

DEM. PEOPLE'S REP. OF KOREA **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:				Importing partner countries				
			Dem. People's Rep. of Korea								
	Year	Country name	Reported exports to target country	Reported exports to target country	Reported imports from partner country (on left)	Reported imports from partner country (on left)	Reported exports to partner country (on right)	Reported exports to partner country (on right)	Reported imports from target country	Reported imports from target country	Country name
		Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)		
1995	China, Hong Kong SAR	6187	25724								
1995	China, Hong Kong SAR (re-export)	6187	25724								
1995	Singapore	2000	7818								
1996	China	5000	31466								
1996	China, Hong Kong SAR	39859	205448								
1996	China, Hong Kong SAR (re-export)	39859	205448								
1996	Japan	43640	269850								
1997	China, Hong Kong SAR	7812	38362								
1997	China, Hong Kong SAR (re-export)	7812	38362								
1997	Japan	4125	28327								
1998	China	74066	371385								
1998	Japan	3000	18262								
1998	Singapore	3000	16873								
1999	China	2000	8000								
1999	Japan	3000	19507								
1999	Singapore	3000	18057								
2000	China	2000	8399								
2000	Japan	2000	12766								
2000	Singapore	5000	25318								
2001	China	10000	65533								
2001	Singapore	21218	105795								
2002	Singapore	20011	100879								
2003	Netherlands	2500	31693								
2003	Singapore	5000	26860								

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Year	Country name	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Kg mercury	Value (\$US)	Country name
2004	Netherlands	1437	13686							

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.