

COSTA RICA
Elemental mercury imports and exports
Data source: UN DESA/ESD/UNSD - Comtrade statistics - downloaded 11Apr2006

Tarif system: SITC rev.2

Tarif code: 52216

Filter: Trade value ≥ \$US 0

Comments:

Period	Exporting partner countries		Target country: Costa Rica				Importing partner countries			
	Country name	Reported exports to target country	Reported imports from partner country (on left)		Reported exports to partner country (on right)		Reported imports from target country		Country name	
Year	Country name	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Country name
1995	Germany			62	1770			70	1318	Colombia
1995	USA	980	18729	812	14922					
1996	Areas, nes			1	10					
1996	USA	1312	23552	7062	25955					
1997	Areas, nes			1	63					
1997	USA			23	2394					
1998	Areas, nes			2	173					
1998	United Kingdom	24	18723							
1998	USA	1437	20524	1937	26613					
1999	Italy			10	509	500	2			Areas, nes
1999	USA			20	1051					
2000	USA			792	8385	5187	269			Areas, nes
2001	Areas, nes			0	4	78	4			Areas, nes
2001	USA			132	4109					
2002	USA			906	16585					
2003	Areas, nes			3	53					
2003	Spain	148	2582							
2003	USA			308	4418					
2004	Areas, nes			17	267					
2004	Denmark			4	1919					
2004	USA			542	3614					

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.