



REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMIC STATISTICS

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

THIRD QUARTER REPORT FOR 2020

BY

THE INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS UNIT



Kanifing Institutional Layout

P.O. Box 3504, Serekunda, the Gambia

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| List of Abbreviations and Acronyms | 3 |
| Concepts and Definitions | 4 |
| Preface..... | 5 |
| Introduction..... | 6 |
| MONTHLY TRADE STATISTICS | 7 |
| IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY SELECTED CONTINENTS/ECONOMIC ZONES | 7 |
| IMPORTS FROM TOP TEN PARTNERS | 8 |
| EXPORTS TO TOP TEN PARTNERS..... | 8 |
| IMPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS | 9 |
| EXPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS | 10 |
| IMPORTS OF SELECTED BASIC COMMODITIES | 10 |
| TRADE SUMMARY STATISTICS | 11 |

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

| | |
|-----------|---|
| ASYCUDA++ | Automated System for Customs Data |
| CIF | Cost, Insurance and Freight |
| FOB | Free on Board |
| GBoS | Gambia Bureau of Statistics |
| GMD | Gambian Dalasi |
| GRA | Gambia Revenue Authority |
| HS | Harmonized System |
| IMTS 2010 | International Merchandise Trade Statistics 2010 |
| N.E. S | Not elsewhere specified |
| UNSD | United Nations Statistics Division |

Concepts and Definitions

Monthly trade summary: Includes imports, exports and re-exports and total exports disaggregated by month.

Trade flow by selected continents and economic zones: Is the value of trade between The Gambia and selected geographic and economic zones.

Direction of trade: Trade flows from and to main trading partners. The ranking is done based on highest ten by value in (GMD) and country.

Trade flow by top ten products: This indicates trade flows (import, exports, re-exports) by main products sorted based on the highest Cost Insurance and Freight (CIF) or Free on Board (FOB) value in (GMD'000) at 2-digit Harmonised System product code which groups related commodities.

Exports trade: The exports of merchandise goods are valued at F.O.B and it refers to all movable goods. Share of domestic exports to total trade is the value of all goods exported to the rest of the world divided by total trade multiply by 100.

Imports trade: The value of imported goods includes the cost, insurance and freight (C.I.F). Share of imports to total trade is the value of all goods imported from the rest of the world divided by total trade multiply by 100.

Preface

This report presents International Merchandise Trade Statistics of The Gambia (IMTS) for third quarter 2020. It aims to show the outlook of trade between The Gambia and its trading partners during the period under review. It could also serve as a catalyst to enhancing the investment drive of the country. The international merchandise trade statistics unit under the Directorate of Economic Statistics of the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS), receives monthly raw trade data extracted from the Customs and Exercise Department of the Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA) Database (ASYCUDA++) in American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) format for processing using EUROTRACE¹.

Data cleaning is continuous as various tables are produced to feed into the reports. The database is therefore, updated from time to time to take account of adjustments made from the input source.

The report contains a wide range of trade statistics between The Gambia and its partners. This avails data users with information to facilitate planning and decision making. Data can be provided to users based on the level of breakdown requested up to six (6) or eight (8) digits according to the Harmonised commodity description and coding system (HS).

The quarterly report contains data on the Trade Balance, Imports and Exports by major trading. The latest quarterly reports can be accessed on the Gambia Bureau of Statistics' website (www.gbosdata.org). For users who have specific data needs, the international merchandise trade statistics Unit could offer the necessary assistance.

The Gambia Bureau of Statistics wishes to express its profound gratitude to the ASYCUDA++ (Automated System Customs Data) Unit of The Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA), for making available the necessary data for the compilation of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics. We hope that users will find this report useful.

Nyakassi M.B. Sanyang

Statistician General

¹ Eurotrace is the statistical software used by the external trade unit for data analysis. In July 1993 ECOWAS & UNCTAD developed Trace-nat under DOS OP System.

Introduction

The International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) of The Gambia are compiled based on the 'General Trade System' as recommended by the United Nation Statistics Division (UNSD) in (IMTS) 2010 concepts and definitions manual. The main source of data is Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA). They record goods entering (imports) or leaving (exports) to/from The Gambia. That is, whether or not the imports at the time of importation are intended for domestic consumption or for re-exports.

Merchandise trade covers only trade in goods and excludes trade in services. The commodity classification is based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) 2012 tariff. The data presented in this report contains trade summary and other detailed information.

Trade summary covers the total imports, exports, re-exports, total exports, total trade and balance of trade. The trade balance is the difference between total exports and total imports (i.e., total exports minus total imports), total exports is (domestic exports plus re-exports), and total trade is (total imports plus total exports).

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS FOR THIRD QUARTER 2020

MONTHLY TRADE STATISTICS

Table 1 below shows that the highest value of imports was registered in July with GMD3.2 billion. This is followed by August and September with GMD2.6 billion and GMD2.3 billion respectively. July registered the highest exports with GMD31.8 million, followed August with GMD14.0 million. However, the lowest value was registered in September.

TABLE 1: MONTHLY TRADE STATISTICS THIRD QUARTER 2020
VALUES(D'000)

| MONTHS | IMPORTS | % | EXPORTS | % |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| July | 3,230,939 | 39.9 | 31,805 | 54.2 |
| August | 2,588,114 | 31.9 | 13,964 | 23.8 |
| September | 2,285,349 | 28.2 | 12,874 | 22.0 |
| TOTAL | 8,104,402 | 100.0 | 58,643 | 100.0 |

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY SELECTED CONTINENTS/ECONOMIC ZONES

Merchandise trade between The Gambia and selected continents and economic zones/blocs in table 2 shows that Asia has the highest value of imports with GMD3.0 billion. This is followed by Africa with GMD2.3 billion (28.1%); out of this the Economic Community of West African States registered GMD2.2 billion. Europe and America accounted for GMD2.0 billion and GMD822.7 million respectively. Gambia's export market is dominated by Asia with GMD37.1 million, followed by Europe with GMD12.1 million and Africa and America with GMD3.9 million and GMD5.6 million.

TABLE 2: IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY SELECTED CONTINENTS/ECONOMIC ZONES
THIRD QUARTER 2020, VALUES GMD ('000)

| PARTNER | IMPORTS | % | EXPORTS | % |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| AFRICA | 2,276,462 | 28.1 | 3,940 | 6.7 |
| <i>OF WHICH</i> | | | | |
| ECOWAS | 2,165,238 | 26.7 | 3,940 | 6.7 |
| REST OF AFRICA | 111,223 | 1.4 | 0 | 0.0 |
| EUROPE | 2,031,650 | 25.1 | 12,063 | 20.6 |
| <i>OF WHICH</i> | | | | |
| EU | 1,190,731 | 14.7 | 5,989 | 10.2 |
| ASIA | 2,972,889 | 36.7 | 37,062 | 63.2 |
| AMERICA | 822,705 | 10.2 | 5,578 | 9.5 |
| SUB TOTAL | 8,103,705 | 100.0 | 58,643 | 100.0 |
| REST OF THE WORLD | 696 | 0.01 | 0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 8,104,402 | 100.0 | 58,643 | 100.0 |

IMPORTS FROM TOP TEN PARTNERS

Data in table 3 shows the imports value and share of Gambia's major trading partners for third quarter 2020. Overall, the highest values of imports were from Cote d'Ivoire (*main product imported is mineral fuels*) and Japan (*main product imported is vehicles other than railway*) with GMD1.1 billion and China (*main product imported is vehicles other than railway*) with GMD702.8 million respectively. Furthermore, it can be seen from the table that 76.9 per cent of total imports came from top ten trading partners while 23.1 per cent came from the rest of the world.

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM TOP TEN COUNTRIES THIRD QUARTER 2020, VALUES GMD ('000)

| PARTNER | IMPORTS | % |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Cote d'Ivoire | 1,421,663 | 17.5 |
| Japan | 1,116,719 | 13.8 |
| China | 702,754 | 8.7 |
| Turkey | 667,261 | 8.2 |
| Brazil | 629,976 | 7.8 |
| Togo | 586,396 | 7.2 |
| Spain | 304,908 | 3.8 |
| Malaysia | 294,299 | 3.6 |
| India | 291,975 | 3.6 |
| Netherlands | 215,650 | 2.7 |
| SUB TOTAL | 6,231,600 | 76.9 |
| REST OF THE WORLD | 1,872,802 | 23.1 |
| TOTAL | 8,104,402 | 100.0 |

EXPORTS TO TOP TEN PARTNERS

Table 4 below shows Gambia's exports to top ten partners. Among the top ten partners India (*main product exported is edible fruits and nuts*), Chile (*main product exported is animal fats or vegetable fats and oils other than railway*) and Vietnam (*main product exported is Fish and crustaceans*) registered the highest values with GMD25.0 million (42.7%), GMD4.7 million (8.0 %) and GMD4.2 million (7.2 %) respectively. Switzerland had the lowest value of domestic exports with GMD2.0 million (3.3%). The data further shows that 90.5 per cent of total domestic exports went to the major trading partners while the remaining 9.5 per cent went to the rest of the world.

TABLE 4: EXPORTS TO TOP TEN COUNTRIES THIRDS QUARTER 2020, VALUES GMD ('000)

| PARTNER | EXPORT | % |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| India | 25,039 | 42.7 |
| Chile | 4,720 | 8.0 |
| Viet Nam | 4,244 | 7.2 |
| Turkey | 4,114 | 7.0 |
| China | 3,006 | 5.1 |
| Republic of Korea | 2,916 | 5.0 |
| Senegal | 2,700 | 4.6 |
| Spain | 2,220 | 3.8 |
| Greece | 2,152 | 3.7 |
| Switzerland | 1,960 | 3.3 |
| SUB TOTAL | 53,072 | 90.5 |
| REST OF THE WORLD | 5,571 | 9.5 |
| TOTAL | 58,643 | 100.0 |

IMPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS

Table 5 below shows that imports of top ten major products for 2020 stood at GMD6.3 billion. Out of this, '*Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation...*', 'vehicles other than railway and 'cereals'....', registered the highest values with GMD2.0 billion, GMD1.6 billion and 539.9 million respectively. However, 'Articles of iron steel' recorded the least value among the major imported products with GMD150.9 million (1.8 %).

TABLE 5: IMPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS FOR THIRD QUARTER 2020, VALUES GMD ('000)

| PRODUCTS | IMPORTS | % |
|---|----------------|----------|
| Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes | 2,038,257 | 24.2 |
| Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof | 1,551,739 | 18.4 |
| Cereals | 539,933 | 6.4 |
| Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes | 454,842 | 5.4 |
| Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof | 443,737 | 5.3 |
| Sugars and sugar confectionery | 386,512 | 4.6 |
| Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles | 332,310 | 3.9 |
| Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement | 214,737 | 2.6 |
| Iron and steel | 165,613 | 2.0 |
| Articles of iron or steel | 150,937 | 1.8 |

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| SUB TOTAL | 6,278,617 | 74.6 |
| REST OF THE WORLD | 1,825,785 | 25.4 |
| TOTAL | 8,104,402 | 100.0 |

EXPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS

Exports of top ten major products as shown in table 6 below amounted to GMD58.2 million (99.2 %). Out of which, 'Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus and 'Fish and crustaceans' registered the highest share of exports with 43.0 per cent and 26.6 per cent respectively. The data further shows that 'wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal....' recorded the least value with GMD449 million (0.8 %).

**TABLE 6: EXPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS FOR THIRD QUARTER 2020,
VALUES GMD ('000)**

| PRODUCT | EXPORTS | % |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Edible Fruits and Nuts; Peel of Citrus Fruit or Melons | 25,190 | 43.0 |
| Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates | 15,612 | 26.6 |
| Ores, slag and ash | 3,990 | 6.8 |
| Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes | 3,874 | 6.6 |
| Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques | 3,006 | 5.1 |
| Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten | 2,700 | 4.6 |
| Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder | 1,544 | 2.6 |
| Preparations of meat, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates | 1,035 | 1.8 |
| Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles | 777 | 1.3 |
| Wood and Articles of Wood; Wood Charcoal | 449 | 0.8 |
| SUB TOTAL | 58,177 | 99.2 |
| REST OF THE WORLD | 466 | 0.8 |
| TOTAL | 58,643 | 100.0 |

IMPORTS OF SELECTED BASIC COMMODITIES

Table 7 below shows that imports of selected products consist of the most basic products/commodities consumed in The Gambia. Most often, these products record the highest import values among products imported by traders/importers.

Imports of selected basic products was dominated by rice with GMD537.5 million, followed by vegetable cooking oil GMD446.8 million and sugar with GMD380.3 million. Total cement also registered a significant amount of GMD180.3 million, of which Portland cement amounted to GMD161.8 million.

TABLE 7: IMPORTS OF SELECTED BASIC COMMODITIES FOR THIRD QTR 2020, VALUES GMD ('000)

| PRODUCT | IMPORTS |
|--|----------------|
| Edible Vegetables and certain roots and tubers | 48,826 |
| <i>OF WHICH</i> | |
| Potatoes | 5,875 |
| Onions and shallots | 31,008 |
| Rice | 537,459 |
| Flour | 119,485 |
| Refined Cane Sugar | 380,325 |
| Total Cement | 180,337 |
| <i>OF WHICH</i> | |
| Portland cement | 161,839 |
| Tomatoes Paste | 18,700 |
| Beverages, spirits and vinegar | 58,859 |
| <i>OF WHICH</i> | |
| Alcohol | 4,390 |
| Vinegar | 661 |
| Mineral Water | 53,808 |
| Milk and milk Products | 112,900 |
| Eggs | 25,546 |
| Vegetable Cooking Oil | 446,821 |

TRADE SUMMARY STATISTICS

Table 8 below shows trade summary statistics on imports, exports and re-exports for third quarter 2020. The data shows that total trade stood at GMD8.4 billion, with a trade deficit of GMD7.8 billion. As expected, imports far outweigh domestic exports since The Gambia is an import dependent country (96.3 % vs. 3.7 %) respectively.

TABLE 8: TRADE SUMMARY FOR THIRD QUARTER 2020, VALUES GMD ('000)

| TRADEFLOW | VALUES | % |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------|
| IMPORTS | 8,104,402 | 96.3 |
| EXPORTS | 58,643 | 0.7 |
| RE-EXPORTS | 251,761 | 3.0 |
| TOTAL EXPORTS | 310,404 | 3.7 |
| TOTAL TRADE | 8,414,806 | 100.0 |

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| BALANCE | -7,793,998 |
|----------------|-------------------|