

Gambia

intra-Africa trade & tariff profile 2019



1. Introduction

Gambia is part of two Regional Economic Communities (RECs) - the Economic Community of West Africa (ECOWAS) and the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD).

- ECOWAS has 15 member states. All member states are part of the ECOWAS Free Trade Area (FTA), 14 of which are in the process of implementing the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET). Qualifying imports from approved ECOWAS producers are imported into Gambia duty-free, and Gambia applies the ECOWAS CET on imports from outside the REC.
- CEN-SAD currently has 24 member states aspiring to establish an Economic Union which includes the free movement of goods, services and commodities. There is currently no free trade agreement in place.



2. Intra-Africa trade

For 2019, 72% of Gambia's world exports & 22% of world imports were to and from the rest of Africa. Intra-Africa exports amounted to US\$18 million (250% more than in 2018) & intra-Africa imports to US\$109 million (65% less than in 2018).

65% of both intra-Africa exports and imports are exports and imports of petroleum oils. In 2017 & 2018 Gambia did not export any petroleum oil to the rest of Africa. Other exports include mixed vegetable fats and oils, fabric which is woven from artificial filament yarn and goods vehicles.

Gambia mainly trades with fellow ECOWAS (and CENSAD countries). This is due to 57% of intra-Africa trade being with Ivory Coast - all of which are imports as there were no exports to the Ivory Coast recorded for 2019.

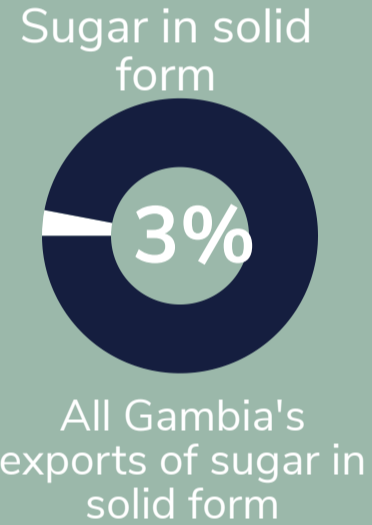
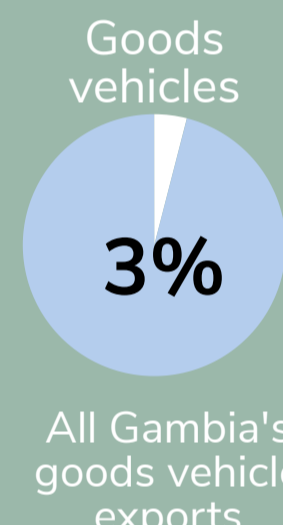
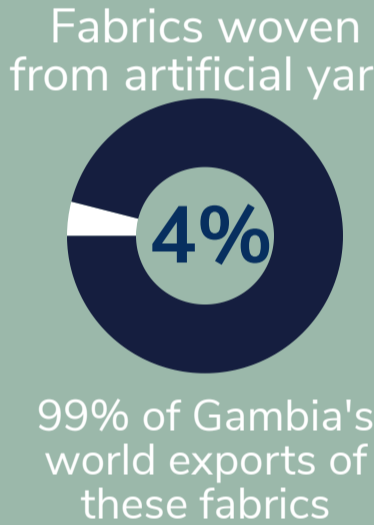
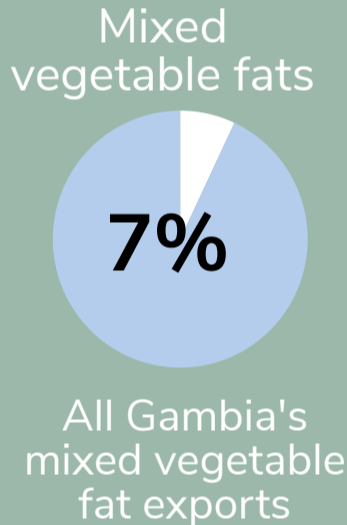
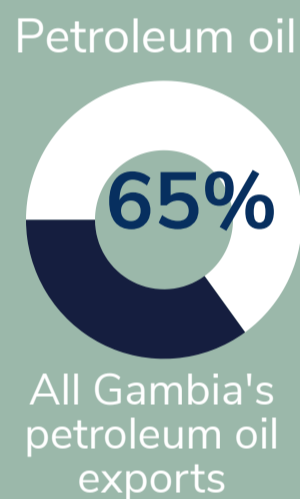
Main destination markets

Mali, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal & Guinea



Exports

Gambia's intra-Africa trade 2019



Main source markets

Ivory Coast, Senegal, Algeria, Morocco

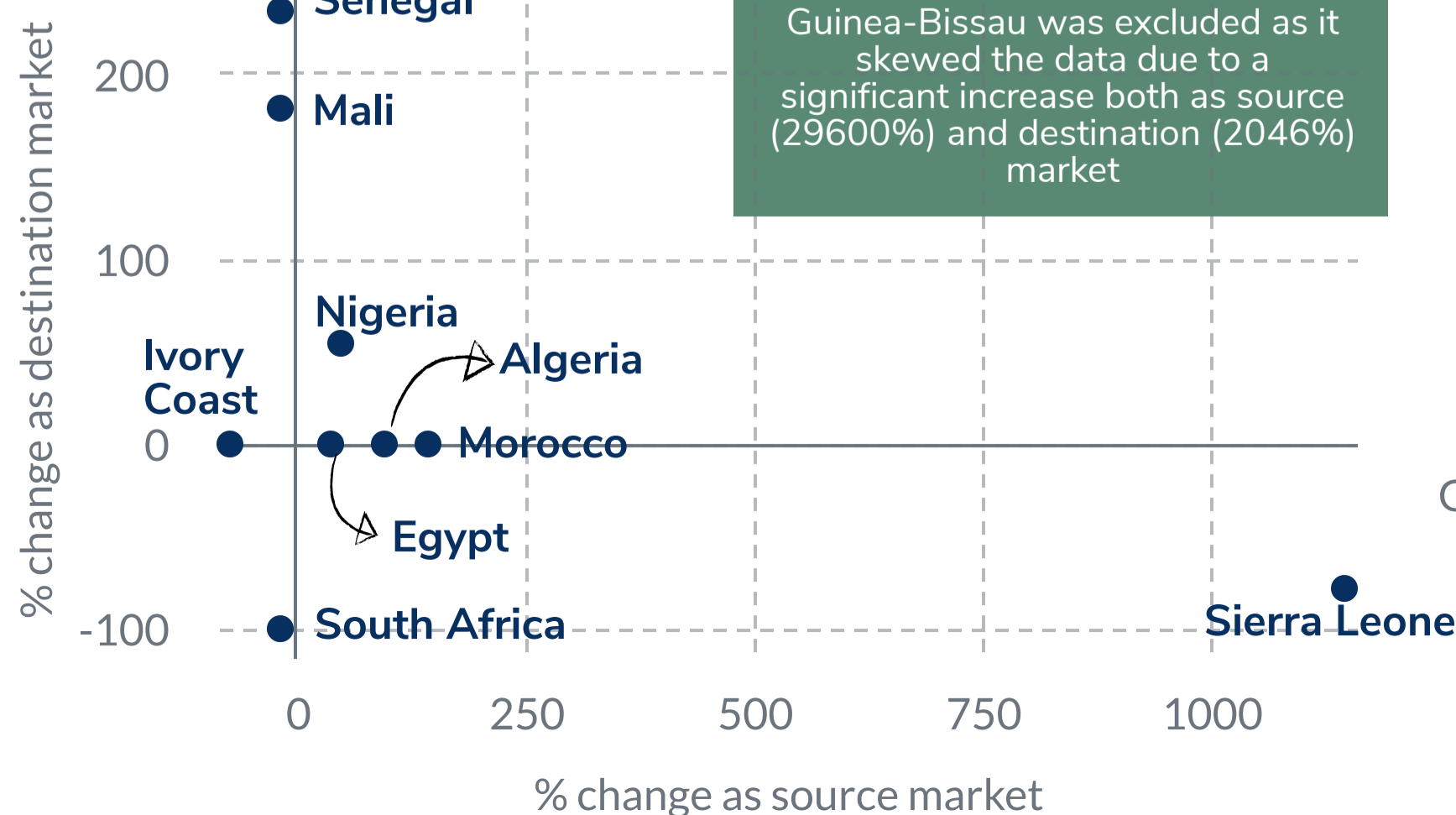
Imports



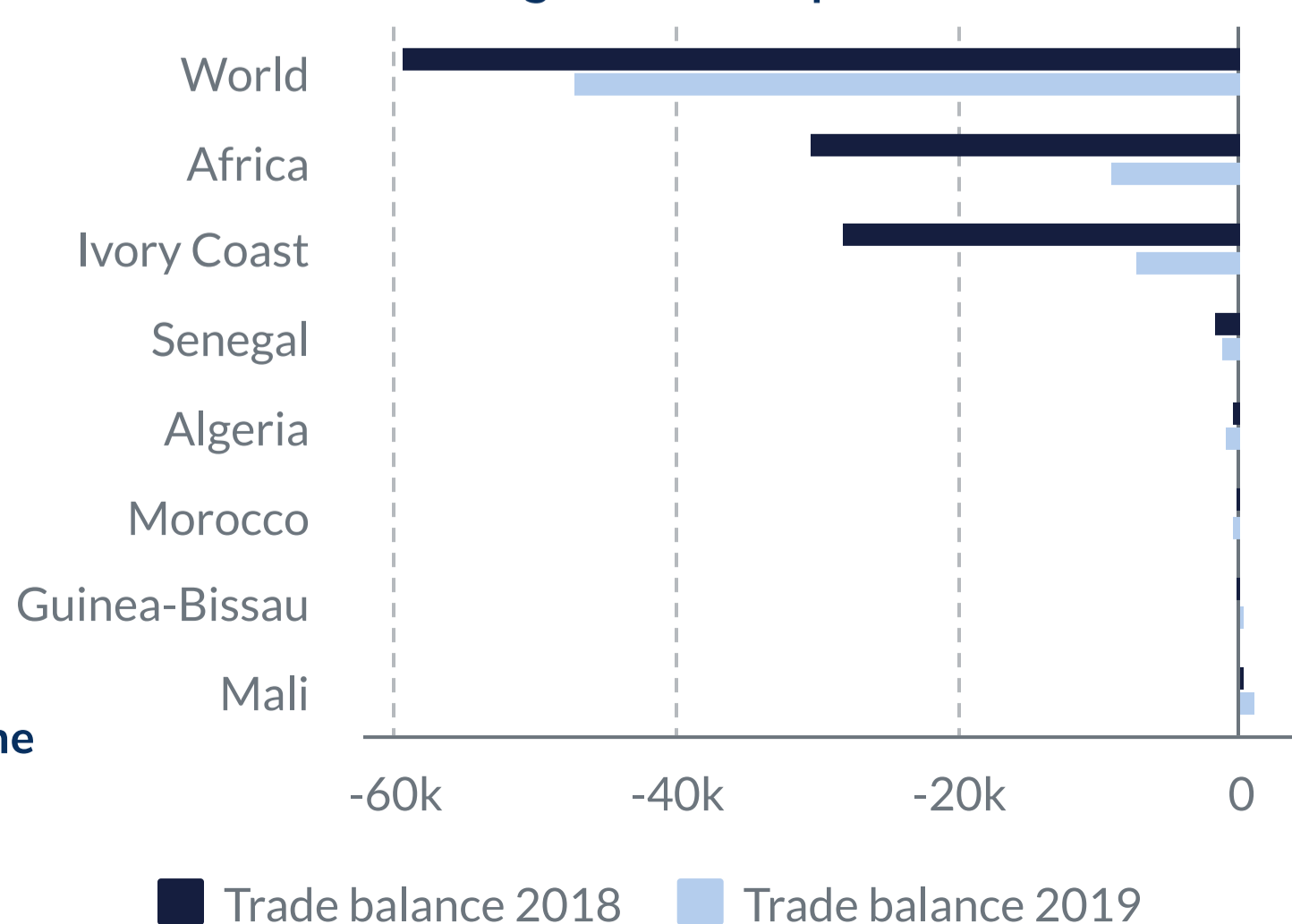
intra-Africa imports as % of world imports of the products

Petroleum oils (65.66%)	97%
Cement (7.07%)	40%
Construction vehicles (2.02%)	68%
Natural bitumen & asphalt (2.02%)	100%
Cigars & cigarettes (2.02%)	90%
Waters (2.02%)	41%
Others (19.19%)	

% change in exports to & imports from main African trade partners (2018 to 2019)



Trade balance with designated trade partners 2018 & 2019



3. Intra-Africa tariffs & non-tariff cost of trade
 Qualifying goods from ECOWAS member states enter Gambia duty-free, while imports from CENSAD countries, which are not ECOWAS member states (including Egypt, Morocco, Somalia & Tunisia) and the rest of Africa are levied the MFN applied duty, which is the ECOWAS CET. The ECOWAS CET has five tariff bands - duty-free, 5%, 10%, 20% and 35%.

1% of Gambia's world exports (1% of intra-Africa exports) are to African countries not ECOWAS member states. Gambia only exports four products to African countries which are not members of ECOWAS - fish flours to Tunisia, drilling machines to Mauritania, fish fats and oils to Tunisia and second-hand clothes to Congo. Also, between 2018 and 2019 exports to African countries outside ECOWAS halved.

4% of world imports are sourced from outside ECOWAS (16% of intra-Africa imports). Also, between 2018 and 2019 imports from these countries doubled while overall intra-Africa imports halved. 76% of these imports are sourced from Algeria and Morocco. Other source countries include South Africa, Egypt and Tunisia. The products mainly imported are goods levied 20% duties, including cement, waters, refined sugar, pasta and couscous.

MFN duty categories & % of national tariff lines in each category

Duty-free 2%
 medicaments; crude petroleum oils; mineral and chemical fertilisers; printed books; newsprint in roll or sheets; newspapers or journals; human blood; articles of apparel and clothing accessories

5% duties 37%
 live beef animals; harvesting machinery; live poultry; copper wire; flat-rolled alloy steel; passenger motor vehicles; motor cycles; sugar or beets seeds; barley seeds

10% duties 23%
 iron, non-alloy or stainless steel wire; fresh fish; animal drawn vehicles; rice; woven cotton fabrics; vegetable oils and fats; cotton yarn; telephone sets; coffee; grand pianos

20% duties 36%
 fish fillets; fruit juices; male suits and shirts; copper wire; flour; fresh grapes; sanitary towels; milk and cream; stoves; curtains; lettuce; woven fabrics

35% duties 2%
 soap; buttermilk; meat and edible offals; groundnuts; oil; sheep or goat meat; bread; pastry; cakes; chocolates

Intra-Africa exports to countries outside ECOWAS

Fish flours, meals & pellets
 Tunisia (2016): 15% duties

Drilling or mortising machines
 Mauritania: 5% duties

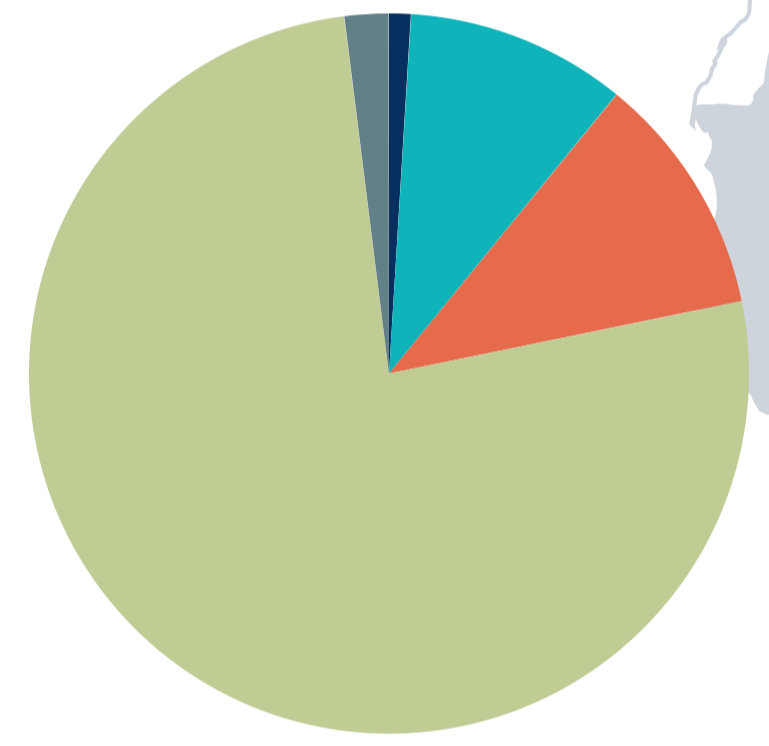
Fish fats & oils
 Tunisia (2016): duty-free

Second-hand clothes
 Congo (2015): 20% duties

Gambia's imports from outside ECOWAS and corresponding import duties

All most all of Gambia's world imports of calcined gypsum plasters, paper bags, aluminium alloy plates, self-propelled earth-moving machinery and flat-rolled steel products are sourced from African countries which are not ECOWAS members. On the contrary, only 4%, 1%, 3% and 2% of respective world imports of refined sugar, linseed oil, vehicle parts and milk and cream are sourced from these countries.

Categories of MFN duties & % of 2019 imports in each category



- Duty-free (0.99%)
- 5% duties (9.9%)
- 10% duties (10.89%)
- 20% duties (76.24%)
- 35% duties (1.98%)

Of the top 20 import products none are imported duty-free. The majority of the main import products (12 of the top 20 imports) are levied 20% import duties including cement, refined sugar, waters, paper bags, prepared sardines, aluminium sheets and cigarettes. White chocolate is levied 35% duties; gypsum plasters and steel reservoirs 10% duties and buckets for machinery and flat-rolled steel products 5% duties. The duty levied on milk and cream and passenger vehicles depend on the specific product being imported.

Algeria (49%)
 Portland cement, waters & refined sugar, couscous & pasta (20% duty)

Morocco (26%)
 Refined sugar, paper bags & aluminium plates (20% duty)
 Gypsum plasters (10% duty)

South Africa (8%)
 Milk & cream (5% or 10% duty depending on the product)
 Passenger vehicles (5% or 20% duty depending on whether fully assembled)
 Cigarettes (20% duty)

Egypt (7%)
 Pasta & linseed oil (20% duty)
 White chocolate (35% duty)
 Flat-rolled steel products (5% duty)

Tunisia (5%)
 Margarine, couscous, pasta & waters (20% duty)
 Base metal crown corks (10% duty)

The non-tariff cost of bilateral trade between Gambia & designated trade partners

The ESCAP-World Bank trade cost database includes the cost of transportation and the time to complete import procedures and obtain necessary information as non-tariff costs affecting bilateral trade between trade partners. There is limited trade cost data for agricultural goods trade. The data for China, Germany, Senegal and UK shows trade costs for agricultural goods trade is about double the cost for manufactured goods trade. Also, agricultural goods trade with Europe is more costly than trading with China and Senegal. For manufactured goods trade, trade with Benin, Ivory Coast, Ghana and Nigeria which are also in ECOWAS are more costly compared to trade with China, South Africa and Tunisia. Trade with neighbouring countries are more costly than trade with the UK and China.

