

# INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS

*and*

# ENTERPRISES

2022



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2022



**INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS AND  
ENTERPRISES 2022**

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## PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Albanian Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) produced a special publication on the main indicators on international trade in goods and trade of goods according to the characteristics of the enterprise. Referring to the period from 2018-2022, statistics related to international trade in goods aim to monitor the character and trade developments of our country with the world.

In the new communication strategy, INSTAT has been oriented to meet the needs of users by targeting different user groups.

The material reflects some of the basic requirements and needs of some user groups for data on international trade in goods and their impact on the Albanian economy.

This dedicated publication presents figures on economic reality in the country and answers to growing demands for statistical information of decision-makers, researchers and academics in Albania. The preparation of this material is enabled to the cooperation and administrative data provided by the General Directorate of Customs and the General Directorate of Taxation.

Cooperation with other institutions and policy makers increases the responsibility of INSTAT for compiling specific publications and statistical information that would serve to better understand the economic reality in order to face the challenges of the future.

INSTAT will always provide continuous partnership and fruitful cooperation, as this publication also proves.

**Elsa DHULI PhD**

General Director, INSTAT



# CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	8
<b>I. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRADE OF GOODS, 2018-2022</b>	10
<b>A. International Trade in Goods</b>	10
<b>B. International Trade in Goods by Product</b>	10
<b>C. International Trade in Goods by Main Regions</b>	12
<b>D. International Trade in Goods by Key Partners</b>	12
<b>II. INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS ACCORDING TO THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ENTERPRISE, 2018-2022</b>	13
<b>A. International Trade in Goods by Size of Enterprise</b>	13
<b>B. Prevailing Sectors in Goods Exports / Imports</b>	14
<b>C. Exports / Imports of Enterprises by Product</b>	15
<b>D. Concentration of Exporting / Importing Enterprises</b>	15
<b>E. Exporting / Importing Enterprises, According to the Number of Partner Countries</b>	16
<b>ANNEX 1</b>	17
<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	17



## INTRODUCTION

International trade in goods statistics are a very important tool for decision-makers in the public and private sectors. They help in the preparation of bilateral and multilateral talks in the framework of trade policies and the assessment of market economies. They also help companies in market research and in defining their trading strategies. Statistics on trade of goods contain data on exports / imports of goods in Albania, as well as trade statistics of goods according to the characteristics of enterprises.

International trade in goods statistics by enterprise characteristics contain essential information on enterprises that participate in the international market and their characteristics as export / import values and number of enterprises. Through the linking of trade statistics of goods with enterprise statistics we understand the contribution of various economic sectors as well as the participation of small, medium and large enterprises in trade transactions. The compilation of trade statistics of goods according to the characteristics of enterprises is carried out through the individual level of International trade in goods data with the statistical register of enterprises. The main characteristics of enterprises from the enterprise's statistical register - both economic activity and the number of employees - are combined with typical variables of trade data such as product code and partner country, thus giving us a more complete of the trade structure of goods.

Referring to the period 2018-2022, the statistics related to the commodity trade in Albania aim to monitor the character and trade developments of our country with the world.

This material, prepared by INSTAT, is first published structured in this way, including data for the reference years 2018-2022 and will be continuous annual publication.

The material consists of two chapters. The first chapter presents information on the exchange of goods between Albania and other countries of the world.

The second chapter aims to present statistics on the international trade of detailed goods by different categories of enterprises.



## THE MAIN FINDINGS

In 2022 the exports are 487 billion ALL, increasing by 32.0 % compared to 2021. While the imports are 950 billion ALL, increasing by 18.7 % compared to year 2021.

In 2022 the share of exports to EU countries is 73.4 %, reaching the value of 357 billion ALL. Exports to EU countries increased 34.1 % compared to 2021. While the share of imports from EU countries is 51.6 % of imports, reaching the value of 490 billion ALL. Imports from EU countries increased 12.7 % , compared with 2021.

Our main partner in 2022,for exports and imports continues to be Italy. The value of exports to Italy is 210 billion ALL, increasing by 35.1 % compared to 2021. While the value of imports is 206 billion ALL increasing by 5.9 % compared to 2021.

The number of exporting enterprises in 2022 is 3,604, increasing by 13.2 % compared to 2021. While the number of importing enterprises is 13,137 in 2022, increasing by 8.5 % compared to 2022.

In 2022, the share of exports by enterprises operating in the industry is 80.8 %, increasing by 27.9 % compared to 2021, while the share of enterprises operating in commerce is 55.6 %, increasing by 19 % compared with 2021.

In 2022, more than half of the exports are made by the 100 largest enterprises (61 %), while more than half of the imports are carried out by the largest 200 enterprises (55 %).

In 2022, the share of exports by enterprises exporting to 3-5 partner countries is 29 %, followed by exports of enterprises exporting to 1 partner country (25 %).

In 2022, the share of imports by enterprises importing from 10 or more partner countries is 55 %, followed by enterprises importing from 6-9 partner countries (16 %).

## CHARACTERISTICS OF TRADE OF GOODS, 2018-2022

### A. International Trade in Goods

During 2022, trade deficit worsened, increasing by 7.3 % compare to 2021.

During the 4-year period (2018-2022) there is a marked increase in exports and imports.

In 2022 the share of exports is 33.9 %, increasing by 32 % compare to 2021. While imports' share in 2022 is 66.1 %, increasing by 18.7 % compared to 2021.

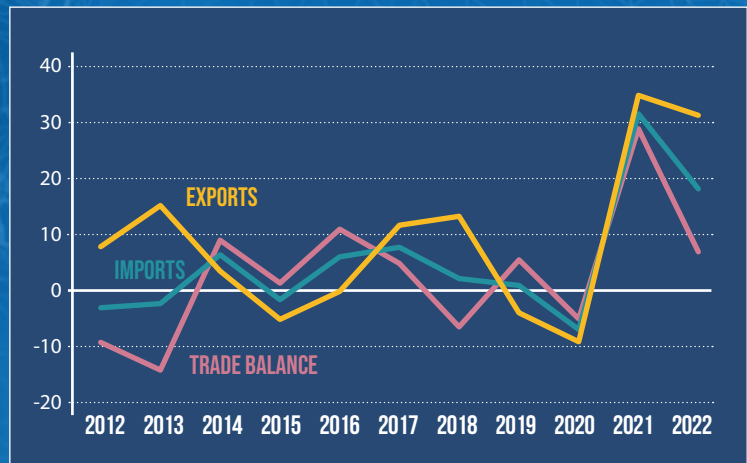


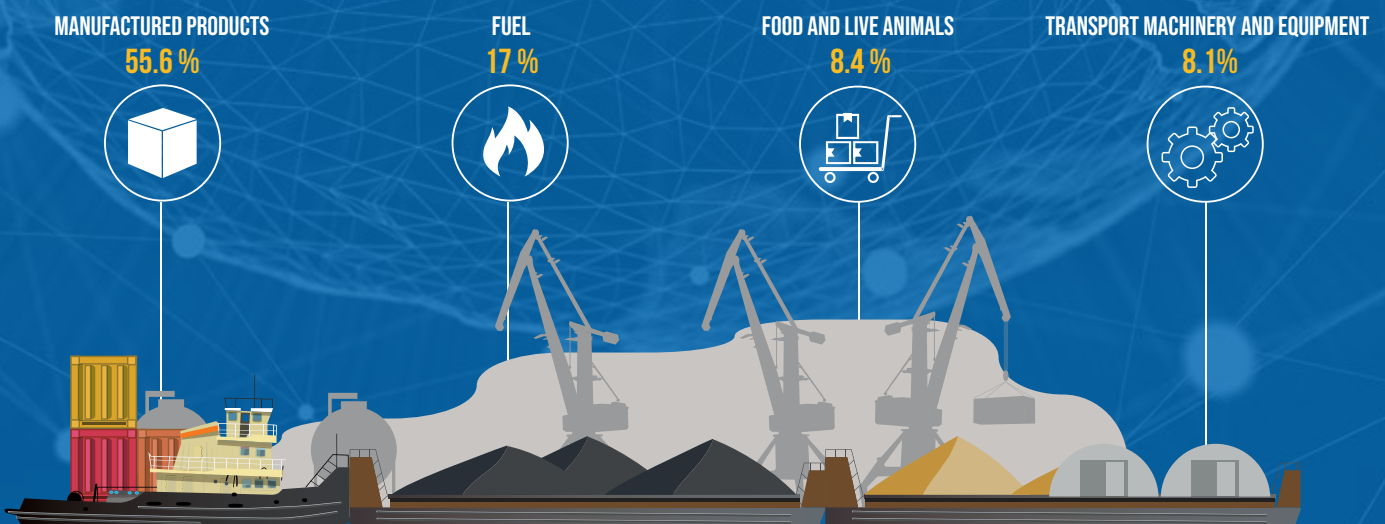
Fig.1 Annual change in international trade in goods, 2018-2022 (%)

### B. International Trade in Goods by Product

#### The main products

Products that occupy a significant share in Albanian exports and imports for the 5-year period are exports of processed goods.

For 2022 the most exported are product groups: “Manufactured products” by 55.6 %, increasing by 24.5 %, “Fuel” by 17 % increasing by 64.3 %, “Food and live animals” with 8.4 % of exports, increasing by 15.2 % and “Transport machinery and equipment” by 8.1 % increasing by 37.5 %, compared to 2021.



**Tab.1 Exports by Standard Foreign Trade Classification (SITC Rev.4), 2018-2022**
*million ALL*

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total</b>	<b>310,436</b>	<b>298,790</b>	<b>271,955</b>	<b>368,769</b>	<b>486,784</b>
Food and live animals	25,867	28,388	31,227	35,595	41,011
Beverages and tobacco	1,793	1,846	1,710	2,086	3,528
Crude materials	18,662	20,582	20,192	25,877	36,980
Minerals fuels and lubricants	41,271	33,322	22,957	50,244	82,539
Oils, fats and wax of animal or vegetable origin	246	196	297	390	557
Chemical products	4,523	5,357	5,229	7,824	11,213
Manufactured products	69,941	63,391	61,118	97,654	123,762
Transport machinery and equipments	18,046	20,930	22,360	28,744	39,514
Various manufactured items	129,836	124,562	106,353	119,848	147,095
Good and transactions N.E.S.	250	215	513	508	582

Group products dominating imports for 2022 are: "Manufactured products" by 35.1 %, increasing by 19.2 %, "Transport machinery and equipment" by 19.5 %, increasing by 10.3 % and "Fuels" by 17.3 %, increasing 63.7 % compared to 2021.

**Tab.2 Imports according to the Standard Foreign Trade Classification (SITC Rev.4), 2018-2022**
*million ALL*

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total</b>	<b>641,466</b>	<b>649,111</b>	<b>605,262</b>	<b>800,718</b>	<b>950,381</b>
Food and live animals	78,754	82,044	82,736	95,762	110,118
Beverages and tobacco	20,131	20,990	19,553	24,964	28,428
Crude materials	22,255	22,167	22,368	27,745	22,439
Minerals fuels and lubricants	64,661	73,118	50,808	100,668	164,780
Oils, fats and wax of animal or vegetable origin	4,708	4,192	5,242	5,628	6,710
Chemical products	74,858	75,483	77,831	97,803	98,723
Manufactured products	147,595	145,720	136,208	179,487	227,222
Transport machinery and equipments	140,301	135,148	130,737	167,529	184,858
Various manufactured items	88,045	89,750	79,517	100,687	106,765
Good and transactions N.E.S.	159	499	263	447	336

### C. International Trade in Goods by Main Regions

In 2022 the share of exports to EU countries is 73.4 %, increasing by 34.1 % compare to 2021. While the share of imports from EU countries is 51.6 % of imports, increasing by 12.7 %, compared with 2021.

The share of exports in CEFTA countries is 16.8 %, increasing by 18.5 % compare to 2021. While the share of imports from CEFTA countries is 7.6 % of imports, increasing by 9.2 % compared with 2021.

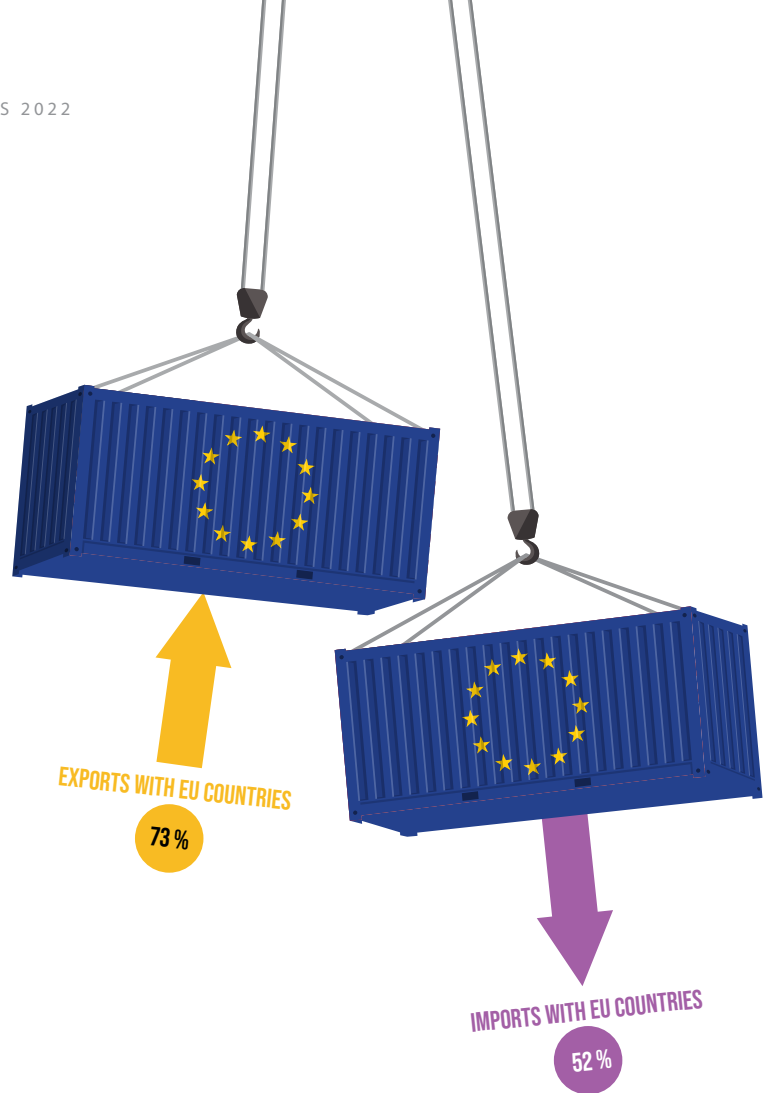


Fig.2 Trade of goods by group of countries, 2022

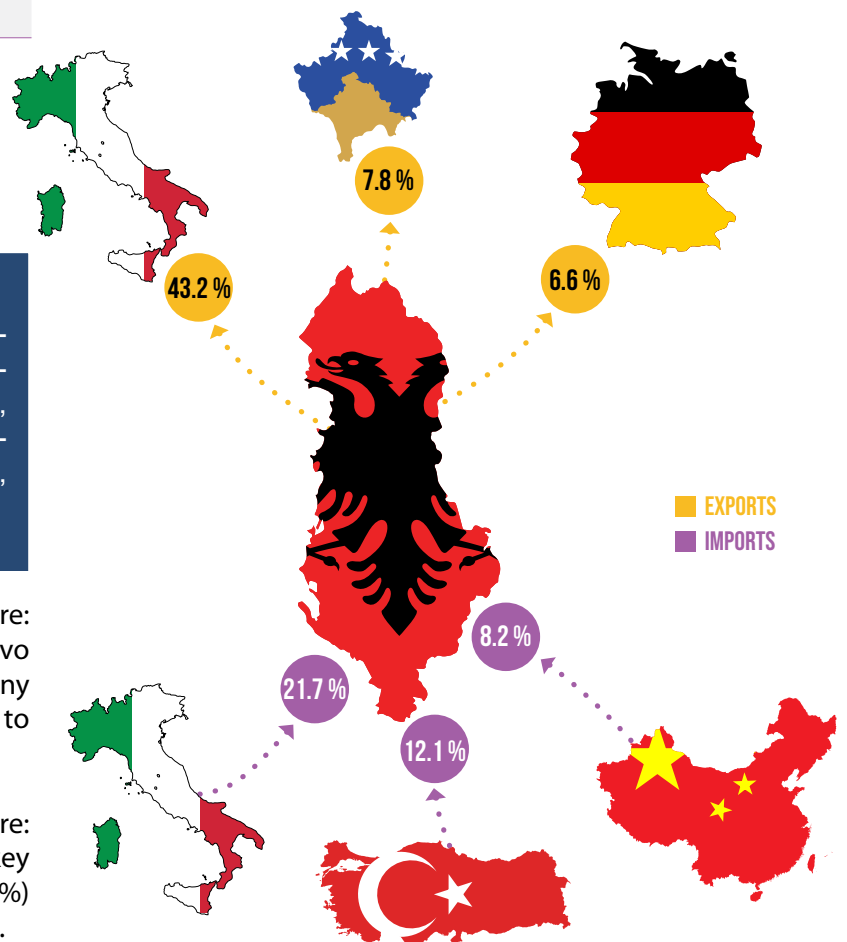
	Exports	Imports
Eu countries	73%	52%
EFTA countries	17%	8%
CEFTA countries	1%	2%
Rest of the world	9%	38%

### D. International Trade in Goods by Key Partners

**Trend of trading partners, 2022**  
 Exports in value have marked an increase towards Italy, Kosovo, Germany, Greece, Spain, North Macedonia, Serbia, etc. While imports are growing for Italy, Turkey, China, Greece, Germany, Serbia, Switzerland etc.

In 2022 our main partners for exports are: Italy (43.2%), increasing by 35.1 %, Kosovo (7.8%), increasing by 0.2 %, Germany (6.6%), increasing by 58.1 % compared to 2021.

While the main import partners are: Italy (21.7%), increasing by 5.9 %, Turkey (12.1%), increasing 33.1 %, China (8.2 %) increased by 18.8 % compared with 2021.





# INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS ACCORDING TO THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ENTERPRISE, 2018-2022

## A. International Trade in Goods by Size of Enterprise

In the period 2018-2022, the number of exporting and importing enterprises has increased. The number of exporting enterprises in 2022 is 3,604, increasing by 13,2 % compared to 2021. In 2022, the share of micro, small and medium enterprises is 97 %. The weight for micro enterprises is 47 %, small enterprises is 35 %, medium enterprises is 15 % and large enterprises is 3 %.

In 2022, the number of importing enterprises is 13,137 increasing by 8.5 % compared to 2021. The weight of micro, small and medium enterprises is 99 % of total importing enterprises. The weight for micro enterprises (1-9 employees) is 68 %, small enterprises is 23 % of total importing enterprises, medium enterprises is 7 % and large enterprises is 1 %.

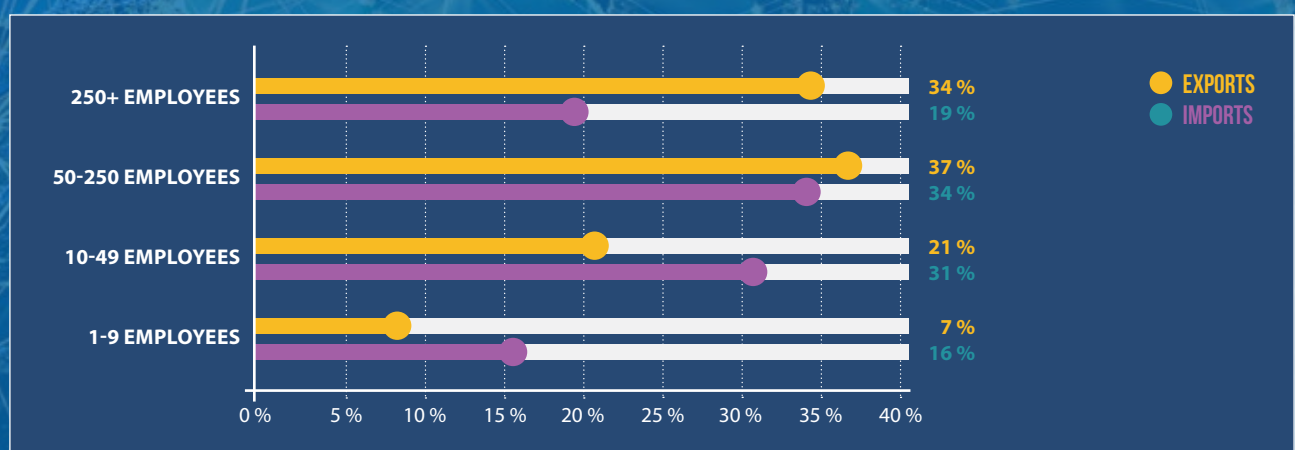
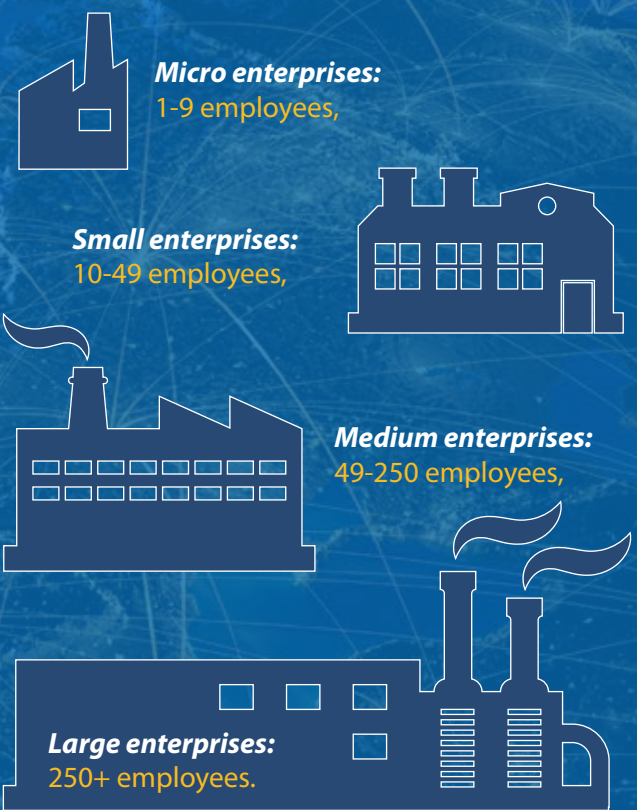


Fig.3 Enterprises, by size of enterprise, 2022

## B. Prevailing Sectors in Goods Exports / Imports

### Industry include:

Mining and quarrying; Manufacturing; Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; Water supply and treatment activities, waste management, waste

For the period 2018-2022, enterprises operating in the industry sector prevail in exporting enterprises. In 2022, the share of exports made by enterprises operating in the industry is 81 %,

increasing by 27.9 % compared to 2021. Large enterprises account for 40 % of the value of exports of these enterprises, increasing with 21.4 % compared to 2021.

For the period 2018-2022, the largest value of imports has enterprises operating in the trade sector. In 2022, the share of these enterprises is 56 %, increasing by 19 % compared to 2021.

In 2021 micro, small and medium enterprises account for 90 % of the value of imports of enterprises operating in the trade sector, increasing by 19.0 % compared with 2021.

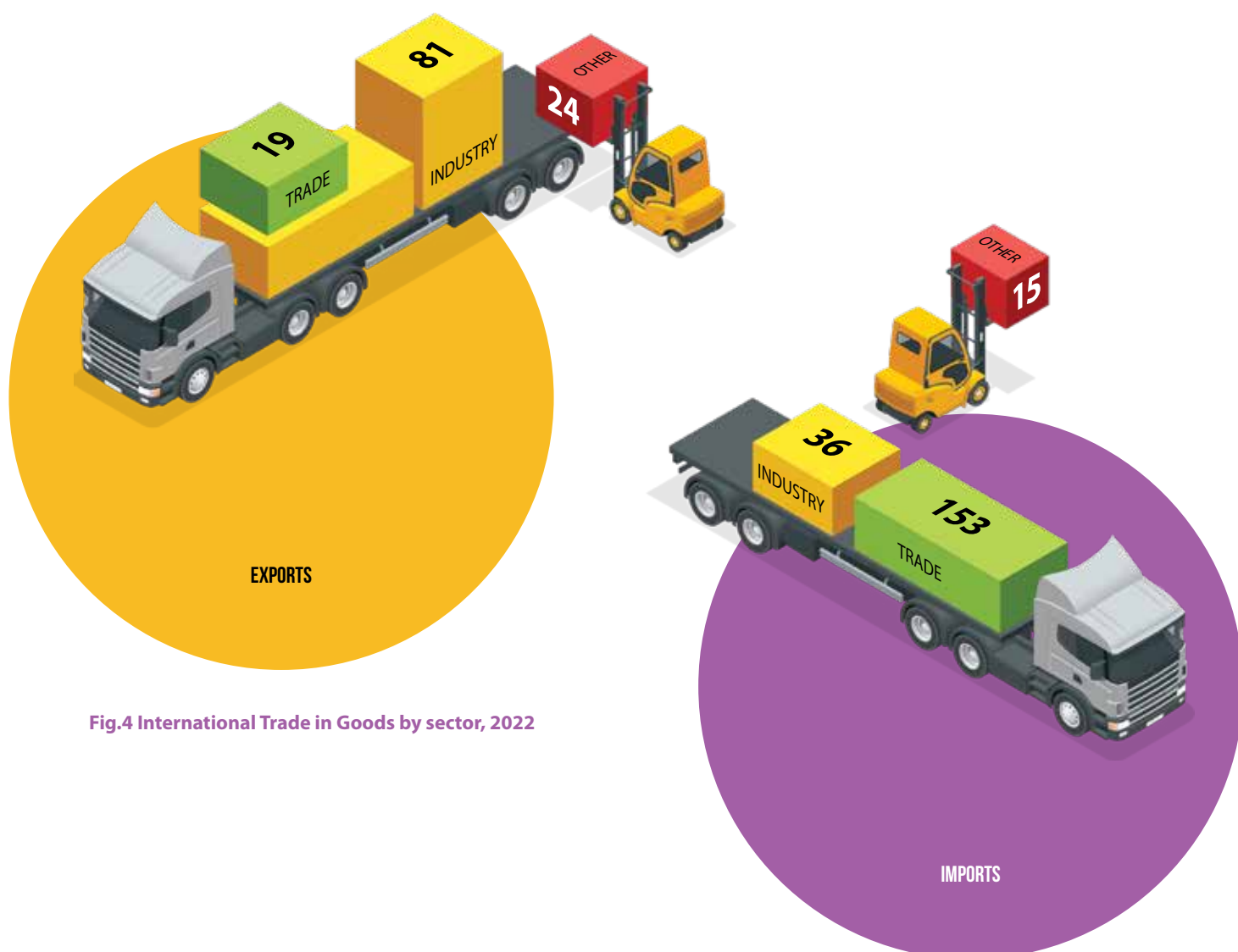


Fig.4 International Trade in Goods by sector, 2022

### C. Exports / Imports of Enterprises by Product

“Manufactured products”, in the period 2018-2022 occupy main products exported and imported. In 2022, the share of exports of these products is 74 %, increasing by 24.8 % compared to 2021.

Products with the main weight in “Manufactured products” are: “Basic metals” (21 %), “Wearing apparel” (19 %), “Leather and related products” (19 %). While the weight of imports of “Manufactured products” is 87 %, increasing by 19.1 % compared to 2021. Products with the main weight in “Manufactured products” are: “Coke and refined petroleum products” (12 %) and “Food Products” (11 %).

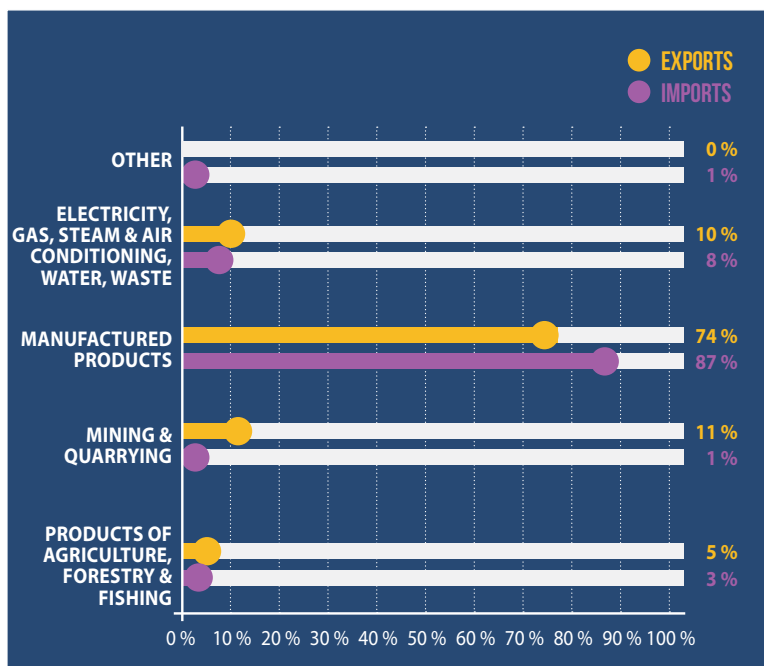


Fig.5 Exports / imports of Enterprises by Product, 2022 (%)

Exported products with the main weight in “Manufactured products” are:



### D. Concentration of exporting / importing enterprises

In the period 2018-2021, more than half of the exports were concentrated in the 50 largest enterprises. In 2022, more than half of the exports were concentrated in the 100 largest enterprises (61 %). The weight of these enterprises operating in the industry is 71 %, while the number of enterprises operating in trade is 38 %.

In the period 2018-2020, more than half of the imports were concentrated in the 100 largest enterprises. In 2021-2022, more than half of the imports are carried out by the largest 200 enterprises (52 %). The weight of these enterprises operating in industry is 81 %, while the weight of enterprises operating in trade is 64 %.

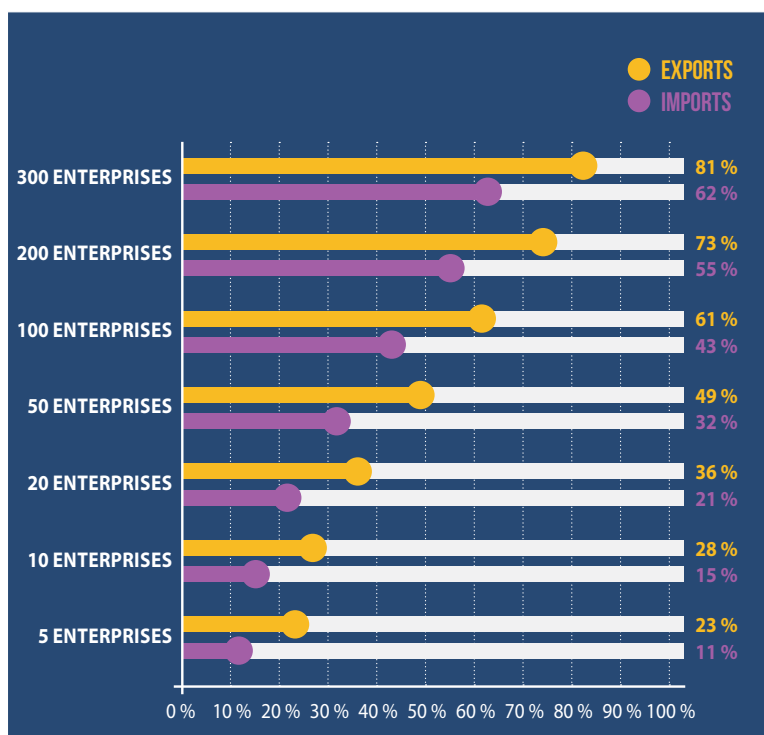


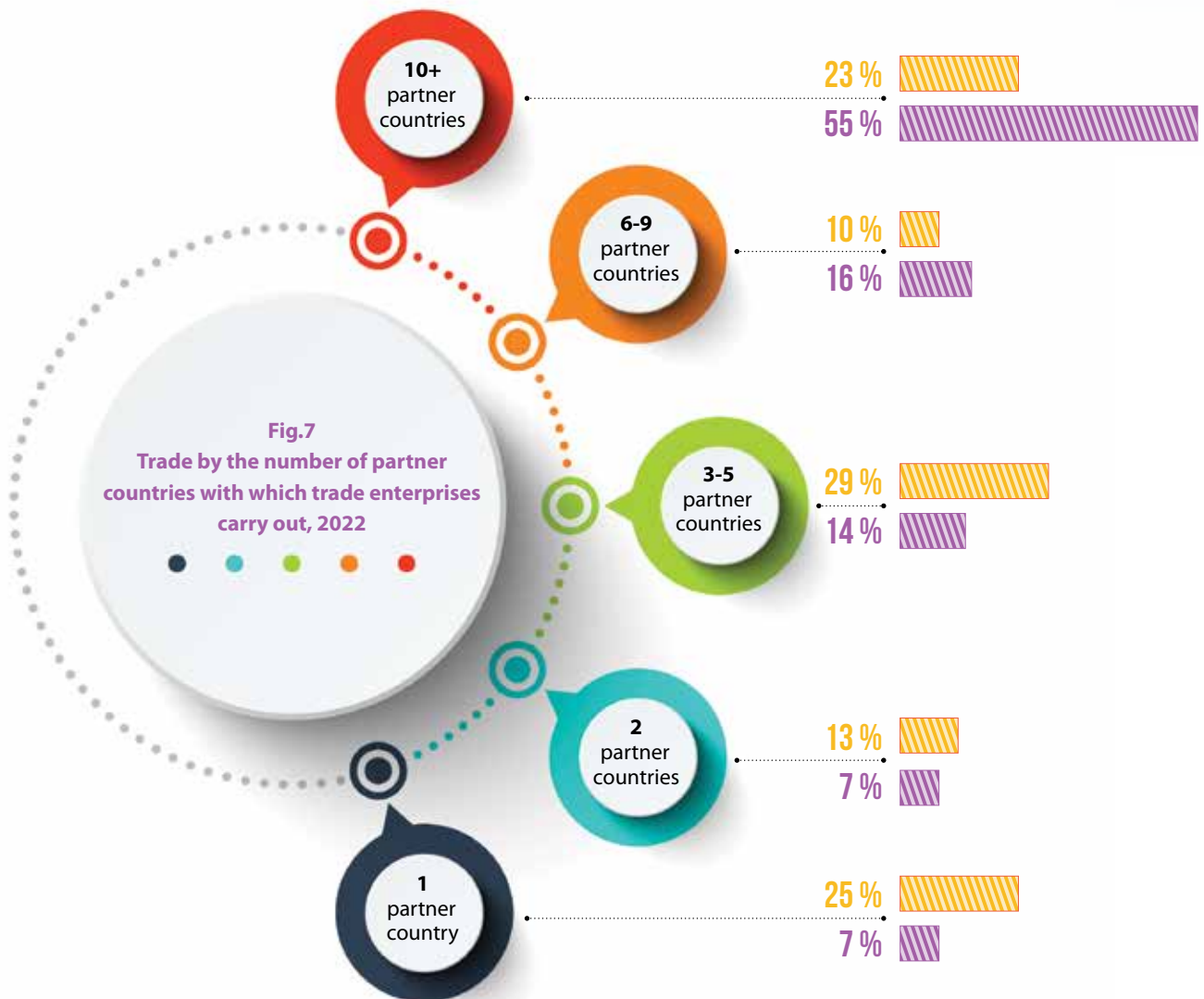
Fig.6 International trade in goods by major enterprises, 2022



### E. Exporting / importing enterprises, according to the number of partner countries

In the period 2018-2022, most of the exports are carried out by only one partner country. In 2022, the most share of exports of these businesses is exporting by 3-5 partner countries (29%), followed by enterprises exporting to 1 partner countries (25%).

While most of the imports, in the period 2018-2022, companies carry out more than 10 partner countries. In 2022, the share of imports of these businesses is 55%, followed by enterprises importing from 6-9 partner countries (16%).



## ANNEX 1:

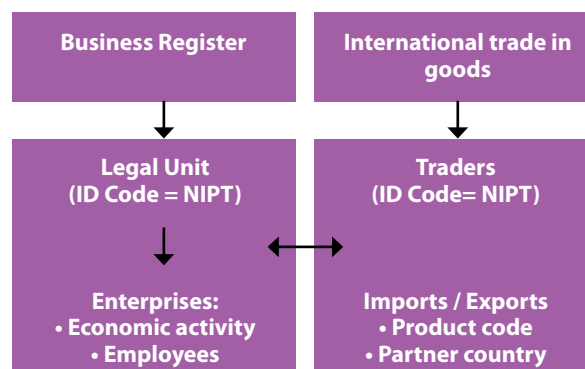
### Methodology

#### Source of information

The General Directorate of Customs is the source of International Trade in Goods data and the General Tax Directory is the source of data for the Enterprise Registry.

#### Data collection

At the conceptual level, the methodology used in collecting and validating data can be explained by the following scheme:



## DEFINITIONS / CONCEPTS

The definitions and concepts in this methodological explanation are given in such a way as to reflect the relationship between the content of foreign trade data and the enterprise registry.

**The enterprise** is: “the smallest combination of legal units, that is, an organizational unit that produces goods or services that has a certain degree of autonomy in decision-making, especially for the distribution of its current resources, more locations (local units)”. The relationship between an enterprise and a legal entity is defined as “the enterprise corresponds either to a legal unit or a combination of legal entities”.

**The partner country** in terms of exports is the place of final destination of goods. For imports is the country of origin of the goods.

**EU member states** - Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Germany, Netherlands, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Cyprus, The Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden;

**CEFTA countries** - Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia, Albania;

**EFTA countries** - Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland.

**Exports are evaluated with FOB** (Represents a condition of delivery of goods, indicating that the price of the goods includes both transport and delivery costs, at a certain loading port). Goods are generally destined for a third country, placed under the customs procedure, passive processing, re-exported after the active processing.

**Imports are evaluated with CIF** (Represents a condition for the distribution of goods, indicating that the commodity price includes security and transportation, to a designated destination port).

### Classifications

In processing statistical information on International Trade in Goods, import-exports, is used Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), which classifies goods according to their production phases, for economic activity classification activities NACE rev.2 (abbreviated English - NACE Rev.2), for products Statistical Classification of Products by Activity, POE 2008 (English abbreviated CPA 2008).

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