

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS v2.0)

(user oriented)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: International Trade in Goods Statistics with third countries by Invoicing Currency (ITGS TIC), 2021

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1. Contact Top	
1.1 Contact organisation	Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT)
1.2 Contact organisation unit	Business Statistics Division, Statistics on External Transactions Section
1.3 Contact name	Eleni Pandi
1.4 Contact person function	Head of Statistics on External Transactions Section
1.5 Contact mail address	Pireos 46 & Eponiton str. 18510 Piraeus, Greece
1.6 Contact email address	e.pandi@statistics.gr
1.7 Contact phone number	(0030) 213 135 2042

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3.1 Data description		
<p>International trade in goods statistics (ITGS) measure the value and quantity of goods traded between the EU Member States (intra-EU trade) and goods traded by the EU Member States with non-EU countries (extra-EU trade). 'Goods' means all movable property including electricity. 'European' means that the statistics are compiled on the basis of the concepts and definitions set out in EU legislation.</p> <p>International Trade in Goods Statistics by Invoicing Currency monitor the total value of imports from Third Countries and exports to Third Countries by the currency in which the commercial invoice of the transaction is issued, as well as by the main product groups of the Standard International Trade Classification Rev. 4. Trade by invoicing currency (TIC) data are part of the information available for extra-EU trade.</p> <p>The invoicing currency is the currency in which the commercial invoice is issued, and it is recorded in accordance with the ISO alpha-3 currency code (ISO 4217). The primary data source for the compilation of these statistics is the Customs Authorities.</p> <p>The TIC data are grouped in the following currency categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 National currency of the non-euro area Member States 1 Euro 2 USA dollars 3 Currency other than the national currency of the non-euro area Member States, euro and dollars 4 Non – defined currency <p>Statistical dimensions available for TIC data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reporting country; • partner country; • reference period; • trade flows; • product; and • currency. 		
3.2 Classification system		
<p>Product classification</p> <p>Goods are primarily classified by commodity code as set out in the EU Combined Nomenclature. TIC data are compiled on the basis of a correspondence table enabling the transposition of detailed data collected according to the Combined Nomenclature into the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC). Under the Extrastat legislation, TIC data are available by three product groups: Raw materials without oil (SITC sections 0-4, excluding division 33), Oil (SITC division 33) and Manufactured products (SITC sections 5-8).</p> <p>SITC Rev. 4 is managed by the United Nations, is correlated with the subheadings of the Harmonised System and it comprises 2 970 basing headings which are aggregated into 262 groups, 67 divisions and 10 sections.</p> <p>Country classification</p> <p>The 'Nomenclature of countries and territories for the external trade statistics of the Union and statistics of trade between Member States', known as the 'Geonomenclature', is used to collect detailed statistics on exchanges of goods. TIC data are only disseminated at an aggregated partner level: partner 'extra-EU' for</p>		

TIC data reported by the EU Member States and partner 'world' for the TIC data reported by the EFTA and enlargement countries. See the publication <i>Geonomenclature applicable to European statistics on international trade in goods</i> for more information (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/international-trade-in-goods/methodology/manuals-and-guidelines).
3.3 Sector coverage
The scope of TIC data is the same as for monthly detailed data on extra-EU trade in goods. They cover all goods entering (imports) or leaving (exports) the national statistical territory and for which the trading partner is a non-EU country. Note that the statistical territory of Greece corresponds to its customs territory. As ITGS in general, TIC data cover all sectors of the economy.
3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions
<p>Reporting country – Except for some specific goods like vessels and aircraft, ITGS follow the physical movements of the goods. A country should record an import when goods enter its statistical territory and an export when goods leave that territory except if those goods are in simple transit.</p> <p>Partner country – At detailed level, this is the last known country of destination for exports and the country of origin for imports. However individual partner countries are not kept in the dissemination of data by invoicing currency. They are replaced by the partner area 'extra-EU'.</p> <p>Product – Goods are primarily classified by commodity code as set out in the EU Combined Nomenclature. TIC data are compiled on the basis of a correspondence table enabling the transposition of detailed data collected according to the Combined Nomenclature into the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC). TIC data are available by three product groups: Raw materials without oil (SITC sections 0-4, excluding division 33), Oil (SITC division 33) and Manufactured products (SITC sections 5-8).</p> <p>Currency – The invoicing currency is the currency in which the commercial invoice is drawn up. Its definition is provided by the customs legislation. The currencies or groups of invoicing currencies to be transmitted to Eurostat depend on the legislation which is applied by the reporting country, namely the Extrastat.</p> <p>Only the following currencies or groups of invoicing currencies are considered for data transmission to Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 National currency of the non-euro area Member States 1 Euro 2 USA dollars 3 Currency other than the national currency of the non-euro area Member States, euro and dollars 4 Non – defined currency
3.5 Statistical unit
The statistical unit is any natural and legal person lodging a customs declaration in Greece on the condition that the customs procedure is of statistical relevance.
3.6 Statistical population
The statistical population comprise all the legal or natural persons who lodged a customs declaration with the National Customs Authority of Greece.
3.7 Reference area
All regions of Greece are covered. The statistical territory of Greece coincides with their customs territory as defined in Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No. 2913/92 of 12 October 1992 establishing the Community Customs Code, as amended.
3.8 Time coverage
TIC data time coverage: 2010-2021.
3.9 Base period
Not applicable.

4. Unit of measure

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Trade values (in national currency units) by invoicing currency. The value of traded goods is calculated at the national frontier, on a FOB (free on board) basis for exports and a CIF (cost, insurance, freight) basis for imports. Hence, only incidental expenses (freight, insurance) are included and they are incurred for:

- exports in the part of the journey located on the territory of the country where the goods are exported from;
- imports in the part of the journey located outside the territory of the country where the goods are imported to.

5. Reference period

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Calendar Year.

6. Institutional mandate

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6.1 Legal acts and other agreements

The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is detailed in the following link:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/legal-framework>

EU Regulations:

Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European statistics

Extra-EU trade legislation (or Extrastat)

- Regulation (EC) No 471/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 113/2010

6.2 Data sharing

Not applicable.

7. Confidentiality

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7.1 Confidentiality - policy

The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are arranged by articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Law 3832/2010 as in force, by Articles 8, 10 and 11(2) of the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System and by Articles 10 and 15 of the Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT.

More precisely: ELSTAT disseminates the statistics in compliance with the statistical principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice and in particular with the principle of statistical confidentiality.

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-confidentiality?inheritRedirect=true>

Protection of personal data ELSTAT abides by the commitments and obligations arising from the applicable EU and national legislation on the protection of the individual from the processing of personal data and the relevant decisions, guidelines and regulatory acts of the Hellenic Data Protection Authority.

Pursuant to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data [Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR)], ELSTAT implements the appropriate technical and organisational measures for ensuring adequate level of security against risks for the personal data it collects and has access to, in the context of carrying out its tasks, in order to meet the requirements of this Regulation and to protect these personal data from any unauthorised access or illegal processing.

The personal data collected by ELSTAT are used exclusively for purposes related to the conduct of surveys and the production of relevant statistics. Only ELSTAT has access to the data. The controller is the person appointed by law pursuant to the relevant provisions concerning the Legal Entities of Public Law and the Independent Authorities. The data are stored in the databases of ELSTAT for as long as required by the relevant legislation.

Legal basis of the processing: Article 6, para 1(c) and 1(d) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) <https://www.statistics.gr/el/privacy-info>

7.2 Confidentiality - data treatment

- ELSTAT protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units that have provided them by the disclosure of individual information directly received for statistical purposes or indirectly supplied from administrative or other sources. ELSTAT takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by ELSTAT if and only if: a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS), in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.
- The confidential data that are transmitted by ELSS agencies to ELSTAT are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task and appointed by an act of the President of ELSTAT.
- ELSTAT may grant researchers conducting statistical analyses for scientific purposes access to data that enable the indirect identification of the statistical units concerned. The access is granted provided the following conditions are satisfied: a) an appropriate request together with a detailed research proposal in conformity with current scientific standards have been submitted; b) the research proposal indicates in sufficient detail the set of data to be accessed, the methods of analyzing them, and the time needed for the research; c) a contract specifying the conditions for access, the obligations of the researchers, the measures for respecting the confidentiality of statistical data and the sanctions in case of breach of these obligations has been signed by the individual researcher, by his/her institution, or by the organization commissioning the research, as the case may be, and by ELSTAT.
- Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the Statistical Confidentiality Committee (SCC) operating in ELSTAT. The responsibilities of this Committee are to make recommendations to the President of ELSTAT on:
 - the level of detail at which statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible;
 - the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users;
 - the granting to researchers access to confidential data for scientific purposes.
- The staff of ELSTAT, under any employment status, as well as the temporary survey workers who are employed for the collection of statistical data in statistical surveys conducted by ELSTAT, who acquire access by any means to confidential data, are bound by the principle of confidentiality and must use these data exclusively for the statistical purposes of ELSTAT. After the termination of their term of office, they are not allowed to use these data for any purpose.
- Violation of data confidentiality and/or statistical confidentiality by any civil servant or employee of ELSTAT constitutes the disciplinary offence of violation of duty and may be punished with the penalty of final dismissal.

- ELSTAT, by its decision, may impose a penalty amounting from ten thousand (10,000) up to two hundred thousand (200,000) euros to anyone who violates the confidentiality of data and/or statistical confidentiality. The penalty is always imposed after the hearing of the defense of the person liable for the breach, depending on the gravity and the repercussions of the violation. Any relapse constitutes an aggravating factor for the assessment of the administrative sanction.

Pursuant to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data [Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR)], ELSTAT implements the appropriate technical and organisational measures for ensuring adequate level of security against risks for the personal data it collects and has access to, in the context of carrying out its tasks, in order to meet the requirements of this Regulation and to protect these personal data from any unauthorised access or illegal processing.

TIC Confidentiality

ITGS data by invoicing currency are not detailed enough to make it possible to identify a specific trader. Therefore no specific data treatment is required.

8. Release policy [Top](#)

8.1 Release calendar

The Press Releases Calendar announces, approximately, 4 months before the beginning of the reference year the exact release dates of the data, which are posted on the website of ELSTAT.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Press Releases Calendar is distributed to the press and is available to all interested parties free of charge. It is also posted on the website of the ELSTAT (www.statistics.gr) at the link <https://www.statistics.gr/el/calendar#102022>.

8.3 User access

Press Release "Statistics on International Trade in Goods with third countries by invoicing currency" is published in the ELSTAT's website, in the following link: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SFC10/>

9. Frequency of dissemination [Top](#)

Statistics with third countries by invoicing currency are disseminated yearly.

10. Accessibility and clarity [Top](#)

10.1 News release

Regarding the international trade in goods statistics with third countries by invoicing currency, a Press Release including tables of data, for the reference year 2021 is published: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SFC10/>

10.2 Publications

The means of dissemination used so that the TIC data is made available to public, is ELSTAT's website, and the procedure of the provision of TIC data to users following their request to the portal of ELSTAT.

10.3 On-line database

Press Release.

10.3.1 Data tables - consultations

Not applicable

10.4 Micro-data access
Anonymised micro-data are provided to researchers according to the procedure for dissemination of confidential data for scientific purposes.
10.5 Other
http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE
10.5.1 Metadata – consultations
See document TIC Quality indicators
10.6 Documentation on methodology
Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS) Statistics - ELSTAT
10.6.1 Metadata completeness – rate: 100%
10.7 Quality documentation
ELSTAT compiles, detailed annual quality report for the International Trade in Goods Statistics based on Eurostat's requirements. TIC quality indicators refer to relevance, accuracy and timeliness and punctuality. Detailed quality report of International Trade in Goods Statistics with third countries by invoicing currency, is available at the ELSTAT's portal, in the format required by the European institutional framework (Single Integrated Metadata Structure): An integrated system of quality controls (including IT tools) for data completeness, reliability and validity controls is implemented in order to ensure high quality data.

11. Quality management	Top
11.1 Quality assurance	
<p>The quality policy of ELSTAT is described in the following link: http://www.statistics.gr/en/policies</p> <p>ITGS EU Regulations include articles to assure data quality in line with the European Code of Practice principles and the Member States are required to provide Eurostat with annual quality reports including TIC data for quality and compliance assessment.</p>	
11.2 Quality assessment	
<p>International trade in goods statistics with third countries by invoicing currency compiled from the monthly detailed ITGS data. The high quality of this primary data source reassures TIC data quality.</p>	

12. Relevance	Top
12.1 User needs	
The main users are Enterprises, Ministries, Universities, etc. User needs are monitored on a daily basis.	
12.2 User satisfaction	
http://www.statistics.gr/en/user-satisfaction-survey	
12.3 Data completeness	
TIC data are compiled based on ITGS statistics. The applied methodology is in line with European practices, in order to ensure data completeness.	
12.3.1 Data completeness - rate	
See document TIC Quality indicators	

13. Accuracy and reliability	Top
13.1 Overall accuracy	
<p>TIC data are considered of high accuracy and provided mainly from Customs Authorities which is a reliable source. The Customs Authorities are competent for the collection of data on trade with third countries, while the compilation of the relevant statistics is under the responsibilities of ELSTAT.</p> <p>The statistical data on imports and exports with Third Countries are compiled on the basis of the monthly data from the Customs Authorities. The data from the incomplete customs declarations, after having been completed, are replaced by the respective final one.</p> <p>The overall accuracy is considered of high degree as Extrastat is the system for collecting external trade data with third countries (non-EU countries). The primary data source for the compilation of these statistics is the Customs Authorities.</p>	
13.2 Sampling error	
<p>International trade in goods statistics are not affected by sample surveys errors.</p> <p>13.2.1. Sampling error – indicators</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>	
13.3 Non-sampling error	
<p>Not applicable.</p> <p><u>13.3.1 Coverage error</u></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p><u>13.3.1.1 Over-coverage – rate</u></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p><u>13.3.1.2 Common units – proportion</u></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p><u>13.3.2 Measurement error</u></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p><u>13.3.3 Non response error</u></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p><u>13.3.3.1. Unit non-response – rate</u></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p><u>13.3.3.2. Item non-response – rate</u></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p><u>13.3.4. Processing error</u></p>	

Not applicable.

13.3.5 Model assumption error

Not applicable.

14. Timeliness and punctuality

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14.1 Timeliness

TIC statistics are transmitted timely to Eurostat at T+3 months following the reference year.

14.1.1 Time lag - first result

See document [TIC Quality indicators](#).

14.1.2 Time lag - final result

Not applicable.

14.2 Punctuality

All TIC data are compiled and transmitted timely to Eurostat at T+3 months in electronic form via EDAMIS.

14.2.1 Punctuality - delivery and publication

TIC statistics are disseminated at national level at T+4 months on a yearly basis.

See also document [TIC Quality indicators](#)

15. Coherence and comparability

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15.1 Comparability - geographical

The reporting and partner countries are classified according to the 'Nomenclature of countries and territories' for the external trade statistics of the Community, known as the 'Geonomenclature' thus ensuring geographical comparability among ITGS statistics.

15.1.1 Assymetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

Not Applicable.

15.2 Comparability over time

As no methodological change occurred in recent years on definitions, classifications, coverage or methods, there is no impact on the continuity of the time series. The only change relates to the definition of the intra-versus extra-EU areas following Croatia's adhesion to the EU in 2013 (from extra-EU27 to extra-EU28 partner areas). Moreover, under the withdrawal agreement endorsed by the European Parliament on 29 January 2020, the United Kingdom continued to be part of the European Union's customs and tax territory until 31 December 2020, but trade flows between the United Kingdom and the EU were considered transactions with a Third Country. Data source for the compilation of International Trade in Goods Statistics with Third Countries by invoicing currency is the monthly data of the Customs Authorities. Bilateral trade statistics with the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland) continued to be collected through Intrastat declarations system during 2021. Intrastat does not collect data on invoice currency.

15.2.1 Length of comparable time series

2010-2021

15.3 Coherence cross-domain

The cross domain coherence is ensured resulting from the comparison of the trade values in TIC data and trade values of detailed data of ITGS statistics.

15.3.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

Consistency between monthly, quarterly and annual ITGS statistics have a high cross-domain consistency between monthly, quarterly and annual statistics as they follow common methods of collection and compilation.

15.3.2 Coherence – National Accounts

ITGS have a high degree of coherence with the National Accounts, as International Trade in Goods statistics are their main source for National Accounts.

16. Cost and burden

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The data are transmitted by administrative data sources. Additionally, the compilation of TIC statistics is mainly based on web applications and IT tools and there is no additional cost and burden for their compilation..

17. Data revision

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17.1 Revision policy

Data revision, if needed, is based on the Revision Policy of ELSTAT that is available at the link: <http://www.statistics.gr/en/policies>

17.2 Revision practice

The TIC data will be revised in accordance with the international trade in goods statistics revised data.

17.2.1 Data revision - average size

Not applicable

18. Statistical processing

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18.1 Source data

International trade in goods statistics – Extra EU Trade (ITGS).

18.2 Frequency of data collection

Monthly.

18.3 Data collection

Collection of trade in goods data

The Customs Authorities transmit to ELSTAT, on a monthly basis, an electronic file with all the imports and exports on the basis of the custom declarations lodged, pursuant to Article 2 of Regulation 92/2010.

Collection of the invoicing currency

Through the customs declarations in the fields of the Single Administrative Document all the required information is collected.

18.4 Data validation

A wide range of quality controls are carried out during the whole process of the compilation of ITGS in order

to fully meet the requirements of European regulations aiming at ensuring completeness, reliability and validity of statistics, thus resulting to high quality data, fully harmonized with international standards. The results of the TIC statistics ensure high quality as all variables are collected, in compliance with the requirements of the European institutional framework.

A set of quality controls are applied supported by modern IT applications:

- •micro data validation controls are implemented at Provider Statistical Information (PSI) level;
- •processing of Extrastat raw data by ELSTAT;
- •validation rules at the earliest stage;
- •complex validation rules for continuous variables (e.g. statistical value, quantity in net mass, etc.).

18.5 Data compilation

The statistical data on imports and exports of goods with the Third Countries, are mainly derived from the data transmitted by the Customs Authorities and incorporate the provisional data from the “incomplete customs declarations”. In the monthly data on trade with third countries; the “incomplete customs declarations” data after having been completed are replaced by the final data.

International Trade in Goods by Invoicing Currency data are grouped by currency categories depending on the currency of the commercial transaction invoice and by product group and on the product category. The statistical value is expressed in euro (€), irrespective of the currency indicated.

The data are grouped in the following currency categories:

- 0 National currency of the non-euro area Member States
- 1 Euro
- 2 USA dollars
- 3 Currency other than the national currency of the non-euro area Member States, euro and dollars
- 4 Non – defined currency

Classification of Goods:

The goods are classified in compliance with the Standard International Trade Classification Rev. 4. Data are grouped by the following SITC Product groups:

1. Raw materials without oil (sections 0 — 4, excluding division 33)
2. Oil products (division 33)
3. Manufactured products (sections 5-8).

The total of all SITC sections may be bigger than the sum of the three main groups, since SITC section 9 “Products, non-classified” is not presented in any of the three main groups, yet it is calculated in the total of products of all the SITC sections.

18.6 Adjustment

Not applicable.

18.6.1 Seasonal adjustment

Not applicable.

19. Comment

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