

SOUTH AFRICA

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: South Africa				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
2000	Areas, nes			3	204	253	727			Areas, nes
2000	Finland			3437	19626			165031	2854	Botswana
2000	Netherlands	7875	41780	898	4548	1125	2071			Dem. Rep. of the Congo
2000	Russian Federation			3625	17113	5937	12438	7000	25557	India
2000	Spain			3437	17650	30	945			Mozambique
2000	Swaziland	20000	572					113	1348	Namibia
2000	United Kingdom			429	4701			4062	1744	Swaziland
2000	USA			667	609			82	515	Zambia
2001	Areas, nes			3	290	88	68			Areas, nes
2001	Finland			6875	33398			71753	850	Botswana
2001	France	97	4476			363	3288			Dem. Rep. of the Congo
2001	Netherlands	4812	14330	1375	6887			0	5541	Lesotho
2001	Spain	207	949	3687	19415	60	946			Malawi
2001	United Kingdom			261	2825	45859	12726			Saudi Arabia
2001	USA			250	983	20	1184			Zambia
2001						101	591			Zimbabwe
2002	Finland			6875	39697	56	588			Areas, nes
2002	Kyrgyzstan			3437	20417	753	6038			Dem. Rep. of the Congo
2002	Netherlands	4625	24567	1062	9006			0	1393	Lesotho
2002	Spain	1500	16868	269	2267	62	866	62	714	Mauritius
2002	United Kingdom			312	1466			97	1516	United Kingdom
2002	USA			21	816	66	592			United Rep. of Tanzania
2002								222	764	Zambia
2002						238	1916	0	5375	Zimbabwe
2003	Areas, nes			13	361	35	714			Angola
2003	Finland			3437	23393	3	426			Areas, nes
2003	Netherlands	10812	71309	898	8663	60	1319	60	1158	Mauritius
2003	Rep. of Korea			2437	19244	4812	13863			Netherlands
2003	Spain			6875	43335	125	1543	66	1638	Saudi Arabia

See last page for explanation of table entries

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	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
2003	United Kingdom			136	6230			97	1578	United Kingdom
2003	USA			156	1645	70	966			United Rep. of Tanzania
2003						24	599			Zambia
2003						4125	35317			Zimbabwe
2004	Areas, nes			71	89	128	945			Areas, nes
2004	Germany	97	1000	21	773	85	3070	82	3437	Mauritius
2004	Netherlands	8062	98293	1375	18442	15750	47330			Netherlands
2004	Spain			6875	82344			82	951	United Rep. of Tanzania
2004	United Kingdom			226	3650	621	11104	2250	40581	Zimbabwe
2004	USA			78	553					

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.