308	0.8	4.6	10.5	5.1
Croatia						
Italy	26	95	0.3	1.8	0.2	1.1
Cyprus	2	3	1.0	1.6	0.0	30.6
Latvia						
Lithuania	1	1	2.7		1.6	0.0
Luxembourg	1	6	1.0	1.6	0.9	0.8
Hungary	71	59	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.2
Malta						
Netherlands	855	1 100	3.8	2.4	12.8	3.1
Austria	78	212	7.2	7.1	42.2	8.0
Poland						
Portugal						
Romania	62	49	0.5	1.5	0.0	1.1
Slovenia	25	25	0.2	0.1	1.7	0.5
Slovakia	13	14	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.6
Finland	78	135	6.3	6.6	8.8	8.5
Sweden	26	55	0.4	2.6	1.1	1.7
United Kingdom	13	46	0.2	0.7	0.4	1.2
Iceland	5	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Liechtenstein	2	16	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.2
Norway	:	:	:	:	:	:
Switzerland	11	48	0.1	1.1	0.1	2.8

: Data not available

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 23: Number of CN8 codes according to the type of confidentiality, 2019

	Intra-EU trade						Extra-EU trade					
	Imports			Exports			Imports			Exports		
	Secret product	Secret partner	Secret product and partner	Secret product	Secret partner	Secret product and partner	Secret product	Secret partner	Secret product and partner	Secret product	Secret partner	Secret product and partner
Belgium	18			27			18			25		
Bulgaria												
Czechia			28			38			15			28
Denmark		3	34		17	72		3	27		17	75
Germany	18		46	157		16	17		35	158		12
Estonia												
Ireland		1	10		1	7		1	9		1	11
Greece	11			11			13			10		
Spain	11			33			10			34		
France	9	8	27	280	4	25	9	7	32	268	4	36
Croatia												
Italy	36			99			26			95		
Cyprus			3			1			2			3
Latvia												
Lithuania				1				1		1		
Luxembourg		1	3			7			1			6
Hungary			72			59			71			59
Malta												
Netherlands		172	96		407	176		521	334		738	362
Austria	64	4	15	196	10	12	61	3	14	191	10	11
Poland		1										
Portugal												
Romania			81			61			62			49
Slovenia		3	25			24		2	23			25
Slovakia			28			24			13			14
Finland			97			143			78			135
Sweden			27			66			26			55
United Kingdom		2		36	4		4	9		31	15	
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		4	1		2	1
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.			2			16
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	:	:	:	:	:	:
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.			11			48

: Data not available

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

5.4.2. CONFIDENTIALITY IN TEC DATA

Confidentiality rules

Principle of active confidentiality — Under this principle, confidential data are automatically hidden by the National Statistical Authority if certain criteria are met, without the company needing to send a request. In ITGS, this principle applies only to the data by enterprise characteristics (TEC data).

For TEC, the active confidentiality is a more applicable concept than passive confidentiality as data are broken down by the characteristics of statistical units. Also, for most indicators, TEC data are provided not only in terms of trade value but also in terms of number of enterprises. This could create situations where the statistical units can be directly or indirectly identified. Thus, the EU legislation explicitly stipulates the use of active confidentiality: *Member States shall ensure that statistics are provided in such a way that dissemination by the Commission (Eurostat) does not make it possible to identify an enterprise or trader. National authorities shall specify what data are affected by confidentiality provisions.*

Criteria for granting confidentiality — The choice of the criteria to be met by the company is left to the National Statistical Authority. The most common criteria are the following:

- the number of companies on the market is limited, e.g. fewer than three companies contribute to a single data cell; or

- the company is in a dominant position on the market (by representing, for instance, at least 75 % of the total trade) or is at least an important stakeholder contributing to a single data cell.

Data elements possibly hidden

Confidentiality applies to specific cells corresponding to particular combinations of the statistical dimensions of the TEC dataset. For instance it could be necessary to hide the information relating to the large enterprises (i.e. 250 or more employees) whose main activity is the manufacture of food product (NACE code 'C10'). The hidden data element may be the number of enterprises falling under that particular combination, the global value of their trade or both the number of enterprises and the trade value.

Impact of the confidentiality

Tables 24 to 29 show the impact of confidentiality according to the type of trade (intra-EU, extra-EU and world) and the trade flow (imports and exports) in terms of percentages of hidden cells in each TEC dataset to be mandatorily provided (see section 4.3.3 for more details).

The impact varies considerably depending on the type of trade, the flow and the reporting country.

Table 24: **Confidentiality in the 'Trade by type of trader' dataset, 2018**

Percentage of confidential cells (%)

	Intra-EU trade		Extra-EU trade		World trade	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
Belgium (*)	8.1	8.9	8.1	10.4	3.7	3.7
Bulgaria	13.6	14.4	13.6	12.9	13.6	14.4
Czechia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Denmark	13.3	13.0	14.1	13.7	7.8	7.4
Germany	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.0	0.0
Estonia (*)	17.0	15.8	15.5	15.3	8.3	9.2
Ireland	18.6	22.9	18.6	26.4	17.4	19.5
Greece	0.0	6.7	5.2	3.7	6.3	5.9
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
France	9.1	12.9	9.5	12.5	9.5	8.7
Croatia	18.2	23.5	15.9	17.4	3.0	3.8
Italy	3.7	0.0	3.7	0.0	3.7	0.0
Cyprus	71.1	68.1	69.6	62.2	51.1	48.9
Latvia	25.2	25.2	22.2	22.2	17.8	17.8
Lithuania	20.7	20.4	21.5	18.5	11.1	10.4
Luxembourg	73.3	68.9	71.9	63.7	52.2	54.4
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malta	73.1	78.3	79.1	81.4	64.2	65.6
Netherlands	11.4	16.8	12.1	15.9	7.2	7.6
Austria	8.4	9.2	8.4	8.6	5.3	6.1
Poland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Portugal	26.7	26.7	26.7	26.7	26.7	26.7
Romania	1.5	3.0	3.0	4.4	4.1	4.8
Slovenia	26.0	30.8	25.2	31.3	10.7	13.5
Slovakia	12.1	18.3	7.8	18.5	6.1	5.3
Finland	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5
Sweden	21.9	22.2	25.9	18.5	20.0	21.1
United Kingdom	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	28.1	28.1
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	97.3	96.2
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1.5	3.1

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 25: **Confidentiality in the 'Trade by activity sector and enterprise size class' dataset, 2018**
Percentage of confidential cells (%)

	Intra-EU trade		Extra-EU trade		World trade	
	Imports	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**
Belgium (*)	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.6	2.2	4.1
Bulgaria	28.0	22.7	25.0	18.2	25.4	20.5
Czechia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Denmark	14.1	14.1	13.9	15.7	8.7	10.9
Germany	1.5	2.2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Estonia (*)	22.7	22.9	21.5	22.8	16.1	16.9
Ireland	26.1	30.4	27.9	31.0	22.4	23.2
Greece	6.1	9.4	10.4	9.1	10.2	9.8
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
France	11.2	12.7	8.0	14.2	9.8	11.6
Croatia	21.0	20.3	16.3	18.9	13.8	15.5
Italy	2.7	3.8	1.9	3.8	2.7	3.8
Cyprus	48.1	53.3	48.1	51.1	34.4	44.8
Latvia	25.4	25.9	24.4	23.7	24.4	23.3
Lithuania	11.1	13.5	11.1	13.1	7.0	10.7
Luxembourg	61.1	60.4	61.1	54.4	44.3	51.1
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malta	83.3	84.5	89.2	87.4	73.0	72.0
Netherlands	14.4	11.5	14.2	12.2	5.0	7.1
Austria	6.2	7.8	5.3	6.7	4.8	5.3
Poland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Portugal	17.8	18.5	17.8	18.5	16.3	17.8
Romania	2.0	4.0	3.1	3.6	1.8	3.1
Slovenia	27.7	30.4	28.2	31.2	19.5	23.0
Slovakia	10.6	15.9	8.3	14.5	5.5	6.7
Finland	32.6	32.6	32.6	32.6	32.6	32.6
Sweden	15.9	15.9	17.4	17.8	10.9	16.3
United Kingdom	6.4	6.4	5.7	6.1	6.4	6.4
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.4	33.7
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	42.2	45.7
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	11.1	12.0

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 26: **Confidentiality in the 'Concentration of trade by activity' dataset, 2018**
Percentage of confidential cells (%)

	Intra-EU trade		Extra-EU trade		World trade	
	Imports	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**
Belgium (*)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bulgaria	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Czechia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Denmark	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Germany	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Estonia (*)	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	0.0	0.0
Ireland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Greece	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
France	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Croatia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Italy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cyprus	32.5	40.0	15.0	32.5	5.0	22.5
Latvia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lithuania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Luxembourg	17.5	15.0	17.5	15.0	0.0	10.0
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malta	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	6.3	6.3
Netherlands	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Austria	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Poland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Portugal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Romania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovenia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Finland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sweden	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
United Kingdom	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	0.0
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	90.0	90.0
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	0.0

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 27: Confidentiality in the 'Trade by partner country and activity' dataset, 2018
Percentage of confidential cells (%)

	Intra-EU trade		Extra-EU trade		World trade	
	Imports	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**
Belgium (*)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bulgaria	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Czechia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Denmark	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Germany	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Estonia (*)	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	0.0	0.0
Ireland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Greece	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
France	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Croatia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Italy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cyprus	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Latvia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lithuania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Luxembourg	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.0	40.0
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malta	37.5	37.5	37.5	37.5	25.0	25.0
Netherlands	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Austria	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Poland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Portugal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Romania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovenia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Finland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sweden	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
United Kingdom	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	0.0
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	90.0	90.0
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	0.0

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 28: Confidentiality in the 'Trade by number of partner countries and activity' dataset, 2018
Percentage of confidential cells (%)

	Intra-EU trade		Extra-EU trade		World trade	
	Imports	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**
Belgium (*)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bulgaria	11.1	11.1	11.1	11.1	0.0	11.1
Czechia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Denmark	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Germany	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Estonia (*)	21.6	23.3	17.1	18.3	12.2	13.3
Ireland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Greece	6.7	10.0	4.4	0.0	4.4	0.0
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
France	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Croatia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Italy	4.4	0.0	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cyprus	33.3	37.8	42.2	46.7	28.9	33.3
Latvia	8.9	0.0	8.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lithuania	8.9	0.0	0.0	8.9	0.0	0.0
Luxembourg	46.7	42.2	55.6	40.0	20.0	33.3
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malta	42.2	45.3	29.7	29.7	9.4	9.4
Netherlands	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Austria	12.9	8.6	12.9	10.3	8.3	13.9
Poland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Portugal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Romania	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Slovenia	12.5	0.0	15.6	6.3	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	12.5	0.0	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Finland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sweden	11.1	0.0	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
United Kingdom	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	0.0
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	82.9	81.9
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	0.0

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table 29: **Confidentiality in the 'Trade by commodity and activity' dataset, 2018**
Percentage of confidential cells (%)

	Intra-EU trade		Extra-EU trade		World trade	
	Imports	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**	**Imports**	**Exports**
Belgium (*)	19.5	19.9	19.3	22.7	13.3	19.0
Bulgaria	14.5	11.7	12.8	11.2	16.2	14.3
Czechia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Denmark	38.5	38.0	35.3	38.4	24.0	29.0
Germany	6.4	8.5	6.9	9.0	4.1	5.3
Estonia (*)	35.2	40.8	34.1	42.6	20.1	27.1
Ireland	36.5	57.7	35.7	60.0	22.8	37.2
Greece	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
France	28.2	30.5	23.9	28.9	19.3	21.4
Croatia	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0
Italy	18.9	15.9	17.6	15.4	10.2	13.3
Cyprus	38.4	23.6	34.1	31.8	30.0	29.7
Latvia	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Lithuania	23.0	24.0	19.7	25.9	13.6	17.3
Luxembourg	71.7	53.0	47.5	43.2	53.2	51.4
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malta	66.7	86.0	75.8	85.5	77.3	85.7
Netherlands	52.0	58.5	51.0	56.6	38.5	45.1
Austria	19.6	22.9	22.0	25.7	12.1	14.2
Poland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Portugal	38.7	26.0	38.7	26.0	27.6	18.1
Romania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovenia	47.3	49.5	45.9	50.2	26.7	29.7
Slovakia	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.4
Finland	31.1	31.1	31.1	31.1	31.1	31.1
Sweden	41.2	41.2	45.1	46.7	41.6	47.2
United Kingdom	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	42.5	35.5
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	68.3	77.5
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	0.0

(*) Belgium and Estonia: 2017 data

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

5.5. Control procedures

The primary responsibility for ensuring the accuracy of the published trade data rests with the reporting countries, as they are responsible for data collection and compilation. The control procedures can be broadly classified as:

- **controls of data validity** — Data are invalid when they cause processing problems and must be removed or corrected. Controls of data validity should in particular detect incorrect or missing codes, missing indicators (e.g. value or quantity), character data in numeric field and vice versa. All countries have implemented automatic processes to check for invalid data;

- **controls of data credibility** — Data can be valid but not plausible, which means that they could be processed but would distort the statistical analysis. Inconsistencies can be detected by cross-checking different statistical variables (e.g. trade value and net mass) or by observing trends in time series; and

- **controls of data completeness**: these are checks as to whether the reported trade data represent all the operator's trading activity. In intra-EU data, a close link with the VAT system allows the EU Member States to compare the statistical declarations with VAT returns or VIES data. In extra-EU trade, data are collected through customs declarations, so they are considered to be complete. Additional sources can be used, e.g. data from other statistical domains or mirror statistics.

In addition, data are validated by Eurostat before any dissemination to users. This mainly involves controls of data validity. Data already uploaded in the Eurostat database undergo further credibility and completeness checks based on automatic detection of outliers, internal studies or user feedback.

It should be kept in mind that basic data consist of millions of detailed trade declarations each month and it is impossible to achieve complete accuracy for the published statistics. As in all statistical work, a balance has to be struck between the resources devoted to checking and the likely benefits. Therefore, users should be aware of the margin of inaccuracy in the data used, at least as regards the most detailed level of data. This applies particularly to intra-EU trade statistics, where not all traders are requested to provide detailed information on their transactions.

6 | Timeliness and punctuality

ESS definition

The **timeliness** of statistical outputs is the length of time between the event or phenomenon they describe and their availability.

Punctuality is the time lag between the release date of data and the target date on which they were scheduled for release as announced in an official release calendar, laid down by Regulations or previously agreed among partners.

6.1. Timeliness

According to the Intrastat legislation, the EU Member States should provide Eurostat with

- Monthly aggregated statistics within 40 calendar days after the reference month;
- Monthly detailed statistics on intra-EU trade within 70 calendar days after the reference month; and
- Annual data by enterprise characteristics (TEC data) within 18 months after the reference year.

According to the Extrastat legislation, the EU Member States should provide Eurostat with

- Monthly detailed statistics on extra-EU trade within 40 calendar days after the reference month;
- Annual data by enterprise characteristics (TEC data) within 18 months after the reference year; and
- Annual data by invoicing currency (TIC data) within three months after the reference year (transmission only every two years, starting from 2010 as reference year).

Note that the same deadlines applied to EFTA countries as regards the data flows covered by the Extrastat legislation and in the limits of derogations. Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC and TIC data and Switzerland started providing TEC data only from 2016 as reference year, i.e. from 2018 as transmission year.

6.2. Punctuality

Table 30 shows how often and to what extent the monthly 2019 intra- and extra-EU trade data were delivered late. This indicator is based on the dates on which the first version was sent to Eurostat. Delays in data transmissions are rare and generally minor.

Table 30: Punctuality of data transmissions

Reference periods: 2019 for aggregated and detailed data, 2018 for TEC and TIC data

	Number of delayed data deliveries and average delay				
	Aggregated data	**Detailed intra-EU trade data**	**Detailed Extra-EU trade data**	**TEC data**	**TIC data**
Belgium		1 (2 days)	1 (2 days)	7	
Bulgaria					
Czechia					
Denmark					
Germany		1 (1 day)			
Estonia	1 (1 day)		1 (1 day)	7	1
Ireland					
Greece				7 (1 day)	
Spain			1 (1 day)	1 (5 days)	
France				7 (3 days)	
Croatia					
Italy					
Cyprus				7 (35 days)	
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxembourg					
Hungary					
Malta					
Netherlands				7 (13 days)	1 (33 days)
Austria					1 (1 day)
Poland					
Portugal				7 (7 days)	
Romania					
Slovenia			1 (18 days)		
Slovakia					
Finland					
Sweden					1 (1 day)
United Kingdom			1 (4 days)		
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.		7 (61 days)	
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	1 (1 day)	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	12	7 (106 days)	1 (15 days)
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.			

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: EFTA countries are exempted from providing aggregated data as this obligation is laid down by the Intrastat legislation, which is not applicable to them.

Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC and TIC data.

7 Accessibility and clarity

ESS definition

The **accessibility** of statistical outputs is the measure of the ease with which users can obtain the data. It is determined by the physical conditions by means of which users obtain data: where to go, how to order, delivery time, pricing policy, marketing conditions (copyright, etc.), availability of micro or macro data, various formats (paper, files, CD-ROM, internet, etc.).

The **clarity** of statistical outputs is the measure of the ease with which users can understand the data. It is determined by the information environment within which the data are presented, whether the data are accompanied by appropriate metadata, whether use is made of illustrations such as graphs and maps, whether information on data accuracy is available (including any limitations on use) and the extent to which additional assistance is provided by the producer.

Data dissemination channels

All available dissemination channels are used: online and paper publications, Statistics Explained articles, predefined tables, databases and FTP addresses for bulk download. Data are disseminated simultaneously and free of charge to all interested parties through Eurostat's website. Annually, approximately 20 000 registered users perform about two million extractions of trade in goods detailed data. Data are also downloaded regularly or occasionally by numerous unregistered users.

Metadata and other supportive material

The dissemination of ITGS is supported by a complete set of structural metadata making it possible easily to identify, retrieve and browse the data. These structural metadata are completed by users-oriented documents which aims at providing detailed information on the concepts and definitions used in ITGS and at drawing the attention on specific issues:

- The International Trade Data Reference Metadata in Euro SDMX Metadata Structure (ESMS) — Those metadata cover methodological, qualitative and quantitative information in a standardised structure.

- The Statistical Explained article International trade in goods statistics – background — This article answers some frequently asked questions on European ITGS.

- The User Guide on European statistics on international trade in goods — The purpose of this Guide is to explain to a wide range of users how the statistics relating to trade in goods, both between EU Member States and with non-EU countries, are collected, compiled, processed and published at European level. The different issues are tackled in a question and answer format.

- The Frequently Asked Questions

User support

In daily work, users can easily communicate their requests and needs by using tools directly geared to dissemination. With the members of the European Statistical System Eurostat has established a network of support centres in nearly all EU Member States as well as some EFTA countries. Their mission is to provide help and guidance to users of European statistical data. Details of this user support network can be found in the Help section of Eurostat's website. In addition, Eurostat provides specific support to journalists via its Press centre. Note that specific support is available for ITGS through the following email address: comextsupport@ec.europa.eu

A single entry point for trade in goods statistics

Eurostat website gives access to sections dedicated to specific statistical domains. One of these sections relates to international trade in goods statistics. Not only paths to access data are given but also info graphics tools providing pictures on main indicators, answers to frequently asked questions, descriptions of available data and publications as well as all available metadata including manuals, guidelines, quality reports, nomenclatures and legal acts.

'International trade in goods' dedicated section on Eurostat website

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/international-trade-in-goods

Overview

Data

- Main tables
- Database
- Focus on Comext
- Focus on enterprise characteristics (TEC)

FAQ

Publications

Methodology

- EU and national metadata
- Manuals and guidelines
- Quality monitoring
- Classifications

Legislation

Visualisations

Links

8 Coherence and comparability

ESS definition

The **coherence** of two or more statistical outputs refers to the degree to which the statistical processes by which they were generated used the same concepts — classifications, definitions and target populations — and harmonised methods. Coherent statistical outputs have the potential to be validly combined and used jointly. Examples of joint use are where the statistical outputs refer to the same population, reference period and region but comprise different sets of data items (say, employment data and production data) or where they comprise the same data items (say, employment data) but for different reference periods, regions or domains.

Comparability is a special case of coherence and refers to the second example above, where the statistical outputs refer to the same data items and the aim of combining them is to make comparisons over time, or across regions, or across other domains.

8.1. Comparability over space

8.1.1. EUROPEAN FIGURES VERSUS NATIONAL FIGURES

EU legislation serves as a basis for compiling the intra- and extra-EU trade statistics published by Eurostat. However, European statistics, which cover the EU as a whole, and the statistics published by the Member States, are not always directly comparable. Member States may apply a different concept at national level but they have to provide Eurostat with harmonised data according to the Community concept.

The most common differences between the Community concept and the national concepts are as follows:

- Use of the general trade system at national level while the Community statistics are compiled according to the special trade system;

- Exclusion from national statistics of 'quasi-transit', which means of

    ○ goods imported from a non-EU country, cleared through customs and immediately dispatched to another Member State (the Member State of final destination); or

    ○ goods imported from another Member State (the Member State of actual export), cleared through customs and immediately dispatched to a non-EU country.

    The customs formalities distinguish between simple transit, which is not recorded in Community statistics, and quasi-transit.

- Inclusion of repairs in national statistics — these are excluded from the scope of Community statistics from 2006; and

● Country of origin vs. Member State of consignment — for Community statistics for intra-EU imports, the partner country is the Member State of consignment but for national statistics it may be the country of origin.

Table 31 shows conceptual differences between Community statistics and individual Member State's national statistics.

Table 31: Conceptual differences between European statistics and national statistics, 2019

	General Trade System (^{1})	Exclusion of quasi transit	Inclusion of repairs	Country of origin	Other (^{2})
Belgium		*			*
Bulgaria					*
Czechia				*	
Denmark	*	*			
Germany				*	*
Estonia					*
Ireland	*		*	*	
Greece					
Spain	*			*	*
France				*	*
Croatia		*			
Italy					
Cyprus	*				
Latvia		*			
Lithuania					
Luxembourg		*	*		
Hungary		*			*
Malta	*	*		*	
Netherlands		*			
Austria		*		*	*
Poland		*		*	
Portugal					
Romania					
Slovenia		*			*
Slovakia		*		*	*
Finland				*	
Sweden					
United Kingdom	*	*	*		*

(^{1}) United Kingdom: From May 2016 UK compiles and publishes trade data on a Special Trade basis.

(^{2}) The other conceptual differences are the following:

  Belgium: Returned goods are excluded from national statistics.

  Bulgaria: Extra-EU imports at national level are by country of consignment; goods covered by Single Authorisation for Simplified Procedures (SASP) are included in national statistics.

  Germany: Additional statistical procedures are included in national statistics.

  Estonia: Extra-EU imports at national level are by country of consignment.

  Spain: Ceuta and Melilla are included in national statistics.

  France: Goods delivered to sea-going vessels and aircraft are excluded from national statistics.

  Hungary: Extra-EU imports at national level are by country of consignment.

  Austria: Goods covered by Single Authorisation for Simplified Procedures (SASP) are included in national statistics.

  Slovenia: Trade by non-residents which is not connected with activity on the Slovenian market is excluded from national statistics.

  Slovakia: Import data are valued on a FOB basis.

  United Kingdom: Extra-EU imports at national level are by country of consignment; non-monetary gold is excluded from national statistics until December 2013 as reference month.

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

8.1.2. ASYMMETRIES IN INTRA-EU TRADE STATISTICS

In theory, intra-EU trade statistics should be less affected by asymmetries than extra-EU trade statistics as issued from more harmonised rules. Exports from Member State A to Member State B, as reported by A, should be almost equal to imports into B from A, as reported by B. Due to a different valuation principle (CIF > FOB), imports should be slightly higher than exports.

However, since the Intrastat system came into operation, bilateral comparisons have revealed major and persistent discrepancies in the intra-EU trade statistics. Therefore, comparisons based on intra-EU trade statistics must be handled with caution and should take these into account. The main reasons for the discrepancies are known and are partly the same as in the case of extra-EU trade. There are also factors that are specific to intra-EU trade, such as estimates for non-collected data.

Table 32 reports the asymmetries in trade values, expressed in relative terms. It is evident that the impact varies considerably among the Member States. Many regularly carry out bilateral studies to find out at detailed product level where the problems are and to resolve them. However, despite all the analysis, the problems are not easily remedied.

Table 32: Intra-EU asymmetries, 2019
(%)

	Intra-EU imports (*)	Intra-EU exports (**)
EU-28	-2.1	2.1
Belgium	3.4	4.3
Bulgaria	-1.4	1.8
Czechia	3.1	8.3
Denmark	-3.6	1.0
Germany	-0.5	1.0
Estonia	-3.3	6.1
Ireland	10.0	-16.4
Greece	-1.2	16.8
Spain	-2.3	4.9
France	-5.1	-1.4
Croatia	-0.4	8.5
Italy	-3.2	5.8
Cyprus	-24.1	-31.9
Latvia	5.8	-0.6
Lithuania	10.9	-9.1
Luxembourg	-9.8	-13.5
Hungary	-0.5	6.5
Malta	-39.2	-35.5
Netherlands	-4.1	5.1
Austria	-1.0	-3.4
Poland	-8.4	3.5
Portugal	2.9	14.1
Romania	-1.1	3.4
Slovenia	0.3	11.0
Slovakia	2.9	6.6
Finland	1.9	-4.2
Sweden	-3.0	-5.9
United Kingdom	-3.8	0.2

(*) (Intra-EU imports - mirror exports) / Mirror flows average * 100
(**) (Intra-EU exports - mirror imports) / Mirror flows average * 100

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

8.1.3. ASYMMETRIES IN EXTRA-EU TRADE STATISTICS

There are two main approaches for measuring international trade in goods: the general trade system and the special trade system. EU ITGS use the latter, which means that goods from a non-EU country that are received into customs warehouses are not recorded unless they subsequently go into free circulation in the Member State of receipt (or are placed under the customs procedures for inward processing). Similarly, outgoing goods from customs warehouses are not recorded as extra-EU exports. The general trade system, which is used by most of the EU's main partner countries, is broader, including all goods entering or leaving the country.

Since intra-EU trade statistics are not directly linked to customs procedures, they are not compiled on a general or special trade basis.

Comparing extra-EU trade statistics with the figures published by non-EU countries for the same trade flows inevitably highlights some discrepancies. Besides the trade system and errors such as product or partner misclassification, the most common reasons for asymmetries are:

- Methodological differences: trade coverage (e.g. data collection thresholds, treatment of specific goods or movements of goods), definition of partner country (e.g. country of re-export vs. country of origin), definition of statistical territory, different valuation principles (e.g. FOB valuation for exports and CIF valuation for imports);

- Time lag: the same operation is recorded for a different reference period;

- Statistical confidentiality: the goods movement is made confidential by one of the partners;

- Different practices in the treatment of revisions; and

- Problems of currency conversion.

Table 33 shows the mirror discrepancies in the trade of the EU with its top-10 trading partners.

Table 33: Asymmetries with the top-10 extra-EU partner countries, 2019

(%)

	EU-28 imports (*)	EU-28 exports (**)
United States	-1.5	-2.3
China	9.5	-9.3
Switzerland	-5.9	9.0
Russia	-6.5	13.7
Turkey	1.9	11.8
Japan	0.4	-15.1
Norway	-0.4	17.6
South Korea	9.6	-4.5
India	-3.7	-4.1
Canada	9.4	-21.1

(*) (EU imports - mirror exports) / Mirror flows average * 100
(**) (EU exports - mirror imports) / Mirror flows average * 100

Sources: Eurostat calculations based on data transmitted by the EU Member States and data available in the IMF database

8.2. Comparability over time

Comparability over time is another important aspect of quality. Changes due to definitions, coverage or methods and other changes will have an impact on the continuity of trade series.

8.2.1. CHANGES IN THE PRODUCT NOMENCLATURE

A particular issue of comparability over time concerns the product classification used for trade in goods detailed data. The most detailed data are collected and published by eight-digit codes of the Combined Nomenclature (CN). Some changes are made to the CN every year. Eurostat maintains conversion tables between successive versions of the CN in order to improve comparison over time.

Table 34 gives an overview of changes in the number of CN8 codes over the last 15 years.

Table 34: Changes to CN8 codes over time

Year	Creations	Deletions	Total	Net change	CN Codes
2019	7	7	14	+0	9 533
2018	16	11	27	+5	9 533
2017	687	573	1 260	+114	9 528
2016	55	27	82	+28	9 414
2015	21	14	35	+7	9 386
2014	43	40	83	+3	9 379
2013	35	42	77	-7	9 376
2012	907	818	1 725	+89	9 383
2011	132	281	413	-149	9 294
2010	180	306	486	-126	9 443
2009	127	257	384	-130	9 569
2008	75	96	171	-21	9 699
2007	917	1 039	1 956	-122	9 720
2006	486	740	1 226	-254	9 842
2005	97	175	272	-78	10 096
2004	273	503	776	-230	10 174
2003	19	15	34	+4	10 404
2002	780	654	1 434	+126	10 400
2001	50	90	140	-40	10 274

8.2.2. METHODOLOGICAL CHANGES

The most important methodological changes or other events affecting ITGS in the past years are listed in the table below.

Table 35: Changes affecting comparability over time

	Type of trade	Event
2017	Intra- and extra-EU	Combined Nomenclature impacted by the fifth revision of the Harmonised System
2014	Intra-EU	For intra-EU imports, minimum coverage from collected data reduced from 95 % to 93 % of total trade value
2013	Intra- and extra-EU	Change in the definition of intra- and extra-EU trade due to Croatia's EU accession on 1 July 2013
2012	Intra- and extra-EU	Combined Nomenclature impacted by the fourth revision of the Harmonised System
2010	Intra- and extra-EU	Introduction of the concept of change in economic ownership to record trade in vessels and aircraft and determine the partner country allocation for sea products and deliveries to vessels and aircraft (based on the economic ownership of the vessels/aircraft)
	Intra- and extra-EU	Reporting Member State and partner country for goods delivered to and from offshore installations determined by the exclusive rights of a country to exploit seabed or subsoil of the area (exclusive economic zone) where the offshore installation is established
	Intra-EU	Estimates for non-collected net mass made mandatory
2009	Intra-EU	For intra-EU imports, minimum coverage from collected data reduced from 97 % to 95 % of total trade value
2007	Intra- and extra-EU	Change in the definition of intra- and extra-EU trade due to the EU accession of Bulgaria and Romania on 1 January 2007
	Intra- and extra-EU	Combined Nomenclature impacted by the third revision of the Harmonised System
2006	Extra-EU	Repairs excluded from the scope of extra-EU trade
	Intra-EU	Collection of net mass in Intrastat no longer mandatory if a supplementary quantity is collected
2005	Intra-EU	Repairs excluded from the scope of intra-EU trade
	Intra-EU	Collection of net mass in Intrastat no longer mandatory for a specific list of CN8 codes for which a supplementary quantity is collected

	Type of trade	Event
2004	Intra- and extra-EU	Change in the definition of intra- and extra-EU trade due to the EU accession of Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia on 1 May 2004
2002	Intra- and extra-EU	Combined Nomenclature impacted by the second revision of the Harmonised System
1996	Intra- and extra-EU	Combined Nomenclature impacted by the first revision of the Harmonised System

8.3. Coherence with other statistics

Apart from the ITGS, information on trade flows can be found in national accounts, business statistics and balance of payments data. These are compiled and produced according to the recommendations (sources and methods) of various international organisations, e.g. Eurostat, International Monetary Fund, United Nations. **Table 36** gives an overall idea of the main differences between these sources.

Table 36: Coherence across domains

	International Trade Statistics	National Accounts	Balance of Payments	Business Statistics
Concepts & Definitions	Community concept and definitions	Aggregation of national statistics based on ESA 2010	Aggregation of national statistics based upon IMF Balance of Payments Manual (Sixth edition) (BPM6). It implies some methodological discrepancies (FOB/FOB, difference of coverage) in comparison to the ITGS concepts. Trade in goods data in BoP statistics are derived from Member States' ITGS. BoP statistics sent to Eurostat are compiled according to the Community concept.	Statistics are based on activity sector.
Statistical unit/ object/ population	ITGS statistics record cross-border movement of goods. Statistical unit concept is not applicable for ITGS.	Not applicable	BoP statistics record cross border transaction with change of economic ownership. Statistical unit concept is not applicable in BoP.	Enterprise, local unit
Classifications (nomenclature)	Combined Nomenclature (CN) for recording products and Geonomenclature for recording of partner countries.	Institutional sectors	BoP classification for BoP items, goods, services and geographical breakdowns	NACE, CPA, Prodcom

	International Trade Statistics	**National Accounts**	**Balance of Payments**	**Business Statistics**
Geographical breakdown	Detailed geographical breakdown	Intra-EU, Extra-EU, World	Less detailed geographical breakdown	Less detailed geographical breakdown
Reference period	Monthly	Annual, quarterly	Annual, quarterly, monthly	Annual, quarterly, monthly
Correction methods	National corrections	National corrections	National corrections	National corrections

8.4. Internal coherence

A key feature of the EU ITGS is their coherence. Aggregated data are constructed from detailed data across Member States and product classifications with the help of official correspondence tables. This ensures internal coherence. In addition, in order to maintain coherence, Eurostat calculates derived indicators such as unit value indices or seasonally adjusted series from the detailed data provided by Member States.

9 Trade-offs between output quality components

ESS Handbook for Quality Reports

Output quality components are not mutually exclusive in the sense that there are relationships between the factors that contribute to them. There are cases where the factors leading to improvements with respect to one component result in deterioration with respect to another.

As there are a number of quality components, including some with subcomponents, the number of possible trade-offs is considerable. However, not all of them are relevant for ITGS. Some of the most significant trade-offs are considered below:

Trade-off between relevance and comparability over time

The most important methodological changes over the last few years are documented in section 8.2. Some, such as the exclusion of repairs from the scope of statistics, were made in order to improve the relevance of statistics. Similarly, product classifications are revised regularly to ensure that they reflect changes in technology, trade patterns and user needs. Consequently, comparability over time is affected.

Trade-off between accuracy and timeliness

Trade statistics consist of a huge volume of detailed declarations collected in two different systems: Intrastat and Extrastat. As the time needed to transmit detailed intra-EU trade data is considerably longer than that for detailed extra-EU trade data, aggregated intra-EU trade data must be reported within 40 days for the purposes of macro-economic analysis.

Trade-off between accuracy and respondent burden

Although respondent burden is not an output quality component as such, it forms an important trade-off with accuracy. The Intrastat system is constructed so that the smallest traders are exempted from statistical reporting (see section 11.2). Consequently, fewer data are collected, which affects the accuracy of the detailed intra-EU trade statistics.

10 Assessment of user needs and perceptions

ESS Quality Declaration: User focus

We provide our users with products and services that meet their needs. The articulated and non-articulated needs, demands and expectations of external and internal users will guide the ESS, its members, their employees and operations.

Statistics satisfy the users' needs in a variety of ways. Users may need either annual aggregated or detailed monthly data on products or partner countries. They may be interested in trade values in current prices or at constant prices. Alternatively, their interest may be in quantities rather than in values. These examples, which are far from exhaustive, show the diversity of users and their requirements. Eurostat tries to meet these various needs and to adapt to a changing environment, such as changes due to globalisation.

User needs are monitored regularly. At EU level, there are regular contacts with key institutional users (Commission services and the European Central Bank) and with other main user groups such as trade associations. The level of satisfaction among users is very high. The only recurring issue relates to the impact of the confidentiality in terms of data availability and accuracy. No solution was identified so far as the protection of the provider of the statistical information prevails over the quality of the disseminated data.

Recently, the most urgent user needs have concerned the timeliness and coverage of the statistics by enterprise characteristics. Those needs were taken into account in the new legal framework for business statistics currently in the legislative process.

11 Performance, cost and respondent burden

11.1. Performance and cost

In order to improve performance and reduce the costs of data collection and processing, the use of IT tools in data collection has been identified as a priority. Consequently, the proportion of paper declarations has decreased over time. 99% of the total intra-EU trade and 100% of the extra-EU trade are collected electronically. Paper declarations are no longer used to collect intra-EU detailed data in half of the EU Member States. Also several measures have been taken to develop and promote common tools for data validation.

11.2. Respondent burden

11.2.1. BURDEN ASSESSMENT

Intrastat is considered to be the largest business survey in the EU. In 2015 it was estimated that there were around 3.7 million European businesses involved in trade in goods between the Member States, out of which only about 13.1 % – around 485 000 – were liable to Intrastat reporting. Out of these 485 000 reporting businesses, 207 000 (43 %) reported only imports, 129 000 (27 %) only exports and 150 000 (31 %) reported both flows.

From the beginning of Intrastat, it became clear that the reporting burden imposed by this system on businesses was quite heavy. The Intrastat system has so undergone a number of changes and amendments of legislation in its 25-year history. These revisions have however not changed its basic characteristics but have rather enabled Member States to exempt more of their smallest businesses from Intrastat reporting obligations without making too drastic compromises in quality. While the objective of these revisions has always been clear, there has been recurring discussion on how the Intrastat system should be further simplified. Two alternative approaches were often put forward: raising the exemption thresholds and a single flow system.

In November 2011, the European Council called upon the European Statistical System (ESS) to take effective measures ensuring a substantial reduction of the response burden by redeveloping Intrastat, while maintaining at the same time, a sound level of quality. In response to this call, the ESS adopted an innovative statistical approach consisting in exchanging micro-data on intra-EU

exports between the EU Member States allowing them to use those mirror data for the compiling of their own intra-EU imports statistics. Such an approach follows the principle that data collected and available within the ESS need not to be collected more than once. Thus, each trade transaction collected in one Member State may serve as a data source for two Member States: first, for compiling the intra-EU exports of the exporting Member State and, second, for compiling and/or verifying the intra-EU imports of the partner Member State. The modernised Intrastat system will be implemented on the basis of new legal provisions laid down by the Framework regulation integrating business statistics (FRIBS). The FRIBS legislation is currently foreseen to become applicable for the modernised Intrastat system starting from 1 January 2021.

11.2.2. SIMPLIFICATION MEASURES IN INTRA-EU TRADE

In order to reduce the burden on enterprises, particularly SMEs, the Intrastat system is designed so that intra-EU traders' workload varies according to the annual amount of trade in which they are involved. To achieve this, Member States have each year to set thresholds for intra-EU imports and exports. Those thresholds are complemented by other simplification measures, all aiming at lightening the burden of the Intrastat respondents.

11.2.2.1. Intrastat thresholds

In order to reduce the burden on enterprises, particularly SMEs, the Intrastat system is designed so that intra-EU traders' workload varies according to the annual amount of trade in which they are involved. To achieve this, Member States have each year to set thresholds for intra-EU imports and exports that exempt enterprises from providing statistical information or that limit the information collected. The thresholds are expressed in terms of the annual value of intra-EU trade; there are four types:

- **Exemption threshold** — Traders below the threshold do not have to declare their trade in goods. When setting the threshold, Member States have to ensure that at least 97% of their intra-EU exports and 93% of their intra-EU imports are covered. See **Table 37**

- **Simplification threshold** — This allows traders with annual trade value above the exemption threshold but below the simplification threshold to provide only a limited set of data or use a simplified commodity code. The trade reported by these PSIs may cover at most 6 % of total trade. In 2019, only Luxembourg applied a simplification threshold. See **Table 38**

- **Statistical value threshold** — Member States may collect the statistical value but only from some of their traders. See **Table 39**

Are PSIs exempted from reporting of statistical value?

Yes	10 MS (36%)	BE	CZ	DK	EE	FR	NL	SK	FI	SE	UK
Partly	14 MS (50%)	BG	DE	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI
No	4 MS (14%)	EL	ES	HR	MT

- **Optional variable threshold** — In order to further reduce the burden on the PSIs, the Member States are encouraged to define optional variable thresholds only above which PSIs are obliged to provide additional information to the variables to be mandatorily provided (as defined by the Intrastat legislation).The application of this threshold depends on the national rules.

Is an optional variable threshold implemented?

Yes	11 MS (39%)	BE	IE	IT	CY	LV	LU	NL	AT	PL	SI	UK
No	17 MS (61%)	BG	CZ	DK (¹)	DE	EE	EL	ES	FR	HR	LT	HU	MT	PT	RO	SK	FI	SE (¹)

(¹) No optional variable threshold since no optional data elements are collected.

Table 37: Intrastat exemption thresholds and share of beneficiary intra-EU traders, 2019

	Exemption threshold				Percentage of traders exempted from statistical reporting (%)		
	In euro		In national currency (*)				
	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Total
Belgium	1 500 000	1 000 000			97	86	96
Bulgaria	235 194	143 162	460 000	280 000	84	69	81
Czechia	467 472	467 472	12 000 000	12 000 000	91	84	86
Denmark	897 390	669 694	6 700 000	5 000 000	88	74	85
Germany	800 000	500 000			95	83	92
Estonia	230 000	130 000			81	69	78
Ireland	500 000	635 000			92	85	91
Greece	150 000	90 000			87	79	86
Spain	400 000	400 000			87	77	86
France	460 000	460 000			89	75	87
Croatia	296 576	161 769	2 200 000	1 200 000	87	77	86
Italy	800 000	400 000			54	72	68
Cyprus	160 000	55 000			66	50	67
Latvia	200 000	100 000			83	65	78
Lithuania	250 000	150 000			79	68	76
Luxembourg	200 000	150 000			83	76	82
Hungary	522 595	307 409	170 000 000	100 000 000	91	85	90
Malta	700	700			2	5	2
Netherlands	800 000	1 000 000			94	85	92
Austria	750 000	750 000			93	82	92
Poland	930 752	465 376	4 000 000	2 000 000	89	92	91
Portugal	350 000	250 000			92	80	90
Romania	193 690	193 690	900 000	900 000	83	64	81
Slovenia	140 000	220 000			81	82	83
Slovakia	200 000	400 000			86	80	85
Finland	600 000	600 000			94	86	93
Sweden	849 931	424 965	9 000 000	4 500 000	93	79	91
United Kingdom	1 708 876	284 813	1 500 000	250 000	92	77	85

(*) When the Member State does not belong to the euro area.

Sources: National quality and metadata reports and questionnaires on Intrastat thresholds transmitted by the countries

Table 38: Intrastat simplification thresholds and share of beneficiary PSIs, 2019

	Simplification threshold in euro		Percentage of PSIs allowed to make Intrastat simplified declarations (%)		
	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Total
Luxembourg	375 000	375 000	31	38	32

Sources: National quality and metadata reports and questionnaires on Intrastat thresholds transmitted by the countries

Table 39: Intrastat statistical value thresholds and share of beneficiary PSIs, 2019

	Statistical value threshold				Percentage of PSIs exempted from statistical value reporting (%)		
	In euro		In national currency (*)				
	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Intra-EU imports	Intra-EU exports	Total
Belgium	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
Bulgaria	3 783 560	7 362 603	7 400 000	14 400 000	88	93	90
Czechia	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
Denmark	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
Germany	42 000 000	50 000 000			95	96	95
Estonia	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
Ireland	5 000 000	34 000 000			92	85	91
Greece	No exemption	No exemption			0	0	0
Spain	No exemption	No exemption			0	0	0
France	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
Croatia	No exemption	No exemption			0	0	0
Italy	20 000 000	20 000 000			93	95	94
Cyprus	2 700 000	5 800 000			84	84	84
Latvia	3 000 000	4 500 000			89	92	89
Lithuania	3 000 000	6 000 000			80	89	83
Luxembourg	4 000 000	8 000 000			86	89	86
Hungary	15 368 065	43 030 582	5 000 000 000	14 000 000 000	91	95	93
Malta	No exemption	No exemption			0	0	0
Netherlands	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
Austria	12 000 000	12 000 000			89	91	90
Poland	15 124 721	25 130 305	65 000 000	108 000 000	82	91	87
Portugal	5 000 000	6 500 000			87	89	88
Romania	2 152 111	4 304 222	10 000 000	20 000 000	80	82	81
Slovenia	4 000 000	9 000 000			90	91	90
Slovakia	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
Finland	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
Sweden	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100
United Kingdom	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted			100	100	100

(*) When the Member State does not belong to the euro area.

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

11.2.2.2. Further simplification measures

In addition to the thresholds, Member States may apply the following simplification measures:

- **Simplified procedure for industrial plants or for motor vehicle and aircraft parts** — The simplified declaration consists in reporting the commodity as a whole under one CN code instead of separately declaring and classifying all the component parts which make it up.

Is simplified reporting for industrial plants allowed?

Yes	**26 MS (93%)**	BE (¹)	BG (¹)	CZ (¹)	DK	DE (¹)	EE	ES (¹)	FR (¹)	HR (¹)	IT (¹)	CY (²)	LV	LT	LU	HU (¹)	MT (¹)	NL	AT (¹)	PL (¹)	PT (¹)	RO (³)	SI (¹)	SK (¹)	FI (¹)	SE (¹)	UK
No	**2 MS (7%)**	IE	EL																								

(¹) Prior authorisation required, through submission of a written application.
(²) Only in exceptional cases. Prior authorisation required, through submission of a written application.
(³) The simplified reporting for industrial plants is allowed in Romania, but there were no requests from companies meeting the requirements of the legislation to be able to use the simplified CN code.

Is simplified reporting for motor vehicle and aircraft parts allowed?

Yes	**3 MS (11%)**	BG (¹)	DE	UK																							
No	**25 MS (89%)**	BE	CZ	DK	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE

(¹) Prior authorisation required, through submission of a written application.

- **Simplified reporting for goods delivered to vessels and aircraft** — Simplified product codes under Chapter 99 and a simplified partner code (QR for intra-EU deliveries) may be used to report the delivery of products for the crew and passengers as well as for the operation of engines, machines and other equipment of vessels or aircraft.

Is simplified reporting for goods delivered to vessels and aircraft allowed?

Yes	**24 MS (86%)**	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK
No	**4 MS (14%)**	BE	IE	EL	LU																				

- **Reporting of the net mass** — Under the legal provisions on intra-EU trade statistics, where there is a supplementary unit laid down for a specific CN product code (e.g. litres, m², pieces), it is not mandatory to request the specification of net mass from the PSIs. The Member States can so decide whether the information about net mass is collected systematically for all CN8 codes or only for some.

For which CN8 codes is the net mass collected?

Net mass collected for all CN8 codes	**16 MS (57%)**	BG	CZ	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	LV	LT	MT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK
Net mass collected for all CN8 codes except for some with a supplementary unit	**2 MS (7%)**	CY	SE														
Net mass collected for all CN8 codes except the ones with a supplementary unit	**10 MS (36%)**	BE	DK	DE	IT (¹)	LU	HU	NL	AT	FI	UK						

(¹) Only PSIs below the optional variable threshold are exempted from reporting the net mass for all CN codes with a supplementary unit.

- **Small individual transactions threshold** — Depending on the decision of each Member State, PSIs may group together transactions with individual values less than the small individual transactions threshold. The Intrastat legislation fixes the threshold at maximum 200 EUR. Traders may report just the partner Member State and the value of goods using a specific product code under Chapter 99. See **Table 40**

Are less data elements collected from small transactions?

Yes	**16 MS (57%)**	BE	BG	CZ	DK	IE	ES	FR	IT	LU	HU	NL	AT	PL	SK	FI	UK
No	**12 MS (43%)**	DE	EE	EL	HR	CY	LV	LT	MT	PT	RO	SI	SE				

Table 40: Small individual transaction thresholds, 2019

	Application of a small individual transaction threshold	Threshold value		National conditions
		In euro	In national currency (*)	
Belgium	*	200		Commodity code 9950 00 00 can be used to declare movements of goods if both of the following two conditions are met: - The value of the transaction/movement of goods is less than € 200. - The total value of the movements of goods under code 9950 00 00 on the declaration is less than 5% of the total value of that declaration.
Bulgaria	*	200	390	Commodity code 9950 00 00 is used for single individual transactions, written on a separate line in the invoice or for which a separate invoice has been issued.
Czechia	*	200	5 134	In the Czech national legislation the exact amount of € 200 is stated and every PSI has to calculate the equivalent value in CZK.
Denmark	*	200	1 500	DK also applies a net mass threshold of 1000 kg, defined as single transactions threshold (trade in one CN code with one type of nature of transaction).
Germany				
Estonia				
Ireland	*	200		Commodity code 9950 00 00 is used by declarants for the small individual transactions. Where they choose to enter the correct CN code IE does not change this.
Greece				
Spain	*	200		It is necessary to have beforehand the approval of the Customs Department.
France	*	200		Small individual transactions (< € 200) can be aggregated under the CN8 9950 00 00, as long as the total amount of these small transactions doesn't exceed 1 500 euros per month, per PSI and for one flow.
Croatia				
Italy	*	200		
Cyprus				
Latvia				
Lithuania				
Luxembourg	*	100		
Hungary	*	184	60 000	
Malta				
Netherlands	*	200		
Austria	*	200		
Poland	*	200	860	
Portugal				
Romania				
Slovenia				
Slovakia	*	200		
Finland	*	200		Consignments individually imported to or exported from Finland to the maximum value of € 200 may always be targeted to commodity code 9950 00 00. Thus the sections transaction, mode of transport, country of origin, net mass and supplementary units of the form need not be filled in.
Sweden				
United Kingdom	*	200	175	

(*) When the Member State does not belong to the euro area.

Sources: National quality and metadata reports and questionnaires on Intrastat thresholds transmitted by the countries

11.2.3. SIMPLIFICATION MEASURES IN EXTRA-EU TRADE

11.2.3.1. Extrastat threshold

Extra-EU trade statistics cover all commercial transactions reported to customs. However, transactions where the value and net mass are below the statistical threshold do not have to be processed in detail. This threshold is fixed at maximum EUR 1 000 and 1 000 kilograms. In 2019, only two Member States applied a statistical threshold in Extrastat.

Is an Extrastat statistical threshold implemented?

Yes	3 MS (11%)	DK (¹)	IT (²)	UK (¹)																				
No	25 MS (89%)	BE	BG	CZ	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE

(¹) EUR 1 000 or 1 000 kg

(²) EUR 1 000

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

11.2.3.2. Further simplification measures

In addition to the statistical threshold, Member States may apply the following simplification measures:

- **Simplified procedure for industrial plants or for motor vehicle and aircraft parts** — The simplified declaration consists in reporting the commodity as a whole under one CN code instead of separately declaring and classifying all the component parts which make it up.

Is simplified reporting for industrial plants allowed?

Yes	24 countries (77%)	BE (¹)	CZ (¹)	DK (²)	DE (¹)	EE	ES (¹)	FR (¹)	HR (¹)	IT (¹)	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT (¹)	NL	AT (¹)	PL (¹)	PT (³)	RO	SI (¹)	SK (¹)	FI (¹)	SE (¹)	UK
No	7 countries (23%)	BG	IE	EL	CY	IS	NO	CH																	

(¹) Prior authorisation required, through submission of a written application.

(²) Only for exports. Prior authorisation required, through submission of a written application.

(³) Only for exports.

Note: Information not available for Liechtenstein.

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

- **Simplified reporting for goods delivered to vessels and aircraft** — Simplified product codes under Chapter 99 and a simplified partner code (QS for extra-EU deliveries) may be used to report the delivery of products for the crew and passengers as well as for the operation of engines, machines and other equipment of vessels or aircraft.

Is simplified reporting for goods delivered to vessel and aircraft allowed?

Yes	24 countries (77%)	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	FI	SE	UK
No	7 countries (23%)	IE	EL	LU	SK	IS	NO	CH																	

Note: Information not available for Liechtenstein.

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

12 Confidentiality, transparency and security

European statistics code of practice

Principle 5: The privacy of data providers (households, enterprises, administrations and other respondents), the confidentiality of the information they provide and its use only for statistical purposes must be absolutely guaranteed.

Principle 6: Statistical authorities must produce and disseminate European statistics respecting scientific independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably.

As a general definition, data used by national and EU authorities for producing statistics are considered confidential if statistical units can be identified, either directly or indirectly, and information about individuals or businesses is disclosed as a result.

The precise operational criteria determining which statistical data are considered confidential are fixed by each Member State in the light of national legislation or practices why vary from sophisticated decision making systems to a case-by-case 'common-sense' sense approach.

In the trade in goods statistical area, two confidentiality principles apply:

- Principle of passive confidentiality — Member States have to take appropriate measures only if requested to do so by companies which feel that their interests would be harmed by publication of the data. This principle is recommended by the United Nations in its IMTS 2010 publication and set out in the EU legislation for detailed statistics on intra- and extra-EU trade. The considerable amount of details in trade data means that the potential for the creation of confidential data at detailed level is extremely high. Passive confidentiality has the great advantage of limiting the loss of information for users and thus making the data more useful.

- Principle of active confidentiality — Under this principle, confidential data are automatically hidden by the national statistical authority if certain criteria are met, without the company needing to send a request. In trade in goods statistics, this principle applies only to the data by enterprise characteristics (i.e. by size, sector of economic activity or level of concentration).

Transmission of data to Eurostat follows the principle of a single entry point endorsed by the Statistical Programme Committee (SPC). It uses eDAMIS (electronic Data files Administration and Management Information System), an integrated environment of data transmission tools that allow highly secure transmissions. At Eurostat, confidential data is stored in secure environments.

Annex — All indicators for 2016-2019

Table A.5.1: Share of collected data in intra-EU trade
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	92.3	91.9	92.4	92.8	97.9	97.6	97.8	97.1
Bulgaria	94.1	94.2	94.2	94.2	97.9	98.0	97.9	98.0
Czechia	95.7	96.7	96.8	96.5	97.8	98.1	98.3	98.2
Denmark	90.7	92.1	91.7	91.6	95.3	96.2	96.0	95.7
Germany	93.4	93.5	93.8	93.7	97.2	97.7	97.5	97.4
Estonia	88.9	90.0	91.7	92.0	91.4	92.6	94.6	95.2
Ireland	95.9	96.3	96.5	95.4	98.8	98.6	98.8	98.4
Greece	95.6	95.3	95.3	94.9	97.8	97.6	97.8	97.6
Spain	95.5	94.7	94.2	94.4	97.3	96.6	96.1	96.6
France	97.9	97.8	97.9	97.8	98.6	98.6	98.6	98.5
Croatia	93.7	94.2	93.8	93.6	97.2	97.8	97.6	97.4
Italy	98.4	97.8	93.9	95.3	99.1	99.1	97.0	97.2
Cyprus	96.4	95.9	95.1	95.3	97.8	96.7	97.0	98.2
Latvia	93.6	94.0	94.6	93.9	95.6	96.5	97.2	97.0
Lithuania	95.0	94.4	94.9	95.6	97.1	96.9	97.1	98.0
Luxembourg	98.1	98.2	98.3	96.1	98.2	98.3	98.6	97.5
Hungary	94.9	93.5	91.7	93.2	97.4	97.2	96.2	96.7
Malta (*)	99.0	99.0	95.0	95.0	99.0	99.0	98.0	98.0
Netherlands	86.3	87.7	88.1	88.1	93.1	94.3	94.4	94.6
Austria	93.9	94.2	94.3	94.2	97.5	97.7	97.5	97.2
Poland	94.6	95.3	95.5	95.0	97.2	97.6	97.5	96.8
Portugal	94.1	94.4	94.4	94.1	97.7	97.8	98.0	97.7
Romania	95.3	95.2	96.0	95.6	96.8	97.2	97.7	97.7
Slovenia	96.8	97.1	97.1	97.0	97.9	98.1	98.3	98.2
Slovakia	91.0	92.2	92.3	92.0	93.6	95.0	95.1	95.1
Finland	93.0	93.4	93.8	93.7	97.1	97.4	97.6	97.5
Sweden	93.0	93.3	93.5	94.1	97.7	97.5	97.5	98.0
United Kingdom	92.9	92.9	93.0	92.8	97.0	97.2	97.2	96.9

(*) Figures collected through the annual national quality and metadata report (reference years 2016 and 2017) and the questionnaire on Intrastat thresholds (reference years 2018 and 2019).

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.5.2: Share of estimated data for trade below the exemption threshold in intra-EU trade
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019
Belgium	5.5	7.4	6.8	6.4	1.1	2.1	2.0	2.0
Bulgaria	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.7	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Czechia	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.4	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.7
Denmark	7.7	6.7	7.1	7.1	3.8	2.9	3.1	3.3
Germany	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
Estonia	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.2	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.3
Ireland	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9
Greece	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.9	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5
Spain	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2
France	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2
Croatia	6.3	5.7	6.2	6.4	2.8	2.2	2.4	2.5
Italy	1.6	1.6	5.9	4.6	0.9	0.8	2.9	2.7
Cyprus	3.0	3.2	3.8	4.5	1.6	2.3	2.0	1.7
Latvia	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.8	3.1	2.2	1.9	1.9
Lithuania	4.7	4.6	4.0	4.0	2.7	2.3	1.9	1.8
Luxembourg	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.6	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8
Hungary	3.8	5.0	4.9	4.8	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5
Malta (*)	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.
Netherlands	9.6	9.0	6.3	6.3	3.9	3.7	2.4	2.4
Austria	5.7	5.4	5.4	5.3	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1
Poland	4.6	4.3	4.1	4.0	1.8	1.8	2.1	1.8
Portugal	5.5	5.2	4.9	4.7	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.8
Romania	3.0	3.9	3.4	3.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1
Slovenia	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.8
Slovakia	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.1	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.0
Finland	5.4	5.1	4.8	4.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9
Sweden	6.1	5.7	5.2	5.1	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6
United Kingdom	6.6	6.5	6.2	6.6	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.5

Note: The share of estimated data refers to the share in the final data transmitted to Eurostat. It might be much higher in first and intermediate data deliveries.

(*) No estimate is compiled for trade below the exemption threshold and non-response.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.5.3: Share of estimated data for non- or late response in intra-EU trade
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	2.3	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.9
Bulgaria	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Czechia	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Denmark	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
Germany	2.8	2.6	2.3	2.5	1.2	0.7	0.9	1.0
Estonia	6.1	5.0	2.9	2.8	5.9	4.7	3.0	2.6
Ireland	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.6	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.7
Greece	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.9
Spain	0.9	1.4	2.0	1.7	0.8	1.2	1.7	1.2
France	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2
Croatia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Italy	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Cyprus	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.2	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.1
Latvia	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.9	1.1
Lithuania	0.3	1.0	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.8	1.0	0.2
Luxembourg	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.3	0.9	0.9	0.6	1.7
Hungary	1.4	1.5	3.4	2.1	0.8	1.1	2.2	1.8
Malta (*)	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.
Netherlands	4.1	3.4	5.6	5.6	3.0	2.1	3.2	3.0
Austria	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.7
Poland	0.8	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.4	1.3
Portugal	0.5	0.4	0.7	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5
Romania	1.6	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.8	1.5	1.1	1.2
Slovenia	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	5.5	4.6	4.6	4.9	4.2	2.9	2.9	2.9
Finland	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.4	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.7
Sweden	0.9	1.1	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.5
United Kingdom	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.6

Note: The share of estimated data refers to the share in the final data transmitted to Eurostat. It might be much higher in first and intermediate data deliveries.

(*) No estimate is compiled for trade below the exemption threshold and non-response.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.5.4: Share of estimated data in intra-EU trade
(% of trade below the exemption threshold and non- or late response in total intra-EU trade)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	7.7	8.1	7.6	7.2	2.1	2.4	2.2	2.9
Bulgaria	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0
Czechia	4.3	3.3	3.2	3.5	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.8
Denmark	9.3	7.9	8.3	8.4	4.7	3.8	4.0	4.3
Germany	6.6	6.5	6.2	6.3	2.8	2.3	2.5	2.6
Estonia	11.1	10.0	8.3	8.0	8.6	7.4	5.4	4.8
Ireland	4.1	3.7	3.5	4.6	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.6
Greece	4.4	4.7	4.7	5.1	2.2	2.4	2.2	2.4
Spain	4.5	5.3	5.8	5.6	2.7	3.4	3.9	3.4
France	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.2	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5
Croatia	6.3	5.8	6.2	6.4	2.8	2.2	2.4	2.6
Italy	1.6	2.2	6.1	4.7	0.9	0.9	3.0	2.8
Cyprus	3.6	4.1	4.9	4.7	2.2	3.3	3.0	1.8
Latvia	6.4	6.0	5.4	6.1	4.4	3.5	2.8	3.0
Lithuania	5.0	5.6	5.1	4.4	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.0
Luxembourg	1.9	1.8	1.7	3.9	1.8	1.7	1.4	2.5
Hungary	5.1	6.5	8.3	6.8	2.6	2.8	3.8	3.3
Malta (*)	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.
Netherlands	13.7	12.3	11.9	11.9	6.9	5.7	5.6	5.4
Austria	6.1	5.8	5.7	5.8	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.8
Poland	5.4	4.7	4.5	5.0	2.8	2.4	2.5	3.2
Portugal	5.9	5.6	5.6	5.9	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.3
Romania	4.7	4.8	4.0	4.4	3.2	2.8	2.3	2.3
Slovenia	3.2	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.8
Slovakia	9.0	7.8	7.7	8.0	6.4	5.0	4.9	4.9
Finland	7.0	6.6	6.2	6.3	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.5
Sweden	7.0	6.7	6.5	5.9	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.0
United Kingdom	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.2	3.0	2.8	2.8	3.1

Note: The share of estimated data refers to the share in the final data transmitted to Eurostat. It might be much higher in first and intermediate data deliveries.

(*) No estimate is compiled for trade below the exemption threshold and non-response.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.8.1: Share of collected data (standard category) in extra-EU trade
(%)

	Extra-EU imports				Extra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Bulgaria	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9
Czechia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Denmark	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Germany	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Estonia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ireland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Greece	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Spain	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
France	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Croatia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Italy	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	98.6	98.5	98.3	98.2
Cyprus	99.7	99.8	99.8	99.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Latvia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lithuania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Luxembourg	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hungary	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Malta	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Netherlands	99.4	99.5	99.7	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Austria	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Poland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Portugal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Romania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Slovenia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Slovakia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Finland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sweden	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
United Kingdom	97.9	97.7	97.6	97.9	97.8	96.8	96.9	96.3
Iceland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Liechtenstein	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Norway	100.0	:	:	:	100.0	:	:	:
Switzerland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

: Data not available

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to their total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.
　　　Norway: Missing information as detailed data not available for the most recent reference years.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries.

Table A.8.2: Share of data below the statistical threshold in extra-EU trade
(%)

	Extra-EU imports				Extra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium								
Bulgaria				0.1				0.1
Czechia								
Denmark	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0
Germany								
Estonia								
Ireland								
Greece								
Spain								
France								
Croatia								
Italy	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.8
Cyprus	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4				
Latvia								
Lithuania								
Luxembourg								
Hungary								
Malta	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3				
Netherlands								
Austria								
Poland								
Portugal								
Romania								
Slovenia								
Slovakia								
Finland								
Sweden								
United Kingdom	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.2	3.2	3.1	3.7
Iceland								
Liechtenstein								
Norway								
Switzerland								

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to their total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries.

Table A.8.3: Share of estimated data for delayed or incomplete records in extra-EU trade
(%)

	Extra-EU imports				Extra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium								
Bulgaria								
Czechia								
Denmark		0.1						
Germany								
Estonia								
Ireland								
Greece								
Spain								
France								
Croatia								
Italy								
Cyprus	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Latvia								
Lithuania								
Luxembourg								
Hungary								
Malta								
Netherlands	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Austria								
Poland								
Portugal								
Romania								
Slovenia								
Slovakia								
Finland								
Sweden								
United Kingdom								
Iceland								
Liechtenstein								
Norway								
Switzerland								

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to their total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries.

Table A.12: Intra-EU trade — Estimated statistical value vs collected invoice value
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Bulgaria	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.7
Czechia	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.8	-0.8	-0.7	-0.8
Denmark	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0
Germany	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6
Estonia	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	-1.1	-1.2	-1.3	-1.3
Ireland	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Greece	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.
Spain	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.
France	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5
Croatia	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.
Italy	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Cyprus	0.8	1.0	0.8	0.7	-1.5	-1.4	-1.0	-0.8
Latvia	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	-0.6	-0.9	-0.8	-0.6
Lithuania	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Luxembourg	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	-0.9	-0.9	-0.9	-0.8
Hungary	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Malta	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.	No est.
Netherlands	-0.9	-0.7	-0.8	-0.8	-1.1	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7
Austria	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Poland	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Portugal	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5
Romania	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Slovenia	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	-0.8	-0.8	-0.7	-0.7
Slovakia	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4
Finland	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	-0.9	-0.8	-0.8	-0.7
Sweden	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.9	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.3
United Kingdom	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3

Formula = [Statistical value estimated for the PSIs below the "statistical value" threshold / Invoiced value reported by the same PSIs - 1] * 100

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

Table A.14: Intra-EU trade — Share in total trade value of records with estimated net mass
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	26.7	26.0	25.6	24.7	29.4	29.3	28.4	29.8
Denmark	8.1	7.8	10.0	12.1	6.4	6.7	6.7	8.1
Germany	5.4	4.4	4.2	4.4	3.3	4.0	4.1	4.8
Italy	:	:	1.5	1.7	:	:	1.5	1.6
Cyprus	8.2	8.7	8.4	10.5	2.9	7.0	3.7	3.2
Luxembourg	33.3	34.1	32.5	33.4	31.6	26.8	27.3	35.5
Hungary	25.3	25.5	24.6	24.9	36.5	36.5	37.1	39.7
Netherlands	24.0	24.2	23.6	24.5	28.8	28.7	27.7	27.1
Austria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Finland	8.6	9.3	8.8	9.3	2.3	3.0	2.4	2.3
Sweden	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.0	3.3	3.2	3.5
United Kingdom	5.0	4.5	4.7	5.4	4.9	4.3	3.9	4.3

: Data not available

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries.

Table A.15: Matching rate between trade and business registers in intra-EU trade
(%)

	Number of enterprises successfully matched						Trade value successfully matched					
	Intra-EU imports			Intra-EU exports			Intra-EU imports			Intra-EU exports		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Belgium	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:
Bulgaria	99.2	99.3	100.0	99.5	99.5	100.0	97.5	97.1	100.0	97.4	96.6	100.0
Czechia	100.0	100.0	99.2	100.0	100.0	99.0	100.0	100.0	97.0	100.0	100.0	94.8
Denmark	98.6	98.6	98.4	98.7	99.0	99.0	95.8	95.6	93.1	97.3	96.9	96.4
Germany	93.3	92.1	93.8	95.2	94.0	95.7	96.6	96.0	98.3	97.1	96.3	98.0
Estonia	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:
Ireland	95.3	99.8	99.8	95.7	99.7	99.6	95.6	97.7	97.7	98.7	98.3	97.7
Greece	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.8	99.8	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0
Spain	96.4	82.8	98.5	96.8	87.4	98.5	99.8	99.5	99.9	99.8	99.9	100.0
France	84.6	92.0	96.7	79.9	97.5	98.9	88.2	99.1	99.7	85.8	99.3	99.7
Croatia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Italy	75.8	73.0	70.7	88.7	90.2	96.2	89.6	89.9	93.5	97.0	97.2	97.9
Cyprus	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Latvia	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lithuania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Luxembourg	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hungary	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Malta	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Netherlands	92.6	93.3	96.7	93.2	94.1	98.3	78.9	78.4	97.8	65.6	63.3	94.7
Austria	95.7	96.6	95.9	97.5	97.8	97.0	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
Poland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Portugal	100.0	99.9	99.7	100.0	99.9	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Romania	100.0	100.0	99.2	100.0	100.0	98.5	100.0	100.0	93.5	100.0	100.0	92.2
Slovenia	97.0	96.9	100.0	98.3	98.3	100.0	92.6	93.3	100.0	89.1	89.3	100.0
Slovakia	99.6	97.9	99.7	99.8	98.4	99.9	100.0	99.3	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.0
Finland	100.0	99.8	99.8	100.0	99.9	99.4	100.0	99.7	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0
Sweden	98.4	100.0	100.0	98.2	100.0	100.0	99.3	100.0	100.0	99.2	100.0	100.0
United Kingdom	80.9	97.6	98.7	81.2	98.1	97.3	96.8	94.9	99.7	98.3	98.0	99.6

: Data not available

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.16: Matching rate between trade and business registers in extra-EU trade
(%)

	Number of enterprises successfully matched						Trade value successfully matched					
	Extra-EU imports			Extra-EU exports			Extra-EU imports			Extra-EU exports		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Belgium	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:
Bulgaria	51.2	49.7	100.0	94.7	94.6	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Czechia	100.0	99.9	99.6	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Denmark	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.4	99.5	93.1	90.1	90.6	98.4	98.3	96.8
Germany	55.9	67.7	68.5	73.0	81.4	82.8	92.2	93.9	95.2	94.9	96.9	98.0
Estonia	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:
Ireland	95.4	99.7	99.8	95.5	99.8	99.7	98.9	99.7	99.3	99.6	99.9	99.9
Greece	95.5	95.4	96.8	95.9	97.8	98.9	96.6	98.8	99.9	98.8	99.9	100.0
Spain	98.1	98.3	98.9	98.4	98.6	99.1	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
France	83.3	90.2	88.8	83.0	94.5	96.4	92.3	99.1	99.7	93.9	99.0	99.6
Croatia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Italy	95.1	95.9	96.5	90.3	90.5	92.6	89.2	88.8	88.4	97.5	97.7	97.8
Cyprus	99.6	99.5	99.5	99.6	99.4	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.0
Latvia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lithuania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Luxembourg	99.8	99.8	100.0	99.9	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hungary	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Malta	100.0	99.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Netherlands	90.9	90.5	95.9	94.1	89.6	93.6	64.0	63.3	94.3	82.6	81.8	97.3
Austria	98.6	98.9	99.1	99.2	99.3	99.3	99.5	99.2	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
Poland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Portugal	69.6	63.3	99.5	90.5	89.6	99.6	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Romania	100.0	100.0	98.4	100.0	100.0	98.8	100.0	100.0	99.4	100.0	100.0	97.5
Slovenia	98.9	98.5	100.0	97.9	97.0	100.0	88.1	87.6	100.0	89.7	90.0	100.0
Slovakia	99.8	98.8	99.1	100.0	99.0	99.9	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.0
Finland	100.0	99.6	98.0	100.0	98.0	96.8	100.0	99.8	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0
Sweden	97.6	100.0	100.0	97.2	100.0	100.0	99.5	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.0	100.0
United Kingdom	84.9	85.8	82.0	96.0	95.6	93.8	97.3	96.7	96.7	97.1	97.1	96.1

: Data not available

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.17: Matching rate between trade and business registers in world trade
(%)

	Number of enterprises successfully matched						Trade value successfully matched					
	World imports			World exports			World imports			World exports		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Belgium	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:
Bulgaria	74.3	73.3	100.0	97.7	97.6	100.0	98.3	98.0	100.0	98.2	97.8	100.0
Czechia	100.0	100.0	99.3	100.0	100.0	99.3	100.0	100.0	97.5	100.0	100.0	95.6
Denmark	98.7	98.8	98.6	98.9	99.1	99.1	95.0	93.9	92.3	97.7	97.4	96.5
Germany	81.5	85.3	87.0	84.2	87.7	89.4	95.1	95.3	97.3	96.2	96.6	98.0
Estonia	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:	100.0	100.0	:
Ireland	95.4	99.8	99.7	95.6	99.7	99.6	96.7	98.4	98.3	99.1	99.1	98.7
Greece	97.0	96.8	97.7	97.2	98.5	99.3	98.3	99.3	99.9	99.4	100.0	100.0
Spain	96.5	84.9	98.4	97.0	90.0	98.5	99.8	99.7	99.9	99.8	99.9	100.0
France	83.7	91.1	90.0	79.6	94.8	96.8	89.5	99.1	99.7	89.0	99.2	99.7
Croatia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Italy	77.0	74.4	72.0	87.7	88.9	93.8	89.4	89.5	91.5	97.2	97.4	97.9
Cyprus	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Latvia	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lithuania	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Luxembourg	99.9	99.8	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hungary	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Malta	100.0	99.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Netherlands	91.6	92.0	96.1	92.7	92.3	96.8	71.0	70.3	96.1	69.1	67.2	95.4
Austria	95.8	96.6	96.0	97.6	97.9	97.2	99.8	99.7	99.9	100.0	99.9	99.9
Poland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Portugal	93.1	89.6	99.7	95.7	95.1	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Romania	100.0	100.0	98.9	100.0	100.0	98.4	100.0	100.0	95.0	100.0	100.0	93.4
Slovenia	97.0	96.9	100.0	98.1	97.8	100.0	91.7	92.1	100.0	89.2	89.5	100.0
Slovakia	99.6	97.9	99.7	99.8	98.3	99.9	100.0	99.4	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.0
Finland	100.0	99.7	99.3	100.0	99.0	98.0	100.0	99.7	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0
Sweden	97.8	100.0	100.0	97.1	100.0	100.0	99.4	100.0	100.0	99.4	100.0	100.0
United Kingdom	81.1	91.2	91.1	84.7	96.6	95.1	97.1	95.7	98.2	97.6	97.5	97.8
Iceland	23.7	19.6	99.7	86.0	79.6	99.9	98.8	99.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	100.0	98.6	96.8	100.0	98.2	98.6	99.2	99.3	100.0	99.7	73.4	70.6
Switzerland	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

: Data not available

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on TEC statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.20.1: Impact of revisions in intra-EU trade
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-28	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7
Belgium	8.0	1.5	2.9	2.5	2.0	0.7	1.2	2.1
Bulgaria	0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Czechia	0.9	1.3	1.7	3.2	0.3	2.0	1.1	1.1
Denmark	0.2	0.4	1.1	0.9	0.1	0.6	1.2	1.9
Germany	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Estonia	-1.0	-0.4	-1.1	-0.5	0.2	1.1	0.5	0.1
Ireland	13.0	16.0	0.6	3.8	2.8	4.0	0.1	-0.7
Greece	1.2	1.2	0.6	2.4	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.6
Spain	2.0	2.6	2.6	1.6	2.2	2.4	2.3	1.1
France	-0.4	-1.4	-0.9	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	0.0
Croatia	1.3	2.2	1.9	2.3	0.7	1.5	1.7	0.9
Italy	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.9	1.8
Cyprus	8.7	5.0	3.8	-0.3	65.9	4.5	5.6	1.0
Latvia	2.5	2.0	3.1	3.0	2.4	2.9	4.3	2.4
Lithuania	3.2	0.4	2.0	3.2	0.8	0.3	0.8	1.1
Luxembourg	2.9	3.2	2.7	0.6	-2.2	-0.3	-1.0	0.6
Hungary	0.0	1.1	-0.5	1.2	-0.4	0.5	-1.0	0.3
Malta	5.8	3.2	6.9	0.7	14.3	19.4	2.0	0.9
Netherlands	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.3	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.1
Austria	1.7	1.7	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3
Poland	4.0	4.8	5.3	2.6	2.0	4.5	3.6	2.2
Portugal	0.9	1.4	1.3	-0.9	-0.6	-0.4	0.3	0.0
Romania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovenia	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Slovakia	-0.6	-1.7	-1.3	-0.1	-0.6	-1.8	-1.0	-0.3
Finland	2.3	2.3	1.9	1.7	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9
Sweden	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.5	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.4
United Kingdom	0.1	0.4	0.1	2.1	-0.2	-1.2	0.6	1.0

Revision rate = (Last figure - First figure) / First figure * 100

Source: Eurostat calculations based on the first and last versions of detailed statistics transmitted by the EU Member States

Table A.20.2: Impact of revisions in extra-EU trade
(%)

	Extra-EU imports				Extra-EU exports			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-28	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Belgium	1.6	3.0	1.0	1.7	1.5	-1.1	-1.8	-0.7
Bulgaria	0.7	0.2	-0.2	24.8	7.2	13.2	10.0	7.9
Czechia	2.9	5.1	0.0	-0.5	0.7	0.5	-1.2	-0.5
Denmark	0.0	1.4	-0.3	0.4	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	-0.8
Germany	0.3	-0.7	-0.6	0.1	-0.6	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Estonia	2.0	0.3	0.3	0.2	-0.4	-0.9	-0.7	-0.7
Ireland	33.4	35.2	0.9	17.2	6.1	4.9	-0.3	1.6
Greece	-7.5	-11.8	-4.2	-0.8	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3
Spain	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2
France	-3.2	0.2	2.8	1.9	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.4
Croatia	0.2	0.4	-0.3	1.5	0.2	1.0	0.6	0.4
Italy	0.0	0.1	0.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
Cyprus	59.0	7.9	1.0	0.6	57.4	14.7	9.2	6.1
Latvia	1.4	1.4	2.2	0.3	2.0	2.2	4.5	1.4
Lithuania	-2.8	-3.6	-3.9	-3.0	0.0	-0.6	-1.2	-0.3
Luxembourg	0.6	3.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	-0.3	-0.2	0.0
Hungary	-1.4	0.1	-0.1	0.5	-0.8	-0.9	-0.8	-0.8
Malta	4.2	3.2	7.4	0.0	0.1	7.1	11.4	0.0
Netherlands	1.4	1.5	1.4	0.7	-2.2	-1.2	1.9	0.2
Austria	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.6	-0.6	0.0	-0.2
Poland	0.0	-0.3	-1.1	-1.5	-0.5	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4
Portugal	0.2	0.9	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-1.0	-0.4
Romania	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0
Slovenia	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.7
Slovakia	-0.7	-2.7	-0.2	0.0	-0.9	-0.1	0.3	0.3
Finland	1.0	1.0	-0.4	0.1	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.4
Sweden	1.5	-0.9	0.6	1.6	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
United Kingdom	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	0.3	0.4
Iceland	0.0	0.8	0.2	-1.0	0.0	0.8	-0.5	2.6
Liechtenstein	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Norway	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Switzerland	1.8	2.3	1.9	1.0	-0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3

: Data not available

Revision rate = (Last figure - First figure) / First figure * 100

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.
Norway: Missing information as all versions of detailed data not available.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on the first and last versions of detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.21.1: Impact of confidentiality in intra-EU trade — Number of CN8 codes affected

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	43	40	18	18	106	99	26	27
Bulgaria								
Czechia	710	647	21	28	425	379	31	38
Denmark	41	38	39	37	87	89	92	89
Germany	58	60	64	64	190	179	179	173
Estonia								
Ireland	11	11	10	11	5	5	6	8
Greece	16	16	11	11	9	9	12	11
Spain	4	2	2	11	33	27	25	33
France	46	47	44	44	309	314	314	309
Croatia								
Italy	24	29	28	36	97	96	93	99
Cyprus	3	4	3	3				1
Latvia								
Lithuania						1	1	1
Luxembourg	5	4	6	4	7	7	7	7
Hungary	60	63	69	72	50	57	56	59
Malta								
Netherlands	340	310	333	268	560	509	524	583
Austria	85	84	80	83	222	223	228	218
Poland	1		1	1				
Portugal								
Romania	79	77	80	81	51	53	60	61
Slovenia	24	24	26	28	18	21	22	24
Slovakia	13	12	31	28	11	12	17	24
Finland	103	112	114	97	143	143	145	143
Sweden	21	17	23	27	66	60	65	66
United Kingdom	4	5	3	2	51	58	54	40

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.21.2: Impact of confidentiality in intra-EU trade — Impact on trade value
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.2	2.1	2.1	0.4	0.3
Bulgaria								
Czechia	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3
Denmark	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	6.6	9.5	9.4	9.2
Germany	1.4	1.4	1.7	2.4	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.6
Estonia								
Ireland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Greece	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.2
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
France	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	3.2	3.2	3.0	2.8
Croatia								
Italy	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.9
Cyprus	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1				0.0
Latvia								
Lithuania								
Luxembourg	2.4	2.3	2.7	2.3	2.0	2.3	2.3	1.7
Hungary	1.1	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.2
Malta								
Netherlands	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.0	5.2	4.2	5.6	4.8
Austria	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.4
Poland	0.0		0.0	0.0				
Portugal								
Romania	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Slovenia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Slovakia	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Finland	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.8	6.3	5.6	5.6	5.2
Sweden	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8
United Kingdom	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.0

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.21.3: Impact of confidentiality in intra-EU trade — Impact on net mass
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	1.9	2.1	0.5	0.5
Bulgaria								
Czechia	2.6	0.6	0.4	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
Denmark	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.3	8.0	7.4	8.2	6.9
Germany	7.1	7.9	10.2	15.2	9.9	11.3	13.5	19.0
Estonia								
Ireland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Greece	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5
Spain	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.9
France	16.2	16.0	16.3	14.5	5.8	7.3	6.8	8.9
Croatia								
Italy	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9
Cyprus	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				0.0
Latvia								
Lithuania						0.0	0.0	0.0
Luxembourg	1.6	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.3
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Malta								
Netherlands	4.2	5.5	4.3	4.5	18.4	13.6	13.7	12.9
Austria	7.8	7.5	7.4	7.5	8.6	9.8	8.8	9.8
Poland	0.0		0.0	0.0				
Portugal								
Romania	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Slovenia	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9
Slovakia	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Finland	15.3	14.9	13.6	12.5	11.0	10.7	10.1	10.2
Sweden	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1
United Kingdom	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.5	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.22.1: Impact of confidentiality in extra-EU trade — Number of CN8 codes affected

	Extra-EU imports				Extra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	49	43	18	18	105	101	26	25
Bulgaria								
Czechia	295	255	13	15	253	252	23	28
Denmark	32	30	28	30	87	92	89	92
Germany	70	50	53	52	186	172	173	170
Estonia								
Ireland	10	10	13	10	5	6	7	12
Greece	15	16	9	13	11	9	9	10
Spain	5	3	2	10	32	26	23	34
France	46	47	47	48	308	317	311	308
Croatia								
Italy	19	21	20	26	84	87	84	95
Cyprus	1	2	3	2	1	6	3	3
Latvia								
Lithuania	1	1	1	1		1	1	1
Luxembourg	1	1	1	1	6	6	6	6
Hungary	55	60	69	71	58	57	57	59
Malta								
Netherlands	822	787	910	855	1 182	1 114	1 250	1 100
Austria	79	76	73	78	216	215	221	212
Poland								
Portugal								
Romania	61	65	69	62	46	44	45	49
Slovenia	22	21	21	25	23	22	21	25
Slovakia	8	8	11	13	7	7	9	14
Finland	91	94	88	78	139	144	141	135
Sweden	19	21	23	26	55	52	55	55
United Kingdom	19	22	14	13	49	58	61	46
Iceland		1	4	5		1	3	3
Liechtenstein	3	3	2	2	19	20	18	16
Norway	38	:	:	:	151	:	:	:
Switzerland	11	11	11	11	45	52	48	48

: Data not available

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.
Norway: Missing information as detailed data not available for the most recent reference years.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.22.2: Impact of confidentiality in extra-EU trade — Impact on trade value
(%)

	Extra-EU imports				Extra-EU exports			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019
Belgium	1.2	1.8	0.3	0.3	3.3	3.9	1.0	0.8
Bulgaria								
Czechia	0.7	0.6	0.1	0.2	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.6
Denmark	2.3	2.9	3.1	3.0	19.8	23.7	25.6	29.3
Germany	4.6	3.8	4.3	3.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1
Estonia								
Ireland	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Greece	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.3
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.8
France	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.8	4.4	3.9	4.0	4.6
Croatia								
Italy	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.8
Cyprus	0.0	0.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	2.0	1.1	1.6
Latvia								
Lithuania	1.5	1.1	1.7	2.7				
Luxembourg	0.8	1.7	3.0	1.0	2.6	2.6	2.0	1.6
Hungary	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.6
Malta								
Netherlands	4.0	3.6	4.8	3.8	3.6	2.5	2.6	2.4
Austria	6.8	7.7	8.4	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.1
Poland								
Portugal								
Romania	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.5
Slovenia	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Slovakia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Finland	7.3	7.6	9.5	6.3	7.5	8.0	8.1	6.6
Sweden	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	2.6	2.9	3.0	2.6
United Kingdom	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7
Iceland		0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0
Liechtenstein	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6
Norway	1.4	:	:	:	3.9	:	:	:
Switzerland	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.1

: Data not available

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.
Norway: Missing information as detailed data not available for the most recent reference years.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.22.3: Impact of confidentiality in extra-EU trade — Impact on net mass
(%)

	Extra-EU imports				Extra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.4	2.7	2.7	0.9	1.2
Bulgaria								
Czechia	1.2	0.8	0.3	0.6	1.7	1.2	0.9	1.0
Denmark	13.3	13.8	12.0	11.5	13.8	13.6	12.3	12.9
Germany	27.7	23.5	24.0	23.2	6.1	5.6	5.7	5.2
Estonia								
Ireland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4
Greece	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Spain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9
France	4.6	5.3	6.2	10.5	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.1
Croatia								
Italy	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1
Cyprus	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.6	25.1	30.6
Latvia								
Lithuania	0.9	0.7	1.1	1.6		0.0	0.0	0.0
Luxembourg	1.2	1.6	1.8	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Malta								
Netherlands	9.7	9.8	11.5	12.8	2.6	3.3	2.4	3.1
Austria	46.7	46.3	41.0	42.2	8.5	8.1	7.7	8.0
Poland								
Portugal								
Romania	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	1.4	1.8	2.0	1.1
Slovenia	2.3	2.1	1.6	1.7	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Slovakia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6
Finland	9.6	8.9	9.2	8.8	11.9	11.3	10.8	8.5
Sweden	0.5	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.7
United Kingdom	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.2
Iceland		0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0
Liechtenstein	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Norway	8.6	:	:	:	4.0	:	:	:
Switzerland	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.8

: Data not available

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.
Norway: Missing information as detailed data not available for the most recent reference years.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.23.1: Number of CN8 codes according to the type of confidentiality — Intra-EU imports

	Secret product				Secret partner				Secret product and partner			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019
Belgium	43	40	18	18								
Bulgaria												
Czechia									710	647	21	28
Denmark					3	3	3	3	38	35	36	34
Germany	16	16	18	18	2				40	44	46	46
Estonia												
Ireland								1	11	11	10	10
Greece	16	16	11	11								
Spain	4	2	2	11								
France	8	8	8	9	8	7	7	8	30	32	29	27
Croatia												
Italy		29	28	36					24			
Cyprus									3	4	3	3
Latvia												
Lithuania												
Luxembourg					1	1	1	1	4	3	5	3
Hungary									60	63	69	72
Malta												
Netherlands					208	191	247	172	132	119	86	96
Austria	42	40	62	64	14	20	6	4	29	24	12	15
Poland					1		1	1				
Portugal												
Romania									79	77	80	81
Slovenia					2	3	4	3	22	21	22	25
Slovakia									13	12	31	28
Finland									103	112	114	97
Sweden									21	17	23	27
United Kingdom	1	1			3	4	3	2				

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.23.2: Number of CN8 codes according to the type of confidentiality — Intra-EU exports

	Secret product				Secret partner				Secret product and partner			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019
Belgium	105	99	26	27	1							
Bulgaria												
Czechia									425	379	31	38
Denmark					15	17	17	17	72	72	75	72
Germany	172	160	161	157	1				17	19	18	16
Estonia												
Ireland								1	5	5	6	7
Greece	9	9	12	11								
Spain	33	27	25	33								
France	278	282	282	280	5	4	4	4	26	28	28	25
Croatia												
Italy		96	93	99					97			
Cyprus												1
Latvia												
Lithuania		1	1	1								
Luxembourg									7	7	7	7
Hungary									50	57	56	59
Malta												
Netherlands					408	392	390	407	152	117	134	176
Austria	126	131	204	196	42	48	10	10	54	44	14	12
Poland												
Portugal												
Romania									51	53	60	61
Slovenia									18	21	22	24
Slovakia									11	12	17	24
Finland									143	143	145	143
Sweden									66	60	65	66
United Kingdom	40	45	45	36	11	13	9	4				

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.23.3: Number of CN8 codes according to the type of confidentiality — Extra-EU imports

	Secret product				Secret partner				Secret product and partner			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019
Belgium	49	43	18	18								
Bulgaria												
Czechia									295	255	13	15
Denmark	30				2	3	2	3			27	26	27
Germany	15	14	16	17	15				40	36	37	35
Estonia												
Ireland							1	1	10	10	12	9
Greece	15	16	9	13								
Spain	5	3	2	10								
France	8	8	8	9	7	7	6	7	31	32	33	32
Croatia												
Italy		21	20	26					19			
Cyprus									1	2	3	2
Latvia												
Lithuania					1	1	1	1				
Luxembourg									1	1	1	1
Hungary									55	60	69	71
Malta												
Netherlands					494	479	578	521	328	308	332	334
Austria	36	36	58	61	15	18	5	3	28	22	10	14
Poland												
Portugal												
Romania									61	65	69	62
Slovenia					2	2	3	2	20	19	18	23
Slovakia									8	8	11	13
Finland									91	94	88	78
Sweden									19	21	23	26
United Kingdom	5	7	4	4	14	15	10	9				
Iceland								4		1	4	1
Liechtenstein									3	3	2	2
Norway		:	:	:		:	:	:	38	:	:	:
Switzerland									11	11	11	11

: Data not available

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.
Norway: Missing information as detailed data not available for the most recent reference years.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.23.4: Number of CN8 codes according to the type of confidentiality — Extra-EU exports

	Secret product				Secret partner				Secret product and partner			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	103	101	26	25					2			
Bulgaria												
Czechia									253	252	23	28
Denmark	72				15	17	17	17		75	72	75
Germany	171	158	160	158	1		1		14	14	12	12
Estonia												
Ireland						1		1	5	6	6	11
Greece	11	9	9	10								
Spain	32	26	23	34								
France	267	277	271	268	4	4	4	4	37	36	36	36
Croatia												
Italy		87	84	95					84			
Cyprus									1	6	3	3
Latvia												
Lithuania		1	1	1								
Luxembourg									6	6	6	6
Hungary									58	57	57	59
Malta												
Netherlands					796	735	835	738	386	379	415	362
Austria	123	125	198	191	41	47	10	10	52	43	13	11
Poland												
Portugal												
Romania									46	44	45	49
Slovenia									23	22	21	25
Slovakia									7	7	9	14
Finland									139	144	141	135
Sweden									55	52	55	55
United Kingdom	31	36	37	31	18	22	24	15				
Iceland								2		1	3	1
Liechtenstein									19	20	18	16
Norway		:	:	:		:	:	:	151	:	:	:
Switzerland									45	52	48	48

: Data not available

Note: For the EFTA countries, data relate to total trade and not only to the trade with non-EU countries.
     Norway: Missing information as detailed data not available for the most recent reference years.

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.30.1: Punctuality of data transmissions — Aggregated data

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Belgium				
Bulgaria				
Czechia				
Denmark				
Germany				
Estonia				1 (1 day)
Ireland				
Greece				
Spain	1 (1 day)			
France				
Croatia				
Italy				
Cyprus				
Latvia				
Lithuania				
Luxembourg				
Hungary				
Malta				
Netherlands				
Austria				
Poland				
Portugal				
Romania				
Slovenia				
Slovakia				
Finland				
Sweden				
United Kingdom				

Table A.30.2: Punctuality of data transmissions — Detailed data

	Intra-EU trade				Extra-EU trade			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium				1 (2 days)				1 (2 days)
Bulgaria								
Czechia								
Denmark								
Germany				1 (1 day)				
Estonia								1 (1 day)
Ireland								
Greece								
Spain					1 (1 day)			1 (1 day)
France								
Croatia								
Italy	2 (3 days)				1 (1 day)			
Cyprus								
Latvia								
Lithuania								
Luxembourg		2 (3 days)						
Hungary								
Malta	1 (1 day)				1 (1 day)		1 (5 days)	
Netherlands	1 (1 day)					1 (7 days)		
Austria								
Poland								
Portugal								
Romania								
Slovenia							1 (18 days)	
Slovakia								
Finland							1 (2 days)	
Sweden	1 (1 day)							
United Kingdom					1 (2 days)		1 (1 day)	1 (4 days)
Iceland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				1 (1 day)
Norway	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		12	12	12
Switzerland	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				

n.a.: Not applicable.

Table A.30.3: Punctuality of data transmissions — TEC data

	2016	2017	2018
Belgium			7
Bulgaria			
Czechia		2 (13 days)	
Denmark			
Germany			
Estonia	7 (22 days)	7 (5 days)	7
Ireland			
Greece			7 (1 day)
Spain	7 (11 days)		1 (5 days)
France			7 (3 days)
Croatia		1 (1 day)	
Italy			
Cyprus			7 (35 days)
Latvia			
Lithuania			
Luxembourg			
Hungary			
Malta	7 (366 days)		
Netherlands	1 (12 days)	1 (1 day)	7 (13 days)
Austria			
Poland			
Portugal			7 (7 days)
Romania			
Slovenia			
Slovakia			
Finland		1 (30 days)	
Sweden			
United Kingdom			
Iceland	2 (3 days)	7 (46 days)	7 (61 days)
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Norway	7 (240 days)	7 (157 days)	7 (106 days)
Switzerland	2 (167 days)		

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TEC data.

Table A.30.4: Punctuality of data transmissions — TIC data

	2016	2018
Belgium		
Bulgaria		
Czechia		
Denmark		
Germany		
Estonia		1
Ireland		
Greece		
Spain		
France		
Croatia		
Italy		
Cyprus		
Latvia		
Lithuania		
Luxembourg		
Hungary		
Malta		
Netherlands	1 (13 days)	1 (33 days)
Austria		1 (1 day)
Poland		
Portugal		
Romania		
Slovenia		
Slovakia		
Finland		
Sweden		1 (1 day)
United Kingdom		
Iceland		
Liechtenstein	n.a.	n.a.
Norway		1 (15 days)
Switzerland		

n.a.: Not applicable.

Note: Liechtenstein is exempted from providing TIC data.

Table A.32: Intra-EU asymmetries
(%)

	Intra-EU imports (*)				Intra-EU exports (**)			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
EU-28	-2.3	-2.0	-2.0	-2.1	2.3	2.0	2.0	2.1
Belgium	5.7	5.2	5.7	3.4	4.3	4.6	4.4	4.3
Bulgaria	-0.5	-1.1	-1.1	-1.4	3.0	3.0	5.4	1.8
Czechia	1.8	2.8	2.1	3.1	4.3	5.9	7.3	8.3
Denmark	-4.6	-5.7	-5.0	-3.6	6.5	4.6	-1.4	1.0
Germany	-1.0	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5	2.2	1.4	0.7	1.0
Estonia	-2.2	-3.4	-3.2	-3.3	3.0	4.6	5.0	6.1
Ireland	8.9	12.6	6.7	10.0	-14.6	-14.6	-10.7	-16.4
Greece	-0.6	0.6	-1.8	-1.2	10.2	11.5	10.6	16.8
Spain	-1.0	-1.1	-1.1	-2.3	7.6	6.7	7.0	4.9
France	-4.1	-4.6	-3.8	-5.1	-1.3	-3.4	-0.3	-1.4
Croatia	4.4	1.5	-0.5	-0.4	8.0	6.8	10.7	8.5
Italy	-1.7	-1.7	-3.5	-3.2	5.2	4.8	4.0	5.8
Cyprus	-9.6	-17.4	-20.0	-24.1	-25.3	-38.1	-35.8	-31.9
Latvia	-1.0	2.3	2.1	5.8	-0.7	0.3	-5.3	-0.6
Lithuania	9.6	11.0	10.3	10.9	1.2	-1.9	-10.1	-9.1
Luxembourg	-6.1	-7.1	-10.5	-9.8	-19.6	-18.5	-20.4	-13.5
Hungary	1.0	1.2	0.5	-0.5	6.7	6.9	7.4	6.5
Malta	-35.9	-45.8	-30.1	-39.2	-49.1	-30.6	-28.1	-35.5
Netherlands	-5.3	-4.6	-6.6	-4.1	5.7	5.5	4.1	5.1
Austria	-1.8	-1.3	-0.6	-1.0	-1.8	-2.2	-2.2	-3.4
Poland	-9.0	-6.0	-5.6	-8.4	2.4	4.8	5.4	3.5
Portugal	3.8	3.8	4.3	2.9	10.3	13.0	12.9	14.1
Romania	1.6	0.2	-1.6	-1.1	6.3	4.3	1.8	3.4
Slovenia	-1.3	-0.1	-0.7	0.3	7.6	9.4	10.7	11.0
Slovakia	0.7	1.3	2.6	2.9	6.1	6.0	7.1	6.6
Finland	0.9	1.5	2.1	1.9	-9.8	-2.8	-1.7	-4.2
Sweden	-3.0	-2.6	-1.9	-3.0	-6.3	-6.1	-6.5	-5.9
United Kingdom	-8.3	-8.2	-6.0	-3.8	-2.7	-2.7	-1.4	0.2

(*) (Intra-EU imports - mirror exports) / Mirror flows average * 100

(**) (Intra-EU exports - mirror imports) / Mirror flows average * 100

Source: Eurostat calculations based on detailed statistics transmitted by the countries

Table A.33: Asymmetries with main extra-EU partner countries
(%)

	EU-28 imports (*)				EU-28 exports (**)			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
United States	1.3	2.2	-0.3	-1.5	-3.5	-2.4	-1.8	-2.3
China	12.5	12.5	12.4	9.5	-10.5	-9.2	-9.3	-9.3
Switzerland	-8.5	-8.2	-6.8	-5.9	4.3	6.2	5.8	9.0
Russia	0.7	2.5	-2.7	-6.5	13.9	12.3	12.0	13.7
Turkey	7.5	6.4	6.9	1.9	10.6	11.9	12.3	11.8
Japan	-1.2	0.0	-1.0	0.4	-15.7	-13.2	-13.8	-15.1
Norway	0.3	2.6	-2.4	-0.4	16.9	17.2	11.6	17.6
South Korea	-4.5	5.4	3.0	9.6	-6.3	-1.9	-4.6	-4.5
India	-6.2	-3.2	-5.7	-3.7	2.8	3.8	1.4	-4.1
Canada	7.0	14.5	10.2	9.4	-22.4	-23.1	-20.0	-21.1

(*) (EU imports - mirror exports) / Mirror flows average * 100

(**) (EU exports - mirror imports) / Mirror flows average * 100

Sources: Eurostat calculations based on data transmitted by the EU Member States and data available in the IMF database

Table A.37.1: Intrastat exemption thresholds
(In national currency)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000
Bulgaria	460 000	410 000	430 000	460 000	260 000	240 000	260 000	280 000
Czechia	8 000 000	8 000 000	8 000 000	12 000 000	8 000 000	8 000 000	8 000 000	12 000 000
Denmark	6 000 000	6 000 000	6 200 000	6 700 000	4 700 000	4 500 000	4 700 000	5 000 000
Germany	800 000	800 000	800 000	800 000	500 000	500 000	500 000	500 000
Estonia	200 000	200 000	230 000	230 000	130 000	130 000	130 000	130 000
Ireland	500 000	500 000	500 000	500 000	635 000	635 000	635 000	635 000
Greece	150 000	150 000	150 000	150 000	90 000	90 000	90 000	90 000
Spain	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000
France	460 000	460 000	460 000	460 000	460 000	460 000	460 000	460 000
Croatia	1 800 000	1 700 000	1 900 000	2 200 000	900 000	750 000	1 000 000	1 200 000
Italy	200 000	200 000	800 000	800 000	200 000	200 000	400 000	400 000
Cyprus	100 000	100 000	130 000	160 000	55 000	55 000	55 000	55 000
Latvia	180 000	180 000	200 000	200 000	130 000	100 000	100 000	100 000
Lithuania	280 000	280 000	250 000	250 000	200 000	170 000	150 000	150 000
Luxembourg	200 000	200 000	200 000	200 000	150 000	150 000	150 000	150 000
Hungary	100 000 000	170 000 000	170 000 000	170 000 000	100 000 000	100 000 000	100 000 000	100 000 000
Malta	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700
Netherlands	1 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	800 000	1 200 000	1 200 000	1 200 000	1 000 000
Austria	750 000	750 000	750 000	750 000	750 000	750 000	750 000	750 000
Poland	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	4 000 000	1 500 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000
Portugal	350 000	350 000	350 000	350 000	250 000	250 000	250 000	250 000
Romania	500 000	900 000	900 000	900 000	900 000	900 000	900 000	900 000
Slovenia	120 000	120 000	140 000	140 000	200 000	200 000	220 000	220 000
Slovakia	200 000	200 000	200 000	200 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000
Finland	550 000	550 000	550 000	600 000	500 000	500 000	500 000	600 000
Sweden	9 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000	4 500 000
United Kingdom	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	1 500 000	250 000	250 000	250 000	250 000

Sources: National quality and metadata reports and questionnaires on Intrastat thresholds transmitted by the countries

Table A.37.2: Share of intra-EU traders exempted from statistical reporting
(%)

	Intra-EU imports			Intra-EU exports			Total		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	97	97	97	88	86	86	96	96	96
Bulgaria	83	83	84	70	68	69	80	79	81
Czechia	86	87	91	80	81	84	84	85	86
Denmark	87	87	88	73	73	74	:	84	85
Germany	94	94	95	83	83	83	92	91	92
Estonia	80	83	81	70	69	69	76	79	78
Ireland	88	94	92	75	97	85	85	95	91
Greece	87	87	87	80	79	79	86	86	86
Spain	94	90	87	85	82	77	92	88	86
France	91	91	89	82	82	75	90	90	87
Croatia	84	87	87	72	70	77	82	85	86
Italy	80	91	54	59	69	72	81	84	68
Cyprus	75	69	66	64	70	50	78	69	67
Latvia	82	82	83	66	64	65	78	78	78
Lithuania	81	80	79	72	69	68	78	76	76
Luxembourg	85	83	83	73	76	76	84	82	82
Hungary	91	92	91	84	86	85	88	90	90
Malta	2	2	2	7	5	5	2	2	2
Netherlands	96	95	94	89	87	85	94	93	92
Austria	93	93	93	83	83	82	92	92	92
Poland	94	89	89	89	93	92	90	92	91
Portugal	91	91	92	79	75	80	89	88	90
Romania	81	82	83	64	63	64	79	80	81
Slovenia	81	82	81	82	82	82	81	82	83
Slovakia	87	87	86	83	82	80	86	86	85
Finland	93	93	94	84	86	86	93	92	93
Sweden	93	93	93	80	80	79	91	91	91
United Kingdom	93	93	92	82	82	77	87	87	85

: Data not available

Sources: National quality and metadata reports and questionnaires on Intrastat thresholds transmitted by the countries

Table A.38.1: Intrastat simplification thresholds
(In national currency)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Luxembourg	375 000	375 000	375 000	375 000	375 000	375 000	375 000	375 000

Sources: National quality and metadata reports and questionnaires on Intrastat thresholds transmitted by the countries

Table A.38.2: Share of PSIs allowed to make Intrastat simplified declarations
(%)

	Intra-EU imports				Intra-EU exports				Total			
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Luxembourg	32	32	32	31	39	39	41	38	33	32	33	32

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

Table A.39.1: Intrastat statistical value thresholds
(In national currency)

	Intra-EU imports			Intra-EU exports		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted
Bulgaria	5 600 000	6 300 000	7 400 000	11 700 000	12 800 000	14 400 000
Czechia	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted
Denmark	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted
Germany	38 000 000	38 000 000	42 000 000	46 000 000	46 000 000	50 000 000
Estonia	5 500 000	5 500 000	All PSIs exempted	6 000 000	6 000 000	All PSIs exempted
Ireland	5 000 000	5 000 000	5 000 000	34 000 000	34 000 000	34 000 000
Greece	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption
Spain	6 000 000	No exemption	No exemption	6 000 000	No exemption	No exemption
France	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted
Croatia	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption
Italy	20 000 000	20 000 000	20 000 000	20 000 000	20 000 000	20 000 000
Cyprus	1 850 000	2 300 000	2 700 000	5 800 000	5 800 000	5 800 000
Latvia	2 500 000	2 500 000	3 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000	4 500 000
Lithuania	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	6 000 000	6 000 000	6 000 000
Luxembourg	4 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000	8 000 000	8 000 000	8 000 000
Hungary	5 000 000 000	5 000 000 000	5 000 000 000	14 000 000 000	14 000 000 000	14 000 000 000
Malta	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption	No exemption
Netherlands	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted
Austria	12 000 000	12 000 000	12 000 000	12 000 000	12 000 000	12 000 000
Poland	50 000 000	50 000 000	65 000 000	93 000 000	93 000 000	108 000 000
Portugal	5 000 000	5 000 000	5 000 000	6 500 000	6 500 000	6 500 000
Romania	10 000 000	10 000 000	10 000 000	20 000 000	20 000 000	20 000 000
Slovenia	4 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000	9 000 000
Slovakia	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted
Finland	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted
Sweden	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted
United Kingdom	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted	All PSIs exempted

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

Table A.39.2: Share of PSIs exempted from statistical value reporting
(%)

	Intra-EU imports			Intra-EU exports			Total		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Belgium	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Bulgaria	86	87	88	93	93	93	89	89	90
Czechia	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Denmark	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Germany	94	94	95	95	95	96	95	95	95
Estonia	92	88	100	93	89	100	92	88	100
Ireland	93	93	92	86	86	85	92	91	91
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spain	85	0	0	81	0	0	84	0	0
France	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Croatia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	98	92	93	97	95	95	97	94	94
Cyprus	85	85	84	91	88	84	86	85	84
Latvia	89	90	89	92	93	92	90	91	89
Lithuania	80	80	80	88	89	89	83	83	83
Luxembourg	86	86	86	89	89	89	87	86	86
Hungary	89	91	91	94	96	95	92	93	93
Malta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Austria	90	89	89	92	91	91	90	90	90
Poland	81	83	82	91	91	91	87	87	87
Portugal	88	88	87	89	90	89	88	89	88
Romania	82	81	80	83	83	82	83	82	81
Slovenia	91	90	90	92	91	91	91	90	90
Slovakia	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Finland	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Sweden	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
United Kingdom	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: National quality and metadata reports transmitted by the countries

Glossary

CIF-type value	Valuation principle when the value includes the transaction value of the goods, the value of services performed to deliver goods to the border of the exporting country and the value of the services performed to deliver the goods from the border of the exporting country to the border of the importing country.
Combined Nomenclature	A systematic list of goods descriptions based on the Harmonised System, used for the purposes of the Common Customs Tariff, external trade statistics and other Community policies (Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87, OJ L 256, 1987, p.1).
Country of origin	The country where the goods originate. Goods that are wholly obtained or produced in a country originate in that country. Goods whose production involved more than one country are deemed to originate in the country where they underwent their last, substantial, economically justified processing or processing resulting in the manufacture of a new product.
Exports	Goods which subtract from the stock of material resources of a country by leaving its economic territory.
Goods	All movable property, including electricity.
FOB-type value	Valuation principle when the value includes the transaction value of the goods and the value of services performed to deliver goods to the border of the exporting country.
Imports	Goods which add to the stock of material resources of a country by entering its economic territory.
National statistical authority (NSA)	Within the meaning of the Extrastat and Intrastat Regulations, the national statistical institutes and other bodies responsible in each Member State for producing international trade in goods statistics.
Provider of statistical information (PSI)	Any business, 'institutional' body (e.g. public and non-profit institution, school, hospital) or individual who provides statistical information.
Transit	Operation/movements of goods when the goods are transported through the reporting economy on the way to their final destination without any halt or with a halt only inherent to the transport.
Quantity of the goods	The quantity of the goods can be expressed in two ways: a. as net mass, i.e. the actual mass of the goods excluding all packaging; or b. in supplementary units, i.e. units measuring quantity other than net mass, as detailed in the annual Commission regulation updating the Combined Nomenclature.
Reference period	The calendar year and month in which the goods are imported or exported. When the customs declaration is the source of records on imports and exports, the reference period indicates the calendar year and month when the

declaration is accepted by customs authorities.

Statistical value   The statistical value is based on the value of the goods at the time and place they cross the border of the Member State of destination on import or of the Member State of actual export on export.

Statistical value includes the transport and insurance costs incurred in delivering the goods from the place of their departure to the border of the importing or exporting Member State.

Quasi transit   Operation when goods are imported by non-residents into the reporting economy from outside the EU and subsequently dispatched to another Member State as well as when the goods exported from a Member State to a non-EU country are cleared for export in another Member State.

Note: Eurostat's Concepts and Definitions Database (CODED web site) contains definitions of key terminology and concepts used within the European Statistical System (ESS).

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2016-2019 DATA

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