

## ***Explanatory Note***

# **2017 Commodity Flow in the Philippines**

## **Introduction**

Republic Act 10625, otherwise known as the Philippine Statistical Act of 2013 which was approved on September 12, 2013, merged the four major statistical agencies, namely, the National Statistics Office (NSO), the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), the Bureau of Labor and Employment (BLES), and the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS) and was named as the PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA).

One of the functions of the PSA stated under Section 6 of RA 10625 is to prepare and conduct statistical sample surveys on all aspects of socio-economic life including agriculture, industry, **trade**, finance, prices and marketing information, income and expenditure, education, health, culture, and social situations for the use of government and the public.

The PSA generates domestic and foreign trade statistics, as follows:

- Imports/External Trade
- Exports
- Balance of Trade in Goods
- Foreign Trade Indices
- Foreign Shipping
- Domestic Trade Statistics
  - ✓ Air Trade Statistics
  - ✓ Coastwise Trade Statistics
  - ✓ Passenger Statistics

## Coverage

The domestic trade data contained in this report pertains to the flow of goods through airports and seaports in the country, whether for government or private use, or for commercial purposes. Trade in land was excluded because of the absence of approach/system to capture such information.

Coasting manifests were collected from major ports and other active seaports listed by the PPA all over the country. While the air waybills were collected from the Philippine Airlines (PAL) operated domestic airports nationwide.

The following are **excluded** in the compilation of data: (1) Fishing ports; (2) Goods transported by vessels of the Philippine Navy; (3) Fish and other marine products landed direct from the sea; (4) service cargoes for consumption by vessel crew; and (5) cadaver.

## Sources of Data

The source document for coastwise trade statistics is the Outward Coasting Manifests (Bureau of Custom Form No. 78) and Coastwise Passenger Manifests (Bureau of Custom Form No. 460) for cargo and passenger, respectively. These forms are submitted by masters of vessels plying the inter-island ports to the collectors of PPA or their authorized representatives before the vessel leaves the port area. PSA personnel collect copies of these documents from the PPA designated collection points in the provinces.

On the other hand, source document for air trade statistics is the Air Waybill (AWB), (PAL Form No. F 0777A 00-11081 Rev. 08-96) issued by PAL to every consignee. The acceptance and sales clerks of the airline prepare an extra copy of every AWB issued and the corresponding sales report are collected by PSA field personnel.

## Data Items

The coasting cargo manifests contain information on port of origin, port of destination, area of occupancy, type of handling, description of commodity, weight, value, and freight charges.

On the other hand, the air waybill (AWB) contains the station of destination of the commodity, station of origin of the commodity, actual gross weight, declared value, equivalent volume weight, rate basis, rate class, description of commodity, issuing office, PAL charges, freight forwarder charges, and total freight charges.

Only actual gross weight, declared value, description of commodity, station of origin, station of destination, and total freight charges are the data items included in the Domestic Trade Statistics.

## Commodity Classification

The commodity classification used in the compilation of the data is the 1993 Philippine Standard Commodity Classification (PSCC) Revision 2 which is aligned with the United Nations 1985 Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Revision 3.

The classification is presented in five levels of details: section, division, group, and item. A unique numeric code identifies each commodity. The numeric code of each commodity is designed such that the first digit identifies the **section**; the first two digits, the **division**; the first three digits, the **group**; and the five digits, the **item**.

## Processing

Data processing is done both mechanically and manually.

Documents collected from the provincial sales offices, stations, and collection points are sorted by port or station and by month; recorded; bundled and numbered by type of document, by port or station and by month. The documents undergo three stages of processing in the field offices before transmittal to the PSA-Central Office. The following are the stages of data processing:

**Coding** is a process of assigning to an item of information a unique number to simplify capturing of information and facilitate further machine processing.

**Code verification** is a process of checking the validity and correctness of the assigned numeric code for the information given in the source document.

**Computation** is a process of determining the reasonableness of the value of the commodity of specific quantity and making the necessary corrections, in case of errors.

## Geographic Classification

Domestic trade statistics are presented by geographic area. The 17 regions with the provincial composition are presented below:

Region	Provincial Composition
National Capital Region (NCR)	City of Manila, Quezon City, City of Mandaluyong, City of Marikina, City of Pasig, City of San Juan, City of Caloocan, City of Malabon, City of Navotas, City of Valenzuela, City of Makati, Pateros, City of Taguig, City of Las Piñas, City of Muntinlupa, City of Paranaque, Pasay City
Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)	Abra, Apayao, Benguet, Ifugao, Kalinga, Mountain Province
Region I (Ilocos Region)	Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Pangasinan
Region II (Cagayan Valley)	Batanes, Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino
Region III (Central Luzon)	Aurora, Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambales
Region IV-A (CALABARZON)	Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Quezon, Rizal
MIMAROPA Region	Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Palawan, Romblon
Region V (Bicol Region)	Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate, Sorsogon
Region VI (Western Visayas)	Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Guimaras, Iloilo, Negros Occidental
Region VII (Central Visayas)	Bohol, Cebu, Negros Oriental, Siquijor
Region VIII (Eastern Visayas)	Biliran, Eastern Samar, Leyte, Northern Samar, Southern Leyte, Western Samar
Region IX (Zamboanga Peninsula)	City of Isabela, Zamboanga City, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur (except Zamboanga City)
Region X (Northern Mindanao)	Bukidnon, Camiguin, Lanao del Norte, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental
Region XI (Davao Region)	Compostela Valley, Davao del Norte, Davao del Sur, Davao Oriental
Region XII (SOCCSKSARGEN)	City of Cotabato, North Cotabato, Sarangani, South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat
Region XIII (Caraga)	Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte, Dinagat Island, Surigao del Sur
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)	Basilan (except City of Isabela), Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao (except City of Cotabato), Sulu, Tawi-Tawi.

## **Other Available Data**

Preliminary quarterly Commodity Flow are released in the form of Special Releases three months after the reference quarter.

Other unpublished statistical tables are available at the TSD in the form of printouts, CDs or thru emails. Other special tabulations may also be made available upon request addressed to the National Statistician and Civil Registrar General, Philippine Statistics Authority, PSA Complex, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.