



STATISTICAL TABLES

ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES - 2016



**THE STATISTICAL TABLES ON
THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES –
2016**

Note

This is an unedited publication.

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Foreword

The Statistical Tables on the Least Developed Countries – 2016 provides a collection of statistics and indicators relevant to the analysis of development in the least developed countries (LDCs). Reliable statistical information is indispensable for formulating sound economic policies and recommendations. The tables provide policymakers, researchers, academics, officials from national governments or international organizations, journalists, executive managers and members of non-governmental organizations access to cross-comparable sets of data. The tables are available online in document and spreadsheet format.

To help us provide better and more relevant statistics to users, you are invited to send your comments to **LDCR@unctad.org**.

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, due to their structural similarities. Haiti and Madagascar, which are regarded as large island States, are grouped with the African LDCs. South Sudan declared its independence on 9 July 2011, and became both an independent State and a United Nations Member State on 14 July 2011. Accordingly, starting with 2011, data for South Sudan and the Sudan, where available, are shown under the respective country name. For periods prior to the independence of South Sudan, data for the Sudan (former) include those for South Sudan unless otherwise indicated. The resulting groups are as follows:

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

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

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

Graduation projection

This year's Report also classifies LDCs into two groups according to their graduation prospects, as follows. The methodology for reaching this group composition is explained in box 2.1 of chapter 2.

LDCs projected to graduate in the period 2017–2024: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Kiribati, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Projected group of LDC by 2025: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, the Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

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 2013–2015. 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: The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Zambia.

Mixed exporters: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Myanmar, the Niger, Senegal, the Sudan, Togo, the United Republic of Tanzania.

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

* No data for Somalia services exports are available.

No export data for South Sudan exports are available.

Other groups of countries and territories

Developed countries: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Greenland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Holy See, Faeroe Islands, Gibraltar, Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

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

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.

Services: Total services cover the following main categories: transport, travel, communications, construction, insurance, financial services, computer and information services, royalties and licence fees, other business services, personal, cultural, recreational and government services.

Explanatory notes

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.

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