

DEM. REP. OF THE CONGO**Elemental mercury imports and exports**

Data source: UN DESA/ESD/UNSD - Comtrade statistics - downloaded 11Apr2006

Tariff system: SITC rev.2

Tariff code: 52216

Filter: Trade value ≥ \$US 0

Comments:

Period	Exporting partner countries		Target country: Dem. Rep. of the Congo				Importing partner countries			
		Reported exports to target country	Reported imports from partner country (on left)		Reported exports to partner country (on right)		Reported imports from target country			
Year	Country name	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Country name
1995	So. African Customs Union	0	2077							
1996	Kenya	66	869					718	4063	Bangladesh
1996	So. African Customs Union	0	1012							
1998	Kenya	238	1687							
1998	So. African Customs Union	0	5346							
1999	Kenya	101	1349							
1999	So. African Customs Union	3812	30674							
2000	South Africa	1125	2071							
2001	South Africa	363	3288							
2002	Kenya	578	6279							
	South Africa	753	6038							

See last page for explanation of table entries

Explanation of table entries -

The purpose of the table above is to summarize all of the basic statistics for imports and exports of elemental mercury to and from the "target" country during 1995-2005. On the date of 11 April 2006, when these statistics were retrieved from the Comtrade database, the database was thought to be quite incomplete for the year 2005, mostly complete for the year 2004, and quite complete for previous years.

The six columns on the left side of this table present mercury flows from other countries into the target country. These six columns include four columns with details of the mercury import flows into the target country – two columns for reported mercury quantity, and two columns for reported mercury value. The rationale for presenting these four columns is quite simple. For a variety of reasons, the trade flow of mercury between the partner country (second column on the left) and the target country may have been recorded (and reported to Comtrade) by the partner country, by the target country, or by both countries. Regardless of which country or countries submitted trade statistics to the Comtrade database, and regardless of the details of the statistics submitted, all statistics concerning mercury flows into the target country are included in the left side of this table.

The five columns on the right side of this table list mercury flows from the target country into other countries. These five columns include four columns with details of the mercury export flows from the target country to each partner country (far right column) – two columns for reported mercury quantity, and two columns for reported mercury value. As described above, different countries may have submitted different sets of trade statistics to Comtrade. Regardless of which country or countries submitted trade statistics to the Comtrade database, and regardless of the details of the statistics submitted, all statistics concerning mercury flows leaving the target country are included in the right side of this table.

It is therefore possible that statistics submitted by some trade partners are not the same as those submitted by the target country. If the discrepancies are large, it could be useful for the reporting agencies of the partner country and the target country to compare their records in order to better understand the details of the mercury trade between their two countries. In the interest of improving its own understanding of global mercury trade and statistical challenges, UNEP Chemicals would be pleased to receive explanations of any such discrepancies investigated by the reporting agencies, as appropriate.