

## 25. Aerospace trade

The aerospace sector accounts for about 35% of total OECD exports in goods, with OECD economies still representing 90% of the global aerospace export market shares. The OECD countries exported aerospace goods for a total value of about USD 309 billion in 2012, and imported goods for USD 194 billion. The main OECD exporting countries were the United States, France, Germany and the United Kingdom, which are homes to 16 of the 20 top global aerospace and defence manufacturers. The United States, France and Germany were also the top importers of aerospace goods, followed by the United Kingdom, China and the United Arab Emirates. Asia and the Middle East are particularly homes to rapidly growing airlines, with air traffic inside China projected to grow annually by almost 8%, (Boeing, 2013). Few countries export more aerospace final goods (e.g. entire aircraft and satellites) than intermediate goods (e.g. aircraft and satellite components, propulsion equipment), and those that do tend to be among the top exporters. The importance of intermediate goods and services in trade is growing. In 2012, the biggest exporters of intermediate products were the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Singapore, while the biggest importers of intermediate products were the United States, France, Germany and the United Kingdom. Some 18 countries showed a positive aerospace trade balance in 2012, with the United States, France and Germany having an aerospace trade surplus of more than USD 20 billion. Ireland and Japan are the OECD countries with the highest negative trade balances. The negative aerospace trade balance of China amounted in 2012 to USD 18 billion. Some details in trade for selected countries can be found in Chapter 6 (country profiles).

**Methodological notes**

Trade data are extracted from the Bilateral Trade in goods Database by Industry and End-Use (BTDixE) is derived from the OECD's International Trade by Commodities Statistics (ITCS2) and the UNSD's Comtrade3, where annual values and quantities of imports and exports are compiled by partner country and according to product classifications. Trade commodity statistics are broken down into intermediate goods and final goods, with intermediate goods meaning products that are used as inputs in the production of other goods. The volume of trade in intermediate goods depends on the availability and variety of producer countries, as well as the volume of inter-company trade. Mirror flows may not match between two countries, the export values from country A to country B (reported by country A) may well not agree with the import values to country B from country A (reported by country B). Although asymmetries exist for almost all trade flows, the differences observed may be relatively small.

**Sources**

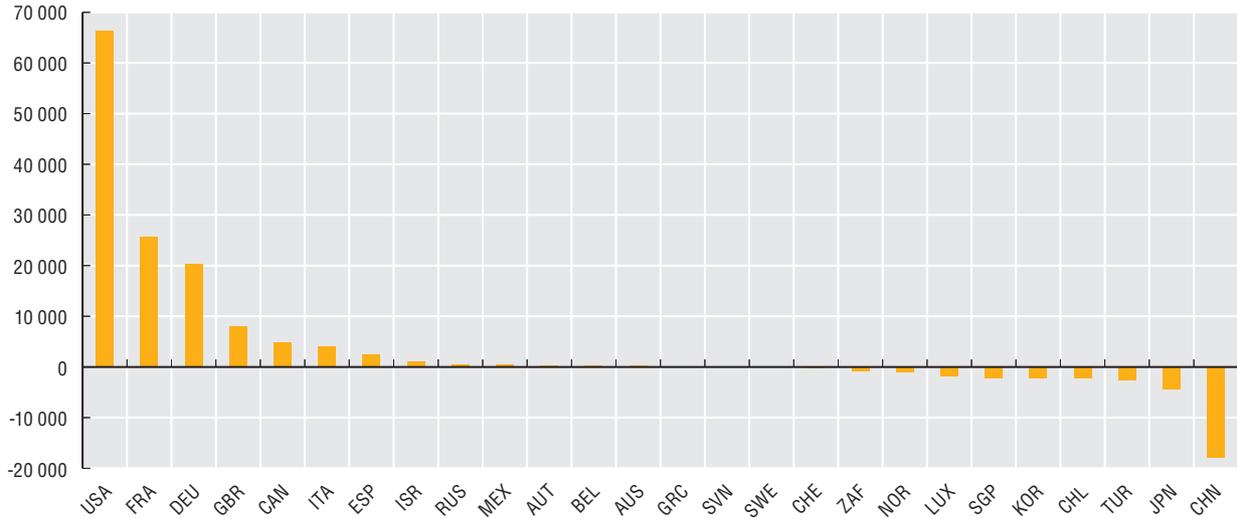
- OECD (2014), STAN Bilateral Trade in Goods by Industry and End-use (BTDixE), ISIC Rev.4, Paris, data extracted 27 May, [www.oecd.org/sti/btd](http://www.oecd.org/sti/btd).
- OECD (2014), *Main Science and Technology Indicators database*, [www.oecd.org/sti/msti](http://www.oecd.org/sti/msti).

**Note**

Information on data for Israel: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932315602>.

25.1. Aerospace trade balance for selected OECD and non-OECD economies

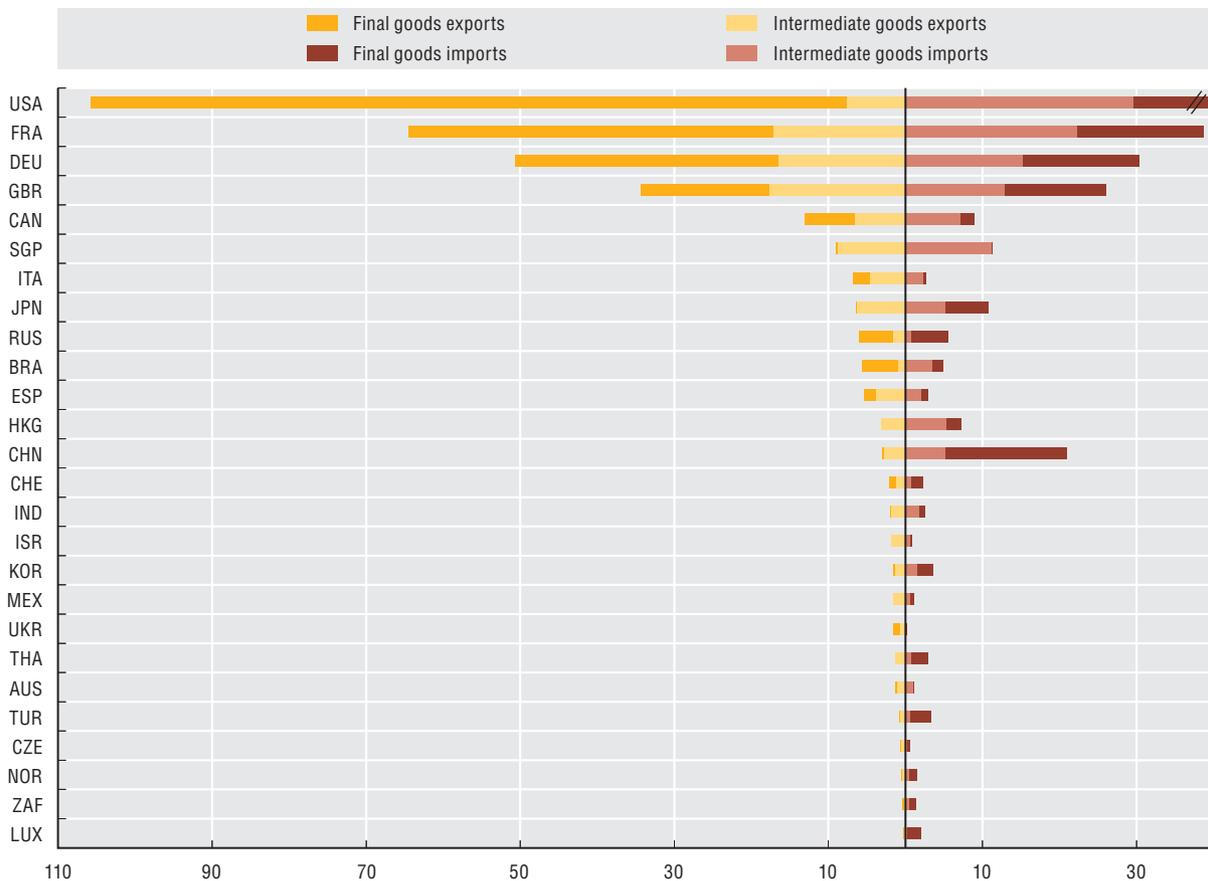
In million USD (current), 2012 or latest year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933142007>

25.2. Aerospace exports and imports for selected OECD and non-OECD economies

In billion USD (current), 2012



Source: OECD STAN Database.

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933142026>



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