



# Foreign trade statistics

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## Description

The foreign trade statistics collects imports and exports of goods based on customs declarations or external sources.

Available since:

Data in electronic form from 1988 onward, data prior to 1988 on request

Variables registered:

All information from customs declarations, in particular:

- Type of goods according to customs tariffs
- Quantity of goods
- Value of goods
- Country of origin and country of provenance (imports)
- Country of final destination (exports)
- Invoicing currency

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## Methodology

Comprehensive survey

Degree of regionalisation: World, country, Switzerland (cantons, regions)

Periodicity: Monthly

Reference period: Calendar year

Statistical quality of data:

- Plausibility checks in customs systems
- Plausibility checks of aggregated data

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## Policy on revisions

Revision in compliance with UN recommendations:

Trade in gold and silver bars and coins is included since 2014 (retroactive calculation up until 2012) in compliance with UN recommendations. Since 2006 (retroactive calculation up until 2002), the new definition of foreign trade also in compliance with UN recommendation includes electricity, returned goods and goods for processing without change in ownership.

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## Legal bases

- RS 632.14 Ordinance on the Statistics of Foreign Trade (no English version)
- RS 431.01 Federal Statistics Act (FStatA)
- RS 431.011 Ordinance on the Organisation of Federal Statistics
- RS 431.012.1 Ordinance on the Conduct of Federal Statistical Surveys (Ordinance on statistical surveys) (no English version)
- RS 431.09 Ordinance on fees and charges for statistical services provided by the Confederation's administrative units (no English version)
- RS 631.0 Customs Act art. 110 para. 2. (no English version)
- RS 632.10 Customs Tariff Act art. 8
- RS 235.1 Federal Act on Data Protection (DPA)
- RS 235.11 Ordinance to the Federal Act on Data Protection (DPA)

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## Organization

Federal Office for Customs and Border Security FOCBS, Foreign trade statistics

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