

International Merchandise Trade Statistics Republic of Palau

3rd Quarter 2021



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International Merchandise Trade Statistics

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Office of Planning & Statistics
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Foreword

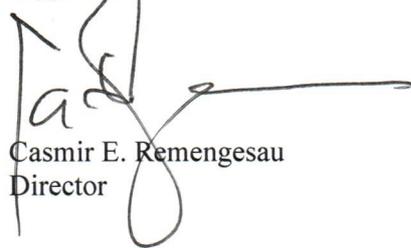
We are pleased to publish this quarter's International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) publication.

Compiled using the United Nation's IMTS Concepts and Definitions 2010, the release provides statistics on exports and imports by commodity and country. The release also includes information on the mode of transport used for the trade of goods.

The classification used is the Palau Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System 2017 (HS17) which is the latest based off the World Custom Organisation's HS17. Exports have been valued on a *free on board* basis and imports have been valued on a *cost, insurance and freight* basis.

OPS hopes that the information provided, amongst the many uses, will help policy makers better plan and negotiate trade deals as well as develop relevant trade policies for Palau, meet the data needs for food security and non-communicable diseases, and other national plans and strategies.

Data used for the compilation have been sourced from the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection. We acknowledge with great appreciation their valuable contribution and we look forward to their continued support.



Casmir E. Remengesau
Director

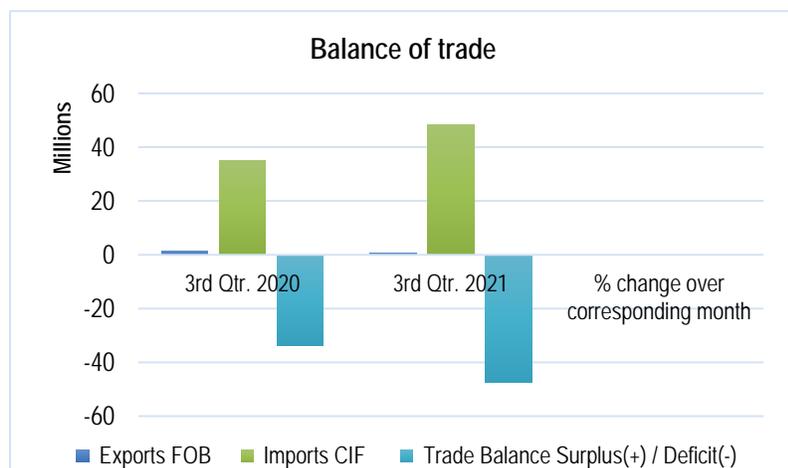
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Explanatory Notes

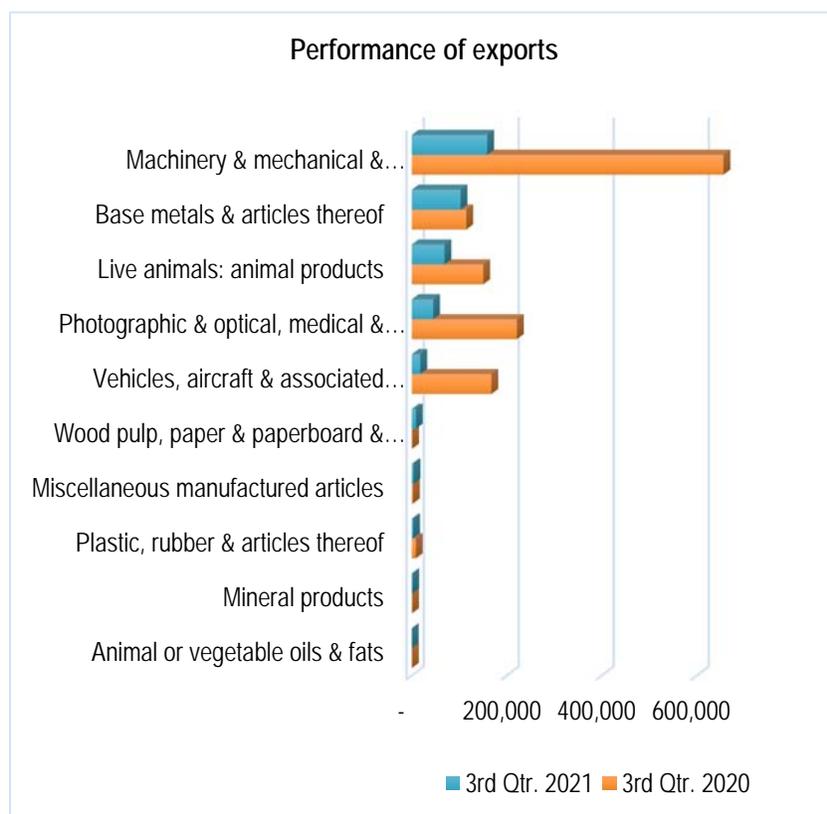
Balance of trade	Balance of trade of goods is the net sum of exports and imports of goods. <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A positive trade balance (surplus) indicates that the value of exports has exceeded the value of imports.○ A negative trade balance (deficit) indicates that the value of imports has exceeded the value of exports.
CIF	Cost, insurance, and freight: includes the transaction value of the goods, insurance, and freight to deliver the goods from the border of the exporting country to the border of the importing country.
FOB	Free on board: includes the transaction value of the goods and the value of services performed to deliver goods to the border of the exporting country.
HS	The Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System: is a classification of exports and imports of goods. The latest version is '2017' and the custodian of it is the World Customs Organisation (WCO). Palau uses the Palau Harmonized System based on the WCOs HS17. For HS Sections and Chapters refer to Appendix 2.
IMTS	International merchandise trade statistics: records all goods, which add to or subtract from the stock of material resources of a country by entering (imports) or leaving (exports) its economic territory.
International merchandise trade	International merchandise trade is the exchange of goods across international borders. <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Exports refer to goods from Palau purchased by another country.○ Imports refer to goods purchased by Palau from another country.○ Re-importation refers to the importation of goods into Palau, which it had previously exported.○ Re-exportation is the importation and then exportation of the same goods by Palau without any transformation/value-added.
Merchandise	Merchandise refers to goods that are traded i.e. bought and sold.
na	Not available.
p	Provisional: data may be subject to change.
R	Revision: data have been changed.

Overall performance of Trade and Trade Balance



In the 3rd quarter of 2021, the international merchandise trade balance recorded a trade deficit of approximately \$48 million. The deficit widened by 41% from the same quarter of last year, due to the increase in imports and decrease in exports.

Performance of exports



Total exports declined by 53 percent this quarter compared to the same quarter last year; from \$1.3 million to \$0.6 million.

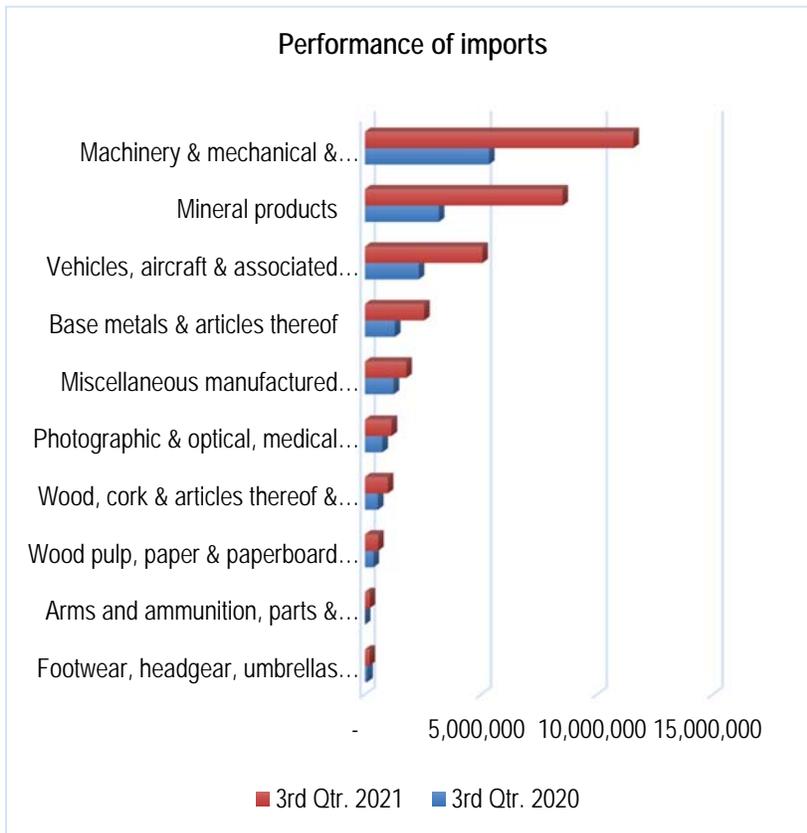
Contributors to this significant decline include Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof, which declined by 0.5 million or 76 percent from the same quarter last year. Another major contributor to this decline is Base metals & articles thereof at \$0.1 million; which declined by 11 percent, Live animals; animal products at \$0.07 million; which declined by 54 percent, Photographic & optical, medical & surgical goods & clocks/watches & musical

instruments at \$0.04 million; which declined by 80 percent, Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment at \$0.02 million; which declined by 89 percent, and Plastic, rubber & articles thereof at \$0.003 million; which declined by 67 percent compared to the same period of last year.

The current decrease was driven by low exports of machinery & mechanical appliances, live ornamental fish and corals, surveying instruments and appliances, aluminum waste and scrap, ferrous waste and scrap, and articles of iron and steel compared to last year's high numbers.

Exports that saw increases this period include Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco at \$0.1 million; which had no export from the same period of last year. Followed by Textile & textile articles at \$0.1 million; an increase of 10,846 percent, Chemicals & allied products at \$0.01 million; an increase of 4,549 percent, Articles of stone, plaster, cement, glass & ceramic products at \$0.1 million; an increase of 4,023 percent, and Wood pulp, paper & paperboard & articles thereof at \$0.01 million; an increase of 1,145 percent, respectively. The majority of exported items consist of goods either used for construction purposes or maintenance services that have completed their projects and are re-exported.

Performance of imports



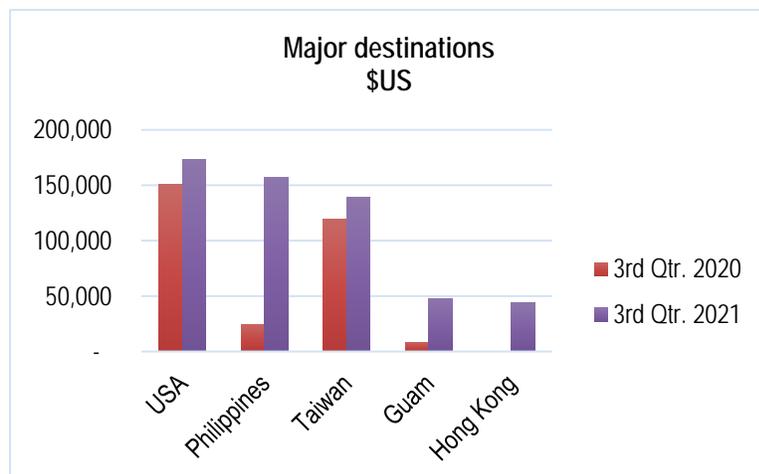
The performance of imports shows that it increased by 37 percent compared to the same quarter last year.

Sections that contributed to the growth of imports were Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof at \$11.6 million; which increased by 117 percent, followed by Mineral products at \$8.5 million, an increase of 168 percent, Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment at \$5.1 million, an increase of 118 percent, Base metals & articles thereof at \$2.6 million, an increase of 97 percent, and Miscellaneous manufactured articles at \$1.8 million; which increased by 44 percent.

Main commodities that contributed to the growth of imports are mineral products, followed by outboard motorboats, medical equipment, siren cabinets, prefabricated buildings, firearms, vegetable rack & vegetable crate, corned beef, and washer.

Import sections that saw declines during this period were Chemicals and allied products that accounted for \$2.8 million; a 72 percent decline, followed by Works of art, collections pieces & antiques at \$0.0004 million, which declined by 52 percent, and Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones & metals at \$0.03 million; a decline of 36 percent compared to the same period last year.

Major destination



Palau's major export destinations were the USA, Philippines, Taiwan, Guam, and Hong Kong.

Exports to the USA registered at \$0.17 million; an increase of 15 percent over the same period last year when it was \$0.15 million. The increase was due to the exports of ornamental fish, clams, and military accessories.

Exports to the Philippines were recorded at \$0.16 million; which saw

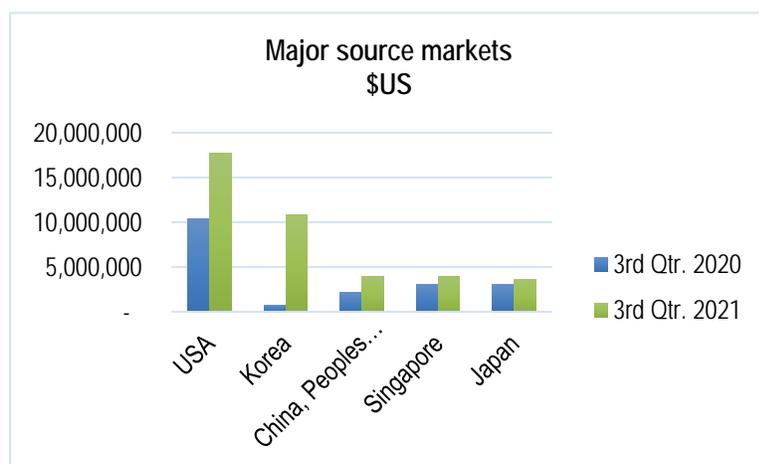
a major increase of 541 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$0.02 million. The increase was driven by the large exports of canned goods, foodstuffs, grocery items, and assorted clothing.

Exports to Taiwan stood at \$0.14 million; a slight increase of 16 percent over the same quarter last year when it was at \$0.12 percent. The sole commodities that are driving the increase are scrap metals and plastics.

Exports to Guam saw an upward trend; an increase of 473 percent from \$0.05 million during this period compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$ 0.01 million. The upward movement was due to the exports of empty tanks, containers, and elevator installation tools.

Exports to Hong Kong were recorded at \$0.04 million this period compared to last year with no exports. The increase was driven by the large exports of telecommunication systems and accessories during this period.

Major source markets



Palau's major source markets in the 3rd quarter of 2021 were the USA, Korea, China, Singapore, and Japan.

Imports from the USA were approximately \$18.0 million; a significant increase of 70 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$10.4 million. The increase was driven by the imports of outboard motorboats, firearms, washers, COVID vaccines, cashier counters, night vision goggles, and

boneless beef.

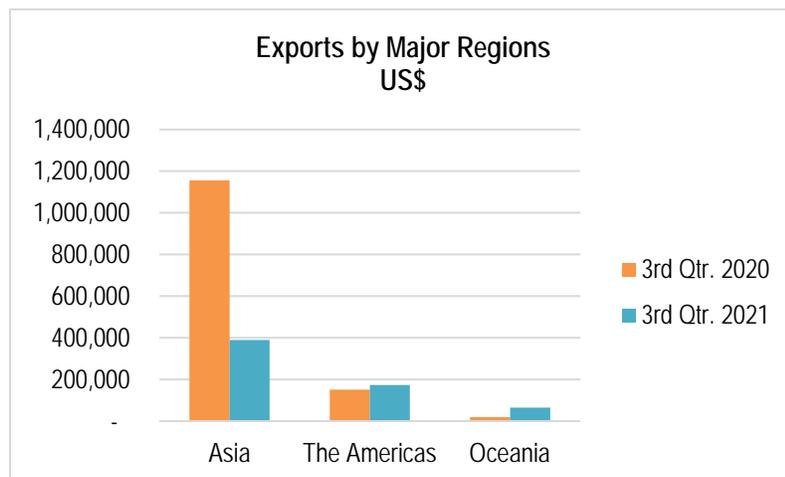
Imports from Korea were approximately \$11.0 million; a significant increase of 1,305 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$0.8 million. Contribution to the large imports consists of butanes, tin roofs, and cigarettes.

Imports from China were \$4.0 million; which increased by 83 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$2.2 million. Commodities imported consists of prefabricated buildings and building materials, structured cabling equipment, and beers.

Imports from Singapore were \$4.0 million; an increase of 28 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$3.1 million. Mineral product is the main contributor to the increase in imports from Singapore.

Imports from Japan were \$4.0 million; an increase of 19 percent compared to last year when it was \$3.0 million. Imports from Japan consists of medical equipment, hospital beds, farm dump tractor, vehicles, and roofing sheets.

Trade by Geographical Regions

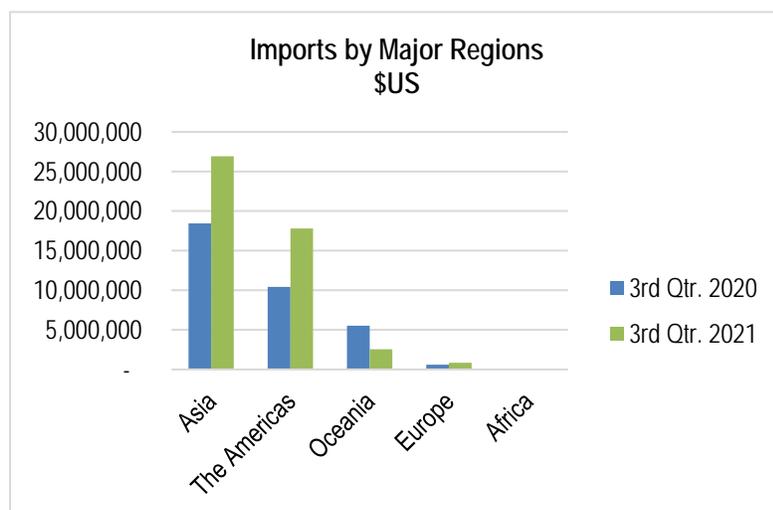


Exports by geographical regions show exports going to Asia, The Americas, and Oceania

Exports to Asia registered at \$0.4 million, which fell by 66 percent over the same quarter last year when it was \$1.2 million.

Exports to The Americas were at \$0.15 million, which increased by 15 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$0.17 million.

Exports to Oceania were recorded at \$0.1 million; a significant increase of 249 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$0.02 million.



Imports by region show Palau's imports originating from Asia, The Americas, Oceania, Europe, and Africa.

Imports from Asia were \$27.0 million; an increase of 46 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$18.4 million.

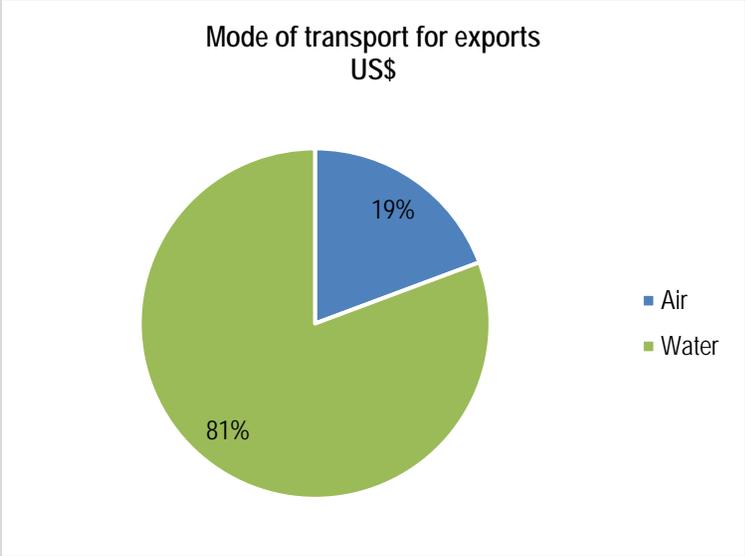
Imports from The Americas were at \$18.0 million, an increase of 71 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$10.4 million.

Imports from Oceania were \$3.0 million; which declined by 54 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$6.0 million.

Imports from Europe were \$0.8 million; which increased by 37 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was at \$0.6 million.

Imports from Africa stood at \$0.087 million; which declined by 1 percent compared to the same quarter last year when it was \$0.088 million.

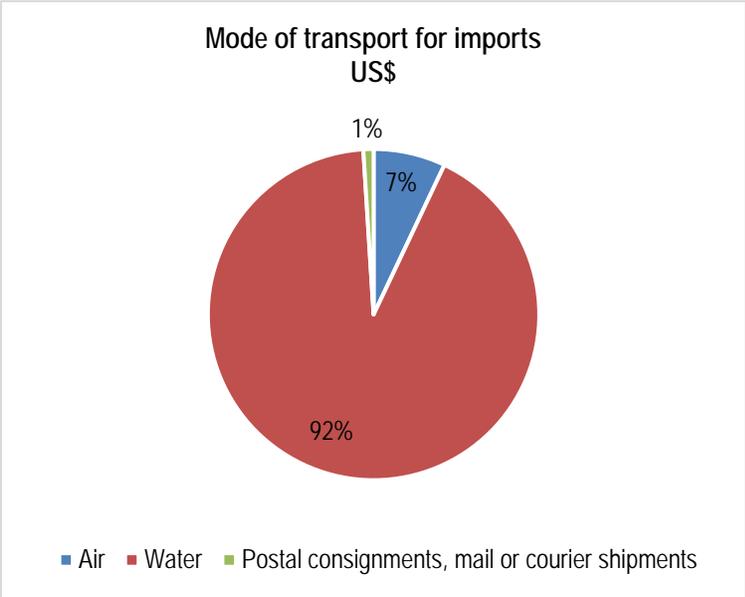
Mode of transport



Air and water are the two modes of transport used for exporting goods.

In the 3rd quarter of 2021, both air and water transportation fell by 20 percent and 57 percent, respectively, compared to the same period last year.

Water is the main mode of transportation for exports, which comprised 81 percent compared to air at 19 percent.



For imports, other than air and water, postal consignments, mail, or courier shipments are also used as a mode of transport.

In the 3rd quarter of 2021, water and postal consignment increased by 79 percent and 37 percent, respectively, while air fell by 66 percent compared from the same period of last year.

Total imports mode of transportation share consists of, 92 percent by Water, 7 percent by Air and 1 percent by Postal consignment.

Appendix 1: HS Sections and Chapters

Sections	Chapters	Titles
I		Live animals; animal products
	1	Live animals
	2	Meat and edible meat offal
	3	Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates
	4	Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included
	5	Products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included
II		Vegetable products
	6	Live trees and other plants; bulbs, roots, and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage
	7	Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers
	8	Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons
	9	Coffee, tea, mate, and spices
	10	Cereals
	11	Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten
	12	Oilseeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds, and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder
	13	Lac; gums, resins, and other vegetable saps and extracts
	14	Vegetable plaiting materials; vegetable products not elsewhere specified or included
III		Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes
	15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes
IV		Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits, and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes
	16	Preparations of meat, of fish or crustaceans, molluscs, or other aquatic invertebrates
	17	Sugars and sugar confectionery
	18	Cocoa and cocoa preparations
	19	Preparations of cereals, flour, starch, or milk; pastrycooks' products
	20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants
	21	Miscellaneous edible preparations
	22	Beverages, spirits, and vinegar
	23	Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder
	24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes
V		Mineral products
	25	Salt; sulfur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime, and cement
	26	Ores, slag, and ash
	27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils, and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes
VI		Products of the chemical or allied industries

Sections	Chapters	Titles
	28	Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic compounds of precious metals, of rare-earth metals, of radioactive elements, or isotopes
	29	Organic chemicals
	30	Pharmaceutical products
	31	Fertilizers
	32	Tanning or dyeing extracts; tannins and their derivatives; dyes, pigments, and other coloring matter; paints and varnishes; putty and other mastics; inks.
	33	Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery, cosmetic or toilet preparations.
	34	Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations, lubricating preparations, artificial waxes, prepared waxes, polishing or scouring preparations, candles and similar articles, modeling pastes, "dental waxes" and dental preparations with a basis of plaster
	35	Albuminoidal substances; modified starches; glues; enzymes
	36	Explosives; pyrotechnic products; matches; pyrophoric alloys; certain combustible preparations
	37	Photographic or cinematographic goods
	38	Miscellaneous chemical products
VII		Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof
	39	Plastics and articles thereof
	40	Rubber and articles thereof
VIII		Raw hides and skins, leather, furskins and articles thereof; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags, and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silkworm gut)
	41	Raw hides and skins (other than furskins) and leather
	42	Articles of leather; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags, and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silkworm gut)
	43	Furskins and artificial fur; manufacturers thereof
IX		Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork and articles of cork; manufactures of straw, of esparto, or other plaiting materials; basketware and wickerwork
	44	Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal
	45	Cork and articles of cork
	46	Manufactures of straw, of esparto, or of other plaiting materials; basketware and wickerwork
X		Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof
	47	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard
	48	Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard
	49	Printed books, newspapers, pictures and other products of the printing industry; manuscripts, typescripts and plans
XI		Textiles and textile articles
	50	Silk
	51	Wool, fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric
	52	Cotton
	53	Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn and woven fabrics of paper yarn

Sections	Chapters	Titles
	54	Man-made filaments
	55	Man-made staple fibres
	56	Wadding, felt and nonwovens; special yarns; twine, cordage, ropes and cables and articles thereof
	57	Carpets and other textile floor coverings
	58	Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; lace; tapestries; trimmings; embroidery
	59	Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; textile articles of a kind suitable for industrial use
	60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics
	61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted
	62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.
	63	Other made up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags
XII		Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking-sticks, seat-sticks, whips, riding-crops and parts thereof; prepared feathers and articles made therewith; artificial flowers; articles of human hair
	64	Footwear, gaiters and the like; parts of such articles
	65	Headgear and parts thereof
	66	Umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking-sticks, seat-sticks, whips, riding-crops and parts thereof
	67	Prepared feathers and down and articles made of feathers or of down; artificial flowers; articles of human hair
XIII		Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware
	68	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials
	69	Ceramic products
	70	Glass and glassware
XIV		Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin
	71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin
XV		Base metals and articles of base metal
	72	Iron and steel
	73	Articles of iron or steel
	74	Copper and articles thereof
	75	Nickel and articles thereof
	76	Aluminium and articles thereof
	77	(Reserved for possible future use in the Harmonized System)
	78	Lead and articles thereof
	79	Zinc and articles thereof
	80	Tin and articles thereof
	81	Other base metals; cermets; articles thereof
	82	Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof of base metal
	83	Miscellaneous articles of base metal

Sections	Chapters	Titles
XVI		Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles
	84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof
	85	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
XVII		Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment
	86	Railway or tramway locomotives, rolling-stock and parts thereof; railway or tramway track fixtures and fittings and parts thereof; mechanical (including electro-mechanical) traffic signalling equipment of all kinds
	87	Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof
	88	Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof
	89	Ships, boats and floating structures
XVIII		Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; clocks and watches; musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof
	90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; parts and accessories thereof
	91	Clocks and watches and parts thereof
	92	Musical instruments; parts and accessories of such articles
XIX		Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof
	93	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof
XX		Miscellaneous manufactured articles
	94	Furniture; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings, not elsewhere specified or included; illuminated signs, illuminated name-plates and the like; prefabricated buildings
	95	Toys, games and sports requisites; parts and accessories thereof
	96	Miscellaneous manufactured articles
XXI		Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques
	97	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques
		Commodities not specified according to kind
Appendix		List of commodities and transactions not classified according to kind in chapters 1 to 97
	99	Commodities not specified according to kind