

U.S. TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

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The U.S. Department of Commerce (*Commerce News*, FT-900 (00-12)) reported that seasonally adjusted exports of goods and services of \$89.8 billion and imports of \$122.8 billion in December 2000 resulted in a goods and services trade deficit of \$33.0 billion, \$0.1 billion less than the \$33.1 billion deficit of the month of November 2000. December 2000 exports of goods and services were \$0.7 billion less than November 2000 exports of \$90.6 billion. December 2000 imports of goods and services were \$0.9 billion less than November 2000 imports of \$123.7 billion.

December 2000 merchandise exports decreased to \$64.9 billion from \$65.8 billion in November 2000. Merchandise imports decreased to \$104.1 billion from \$105.0 billion, causing the merchandise trade deficit to increase in December to \$39.2 billion from \$39.1

billion. For services, exports increased to \$24.9 billion from \$24.7 billion, and imports of services were virtually unchanged from November at \$18.7 billion, resulting in a surplus of \$6.2 billion on trade in services, about \$0.2 billion higher than the November surplus of \$6.0 billion.

Exports of merchandise goods in November-December 2000 reflected decreases in capital goods; industrial supplies and materials; and "other goods" (a statistical category). Increases occurred in exports of consumer goods; and foods, feeds, and beverages. Exports of automotive vehicles, parts and engines were virtually unchanged. Imports of merchandise goods reflected decreases in consumer goods; automotive vehicle parts and engines; and foods, feeds, and beverages. Increases occurred in industrial supplies and materials, and capital goods. Additional information on U.S. trade developments in agriculture and specified manufacturing sectors, in January-December 2000, are highlighted in tables 1 and 2 and figures 1 and 2. Services trade developments are highlighted in table 3.

¹ The views and conclusions expressed in this article are those of the author. They are not necessarily the views of the U.S. International Trade Commission as a whole or of any individual Commissioner.

Table 1
U.S. trade in goods and services, seasonally adjusted, Nov.-Dec. 2000
(Billion dollars)

Item	Exports		Imports		Trade balance	
	Dec. 2000	Nov. 2000	Dec. 2000	Nov. 2000	Dec. 2000	Nov. 2000
Trade in goods (see note)						
Current dollars—						
Including oil	64.9	65.9	104.1	105.0	-39.2	-39.1
Excluding oil	64.6	65.6	92.9	94.0	-28.3	-28.4
Trade in services						
Current dollars	24.9	24.7	18.7	18.7	6.2	6.0
Trade in goods and services:						
Current dollars	89.8	90.6	122.8	123.7	-33.0	-33.1
Trade in goods (Census basis)						
1996 dollars	71.7	72.8	110.4	112.3	-38.7	-39.5
Advanced-technology products (not seasonally adjusted)	21.0	19.6	19.5	20.3	1.5	-0.8

Note.—Data on goods trade are presented on a balance-of-payments (BOP) basis that reflects adjustments for timing, coverage, and valuation of data compiled by the Census Bureau. The major adjustments on BOP basis exclude military trade, but include non-monetary gold transactions and estimates of inland freight in Canada and Mexico not included in the Census Bureau data. Data may not add to totals shown because of rounding details.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce News (*FT-900 (00-12)*), Feb. 21, 2001.

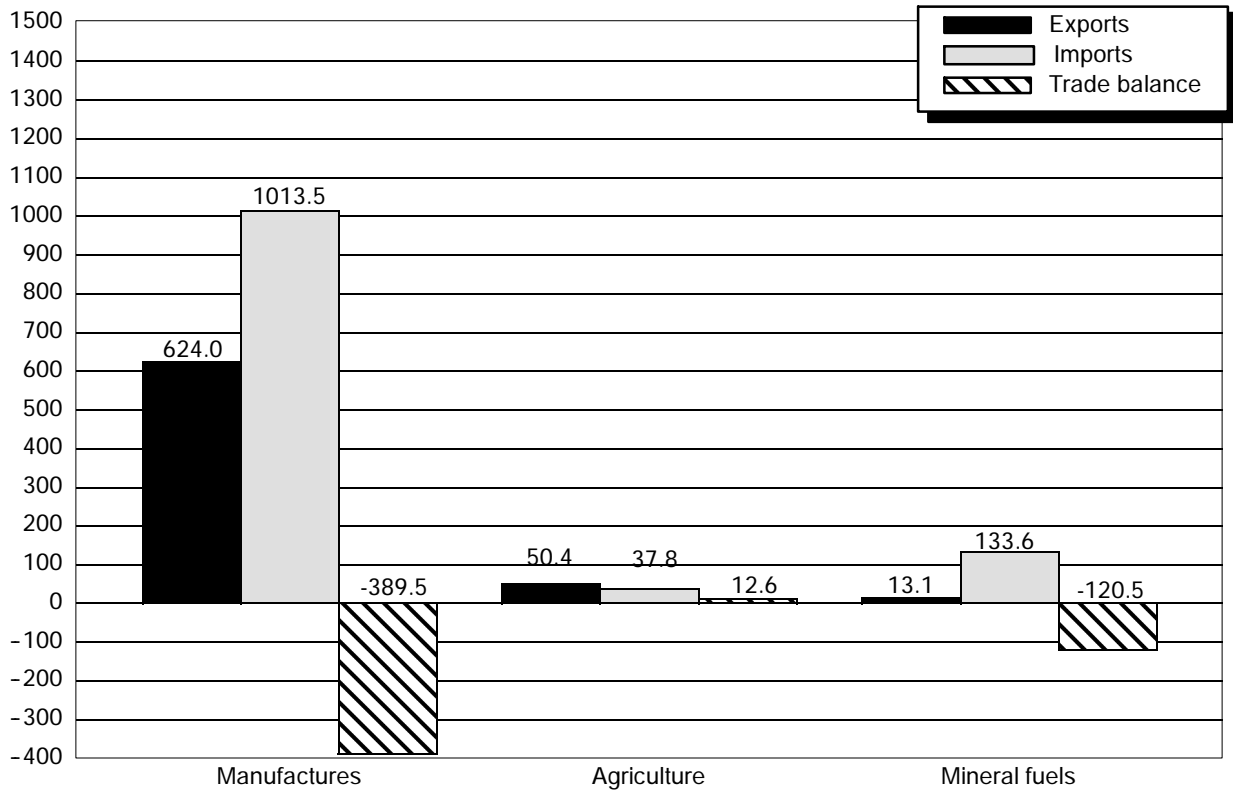
Table 2
Nominal U.S. exports and trade balances, of agriculture and specified manufacturing sectors, Jan.1999 Sep. 2000

	Exports		Change Jan.-Sep. 2000 over Jan.-Sep. 1999	Share of total Jan.- Sep. 2000	Trade balance	
	Sep. 2000	Jan.-Sep. 2000			Jan.-Sep. 2000	Jan.-Sep. 1999
	<i>Billion dollars</i>		<i>Percentage</i>		<i>Billion dollars</i>	
ADP equipment & office machinery	4.3	33.9	13.8	5.9	-34.0	-31.7
Airplanes	1.7	18.3	-23.8	3.2	9.8	17.3
Airplane parts	1.3	11.1	-3.5	1.9	7.0	7.1
Electrical machinery	8.3	65.9	20.0	11.4	-14.2	-9.1
General industrial machinery	2.7	24.4	9.9	4.2	-2.0	-1.3
Iron & steel mill products	0.5	4.3	16.2	0.7	-8.2	-6.2
Inorganic chemicals	0.5	4.0	17.6	0.7	-0.5	-0.3
Organic chemicals	1.5	13.3	20.9	2.3	-7.6	-5.0
Power-generating machinery	2.8	24.4	7.0	4.2	-1.0	-0.3
Scientific instruments	2.6	22.2	18.1	3.8	6.2	6.0
Specialized industrial machinery	2.6	22.8	24.6	3.9	5.6	1.9
Televisions, VCRs, etc	2.6	20.6	17.0	3.6	-29.3	-17.9
Textile yarns, fabrics and articles	0.9	7.9	14.5	1.4	-3.7	-3.3
Vehicles	4.5	42.6	6.5	7.4	-76.8	-66.1
Manufactured exports not included above	16.3	145.9	12.5	25.3	-139.9	-120.7
Total manufactures	53.1	461.6	11.3	79.9	-288.6	-229.6
Agriculture	4.0	36.5	8.3	6.3	8.2	6.4
Other exports not included above	10.0	79.3	32.6	13.7	-40.6	-14.0
Total exports of goods	67.1	577.4	13.6	100.0	-321.0	-237.2

Note.—Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown. Data are presented on a Census basis.

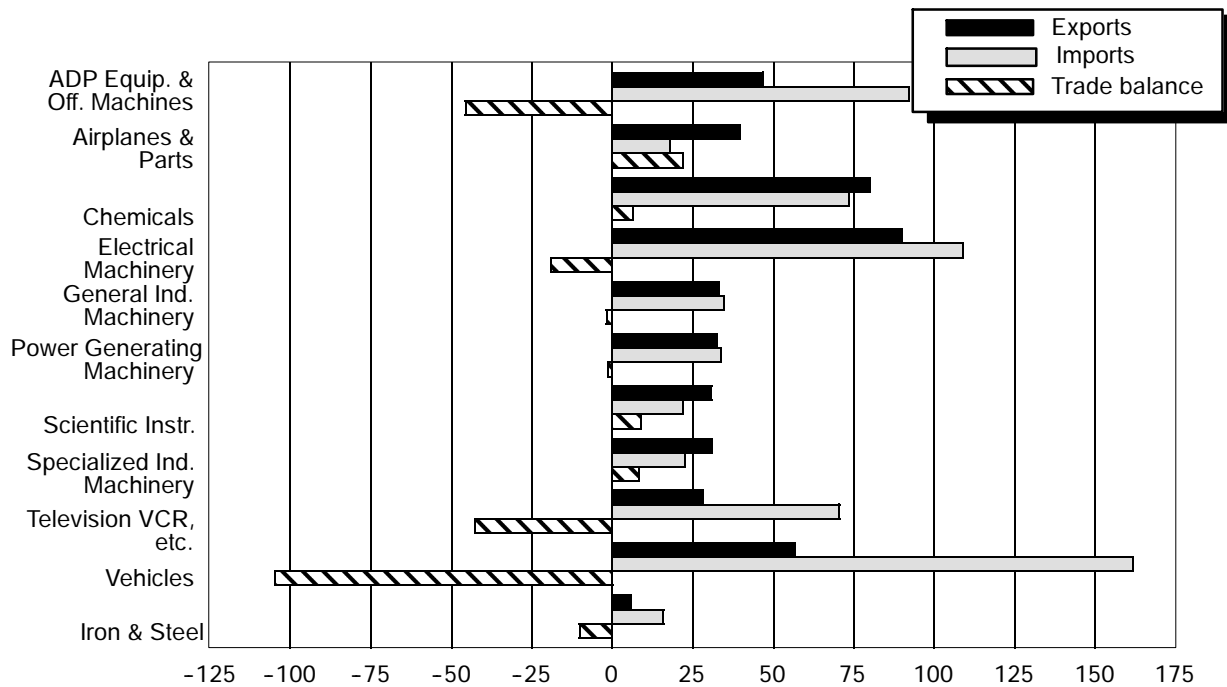
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce News (FT 900), Nov.21, 2000

Figure 1
U.S. trade by major commodity, billion dollars, Jan.-Dec. 2000



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, FT 900 (00-12).

Figure 2
U.S. trade in principal goods, billion dollars, Jan.-Dec. 2000



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, FT 900 (00-12).

Table 3
Nominal U.S. exports and trade balances of services, by sectors, Jan.1999-Dec. 2000, seasonally adjusted

	<u>Exports</u>		<u>Change</u>	<u>Trade balances</u>	
	<u>Jan.- Dec. 2000</u>	<u>Jan.- Dec. 1999</u>	<u>2000 over Jan.- Dec. 1999</u>	<u>Jan.- Dec. 2000</u>	<u>Jan.- Dec. 1999</u>
	<i>Billion dollars</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Billion dollars</i>	
Travel	85.2	74.9	13.8	19.4	15.5
Passenger fares	21.4	19.8	8.1	-2.9	-1.6
Other transportation	29.8	27.0	10.4	-10.8	-7.1
Royalties and license fees	37.7	36.5	3.3	22.0	23.2
Other private sales	105.5	96.5	9.3	53.1	49.8
Transfers under U.S. military sales contracts	14.6	16.3	-10.4	1.0	2.6
U.S. Govt. miscellaneous service	0.9	0.9	0.0	-2.0	-1.9
Total	295.1	271.9	8.5	79.8	80.5

Note.—Services trade data are on a balance-of-payments (BOP) basis. Data may not add to totals shown because of rounding details and seasonal adjustments.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce News (*FT-900 (00-12)*), Feb. 21, 2001.

In December 2000, exports of advanced technology products were \$21.0 billion and imports of the same were \$19.5 billion, resulting in a December surplus of \$1.5 billion, following a deficit of \$0.8 billion in November.

The December 2000 trade data showed U.S. surpluses with Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, and Hong Kong. Deficits were recorded with Canada, Mexico, Western Europe, China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and OPEC member countries.

The export of goods and services during January-December 2000 increased to \$1068.4 billion, up from \$956.2 billion during January-December 1999, an increase of 11.7 percent. However, imports of goods and services increased to \$1438.1 billion, up from \$1221.2 billion during the same period, an increase of 17.8 percent. As a consequence, the deficit on trade in goods and services increased to \$369.7 billion for the January-December 2000 period, up from \$265.0 billion during January-December 1999, an increase of 39.5 percent.

The export of goods during January-December 2000 increased to \$773.3 billion from \$684.4 billion during the same 1999 period, an increase of 13.0 percent, but imports of goods rose to \$1222.8 billion, up from \$1029.9 billion in January-December 1999, an increase of 18.7 percent. Consequently, the merchandise trade deficit rose to \$449.5 billion from \$345.6 billion, a 30.1 percent increase. Regarding trade in services, exports in January-December 2000 increased to \$295.1

billion up from \$271.9 billion in the same period of 1999, an increase of 8.5 percent. Imports of services rose to \$215.3 billion up from \$191.3 billion, an increase of 12.5 percent. The surplus on trade in services decreased to \$79.8 billion from \$80.6 billion.

The January-December 2000 exports of advanced technology products rose to \$227.2 billion up from \$200.3 billion in January-December 1999, an increase of 13.4 percent. Imports rose to \$222.2 billion from \$181.2 billion, in the same period, an increase of 22.6 percent. The trade surplus decreased to \$5.0 billion from \$19.1 billion in January-December 1999, a decline of 73.8 percent.

The January-December 2000 trade data in goods and services showed trade deficits with Canada, Mexico, Western Europe, the Euro area (EU-11), the European Union (EU-15), EFTA, Eastern Europe, China, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, and OPEC. Trade surpluses were recorded with Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Hong Kong, and Egypt. U.S. trade developments with major trading partners are highlighted in table 4.

Trade data for February 2001 shows exports of goods and services of \$90.5 billion and imports of \$117.4 billion resulted in a trade deficit for goods and services of \$27.0 billion, \$6.3 billion less than the \$33.3 billion deficit in January 2001. In February, the merchandise trade deficit decreased \$6.1 billion from January to \$33.4 billion, and the surplus on services increased \$0.1 billion to \$6.4 billion. Merchandise

Table 4
U.S. exports and imports of goods with major trading partners, Jan. 1999-Dec. 2000

(Billion dollars)

Country/areas	Exports			Imports			Trade balances	
	Dec. 2000	Jan.-Dec. 2000	Jan. Dec. 1999	Dec. 2000	Jan.-Dec. 2000	Jan.-Dec. 1999	Jan.-Dec. 2000	Jan.-Dec. 1999
Total	66.2	782.4	695.8	99.1	1,216.7	1,024.6	-434.3	-328.8
North America	22.2	290.5	253.5	29.1	365.1	308.4	-74.6	- 54.9
Canada	13.3	178.8	166.6	19.1	229.2	198.7	-50.4	-32.1
Mexico	9.0	111.7	86.9	10.1	135.9	109.7	-24.2	-22.8
Western Europe	16.7	181.3	166.0	20.3	241.0	213.0	- 59.8	-47.0
Euro Area	10.7	116.0	106.4	13.9	163.7	144.5	-47.8	-38.1
European Union (EU-15)	15.3	164.8	151.8	18.7	220.4	195.2	-55.5	-43.4
France	2.1	20.3	18.9	2.8	29.8	25.7	-9.5	-6.8
Germany	2.6	29.2	26.8	4.9	58.7	55.2	-29.5	-28.4
Italy	1.0	11.0	10.1	2.0	25.1	22.4	-14.1	-12.3
Netherlands	2.0	22.0	19.4	0.8	9.7	8.5	12.3	11.0
United Kingdom	4.0	41.6	38.4	3.6	43.5	39.2	-1.9	-0.8
Other EU	1.2	11.8	11.2	1.8	21.9	16.1	-10.1	-4.9
EFTA ¹	1.0	11.8	10.1	1.4	16.4	14.2	-4.7	-4.0
FSR/Eastern Europe	0.6	6.1	5.9	1.2	16.2	11.8	-10.1	-5.9
Russia	0.2	2.3	2.1	0.5	7.8	5.9	-5.5	-3.9
Pacific Rim Countries	17.7	203.3	173.8	33.7	418.2	359.7	-214.9	-186.0
Australia	1.0	12.5	11.8	0.6	6.4	5.3	6.0	6.5
China	1.6	16.3	13.1	7.7	100.1	81.8	- 83.8	- 68.7
Japan	6.0	65.3	57.5	12.0	146.6	130.9	- 81.3	- 73.4
NICs ²	7.1	84.7	71.0	9.0	111.5	95.1	-26.7	-24.1
Latin America	5.2	59.3	55.2	6.1	73.3	58.5	-14.0	-3.3
Argentina	0.4	4.7	5.0	0.3	3.1	2.6	1.6	2.4
Brazil	1.4	15.4	13.2	1.1	13.9	11.3	1.5	1.9
OPEC	1.6	19.2	20.2	5.9	67.0	42.0	-47.8	- 21.8
Other Countries	2.9	30.9	28.4	5.2	65.0	52.1	-34.1	- 23.7
Egypt	0.3	3.3	3.0	0.1	0.9	0.6	2.4	2.4
South Africa	0.3	3.1	2.6	0.3	4.2	3.2	-1.1	-0.6
Other	2.4	24.5	22.8	4.8	59.9	48.3	- 35.4	- 25.5

¹ EFTA includes Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland.

² The newly industrializing countries (NICs) include Hong Kong, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan. FSR = Former Soviet Republics.

Note.—Country/area figures may not add to the totals shown because of rounding. Exports of certain grains, oilseeds, and satellites are excluded from country/area exports but included in total export table. Also some countries are included in more than one area. Data are presented on a Census Bureau basis.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce News (*FT 900 (00-12)*), Feb.21, 2001.

exports increased to \$65.2 billion from \$64.6 billion, and merchandise imports decreased to \$98.6 billion from \$104.1 billion. Exports of services increased to \$25.2 billion from \$25.0 billion, and imports of services increased \$0.1 billion to \$18.8 billion.

The change from January to February 2001 in merchandise exports reflected increases in industrial supplies and materials (\$0.3 billion); capital goods (\$0.1 billion); consumer goods (\$0.1 billion); and foods, feeds, and beverages (\$0.1 billion). Decreases occurred in automotive vehicles, parts, and engines (\$0.1 billion) and other goods (\$0.1 billion). The January-February change in imports of goods reflected decreases in consumer goods (\$1.9 billion); industrial supplies and materials (\$1.8 billion); capital goods (\$1.3 billion); foods, feeds and beverages (\$0.2 billion); other goods (\$0.2 billion); and automotive vehicles, parts, and engines (\$0.1 billion). Services exports increased \$0.2 billion from January to February 2001, mostly reflecting an increase in "other private services," which includes items such as business, professional, technical

and financial services. Services imports increased \$0.1 billion from January to February 2001 as increases in travel, passenger fares, and other private services were partly offset by a decrease in imports of other transportation services.

The February 2001 figures showed merchandise surpluses in billions of U.S. dollars with Hong Kong \$0.5 (for January, \$0.1); Australia \$0.5 (0.3); Singapore \$0.2 (-\$0.1), Egypt \$0.2 (\$0.1), Argentina \$0.1 (\$0.1), and Brazil \$0.1 (\$0.0). Deficits were recorded in billions of U.S. dollars, with Japan -\$6.1 (-\$5.9), China -\$5.1 (-\$7.2), Canada -\$4.5 (-\$5.9), OPEC -\$3.3 (\$-4.2), Western Europe -\$3.3 (-\$5.6), Mexico -\$1.5 (-\$2.1), Taiwan -\$0.8 (-\$ 1.2), and Korea -\$0.8 (-\$1.4).

Advanced technology products exports were \$18.1 billion in February and imports were \$16.2 billion, resulting in a surplus of approximately \$2.0 billion. February 2001 exports of these technology items were \$0.3 billion less than the \$18.4 billion in January, while imports were \$1.5 billion less than the \$17.7 billion in January.