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BY

THE INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS UNIT



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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 year 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 every month to consider of adjustments made from the input source i.e., GRA.

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 annual 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 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 2022

MONTHLY TRADE STATISTICS

Table 1 below shows that the highest value of imports was registered in October with GMD5.9 billion. This is followed by November (GMD5.2 billion), March and July with GMD4.3 billion each. December registered the highest exports with GMD235.0 million, followed by March with GMD176.3 million. However, the lowest value of exports was registered in January with GMD31.3 million.

TABLE 1: MONTHLY TRADE STATISTICS FOR 2022
VALUE(D'000)

MONTHS	IMPORTS	%	EXPORTS	%
January	3,288,580	7.3	31,342	2.6
February	3,291,458	7.3	94,426	7.8
March	4,316,399	9.6	176,329	14.5
April	2,775,259	6.2	116,939	9.6
May	3,496,513	7.8	169,140	13.9
June	2,487,368	5.5	94,990	7.8
July	4,349,964	9.7	61,063	5.0
August	3,211,602	7.2	100,885	8.3
September	3,761,992	8.4	56,025	4.6
October	5,949,418	13.3	35,060	2.9
November	5,165,486	11.5	45,649	3.8
December	2,794,736	6.2	234,982	19.3
TOTAL	44,888,775	100.0	1,216,830	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 the highest value of imports to The Gambia of GMD19.6 billion is from the African continent, out of which Ecowas accounted for GMD17.8 billion. This is followed by Asia and Europe GMD12.6 billion and GMD8.8 billion respectively. The Gambia's export mainly goes to Asia with GMD895.8 million, followed by Europe with GMD264.0 million and Africa with GMD44.8 million.

**TABLE 2: IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY SELECTED CONTINENTS/ECONOMIC ZONES
2022, VALUES GMD ('000)**

PARTNER	IMPORTS	%	EXPORTS	%
AFRICA	19,645,043	43.8	44,755	3.7
<i>OF WHICH</i>				
ECOWAS	17,764,870	39.6	42,133	3.5
REST OF AFRICA	1,880,173	4.2	2,623	0.2
EUROPE	8,810,278	19.6	264,017	21.7
<i>OF WHICH</i>				
EU 27	6,103,205	13.6	213,470	17.5
AMERICAS	3,790,234	8.4	12,230	1.0
ASIA	12,627,003	28.1	895,828	73.6
SUBTOTAL	44,872,558	100.0	1,216,830	100.0
REST OF THE WORLD	16,216	0.0	0	0.0
TOTAL	44,888,775	100.0	1,216,830	100.0

IMPORTS FROM TOP TEN PARTNERS

Table 3 shows the imports value and share of The Gambia's major trading partners for year 2022. Overall, the highest values of imports were from Cote d'Ivoire (*main product imported is Mineral fuel*) and China (*main product imported electrical machinery and equipment*) with GMD13.4 billion and GMD4.1 billion representing 30.0 and 9.2 percentages of imports respectively. Furthermore, it can be seen from the table that 76 per cent of total imports came from top ten trading partners while 25 per cent came from the rest of the world.

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM TOP TEN PARTNERS FOR 2022, VALUES GMD ('000)

PARTNER	IMPORTS	%
Cote d'Ivoire	13,447,993	30.0
China	4,139,504	9.2
United Arab Emirates	3,172,087	7.1
Senegal	3,071,645	6.8
India	2,726,702	6.1
Brazil	1,743,026	3.9
Turkey	1,715,912	3.8
Morocco	1,413,967	3.1
Belgium	1,402,879	3.1
United States	1,036,505	2.3
SUBTOTAL	33,870,219	75.5
REST OF THE WORLD	11,018,555	24.5
TOTAL IMPORTS	44,888,775	100.0

EXPORTS TO TOP TEN PARTNERS

Table 4 below shows The Gambia's exports to top ten partners. Among the top ten partners exports to China (*main product exported oil seeds and oleaginous fruits*), India (*main product exported edible fruits and nuts*) and Spain (*main product exported fish products*) registered the highest values with GMD643.3 million (52.9%), GMD99.7 million (8.2 %) and GMD99.2 million (8.1 %) respectively. The results further shows that 93.2 per cent of total domestic exports went to the major trading partners while the remaining 6.8 per cent went to the rest of the world.

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

PARTNER	EXPORTS	%
China	643,313	52.9
India	99,723	8.2
Spain	99,162	8.1
Viet Nam	92,214	7.6
Belgium	55,920	4.6
Italy	43,944	3.6
Turkey	42,865	3.5
Republic of Korea	27,515	2.3
Guinea	14,684	1.2
Malaysia	14,154	1.2
SUBTOTAL	1,133,493	93.2
REST OF THE WORLD	83,336	6.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	1,216,830	100.0

IMPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS

Table 5 below shows that imports of top ten major products for 2022 stood at GMD34.2 billion. Out of this, *Mineral fuels, Vehicles other than railway..., and cereals* registered the highest values with GMD17.4 billion, GMD4.3 billion and GMD3.0 billion respectively. However, *articles of iron and steel* recorded the least value among the major imported products with GMD990.6 million (2.6 %).

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

PRODUCTS	IMPORTS	%
Mineral fuels, mineral oils, and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	17,744,995	39.5
Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling stock, and parts and accessories thereof	4,286,900	9.6
Cereals	3,013,113	6.7
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	2,183,020	4.9
Salt; Sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime, and cement	1,389,622	3.1
Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery, and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	1,309,800	2.9
Fertilizers	1,191,597	2.7
Sugars and sugar confectionery	1,089,783	2.4
Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	1,005,653	2.2
Articles of iron or steel	990,645	2.2
SUBTOTAL	34,205,128	76.2
OTHER PRODUCTS	10,683,646	23.8
TOTAL IMPORTS	44,888,775	100.0

EXPORTS TO TOP TEN PRODUCTS

Exports of top ten major products as shown in table 6 below amounted to GMD1.2 billion (95.7 %). Out of which, *Edible fruit and nuts, oil seeds and oleaginous fruits and fish and crustaceans* registered the highest share of exports with 25.3 per cent and 24.7 per cent and 17.4 per cent respectively. The table further shows that *products of animal origin* recorded the least value with GMD10.6 million (0.9 %).

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

PRODUCTS	EXPORTS	%
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons	308,291	25.3
Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds, and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder	300,565	24.7
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs, and other aquatic invertebrates	212,287	17.4
Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	162,873	13.4
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants	77,030	6.3
Iron and steel	41,944	3.4
Salt; Sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime, and cement	21,231	1.7
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder	15,935	1.3
Ores, slag, and ash	14,309	1.2
Products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	10,644	0.9
SUBTOTAL	1,165,110	95.7
OTHER PRODUCTS	51,720	4.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	1,216,830	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 GMD2.0 billion, followed by sugar GMD1.1 billion and Total cement GMD 985.1 million, out of which Portland cement amounted to GMD732.1 million, and white cement amounted the least GMD3.8 million.

TABLE 7: IMPORTS OF SELECTED BASIC COMMODITIES FOR 2022, VALUES GMD ('000)

PRODUCTS	IMPORTS
Edible vegetables	171,751
<i>OF WHICH</i>	
Potatoes	28,825
Onions	87,495
Rice	2,027,004
Wheat or meslin flour	379,362
Sugar	1,089,783
Total Cement	985,105
<i>OF WHICH</i>	
White cement	3,783
Portland cement	732,138
Other cement	249,184
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar	261,307
<i>OF WHICH</i>	
Alcohol	15,033
Mineral Water	244,822
Vinegar	1,452
Eggs	112,777
Milk and Milk Products	500,417
Vegetable Oil	972,337
Tomato Paste	63,131

TRADE SUMMARY STATISTICS

Table 8 shows trade summary statistics on imports, domestic exports, and re-exports for 2022. The table shows that total trade stood at GMD47.8 billion with a trade deficit of GMD41.9 billion. As expected, imports far outweigh domestic exports since The Gambia is an import dependent country (93.8 % vs. 2.5 %) respectively.

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

TRADEFLOW	VALUES	%
IMPORTS	44,888,775	93.8
EXPORTS	1,216,830	2.5
RE-EXPORTS	1,738,182	3.6
TOTAL EXPORTS	2,955,012	6.2
TOTAL TRADE	47,843,786	100.0
BALANCE	-41,933,763	