

United States Department of
COMMERCE
NEWS Washington, D.C. 20230

ECONOMICS
AND
STATISTICS
ADMINISTRATION

Bureau of the Census

IMPORTANT: For release 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, May 7, 2002

CB-02-60 **Press Copy**



For information contact:

Kathleen J. Puzilla (301) 457-3251

U.S. Goods Trade: Imports & Exports by Related Parties; 2001

The Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, announced today that in 2001 related party trade accounted for \$526 billion or 47 percent of the total annual value of imports, and \$223 billion or 31 percent of the total value of exports. Related trade ratios were almost the same for 1998, 1999 and 2000, at 47 percent and 32 percent for imports and exports, respectively. “*Related party trade*” includes trade by U.S. companies with their subsidiaries abroad as well as trade by U.S. subsidiaries of foreign companies with their parent companies. (See Technical Documentation on page 10 of this release for complete definition of “related party trade.”)

The ratio of goods trade by related parties varies markedly among our major trading partners; from highs of 74 percent for imports from Singapore and 41 percent for exports to Netherlands, to lows of 18 percent for imports from China and 11 percent for exports to Eastern Europe (see Exhibits 1 & 2). Overall, the 2001 ratios of trade by related parties remained similar, but slightly smaller, for most major trading partners than those reported for 2000, with only Other European Union (EU) and Brazil on the import side and Brazil, Singapore and Eastern Europe on the export side, varying by more than 4 percentage points.

Roughly 47 percent of goods traded with our North American partners consisted of transactions between related parties. This was down slightly from 48 percent in 2000. Most of the decrease occurred in related trade with Canada, which dropped from 43 percent to less than 41 percent of total trade between our two countries. Related party trade with Mexico increased slightly and accounted for almost 68 percent of total U.S. imports from Mexico.

Exhibits 3, 4, 5, and 6 provide detailed commodity information in terms of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), thereby providing a direct link to domestic production data. These tables are also sorted by NAICS to make it easier for users to compare information between tables.

The top five 3-digit NAICS code for imports and exports accounted for approximately 74 percent of total related party imports and exports (by value) in 2001 (refer to Exhibits 3 & 5). These include: computer and electronic products; transportation equipment; chemicals; machinery, except electrical; and electrical equipment, appliances and components.