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CB 16-19

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Advance Report: U.S. International Trade in Goods December 2015

Monthly Release Schedule

Statistical Month	Date
January	2/26/16
February	3/28/16
March	4/27/16
April	5/25/16
May	6/27/16
June	7/28/16
July	8/26/16
August	9/29/16
September	10/26/16
October	11/25/16
November	12/29/16

This report presents two sets of trade in goods statistics: "Advance" statistics reflect partial coverage of the current and previous months; and "Final" statistics reflect complete coverage of the current and previous months and correspond to the trade in goods statistics published in the most recent "FT-900: U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services" release (FT-900). Values in the Advance Report are subject to change prior to the publication of the FT-900. All statistics are presented on a Census basis. For information on data sources, nonsampling errors, and definitions, see the information section on page A-1 of this release or at www.census.gov/foreign-trade/advance/current/adv_info.pdf.

Exhibit 1. Balance of Goods - Census Basis

In millions of dollars. Details may not equal totals due to rounding.

Period	Seasonally Adjusted	Not Seasonally Adjusted
	Advance	
2014		
Jan. - Dec.	-721,679	-721,679
Jan. - Nov.	-658,681	-660,369
January	-57,150	-56,694
February	-59,102	-46,073
March	-60,481	-50,599
April	-64,364	-67,914
May	-62,648	-63,462
June	-58,615	-57,312
July	-59,213	-71,104
August	-58,679	-58,536
September	-61,489	-70,306
October	-60,971	-65,512
November	-55,970	-52,857
December	-62,998	-61,310
2015		
Jan. - Nov.	-672,235	-673,836
January	-59,851	-57,405
February	-55,253	-43,328
March	-70,563	-64,390
April	-60,458	-61,423
May	-59,783	-57,046
June	-62,292	-64,838
July	-59,158	-68,360
August	-67,223	-68,025
September	-58,669	-65,492
October	-58,447	-61,565
November	-60,538	-61,965
December	-61,513	-59,912
	Final	
2014		
Jan.- Dec.	-727,153	-727,153
Jan.- Nov.	-664,095	-665,770
January	-59,291	-59,098
February	-59,543	-46,649
March	-61,889	-51,890
April	-63,247	-66,708
May	-61,222	-62,060
June	-60,640	-59,319
July	-59,261	-71,124
August	-59,436	-59,174
September	-60,638	-69,527
October	-60,721	-65,214
November	-58,206	-55,007
December	-63,058	-61,384
2015		
Jan.- Nov.	-674,720	-676,510
January	-61,077	-58,716
February	-55,947	-43,899
March	-69,269	-63,102
April	-59,413	-60,367
May	-59,588	-56,932
June	-62,329	-64,939
July	-59,279	-68,527
August	-66,252	-67,084
September	-59,444	-66,166
October	-61,825	-65,036
November	-60,298	-61,743
December		

NOTE: For information on data sources, nonsampling errors and definitions, see the information section on page A-1 of this release or at www.census.gov/foreign-trade/advance/current/adv_info.pdf.

Seasonally Adjusted

Exhibit 2. U.S. Exports of Goods by Principal End-Use Category

In millions of dollars. Details may not equal totals due to seasonal adjustment and rounding.

Period	Total Census Basis (2)	End-Use Commodity Category (1)					
		Foods, Feeds, & Beverages	Industrial Supplies (3)	Capital Goods	Automotive Vehicles, etc.	Consumer Goods	Other Goods
Advance							
2014							
Jan. - Dec.	1,617,818	142,941	503,669	551,975	156,730	199,561	62,942
Jan. - Nov.	1,483,648	131,100	463,815	505,511	143,452	182,760	57,010
January	132,814	12,134	43,851	44,585	12,212	15,656	4,376
February	131,404	12,092	40,816	44,262	12,453	16,604	5,177
March	134,131	12,349	41,577	46,078	12,601	16,374	5,151
April	133,876	12,141	41,272	46,178	12,615	16,460	5,211
May	134,520	12,285	41,748	45,766	13,226	16,645	4,850
June	135,293	11,876	42,065	45,763	13,501	16,901	5,187
July	137,147	11,616	43,067	45,969	14,637	16,706	5,152
August	136,979	10,876	43,435	47,028	12,983	17,216	5,441
September	134,615	11,494	41,721	46,394	13,112	16,572	5,322
October	137,092	11,978	41,793	47,809	13,305	16,974	5,233
November	135,777	12,260	42,469	45,679	12,807	16,653	5,910
December	134,170	11,841	39,854	46,464	13,278	16,802	5,932
2015							
Jan. - Nov.	1,380,562	117,045	392,113	495,457	137,024	182,862	56,062
January	127,944	10,930	37,038	45,684	12,647	16,800	4,844
February	124,787	10,724	35,722	44,249	11,556	17,700	4,837
March	125,810	10,973	36,001	45,308	11,999	16,840	4,687
April	127,697	10,746	36,654	47,487	12,096	16,007	4,707
May	126,674	10,957	37,352	45,030	12,391	16,033	4,911
June	126,514	10,530	37,100	44,081	12,637	16,715	5,451
July	127,078	10,659	37,278	44,355	13,253	16,309	5,224
August	123,046	10,400	34,161	45,072	12,404	15,753	5,256
September	126,824	10,793	35,065	45,433	12,893	17,520	5,119
October	123,264	10,111	33,091	44,471	12,603	16,984	6,003
November	120,926	10,223	32,650	44,285	12,544	16,202	5,021
December	120,174	9,805	32,367	44,179	12,304	16,813	4,707
Final							
2014							
Jan.- Dec.	1,620,532	143,751	505,114	551,056	159,690	198,906	62,014
Jan.- Nov.	1,486,441	131,838	465,614	504,657	146,137	182,230	55,967
January	132,109	12,128	43,169	44,577	12,357	15,650	4,228
February	131,109	12,070	40,756	44,313	12,429	16,620	4,920
March	134,661	12,457	41,717	46,006	13,075	16,395	5,011
April	134,415	12,205	41,930	45,900	12,920	16,405	5,055
May	136,032	12,325	42,307	45,741	13,477	16,667	5,514
June	135,132	11,883	42,214	45,601	13,500	16,920	5,014
July	137,182	11,649	43,138	46,145	14,760	16,523	4,968
August	137,433	10,908	43,957	46,913	13,408	16,904	5,342
September	135,680	12,104	42,256	46,034	13,458	16,605	5,223
October	137,207	12,025	41,900	47,696	13,583	16,951	5,052
November	135,483	12,084	42,269	45,732	13,171	16,589	5,639
December	134,090	11,913	39,500	46,400	13,554	16,676	6,048
2015							
Jan.- Nov.	1,385,079	117,319	396,101	494,742	139,405	180,892	56,620
January	128,486	10,965	37,605	45,875	12,795	16,749	4,497
February	125,614	10,763	36,297	44,384	11,751	17,755	4,664
March	126,139	10,979	36,254	45,257	12,362	16,115	5,171
April	128,465	10,783	36,891	47,335	12,512	16,035	4,910
May	127,081	10,956	37,752	44,884	12,639	15,956	4,895
June	126,617	10,513	37,073	44,119	12,679	16,753	5,480
July	127,820	10,672	37,408	44,326	13,290	16,326	5,799
August	123,785	10,420	35,189	44,427	12,779	15,764	5,206
September	126,437	10,806	35,184	45,337	12,945	17,030	5,134
October	123,286	10,214	33,563	44,400	12,783	16,526	5,799
November	121,347	10,247	32,886	44,398	12,868	15,882	5,065
December							

(1) For a listing of the detail included in each end-use category, see <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/reference/codes/enduse/exeumstr.txt>

(2) Data are presented on a Census basis. The information needed to convert to a balance of payment basis is not available.

(3) Includes petroleum and petroleum products.

NOTE: For information on data sources, nonsampling errors, and definitions, see the information section on page A-1 of this release or at www.census.gov/foreign-trade/advance/current/adv_info.pdf.

Seasonally Adjusted

Exhibit 3. U.S. Imports of Goods by Principal End-Use Category

In millions of dollars. Details may not equal totals due to seasonal adjustment and rounding.

Period	Total Census Basis (2)	End-Use Commodity Category (1)					
		Foods, Feeds, & Beverages	Industrial Supplies (3)	Capital Goods	Automotive Vehicles, etc.	Consumer Goods	Other Goods
Advance							
2014							
Jan. - Dec.	2,339,496	125,367	660,804	589,676	327,488	554,509	81,653
Jan. - Nov.	2,142,328	114,761	607,635	539,186	299,189	506,716	74,840
January	189,963	9,739	56,005	47,522	25,626	44,978	6,094
February	190,506	9,705	56,404	46,978	25,960	45,144	6,316
March	194,612	10,470	57,417	47,727	26,345	45,581	7,073
April	198,240	10,631	57,368	48,365	26,979	47,319	7,579
May	197,167	10,480	55,555	49,542	28,213	46,419	6,958
June	193,908	10,659	55,131	49,000	27,462	45,170	6,485
July	196,360	10,787	55,414	49,114	28,391	44,910	7,744
August	195,658	10,484	54,978	50,651	27,511	45,589	6,446
September	196,103	10,575	54,238	49,916	27,180	47,174	7,020
October	198,063	10,819	54,785	50,526	28,033	47,340	6,562
November	191,747	10,413	50,341	49,847	27,489	47,092	6,565
December	197,168	10,606	53,168	50,490	28,299	47,793	6,813
2015							
Jan. - Nov.	2,052,797	116,787	445,929	549,020	317,766	542,900	80,394
January	187,794	10,620	46,193	50,072	28,084	46,401	6,424
February	180,041	10,464	42,094	48,365	26,479	45,966	6,674
March	196,373	10,931	42,165	52,196	29,016	54,052	8,013
April	188,155	10,881	41,468	52,258	28,600	48,447	6,502
May	186,456	10,465	40,710	50,491	29,440	48,091	7,259
June	188,805	11,091	41,755	48,855	29,776	50,456	6,873
July	186,237	10,495	42,009	49,112	29,985	47,495	7,141
August	190,269	10,690	39,768	50,478	29,744	51,549	8,040
September	185,493	10,687	38,168	49,040	28,789	51,017	7,792
October	181,711	10,081	35,635	48,767	28,715	50,838	7,675
November	181,464	10,383	35,965	49,387	29,139	48,589	8,001
December	181,686	10,561	36,475	49,118	30,094	47,828	7,609
Final							
2014							
Jan.- Dec.	2,347,685	125,757	666,751	591,115	327,651	557,783	78,629
Jan.- Nov.	2,150,537	115,172	613,201	540,896	299,466	509,973	71,829
January	191,400	9,725	57,534	47,538	25,668	45,019	5,915
February	190,651	9,693	57,445	46,942	25,915	44,682	5,974
March	196,550	10,558	58,167	47,738	26,398	46,459	7,230
April	197,662	10,664	57,281	48,569	26,991	47,088	7,069
May	197,254	10,596	55,491	49,593	28,292	46,779	6,502
June	195,772	10,776	55,525	49,459	27,461	46,011	6,539
July	196,444	10,729	55,675	49,303	28,543	45,494	6,700
August	196,869	10,500	55,672	50,729	27,481	46,026	6,460
September	196,319	10,637	54,620	50,063	27,195	47,183	6,621
October	197,927	10,821	54,756	50,557	28,000	47,298	6,495
November	193,689	10,474	51,035	50,404	27,522	47,932	6,323
December	197,149	10,585	53,549	50,219	28,186	47,810	6,800
2015							
Jan.- Nov.	2,059,799	117,362	449,066	550,327	318,201	547,170	77,674
January	189,563	10,697	46,677	50,433	28,104	47,166	6,485
February	181,561	10,489	42,585	48,695	26,618	46,339	6,835
March	195,407	10,981	42,177	52,135	28,982	53,814	7,318
April	187,879	10,882	41,549	51,571	28,615	48,912	6,349
May	186,669	10,477	40,741	50,373	29,426	48,869	6,783
June	188,946	11,118	41,916	49,058	29,667	50,415	6,773
July	187,099	10,563	42,317	49,264	30,107	47,822	7,026
August	190,037	10,677	40,037	50,278	29,611	51,798	7,636
September	185,881	10,754	38,449	49,284	28,789	51,461	7,144
October	185,112	10,312	36,478	49,916	29,136	51,763	7,506
November	181,645	10,413	36,139	49,319	29,145	48,810	7,819
December							

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(2) Data are presented on a Census basis. The information needed to convert to a balance of payment basis is not available.

(3) Includes petroleum and petroleum products.

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NOT Seasonally Adjusted

Exhibit 4. U.S. Exports of Goods by Principal End-Use Category

In millions of dollars. Details may not equal totals due to rounding.

Period	Total Census Basis (2)	End-Use Commodity Category (1)					
		Foods, Feeds, & Beverages	Industrial Supplies (3)	Capital Goods	Automotive Vehicles, etc.	Consumer Goods	Other Goods
Advance							
2014							
Jan. - Dec.	1,617,818	142,941	503,669	551,975	156,730	199,561	62,942
Jan. - Nov.	1,483,974	129,815	464,583	504,287	144,340	183,973	56,976
January	127,333	13,027	43,421	41,612	10,310	14,632	4,330
February	123,910	12,093	38,579	40,234	11,856	16,019	5,129
March	141,526	12,490	43,585	49,124	13,754	17,391	5,182
April	133,263	11,336	41,966	45,483	13,073	16,202	5,203
May	136,551	11,060	42,958	46,585	14,184	16,909	4,855
June	138,515	10,354	42,293	47,564	14,247	18,854	5,202
July	133,139	10,254	43,472	45,613	12,833	15,821	5,146
August	136,876	10,168	43,988	47,370	13,323	16,569	5,459
September	132,453	10,049	40,800	46,032	13,450	16,818	5,304
October	145,344	14,357	43,139	50,085	14,317	18,193	5,254
November	135,065	14,625	40,381	44,585	12,994	16,567	5,913
December	133,844	13,126	39,086	47,688	12,390	15,588	5,966
2015							
Jan. - Nov.	1,380,902	116,115	392,802	493,977	137,970	184,012	56,027
January	120,965	11,572	35,906	42,479	10,610	15,603	4,795
February	117,604	10,750	33,810	40,176	11,013	17,072	4,783
March	133,479	11,302	38,019	48,304	13,170	17,969	4,715
April	127,724	10,184	37,696	46,852	12,535	15,752	4,704
May	127,881	9,921	38,091	45,395	13,266	16,286	4,922
June	130,915	9,309	37,355	46,335	13,473	18,976	5,467
July	123,696	9,367	37,736	44,107	11,674	15,597	5,215
August	122,283	9,483	34,667	45,126	12,732	14,999	5,276
September	125,626	9,718	34,414	45,504	13,202	17,692	5,095
October	130,388	12,310	33,737	46,773	13,451	18,091	6,025
November	120,341	12,199	31,371	42,926	12,843	15,974	5,029
December	119,834	10,734	31,678	45,659	11,358	15,663	4,742
Final							
2014							
Jan.- Dec.	1,620,532	143,751	505,114	551,056	159,690	198,906	62,014
Jan.- Nov.	1,486,786	130,513	466,398	503,431	147,056	183,454	55,934
January	126,517	12,995	42,714	41,592	10,418	14,616	4,181
February	123,591	12,090	38,493	40,284	11,828	16,024	4,872
March	142,184	12,636	43,743	49,057	14,302	17,405	5,042
April	133,875	11,434	42,647	45,205	13,403	16,136	5,048
May	138,122	11,130	43,525	46,561	14,463	16,924	5,519
June	138,358	10,386	42,429	47,402	14,240	18,874	5,028
July	133,198	10,298	43,544	45,791	12,930	15,674	4,962
August	137,420	10,222	44,523	47,260	13,761	16,294	5,360
September	133,360	10,502	41,334	45,677	13,796	16,846	5,206
October	145,436	14,394	43,257	49,962	14,589	18,161	5,073
November	134,726	14,425	40,190	44,641	13,327	16,501	5,642
December	133,746	13,238	38,716	47,625	12,634	15,452	6,081
2015							
Jan.- Nov.	1,385,169	116,914	396,433	492,847	140,219	182,172	56,584
January	121,398	11,657	36,439	42,593	10,705	15,556	4,448
February	118,348	10,831	34,322	40,271	11,179	17,135	4,610
March	133,785	11,351	38,245	48,221	13,571	17,197	5,199
April	128,505	10,263	37,914	46,667	12,972	15,781	4,907
May	128,259	9,959	38,454	45,215	13,522	16,204	4,905
June	130,994	9,330	37,303	46,342	13,496	19,028	5,496
July	124,391	9,418	37,831	44,050	11,688	15,616	5,789
August	123,011	9,538	35,668	44,452	13,115	15,012	5,225
September	125,281	9,766	34,498	45,370	13,234	17,300	5,113
October	130,463	12,527	34,184	46,662	13,610	17,660	5,819
November	120,734	12,273	31,575	43,004	13,127	15,682	5,073
December							

(1) For a listing of the detail included in each end-use category, see <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/reference/codes/enduse/exeumstr.txt>

(2) Data are presented on a Census basis. The information needed to convert to a balance of payment basis is not available.

(3) Includes petroleum and petroleum products.

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NOT Seasonally Adjusted

Exhibit 5. U.S. Imports of Goods by Principal End-Use Category

In millions of dollars. Details may not equal totals due to rounding.

Period	Total Census Basis (2)	End-Use Commodity Category (1)					
		Foods, Feeds, & Beverages	Industrial Supplies (3)	Capital Goods	Automotive Vehicles, etc.	Consumer Goods	Other Goods
Advance							
2014							
Jan. - Dec.	2,339,496	125,367	660,804	589,676	327,488	554,509	81,653
Jan. - Nov.	2,144,343	114,421	609,950	537,815	299,562	507,795	74,800
January	184,026	9,967	55,915	45,114	23,233	43,738	6,060
February	169,983	8,839	50,620	41,125	24,321	39,277	5,802
March	192,124	10,883	57,459	48,250	27,719	40,758	7,056
April	201,177	10,918	60,387	48,476	27,789	45,804	7,804
May	200,013	10,893	58,325	49,988	28,036	45,968	6,802
June	195,827	10,760	55,978	50,869	27,835	43,763	6,623
July	204,242	10,798	59,438	51,204	27,214	47,619	7,970
August	195,413	10,046	55,588	49,701	27,966	46,048	6,063
September	202,759	10,079	54,921	50,701	27,077	52,495	7,486
October	210,856	11,176	55,203	53,093	30,306	54,142	6,935
November	187,922	10,063	46,116	49,295	28,066	48,183	6,200
December	195,154	10,946	50,854	51,861	27,926	46,714	6,854
2015							
Jan. - Nov.	2,054,738	116,539	447,603	547,909	318,086	544,360	80,241
January	178,370	10,679	45,512	46,747	24,987	44,175	6,269
February	160,932	9,513	38,161	42,387	24,707	40,084	6,081
March	197,868	11,649	43,481	53,779	30,847	49,898	8,215
April	189,147	11,183	43,247	52,040	29,392	46,527	6,758
May	184,927	10,730	41,910	49,980	28,920	46,604	6,784
June	195,753	11,454	43,616	52,027	30,675	50,763	7,219
July	192,056	10,439	44,274	50,968	28,988	50,085	7,302
August	190,308	10,273	40,154	49,993	30,224	52,064	7,600
September	191,118	10,144	38,311	49,546	28,478	56,340	8,299
October	191,953	10,247	35,443	50,501	30,665	57,094	8,004
November	182,306	10,228	33,494	49,942	30,205	50,727	7,711
December	179,746	10,809	34,802	50,230	29,774	46,368	7,763
Final							
2014							
Jan.- Dec.	2,347,685	125,757	666,751	591,115	327,651	557,783	78,629
Jan.- Nov.	2,152,556	114,833	615,517	539,555	299,833	511,031	71,787
January	185,615	9,950	57,615	45,130	23,272	43,764	5,883
February	170,240	8,827	51,651	41,106	24,279	38,888	5,489
March	194,074	10,973	58,243	48,272	27,775	41,597	7,215
April	200,582	10,950	60,307	48,675	27,803	45,559	7,289
May	200,182	11,013	58,260	50,040	28,111	46,403	6,354
June	197,677	10,880	56,362	51,339	27,834	44,581	6,681
July	204,322	10,735	59,670	51,397	27,371	48,255	6,894
August	196,594	10,062	56,244	49,801	27,936	46,476	6,075
September	202,887	10,140	55,265	50,844	27,085	52,490	7,063
October	210,650	11,180	55,168	53,122	30,272	54,034	6,874
November	189,733	10,123	46,732	49,830	28,093	48,984	5,970
December	195,129	10,925	51,234	51,559	27,819	46,751	6,842
2015							
Jan.- Nov.	2,061,679	116,847	450,974	549,015	318,579	548,727	77,536
January	180,113	10,728	46,020	47,080	25,012	44,935	6,339
February	162,246	9,513	38,624	42,655	24,840	40,379	6,235
March	196,886	11,679	43,550	53,674	30,812	49,672	7,499
April	188,872	11,157	43,344	51,382	29,412	46,976	6,601
May	185,191	10,718	41,970	49,833	28,908	47,403	6,360
June	195,933	11,456	43,799	52,216	30,571	50,774	7,117
July	192,918	10,484	44,628	51,100	29,117	50,404	7,186
August	190,095	10,235	40,444	49,791	30,095	52,296	7,233
September	191,447	10,187	38,609	49,769	28,480	56,811	7,591
October	195,499	10,454	36,303	51,667	31,118	58,128	7,828
November	182,477	10,235	33,682	49,848	30,215	50,949	7,548
December							

(1) For a listing of the detail included in each end-use category, see <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/reference/codes/enduse/exeumstr.txt>

(2) Data are presented on a Census basis. The information needed to convert to a balance of payment basis is not available.

(3) Includes petroleum and petroleum products.

NOTE: For information on data sources, nonsampling errors, and definitions, see the information section on page A-1 of this release or at www.census.gov/foreign-trade/advance/current/adv_info.pdf.

ADVANCE REPORT INFORMATION SECTION

GOODS (CENSUS BASIS)

Data for goods on a Census basis are compiled from the documents collected by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and reflect the movement of goods between foreign countries and the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. Foreign Trade Zones. They include government and non-government shipments of goods and exclude shipments between the United States and its territories and possessions; transactions with U.S. military, diplomatic, and consular installations abroad; U.S. goods returned to the United States by its Armed Forces; personal and household effects of travelers; and in-transit shipments. Data for U.S. exports to Canada are derived from import data compiled by Canada. For more information on the data exchange and substitution please refer to the FT-900. The General Imports value reflects the total arrival of merchandise from foreign countries that immediately enters consumption channels, warehouses, or Foreign Trade Zones.

For imports, the value reported is the U.S. Customs and Border Protection appraised value of merchandise—generally, the price paid for merchandise for export to the United States. Import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing merchandise to the United States are excluded.

Exports are valued at the f.a.s. (free alongside ship) value of merchandise at the U.S. port of export, based on the transaction price including inland freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in placing the merchandise alongside the carrier at the U.S. port of exportation.

NONSAMPLING ERRORS

The goods data are a complete enumeration of documents collected by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and are not subject to sampling errors. Quality assurance procedures are performed at every stage of collection, processing, and tabulation. However, the data are still subject to several types of nonsampling errors. The most significant of these include reporting errors, undocumented shipments, timeliness, data capture errors, and errors in the estimation of low-valued transactions.

Reporting Errors: Reporting errors are mistakes or omissions made by importers, exporters, or their agents in their import or export declarations. Most errors involve missing or invalid commodity classification codes and missing or incorrect quantities or shipping weights. They have a negligible effect on aggregate import, export, and balance of trade statistics. However, they can affect the detailed commodity statistics.

Undocumented Shipments: Federal regulations require importers, exporters, or their agents to report all merchandise shipments above established exemption levels. The U.S. Census Bureau has determined that not all required documents are filed, particularly for exports.

Timeliness and Data Capture Errors: The U.S. Census Bureau captures import and export information from administrative documents and through various automated collection programs. Documents may be lost, and data may be incorrectly keyed, coded, or recorded. Transactions may be included in a subsequent month's statistics if received late.

Low-valued Transactions: The total values of transactions valued as much as or below \$2,500 for exports and \$2,000 (\$250 for certain quota items) for imports are estimated for each country, using factors based on the ratios of low-valued shipments to individual country totals for past periods.

The U.S. Census Bureau recommends that data users incorporate this information into their analyses, as nonsampling errors could impact the conclusion drawn from the results. For a detailed discussion of errors affecting the goods data, see "U.S. Merchandise Trade Statistics: A Quality Profile," available at www.census.gov/foreign-trade/aip/quality_profile10032014.pdf or from the Economic Indicators Division, U.S. Census Bureau.

ADJUSTMENTS FOR SEASONAL AND TRADING-DAY VARIATIONS

Goods are initially classified under the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System), which is an internationally accepted standard for the commodity classification of traded goods. The Harmonized System describes and measures the characteristics of the goods and is the basis for the systems used in the United States: Schedule B for exports and Harmonized Tariff Schedule for imports. Combining trade into approximately 140 export and 140 import end-use categories makes it possible to examine goods according to their principal uses. These categories are used as the basis for computing the seasonal and trading-day adjusted data. These adjusted data are then summed to the six end-use aggregates for publication.

The seasonal adjustment procedure (X13-ARIMA-SEATS) is based on a model that estimates the monthly movements as percentages above or below the general level of series (unlike other methods that redistribute the actual series values over the calendar year).

Each June, advance seasonally adjusted data are updated to reflect recalculated seasonal adjustments. For December statistical month Advance Reports, each prior month of the most recent full year of advance data is updated so that the totals of the seasonally adjusted months equal the annual totals.

DATA AVAILABILITY

The "Advance Report: U.S. International Trade in Goods" is available at the following: www.census.gov/foreign-trade/advance/current/.