

# U.S. TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

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The U.S. Department of Commerce reported that seasonally adjusted total exports of goods and services of \$77.3 billion and imports of \$96.0 billion in September 2001 resulted in a goods and services trade deficit of \$18.7 billion; this was \$8.4 billion less than the \$27.1 billion in August 2001.<sup>2</sup> September imports of goods and services were \$96.0 billion or \$15.6 billion less than August imports of \$111.6 billion.

September 2001 merchandise exports decreased to \$55.5 billion from \$59.5 billion in August 2001. Merchandise imports decreased to \$91.5 billion from \$93.6 billion, causing the merchandise trade deficit to increase in September by \$1.8 billion to \$35.9 billion from \$34.1 billion in August. For services, exports decreased to \$21.7 billion from \$25.0 billion, imports of services were \$4.5 billion down from \$18.0 billion resulting in a surplus of \$17.2 billion significantly higher than \$7.0 billion surplus in August.

Exports of merchandise goods in August-September 2001 reflected decreases in capital goods; industrial supplies and materials; automotive vehicles, parts, and engines; the statistical category "Other Goods;" and foods, feeds, and beverages. An increase occurred in consumer foods, feeds and beverage goods. Imports of goods reflected decreases in industrial supplies and materials; capital goods; automotive vehicles, parts and engines; and consumer goods. Increases occurred in foods, feeds, and beverages; and in the "Other Goods" category. Additional information on U.S. trade developments in agriculture and specified manufacturing sectors in June-July 2001 are highlighted in tables 1 and 2 and figures 1 and 2. Services trade developments are highlighted in table 3.

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

<sup>2</sup> Data for this article was taken largely from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services," *Commerce News*, FT-900, September 2001, found at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>, retrieved Nov. 20, 2001, as well as <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/news-rel/>.

In July 2001, exports of advanced technology products were \$15.1 billion and imports of the same were \$16.5 billion, resulting in a deficit of \$1.4 billion, following a surplus of \$1.1 billion in June. The July 2001 trade data showed U.S. surpluses with Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, Hong Kong and Singapore. Deficits were recorded with Japan, China, Western Europe, Canada, Mexico, Korea, Taiwan, and OPEC member countries.

The export of goods and services during January-July 2001 increased to \$613.4 billion, up from \$612.6 billion during January-July 2000. However, imports of goods and services increased to \$826.0 billion, up from \$822.7 billion during the same period. As a consequence, the trade deficit increased to \$212.6 billion for the January-July 2001 period, up from \$210.1 billion during January-July 2000, an increase of \$2.5 billion.

The export of goods during January-July 2001 decreased to \$439.6 billion from \$441.8 billion during the same 2000 period, a decrease of \$2.2 billion, and imports of goods were \$695.2 billion, down from \$699.0 billion in January-July 2000. Consequently, the merchandise trade deficit declined to \$255.6 billion from \$257.2 billion. Regarding trade in services, exports in January-July 2001 increased to \$173.7 billion, up from \$170.8 billion in the same period of 2000, an increase of \$2.9 billion. Imports of services rose to \$130.8 billion up from \$123.8 billion, an increase of \$7.0 billion. The surplus on trade in services decreased to \$42.9 billion in January-July 2001 from \$47.0 billion in the same period in 2000.

The January-July 2001 exports of advanced technology products declined to \$123.8 billion from \$126.8 billion in January-June 2000. Imports declined to \$116.9 billion in January-July 2001 from \$119.7 billion in the same period of 2000. The trade surplus decreased to \$6.8 billion in January-July 2001 from \$7.1 billion in January-July 2000.

The January-July 2001 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, Taiwan, and OPEC. Trade surpluses were recorded with Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, and Egypt. U.S. trade developments with major trading partners are highlighted in table 4.

**Table 1**  
**U.S. trade in goods and services, seasonally adjusted, August-September 2001**

| Item  | September 2001 | Exports     |                | Imports     |                | Trade balance<br>August 2001 |
|---|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|
|   |                | August 2001 | September 2001 | August 2001 | September 2001 |                              |
| <i>(Billion dollars)</i>  |                |             |                |             |                |                              |
| Trade in goods (Current dollars)<br>(see note)                    |                |             |                |             |                |                              |
| Including oil .....   | 55.554         | 59.533      | 91.471         | 93.606      | -35.917        | -34.073                      |
| Excluding oil .....   | 55.591         | 59.287      | 82.836         | 84.765      | -27.247        | -25.478                      |
| Trade in services<br>(Current dollars) .....                      | 21.739         | 24.980      | 4.514          | 18.013      | 17.225         | 6.967                        |
| Trade in goods and services<br>(Current dollars) .....            | 77.293         | 84.513      | 95.985         | 111.619     | -18.692        | -27.106                      |
| Trade in goods (1996 dollars)<br>(Census basis) .....             | 61.372         | 65.514      | 99.286         | 101.590     | -37.914        | -36.076                      |
| Advanced technology products<br>(not seasonally adjusted) . . . . | 14.768         | 15.738      | 14.968         | 15.208      | -0.200         | 0.530                        |

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 nonmonetary 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: Calculated from data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, "Exhibit 1 International Trade in Goods and Services," "Exhibit 9 Petroleum and Non-Petroleum End-Use Category Totals," "Exhibit 10 Exports and Imports of Goods by Principal End-Use Category (Constant Dollars)," "Exhibit 16 Exports, Imports, and Balance of Advanced Technology Products," FT-900 release of Nov. 20, 2001, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.

Table 2

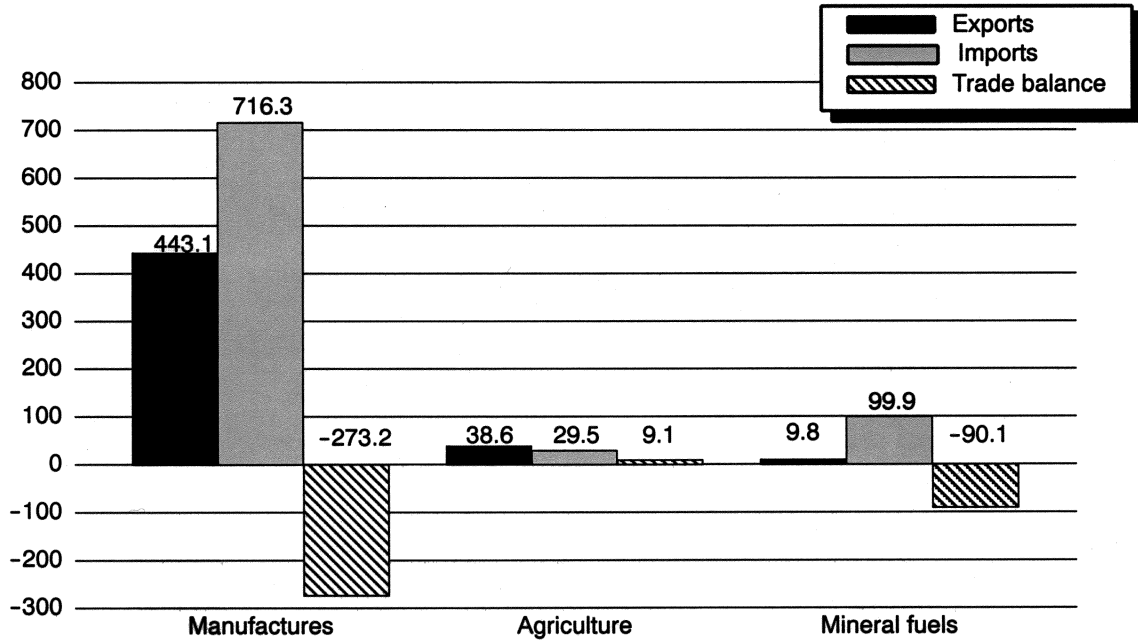
## Nominal U.S. exports and trade balances, agriculture and specified manufacturing sectors, Jan. 2000-Sept. 2001

|   | Exports                |                 | Imports         |                 | Exports         |   | Imports                                 |                        | Trade balance   |  |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|------------------------|-----------------|--|
|   | Sept. 2001             | Jan.-Sept. 2001 | Jan.-Sept. 2001 | Jan.-Sept. 2000 | Jan.-Sept. 2000 | Change in exports, Jan.-Sept. 2001 over Jan.-Sept. 2000 | Share of total exports, Jan.-Sept. 2001 | Jan.-Sept. 2001        | Jan.-Sept. 2000 |  |
|   | <i>Billion dollars</i> |                 |                 |                 |                 | <i>Percent</i>  |   | <i>Billion dollars</i> |                 |  |
| ADP equipment & office machinery .....              | 3.064                  | 30.310          | 57.128          | 33.927          | 67.826          | -10.7   | 5.4                                     | -26.818                | -33.899         |  |
| Airplane parts .....                                | 1.198                  | 11.985          | 4.774           | 11.133          | 4.107           | 7.7   | 2.2                                     | 7.211                  | 7.026           |  |
| Airplanes .....                                     | 1.722                  | 20.446          | 10.706          | 18.366          | 8.436           | 11.3  | 3.7                                     | 9.740                  | 9.930           |  |
| Chemicals - inorganic .....                         | 0.344                  | 4.326           | 4.725           | 3.984           | 4.541           | 8.6   | 0.8                                     | -0.399                 | -0.557          |  |
| Chemicals - organic .....                           | 1.286                  | 12.646          | 22.385          | 13.348          | 20.885          | -5.3  | 2.3                                     | -9.739                 | -7.537          |  |
| Electrical machinery .....                          | 5.301                  | 56.104          | 65.206          | 66.436          | 80.067          | -15.6   | 10.1                                    | -9.102                 | -13.631         |  |
| General industrial machinery .....                  | 2.377                  | 24.621          | 25.473          | 24.779          | 26.351          | -0.6  | 4.4                                     | -0.852                 | -1.572          |  |
| Iron & steel mill products .....                    | 0.444                  | 4.164           | 9.366           | 4.295           | 12.493          | -3.1  | 0.7                                     | -5.202                 | -8.198          |  |
| Power-generating machinery .....                    | 2.628                  | 25.331          | 27.322          | 24.558          | 25.260          | 3.1   | 4.5                                     | -1.991                 | -0.702          |  |
| Scientific instruments .....                        | 2.341                  | 22.262          | 16.136          | 22.551          | 16.008          | -1.3  | 4.0                                     | 6.126                  | 6.543           |  |
| Specialized industrial machinery ..                 | 1.757                  | 20.304          | 15.202          | 23.051          | 17.164          | -11.9   | 3.6                                     | 5.102                  | 5.887           |  |
| Televisions, VCRs, etc .....                        | 1.769                  | 18.401          | 45.916          | 20.649          | 49.931          | -10.9   | 3.3                                     | -27.515                | -29.282         |  |
| Textile yarns, fabrics and articles ..              | 0.812                  | 7.756           | 11.072          | 7.922           | 11.558          | -2.1  | 1.4                                     | -3.316                 | -3.636          |  |
| Vehicles .....                                      | 4.456                  | 40.231          | 116.511         | 43.321          | 119.223         | -7.1  | 7.2                                     | -76.280                | -75.902         |  |
| Subtotal .....                                      | 29.499                 | 298.887         | 431.922         | 318.320         | 463.850         | -6.1  | 53.7                                    | -133.035               | -145.530        |  |
| Other manufactures exports not included above ..... | 14.346                 | 144.204         | 284.382         | 146.912         | 285.589         | -1.8  | 25.9                                    | -140.178               | -138.677        |  |
| Manufactures .....                                  | 43.845                 | 443.091         | 716.304         | 465.232         | 749.439         | -4.8  | 79.6                                    | -273.213               | -284.207        |  |
| Agriculture .....                                   | 3.891                  | 38.597          | 29.455          | 37.109          | 29.401          | 4.0   | 6.9                                     | 9.142                  | 7.708           |  |
| Subtotal .....                                      | 47.736                 | 481.688         | 745.759         | 502.341         | 778.840         | -4.1  | 86.5                                    | -264.071               | -276.499        |  |
| Other exports, not included above ..                | 7.55                   | 75.126          | 121.807         | 77.117          | 120.523         | -2.6  | 13.5                                    | -46.681                | -43.406         |  |
| Total .....   | 55.292                 | 556.814         | 867.566         | 579.458         | 899.363         | -3.9  | 100.0                                   | -310.752               | -319.905        |  |

Note.—Data may not add to totals shown because of rounding details. Data are presented on a Census basis.

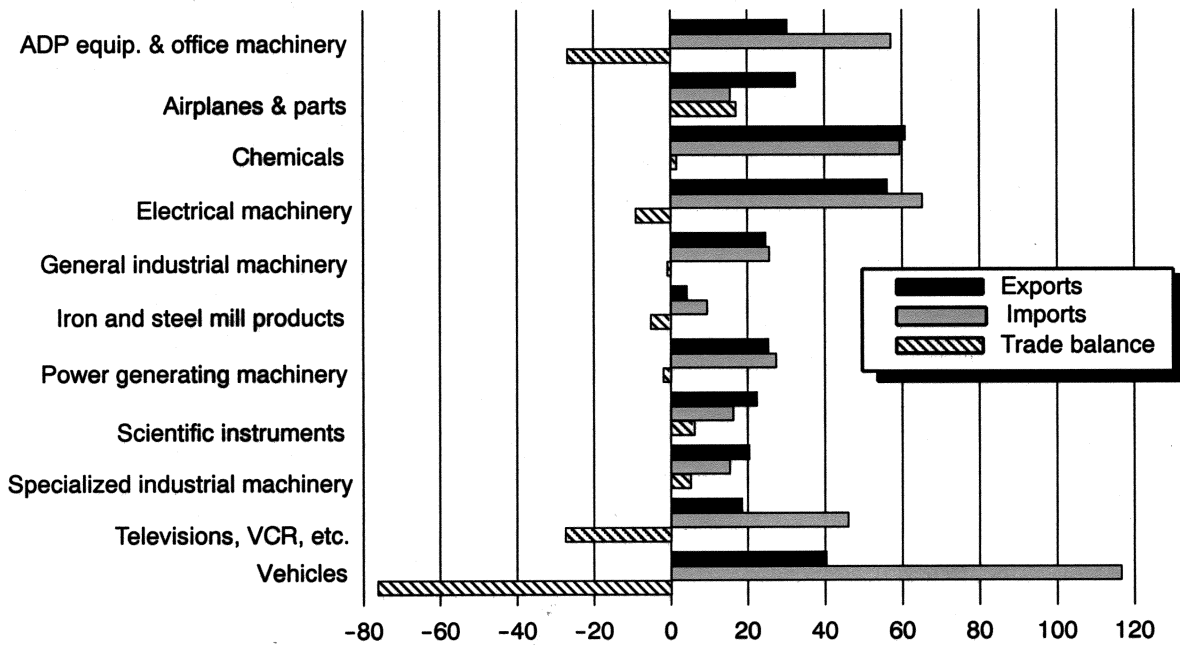
Source: Calculated from data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, "Exhibit 15. Exports and Imports of Goods by Principal SITC Commodity Groupings," FT-900 release of Nov. 20, 2001, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.

**Figure 1**  
U.S. trade by major commodity, billion dollars, Jan.-Sept. 2001



Source: Calculated from data from U.S. Department of Commerce, "Exhibit 15. Exports and Imports of Goods by Principal SITC Commodity Groupings," FT-900, release of Nov. 20, 2001, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.

**Figure 2**  
U.S. trade in principal goods, billion dollars, Jan.-Sept. 2001



Source: Calculated from data from U.S. Department of Commerce, "Exhibit 15. Exports and Imports of Goods by Principal SITC Commodity Groupings," FT-900, release of Nov. 20, 2001, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.

**Table 3**

**Nominal U.S. exports and trade balances of services, by sectors, Jan. 2000-Sept. 2001, seasonally adjusted**

| Service sector   | Exports                |                    |   | Imports                |                    | Trade balances         |                    |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
|  | Jan.-Sept.<br>2001     | Jan.-Sept.<br>2000 | Change<br>Jan.-Sept.<br>2001 over<br>Jan.-Sept.<br>2000 | Jan.-Sept.<br>2001     | Jan.-Sept.<br>2000 | Jan.-Sept.<br>2001     | Jan.-Sept.<br>2000 |
|  | <i>Billion dollars</i> |                    | <i>Percentage</i>                                       | <i>Billion dollars</i> |                    | <i>Billion dollars</i> |                    |
| Travel . . . . .   | 59.873                 | 61.650             | -2.9  | 46.116                 | 48.597             | 13.757                 | 13.053             |
| Passenger fares . . . . .                                  | 14.684                 | 15.568             | -5.7  | 18.216                 | 18.177             | -3.532                 | -2.609             |
| Other transportation services . . . . .                    | 21.458                 | 22.577             | -5.0  | 29.381                 | 30.344             | -7.923                 | -7.767             |
| Royalties and license fees . . . . .                       | 29.195                 | 28.408             | 2.8   | 12.213                 | 11.854             | 16.982                 | 16.554             |
| Other private sales . . . . .                              | 84.024                 | 80.122             | 4.9   | 34.492                 | 40.052             | 49.532                 | 40.070             |
| Transfers under U.S. military<br>sales contracts . . . . . | 10.536                 | 10.640             | -1.0  | 10.598                 | 10.185             | -0.062                 | 0.455              |
| U.S. Government miscellaneous<br>services . . . . .        | 0.674                  | 0.637              | 5.8   | 2.208                  | 2.152              | -1.534                 | -1.515             |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>                                     | <b>220.444</b>         | <b>219.602</b>     | <b>-1.0</b>   | <b>153.224</b>         | <b>161.361</b>     | <b>67.220</b>          | <b>58.241</b>      |

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

Source: Compiled from data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, "Exhibit 3. U.S. Services by Major Category—Exports," "Exhibit 4. U.S. Services by Major Category—Imports," FT-900 release of Nov. 20, 2001, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.

**Table 4**  
**U.S. exports and imports of goods with major trading partners, Jan. 2000-Sept. 2001**

(Billion dollars)

|                              | Exports    |                 |                 |            | Imports         |                 | Trade balances  |                 |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                              | Sept. 2001 | Jan.-Sept. 2001 | Jan.-Sept. 2000 | Sept. 2001 | Jan.-Sept. 2001 | Jan.-Sept. 2000 | Jan.-Sept. 2001 | Jan.-Sept. 2000 |
| Total .....                  | 55.292     | 556.814         | 579.458         | 90.000     | 867.566         | 899.363         | -310.752        | -319.905        |
| North America .....          | 20.148     | 201.735         | 217.620         | 27.374     | 266.405         | 272.442         | -64.670         | -54.822         |
| Canada .....                 | 12.426     | 125.246         | 134.666         | 16.677     | 167.084         | 171.379         | -41.838         | -36.713         |
| Mexico .....                 | 7.722      | 76.489          | 82.954          | 10.696     | 99.321          | 101.063         | -22.832         | -18.109         |
| Western Europe .....         | 12.841     | 133.950         | 133.551         | 16.645     | 180.253         | 176.774         | -46.303         | -43.223         |
| Euro Area .....              | 8.502      | 84.696          | 85.416          | 11.560     | 124.833         | 119.930         | -40.137         | -34.514         |
| European Union (EU-15) ..... | 12.088     | 121.295         | 121.168         | 15.306     | 165.385         | 161.270         | -44.090         | -40.102         |
| France .....                 | 1.611      | 14.965          | 14.759          | 1.890      | 22.723          | 21.419          | -7.758          | -6.660          |
| Germany .....                | 2.278      | 23.078          | 21.889          | 4.178      | 45.121          | 43.525          | -22.043         | -21.636         |
| Italy .....                  | 0.726      | 7.402           | 8.297           | 1.442      | 17.982          | 18.752          | -10.580         | -10.455         |
| Netherlands .....            | 1.399      | 14.727          | 15.860          | 0.693      | 7.079           | 7.153           | 7.648           | 8.707           |
| United Kingdom .....         | 3.162      | 31.677          | 30.258          | 2.724      | 31.036          | 31.905          | 0.641           | -1.647          |
| Other EU .....               | 0.783      | 8.782           | 8.637           | 2.173      | 17.904          | 15.414          | -9.122          | -6.777          |
| EFTA <sup>1</sup> .....      | 0.507      | 9.500           | 8.808           | 1.046      | 11.710          | 12.300          | -2.210          | -3.492          |
| Eastern Europe/FSR .....     | 0.501      | 5.148           | 4.303           | 1.216      | 11.040          | 12.157          | -5.892          | -7.854          |
| Russia .....                 | 0.196      | 2.045           | 1.535           | 0.441      | 5.033           | 5.792           | -2.988          | -4.257          |
| Pacific Rim Countries .....  | 14.358     | 138.515         | 150.201         | 31.354     | 282.212         | 307.117         | -143.697        | -156.916        |
| Australia .....              | 0.895      | 8.122           | 9.480           | 0.617      | 4.865           | 4.763           | 3.257           | 4.717           |
| China .....                  | 1.445      | 13.998          | 11.661          | 9.948      | 75.175          | 72.735          | -61.177         | -61.074         |
| Japan .....                  | 4.318      | 44.636          | 47.794          | 9.677      | 95.757          | 107.884         | -51.121         | -60.090         |
| NICs <sup>2</sup> .....      | 6.137      | 55.167          | 63.198          | 7.342      | 70.538          | 82.195          | -15.371         | -18.997         |
| Latin America .....          | 4.306      | 44.653          | 43.545          | 5.351      | 52.413          | 54.465          | -7.760          | -10.920         |
| Argentina .....              | 0.272      | 3.208           | 3.469           | 0.288      | 2.302           | 2.302           | 0.906           | 1.167           |
| Brazil .....                 | 1.248      | 12.336          | 11.126          | 1.296      | 10.946          | 10.605          | 1.390           | 0.521           |
| OPEC .....                   | 1.533      | 15.238          | 13.793          | 4.828      | 47.790          | 49.393          | -32.552         | -35.600         |
| Other Countries .....        | 2.170      | 23.702          | 22.209          | 5.004      | 47.099          | 48.187          | -23.397         | -25.978         |
| Egypt .....                  | 0.225      | 2.519           | 2.543           | 0.057      | 0.712           | 0.654           | 1.807           | 1.889           |
| South Africa .....           | 0.242      | 2.313           | 2.259           | 0.327      | 3.464           | 3.140           | -1.151          | -0.881          |
| Other .....                  | 1.703      | 18.871          | 17.407          | 4.621      | 42.923          | 44.393          | -24.052         | -26.986         |

<sup>1</sup> The European Free Trade Area (EFTA) includes Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland.

<sup>2</sup> 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: Calculated from data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, "Exhibit 14. Exports, Imports and Balance of Goods by Selected Countries and Geographic Areas," FT-900, release of Nov. 20, 2001, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.