

REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMIC STATISTICS

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

REPORT FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022

BY

THE INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS UNIT



Kanifing Institutional Layout

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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.

Export 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.

Import 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 second quarter 2022. 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).

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.

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

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 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) 2017 tariff. The data presented in this report contains trade summary and other detailed information.

Trade summary covers the total imports, domestic 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 SECOND QUARTER 2022

MONTHLY TRADE STATISTICS

Table 1 shows that the highest value of imports was registered in May GMD3.5 billion. This is followed by April 2.8 billion and June with GMD2.5 billion. May registered the highest exports GMD169.1 million, followed by April GMD116.9 million and the lowest value of exports was registered in June GMD94.0 million.

**TABLE 1: MONTHLY TRADE STATISTICS FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022, VALUES
GMD ('000)**

MONTHS	IMPORTS	%	EXPORTS	%
April	2,775,259	31.7	116,939	30.7
May	3,496,543	39.9	169,140	44.4
June	2,487,368	28.4	94,990	24.9
TOTAL	8,759,169	100.0	381,069	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 Africa has the highest value of imports GMD3.0 billion. Out of this Ecowas contributed GMD3.9 billion (44.1%) of total imports. This is followed by Europe GMD1.8 and Asia GMD1.6 billion. Exports from the Gambia mainly goes to Asia, GMD260.5 million, followed by Europe GMD109.2 million and Africa GMD9.5 million.

TABLE 2: IMPOTS AND EXPORTS BY SELECTED CONTINENTS/ECONOMIC ZONES FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022, VALUES GMD (‘000)

PARTNER	IMPORTS	%	EXPORTS	%
AFRICA	3,972,503	45.4	9,523	2.5
<i>OF WHICH</i>				
ECOWAS	3,860,088	44.1	9,523	2.5
REST OF AFRICA	112,415	1.3	0	0.0
EUROPE	1,763,435	20.1	109,189	28.7
<i>OF WHICH</i>				
EU	1,561,310	17.8	94,917	24.9
ASIA	1,570,988	17.9	260,538	68.4
AMERICA	1,403,481	16	1,820	0.5
SUB TOTAL	8,710,406	99.4	381,069	100.0
REST OF THE WORLD	48,763	0.6	0	0.0
TOTAL	8,759,169	100	381,069	100.0

IMPORTS FROM TOP TEN PARTNERS

Table 3 shows the imports value and share of Gambia’s major trading partners for second quarter 2022 Overall, the highest values of imports were from Cote d'Ivoire (*main product imported Mineral fuels*) GMD3.5 million and Brazil (*main product imported is cereals*) with GMD617.5 million respectively. Furthermore, it can be seen from the table that 78 per cent of total imports came from top ten trading partners while 22.0 per cent came from the rest of the world.

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM TOP TEN COUNTRIES FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022 VALUE (D'000)

PARTNER	IMPORTS	%
Cote d'Ivoire	3,478,025	39.7
Brazil	617,536	7.1
China	526,108	6.0
India	440,130	5.0
Argentina	386,781	4.4
Senegal	344,132	3.9
Belgium	338,449	3.9
United States	258,051	2.9
Spain	226,689	2.6
Poland	216,019	2.5
SUB TOTAL	6,831,921	78.0
REST OF THE WORLD	1,927,249	22.0
TOTAL	8,759,169	100.0

EXPORTS TO TOP TEN PARTNERS

Table 4 below shows Gambia's exports to top ten partners. Among the top ten partners china (*Edible fruit and nuts*) and Belgium (*Fish and fish products*) registered the highest values GMD216.8 million (56.9%), and GMD54.7 million (14.3%) respectively. The results further shows that 97.1 per cent of total domestic exports went to the major trading partners while the remaining 2.9 per cent went to the rest of the world.

TABLE 4: EXPORTS TO TOP TEN PARTNERS FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022, VALUES GMD ('000)

PARTNER	EXPORTS	%
China	216,841	56.9
Belgium	54,672	14.3
Spain	32,697	8.6
India	29,431	7.7
Turkey	14,271	3.7
Italy	5,895	1.5
Republic of Korea	5,598	1.5
Malaysia	3,988	1.0
Benin	3,348	0.9
Togo	3,238	0.8
SUB TOTAL	369,980	97.1
REST OF THE WORLD	11,089	2.9
TOTAL	381,069	100.0

IMPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS

Table 5 below shows that imports of top ten major products for second quarter 2022 stood at GMD8.8 billion. Out of this, '*Mineral fuels, mineral oils, and products of their distillation...*', '*cereals'...*', and '*vehicles other than railways...*' registered the highest values GMD3.5 billion, GMD893.0 billion and GMD754.5 million respectively. However, Dairy products birds' eggs; natural honey recorded the least value among the major imported products GMD128.6 million (1.5%).

TABLE 5: IMPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022, VALUES GMD ('000)

PRODUCTS	IMPORTS	%
Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	3,511,326	40.1

CEREALS	893,003	10.2
Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	754,471	8.6
SUGARS AND SUGAR CONFECTIONERY	464,405	5.3
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	228,956	2.6
Meat AND EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL	218,163	2.5
Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten	214,974	2.5
Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement	193,514	2.2
GLASS AND GLASSWARE	131,940	1.5
Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	128,639	1.5
SUB TOTAL	6,739,390	76.9
REST OF THE WORLD	2,019,779	23.1
TOTAL	8,759,169	100.0

EXPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS

Exports of top ten major products as shown in table 6 below amounted to GMD380.2 million. Out of which edible fruit and nuts registered the highest share of exports 59.2 per cent. This is followed by 'fish products' 15.7 per cent and preparation of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants 14.6 per cent. The table further shows that furniture bedding mattresses recorded the least value GMD212 thousand (0.1%).

**TABLE 6: EXPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022,
VALUES GMD ('000)**

PRODUCTS	EXPORTS	%
EDIBLE FRUIT AND NUTS; PEEL OF CITRUS FRUIT OR MELONS	225,458	59.2
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	59,828	15.7
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants	55,745	14.6
Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder	26,932	7.1
Iron and steel	3,947	1.0
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder	3,839	1.0
Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	2,923	0.8
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	1,065	0.3
Printed books, newspapers, pictures and other products of the printing industry; manuscripts, typescripts and plans	267	0.1

Furniture; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings, nes or incl; illuminated signs, illuminated name-plates and the like; prefabricated buildings	212	0.1
SUB TOTAL	380,216	99.9
REST OF THE WORLD	307	0.1
TOTAL	380,523	100.0

IMPORTS OF SELECTED BASIC COMMODITIES

Table 7 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 GMD432.8 million, followed by refined sugar cane GMD 382.8 million, Total cement registered GMD 150.6 out of which Portland cement registered GMD135.8 million and white cement registered GMD 288 thousand.

TABLE 7: IMPORTS OF SELECTED BASIC COMMODITIES FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022 VALUES (D'000)

PRODUCTS	IMPORTS
Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	47,704
<i>OF WHICH</i>	
Potatoes	17,121
Onions and shallots	21,655
Rice	432,773
Wheat or meslin flour	123,161
Refined sugar cane	382,814
Total cement	150,603
<i>OF WHICH</i>	
Portland cement	135,754
White cement	288
Tomatoes paste	2,612
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar	76,375
<i>OF WHICH</i>	
Alcohol	5,754
Vinegar	73
Mineral water	70,548
Milk and milk products	98,266
Eggs	30,294
Vegetable cooking oil	105,255

TRADE SUMMARY STATISTICS

Table 8 shows trade summary statistics on imports, domestic exports, and re-exports for second quarter 2022. The result shows that total trade stood at GMD9.2 billion with a trade deficit of GMD8.3 billion. As expected, imports far outweigh domestic exports since the Gambia is an import dependent country (95.0 % vs. 4.1 %) respectively.

TABLE 8: TRADE SUMMARY FOR SECOND QUARTER 2022, VALUES GMD ('000)

TRADE FLOW	VALUES	%
IMPORTS	8,759,169	95.0
EXPORTS	381,069	4.1
RE-EXPORTS	76,627	0.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	457,696	5.0
TOTAL TRADE	9,216,865	100.0
TRADE BALANCE	-8,301,474	