Gambia is part of both the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD).

All 15 ECOWAS countries are part of the ECOWAS Free Trade Area and all, but Cape Verde, are in the process of implementing the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET). In 2017 Mauritania and ECOWAS signed an Association Agreement for the re-admission of Mauritania to the REC by 2019; Morocco’s application to join ECOWAS has been granted ‘in principle’, but is awaiting final approval and Tunisia has recently obtained ECOWAS observer status.

CEN-SAD currently has 24 member states aspiring to the establishment of an Economic Union which includes the free movement of goods. Although CEN-SAD was revived in 2013 with a revision of the CEN-SAD Treaty there is still no progress and free trade agreement in place.

41% of Gambia’s total exports are intra-Africa

- Milk and cream (26%)
- Sugar confectionery (14%)
- Woven fabric (16%)
- Footwear (10%)

48% of Gambia’s total imports are intra-Africa

- Petroleum oils (61%)
- Granite, building stone (29%)
- Tobacco cigarettes (1%)
- Construction vehicles (3%)

Export Destinations:
- Guinea 3%
- South Africa 2%
- Senegal 3%
- Others 1%
- Mali 68%

Main Source Markets:
- Gambia 36%
- Côte d’Ivoire 61%
- Senegal 36%
- South Africa 1%
- others 2%
The ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS) allows for the duty-free, quota-free access of unprocessed, traditional handicraft and industrial products of ECOWAS origin traded by approved ECOWAS producers. Gambia prescribes to the ETLS; all qualifying goods sourced from approved producers are imported into Gambia duty-free. Goods imported from CEN-SAD countries, which are not ECOWAS member states (including Egypt, Morocco, Somalia and Tunisia) and the rest of Africa are levied the ECOWAS CET (MFN applied duty). The ECOWAS CET has five tariff bands - 0%, 5%, 10%, 20% and 35%.

### 5% ad valorem import duties
- Domestic turkey, geese, ducks
- Human hair (worked or un-worked)
- Ivory, tortoise-shell, horns
- Sugar beet seeds

### 20% ad valorem import duties
- Paints and varnishes
- Electrical appliances
- Sound-recording equipment
- Sports and military weapons
- Plastic furniture
- Fish and seafood
- Fresh flowers

### 35% ad valorem import duties
- Yoghurt
- Oils (groundnut, cotton-seed and coconut)
- Soaps
- Meat
- Eggs
- Potatoes
- Waffles and water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HS code</th>
<th>Product descriptions</th>
<th>US$M 2017</th>
<th>MFN Applied tariffs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>240220</td>
<td>Tobacco and cigarettes</td>
<td>4.807</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>252020</td>
<td>Plasters consisting of calcium gypsum, calcium sulphate</td>
<td>1.446</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>210610</td>
<td>Protein concentrates and textured protein substances</td>
<td>0.592</td>
<td>Average advalorem 7.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>040210</td>
<td>Milk and cream in solid forms</td>
<td>0.29</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>271019</td>
<td>Medium oils and preparation, of petroleum or bituminous minerals</td>
<td>0.274</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>170199</td>
<td>Cane, beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose in solid form</td>
<td>0.233</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160413</td>
<td>Prepared or preserved sardines, sardinellas, brising whole or in pieces</td>
<td>0.176</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>170490</td>
<td>Sugar Confectionery including white chocolate (excluding chewing gum)</td>
<td>0.147</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>151519</td>
<td>Linseed oil in all forms but not chemically modified</td>
<td>0.133</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>481930</td>
<td>Sacks and bags of paper</td>
<td>0.105</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Imports from countries outside ECOWAS, mainly come from South Africa (44%), Morocco (28%) and Egypt (18%). All top 10 import products from outside ECOWAS attract duties.

Gambia mainly imports tobacco and cigarettes from outside ECOWAS (at 20% duty), plasters consisting of calcium gypsum (10% tariff), protein concentrate (7.5% average tariff), milk and cream (6.7% average tariff) and medium oils and preparation, of petroleum (8.1% average tariff). Sugar confectionery attract the highest duty (35% tariff). Linseed oil attracts 20% tariff, and sacks and paper bags are imported at 20% tariff.