



Australia

ISCC Ranking: 49

Reducing the cost of international trade transactions has become a priority for Governments intent on facilitating the effective integration of firms in regional and global production networks. Along with improving availability and access to trade related infrastructure, cutting red tape and enhancing trade processes have become essential both to maintain competitiveness and enable smaller players to also benefit.

The latest data on international trade costs from the ESCAP-World Bank database suggest that Australia has made little progress on reducing trade costs with its Pacific Islands Economies neighbors, with relatively more progress made instead on reducing trade costs with East and North-East Asian partners. When tariff costs are excluded, trade costs between Australia and the United States are only slightly higher than those between Australia and some of the other Pacific Islands countries, suggesting further room for intra-regional trade facilitation.

Australia ranks 49th of 179 countries according to the ESCAP International Supply Chain Connectivity (ISCC) Index, a new index released on the occasion of the Asia-Pacific Trade & Investment Week (November 2013) which captures the extent of a country's facilitation of import and export processes as well as its access to efficient maritime services. Australia made maintained its level of supply chain connectivity since 2006.

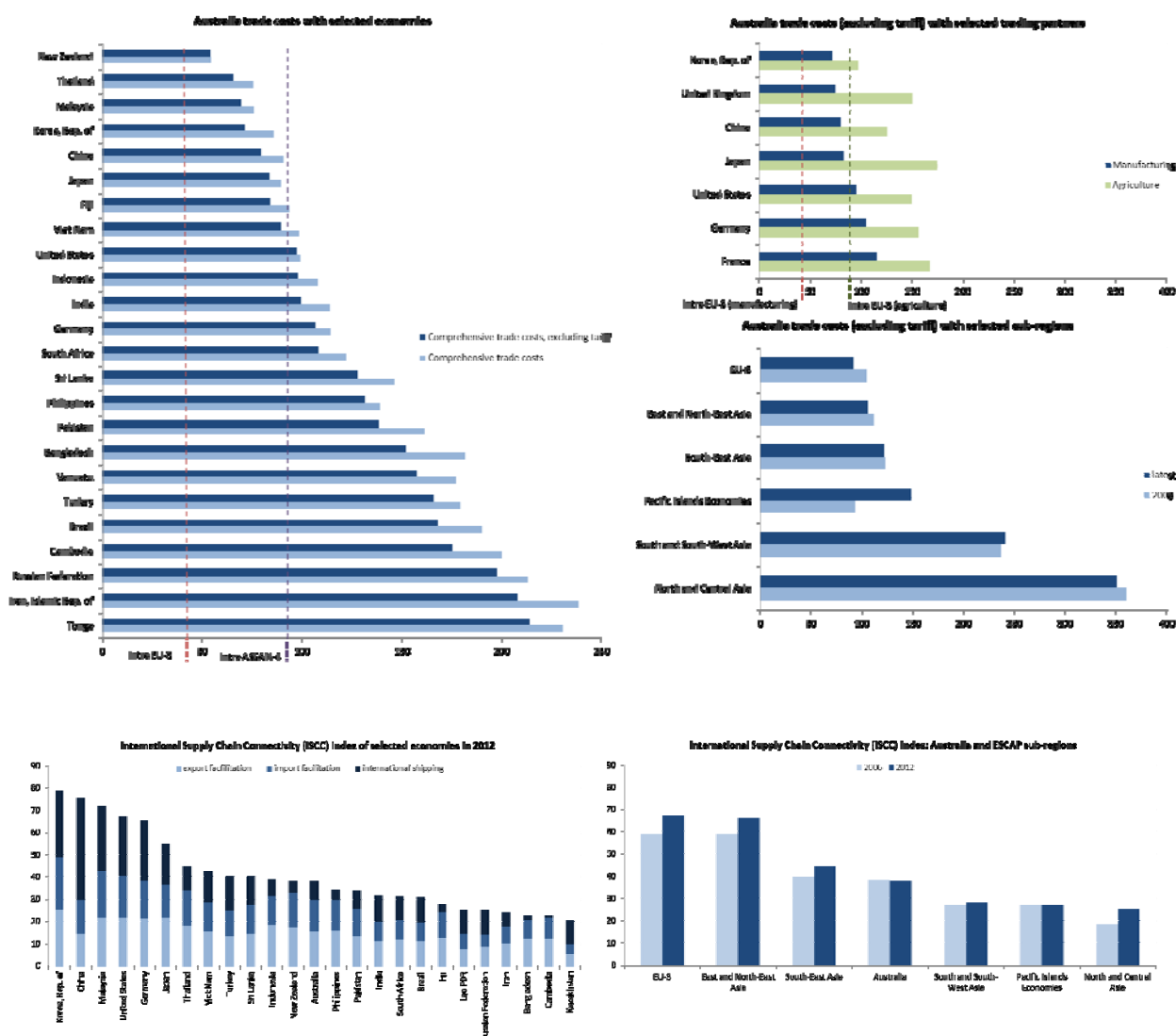


Table 1: Bilateral trade costs (excluding tariff): selected top traders with Australia in goods sector

Trade costs: overall Partner country	Value: tariff-equivalent			Percentage change
	2006	latest	Average 2006-latest	2006-latest
China	82.39	79.13	82.41	-3.96
France	126.56	115.49	122.00	-8.75
Germany	106.73	106.34	107.08	-0.37
Japan	78.45	83.28	80.74	6.16
Korea, Rep. of	82.15	70.87	77.90	-13.73
United Kingdom	81.81	76.33	79.35	-6.71
United States	92.74	97.02	93.97	4.61
Trade costs ESCAP sub-region	Value: tariff-equivalent			Percentage change
	2006	latest	Average 2006-latest	2006-latest
East and North-East Asia	111.68	106.30	104.18	-4.82
North and Central Asia	360.26	351.47	351.80	-2.44
Pacific Islands Economies	93.24	148.44	134.16	59.20
South and South-West Asia	236.84	241.34	252.30	1.90
South-East Asia	123.08	122.09	122.04	-0.81
EU-3	105.04	91.33	100.77	-13.05

Table 2: Bilateral trade costs (excluding tariff): selected economies/sub-regions with Australia in agriculture and manufacturing sector

Trade costs: agriculture Partner country	Value: tariff-equivalent			Percentage change
	2006	latest	Average 2006-latest	2006-latest
China	130.10	125.63	130.06	-3.43
France	215.44	167.46	199.89	-22.27
Germany	176.15	156.43	170.73	-11.20
Japan	172.91	174.74	164.31	1.06
Korea, Rep. of	153.40	96.72	124.09	-36.95
United Kingdom	172.85	150.56	155.94	-12.90
United States	154.76	149.69	148.29	-3.28
Trade costs: agriculture ESCAP sub-region	Value: tariff-equivalent			Percentage change
	2006	latest	Average 2006-latest	2006-latest
East and North-East Asia	155.23	144.67	144.82	-6.80
North and Central Asia	433.61	596.89	496.39	37.65
Pacific Islands Economies	150.10	186.75	186.12	24.41
South and South-West Asia	198.77	218.15	207.36	9.75
South-East Asia	216.14	205.57	213.58	-4.89
EU-3	188.15	153.49	172.43	-18.42

Trade costs: manufacturing Partner country	Value: tariff-equivalent			Percentage change
	2006	latest	Average 2006-latest	2006-latest
China	83.45	79.81	83.12	-4.37
France	122.99	115.16	119.50	-6.36
Germany	105.47	104.95	105.79	-0.49
Japan	77.33	82.75	80.22	7.01
Korea, Rep. of	81.33	71.57	77.94	-12.00
United Kingdom	79.57	74.23	77.33	-6.71
United States	90.31	95.07	91.85	5.27
Trade costs: manufacturing ESCAP sub-region	Value: tariff-equivalent			Percentage change
	2006	latest	Average 2006-latest	2006-latest
East and North-East Asia	103.48	106.80	101.86	3.20
North and Central Asia	338.49	326.63	326.56	-3.50
Pacific Islands Economies	128.98	155.11	147.81	20.26
South and South-West Asia	216.20	250.74	242.18	15.98
South-East Asia	111.44	105.46	108.71	-5.37
EU-3	102.68	89.59	98.88	-12.75

Table 3: International supply chain connectivity (ISCC) index and sub-indicators: top traders

Country	2006				2012				ISCC (average 2006-2012)	ISCC (percentage change 2006-2012)
	Export facilitation	Import facilitation	International shipping	ISCC	Export facilitation	Import facilitation	International shipping	ISCC		
Australia	16.39	13.96	7.95	38.29	15.67	13.96	8.49	38.12	38.47	-0.45
Japan	21.71	14.97	19.02	55.70	21.59	14.91	18.59	55.10	55.91	-1.09
United Kingdom	19.12	17.11	24.03	60.25	20.83	19.64	24.76	65.23	62.37	8.26
Germany	22.13	18.35	23.77	64.25	21.24	17.37	26.71	65.32	65.24	1.67
United States of America	22.11	19.07	25.29	66.46	21.57	18.66	27.03	67.25	65.55	1.18
France	17.60	13.92	19.98	51.50	26.86	23.97	20.66	71.49	65.64	38.83
China	17.92	16.89	33.33	68.15	14.28	15.15	46.03	75.46	72.62	10.73
Korea, Rep. of	16.85	11.79	21.20	49.84	25.56	23.33	29.98	78.87	66.30	58.25

Table 4: International supply chain connectivity (ISCC): sub-regional average

Sub-region	2006	2012	Average 2006-2012	Percentage change 2006-2012
East and North-East Asia	58.91	66.03	62.93	12.09
North and Central Asia	18.13	25.37	20.95	39.94
Pacific Islands Economies	27.36	27.20	27.28	-0.61
South and South-West Asia	27.38	28.03	28.16	2.37
South-East Asia	39.65	44.66	42.24	12.64
EU-3	58.67	67.35	64.41	14.80

This note is based on ESCAP's trade costs and International Supply Chain Connectivity Databases. For full database access, please visit <http://www.unescap.org/tid/artnet/database.asp>

Definitions:

Comprehensive trade costs: all costs involved in trading goods internationally with another partner relative to those involved in trading goods domestically;
Comprehensive trade costs (excluding tariff): all additional costs other than tariff costs involved in trading goods bilaterally rather than domestically;
International Supply Chain Connectivity (ISCC): an index that measures overall trade facilitation performance of a country along the international supply chain, which is based on the trading across border (TAB) indicators from the World Bank Doing Business Report and the Liner Shipping Connectivity Index (LSCI) of UNCTAD. ISCC Ranks from 1 to 179. **Intra EU-3:** average trade costs among 3 largest EU economies, namely, France, Germany and United Kingdom.
Intra ASEAN-4: average trade costs among Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand.

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