

## LATVIA

## 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			
			Latvia							
		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	Areas, nes			1	7					
1996	Austria	0	2361					27253	123108	Netherlands
1997	Areas, nes			1	65					
1998	Areas, nes			5	277	18	6			Areas, nes
1999	Areas, nes			6	121	8	2			Areas, nes
1999	Netherlands			97	5009					
2001	Areas, nes			0	398	10	2			Areas, nes
2003	Areas, nes			0	191	4	3			Areas, nes
2004	Areas, nes			0	37					

### ***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.