

## DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

The Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics publishes monthly data on imports and exports of goods classified according to international standards. Imports and exports data is one of the earliest economic indicators published every month.

Imports and exports of goods are one of the basic components of balance of payments and national accounts. Imports and exports data are used by a variety of users to calculate values:

1. Balance of payments – current transactions with the rest of the world.
2. National accounts – export and imports of goods and services and income paid abroad, estimation of private consumption expenditure, estimation of changes in inventories, estimation of the gross product of the diamonds sector, estimations of investments in transportation equipment and machinery, gross domestic product and national income.
3. ICBS other internal users – agriculture, transports and industry departments.
4. Government and public organizations – the Bank of Israel, the Manufacturers Association of Israel, the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor and various other public and private organizations.

### Foreign Trade Publications

The Foreign Trade Sector at the Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics publishes monthly data on values of imported and exported goods, imports and exports price indices and exchange rates. Values of imports and exports are published according to the following classifications: countries, Industry, economic use (imports), section and chapter (based on the Harmonized System), SITC, Country of origin and country of purchase (imports) and technological intensity.

Foreign Trade Sector publications list:

	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
1.	Israel's Foreign Trade	Monthly	10-13 days following the end of the month	Internet	Press release, under embargo
2.	Israel Foreign Trade By Country	Monthly	17-20 days following the end of the month	Internet	Press release
3.	Foreign Exchange Rates	Annual	January	Internet	Press release
4.	Foreign Trade Price Indices	Quarterly	70-90 days after the end of the quarter	Internet	Press release
5.	<a href="#">Foreign Trade Statistics Monthly</a>	Monthly	28-30 days after the end of the month	Internet	
6.	Imports by Country of Origin	Annually	August	Internet	Press release
7.	Exports by Country Groups and Industry	Annually	October	Internet	Press release Statistical Abstract of Israel tables 16.1-16.2
8.	Trade Balance of Manufacturing Exports and Imports by Technological Intensity	Annually	July	Internet	Press release

	Publication	Frequency	When	Where	Remarks
9.	Statistical Abstract of Israel	Annually	September		Chapter 16
10.	Imports to Israel, 1996-2001- Commodities and Countries	Annually		CD	Payment required
11.	Imports to Israel, 2002-2006- Commodities and Countries	Annually		CD	Payment required
12.	Imports to Israel, 2007- Commodities and Countries	Annually		CD	Payment required
13.	Exports from Israel, 1996-2007- Commodities and Countries	Annually		CD	Payment required
14.	<a href="#">Imports and Exports by Commodities and Countries 2008</a>	Annually		Internet	
15.	<a href="#">Foreign Trade (Statisti-lite)</a>			Paper and Internet	
16.	<a href="#">Israel's Foreign Trade (with selected countries)2005(Statisti-lite)(Int.)</a>			Paper and Internet	
17.	Annual presentation	Annually	January	Internet	

Most of the time series published on the internet are directly linked to the Central Bureau of Statistics Foreign Trade Database.

## The Population Investigated

1. Statistical data on foreign trade presented in the publications of the Central Bureau of Statistics relate solely to import and export of commodities. Data on import and export of services and the remaining international business of Israel are included in the Balance of Payments published quarterly in the "Monthly Bulletin of Statistics" and in greater detail in the Current Statistics series.
2. Imports and exports are recorded according to the "Special System", by which only that portion of the trade flowing through customs is included. Accordingly, imports do not include goods imported and stored in bonded warehouses, and exports do not include goods exported from these warehouses. Neither included are goods in transit.
3. Foreign trade statistics include, among others, the following goods and business activities:

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. United Nations, *International Trade Statistics, Concepts and Definitions*, Statistical Papers, Series M, No.52\ Rev 1, 1982.

- a. Personal import and export: personal effects of immigrants, seamen, returning residents and foreign diplomats (import) and of emigrants (export).
- b. Ships and aircraft are included in import and export data whether they have passed through Customs or not. Imports include ships purchased from abroad by Israeli companies and sailing under Israeli flag or a foreign flag. It should be noted that ships and aircraft do not undergo the procedure of passing through Customs.

Exports include ships and aircraft, which were produced in Israel and those, which were previously purchased and later resold abroad in the reporting period.

- c. Products for exhibitions and fairs are, in principle, included in foreign trade data only if they were sold or given away free of charge. Returns from exhibitions are not included in foreign trade but there are difficulties in identifying these flows.
- d. Equipment imported or exported on a lease basis (e.g., electronic computers and other data processing equipment).
- e. Gold and silver (non-monetary), both in processed or partly processed form, scrap and remnants intended for industry, smelting or medical use.
- f. Fuel and food supplied to foreign ships and aircraft in Israeli ports are included in export since 1969, even though they did not pass through Customs.

4. Special transactions and commodities not included in foreign trade statistics:

- a. The trade data do not include the transactions with the residents of the Palestinian Authority. The data also do not include the value of the import and export commodities, which were released by the Israeli customs and belong to the residents of the Palestinian Authority. Data regarding the trade with residents of the Palestinian Authority is published in the balance of payments.
- b. Commodities imported or exported for a limited period of time and returned without having undergone any processing, e.g. personal effects of tourists (including cars); goods intended for exhibitions, fairs, displays, etc.; commodities intended for temporary storage only; equipment sent to perform contract work and returned after use.
- c. Effects purchased by tourists in Israel or by Israelis abroad. An estimate of the value of these purchases is included in the account of services in the Balance of Payments. In cases where duty has been charged on goods purchased by Israeli tourists, the goods were included in total imports.
- d. Engines and parts of aircraft sent by local airlines to their branches or representatives abroad for replacement or repairs and those sent to Israel from branches abroad for repairs or replacement.
- e. Fish caught by Israeli fishing vessels.
- f. Monetary gold, securities and legal tender (notes and coins) or currency about to be made legal tender (local currency notes printed abroad are recorded according to the value of the printers and not according to face value).
- g. Fuel and food supplied to Israeli ships and aircraft in foreign ports (recorded in Balance of Payments as services).
- h. Ballast and dunnage supplied to foreign ships in Israeli ports and to Israeli ships in foreign ports.
- i. Imported military equipment and weapons (estimated value is included in the commodities account in the Balance of Payments). The flow is not included in the import of goods because it does not undergo the usual procedure of passing through customs.

5. Values below the customs threshold are not included in the statistics. The imports threshold is US\$ 50 and the exports threshold is US\$ 100.

6. The date of statistical registration of the import is the date of the release of the goods by the Customs authorities, whereas for exports it is the date of loading the goods on the ship.
7. Data on import of fuel include crude oil and petroleum products such as residual fuel oil, gasoline and coal and its by-products.
8. An important portion of the fresh agriculture exports is carried out by the consignment method. After the sales the data are revised according to the actual revenue based on reports submitted to the CBS by different companies.
9. Diamond imports are recorded until 31 December 1982 according to administrative summaries and since 1 January 1983 - according to the system of all imports. The change in the recording system was applied on 1 August 1982.
10. Data on the import and export of commodities are published according to countries, blocs, regions and continents. The countries within the group are arranged alphabetically according to the Hebrew name of the country within the group.
11. Changes in the membership status of countries in trade blocs, as well as merges and splits, directly influence the list of countries published by the ICBS.

Follow a list of such changes:

- On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1990, West Germany and East Germany merged into one country. From January, 1991, data on West Germany and East Germany is published under the country name "Germany".
- In 1991 URSS split into 15 new sovereign countries. Since January 1992, data is published separately for the countries: Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Russian Federation, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.
- Since August, 1, 1992, data regarding former Yugoslavia is associated to the new sovereign countries: Yugoslavia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Croatia.
- Since January, 1, 1994, data regarding former Czechoslovakia is associated to the countries: Czech Republic and Slovakia.
- Since 1993, trade data is published separately for Belgium and Luxembourg.
- Since February 2003, data regarding Yugoslavia is published under the new official country name, Serbia-Montenegro.
- Since 2008, trade data is published separately for Serbia and Montenegro.
- The European Union include in 1951 only six founder members: Italy, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, West Germany and France. Other countries joined the EU in the years:
  - 1973 – Ireland, United Kingdom and Denmark
  - 1981 – Greece
  - 1986 – Spain and Portugal
  - 1990 – East Germany (as a consequence of the merge with West Germany)
  - 1995 – Austria, Sweden and Finland
  - May 2004 – Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.
  - 2007 – Bulgaria and Romania

The time series "European Union" and "Other European Countries" were updated according to the changes in membership.

## Data Sources

1. The main sources for imports and exports data are the forms submitted to the customs authorities by importers and exporters (import and export entry forms).
2. In certain cases the sources are administrative summaries prepared by institutions, which supervise the foreign trade of groups of products, such as aircraft and ships.
3. Imports and exports of ships and aircraft are recorded according to data obtained from the Ministry of Transport and airlines and shipping companies.

## Definitions

1. Trade data is published as:
  - a. Gross imports include consignments imported from abroad for local use (including finishing and repair) which are freed by the Customs immediately after unloading, or which were freed after a time from the bonded warehouses of the Customs. Import data do not include commodities put into bonded warehouses, except for a number of productive enterprises, which are recognized as bonded warehouses. Imports do not include consignments which were exported in the past and which were returned to Israel without any further processing.
  - b. Net imports are obtained by deducting from gross imports the value of goods imported earlier and returned to a supplier abroad without processing or changing its form. As there is no way of identifying the date of entry of the goods to Israel which are being returned abroad, the deduction is done on the date of return abroad. For this reason the returns are deducted from the grand total and not from items detailed by branches.
  - c. Gross exports include the flow of products abroad, except consignments of commodities which were previously imported and then returned to a supplier abroad without any processing. It also includes part-finished goods which are sent abroad for additional processing and which eventually will be returned to the sender, and goods which were imported and sold to abroad without processing, when the purchaser is not the supplier.
  - d. Net exports are obtained by deducting from the value of gross exports the value of goods, which were previously exported but were returned to the Israeli supplier without processing or change of form. As there is no means of identifying the original date of consignment abroad of exports returned from abroad, the deduction operates on the date of return rather than the date of original export. For this reason returns are deducted from the grand total and not from items detailed by branches (excluding diamonds).
2. Countries
  - a. The country of import is defined as "the country of purchase", i.e. the country from which the invoice for the goods imported to Israel was sent. In some cases, "the country of purchase" is different from the country of origin (the country of production) and from the country of shipment.
  - b. The country of export (destination) is defined as "the country of sale", i.e. the country to which the invoice for the goods exported from Israel was sent. In certain cases "the country of export" is different from the country of consumption and the country of shipment.
  - c. As from the agricultural export season of 1991/92 with the dissolution of the Board of Citrus Marketing and transfer of export to other companies, most shipments of

this export arrive to Belgium, and are bought by various agents, so there is no information on the country of the (final) destination of the commodity. It should be noted that the sale of flowers through the flower exchange is registered as exports to Netherlands and there is no possibility to classify by country of final destination.

## Classification of Commodities

1. The classification, according to which foreign trade statistics are processed and published, is the classification that serves the customs in handling the import and export shipments. Import data are classified according to the details in the customs tariff and export data - according to the "Classification of Export Commodities".

As of January 1<sup>st</sup> 1988, the customs' classification of commodities, which serves the customs and statistical data processing, was based on a new international nomenclature, which was prepared by the Customs Cooperation Council - The Harmonized Commodity and Coding System (H.S.). This nomenclature replaces the Nomenclature for Classification of Goods in Customs Tariff of which the last version was the C.C.C.N. - Customs Cooperation Council Nomenclature. In the special Supplement to Quarterly No. 4, 1988, details are presented on the new nomenclature, its aims, structure, and its principles of classification.

## Classification Structure

The international H.S. commodity codes consist of 6 numbers. Countries are permitted to get more detailed national statistics by adding numbers. In Israel, two additional positions are added to imports and exports commodity codes (until July, 15, 2008, only one position was added to export commodity codes). The resulting Israeli Customs eight positions classification is the base for the compilation of national foreign trade statistics.

The international classification is built hierarchically at 2, 4 and 6 levels that represent meaningful groups of commodities both from a logical and a statistical perspective. The highest level, "chapter", is composed of two positions and comprises ninety nine groups. "Chapters" are organized in twenty one "sections", represented by roman characters. The sections are not part of the hierarchical structure of the H.S. classification.

2. **S.I.T.C.** Import and export data are also classified according to the U.N. Standard International Trade Classification, in which goods are classified in groups that are better suited for statistical presentation. This classification is obtained by a special sorting of details in the customs classification and their concentration in groups according to the structure of the classification. More details on the S.I.T.C. and its last version are presented in the Supplement to the Foreign Trade Quarterly No. 1. In 1982, Israel adopted the update S.I.T.C. Rev.2. In 1988 S.I.T.C. Rev III was implemented. Since January 2007, foreign trade data is published according to S.I.T.C. Rev.4.
3. **Classification by Economic Branches** Export data are presented by branch of origin, meaning: the classification was done by the economic branch to which the product pertains by character. The division of the products into branches was done based on the description of the goods in the goods classification and not based on the exporter's branch. The definition of the branches is based on the classification of economic branches prepared by the CBS.

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- . **Customs Tariff and Exemption Ordinance for 2000**, edited according to H.S. - 1996, Kovetz Hatakanot No. 1121, 25 December 1997.
  - . The Ministry of Industry and Trade, The Customs Authority *Classification of Export Commodities Edited* according to H.S.- 1988, *Customs and Excise Dept.*, No. 511, 1 January 1988, updated for 1992.
  - . United Nations, *Standard International Trade Classification, Revision III*, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 34, New York 1986.

Since August, 2003, export data classified by new branch (origin) can be obtained from the Bureau's database (data from 1988).

Starting with Quarterly No. 1, 1995, data are published on export goods classified by new branch (origin).

Until this Quarterly export goods were classified according to the "Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Branches 1970" (Technical Publication No. 46).

4. **Classification by Economic destination.** This classification, according to which data on imports are presented, divides the items by three uses: consumer goods, raw materials for production and investment goods. Each use is sub-divided into secondary groups. In certain cases when a product is intended for more than one use, this product's import value is divided into the appropriate uses (e.g. passenger cars are both consumer goods and investment goods; sugar functions as consumer goods as well as a raw material for production).

In this classification the division of imports is into primary uses of the goods, i.e. the first use made of them: consumption, as raw materials - for production, or investment. Unprocessed and partly processed goods and components for assembling machinery and automobiles are classified as "raw materials". Spare parts, tools and accessories for additional use are also included under "raw materials". The classification by economic use is based on "Survey of Import Destination" which is conducted once in several years by the C.B.S.

The Classification of Import Commodities, by economic destination was updated in the No.3, 1993 Quarterly, as based on the Import Destinations Survey 1988. The results of that survey were published in Special Publication No. 952. Until the said quarterly, commodities were classified according to the 1982/83 survey. Since January, 2009, commodities related to automobiles and cellular phones are based on the Import Destinations Survey 2006. Notable changes in those time series were recorded as a consequence of that.

## Technological Intensity

Following the OECD industries classification dated 1997, industry branches were divide into four groups according to their Technological Intensity: **High Technology, Medium-high Technology, Medium-low Technology, Low Technology.**

This classification is based mainly upon the rate of investment in R&D as a share of output guided by two findings: (a) the higher is the investment in R&D, the higher is the usage of advanced technology (b) there is a strong link between high-technology production and usage of high technology.

### High Technology

### Medium-high Technology

### Medium-low Technology

### Low Technology

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. Central Bureau of Statistics, *The Standard Classification of All Economic Activities 1993*, Technical Publication No. 63, Jerusalem 1993.

## The Value of Commodities

1. **The value of imports** is determined by the importers' report to Customs being based on the value of the transaction as defined in the Treaty of Brussels on the Evaluation of Goods for Customs Purposes (1950). The value of the transaction represents the value for which the goods were sold supplemented by expenditure on transportation and insurance as far as the border of the importing country, including costs of unloading at the exporting port. This definition of the value of the transaction in imports corresponds to the value of the goods according to C.I.F. (Cost, Insurance, Freight).

In most of the cases, the value for Customs purposes includes an imputation of local costs - wharfage and portage fees.

Import taxes and other taxes levied on imported goods are not included in the value for Customs purposes.

In the event of import of products unaccompanied by monetary recompense, where difficulty exists in determining the value of the transaction (as in the case of gifts), the value is determined by an estimate based on market price. So, for example, the cost of import of gifts for museums is based on the valuation of an insurance assessor.

If imported commodities are freed against a deposit, the import is recorded according to the date of release against the deposit until the final settlement of the account. The amendment of this import is recorded with final settlement, which is also dated according to the actual release of the goods (in other words an amendment of the value of the import may take place after several months).

2. **Import** data are recorded in the import entry forms in the currency of the transaction and are calculated in Israeli Sheqels, according to the exchange rate on the date they are freed by customs and are converted into U.S. dollars too. The exchange rates for these purposes are the exchange rates for customs purposes on the date of the presentation of the entry forms. In the publications on Foreign Trade, the values of imports and exports are presented in U.S. dollars.

Since the floating of the Israeli Pound in October 1977, the rates of exchange between major foreign currencies and the Pound or the Sheqel are determined for customs according to the rate dictated by the customs authorities on the basis of data provided by the Bank of Israel. To the extent that exchange rates fluctuate more than 2 percent in the daily rate of any currency, as fixed by the Bank of Israel, so the rates for customs purposes may be changed even in the middle of the week.

Changes in the Israeli Currency were introduced in December 1980 and September 1985. In December 1980 the Israeli Pound was changed into Sheqel and the value of the change was 10 Israeli Pounds = 1 Sheqel. In September 1985 the Sheqel was changed by the New Israeli Sheqel and the conversion rate was 1,000 Sheqel = 1 Israeli New Sheqel.

3. **The Value of exports** data are recorded according to F.O.B. (free on board) transaction values before discounts and commissions are paid to foreign factors.
4. **Export** data are recorded in the export entry forms in Israeli Sheqels and in the currency in which the transaction is made. The conversion into U.S. dollars is carried out in the monthly summaries, according to the rate on the day the transaction was registered at customs.

## Seasonally Adjusted Data

Several tables present seasonally adjusted data.

Original data: Most series presented include monthly data. For the series for which monthly data is not available, quarterly data is presented.

Seasonally adjusted data:

The analysis is done by means of the improved computer program X11-ARIMA/2000 based on moving averages which calculates the seasonal factors-S for each month. These factors may change by use of supplemented or updated data.

Seasonally adjusted data include the prior adjustment factors for trading days and festivals dates (P) that were calculated simultaneously by a new method, which was developed by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Seasonal adjustments cannot be deducted from all the series and therefore some of the intermediate sums also include series for which no seasonal adjustments were found. The new classification of trade data by branch of origin enabled the expansion of seasonally adjusted data series. Starting with Foreign Trade Quarterly No. 1/1995, 8 new export series and 5 additional import series are published. Monthly data for 1988 and onward can be obtained from the Bureau's database for each basic series and for series totals.

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For further explanations, see: Central Bureau of Statistics:

[Seasonal and Prior Adjustment Factors for 2009. Trends for 2005-2009.](#)

[Seasonal and Prior Adjustment Factors for 2008. Trends for 2004-2008.](#)

[Seasonal and Prior Adjustment Factors for 2007. Trends for 2003-2007.](#)

[Seasonal and Prior Adjustment Factors for 2006. Trends for 2002-2006.](#)

[Seasonal and Prior Adjustment Factors for 2005. Trends for 2001-2005.](#)

[Seasonal and Prior Adjustment Factors for 2004. Trends for 2000-2004.](#)

## Price and Volume Indices

Price indices are intended to measure the change which occurred in the average price of total imports, of total exports, or of a group of commodities, between two periods.

The price of a single commodity is determined according to the average unit value of the exported or imported commodity.

The definition of commodities is based on the classification used for Customs tariffs (imports) and on the Classification of Exports Commodities (see chap. "Classification of Commodities"). In these classifications, commodity groups do not always specify single items of a uniform quality, but in some cases, groups of similar commodities are also specified and it is possible that in some cases the changes obtained in the price of the commodity, as it is defined in the classification, also actually reflect changes in various components of the group (commodity). In some cases, price indices of similar commodities, which are published abroad, are used as a substitute for the average unit value.

The information used in order to estimate price indices of foreign trade encompasses about 60 percent of the total import or export value.

The basket of commodities in the index is determined once a year according to the preceding year. The price indices are based on data of the preceding year and are chained to the annual average, which is presented in the tables.

Beginning with Quarterly no. 2/2009, indices are chained and presented on the base of 2005.

Beginning with Quarterly no. 2/2003, indices are chained and presented on the base of 2000.

Beginning with Quarterly no. 2/1998, indices are chained and presented on the base of 1995.

In order to calculate a continuous series based on 1991, the requested index must be multiplied by the 1995 index based on 1991.

Indices beginning with 1989 are calculated according to the "Harmonized System" whilst the indices of preceding years were compiled according to the B.T.N.

Some of the changes in the index between the said periods may be caused by the transition between the said classifications.

In this quarterly, the indices are calculated according to the Fisher formula, which is the geometrical mean of the indices according to the Laspeyres and Paasche formulas:

$$I_p^F = [I_p^L * I_p^P]^{1/2} = \left[ \frac{\sum(p_1q_0)}{\sum(p_0q_0)} * \frac{\sum(p_1q_1)}{\sum(p_0q_1)} \right]^{1/2}$$

### **Where:**

$I_p^F$  - Price index according to the Fisher formula

$I_p^L$  - Price index according to the Laspeyres formula

$I_p^P$  - Price index according to the Paasche formula

$p_1$  - Price in the current period

$p_0$  - Price in the base period

$q_1$  - Quantity in the current period

$q_0$  - Quantity in the base period

The price indices were computed according to the Laspeyres and Paasche formulas. Since the results of the two indices differed, it was decided to compute the indices` according to the Fisher formula. The difference is due to the method of quantitative weighting in the calculation of the average. According to the Paasche formula, weights are for the current period, i.e., the surveyed quarter year. Hence, the changes obtained in this index reflect also the changes in weights. Consequently, the index tends to diminish the price changes. In the calculation according to the Laspeyres formula, quantitative weighting is made according to the weights of the base year. Consequently, the index is not influenced from changes in weights between the surveyed quarter years and hence; the index tends to be generally higher than the index according to the Paasche formula. The 'ideal' index according to the Fisher formula is actually the geometric average of the two above said indices.

The volume index of foreign trade is also calculated according to the Fisher formula:

$$I_Q^F = \frac{V_I}{I_P^F}$$

Where:

$I_q^F$  - Volume index according to the Fisher formula

$V_I$  - Value index

$I_p^F$  - Price index according to the Fisher formula

The indices of prices and volume of imports are also published according to economic destination whereas export indices - according to groups of economic industries and by technological intensity.

See [press releases](#) and [Price, Volume and Terms of Trade Indices](#).

Price, Volume and Terms of Trade Indices-Imports

Price, Volume and Terms of Trade Indices-Exports

Price Indices by Technological Intensity -Exports

Price Indices by S.I.T.C. - Imports

Price Indices by S.I.T.C. - Exports

## **Revision of the Import and Export Data**

1. The foreign trade data according to value as well as the classification of commodities and countries, which are currently published, sometimes require revision. The adjustments to the current figures become necessary due to errors and omissions in the sources (the customs' entry form) and in the different stages of processing of the data and also due to changes in the current data caused by conditional releases from customs (imports) and by consignment shipments (exports). A large number of revisions result from defects in the reporting of physical quantities. Data are amended currently during the year.
2. Indices data of a specific year are amended solely at the end of the year that is in the 4th Quarterly, which includes information on all the current year.

### **Revision of import and export of rough diamonds:**

As of December 1990 (and retroactively since January 1989), sales of rough diamonds to abroad have been recorded as "exports", whereas until then - these sales were defined as "returned imports", and were subtracted of the import data.

This change does not at all affect the data on the trade deficit.

## SPECIAL SYMBOLS

..	=	unknown or not for publication
0.0 cases	=	a value which is less than half the unit in which data are presented or no
*	=	provisional data
n.e.c.	=	not elsewhere classified
NIS	=	New Israeli Sheqels
blank space	=	irrelevant as a result of the table's structure
R	=	Revised data