

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 \$78.0 billion and imports of \$106.5 billion in January 2002 resulted in a goods and services trade deficit of \$28.5 billion; this was \$3.8 billion more than the \$24.7 billion in December 2001.² January 2002 imports of goods and services at \$106.5 billion were \$3.7 billion more than December 2001 imports of 102.8 billion.

January 2002 merchandise exports decreased slightly to \$54.8 billion from \$55.0 billion in December 2001. Merchandise imports increased to \$89.9 billion from \$85.9 billion, causing the merchandise trade deficit to increase in January 2002 by \$3.1 billion to \$34.1 billion from \$31.0 billion in December. For services, exports remained essentially constant in January 2002 from the prior month at \$23.1 billion, imports of services increased to \$17.6 billion from \$16.8 billion, resulting in a surplus of \$5.6 billion, \$0.7 billion lower than \$6.3 billion surplus in December. Exports of merchandise goods in the fourth quarter of 2001 reflected decreases in industrial supplies and materials, including petroleum; capital goods, including automotive vehicles, parts, and engines; consumer goods; and the "other goods" statistical category. An increase occurred in exports of foods, feeds, and beverages. Imports of goods reflected foods, feeds, and beverages; industrial supplies and materials, including petroleum; capital goods, including automotive vehicles, parts, and engines; and consumer goods. There were increased imports in the statistical category "other goods" in 2001, fourth quarter. Additional information on U.S. trade developments in agriculture and specified manufacturing sectors are highlighted in tables 1 and 2 and figures 1 and 2. Services trade developments are highlighted in table 3.

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

² Data for this article were taken largely from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services," *Commerce News*, FT-900, Mar. 19, 2002, found at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>, retrieved Mar. 20, 2002, as well as at Internet address <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/newsrel/>.

In January 2002, exports of advanced technology products were \$13.5 billion and imports of the same were \$14.8 billion, resulting in a deficit of \$1.3 billion, following a slight surplus of \$0.1 billion in December 2001. The export of goods and services during January-December 2001 was \$1,004.6 billion, down from \$1,065.7 billion during January-December 2000. Imports of goods and services decreased to \$1,352.1 billion, from \$1,441.4 billion during the same period. As a consequence, the trade deficit on goods and services decreased to \$347.5 billion for the January-December 2001 period, from \$375.7 billion during January-December 2000.

The export of goods during January-December 2001 decreased to \$720.8 billion from \$772.2 billion during the same 2001 period, a decrease of \$51.4 billion, and imports of goods were \$1,147.1 billion, down from \$1,224.4 billion in January-December 2000. Consequently, the merchandise trade deficit declined to \$426.3 billion from \$452.2 billion. Regarding trade in services, exports in January-December 2001 decreased to \$283.8 billion, from \$293.5 billion in the same period of 2001, a decrease of \$9.7 billion. Imports of services decreased to \$205.0 billion from \$217.0 billion, a decrease of \$12.0 billion.

The January-December 2001 exports of advanced technology products declined to \$200.1 billion from \$227.4 billion in January-December 2000. Imports declined to \$195.3 billion in January-December 2001 from \$222.1 billion in the same period of 2000. The trade surplus decreased to \$4.8 billion in January-December 2001 down from \$5.3 billion in January-December 2000.

Trade data for goods and services showed trade deficits in January 2002 with Canada, Mexico, Western Europe, the Euro area (EU-12), the European Union (EU-15), EFTA, Eastern Europe, China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Latin America, and the OPEC countries. Trade surpluses were recorded with Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, 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, Dec. 2001-Jan. 2002

(Billion dollars)

Item	Exports		Imports		Trade balance	
	Jan. 2002	Dec. 2001	Jan. 2002	Dec. 2001	Jan. 2002	Dec. 2001
Trade in goods ¹ (see note)						
Including oil	54.836	54.954	88.916	85.937	-34.080	-30.983
Excluding oil	54.742	54.791	82.226	79.934	-27.484	-25.143
Trade in services ¹	23.132	23.089	17.570	16.819	5.562	6.270
Trade in goods and services ¹ ..	77.968	78.043	106.486	102.756	-28.518	-24.713
Trade in goods ²	61.241	61.620	101.598	97.507	-40.357	-35.887
Advanced technology products ³	13.491	15.160	14.805	15.038	-1.314	0.122

¹ Current dollars, presented on a balance-of-payments basis.

² Constant 1996 dollars, presented on a Census Bureau basis.

³ Not seasonally adjusted.

Note.—Data on trade in goods in current dollars 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 a BOP basis exclude military trade, but include nonmonetary gold transactions and estimates of inland freight in Canada and Mexico that are not included in the Census Bureau data. Data may not add to totals due to rounding.

Source: Calculated from official data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Exhibits 1, 9, 10, and 16, FT-900 release of Mar. 19, 2002, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.

Table 2

Nominal U.S. exports, imports, and trade balances, agriculture and specified manufacturing sectors, Jan. 2001-Jan. 2002

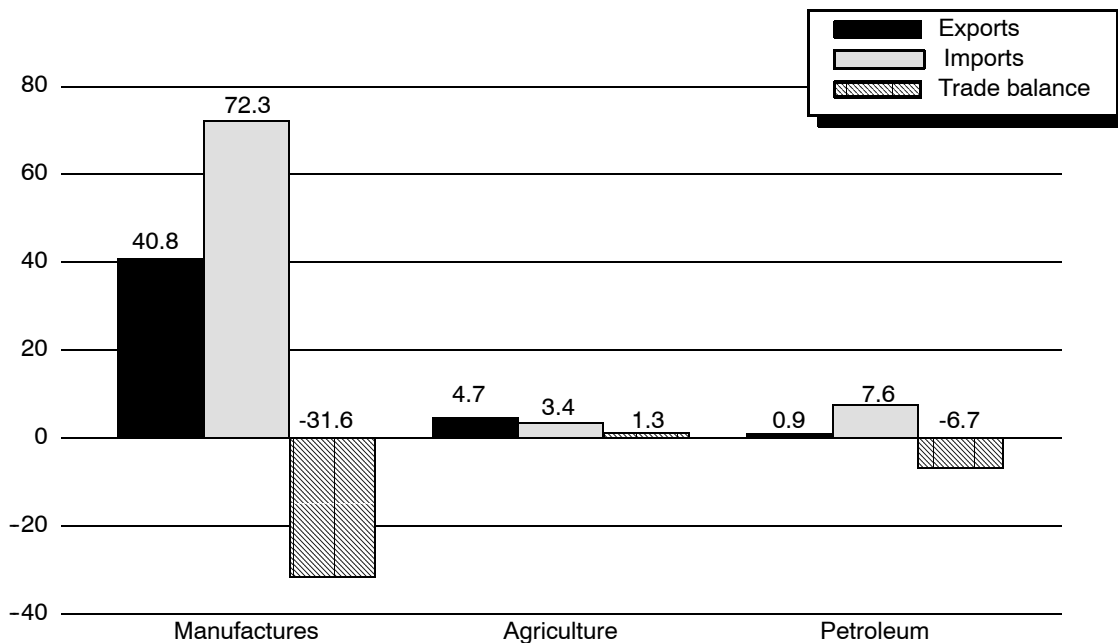
Manufacture sector	Exports		Imports		Trade balance		Change in exports, Jan. 2002 over Jan. 2001	Change in imports, Jan. 2002 over Jan. 2001	Share of total exports, Jan. 2002
	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2001	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2001	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2001			
	<i>(Billion dollars)</i>						<i>(Percent)</i>		
ADP equip. & office machinery	2.353	3.729	6.020	6.582	-3.667	-2.853	-36.9	-8.5	4.5
Airplane parts	1.074	1.354	0.428	0.557	0.646	0.797	-20.7	-23.2	2.1
Airplanes	1.747	1.392	1.492	1.033	0.255	0.359	25.5	44.4	3.4
Chemicals - inorganic	0.442	0.429	0.508	0.664	-0.066	-0.235	3.0	-23.5	0.9
Chemicals - organic	1.189	1.508	2.413	3.004	-1.224	-1.496	-21.2	-19.7	2.3
Electrical machinery	5.289	7.332	5.785	8.536	-0.496	-1.204	-27.9	-32.2	10.2
General industrial machinery ...	2.313	2.752	2.606	2.921	-0.293	-0.169	-16.0	-10.8	4.5
Iron & steel mill products	0.423	0.493	1.062	1.056	-0.639	-0.563	-14.2	0.6	0.8
Power-generating machinery ...	2.540	2.693	2.767	2.858	-0.227	-0.165	-5.7	-3.2	4.9
Scientific instruments	1.995	2.563	1.527	1.790	0.468	0.773	-22.2	-14.7	3.8
Specialized industrial machinery	1.711	2.733	1.370	1.893	0.341	0.840	-37.4	-27.6	3.3
Televisions, VCRs, etc.	1.584	2.107	4.156	5.270	-2.572	-3.163	-24.8	-21.1	3.1
Textile yarn and fabric	0.742	0.822	1.235	1.300	-0.493	-0.478	-9.7	-5.0	1.4
Vehicles	3.761	3.832	11.496	12.481	-7.735	-8.649	-1.9	-7.9	7.3
Other manufactures exports ¹ ..	13.619	15.750	29.480	32.240	-15.861	-16.490	-13.5	-8.6	26.3
Manufactures	40.782	49.489	72.345	82.185	-31.563	-32.696	-17.6	-12.0	78.7
Agriculture	4.686	4.373	3.358	3.412	1.328	0.961	7.2	-1.6	9.0
Other exports ¹	6.357	7.636	9.955	16.087	-3.598	-8.451	-16.8	-38.1	12.3
Total exports of goods	51.825	61.498	85.658	101.684	-33.833	-40.186	-15.7	-15.8	100.0

¹ Not included above.

Note.—Data may not add due to rounding. Data are presented on a Census Bureau basis.

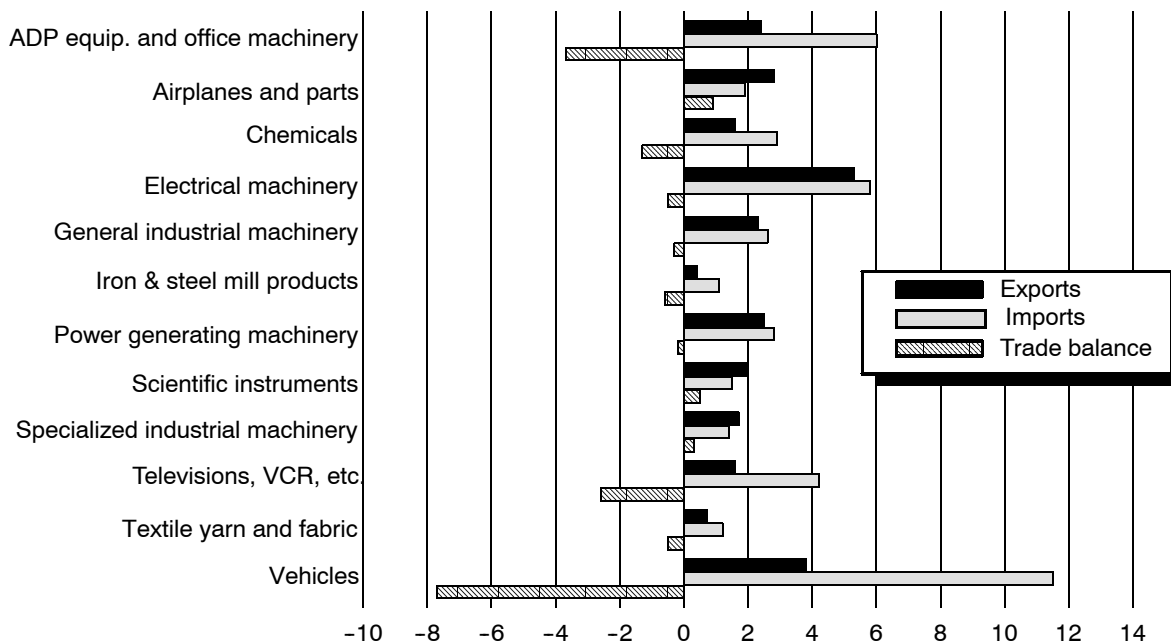
Source: Calculated from official data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Exhibit 15, FT-900 release of Mar. 19, 2002, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.

Figure 1
U.S. trade by major commodity, billion dollars, Jan. 2002



Source: Calculated from official data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, FT-900 release of Mar. 19, 2002.

Figure 2
U.S. trade in principal goods, billion dollars, Jan. 2002



Source: Calculated from official data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, FT-900 release of Mar. 19, 2002.

Table 3**Nominal U.S. exports and trade balances of services, by sectors, Jan. 2000-Dec. 2001, seasonally adjusted**

Service sector	Exports		Imports		Trade balance		Change in exports Jan.-Dec. 2001 over Jan.-Dec. 2000	Change in imports Jan.-Dec. 2001 over Jan.-Dec. 2000
	Jan.-Dec. 2001	Jan.-Dec. 2000	Jan.-Dec. 2001	Jan.-Dec. 2000	Jan.-Dec. 2001	Jan.-Dec. 2000		
	<i>(Billion dollars)</i>						<i>(Percent)</i>	
Travel	72.295	82.042	58.921	64.537	13.374	17.505	-11.9	-8.7
Passenger fares	17.734	20.745	23.407	24.197	-5.673	-3.452	-14.5	-3.3
Other transportation services ..	28.292	30.185	38.230	41.058	-9.938	-10.873	-6.3	-6.9
Royalties and license fees	38.875	38.030	16.399	16.106	22.476	21.924	2.2	1.8
Other private sales	112.892	107.568	50.289	54.687	62.603	52.881	4.9	-8.0
Transfers under U.S. military sales contracts	12.813	14.060	14.775	13.560	-1.962	0.500	-8.9	9.0
U.S. Government misc. services	0.857	0.862	2.932	2.879	-2.075	-2.017	-0.6	1.8
Total exports of services	283.758	293.492	204.953	217.024	78.805	76.468	-3.3	-5.6

Note.—Data on trade in services are presented on a balance-of-payments basis. Data may not add to totals due to rounding and seasonal adjustments.

Source: Compiled from official data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Exhibits 3 and 4, FT-900 release of Mar. 19, 2002, 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. 2001-Jan. 2002

Country/areas	Exports		Imports		Trade balance		Change in exports, Jan. 2002- Jan. 2001	Change in imports, Jan. 2002- Jan. 2001
	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2001	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2001	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2001		
	<i>(Billion dollars)</i>						<i>(Percent)</i>	
Total	52.458	62.340	85.421	101.106	-32.963	-38.766	-15.9	-15.5
North America	19.753	22.310	26.457	30.288	-6.704	-7.978	-11.5	-12.6
Canada	12.033	13.658	16.467	19.534	-4.434	-5.876	-11.9	-15.7
Mexico	7.720	8.651	9.991	10.753	-2.271	-2.102	-10.8	-7.1
Western Europe	12.331	15.157	17.310	20.777	-4.979	-5.620	-18.6	-16.7
Euro Area	8.288	9.995	12.179	14.204	-3.891	-4.209	-17.1	-14.3
European Union (EU-15)	11.436	13.841	16.065	19.044	-4.629	-5.203	-17.4	-15.6
France	1.551	1.643	2.428	2.548	-0.877	-0.905	-5.6	-4.7
Germany	2.023	2.601	4.005	4.898	-1.982	-2.297	-22.2	-18.2
Italy	0.729	0.923	1.787	2.102	-1.058	-1.179	-21.0	-15.0
Netherlands	1.471	1.821	0.685	0.833	0.786	0.988	-19.2	-17.8
United Kingdom	2.755	3.402	3.057	3.883	-0.302	-0.481	-19.0	-21.3
Other EU	0.930	1.122	1.934	2.025	-1.004	-0.903	-17.1	-4.5
EFTA ¹	0.603	1.052	0.948	1.341	-0.345	-0.289	-42.7	-29.3
Eastern Europe/FSR ²	0.432	0.619	0.784	1.370	-0.352	-0.751	-30.2	-42.8
Russia	0.185	0.198	0.312	0.694	-0.127	-0.496	-6.6	-55.0
Pacific Rim Countries	13.216	15.808	28.594	33.435	-15.378	-17.627	-16.4	-14.5
Australia	0.945	0.863	0.534	0.542	0.411	0.321	9.5	-1.5
China	1.566	1.188	8.423	8.419	-6.857	-7.231	31.8	0.0
Japan	3.918	5.272	8.670	11.144	-4.752	-5.872	-25.7	-22.2
NICs ³	5.186	6.461	7.295	9.051	-2.109	-2.590	-19.7	-19.4
Latin America	3.835	4.751	4.917	6.571	-1.082	-1.820	-19.3	-25.2
Argentina	0.110	0.392	0.267	0.278	-0.157	0.114	-71.9	-4.0
Brazil	1.010	1.280	1.097	1.318	-0.087	-0.038	-21.1	-16.8
OPEC	1.234	1.608	3.797	5.819	-2.563	-4.211	-23.3	-34.7
Other Countries	2.182	2.725	5.265	5.642	-3.083	-2.917	-19.9	-6.7
Egypt	0.157	0.184	0.068	0.073	0.089	0.111	-14.7	-6.8
South Africa	0.159	0.237	0.377	0.475	-0.218	-0.238	-32.9	-20.6
Other	1.866	2.304	4.820	5.093	-2.954	-2.789	-19.0	-5.4

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

² FSR = Former Soviet Republics.

³ The newly industrializing countries (NICs) include Hong Kong, Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan.

Note.—Country/area figures may not add to totals due to 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 official data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Exhibits 14 and 14a, FT-900 release of Mar. 19, 2002, found at Internet address <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/press.html#current>.