

# QUARTERLY BULLETIN

## Trade Statistics

### SECOND QUARTER

### 2012



Est. by Statistics Act 9 of 2011

**Namibia Statistics  
Agency**

**QUARTERLY BULLETIN**  
**Trade Statistics**  
**SECOND QUARTER: 2012**

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# Mission, Vision and Core Values

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## MISSION STATEMENT

“In a coordinated manner produce and disseminate relevant, quality and timely statistics that are fit-for-purpose in accordance with international standards and best practice”

## VISION STATEMENT

“Be a high performance institution in statistics delivery”

## CORE VALUES

Performance

Integrity

Service focus

Transparency

Accuracy

Partnership

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# Preface

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**F**oreign trade plays an important role in a nation's economy. Trade policies and the formulation of trade strategies are a focus of attention for planners, traders and development economists. Among economists, interest is in the relationship between trade policies and trade performance, on the one hand, and on the other between trade performance outcomes and the overall economic performance.

Foreign trade statistics measures values and quantities of goods that, by moving into or out of a country, add to or subtract from the nation's material stock of goods. Foreign trade statistics are invaluable for the formulation of monetary, fiscal, commercial and regional integration policies. In the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), reliable import statistics are crucial in the revenue sharing among member states.

Since Namibia's independence, government policy has been to develop, promote and diversify the country's exports, to expand and consolidate market shares of existing markets and to penetrate new markets. Prior to independence, trade flows between Namibia and the rest of the world were not independently recorded. Since 1991, positive developments have taken place, both in the particulars recorded and the methods of recording. Computerization of procedures at the Directorate of Customs and Excise through the introduction of an Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA++) has significantly enhanced the timely dissemination and analysis of trade statistics through prompt transfer of captured trade data at Customs to the Namibia Statistics Agency.

This bulletin presents trade data for the second quarter of 2012 compared to the corresponding quarter of the preceding year. The data are presented by various trade categories, including major trading partners; major products; country of origin and destination; and economic zones.



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STATISTICIAN GENERAL



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# Introduction

The mandate of the Namibia Statistics Agency is to produce and disseminate relevant, quality and timely statistics, including statistics relating to imports and exports as soon after the period to which they relate. This bulletin presents summary trade statistics in terms of imports and exports of merchandise goods for the second quarter of 2012 as compared to the same quarter of 2011. More detailed data can be provided on request.

Foreign trade statistics derived from records of trade flows across international borders are invaluable for the formulation of commercial, fiscal and monetary policies of any country. The basic information for the compilation of trade statistics is collected and /or captured based on import/export declarations made by traders and agents.

The computerization of procedures by the Customs Department in the Ministry of Finance, the supplier of information for compiling foreign trade statistics, through the introduction of the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA++), has continued to facilitate the prompt transfer of recorded data from the Customs & Excise (C&E) to the Namibia Statistics Agency for processing. This is a significant contribution towards the achievement of the objective of providing accurate, timely and relevant data.

This bulletin reveals the trade flow for the second quarter of 2012 as compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011 between Namibia and the rest of the world. It examines the overall trade performance by value, commodities, trading partners and economic zones. Furthermore, a summary of the trade flow of the second quarter of 2011 and 2012 respectively is shown in the annex, by monthly and by the major economic blocs.

## Summary of exports and imports

During the second quarter of 2012, Namibia's trade deficit widened to N\$1.8 billion from N\$1.0 billion one year earlier. The increase in the trade deficit was reflected in total imports that increased to N\$14.3 billion during the second quarter of 2012, from N\$10.5 billion during the same quarter of the preceding years. Namibia's total exports amounted to N\$12.5 billion compared to N\$9.5 billion in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

**Table 1: Namibia Trade Flow for Q2 of 2012 compared to Q2 of 2011**

	Second Quarter 2012 (N\$ billions)	Second Quarter 2011 (N\$ billions)
<b>Exports</b>	12.5	9.5
<b>Imports</b>	14.3	10.5
<b>Trade balance</b>	-1.8	-1.0

## Exports by major type

Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin (Chapter 71 of the HS classification) dominated the list of domestic exports from Namibia, accounting for 33.1 percent of total exports during the second quarter of 2012 compared to 28.1 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2011. This was followed by Ores, slag and ash (chapter 26) accounting for a share of 15.0 percent and Fish and crustaceans, mollusc and other aquatic invertebrates (chapter 03) accounting for a share of 13.3 percent and. The corresponding shares for the second quarter of 2012 were 28.1, 20.0 and 12.5 percent, respectively.

**Table 1: Namibia Trade Flow for Q2 of 2012 compared to Q2 of 2011**

HS code	Commodity descriptions	Q2-2012		Q2-2011	
		Value (N\$000,000)	%	Value (N\$000,000)	%
71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	3 852	33.1	2 589	28.1
26	Ores, Slag and ash	1 746	15.0	1 842	20.0
03	Fish and crustaceans, mollusc and other aquatic invertebrates	1 555	13.3	1 149	12.5
28	Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic compounds of precious metals, of rare earth metals, of radioactive elements or isotopes	708	6.1	5	0.1
79	Zinc and articles thereof	513	4.4	483	5.2
22	Beverages, Spirits and vinegar	481	4.1	354	3.8
02	Meat and edible meat offal.	469	4.0	415	4.5
74	Copper and articles thereof	386	3.3	769	8.3
87	Vehicles others than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	361	3.1	209	2.3
25	Salt, sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement	186	1.6	182	2.0
	Other Products	1 386	11.9	1 225	13.3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11 650</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>9 226</b>	<b>100</b>

## Major re-exports

Ship, boats and floating structures (Chapter 89 of HS classification) topped the list of re-exports from Namibia in the second quarter of 2012 with a share of 48.5 percent of total re-exports. It was followed by Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof (chapter 84) with a share of 21.5 percent. The third most significant product re-exported during the quarter was Vehicles others than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof (chapter 87) with a share of 13.0 percent. The corresponding shares for the second quarter of 2012 were 0.1, 44.7 and 35.6 percent, respectively.

**Table 3: Top Re- Exports Products for Q2 2012 compared to Q2 2011**

HS code	Commodity descriptions	Q2-2012		Q2-2011	
		Value (N\$000)	%	Value (N\$000)	%
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	406 979	48.5	355 771	0.1
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	180 549	21.5	142 981	44.7
87	Vehicles others than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	109 121	13.0	114 378	35.8
90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; parts and accessories thereof	61 146	7.3	15 444	4.8
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	40 574	4.8	29 172	9.1
73	Articles of iron or steel	28 128	3.4	464	0.1
92	Musical instruments; parts and accessories of such articles	3 727	0.4	250	0.1
93	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	1 722	0.2	2 169	0.7
82	Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof of base metal	1 338	0.2	796	0.2
88	Aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof	1 267	0.2	10 499	3.3
86	Railway or tramway locomotives, rolling-stock and parts thereof; railway or tramway track fixtures and fittings and parts thereof; mechanical (incl. electro-mechanical) traffic signalling equipment of all kinds	1 139	0.1	620	0.2
	Other Products	3 572	0.4	2 547	0.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>839 260</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>319 675</b>	<b>100</b>

## Imports by type

Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof (Chapter 87 of HS classification) dominated the list of imports into Namibia in the second quarter of 2012, with a share of 11.8 percent of total imports. It was followed by Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes (chapter 27) with a share of 10.3 percent and 9.3 percent share came from Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof (chapter 84).The corresponding shares for the second quarter of 2012 were 13.0, 7.6 and 11.5 percent respectively.

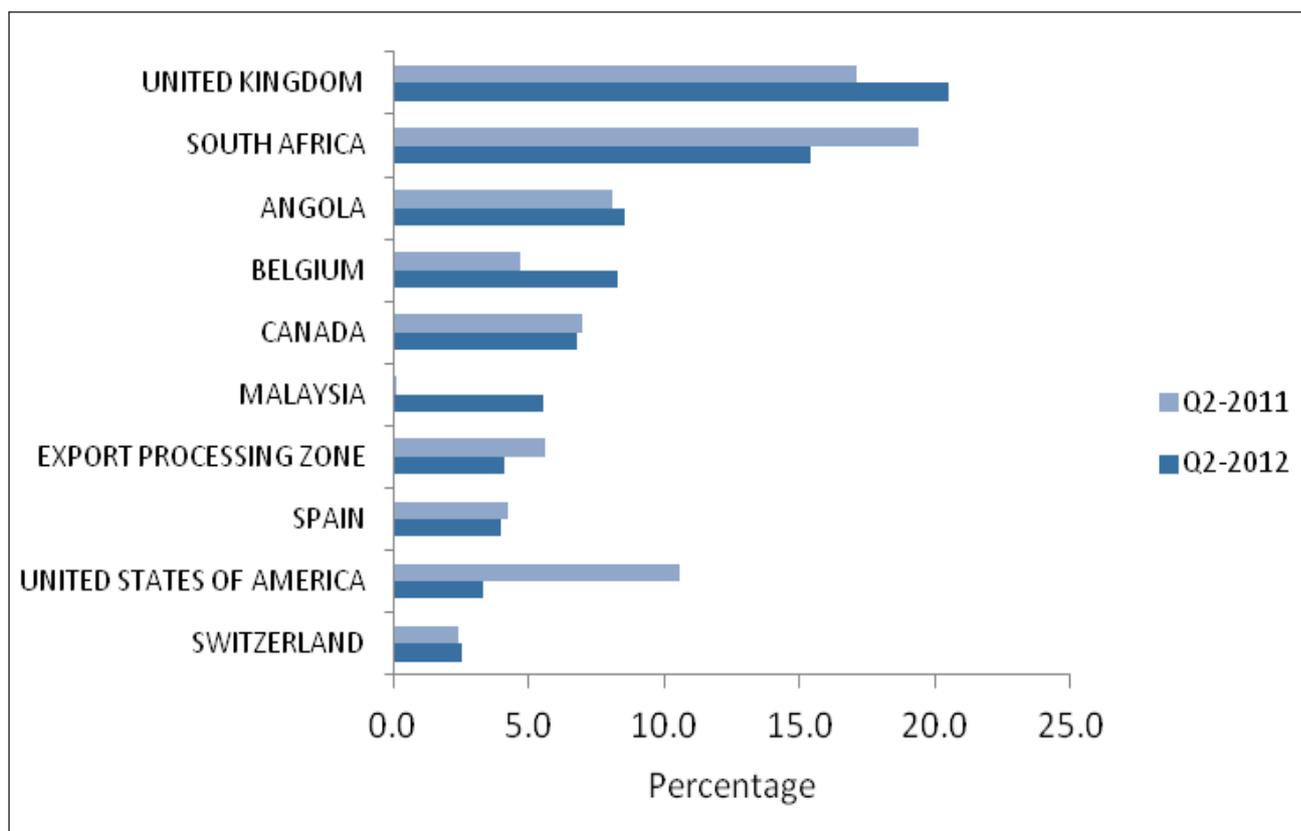
**Table 4: Top imports products for Q4 2011 compared Q4 2010**

HS code	Commodity descriptions	Q2-2012		Q2-2011	
		Value (N\$000,000)	%	Value (N\$000,000)	%
87	Vehicles others than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	1 683	11.8	1 370	13.0
27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	1 478	10.3	801	7.6
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	1 332	9.3	1 213	11.5
26	Ores, Slag and Ash	1 006	7.0	93	0.9
71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	811	5.7	713	6.8
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	708	4.9	649	6.2
73	Articles of iron or steel	606	4.2	566	5.4
30	Pharmaceutical products	347	2.4	379	3.6
39	Plastics and articles thereof	296	2.1	246	2.3
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	295	2.1	273	2.6
	Other Products	5 754	40.2	4 211	40.1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14 316</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10 514</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Exports to key markets

The major trading partners, to where Namibia exported most of her products during the second quarter of 2012, were the United Kingdom (N\$2.7 billion), South Africa (N\$1.9 billion), Angola (N\$1.1 billion) and Belgium (N\$1.0 billion). This represented 20.5 percent, 15.4 percent and 8.5 percent; compared to 17.1, 19.4 and 8.1 percent respectively, as illustrated by the chart below.

**Chart 1: Exports by key markets for Q2 of 2012 compared to Q2 of 2011**



### Imports from key markets

Namibia's import bill amounted to N\$14.3 billion during the second quarter of 2012 as compared to N\$10.5 billion recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2011, indicating an increase in imports figures.

The major trading partners, from where Namibia sourced most of her products during the second quarter of 2012, were South Africa (N\$9.8 billion), Switzerland (N\$1.1 billion), China (N\$476 million) and the United Kingdom (N\$446 million), representing 68.7 percent, 8.0 percent, 3.3 percent and 3.1 percent of total imports respectively. They were followed by the category Export Processing Zone (N\$435 million), Germany (N\$220million), Zambia (N\$183 million) and Tanzania (N\$174 million).

**Table 5: Major imports partners for Q2 2012 compared 2011**

PARTNER	Q2-2012		Q2-2011	
	Value (N\$ 000,000)	%	Value (N\$ 000,000)	%
SOUTH AFRICA	9 836	68.7	8 131	77.3
SWITZERLAND	1 138	8.0	140	1.3
CHINA	477	3.3	226	2.1
UNITED KINGDOM	447	3.1	367	3.5
EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE	435	3.0	357	3.4
GERMANY	220	1.5	339	3.2
ZAMBIA	183	1.3	21	0.2
TANZANIA	175	1.2	0.20	0.0
GHANA	119	0.8	0.08	0.0
NORWAY	118	0.8	4	0.0
OTHER COUNTRIES	1 166	8.1	930	8.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14 314</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>10 515</b>	<b>100</b>

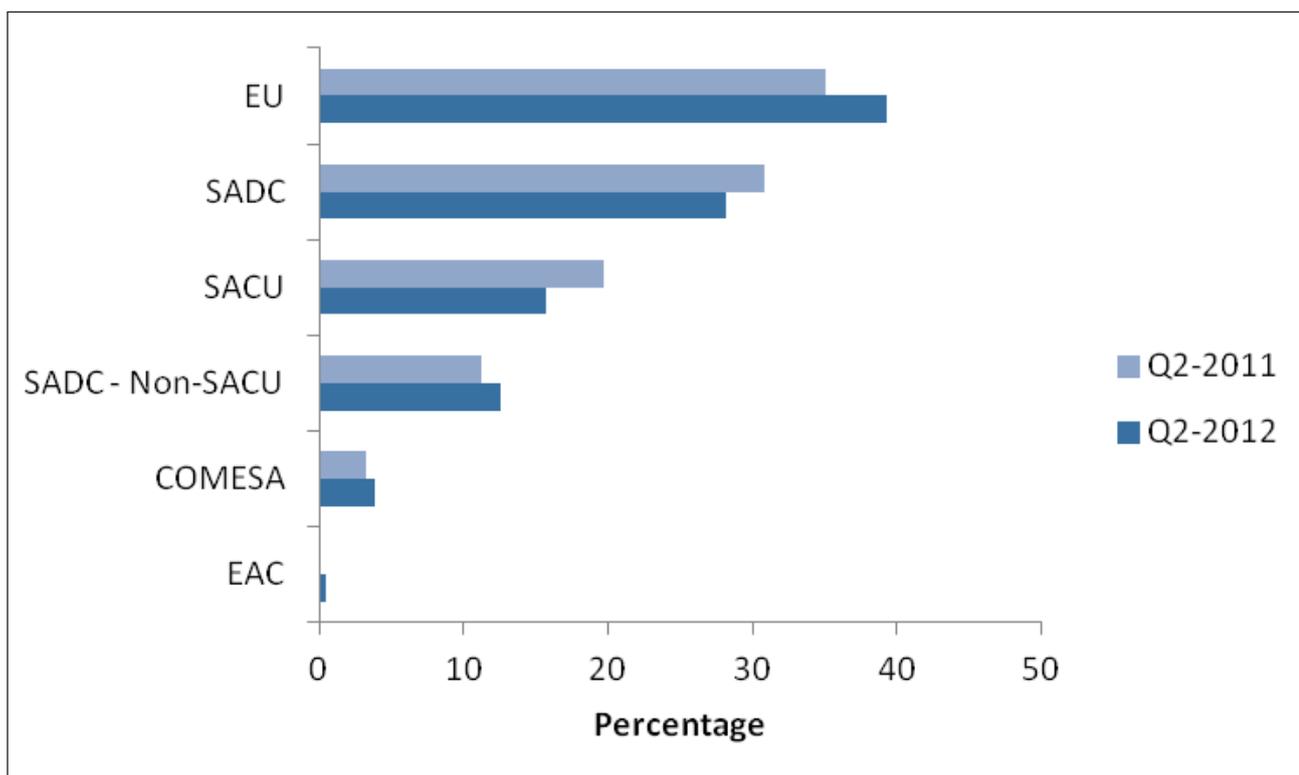
## Namibia's exports and imports by economic zones

### Exports

A breakdown of exports by economic zones shows that the bulk of Namibia exports during the second quarter went to the EU member states. During the period under review Namibia exported goods worth N\$ 5.1 billion to the EU member states, representing 40.7 percent of total exports. , During the same quarter of 2011, Namibia exported goods worth N\$3.4 billion, or 35.6 percent of total exports into the EU market. This represented an increase of 5.1 percent in exports to EU.

Export into the SADC market amounted to N\$6.6 billion representing a share of 29.2 percent. However, there was a drop in percentage of export to SADC during the 2012 second quarter compared to 31.4 percent registered in 2011. Export to SACU countries amounted to N\$2.0 billion in the reporting quarter representing a share of 16.2 percent which represented a decrease of 3.8 percent, as illustrated in char 2.

Chart 2: Exports by Economic Zones for Q2 of 2012 compared to Q2 2011



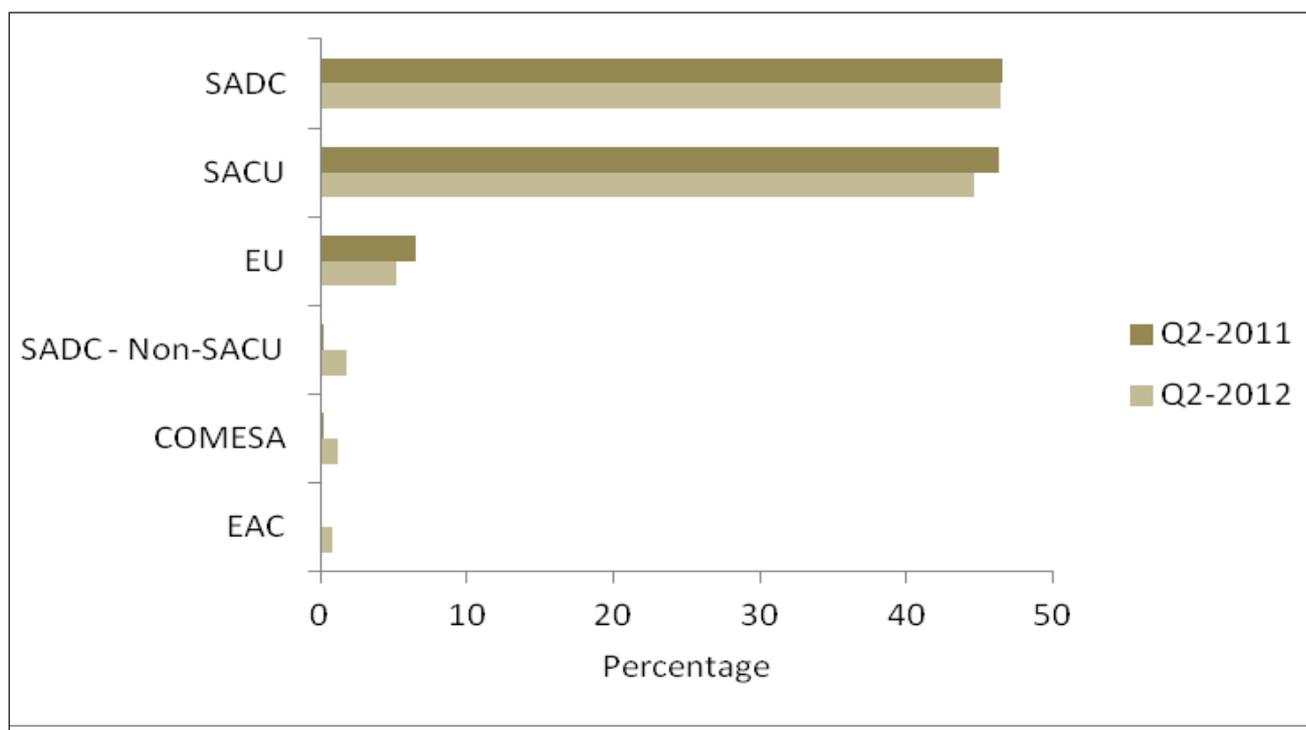
### Imports

During the second quarter of 2012, Namibia imported goods to the value of N\$10.3 billion from SADC countries, representing 72.3 percent of total imports. It was followed by SACU with a total 69.5 percent and the EU with 8.0 percent.

SADC NON SACU AND COMESA member states had the least share of Namibia's imports of N\$390 million and N\$260 million representing 2.7 percent and 1.8 percent, respectively.

The chart below shows a comparison of Namibia's Imports from different economic zones during the second quarter of 2012 and the second quarter of 2011.

Chart 3: Imports by Economic Zones for Q2 2012 compared Q4 2011



## Conclusion

During the second quarter of 2012, Namibia's total exports amounted to N\$12.5 billion compared to N\$9.5 billion in the corresponding quarter of 2011 representing an increase in total exports of N\$3.0 billion.

Imports in the second quarter of 2012 amounted to N\$14.3 billion compared to N\$10.5 billion in the corresponding quarter of 2011 an increase in total imports of N\$3.8 billion.

The second quarter of 2012 recorded a trade deficit of N\$ 1.8 billion compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011 in which a trade deficit of N\$968 million was recorded.

During the second quarter of 2012, key markets to which Namibia exported most of her products were the United Kingdom, South Africa, Angola and Belgium.

Namibia's imports were mainly sourced from South Africa, Switzerland, China and United Kingdom.

In terms of economic blocks, Namibia continued to trade mostly with the SADC, EU and SACU.

Major exports were precious or semi-precious stones and precious metals (diamonds); ores, slag and ash (uranium) and fish. Major imports were vehicles; minerals fuels and boilers and machinery.

## **A description of Namibia's Trade Statistics System**

This section briefly describes the sources of trade data; data processing; system of recording; classification systems and valuation basis.

### **Sources of trade data**

In Namibia, the main source of trade data is the Customs and Excise (C&E) Directorate in the Ministry of Finance. The C & E Directorate provides information which is basic to the compilation of foreign trade statistics that is processed and disseminated by Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA). Essentially, information is collected and captured from source documents, the import and export declarations made by traders and agents to the customs and Excise Directorate. At least 98 percent of Customs offices and border post are connected to the ASYCUDA++ system, data capturing software used by the C&E Directorate at the Ministry of Finance.

### **Data processing**

Data processing is done by the NSA using EUROTRACE, a microcomputer based program developed by the statistical office of the European Union (EUROSTAT).

### **System of recording**

Two systems of recording foreign trade statistics can be distinguished based on the criteria of recording the general trade system and the special trade system

In the special trade system, imports of goods are recorded once they enter the free circulation area. In the system imports comprise goods imported direct and goods withdrawn from free trade zones and bonded warehouses and stores, for consumption. Exports include only goods leaving the free circulation area of a compiling country.

In the general trade system, imports flows come from the rest of the world or from customs transit i.e. goods redirected from customs transit to remain in the economic territory. Export flows come from the free circulation area, premises for inward processing or industrial zones and premises for customs warehousing or commercial free zones. In Namibia the general trade system is used.

### **Classification systems**

Foreign trade statistics derived from customs declarations are based on a classification called the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS).

### **Valuation of imports and exports**

In trade statistics, imports are valued at Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF) prices and exports at Free on Board (FOB) prices. The CIF price is the price of a good delivered at the frontier of the importing country. This price includes any insurance and freight charges incurred to the point, or a price for delivery service to a resident before the payment of any import duties or other taxes on imports or trade and transport margins within the country.

The FOB is price of a good with no cost of transport and insurance charges, between the customs frontier of the exporting country and that of the importing country.

## Appendix

**Table 1: Export and Imports for quarter second of 2011 and quarter two of 2012 by month**

	2011 EXPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000,000)</i>	2011 IMPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000,000)</i>	2012 EXPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000,000)</i>	2012 IMPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000,000)</i>
April	2,857	3,273	3,907	4,621
May	3,579	3,497	5,075	4,236
June	3,111	3,745	3,508	5,458
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,547</b>	<b>10,515</b>	<b>12,490</b>	<b>14,315</b>

**Table 2: Namibia trade with SADC countries for quarter two of 2011 and quarter two of 2012**

Partner	2011 EXPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000)</i>	2011 IMPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000)</i>	2012 EXPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000)</i>	2012 IMPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000)</i>
ANGOLA	774,819	20,792	1,066,115	4,702
BOTSWANA	52,913	51,767	98,175	70,781
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	158,733	15	179,175	1,270
LESOTHO	1,822	388	2,116	0
MADAGASCAR	0	0	0	0
MAURITIUS	2,954	27	2,738	11,528
MALAWI	4,321	4	3,606	28
MOZAMBIQUE	43,104	4,824	60,088	9,537
SEYCHELLES	1,279	0	11	0
SWAZILAND	2,384	20,985	864	46,672
TANZANIA	1,051	181	56,137	174,668
SOUTH AFRICA	1,852,016	8,131,538	1,924,530	9,835,876
ZAMBIA	78,458	20,571	158,937	183,263
ZIMBABWE	21,450	2,329	92,554	5,352
<b>SADC TOTAL</b>	<b>2,995,303</b>	<b>8,253,420</b>	<b>3,645,045</b>	<b>10,344</b>

**Table3: Namibia trade with SACU countries for quarter two of 2011 and quarter two of 2012**

Partner	2011 EXPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000)</i>	2011 IMPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000)</i>	2012 EXPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000)</i>	2012 IMPORT <i>Value (N\$ 000)</i>
BOTSWANA	52,913	51,767	98,175	70,781
LESOTHO	1,822	388	2,116	0
SWAZILAND	2,384	20,984	864	46,672
SOUTH AFRICA	1,852,016	8,131,538	1,924,530	9,835,876
<b>SACU TOTAL</b>	<b>1,909,135</b>	<b>8,204,677</b>	<b>2,025,685</b>	<b>9,953,329</b>









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