

1 Introduction

This publication provides estimates of Pakistan's imports of goods and services compiled by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on annual basis. Import payments of goods cover all payments for commodities that are/ or to be imported from the non-residents by the residents and with a few specified exceptions, undergo change in ownership (actual or imputed).

Major part of the imports payments data compiled by Statistics and data Services Department, SBP, is reported by Authorized Dealers of foreign exchange under International Transactions Reporting System (ITRS). The imports estimates are arrived at a uniform f.o.b. valuation by deducting the element of freight of total import payments through banks¹; including import payments through offshore account and adding the imports not covered by the banking channel i.e. imports financed by suppliers' credit and other credits, grants etc. Estimates of imports of capital goods supplied to Pakistani branches or subsidiaries from the parent companies abroad are included based on annual survey of foreign investment. The imports under personal baggage, land borne imports from Afghanistan and imports of Exports Processing Zone (EPZ) from the rest of world are also included.

The imports data released by SBP under BOP is mainly based on exchange records; on the other hand, data compiled by Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) are based on flow of commodities crossing Pakistan Custom's boundaries. The BOP imports are on f.o.b. basis whereas PBS releases imports on c.i.f. basis. Majority of imports data are received from banks, however imports not covered by banks is covered under the head "Other

Imports Unaccounted for by Scheduled Banks".

From April 2003 data of import payments is compiled according to Harmonized System of classification. HS Coding System was developed under the auspices of the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) now known as the World Customs Organization (WCO).

The commodities are classified according to HS classifications into twenty-one sections as follows:-

1. Live Animals; Animals Products
2. Vegetable Products
3. Animal or Vegetable Fats, Oils and Waxes
4. Prepared Foodstuffs; Beverages, Spirits, Vinegar and Tobacco
5. Mineral Products
6. Products of Chemical or Allied Industries
7. Plastics and Articles thereof; Rubber and Articles thereof
8. Raw Hide and Skins, Leather, Fur Skins and Articles thereof
9. Wood and Articles of Wood
10. Pulp of Wood or Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material
11. Textiles and Textile Articles
12. Footwear, Headgear, Umbrellas, Walking Sticks
13. Articles of Stone, Plaster, Cement, Asbestos, Mica or Similar Materials
14. Natural or Cultured Pearls, Precious or Semi-Precious Stones, Metals
15. Base Metals and Articles or Base Metal
16. Machinery and Mechanical Appliances, Electrical Equipment and Appliances
17. Vehicles, Aircraft, Vessels and Associated Transport Equipment

¹ Coefficient of CIF margin is based on a representative sample of importers used to segregate freight component from Import Payments.

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18. Optical, Photographic, Measuring, Checking, Precision Medical or Surgical Instruments
19. Arms and Ammunition; Parts and Accessories thereof
20. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles
21. Works of Arts, Collectors, Pieces, Antiques and Special Transaction NES

Due to the increasing tendency for trade agreements to cover services as well as goods and the need for statistics to support implementation of these agreements, imports of services data is included in the publication. The data will help the government and policy makers in planning and promoting trade in services. The data on trade in services that takes place between residents and non-residents is according to the definitions and classification of the IMF's manual on Balance of Payments and International Investment Position 6th edition (BPM6). The classification of services under BPM6 is as follows:-

1. Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others
2. Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.
3. Transport
4. Travel
5. Construction
6. Insurance and pension services
7. Financial services
8. Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.
9. Telecommunications, computer, and information services
10. Other business services
11. Personal, cultural, and recreational services
12. Government goods and services n.i.e.

Structure of the publication is as follows:-

1. Import of Goods by Commodity and Services by Type

1.1 All Countries

1.2 Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

1.3 Middle East

1.4 European Union (EU)

1.5 Eastern Europe

1.6 Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

1.7 South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

2. Import of Goods and Services by Country

3. Import of Goods by Country/ Commodity and Services by Country/ Type

4. Import of Goods by Commodity/ Country and Services by Type/ Country

5. Country/ Commodity Matrix of Import Payments.

Owing to difference in coverage, timing, valuation and classification of exchange record vis- à-vis customs record; the figures in this publication are likely to differ from those released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Government of Pakistan.

This is last publication in this form and in future data will be shared through an archive file making the same available on SBP website and EasyData.

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