



WORLD TRADE OUTLOOK INDICATOR (WTOI) MODEST PICK-UP IN TRADE IN Q4 2016

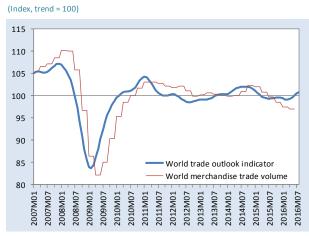
Since the financial crisis and trade collapse of 2008-09, demand for up-to-date information on international trade has increased sharply. Unfortunately for users, data on merchandise trade in volume terms tend to be released with long lags and at relatively low frequencies. In order to better understand the current state of international trade the WTO developed the World Trade Outlook Indicator (WTOI), a composite index of trade-related data that tends to lead trade volume statistics by three to four months. The WTOI was initially launched in July 2016 at a meeting of G20 trade ministers in Shanghai, China and was recently updated in November.

The Organization's main objective in developing the WTOI was to obtain insight on the current trajectory and pace of world trade growth (i.e. whether it is above or below trend, gaining or losing momentum, etc.) and to disseminate this information to the public in an accessible format. The WTOI measures performance against trend, which is normalized to equal 100. A value of 100 indicates growth in line with the recent trends, while readings greater or less than 100 suggest above or below trend growth.

The overall index combines data on export orders, air freight, container shipping and automobile sales/production, together with shipments of electronic components and agricultural raw materials. With a current reading of 100.9 for the month of August, the WTOI has risen above trend, signalling accelerating trade growth in November-December. Previously the WTOI stood at 99.0 in July based on data through April. The below trend value for April 2016 appears to have been a trough, which suggests that trade growth probably bottomed out in the July-August and has been recovering slowly since then.



World Trade Outlook Indicator and merchandise trade



The WTOI is not intended as a short-term forecast, although it does provide an indication of trade growth in the near future. Its main use is to identify turning points and measure momentum in global trade. As such, it is a complement rather than a substitute for other trade statistics and forecasts from the WTO and other organizations.

Going forward, the WTOI will generally be released on quarterly schedule, with the precise timing depending on data availability.

The latest release can be viewed here.

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WTO STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS AND ONLINE APPLICATIONS

World Trade Statistical Review



The World Trade Statistical Review provides a detailed analysis of the latest developments in world trade. It is produced on an annual basis and replaces International Trade Statistics, the WTO's former annual statistical publication.

International Trade Statistics Reports

Trade Profiles



Trade Profiles provides a series of key indicators on trade in goods and services for 195 economies. The data are taken from a variety of sources, and each profile is presented in a handy two-page format, allowing for easy comparison between economies.

World Tariff Profiles



World Tariff Profiles 2016 provides comprehensive information on the tariffs and non-tariff measures imposed by over 170 countries and customs territories. The publication is jointly prepared by the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Trade Centre (ITC).

WTO Statistics Database



The Statistics online database contains time series on international trade, country trade and tariff profiles. In particular, it contains data on merchandise trade (in value and volume terms, by origin and destination, by commodity group) as well as data on trade in commercial services by sector.

International Trade and Market Access Data Online application



This application aims to illustrate all available WTO trade statistics through graphs and charts in an interactive manner. The application features all data on merchandise and commercial services trade, and data published on the WTO Tariff Profiles.

I-TIP Goods and Services



The Integrated Trade Intelligence Portal (I -TIP) provides a single entry point for information compiled by the WTO on trade policy measures. It covers both tariff and non-tariff measures affecting trade in goods as well as information on trade in services, trade in government procurement markets, regional trade agreements and the accession commitments of WTO members.

World Trade Outlook Indicator

The World Trade Outlook Indicator (WTOI) is designed to provide "real time" information on trends in global trade. Combining a variety of trade-related indices, the WTOI is designed to give an early signal of the current direction of world trade and where it is likely to go in the near future. In this way the WTOI should signal turning points in world merchandise trade volume. It complements existing tools such as the WTO's longer-term trade forecasts, and other statistical releases.

Trade in Value-Added and Global Value Chains Profiles

The Trade in Value Added (TiVA) and Global Value Chains (GVC) statistical profiles provide insights on the actual contribution of foreign trade to an economy, the interconnection of national economies within global value chains and the impact of the services industry on trade. Other GVC-related topics are also covered such as "Trade in intermediates", "Trade facilitation" or "Foreign direct investment".

Due to the specificity of the data underlying TiVA indicators, the profiles are not updated on a regular basis.

Monthly and Quarterly Statistics

The WTO publishes the latest monthly exports and imports statistics from January 2006 to the most recent available month for some 70 countries and economies total merchandise, and for approximately 30 economies for trade in commercial services. It also publishes the latest quarterly statistics from the first quarter of 2005 to the most recent available quarter of world merchandise trade values by region and for more than 100 selected countries and economies, world merchandise trade volume indices for selected regions and economies as well as world commercial services trade particularly in goods-related services, transport, travel and other commercial services.

Tariff Download Facility (TDF) and Tariff Analysis Online (TAO)

The TDF and the TAO are online applications that allow access to the WTO's Integrated Database (IDB) which contain yearly applied tariffs and imports and the Consolidated Tariff Schedules (CTS) database which contain Member's commitments on goods (bound tariffs and other commitments in agriculture). The TDF offers MFN and non-MFN applied tariffs and corresponding bound duties at the standard Harmonized System codes. TAO, meanwhile offers the tariffs at the national tariff line level with relevant analytical reports.

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WTO STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF RELEASES AND UPDATES

JANUARY	3rd Quarter Data (Q3) - Trade in Commercial Services (Value);
FEBRUARY	World Trade Outlook Indicator;
	WTO Press Release Forecast;
	Annual Totals - Merchandise Trade (Value and Volume);
APRIL	STATISTICS DATABASE; INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND MARKET ACCESS APPLICATION;
	4TH QUARTER DATA (Q4):
	MERCHANDISE TRADE (VALUE, VOLUME);
	TRADE IN COMMERCIAL SERVICES (VALUE, INCLUDES PRELIMINARY ANNUAL ESTIMATES);
	World Trade Outlook Indicator, update;
Мач	Annual Totals - Trade in Commercial Services (Value);
	STATISTICS DATABASE, I-TIP SERVICES; INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND MARKET ACCESS APPLICATION;
JUNE	·
JUNE	1ST QUARTER DATA (Q1) - MERCHANDISE TRADE (VALUE, VOLUME);
	World Trade Statistical Review; Trade Profiles; World Tariff Profiles;
JULY	TRADE PROFILES, WORLD TARIFF PROFILES,
	1ST QUARTER DATA (Q1) - TRADE IN COMMERCIAL SERVICES;
	WORLD TRADE OUTLOOK INDICATOR, UPDATE;
SEPTEMBER	WTO PRESS RELEASE FORECAST, UPDATE;
	2nd Quarter Data (Q2) - Merchandise Trade (Value, Volume);
	MERCHANDISE TRADE BY ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, COMMODITY GROUP;
	STATISTICS DATABASE; INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND MARKET ACCESS APPLICATION;
	INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND MARKET ACCESS APPLICATION,
Остовек	Merchandise Trade:
	World and Regional profiles;
	World Commodity Profiles;
	2nd Quarter Data (Q2) - Trade in Commercial Services (Value);
November	World Trade Outlook Indicator, update;
	3rd Quarter Data (Q3) - Merchandise Trade (Value, Volume);
	STATTALK Newsletter;
DECEMBER	
	FOREIGN AFFILIATED TRADE STATISTICS (FATS);
	VALUE ADDED, FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT, EMPLOYMENT; I-TIP SERVICES;
	1-11P SEKVICES;

Note:

In addition, monthly country data are also published online. Merchandise trade data are released as soon as data is available while services data are released on a monthly basis.

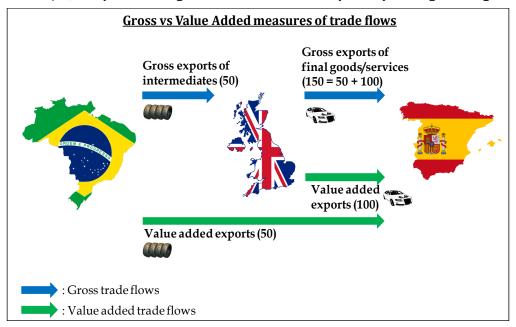
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Trade in Value Added

TRADE IN VALUE ADDED DATA DAY AT THE WTO

In January 2016, the WTO released its "Trade in Value Added (TiVA) and Global Value Chains (GVCs)" statistical profiles. The latter provide insights on the actual contribution of foreign trade to an economy, the interconnection of national economies within global value chains (GVCs) and the impact of the services industry on trade. Other GVC-related topics are also covered such as "Trade in intermediates", "Trade facilitation" or "Foreign direct investment".

Further to questions on the use and interpretation of the new indicators, the Secretariat organised a "TiVA Data Day" on 24 November 2016 dedicated to WTO Members and Observers in order to present the trade in value added approach, the underlying data and concepts, clarify the meaning of the indicators and convey the key messages arising from TiVA.



THE PRESENTATIONS, MADE BY THE WTO STATISTICS GROUP COVERED THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

- What is Trade in Value Added (TiVA)?
- POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF GVCs AND TIVA
- THE DATA AND METHODOLOGY BEHIND TIVA DATA (INCLUDING AN OVERVIEW OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS).
- EXPLANATIONS ON THE MAIN TIVA AND GVC INDICATORS
 PRESENTED IN THE TIVA-GVC PROFILES.

The concepts were presented in a simplified manner using synthetic diagrams and explicit examples such as the example above. The meeting was followed by a workshop demonstrating how to use and extract data from the OECD-WTO TiVA database, explaining further TiVA-GVC indicators and responding to technical questions. Several countries actively participated in the workshop and expressed their interest in TiVA for trade policy making.

Click here to access the "TiVA and GVC" profiles (currently available for 61 economies) from the WTO public website.

THE **STATISTICS GROUP** SUPPORTS WTO

MEMBERS AND THE SECRETARIAT WITH QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION IN RELATION TO ECONOMIC AND TRADE POLICY ISSUES. THE GROUP IS THE PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER OF WTO TRADE STATISTICS AND INFORMATION ON TARIFFS.

SEND COMMENTS ON THIS ISSUE TO:

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WE ARE ON THE WEB!

STATISTICS DATABASE (CLICK HERE)
INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND MARKET ACCESS DATA (CLICK HERE)

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FOR WTO TARIFF NEWS AND DATABASES (CLICK HERE)