



الهيئة العامة للإحصاء
General Authority for Statistics

International Trade in Services Statistics 2026

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is meant by International Trade in Services?

International Trade in Services refers to the exchange of intangible services between countries, whereby one party provides a service, and another party consumes it across borders. This includes, for example, financial services, consultancy services, travel, and other types of services.

Do the statistics include transactions between affiliated or related entities?

Yes. If the transaction takes place between a resident entity and a non-resident entity, it is included in the statistics, even if both parties belong to the same corporate group.

What are the approved data sources for International Trade in Services statistics?

Two main sources are relied upon to ensure accuracy and comprehensiveness:

- **International Trade in Services Survey:** Data are collected from a sample of establishments based on economic activity.
- **Administrative records:** These include data from several relevant entities such as the Saudi Central Bank, Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Finance, Insurance Authority, and other related entities.

Is there alignment between the data published by GASTAT and those published by the Saudi Central Bank regarding services data?

Yes. Data are periodically aligned with the Saudi Central Bank to ensure consistency and integration.

Has coordination taken place with other relevant entities in reviewing the methodology?

Yes. Coordination has been carried out with relevant entities to ensure that the methodology is consistent with local and international requirements and aligned with the best international practices and standards.

Which establishments are targeted in the International Trade in Services Survey?

The survey covers all large and medium establishments, while a representative sample of small and micro establishments is selected using a statistical approach that ensures balance and adequate representation of economic activities.

How does International Trade in Services affect economic policies?

The data provides a scientific basis for formulating trade and investment policies and help decision-makers assess the performance of service sectors and enhance their competitiveness in global markets.

Do the statistics include domestic transactions for verification purposes?

The data are limited to transactions between residents and non-residents only, in accordance with the survey scope.

What classification is used to record services in international trade?

The Extended Balance of Payments Services Classification (EBOPS 2010) is used as the unified international standard, enabling consistent comparison of the Kingdom's results with those of other countries.

What is the publication frequency of International Trade in Services statistics?

Annual / Quarterly

How can researchers and interested users access detailed methodology information?

Through the methodology published on the official website of the General Authority for Statistics.



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