

# U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20230

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**8:30 A.M. EDT TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2009**

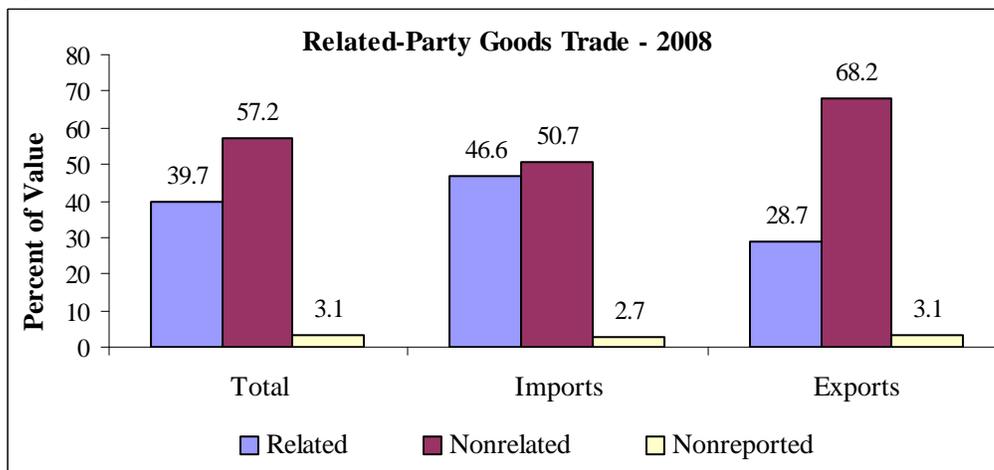
**For information contact:** (301) 763-3251  
*Emmanuel O. Omoruyi, Glenn A. Barresse*  
*or Kristen S. Corwin*

**CB09-61**

## **U.S. Goods Trade: Imports & Exports by Related-Parties 2008**

The U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, announced today that in 2008 related-party trade accounted for almost 40 percent (\$1,349 billion) of total goods trade. Related-party trade accounted for nearly 50 percent (\$975 billion) of consumption imports and just under 30 percent (\$374 billion) of total exports (Figure 1). These percentages are slightly lower than historic U.S. figures. In 2008, U.S. related-party trade increased by 6.7 percent (almost \$85 billion) while total trade increased by 9.1 percent (\$284 billion) from 2007. 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.

Figure 1.



## Overview of U.S. Related-Party Trade 2008

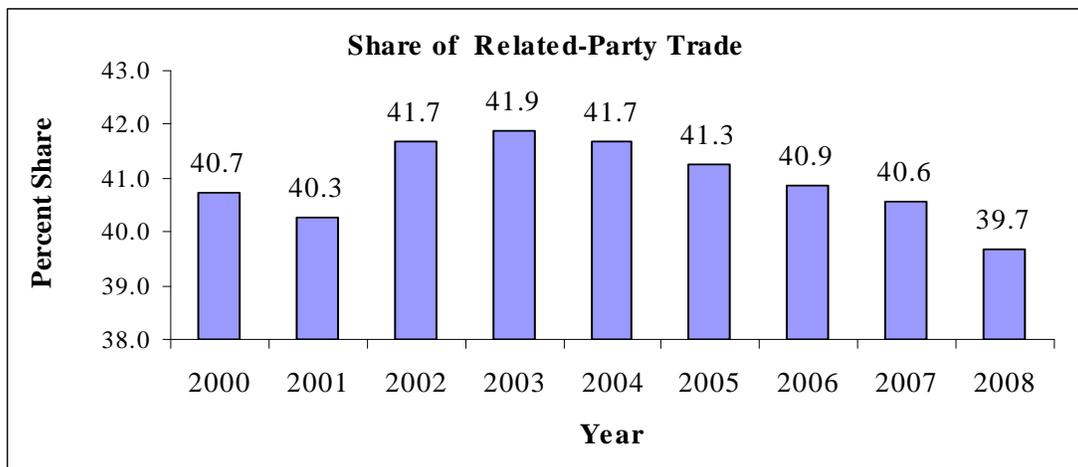
Exhibit 1 shows a snapshot of U.S. related-party imports from selected world areas, and the top-ten countries sorted by related-party value. Exhibit 2 shows related-party exports from selected world areas and the top-ten countries also sorted by related-party value. Exhibits 3 and 4 provide import and export commodity information in terms of the North America Industry Classification System (NAICS), thereby providing a link to domestic production data. These exhibits show the top-ten three-digit NAICS codes, sorted by related-party values, for imports and exports. A listing of the countries contained in the selected world area groupings can be found in the “Technical Documentation Section” or at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/sec5.html>.

As shown in Exhibits 3 and 4, the top-ten 3-digit NAICS codes (by value) accounted for over 78 percent of total imports and over 77 percent of total exports, with related-party trade accounting for over 53 percent and almost 33 percent for imports and exports respectively. Transportation equipment (NAICS 336), computer and electronic products (NAICS 334), and chemicals (NAICS 325) were the top three goods categories for both directions of trade. Users should note that the trade data are product based and do not always correspond completely to the industry based NAICS categories. For more information on the NAICS code, please access the Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/sec2.html> - [naics](#).

## Historical Trend

The relative share of related-party trade has remained between 39.7 and 41.9 percent of total trade over the last nine years (Figure 2). Over the same time period the value of both related trade and total trade increased by 71.2 and 66.7 percent respectively. In dollar terms, from 2000 to 2008, related-party trade increased by \$540 billion and total trade increased by almost \$1,415 billion.

Figure 2.



## **Interactive Data Website for Related-Party Trade**

Detailed related-party trade data from 2000 through 2008, are available online for extraction and analysis at: <http://sasweb.ssd.census.gov/relatedparty>. The website provides output by year, country, and the North America Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes at the 2, 3, 4 or 6-digit level. The data can be totaled on related, nonrelated, and nonreported categories. The available file formats for generated output are web based (HTML), comma separated values (CSV), or Adobe (PDF).

## Exhibit 1. U.S. Imports for Consumption<sup>1</sup> for Selected World Areas and Top Ten Countries - 2008

In millions of dollars. (Z) Represents less than one-tenth of the unit of measurement shown

Selected World Areas <sup>1</sup>	Total Imports		Related Party Trade		Nonrelated Party Trade		Nonreported <sup>2</sup> Party Trade	
	Value	Percent Of Total Imports	Value	Percent Of Area Total	Value	Percent Of Area Total	Value	Percent Of Area Total
TOTAL <sup>3</sup>	2,090,483	100.0	975,096	46.6	1,059,872	50.7	55,515	2.7
North America	551,168	26.4	268,645	48.7	241,576	43.8	40,947	7.4
Europe	431,199	20.6	243,465	56.5	181,393	42.1	6,342	1.5
Euro Area	273,412	13.1	164,908	60.3	104,268	38.1	4,236	1.5
European Union (27)	362,190	17.3	216,449	59.8	139,904	38.6	5,838	1.6
Pacific Rim Countries	651,546	31.2	285,995	43.9	359,559	55.2	5,992	0.9
South/Central America	158,208	7.6	52,796	33.4	104,228	65.9	1,185	0.7
Africa	113,687	5.4	39,131	34.4	74,372	65.4	184	0.2
OPEC	213,038	10.2	106,304	49.9	106,318	49.9	417	0.2
<b>Top Ten Related-Party Countries (Decending order, by value of related-party imports)</b>								
Canada	334,840	16.0	156,666	46.8	139,839	41.8	38,334	11.4
Mexico	216,328	10.3	111,979	51.8	101,736	47.0	2,613	1.2
Japan	139,112	6.7	111,898	80.4	25,635	18.4	1,580	1.1
China	337,504	16.1	89,339	26.5	245,155	72.6	3,010	0.9
Federal Republic Of Germany	95,828	4.6	64,058	66.8	29,786	31.1	1,983	2.1
Saudi Arabia	54,283	2.6	36,898	68.0	17,380	32.0	5	(Z)
United Kingdom	58,419	2.8	32,823	56.2	24,553	42.0	1,042	1.8
Ireland	31,298	1.5	27,772	88.7	3,284	10.5	242	0.8
Korea, South	46,687	2.2	26,847	57.5	19,599	42.0	241	0.5
France	43,372	2.1	22,158	51.1	20,608	47.5	606	1.4

Footnotes:

1 For definition, see Technical Documentation. This exhibit is not additive; countries may be included in more than one area grouping.

For list of countries, see Technical Documentation.

2 Related-party indicator was missing from import documentation.

3 Total values are the summation of statistical month values and do not include annual revisions or adjustments for late receipts.

NOTE: This exhibit is compiled from detailed merchandise trade data. For information on nonsampling errors and other data limitations refer to the Technical Documentation.

## Exhibit 2. U.S. Domestic Exports<sup>1</sup> for Selected World Areas and Top Ten Countries - 2008

In millions of dollars. (Z) Represents less than one-tenth of the unit of measurement shown

Selected World Areas <sup>1</sup>	Total Exports		Related Party Trade		Nonrelated Party Trade		Nonreported <sup>2</sup> Party Trade	
	Value	Percent Of Total Exports	Value	Percent Of Area Total	Value	Percent Of Area Total	Value	Percent Of Area Total
TOTAL <sup>3</sup>	1,300,136	100.0	373,646	28.7	886,498	68.2	39,992	3.1
Domestic Exports	1,169,821	90.0	327,151	28.0	802,793	68.6	39,877	3.4
North America	353,932	27.2	141,717	40.0	192,063	54.3	20,152	5.7
Europe	302,222	23.2	84,866	28.1	209,498	69.3	7,858	2.6
Euro Area	184,559	14.2	63,786	34.6	116,558	63.2	4,215	2.3
European Union (27)	249,693	19.2	77,788	31.2	165,587	66.3	6,318	2.5
Pacific Rim Countries	275,886	21.2	64,254	23.3	206,991	75.0	4,642	1.7
South/Central America	127,108	9.8	23,752	18.7	98,504	77.5	4,852	3.8
Africa	27,923	2.1	4,224	15.1	23,068	82.6	631	2.3
OPEC	58,121	4.5	5,646	9.7	51,494	88.6	981	1.7
Re-Exports	130,314	10.0	46,495	35.7	83,705	64.2	114	0.1
<b>Top Ten Related-Party Countries (Decending order, by value of related-party exports)</b>								
Canada	222,424	17.1	89,928	40.4	117,577	52.9	14,920	6.7
Mexico	131,507	10.1	51,789	39.4	74,486	56.6	5,232	4.0
Japan	61,435	4.7	18,825	30.6	41,830	68.1	780	1.3
Federal Republic Of Germany	50,150	3.9	18,275	36.4	30,597	61.0	1,278	2.5
Netherlands	37,076	2.9	16,364	44.1	20,125	54.3	587	1.6
United Kingdom	49,061	3.8	11,465	23.4	36,078	73.5	1,518	3.1
Belgium	25,769	2.0	11,259	43.7	14,094	54.7	417	1.6
China	67,166	5.2	10,182	15.2	56,461	84.1	522	0.8
Singapore	25,655	2.0	9,698	37.8	15,270	59.5	687	2.7
France	26,748	2.1	8,270	30.9	17,736	66.3	741	2.8

Footnotes:

1 For definition, see Technical Documentation. This exhibit is not additive; countries may be included in more than one area grouping.

For list of countries, see Technical Documentation.

2 Related-party indicator was missing from export documentation.

3 Total values are the summation of statistical month values and do not include annual revisions or adjustments for late receipts.

NOTE: This exhibit is compiled from detailed merchandise trade data. For information on nonsampling errors and other data limitations refer to the Technical Documentation.

### Exhibit 3. U.S. Consumption Imports<sup>1</sup> by Top Ten Three-digit NAICS Codes - 2008

In millions of dollars. (Z) Represents less than one-tenth of the unit of measurement shown

NAICS Product Description	Total		Related Party Trade		Nonrelated Party Trade		Nonreported Party Trade <sup>2</sup>	
	Value	Percent Of Total Imports	Value	Percent Of Category Total	Value	Percent Of Category Total	Value	Percent Of Category Total
<b>Imports Total<sup>3</sup></b>	2,090,483	100.0	975,096	46.6	1,059,872	50.7	55,515	2.7
<b>Imports (Decending order, by value of related-party imports)</b>								
<b>Top Ten Total</b>	1,636,398	78.3	871,617	53.3	735,950	45.0	28,830	1.8
Transportation Equipment	254,298	12.2	189,984	74.7	64,308	25.3	7	(Z)
Computer & Electronic Products	300,457	14.4	182,337	60.7	118,114	39.3	6	(Z)
Chemicals	196,142	9.4	137,095	69.9	59,043	30.1	4	(Z)
Oil & Gas	325,552	15.6	104,091	32.0	192,715	59.2	28,746	8.8
Petroleum & Coal Products	130,803	6.3	74,153	56.7	56,645	43.3	6	(Z)
Machinery, Except Electrical	123,649	5.9	62,192	50.3	61,450	49.7	6	(Z)
Primary Metal Mfg	99,404	4.8	35,250	35.5	64,153	64.5	2	(Z)
Miscellaneous Manufactured Commodities	98,129	4.7	34,970	35.6	63,153	64.4	6	(Z)
Electrical Equipment, Appliances & Components	67,728	3.2	32,281	47.7	35,445	52.3	2	(Z)
Goods Returned	40,235	1.9	19,265	47.9	20,924	52.0	46	0.1

Footnotes:

1 For definition, see Technical Documentation.

2 Related-party indicator was missing from documentation.

3 Total values are the summation of statistical month values and do not include annual revisions or adjustments for late receipts.

NOTE: This exhibit is compiled from detailed merchandise trade data. For information on nonsampling errors and other data limitations refer to the Technical Documentation.

### Exhibit 4. U.S. Domestic Exports<sup>1</sup> by Top Ten Three-digit NAICS Codes - 2008

In millions of dollars. (Z) Represents less than one-tenth of the unit of measurement shown

NAICS Product Description	Total		Related Party Trade		Nonrelated Party Trade		Nonreported Party Trade <sup>2</sup>	
	Value	Percent Of Total Exports	Value	Percent Of Category Total	Value	Percent Of Category Total	Value	Percent Of Category Total
<b>Exports Total<sup>3</sup></b>	1,300,136	100.0	373,646	28.7	886,498	68.2	39,992	3.1
<b>Domestic Exports</b>	1,169,821	90.0	327,151	28.0	802,793	68.6	39,877	3.4
<b>Exports (Decending order, by value of related-party imports)</b>								
<b>Top Ten Total</b>	1,006,940	77.4	327,056	32.5	667,881	66.3	12,003	1.2
Transportation Equipment	201,986	15.5	63,946	31.7	135,557	67.1	2,484	1.2
Chemicals	166,136	12.8	61,497	37.0	103,663	62.4	976	0.6
Computer & Electronic Products	136,386	10.5	47,027	34.5	87,698	64.3	1,660	1.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	133,845	10.3	32,978	24.6	99,155	74.1	1,713	1.3
Petroleum & Coal Products	58,273	4.5	25,014	42.9	33,124	56.8	136	0.2
Miscellaneous Manufactured Commodities	40,950	3.1	12,784	31.2	27,228	66.5	938	2.3
Electrical Equipment, Appliances & Components	34,667	2.7	11,806	34.1	21,895	63.2	966	2.8
Food & Kindred Products	48,494	3.7	8,975	18.5	38,934	80.3	585	1.2
Plastics & Rubber Products	23,429	1.8	8,338	35.6	14,241	60.8	851	3.6
Fabricated Metal Products, NesoI	32,459	2.5	8,197	25.3	22,681	69.9	1,581	4.9
Re-exports	130,314	10.0	46,495	35.7	83,705	64.2	114	0.1

Footnotes:

1 For definition, see Technical Documentation.

2 Related-party indicator was missing from documentation.

3 Total values are the summation of statistical month values and do not include annual revisions or adjustments for late receipts.

NOTE: This exhibit is compiled from detailed merchandise trade data. For information on nonsampling errors and other data limitations refer to the Technical Documentation.

## *Technical Documentation*

### Sources and Limitations

The data in this release are compiled from administrative records from official U.S. import and export merchandise trade statistics. The merchandise trade data are a complete enumeration of documentation collected by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and are not subject to sampling error. Quality assurance procedures are performed at every stage of collection, processing and tabulation. However, the data are still subject to non-sampling errors. These errors include undocumented shipments, timeliness, data capture errors and errors in the estimation of low-valued transactions.

Related-party shipments are identified by the indicators, “R” for related or “N” for nonrelated, that are required on every import or export transaction. However, importers and exporters do not always report the indicator on their shipments. No attempt is made to estimate the related-party status of shipments with missing indicators; instead, they are categorized on the data tables as “nonreported.” Therefore, the ratios of related and unrelated-party trade to total trade are understated.

Users are advised to consider these limitations in their analysis of this data as they may affect the results. For more information on data sources and methodology, please read the document “Information on the Collection and Publication of Trade Statistics” at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/reference/guides/tradestatsinfo.html>.

### Definitions

#### **Related-party trade:**

**Imports:** As defined in Section 402(e) of the Tariff Act of 1930, related-party trade includes import transactions between parties with various types of relationships including “any person directly or indirectly, owning, controlling or holding power to vote, 6 percent of the outstanding voting stock or shares of any organization.”

**Exports:** The Foreign Trade Statistics Regulations, 30.7(v), define a related-party export transaction as one between a U.S. exporter and a foreign consignee, where either party owns, directly or indirectly, 10 percent or more of the other party.

**Imports for Consumption:** The import data shown in this report are imports for consumption. The data measure all merchandise that has physically cleared Customs, entering consumption channels immediately, or after withdrawal from either bonded warehouses under Customs custody or from Foreign Trade Zones.

**Customs Value:** The import data in this report are based on Customs value, generally defined as the price actually paid or payable for merchandise when sold for exportation to the United States. Customs value excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance and other charges incurred in bringing the merchandise to the United States.

**F.A.S. Value:** Exports are valued on a free alongside ship basis. This value reflects the transaction price of the good, including inland freight, insurance and other charges incurred in placing the merchandise alongside the ship at the port of export.

**Low Value Estimates:** Import and export transactions below specific values are estimated using factors based on the ratios of low-valued transactions to individual country totals for past periods. Estimates are done for import transactions valued at or below \$2000, excluding certain textile articles, and all export transactions valued \$2500 or less.

**Re-exports:** Exports of foreign merchandise that previously entered the U.S. Customs Territory and are exported in substantially the same condition as when imported.

### **Selected World Areas and Grouping Definitions**

**Africa** - Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, British Indian Ocean Territories, Burkina, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Kinshasa), Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, French Southern and Antarctic Lands, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mayotte, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Reunion, Rwanda, St. Helena, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Western Sahara, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

**Euro Area** - Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain.

**Europe** - Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta and Gozo, Macedonia, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia & Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Svalbard, Jan Mayen Island, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vatican City.

**European Union** - Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg,

Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

**North America** - Canada, Mexico

**Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)** - Algeria, Angola, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela.

**Pacific Rim Countries** - Australia, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Macao, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan.

**South/Central America** - Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Falkland Islands, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Comments, suggestions and/or inquiries related to these data may be directed to the U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division, Special Projects Branch, Washington, D.C. 20233. Contact name: Emmanuel O. Omoruyi (301) 763-3251 or [emmanuel.o.omoruyi@census.gov](mailto:emmanuel.o.omoruyi@census.gov).