

STATISTICAL TABLES ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES – 2018







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Notes

This is an unedited publication.

The term "dollars" (\$) refers to United States dollars unless otherwise stated. The term "billion" signifies 1,000 million.

Annual rates of growth and changes refer to compound rates. Exports are valued f.o.b. (free on board) and imports c.i.f. (cost, insurance, freight) unless otherwise specified.

Use of a dash (-) between dates representing years, e.g. 1981–1990, signifies the full period involved, including the initial and final years. An oblique stroke (/) between two years, e.g. 1991/92, signifies a fiscal or crop year.

Two dots (..) indicate that the data are not available, or are not separately reported.

A hyphen (-) indicates that the amount is nil or negligible.

Details and percentages do not necessarily add up to totals, because of rounding.

UNCTAD/LDC/2018/Stats

List of Tables

Ι.	Development indicators, 2000–2017, selected years	I
2.	Committee for Development Policy reviews: 2012, 2015 and 2018	2
3.	Indicators on area and population, 2018	3
4.	Real GDP growth, 2009-2018, selected years	4
5.	Real GDP per capita growth, 2009-2018, selected years	5
6.	Gross fixed capital formation, gross domestic savings and external resource gap in LDCs, 2009–2016, selected years	6
7.	Share of value added in main economic sectors in LDCs, 2000–2016, selected years	7
8.	Foreign direct investment inflows, 2009–2017, selected years	8
9.	Migrant remittance inflows to LDCs, 2009–2017, selected years	9
0.	Selected indicators on foreign debt burden, 2009–2017, selected years	10
1.	Selected indicators on education, 2017	11
2.	Employment by sector in LDCs, 1991–2017, selected years	12
3.	Total merchandise exports: Levels and annual average growth rates, 2009–2017, selected years	13
4.	Total merchandise imports: Levels and annual average growth rates, 2009–2017, selected years	14
5.	Product composition of merchandise exports, 2015–2017	15
6.	Product composition of merchandise imports, 2015–2017	16
7.	Main markets for merchandise exports of LDCs: share in 2015–2017	17
8.	Main sources of merchandise imports of LDCs: share in 2015–2017	18
9.	Total services exports: Levels and annual average growth rates, 2009–2017, selected years	19
20.	Total services imports: Levels and annual average growth rates, 2009–2017, selected years	20
21.	LDC merchandise and services export specialization, 2015–2017	21
22.	Total net ODA disbursements to LDCs by country and as percentage of GNI, 2009–2016, selected years	22
23.	Gross aid disbursement to LDCs by sector, 2005–2016, selected years	23
24.	Net ODA from individual DAC member countries to LDCs, 2000–2016, selected years	24
25.	Access to electricity in LDCs, 2000–2016, selected years	25

Abbreviations

DAC Development Assistance Committee

GDP gross domestic product

GNI gross national income

HDI Human Development Index

LDC least developed country

MPI Multidsimensional Poverty index

ODA official development assistance

ODC other developing country

Country groups and product classifications used in these tables

LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Geographical/structural classification

Unless otherwise specified, in this Report the least developed countries (LDCs) are classified according to a combination of geographical and structural criteria. The small island LDCs that are geographically in Africa or Asia are thus grouped with the Pacific islands to form the island LDCs group, due to their structural similarities. Haiti and Madagascar, which are regarded as large island States, are grouped together with the African LDCs.

African LDCs and Haiti: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

Asian LDCs: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Yemen.

Island LDCs: Comoros, Kiribati, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

Export specialization

UNCTAD has classified the LDCs under six export specialization categories, according to which type of exports accounted for at least 45 per cent of total exports of goods and services in 2014–2016.* The group composition is as follows:

Agricultural and food exporters: Guinea-Bissau, Malawi, Solomon Islands, Somalia.

Fuel exporters: Angola, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Yemen.

Manufactures exporters: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Haiti, Lesotho.

Mineral exporters: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Zambia.

Mixed exporters: Benin, Burundi, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania.

Services exporters: Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kiribati, Nepal, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu.

Other developing countries (ODCs):

All developing countries (as classified by the United Nations) that are not LDCs.

^{*} No merchandise exports data are available for South Sudan.

Product classification

Goods: The figures provided below are the codes of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), revision 3.

Primary commodities: Sections 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, division 68 and groups 667 and 971.

Agriculture and food: Sections 0, 1, 2, and 4, excluding divisions 27 and 28.

Minerals: Divisions 27, 28, 68, and groups 667 and 971.

Fuels: Section 3.

Manufactures: Sections 5, 6 (excluding division 68 and group 667), 7 and 8.

Labour-intensive and resource-intensive manufactures:

Divisions 61, 63, 64, 65, 82, 83, 84, 85, 66 (excluding group 667).

Low-skill- and technology-intensive manufactures:

Divisions 67, 69 and groups 785, 786, 791, 793, 895, 899.

Medium-skill- and technology-intensive manufactures:

Divisions 62, 71, 72, 73, 74, 77 (excluding group 776), 81, and groups 781 to 784, 893, 894.

High-skill- and technology-intensive manufactures:

Section 5, divisions 75, 76, 87, 88 and groups 776, 792, 891, 892, 896, 897.

Section 9 (Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC) has been included only in the total of exports of goods and services, but not in the goods classification above, except for group 971 (Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)), which has been included in Minerals.

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