



# STATISTICAL TABLES

## ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES - 2017





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# Note

This is an unedited publication.

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# List of Tables

1. Development indicators.....	1
2. Committee for Development Policy reviews: 2009, 2012 and 2015.....	2
3. Indicators on area and population, 2016.....	3
4. Real GDP growth, 2002-2017, selected years .....	4
5. Real GDP per capita growth, 2002-2017, selected years .....	5
6. Gross fixed capital formation, gross domestic savings and external resource gap in LDCs, 2002–2015, selected years.....	6
7. Share of value added in main economic sectors in LDCs, 1990–2015, selected years .....	7
8. Foreign direct investment inflows, by region and economy, 2002–2016, selected years .....	8
9. Migrant remittance inflows to LDCs, 2002–2016, selected years.....	9
10. Selected indicators on foreign debt burden, 2002–2016, selected years.....	10
11. Selected indicators on education, 2016 .....	11
12. Employment by sector in LDCs: 1991–2016, selected years.....	12
13. Total merchandise exports: Levels and annual average growth rates, 2002–2016, selected years .....	13
14. Total merchandise imports: Levels and annual average growth rates, 2002–2016, selected years.....	14
15. Product composition of merchandise exports, 2014–2016.....	15
16. Energy exports of LDCs, 2014–2016 .....	16
17. Product composition of merchandise imports, 2014–2016 .....	17
18. Energy imports of LDCs, 2014–2016 .....	18
19. Main markets for merchandise exports of LDCs: share in 2014–2016 .....	19
20. Main sources of merchandise imports of LDCs: share in 2014–2016.....	20
21. Total services exports: Levels and annual average growth rates, 2005–2016, selected years .....	21
22. Total services imports: Levels and annual average growth rates, 2005–2016, selected years.....	22
23. LDC merchandise and services export specialization 2014–2016.....	23
24. Total net ODA disbursements to LDCs and as percentage of GNI, 2002–2015, selected years.....	24
25. Gross aid disbursement to LDCs by sector, 2002–2015, selected years .....	25
26. Energy ODA disbursements to LDC, 2002–2015 .....	26
27. Net ODA from individual DAC member countries to LDCs, 2000–2015, selected years .....	27
28. Access to electricity in LDCs, 2002–2014, selected years .....	28
29. Total net installed electricity capacity in LDCs, levels, per capita and compound annual percentage growth rates, 2000–2014, selected years .....	29
30. Total gross electricity production in LDCs, levels, per capita and annual average growth rates, 2000–2014, selected years.....	30
31. Composition of gross electricity production in LDCs by energy source, 2012–2014 .....	31

# Foreword

*The Statistical Tables on the Least Developed Countries – 2017* 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 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.

Equatorial Guinea graduated from the LDC category in June 2017. However, data for this country are still included in the group aggregates (though not shown individually), because the country was still an LDC during the period covered by the data. The resulting groups are as follows:

**African LDCs and Haiti:** Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, 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, South Sudan, the Sudan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia.

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

**Island LDCs:** the 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:** The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Zambia.

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

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

\* No merchandise exports data are available for South Sudan.

### 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.

## Products

Trade data for energy products are grouped according to the categories below. The figures provided are the codes of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), revision 3.

**Coal:** Coke, coal and briquettes: Division 32.

**Crude oil:** Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude: Group 333.

**Petroleum products:** Petroleum oils or bituminous minerals (other than crude): Group 334, and Residual petroleum products, n.e.s., and related materials: Group 335.

**Gas:** Gas, natural and manufactured: Division 34.

**Electricity:** Electric current: Division 35.

**Uranium:** Uranium or thorium ores and concentrates: Group 286.

**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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