International Trade and Integration Division, ECLAC - www.eclac.org/comercio
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## Key Findings

- In the first quarter of 2015, Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) exports reached 224 billion US\$ and the imports 248 billion US\$. Consequently, the trade balance in the region was negative by 24 billion US\$. This is due, mainly, to the deficits shown in the Central American countries, Brazil, and Colombia. Only Chile and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela registered important surpluses (see Table 1a).
- In the first three months of 2015, the exports in the region dropped by $11.6 \%$ and imports also fell by $5.8 \%$ with respect to the same period in 2014 (see Table 1a). This development now accumulates to two years of consecutive contraction.
- Honduras ( $+12.0 \%$ ), El Salvador ( $+10.8 \%$ ), and Guatemala ( $+3.9 \%$ ) were the only countries with an increase in their exports in the first quarter of 2015. Mexican exports basically remained stagnant ( $-0.4 \%$ ), while all the remaining countries in the region registered declines. The largest declines are found in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and Ecuador ( $-36.2 \%,-30.3 \%,-28.4 \%$, and $-26.3 \%$, respectively).
- In terms of imports, the highest growth rates were registered for the Dominican Republic ( $+21.6 \%$ ), Honduras ( $+11.1 \%$ ), Cuba ( $+7.9 \%$ ), and Nicaragua ( $5.0 \%$ ). The imports of Mexico increased slightly ( $+0.6 \%$ ). At the opposite end were Costa Rica ( $-18.5 \%$ ), Argentina ( $-16.1 \%$ ), Uruguay ( $-14.4 \%$ ), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela ( $-13.4 \%$ ), and Brazil ( $-13.2 \%$ ). Among the sub-regional integration schemes, only the purchases of the Caribbean Community increased ( $+0.4 \%$ ) while those of MERCOSUR, the Central American Market, and the Andean Community decreased by $13.6 \%, 5.5 \%$, and $4.1 \%$, respectively (see Table 1a).
- The exports declined in all the sub-regional integration schemes, those of the Andean Community ( $-25.4 \%$ ), of MERCOSUR ( $-19.2 \%$ ), of CARICOM ( $-10.9 \%$ ), and of the Central American Common Market ( $-1.4 \%$ ) (see Table 1a).
- The decrease in the region's exports between January and March 2015 was due to a sharp $20.2 \%$ decline in prices that could not be set off by an $8.6 \%$ increase in export volume. The only sub-region that experienced an increase in prices was the Caribbean. The remaining sub-regions registered decreases in prices with the most notable being in the Andean Community.
- All sub-regions, including Chile and Mexico, could increase their export volume, except the Caribbean countries, whose situation is opposite (see Figure 1b).
- The decrease in Latin America and the Caribbean exports in the first quarter in 2015 is in line with the $11.3 \%$ decrease in global exports. Likewise, the exports of Africa and the Middle East, the euro area and the United States fell by $33.0 \%, 15.0 \%$, and $4.4 \%$, respectively, while those of China increased by $4.5 \%$ (see Table 2).
- The intra-regional trade in the period January-March 2015 declined by $13.9 \%$ with the respect to the same period in 2014. If Mexico is excluded, the drop is even $14.9 \%$ (see Table 4). By that, the coefficient of intra-regional trade (measured by exports) is calculated as $18 \%$ on average ( $26 \%$ if Mexico is excluded).

Table 1. Latin America and the Caribbean: Trends in Goods Exports.
(Millions of current US\$ and change rates in percentages)
a) Accumulated, January - March 2015

|  | January-March 2015 |  |  | Change rate compared to January-March 2014 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Exports | Import | Balance | Exports | Imports |
| Argentina | 13395 | 13226 | 168 | -15.6 | -16.1 |
| Bolivia, Plurinational State of | 2279 | 2220 | 60 | -28.4 | -1.0 |
| Brazil | 42775 | 48333 | -5 558 | -13.7 | -13.2 |
| Chile | 17468 | 14748 | 2720 | -8.2 | -12.8 |
| Colombia | 9405 | 14113 | -4 708 | -30.3 | -4.4 |
| Costa Rica | 2416 | 3684 | -1 268 | -15.8 | -18.5 |
| Cuba | 1847 | 2162 | - 315 | -12.0 | 7.9 |
| Dominican Republic | 1992 | 4017 | -2 025 | -16.3 | 21.6 |
| Ecuador | 4892 | 6107 | -1 214 | -26.3 | -5.7 |
| El Salvador | 1428 | 2534 | -1 106 | 10.8 | -3.1 |
| Guatemala | 2780 | 4184 | -1404 | 3.9 | -4.5 |
| Honduras | 1152 | 2410 | -1 258 | 12.0 | 11.1 |
| Mexico | 90404 | 92605 | -2 201 | -0.4 | 0.6 |
| Nicaragua | 671 | 1397 | -726 | -2.3 | 5.0 |
| Panama | 168 | 2972 | -2 803 | -11.9 | -6.2 |
| Paraguay | 2466 | 2418 | 48 | -3.3 | -6.5 |
| Peru | 7864 | 9453 | -1 589 | -16.8 | -3.2 |
| Uruguay | 1643 | 2594 | -951 | -7.7 | -14.4 |
| Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of | 14718 | 12489 | 2229 | -36.2 | -13.4 |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 223876 | 247971 | -24 095 | -11.6 | -5.8 |
| Andean Community (CAN) | 24440 | 31892 | -7452 | -25.4 | -4.1 |
| Caribbean Community (CARICOM) | 4113 | 6305 | -2 193 | -10.9 | 0.4 |
| Central American Common Market (CACM) | 8615 | 17181 | -8 566 | -1.4 | -5.5 |
| Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) | 74997 | 79061 | -4 064 | -19.2 | -13.6 |

b) Exports, April 2014 - March 2015

|  | Apr-14 | May-14 | Jun-14 | Jul-14 | Aug-14 | Sep-14 | Oct-14 | Nov-14 | Dec-14 | Jan-15 | Feb-15 | Mar-15 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Argentina | 6398 | 7117 | 7387 | 6723 | 6599 | 6016 | 5967 | 5279 | 4573 | 4294 | 4064 | 5037 |
| Bolivia, P.S. | 1054 | 1204 | 1162 | 1188 | 1144 | 1109 | 1000 | 927 | 921 | 793 | 696 | 790 |
| Brazil | 19724 | 20752 | 20467 | 23024 | 20463 | 19617 | 18330 | 15646 | 17491 | 13704 | 12092 | 16979 |
| Chile | 6640 | 6891 | 6097 | 6333 | 5918 | 5810 | 6141 | 5744 | 7064 | 6103 | 5200 | 6165 |
| Colombia | 4317 | 5496 | 4698 | 5049 | 4813 | 5069 | 4302 | 3795 | 3768 | 2875 | 3128 | 3402 |
| Costa Rica | 984 | 1065 | 987 | 950 | 957 | 919 | 977 | 809 | 788 | 733 | 790 | 893 |
| Cuba | 684 | 742 | 715 | 715 | 733 | 735 | 715 | 632 | 722 | 638 | 603 | 606 |
| Dominican Republic | 818 | 907 | 879 | 863 | 845 | 839 | 876 | 738 | 829 | 614 | 654 | 724 |
| Ecuador | 1884 | 2604 | 2303 | 2138 | 2288 | 2104 | 2077 | 2030 | 1668 | 1610 | 1569 | 1714 |
| El Salvador | 422 | 488 | 469 | 486 | 434 | 434 | 425 | 423 | 403 | 424 | 478 | 526 |
| Guatemala | 940 | 947 | 892 | 949 | 874 | 885 | 880 | 853 | 937 | 881 | 888 | 1011 |
| Honduras | 362 | 412 | 362 | 390 | 303 | 281 | 301 | 269 | 361 | 326 | 380 | 446 |
| Mexico | 34060 | 34374 | 33436 | 33687 | 33287 | 34146 | 36879 | 32356 | 34144 | 26554 | 29716 | 34134 |
| Nicaragua | 217 | 232 | 238 | 218 | 218 | 207 | 197 | 195 | 225 | 197 | 216 | 258 |
| Panama | 65 | 68 | 86 | 76 | 73 | 72 | 75 | 54 | 60 | 52 | 53 | 64 |
| Paraguay | 1091 | 982 | 889 | 763 | 793 | 749 | 714 | 601 | 526 | 767 | 806 | 893 |
| Peru | 3027 | 3024 | 3142 | 3272 | 3518 | 3273 | 3255 | 3045 | 3149 | 2741 | 2535 | 2588 |
| Uruguay | 738 | 1094 | 1086 | 1052 | 820 | 722 | 640 | 609 | 626 | 517 | 541 | 585 |
| Venezuela, B.R. | 7011 | 7216 | 6813 | 6585 | 6495 | 6436 | 6657 | 6003 | 5926 | 5200 | 5150 | 4368 |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 92251 | 97251 | 93572 | 96230 | 92215 | 90815 | 91764 | 81376 | 85647 | 70534 | 70700 | 82641 |
| CAN | 10282 | 12328 | 11305 | 11647 | 11763 | 11555 | 10635 | 9797 | 9506 | 8018 | 7928 | 8494 |
| CARICOM | 1814 | 1637 | 1465 | 1769 | 1640 | 1392 | 1355 | 1369 | 1468 | 1512 | 1142 | 1459 |
| CACM | 2991 | 3212 | 3033 | 3069 | 2859 | 2797 | 2855 | 2602 | 2774 | 2613 | 2804 | 3198 |
| MERCOSUR | 34962 | 37161 | 36641 | 38147 | 35170 | 33540 | 32308 | 28138 | 29141 | 24482 | 22653 | 27862 |

c) Imports, April 2014 - March 2015

|  | Apr-14 | May-14 | Jun-14 | Jul-14 | Aug-14 | Sep-14 | Oct-14 | Nov-14 | Dec-14 | Jan-15 | Feb-15 | Mar-15 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Argentina | 5472 | 5858 | 6008 | 5920 | 5700 | 5612 | 5606 | 4818 | 4499 | 4221 | 4011 | 4994 |
| Bolivia, P.S. | 752 | 740 | 727 | 918 | 886 | 892 | 994 | 827 | 883 | 700 | 722 | 797 |
| Brazil | 19218 | 20037 | 18105 | 21450 | 19300 | 20556 | 19507 | 17996 | 17198 | 16878 | 14934 | 16521 |
| Chile | 5807 | 5440 | 5527 | 5943 | 5642 | 5420 | 5779 | 5273 | 6153 | 5062 | 4518 | 5168 |
| Colombia | 5455 | 5423 | 4955 | 6084 | 4902 | 5791 | 5847 | 5354 | 5489 | 4885 | 4587 | 4641 |
| Costa Rica | 1491 | 1553 | 1360 | 1400 | 1435 | 1404 | 1397 | 1319 | 1306 | 1204 | 1193 | 1287 |
| Cuba | 663 | 668 | 647 | 624 | 654 | 632 | 634 | 705 | 714 | 665 | 755 | 742 |
| Dominican Republic | 1268 | 1270 | 1160 | 1212 | 1201 | 1115 | 1226 | 1133 | 1145 | 1144 | 1240 | 1633 |
| Ecuador | 2211 | 2447 | 2243 | 2338 | 2389 | 2290 | 2565 | 2388 | 2391 | 2210 | 1878 | 2019 |
| El Salvador | 904 | 973 | 879 | 926 | 776 | 833 | 901 | 877 | 829 | 837 | 837 | 860 |
| Guatemala | 1521 | 1668 | 1443 | 1620 | 1462 | 1541 | 1575 | 1556 | 1510 | 1360 | 1293 | 1532 |
| Honduras | 771 | 872 | 788 | 793 | 812 | 782 | 761 | 790 | 771 | 732 | 800 | 877 |
| Mexico | 33562 | 34251 | 33051 | 34691 | 34484 | 33666 | 36943 | 33405 | 33861 | 29816 | 29124 | 33664 |
| Nicaragua | 446 | 493 | 496 | 499 | 503 | 448 | 577 | 545 | 539 | 418 | 489 | 489 |
| Panama | 1221 | 1123 | 1170 | 1069 | 1072 | 1316 | 1349 | 1092 | 1132 | 1019 | 922 | 1030 |
| Paraguay | 896 | 915 | 888 | 1044 | 1002 | 999 | 1090 | 905 | 975 | 819 | 771 | 827 |
| Peru | 3511 | 3419 | 3230 | 3520 | 3502 | 3318 | 3481 | 3168 | 3026 | 3287 | 2860 | 3305 |
| Uruguay | 822 | 1051 | 1024 | 947 | 850 | 990 | 1022 | 904 | 844 | 933 | 769 | 893 |
| Venezuela, B.R. | 4514 | 4859 | 4828 | 4813 | 4811 | 4821 | 4857 | 4615 | 4517 | 4152 | 4061 | 4276 |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 92471 | 94962 | 90742 | 98073 | 93417 | 94582 | 98323 | 89806 | 89970 | 82365 | 77805 | 87801 |
| CAN | 11929 | 12030 | 11154 | 12860 | 11679 | 12291 | 12887 | 11738 | 11789 | 11083 | 10047 | 10762 |
| CARICOM | 1965 | 1901 | 2215 | 2262 | 2034 | 2155 | 2211 | 2136 | 2188 | 2021 | 2039 | 2245 |
| CACM | 6355 | 6682 | 6136 | 6308 | 6060 | 6325 | 6561 | 6179 | 6087 | 5571 | 5535 | 6075 |
| MERCOSUR | 30922 | 32720 | 30852 | 34174 | 31663 | 32978 | 32082 | 29237 | 28033 | 27003 | 24547 | 27511 |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, the United States International Trade Commission (USITC), EUROSTAT of the European Union, Statistics Canada, the International Monetary Fund Direction of Trade Statistics (DOTS), and the Central American Monetary Council.
Notes: Data for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela are estimated based on mirror statistics from its main trading partners and the monthly DOTS trends are applied. Data for Cuba and the CARICOM countries are estimated based on mirror statistics. Data for Honduras and Nicaragua do not include maquila. Data for the Dominican Republic for the period January to March 2015 are estimated. MERCOSUR data include the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and those of CACM include Panama.

Figure 1. Latin America and the Caribbean: Trends in Exports, January - March 2015
a) Change compared to previous year
(in \%)

b) Decomposition of change in price and volume compared to previous year (in \%)


Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, EUROSTAT, and DOTS.
Notes: Data for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela are estimated based on mirror statistics from its main trading partners and the monthly DOTS trends are applied. Data for countries in the Caribbean (Cuba and CARICOM) are estimated based on mirror statistics. Cuba's deflator is built based on the volume imported by the European Union; the Caribbean's deflator is built based on the deflators reported by Guyana and Jamaica to the IMF. CACM data do not include Panama; they also do not include maquila for Honduras and Nicaragua. MERCOSUR data include the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Figure 2 and Table 2. Latin America and the Caribbean and Selected Regions: Trends in Value of Exports, January 2006 - March 2015

Latin America and Caribbean Exports: Main Destinations
(January 2006 index =100)


Growth Compared to Other Regions
(Accumulated to March each year)

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, EUROSTAT, Statistics Canada, DOTS, and CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis.
Notes: Data for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela beginning in October 2013 are estimated based on mirror statistics from its main trading partners and the monthly DOTS trends are applied. Data for Cuba and CARICOM are estimated based on mirror statistics. Figure 2 does not include Panama and the Dominican Republic; it does also not include maquila for Honduras and Nicaragua.

Between January and March 2015, the main export destinations of Latin America and the Caribbean were the United States (44.2\%), the region itself (18.0\%), and Asia (16.8\%). As regards imports, the United States also was the main source ( $31.2 \%$ ), followed by Asia ( $31.0 \%$ ), and the region itself ( $16.0 \%$ ). Imports from China alone represent $17.6 \%$ of the total (see Table 3). The recovery of exports to the United States should be noted, which in recent years had come to represent $40 \%$ of the value of the region's exports.

Table 3. Latin America and the Caribbean: Trade with Main Partners, April 2014 - March 2015
(Millions of current US\$)

|  | Apr-14 | May-14 | Jun-14 | Jul-14 | Aug-14 | Sep-14 | Oct-14 | Nov-14 | Dec-14 | Jan-15 | Feb-15 | Mar-15 | Share \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Exports | 91369 | 96276 | 92608 | 95290 | 91298 | 89904 | 90814 | 80584 | 84758 | 69868 | 69993 | 81854 | 100.0 |
| United States | 38110 | 38191 | 37193 | 38871 | 37449 | 38121 | 40577 | 35227 | 37816 | 29657 | 31542 | 36540 | 44.2 |
| European Union | 10547 | 11638 | 10977 | 10574 | 10424 | 9776 | 9729 | 8434 | 8720 | 7494 | 7696 | 8609 | 10.7 |
| Asia | 17468 | 19441 | 18709 | 18028 | 16565 | 15884 | 14674 | 13121 | 14919 | 12507 | 10802 | 13630 | 16.8 |
| China | 9663 | 10568 | 10070 | 8690 | 8296 | 6879 | 6220 | 5648 | 6388 | 5205 | 4668 | 6664 | 7.5 |
| Other Asia | 7805 | 8874 | 8639 | 9338 | 8269 | 9005 | 8455 | 7474 | 8530 | 7303 | 6134 | 6966 | 9.3 |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 16170 | 17311 | 15946 | 17171 | 16211 | 16201 | 16474 | 15166 | 14770 | 12439 | 12593 | 14876 | 18.0 |
| Rest of the World | 9074 | 9695 | 9783 | 10647 | 10649 | 9922 | 9360 | 8635 | 8533 | 7771 | 7360 | 8198 | 10.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imports | 89982 | 92569 | 88411 | 95792 | 91144 | 92150 | 95748 | 87581 | 87694 | 80202 | 75643 | 85138 | 100.0 |
| United States | 27817 | 28615 | 28057 | 28682 | 28513 | 28535 | 29928 | 27697 | 27326 | 24835 | 23047 | 27314 | 31.2 |
| European Union | 12991 | 12233 | 11805 | 13435 | 12713 | 12228 | 12578 | 11662 | 11840 | 10903 | 10093 | 8085 | 12.1 |
| Asia | 23978 | 25061 | 22808 | 26038 | 25549 | 26317 | 28265 | 24865 | 25014 | 24940 | 23401 | 26240 | 31.0 |
| China | 13272 | 14375 | 13093 | 15188 | 14948 | 15312 | 16581 | 14272 | 14642 | 14604 | 13230 | 14607 | 17.6 |
| Other Asia | 10706 | 10686 | 9715 | 10850 | 10602 | 11004 | 11683 | 10593 | 10372 | 10336 | 10172 | 11633 | 13.3 |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 16152 | 16905 | 16141 | 17092 | 15837 | 15937 | 16439 | 14932 | 15024 | 12318 | 12257 | 13951 | 16.0 |
| Rest of the World | 9045 | 9755 | 9600 | 10546 | 8532 | 9133 | 8538 | 8426 | 8489 | 7207 | 6844 | 9548 | 9.8 |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, EUROSTAT, Statistics Canada, and DOTS.
Notes: Includes data from Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and CARICOM. It does not include maquila for Honduras and Nicaragua. Data for Cuba and CARICOM are estimated based on mirror statistics of the United States, the European Union, Canada, and the rest of Latin America. In the case of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the total was disaggregated utilizing mirror statistics from the United States, the European Union, Japan, Chile, the rest of the MERCOSUR countries, the Andean Community, Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Nicaragua; DOTS structure was used for the rest of the destinations.

In the first quarter of 2015, the exports to China and the European Union decreased by $28.9 \%$ and $12.8 \%$, respectively, with respect to the same period in 2014. At the imports side, the largest drops are observed in those coming from the European Union ( $-17.1 \%$ ) and the region itself ( $-18.0 \%$ ). The only region with an increase in imports was Asia (+6.9), with a similar growth for China (+6.8\%).

Up to March 2015, the largest share of intra-regional trade was observed in the Central American Common Market (24.3\%), the only sub-region whose coefficient lay above the aggregated one for whole Latin America and the Caribbean (18.0\%). The Andean Community (CAN) remains the grouping with the lowest coefficient of intrasubregional trade (7.6\%). Moreover, the negative growth recorded for intra-CAN (-25.1\%) and intra-MERCOSUR trade (-17.7) and for the exports of Chile and Mexico to the region ( $-8.3 \%$ and $-6.5 \%$, respectively) should be noted (see Table 4).

Table 4. Latin America: Intra-Subregional and Intra-Regional Trade, April 2014 - March 2015
(Percentages of total exports and change rates)

|  | Apr-14 | May-14 | Jun-14 | Jul-14 | Aug-14 | Sep-14 | Oct-14 | Nov-14 | Dec-14 | Jan-15 | Feb-15 | Mar-15 | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \text { Change } \\ \text { Q1 15/Q2 } 14^{2} \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Intra CAN | 7.1 | 7.2 | 7.0 | 6.7 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 7.9 | 7.6 | 7.9 | 7.2 | 8.3 | 7.2 | -25.1 |
| Intra CACM | 22.9 | 22.9 | 24.1 | 24.0 | 24.6 | 24.5 | 26.1 | 26.8 | 23.7 | 25.2 | 24.0 | 23.5 | 1.7 |
| Intra MERCOSUR | 12.1 | 13.1 | 12.0 | 12.2 | 12.6 | 13.9 | 14.6 | 15.8 | 14.0 | 12.6 | 14.5 | 15.9 | -17.7 |
| Chile to LAC | 17.7 | 18.9 | 18.8 | 18.6 | 19.6 | 20.2 | 22.4 | 21.3 | 16.8 | 16.5 | 17.5 | 18.0 | -8.3 |
| Mexico to LAC | 6.5 | 6.9 | 6.4 | 6.6 | 6.4 | 6.5 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 5.8 | 6.0 | 5.9 | 6.0 | -6.5 |
| Intra LAC | 17.7 | 18.0 | 17.2 | 18.0 | 17.8 | 18.0 | 18.1 | 18.8 | 17.4 | 17.8 | 18.0 | 18.2 | -13.9 |
| Intra LAC w/o Mexico | 24.3 | 24.1 | 23.3 | 24.3 | 24.3 | 25.1 | 26.3 | 27.4 | 25.2 | 25.0 | 26.9 | 26.9 | -14.9 |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, EUROSTAT, and DOTS.
Note: It does not include maquila for Honduras and Nicaragua. MERCOSUR data include the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
${ }^{a}$ Growth rates with respect to the same period of the previous year.

## B - Trade by Category and Main Products

Table 5. Latin America and the Caribbean: Main Traded Product Categories, April 2014 - March 2015
(Millions of current US\$)

|  | Apr-14 | May-14 | Jun-14 | Jul-14 | Aug-14 | Sep-14 | Oct-14 | Nov-14 | Dec-14 | Jan-15 | Feb-15 | Mar-15 | Share \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| EXPORTS | 89756 | 94665 | 91630 | 93410 | 89897 | 88936 | 89934 | 79715 | 79346 | 67594 | 65063 | 73303 | 100.0 |
| Agriculture and Livestock | 11489 | 11934 | 11553 | 11528 | 11008 | 10011 | 10949 | 9634 | 10678 | 10815 | 9207 | 11083 | 12.9 |
| Mining and Petroleum | 24580 | 27617 | 26640 | 26347 | 25421 | 25686 | 24044 | 22085 | 22295 | 19321 | 17499 | 17896 | 27.9 |
| Manufactures | 53687 | 55114 | 53437 | 55535 | 53468 | 53240 | 54940 | 47996 | 46374 | 37458 | 38357 | 44324 | 59.2 |
| IMPORTS | 89143 | 91258 | 86734 | 94750 | 91051 | 92118 | 95874 | 87231 | 87422 | 75681 | 71185 | 81993 | 100.0 |
| Capital Goods | 15553 | 15552 | 14726 | 16353 | 15276 | 15974 | 17545 | 16490 | 16800 | 15025 | 12686 | 14757 | 17.9 |
| Intermediate Inputs | 43745 | 46904 | 43310 | 47239 | 46735 | 46005 | 48036 | 42269 | 42552 | 38482 | 37383 | 43432 | 50.4 |
| Consumption Goods | 17034 | 16907 | 16105 | 17407 | 17369 | 17917 | 18712 | 17286 | 16689 | 14369 | 13690 | 16170 | 19.1 |
| Fuels | 12811 | 11895 | 12593 | 13751 | 11671 | 12222 | 11582 | 11186 | 11380 | 7806 | 7427 | 7634 | 12.6 |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, and EUROSTAT.
Note: Includes data from Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Uruguay, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. It does not include maquila for Honduras and Nicaragua. Data for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela are estimated based on mirror statistics from its main trading partners that were assumed to have repeating shares in the same category in the same month of the previous year and the monthly DOTS trends are applied.

By product categories, the largest changes between January and March 2015 with respect to the previous year were registered in the exports of mining and petroleum ( $-23.6 \%$ ) and of manufactured goods that alone accounted for $59.0 \%$ of total exports and decreased by $13.6 \%$. Meanwhile, the exports of agricultural and livestock products increased by 4.3\%.

The decline in export value can be mainly explained by the change in oil, copper, and gas prices, which together represent about $30 \%$ of the total exports. Likewise, the Latin American commodities price index fell by $30.3 \%$ in the first three months of this year (see Table 6.b), with declines in iron, soy, sugar and increases in bananas and meat. In terms of export volume, all products registered increases, above all, soy, iron and beverages (see Table 6a).

Table 6. Latin America and the Caribbean: Main Products Exported, January 2015 - March 2015
(Millions of current US\$, percentages and price indices 2010=100)

## a) Selected Products

|  | Value |  |  |  | Prices |  |  |  | Volume change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Products | (D) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan-Mar } \\ 2014 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan-Mar } \\ 2015 \end{gathered}$ | Value change | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar } \\ & 2015 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan-Mar } \\ & 2014 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan-Mar } \\ 2015 \end{gathered}$ | Price change |  |
| Sugar | 2\% | 3398 | 3105 | -8.6 | 61.8 | 78.5 | 67.5 | -14.1 | 5.5 |
| Banana | 1\% | 1097 | 1166 | 6.3 | 118.7 | 107.5 | 110.6 | 2.9 | 3.4 |
| Beverages (A) | 2\% | 1966 | 2535 | 28.9 | 79.3 | 87.8 | 86.7 | -1.3 | 30.2 |
| Meats | 7\% | 6071 | 7525 | 23.9 | 136.2 | 125.7 | 141.9 | 12.9 | 11.1 |
| Copper | 8\% | 12363 | 10503 | -15.0 | 78.7 | 93.4 | 77.2 | -17.4 | 2.3 |
| Gas | 1\% | 2116 | 1423 | -32.8 | 63.9 | 118.2 | 65.5 | -44.6 | 11.8 |
| Iron-Steel (B) | 3\% | 3934 | 3795 | -3.5 | 46.6 | 96.8 | 51.2 | -47.1 | 43.6 |
| Oil | 21\% | 40262 | 27925 | -30.6 | 66.8 | 131.1 | 65.4 | -50.1 | 19.5 |
| Soy (C) | 3\% | 2379 | 3742 | 57.3 | 89.8 | 122.8 | 91.4 | -25.5 | 82.8 |
| Sub-total | 47\% | 73586 | 61717 | -16.1 | 38.3 | 55.4 | 38.6 | -30.3 | 14.2 |

b) Product Groups

| Prices |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (E) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan-Mar } \\ 2014 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan-Mar } \\ 2015 \end{gathered}$ | Price change | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar } \\ & 2015 \end{aligned}$ |
| Foodstuff | 10\% | 107.6 | 95.8 | -11.0 | 92.3 |
| Beverages | 3\% | 87.8 | 86.7 | -1.3 | 79.3 |
| Oils and flours | 8\% | 125.1 | 93.4 | -25.3 | 90.5 |
| Other agro | 9\% | 94.9 | 89.0 | -6.2 | 88.6 |
| Minerals and metals | 27\% | 92.0 | 70.3 | -23.6 | 68.7 |
| Fuels | 45\% | 126.7 | 68.9 | -45.6 | 71.4 |
| Total | 100\% | 109.9 | 76.3 | -30.6 | 75.8 |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, CEPALSTAT and the World Bank. See description in the Annex in Excel.
Notes: Product statistics are made up by main exporters in the region and not with all countries; in each case, they represent more than $70 \%$ of the annual total in that product. In the case of prices, it is an index calculated by ECLAC.
(A) Average of coffee, tea, and yerba mate; (B) Made up of iron and steel manufactures; (C) Soy grains; (D) Weight of each product in the total regional exports; (E) Weight of each group in natural resources and manufacturing exports in the region.

## Recent Activities of the International Trade and Integration Division

## Publications

- Rising concentration in Asia-Latin American value chains: Can small firms turn the tide? (Jun 2015)
- Latin America and the Caribbean and China: towards a new era in economic cooperation (May 2015)
- Economic relations between Latin America and the Caribbean and the Republic of Korea: Advances and opportunities (Apr 2015)
- La participación de América Latina y el Caribe en el Mecanismo de Solución de Diferencias de la OMC: una mirada panorámica a los primeros 20 años (Feb 2015)
- First Forum of China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC): Exploring opportunities for cooperation on trade and investment (Jan 2015)
- La Alianza del Pacífico y el MERCOSUR: hacia la convergencia en la diversidad (Nov 2014)
- Aid for Trade indicators Dashboard: user manual (Oct 2014)
- Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy 2014: Regional integration and value chains in a challenging external environment (Oct 2014)
- Oportunidades para el aprovechamiento del protocolo comercial entre Guatemala y Chile (Oct 2014)
- Informe del quinto seminario internacional sobre la huella de carbono "Prácticas públicas y privadas para reducir las huellas ambientales en el comercio internacional": CEPAL,13 y 14 de junio de 2013 (Sep 2014)
- The Panama Canal expansion: A driver of change for global trade flows (Aug2014)
- Institutionality, logistics and international cooperation for the economic and social development: The case of the Plurinational State of Bolivia (Aug 2014)
- Integración regional: hacia una estrategia de cadenas de valor inclusivas (May 2014)


## Events

- Reunión Regional sobre Sistemas de Compras Públicas en América Latina y El Caribe (15-16 Jul 2015, Ecuador)
- 2nd Academic Seminar of the Latin America and Asia Pacific Observatory: Exploring spaces for productive integration between Latin America and Asia Pacific (8-9 Jul 2015, Chile)
- Taller Regional: Capacitación en Inteligencia de Negocios (BI) aplicada a Riesgo y Valoración Aduanera y Modelo de Datos de la OMA (16-17 Jun, Costa Rica)
- Taller: Estudio de Encadenamiento Productivos en Sudamérica: aproximación a una Matriz de Insumo - Producto Regional (3-4 Jun 2015, Chile)
- Seminar: Expanding the role of SMEs in value chains between Asia and Latin America (29 Apr 2015, Chile)
- Taller: Innovación para exportar: Alimentos nostálgicos de El Salvador (23-24 Apr 2015, El Salvador)
- Seminario-Taller Internacional de PYME: Requisitos de Acceso al mercado de Estados Unidos (22 Apr 2015, Nicaragua)
- Meeting: Latin America's Prospects for Upgrading in Global Value Chains (14-15 Mar, Mexico)
- International Seminar "Trade, industrialization and green growth: Exploring opportunities for cooperation between the Republic of Korea and Latin America" (22 Jan2015, Chile)
- Evento Paralelo: Comercio y Cambio Climático: explorando una nueva agenda (11 Dec 2014, Chile/Peru)
- Seminario sobre Facilitación Comercial y de Inversión LAC-China (28 Nov 2014, Chile)
- Taller: Indicadores de comercio exterior y política comercial (30 Oct 2014, Bolivia)
- 5to. Encuentro Regional: Análisis de Políticas Públicas con Modelos de Equilibrio General Computable (EGC) (27 Oct 2014, Colombia)
- Taller Regional sobre datos estadísticos para la caracterización de las pymes exportaciones (22 Oct 2014, Chile)

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