

TECHNICAL NOTES

I. Introduction

Domestic Trade Statistics gathers information on the movement of commodities in the country. It is a compilation of administrative data on commodities carried through different transport systems in a country. However, in the Philippines, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) compiles domestic trade carried through air and water only. The domestic trade carried through rail are excluded due to the discontinuance of cargo operation of the Philippine National Railways (PNR). Moreover, the PSA is currently studying the conduct of survey to gather domestic trade statistics for road transport system. Refer to Sections I.3 and I.4 for the detailed coverage and limitation of the domestic trade statistics.

This Special Release features the 2023 highlights of the Domestic Trade Statistics in the Philippines. The data pertain to the flow of goods through airports and seaports in the country.

I.1. Objective

The domestic trade statistics is compiled to collect and generate information on the inflow and outflow of commodities in the country.

Specifically, the domestic trade statistics aims to:

- a. Generate information on the value and quantity of traded commodities;
- b. Generate regional commodity flow by mode of transport and by port of origin and destination; and
- c. Generate number of passenger transported through water transport system.

I.2. Uses

The domestic trade statistics is compiled to constitute the bases for the formulation and implementation of various regional development programs like countryside development and port planning.

Specifically, the results are used in:

- a. Constructing inter-regional and inter-industry relation tables; and
- b. Conducting market research and feasibility studies, among others.

I.3. Scope and Coverage

Commodities that are included in the compilation of domestic trade statistics are the following:

- a. Food and Live Animals;
- b. Beverages and Tobacco;
- c. Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels;
- d. Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials;
- e. Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes;
- f. Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.;
- g. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material;
- h. Machinery and Transport Equipment;
- i. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles; and
- j. Commodities and Transactions Not Classified Elsewhere in the PSCC.

On the other hand, commodities that are excluded are the following:

- a. Goods transported by vessels of the Philippine Navy;
- b. Fish and other marine products unloaded in fishing ports;
- c. Fish and other marine products landed directly from the sea; and
- d. Logistic goods intended for the vessel and the crew.

Domestic trade statistics cover only the following mode of transport:

- a. Coastwise trade and passenger from 114 domestic seaports in the country; and
- b. Air trade from 17 operated domestic airports.

I.4. Limitation

The compilation of domestic trade statistics by mode of transport is limited only to water and air. The PSA is currently studying the conduct of survey to gather domestic trade statistics through road transport system. Passenger statistics by air are also excluded in the compilation of domestic trade statistics.

Data through rail mode of transport halted in 2006 due to the discontinuance of cargo operation of the PNR. At present, cargo movements are still not operational in PNR.

II. Data Collection

II.1. Data Collection Procedure

The collection of administrative documents is undertaken by the Provincial Statistical Offices (PSOs) every week.

II.2. Sources of Information

The source documents for the Domestic Trade Statistics are the following:

Mode of Transport	Document	Agency
Air	Air Waybills	PAL
Coastwise Cargo	Coasting Manifest	PPA
Coastwise Passenger	Coastwise Passenger Manifest	PPA

II.3. Data Items

Domestic Trade Statistics comprise of the following data items gathered from the source documents:

Document	Data Item
Air Waybills	• Actual Gross Weight
	• Declared Value
	• Station of Origin
	• Station of Destination
	• Year
	• Month
	• Description of Commodity
	• Grand Total Charges
Coasting Manifest	• Port of Origin
	• Port of Destination
	• Year
	• Month
	• Description of Commodity
	• Area of Occupancy
	• Type of Handling
	• Weight (kg)
	• Value (PhP)
• Freight Charges	

Document	Data Item
Coasting Passenger Manifest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of Origin
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of Destination
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Month
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Passenger

III. Processing

III.1. Processing at the Provincial Statistical Offices (PSOs)

All copies of documents are compiled and processed by the PSOs of PSA. The PSOs submit monthly data files to the Central Office (CO) not later than one month after the reference month. Specifically, the following activities are done in the PSOs:

- a. Receipt and control of documents – done by recording all trade documents from the source agencies (PPA and PAL).
- b. Machine processing (data entry and validation) – done by encoding and validating all the data from the coastwise, passenger, and air waybill documents.
- c. Submission of data files – all cleaned data files are submitted through email to the CO (tsd.staff@psa.gov.ph cc: j.soliven@psa.gov.ph). The PSO may also send those late submissions and additional data files for inclusion in the tabulation at the CO.

III.2. Processing at the CO

Final data review of the data files, generation of statistical tables, and preparation of Special Releases (SR) are done at the CO, particularly in the Trade Statistics Division (TSD) of the Economic Sector Statistics Service. Specifically, the following activities are done in the CO:

- a. Receipt and control of data files – done by recording and acknowledging the data files received from the PSOs.
- b. Compile/process/merge data files into masterfile by month and mode of transport (coastwise, passenger, and air) – done to generate the statistical tables for the quarterly and annual SR.

III.3. Commodity Classification

The commodity classification used in the compilation of domestic trade statistics is the 1993 Philippine Standard Commodity Classifications (PSCC) Rev. 2, patterned with the 1985 Standard International Trade Classification Rev. 3.

The classification is presented in six levels of detail: section (1-digit), division (2-digit), group (3-digit), sub-group (4-digit), items (5-digit), and sub-items (7-digit).

Below are the commodity classification levels used in the Domestic Trade Statistics by mode of transport:

Mode of Transport	Level of Details
a. Coastwise	Item (5-digit)
b. Air	Group (3-digit)

The level of disaggregation of commodities in the 1993 PSCC is shown below.

Section	Description	Division	Group	Item
		69	258	2281
0	Food and Live Animals	10	35	224
1	Beverages and Tobacco	2	4	16
2	Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	9	35	176
3	Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	3	7	19
4	Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	3	4	21
5	Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	9	32	402
6	Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	9	52	527
7	Machinery and Transport Equipment	9	50	488
8	Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	8	31	409
9	Commodities and Transactions Not Classified Elsewhere in the PSCC	7	8	9

IV. Concepts and Definitions of Terms

Domestic trade statistics refer to the movement of commodities in the country.

Trade balance refers to the difference between outflow and inflow, that is, outflow minus inflow. A positive value indicates a favorable trade balance, while a negative value indicates an unfavorable trade balance.

Inflow refers to the total value of commodities that enter a specified region/province.

Outflow refers to the total value of commodities that come out from a specified region/province.

Port/Station of origin refers to the port or station where the cargo originally came from.

Port/Station of destination refers to the port or station where the cargoes are destined for.

Region of origin refers to the regional location of the port or station where the cargo originally came from.

Region of destination refers to the regional location of the port or station where the cargoes are destined for.

V. Dissemination of Results and Revision

V.1. Dissemination of Results

The highlights of the Domestic Trade Statistics in the Philippines: Final Results is disseminated annually through Special Release, three months after the reference year, which is posted on the PSA website (www.psa.gov.ph) and in the OpenSTAT (openstat.psa.gov.ph).

V.2. Revision Policy

All documents received within 2023, including those documents received from January to March 2024, are included in the generation of the annual results. Revisions are made until the publication is released eight months after the reference year.

VI. Citation

Philippine Statistics Authority. 01 April 2024. *Highlights of the 2023 Domestic Trade Statistics in the Philippines: Final Results*. <https://psa.gov.ph/statistics/annual-domestic-trade>

VII. Contact Information

Ma. Julieta P. Soliven

Chief Statistical Specialist

Trade Statistics Division

8376-1975

j.soliven@psa.gov.ph

For data requests, you may contact the:

Knowledge Management and Communications Division

Telephone: (02) 8462-6600 locals 839, 833 and 834

E-mail: info@psa.gov.ph