

MAY TRADE WATCH

MAY TRADE UPDATE – STUCK IN THE RUT

- **Trade dropped sharply in the late fall and again in January 2009, and has remained weak across countries in the first quarter.**
- **April data available for a handful of countries show no sign of improvement.**
- **March industry data for the United States and Japan show a rebound in imported foodstuffs.**

Trade is weak in the first quarter. Forty-seven countries have reported trade data through March. Trade growth is uniformly negative, with both exports and imports down about 30 percent on average, compared to the same month last year (See Tables 1 and 2). While trade is severely depressed, there is little overall change since February, suggesting that conditions did not deteriorate significantly from the previous month. April trade data for six countries show no improvement.

Growth measured as month relative to same month last year, could overstate the decline if trade was exceptionally strong at the end of 2007 and beginning of 2008. To reduce this problem we produced a seasonally adjusted trade series¹ using 13 years of monthly trade data in constant dollars for 44 countries. *These seasonally-adjusted month-to-month growth rates, shown in Tables 3 and 4, record a similar pattern.* We see sharp declines in October, November, and January, totaling around 30 percent, and only small changes in the other months.

To see the declines in context, Figures 1 and 2 show export and import growth (month relative to same month last year) by region through March 2009, for a balanced sample of countries reporting data. Figures 3 and 4 show the same indices by income group. Trade growth averaged above 20 percent until September. While part of the decline reflects the steep fall in commodity prices, the slowdown is relatively widespread, across regions, between developed and developing countries as well as across exports and imports, suggesting that reduced demand is the primary cause.

In addition to falling commodity prices, exchange rate fluctuations play an important role in the magnitude of the trade decline.² Figure 5 shows a period of weakening of the U.S. Dollar against the Japanese Yen and Euro, followed by a period of strengthening against the British Pound and Euro. These exchange rate movements overstate the drop in trade. To mitigate this “exchange rate effect”, we also report trade flows using a standard basket of currencies (S.D.R.).³ Figure 6 and 7 show that the slump in trade growth, from the

¹ We converted nominal trade to 2000 constant dollars and remove country-month averages.

² When the U.S. Dollar depreciates trade growth rates, measured in dollars, are higher, reversely, when the U.S. Dollar appreciates growth rates, are lower (ceteris paribus). In other words, when the U.S. Dollar weakens a product is more expensive in U.S. Dollars inducing a higher growth rate.

³ The Special Drawing Right (S.D.R.) was created by the I.M.F. in 1969 to support the Bretton Woods fixed exchange rate system. Today the S.D.R. is defined as a basket of currencies, consisting of the Euro,

MAY TRADE WATCH

first six months of the year, is nearly 20 percent (or about 10 percentage points) smaller both for imports and for exports, using the more comprehensive S.D.R. as unit of value. Measured in SDR there is a modest improvement in trade growth in February and March.

U.S. and Japanese data, available by industry, provide an indication of where trade is declining the fastest. Table 5 shows U.S. import growth by broad sector (relative to the same month last year). Similar data for Japan (measured in Yen) are shown in Table 6.⁴ Both countries report especially sharp drops in mineral products, partly due to the collapse in prices. Transportation, metals, and stone and glass have also been heavily hit as demand and investment plummet. Foodstuffs show signs of rebounding in March in both countries. In Japan, textiles and apparel and footwear also bounced back.

This note was prepared by Caroline Freund (DECRG) and Matias David Horenstein (DECRG) with support from PRMTR and the multi-donor trust fund.

*If you wish to receive a monthly **Trade Watch**, email mhorenstein@worldbank.org with "Trade Watch" in the subject.*

Japanese Yen, British Pound and U.S. Dollar. The U.S. Dollar value of the S.D.R. is posted daily at the IMF website.

⁴ Aggregate figures for Japan in Table 6 are calculated from Yen values and therefore are different from Tables 1 and 2, which use data in \$US.

MAY TRADE WATCH

Table 1: Export Growth Relative to Same Month Previous Year
(Percentage Change in U.S. Dollars)

Country	Exports							
	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April
Argentina	44.90	11.26	-5.78	-26.88	-35.80	-24.44	-15.86	n.a.
Australia	51.33	33.78	14.18	4.33	-3.76	-0.41	-9.10	n.a.
Austria	12.11	-8.15	-25.69	-13.84	-35.08	-33.06	n.a.	n.a.
Bangladesh	12.62	31.46	4.90	3.19	9.73	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Belgium	11.07	-5.63	-26.80	-13.50	-29.56	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Bulgaria	19.68	-5.86	-26.44	-19.31	-36.41	-34.70	-31.78	n.a.
Canada	14.07	-1.10	-16.23	-16.06	-35.08	-34.08	-37.18	n.a.
Chile	-12.69	-22.73	-27.62	-26.81	-41.43	-42.19	-44.48	-40.18
China	21.50	19.20	-2.20	-2.80	-17.50	-25.70	-17.10	-22.60
Croatia	21.14	-16.09	-11.27	-9.12	-35.11	-16.52	-25.50	n.a.
Cyprus	11.04	-13.33	8.40	10.43	-32.68	-28.47	-41.12	n.a.
Czech Republic	21.45	-4.73	-25.20	-16.14	-36.66	-39.81	-26.97	n.a.
Denmark	16.50	-2.26	-26.86	-7.37	-27.83	-30.26	-23.81	n.a.
Ecuador	19.58	-11.08	-23.93	-38.52	-45.42	-51.41	-33.81	n.a.
Egypt	65.12	38.29	-4.46	n.a.	-9.67	-7.86	n.a.	n.a.
Estonia	27.99	7.52	-27.36	-11.44	-36.77	-35.29	-35.63	n.a.
Finland	7.43	-4.36	-29.97	-19.44	-43.58	-43.86	-43.63	n.a.
France	9.79	-8.95	-23.93	-7.76	-32.50	-33.05	-30.72	n.a.
Germany	9.25	-3.49	-23.86	-12.79	-32.44	-32.78	-30.46	n.a.
Greece	6.40	5.74	-27.87	n.a.	-31.39	-25.09	-28.00	n.a.
Hong Kong	3.50	9.36	-4.83	-10.82	-21.42	-22.56	-20.84	n.a.
Hungary	11.94	-12.48	-22.97	-22.11	-40.13	-37.67	-31.92	n.a.
Iceland	69.46	-22.90	-46.29	16.20	-32.14	-1.39	-36.42	-53.47
India	12.56	-13.23	-20.30	-4.35	-16.46	-20.34	-33.45	n.a.
Indonesia	29.02	4.72	-1.81	-20.56	-36.08	-32.86	-28.87	n.a.
Ireland	3.21	-7.47	-19.82	4.04	-14.36	-16.21	n.a.	n.a.
Israel	28.79	-19.20	-17.12	-19.63	-30.77	-34.98	-29.02	n.a.
Italy	9.98	-5.08	-26.66	-10.06	-34.76	-34.30	n.a.	n.a.
Japan	9.87	6.77	-16.10	-18.59	-35.33	-40.83	-44.33	n.a.
Jordan	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Kazakhstan	47.93	52.26	-2.29	-18.21	-50.53	-46.31	n.a.	n.a.
Korea, Republic of	27.64	7.78	-19.45	-17.90	-34.20	-18.51	-22.02	-18.97
Latvia	32.07	6.20	-19.01	-12.66	-28.84	-33.77	-31.36	n.a.
Lithuania	44.09	18.62	1.99	-8.28	-25.91	-35.80	-43.28	n.a.
Luxembourg	17.83	-3.36	-28.28	-21.31	-37.91	-35.33	n.a.	n.a.
Malaysia	15.95	-6.59	-10.83	-20.76	-34.56	-24.90	-27.87	n.a.
Malta	1.76	-6.52	-35.03	-36.27	-44.49	-44.40	-37.56	n.a.
Mexico	8.40	-6.36	-16.67	-19.68	-31.50	-29.46	-25.13	n.a.
Netherlands	14.30	-1.27	-24.54	-13.64	-30.57	-31.13	n.a.	n.a.
New Zealand	0.44	-8.58	-19.03	-24.80	-30.20	-37.58	-24.29	n.a.
Norway	13.63	-8.86	-21.35	-31.01	-34.78	-34.31	-34.05	n.a.
Pakistan	20.77	9.86	-0.78	-3.05	-7.79	-17.37	-25.93	-24.09
Peru	8.09	-8.69	-11.58	-32.97	-36.43	-27.37	-31.26	n.a.
Philippines	1.12	-14.78	-11.40	-40.32	-40.64	-39.05	-30.86	n.a.
Poland	24.46	-2.13	-23.94	-23.48	-35.97	-38.70	n.a.	n.a.
Portugal	6.83	-9.36	-25.71	-18.84	-37.46	-39.66	n.a.	n.a.
Romania	21.28	9.04	-20.59	-20.05	-33.12	-36.49	-23.12	n.a.
Russian Federation	53.71	12.45	-16.08	-25.84	-47.91	-47.51	-46.97	n.a.
Singapore	17.99	-4.63	-15.93	-21.80	-40.75	-28.55	-28.95	n.a.
Slovakia	10.50	-5.15	-26.72	-23.36	-41.31	-40.18	-34.01	n.a.
Slovenia	14.22	-4.64	-25.20	-19.04	-34.54	-33.22	-33.74	n.a.
South Africa	35.67	13.87	-25.98	-23.71	-38.50	-28.03	-19.60	n.a.
Spain	18.71	-4.72	-25.25	-12.32	-34.65	-34.43	n.a.	n.a.
Sri Lanka	-9.55	1.98	11.57	-20.57	-12.04	-18.62	n.a.	n.a.
Sweden	10.64	-10.61	-31.03	-25.77	-42.58	-42.04	-36.64	n.a.
Switzerland	18.17	4.69	-14.10	-2.36	-14.82	-22.55	-21.84	n.a.
Taiwan, Province of	-2.34	-9.29	-23.46	-41.59	-44.86	-29.69	-35.73	-34.48
Thailand	22.65	5.23	-18.60	-12.43	-26.47	-11.35	-23.08	n.a.
Turkey	41.51	-1.81	-17.11	-20.71	-25.95	-23.81	-28.41	n.a.
Ukraine	62.47	34.89	-18.60	-17.56	-33.28	-42.62	n.a.	n.a.
United Kingdom	9.08	-4.70	-30.71	-18.52	-33.69	-36.09	n.a.	n.a.
United States	9.11	4.50	-5.66	-11.75	-21.13	-23.84	-21.75	n.a.
Uruguay	10.96	39.11	2.73	-10.06	-8.80	-18.23	n.a.	n.a.
Venezuela	-84.17	-87.47	-81.62	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Viet Nam	28.63	20.10	-6.24	4.26	-17.36	32.32	13.02	-11.76
Average	17.86	0.17	-18.13	-16.00	-30.86	-29.49	-29.24	-29.36
Balanced Average	19.37	-1.01	-17.34	-16.77	-32.24	-29.07	-29.24	-

Source: Datastream. Note: Data reporter in national currency are converted to U.S. dollars using average monthly nominal exchange rates. n.a. indicates not available

MAY TRADE WATCH

Table 2: Import Growth Relative to Same Month Previous Year
(Percentage Change in U.S. Dollars)

Country	Imports							
	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April
Argentina	34.01	16.59	-5.41	-10.87	-38.39	-36.72	-30.70	n.a.
Australia	29.45	-4.85	-11.47	-0.18	-25.11	-27.18	-27.33	n.a.
Austria	7.64	-2.14	-19.81	-10.43	-29.13	-30.31	n.a.	n.a.
Bangladesh	31.52	26.67	9.04	-1.25	-22.17	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Belgium	17.49	-3.78	-23.47	-12.90	-33.65	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Bulgaria	18.81	7.05	-23.40	-21.18	-41.07	-39.58	-38.57	n.a.
Canada	11.26	-3.06	-15.19	-9.90	-27.14	-26.37	-29.71	n.a.
Chile	47.37	21.96	-14.56	-4.40	-25.50	-32.64	-33.10	-36.85
China	21.30	15.60	-17.90	-21.30	-43.10	-24.10	-25.10	-23.00
Croatia	31.24	-5.04	-17.11	-6.79	-40.11	-34.55	-30.30	n.a.
Cyprus	25.43	-0.49	-12.35	-7.92	-32.06	-28.79	-44.44	n.a.
Czech Republic	23.61	0.69	-20.77	-12.14	-34.39	-39.26	-32.58	n.a.
Denmark	17.72	-1.97	-21.56	-6.82	-20.52	-27.17	-29.06	n.a.
Ecuador	54.92	38.33	13.99	22.83	3.47	-1.37	-8.27	n.a.
Egypt	112.32	96.81	57.03	n.a.	36.76	31.66	n.a.	n.a.
Estonia	7.38	-7.21	-29.41	-19.59	-44.14	-42.59	-41.77	n.a.
Finland	21.74	-5.65	-23.68	-16.55	-40.96	-39.42	-41.60	n.a.
France	14.76	-2.12	-20.71	-11.59	-30.93	-29.11	-27.95	n.a.
Germany	16.14	-0.19	-14.73	-9.17	-24.13	-26.98	-26.95	n.a.
Greece	6.85	-6.72	-25.18	-15.31	-38.23	-38.46	-38.72	n.a.
Hong Kong	3.79	11.20	-7.52	-15.67	-26.72	-17.01	-22.44	n.a.
Hungary	14.13	-10.04	-22.67	-22.42	-38.61	-40.43	-36.27	n.a.
Iceland	-0.87	-52.14	-45.18	-52.33	-51.45	-51.47	-54.79	n.a.
India	54.07	7.25	-1.72	0.00	-18.78	-18.24	-34.18	n.a.
Indonesia	66.34	70.74	19.90	12.61	-31.30	-39.66	-36.46	n.a.
Ireland	-4.98	-21.60	-37.19	-23.12	-36.44	-32.62	n.a.	n.a.
Israel	28.46	-6.02	-6.47	-27.48	-33.93	-35.08	-37.43	n.a.
Italy	13.08	-3.68	-24.71	-14.97	-33.16	-32.92	n.a.	n.a.
Japan	39.43	24.51	-1.93	-1.70	-18.91	-33.26	-35.22	n.a.
Jordan	22.53	5.84	-6.73	-20.02	-14.96	-28.75	n.a.	n.a.
Kazakhstan	20.13	4.49	0.29	21.52	-21.37	-13.36	n.a.	n.a.
Korea, Republic of	45.36	10.25	-14.95	-21.60	-31.51	-30.96	-35.92	-35.57
Latvia	16.67	-6.05	-24.43	-17.05	-39.13	-43.45	-40.54	n.a.
Lithuania	29.96	5.24	-19.14	-13.64	-47.43	-48.15	-53.91	n.a.
Luxembourg	24.00	3.57	-10.45	-13.44	-29.32	-31.86	n.a.	n.a.
Malaysia	12.31	-9.16	-14.28	-28.11	-38.34	-35.28	-39.11	n.a.
Malta	20.03	-28.14	-27.51	-14.46	-26.12	-36.98	-34.86	n.a.
Mexico	17.84	0.26	-7.63	-12.79	-30.04	-30.72	-21.90	n.a.
Netherlands	19.74	1.26	-19.80	-10.52	-31.17	-31.37	n.a.	n.a.
New Zealand	17.21	-6.35	-20.75	-17.24	-34.50	-42.63	-31.22	n.a.
Norway	23.54	-20.98	-24.33	-14.33	-34.30	-37.32	-24.36	n.a.
Pakistan	40.24	2.09	-13.85	-10.73	-28.32	-41.73	-38.42	-31.90
Peru	60.49	32.78	14.90	6.36	-19.04	-18.66	-28.73	n.a.
Philippines	2.52	-11.13	-31.52	-33.99	-34.51	-31.90	n.a.	n.a.
Poland	26.25	2.64	-19.90	-20.64	-36.96	-43.12	n.a.	n.a.
Portugal	11.48	-4.00	-22.59	-14.23	-35.30	-42.06	n.a.	n.a.
Romania	31.49	1.13	-27.27	-27.81	-44.03	-43.79	-46.55	n.a.
Russian Federation	44.83	23.48	-3.11	-3.32	-34.07	-36.47	-38.61	n.a.
Singapore	33.65	3.86	-13.46	-18.20	-36.50	-25.35	-35.62	n.a.
Slovakia	13.70	-6.05	-25.60	-22.63	-37.17	-41.64	-36.49	n.a.
Slovenia	13.13	-0.02	-24.10	-16.25	-39.67	-37.12	-36.79	n.a.
South Africa	32.47	-8.42	-17.65	-23.27	-27.64	-35.10	-26.17	n.a.
Spain	8.50	-14.43	-30.58	-20.90	-43.06	-34.98	n.a.	n.a.
Sri Lanka	22.44	8.77	-3.16	-11.33	-40.86	-39.86	n.a.	n.a.
Sweden	7.45	-9.31	-28.67	-24.68	-42.21	-40.10	-36.34	n.a.
Switzerland	19.25	-0.83	-17.99	-4.79	-20.09	-18.41	-15.85	n.a.
Taiwan, Province of China	9.13	-8.42	-13.83	-44.33	-57.06	-32.69	-49.55	-41.36
Thailand	39.35	21.68	2.01	-6.49	-37.60	-40.33	-35.13	n.a.
Turkey	23.69	-4.38	-27.42	-29.25	-43.26	-44.79	-37.52	n.a.
Ukraine	74.76	30.22	-9.58	-27.93	-45.74	-33.40	n.a.	n.a.
United Kingdom	-0.57	-10.50	-29.45	-22.22	-32.64	-36.92	n.a.	n.a.
United States	11.59	2.61	-16.01	-14.57	-26.59	-34.14	-28.95	n.a.
Uruguay	44.17	78.51	-3.88	29.56	-33.20	-7.80	-15.27	n.a.
Venezuela	12.31	5.42	6.88	18.04	14.53	-13.09	n.a.	n.a.
Viet Nam	8.06	8.69	-19.11	-14.29	-55.21	-27.79	-27.96	-33.76
Average	24.99	4.70	-14.29	-13.13	-31.60	-31.84	-33.59	-33.74
Balanced Average	25.59	4.06	-15.17	-13.23	-33.72	-33.21	-33.59	-

Source: Datastream. Note: Data reporter in national currency are converted to U.S. dollars using average monthly nominal exchange rates. n.a. indicates not available

MAY TRADE WATCH

Table 3: Month-to-Month Export Growth
(Percentage Change in Constant U.S. Dollars – Seasonally Adjusted)

Country	Exports						
	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Argentina	-2.19	-12.74	-14.31	-17.79	-3.48	6.59	-2.64
Australia	-0.07	-6.71	-10.80	-3.16	-9.91	2.54	1.10
Bulgaria	3.22	-12.91	-18.60	1.95	-23.61	10.98	11.20
Canada	-0.29	-5.99	-13.55	-4.95	-16.89	4.66	-7.05
Chile	-16.80	4.01	-12.44	-6.51	-2.56	-6.30	-2.02
China	0.34	-3.88	-10.74	-2.17	-11.52	-21.59	20.82
Croatia	6.22	-17.28	0.38	-5.58	-22.03	29.79	-17.63
Cyprus	-12.69	-10.53	15.13	-1.89	-28.36	13.60	-28.94
Czech Republic	17.06	-10.30	-18.16	-4.00	-8.48	-3.57	18.95
Denmark	5.02	-7.80	-19.65	11.24	-7.97	-2.13	-2.38
Ecuador	-15.60	-16.03	-13.77	-10.94	-5.94	-7.87	13.41
Estonia	4.60	0.28	-30.80	4.15	-16.55	2.60	-2.40
Finland	2.03	-7.96	-21.51	3.93	-18.13	1.62	-4.59
France	11.57	-7.48	-16.59	11.33	-14.38	-0.35	-1.99
Germany	5.04	-4.83	-18.82	3.89	-9.46	-2.55	2.59
Greece	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Hong Kong	0.35	10.41	-10.58	-6.86	-6.94	-5.69	1.46
Hungary	12.05	-14.26	-12.22	-7.71	-6.49	0.55	8.70
Iceland	35.10	-27.86	-23.26	60.62	-43.18	10.37	-11.48
India	-11.82	-7.65	-13.53	16.83	-2.17	-2.25	-15.29
Indonesia	-2.49	-11.06	-4.78	-11.00	-13.40	-0.54	9.77
Japan	0.10	-0.23	-16.34	-6.70	-13.44	-12.05	-4.98
Korea, Republic of	0.38	-3.25	-22.28	-3.68	-13.95	18.47	-0.16
Latvia	11.81	-9.06	-21.17	0.12	-15.55	1.34	0.18
Lithuania	0.42	-13.57	-15.38	-3.37	-13.58	-3.73	-7.67
Malaysia	0.61	-15.23	-0.84	-11.43	-10.96	8.97	-8.72
Malta	6.28	-2.21	-34.80	36.05	-24.29	-5.26	6.66
Mexico	-0.94	-7.54	-12.21	-2.19	-12.67	1.63	5.11
New Zealand	-15.73	8.11	-12.82	3.62	-11.16	-6.58	8.71
Norway	-10.70	-9.50	-11.40	-5.91	-2.11	4.38	-3.02
Peru	-6.30	-11.75	-11.07	-12.71	-7.06	10.99	0.44
Romania	4.17	4.18	-25.94	-9.50	-5.61	-0.85	17.39
Russian Federation	-2.71	-11.98	-21.89	-9.01	-26.84	-0.57	2.15
Singapore	1.13	-12.40	-11.84	-7.88	-10.91	11.58	-3.15
Slovakia	10.00	-0.90	-21.54	-8.69	-10.12	2.58	5.77
Slovenia	15.07	-8.04	-19.76	-3.93	-6.74	2.88	-1.86
South Africa	-0.86	-11.25	-20.75	-9.84	-17.00	15.75	10.16
Sweden	4.16	-8.62	-20.30	-0.72	-9.96	1.02	-2.65
Switzerland	3.73	-1.55	-12.93	-4.03	4.81	-5.81	-4.12
Taiwan, Province of China	-12.86	-6.58	-17.88	-14.87	-5.41	18.51	-1.89
Thailand	-0.34	-6.10	-20.74	3.14	-6.82	9.86	-9.57
Turkey	11.37	-24.53	-2.84	-15.80	9.06	4.86	-10.87
United States	-8.25	-0.15	-8.52	-5.37	-7.81	-0.17	-3.59
Uruguay	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Balanced Average	1.22	-7.68	-15.04	-1.46	-11.66	2.58	-0.34

Source: Datastream and International Financial Statistics. Note: Data reported in national currency is converted to current U.S. dollars using average monthly nominal exchange rates. Series are deflated using the U.S. CPI index and deseasoned using country specific time dummies. n.a. indicates not available.

MAY TRADE WATCH

Table 4: Month-to-Month Import Growth
(Percentage Change in Constant U.S. Dollars – Seasonally Adjusted)

Country	Imports						
	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Argentina	7.06	-4.68	-17.14	-10.29	-18.63	2.37	-2.25
Australia	7.57	-15.26	-4.72	4.10	-14.73	-0.97	-2.74
Bulgaria	4.19	-0.19	-23.62	-2.27	-28.10	7.95	3.56
Canada	5.24	-4.98	-12.51	3.00	-15.58	0.54	-7.36
Chile	-1.18	-2.75	-26.46	8.36	-20.09	1.57	-8.19
China	-1.19	-8.14	-21.62	-5.23	-20.26	21.59	3.72
Croatia	10.77	-14.16	-18.12	5.51	-21.86	4.84	3.36
Cyprus	5.38	-13.68	-10.94	-3.76	-10.72	-0.40	-20.25
Czech Republic	16.15	-5.86	-19.89	-3.15	-9.42	-6.33	9.42
Denmark	4.21	-7.05	-16.64	7.56	-1.03	-9.97	-5.49
Ecuador	8.69	-0.30	-13.47	1.14	-13.42	-10.84	-0.54
Estonia	6.40	-5.16	-22.77	4.61	-22.34	-1.85	-1.40
Finland	5.69	-11.46	-18.05	4.26	-17.83	-2.02	-2.71
France	5.68	-5.19	-14.91	1.74	-10.08	0.26	-1.04
Germany	3.08	-6.63	-12.64	2.32	-7.57	-3.66	0.46
Greece	10.94	-3.38	-19.30	0.20	-14.13	2.61	0.55
Hong Kong	0.95	10.50	-13.06	-8.82	-10.26	4.33	-4.30
Hungary	10.79	-13.14	-13.41	-6.64	-3.37	-9.23	5.86
Iceland	4.98	-31.66	-7.18	-7.09	9.71	-8.96	-26.38
India	-9.66	-12.31	-8.53	-4.17	-3.82	-3.97	-13.60
Indonesia	-7.69	-2.73	-11.34	-13.57	-15.66	-5.95	0.16
Japan	3.00	-1.45	-13.88	0.47	-12.18	-16.86	-0.25
Korea, Republic of	-1.61	-10.42	-18.37	-6.45	-4.13	-5.96	-4.06
Latvia	14.08	-10.97	-22.23	3.64	-16.57	-7.03	-5.58
Lithuania	3.49	-16.80	-18.75	1.68	-24.95	-1.74	-5.38
Malaysia	-2.85	-9.78	-5.22	-14.35	-10.01	1.90	-8.54
Malta	16.47	-28.61	-10.43	28.14	-10.61	-19.82	-0.91
Mexico	2.10	-6.61	-13.51	-4.86	-11.70	-3.00	2.30
New Zealand	-5.68	-1.75	-19.92	5.61	-18.32	-9.38	14.74
Norway	14.45	-18.62	-14.03	3.06	-9.43	-0.80	0.43
Peru	12.08	-2.91	-20.91	-4.89	-7.40	-8.48	-3.63
Romania	15.33	-9.47	-26.48	-10.15	-19.83	4.30	0.88
Russian Federation	2.35	-1.38	-20.35	4.98	-47.75	17.58	-1.88
Singapore	7.52	-10.50	-14.50	-8.51	-8.79	7.14	-10.56
Slovakia	12.32	-3.62	-17.07	-8.14	-7.36	-7.33	5.77
Slovenia	8.37	-4.69	-24.52	1.42	-15.48	-1.32	-0.80
South Africa	7.32	-13.09	-17.56	-3.87	0.32	-15.58	12.40
Sweden	0.40	-8.07	-18.01	-7.38	-7.45	0.13	1.13
Switzerland	5.95	-5.04	-13.86	4.64	-6.29	3.74	-0.51
Taiwan, Province of China	-15.44	-17.30	-10.11	-21.36	-21.00	38.81	-12.92
Thailand	-2.37	-1.05	-14.68	-10.48	-19.79	-7.31	3.94
Turkey	-7.51	-16.10	-19.47	-9.59	-4.17	-7.07	5.54
United States	-3.74	-1.04	-16.21	0.41	-10.43	-7.58	-0.79
Uruguay	-3.21	-4.26	-26.10	11.84	-31.69	21.98	-7.19
Balanced Average	4.11	-8.22	-16.42	-1.51	-13.50	-0.95	-1.93

Source: Datastream and International Financial Statistics. Note: Data reported in national currency is converted to current U.S. dollars using average monthly nominal exchange rates. Series are deflated using the U.S. CPI index and deseasoned using country specific time dummies. n.a. indicates not available.

MAY TRADE WATCH

Table 5: U.S. Import Growth by Industry
(in U.S. dollars relative to the same month last year)

Industry	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Animal & Animal Products	7.45	-2.20	-4.00	0.69	-7.90	-13.11	-2.97
Vegetable Products	24.20	18.58	6.59	11.26	-1.23	-8.02	-9.72
Foodstuffs	19.76	7.93	-3.15	4.66	-6.03	-9.50	0.28
Mineral Products	34.01	25.18	-27.90	-35.23	-50.02	-53.61	-50.74
Chemicals & Allied Industries	26.42	14.00	-3.14	13.34	-11.14	-19.13	-9.60
Plastics / Rubbers	13.98	8.10	-0.58	-5.97	-14.52	-31.11	-21.55
Raw Hides, Raw Hides, Leather & Furs	8.28	-1.12	-9.71	-5.08	-3.76	-25.90	-14.21
Wood & Wood Products	-5.41	-9.97	-15.64	-16.85	-25.77	-27.80	-26.02
Textiles	2.01	-0.40	-10.41	-4.58	-9.40	-19.09	-11.20
Footwear / Headgear	7.37	7.31	-3.86	-1.19	5.00	-19.77	-6.77
Stone / Glass	8.49	-14.91	-24.18	-20.14	-34.48	-41.53	-34.38
Metals	25.29	15.59	1.65	-5.95	-13.01	-33.68	-33.09
Machinery / Electrical	4.49	-4.26	-16.17	-13.18	-19.46	-26.19	-21.45
Transportation	-10.79	-21.79	-26.51	-21.05	-42.71	-51.49	-45.28
Miscellaneous	4.68	-1.63	-11.16	-5.90	-14.20	-26.35	-14.42
Other	6.42	6.08	-4.81	-1.95	-10.95	-6.54	-12.41
Total	11.59	2.61	-16.02	-14.58	-26.59	-34.14	-28.94

Source: U.S.I.T.C. and authors' calculations.

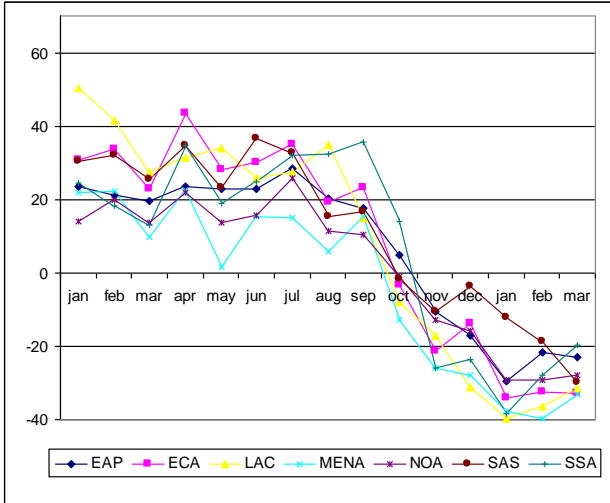
Table 6: Japan's Import Growth by Industry
(in Japanese Yen relative to the same month last year)

Industry	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Animal & Animal Products	12.04	7.08	-7.73	-7.05	-9.00	-15.74	-21.83
Vegetable Products	49.33	25.33	-5.71	-8.01	-25.68	-32.74	-23.55
Foodstuffs	9.44	-2.34	-16.58	-3.38	-6.43	-18.17	0.34
Mineral Products	62.17	29.96	-12.55	-29.80	-42.38	-50.77	-50.40
Chemicals & Allied Industries	24.09	3.96	-5.29	-3.96	-15.08	-27.65	-21.04
Plastics / Rubbers	26.07	7.87	-0.53	-3.89	-18.11	-42.29	-35.65
Raw Hides, Raw Hides, Leather & Furs	0.90	-14.41	-22.48	-16.52	-7.29	-33.25	-9.47
Wood & Wood Products	13.93	2.54	-8.46	-7.73	-12.67	-20.36	-21.26
Textiles	11.67	-1.69	-9.36	-1.96	3.29	-31.40	3.64
Footwear / Headgear	15.69	-0.09	-5.58	-2.21	-0.19	-24.10	4.84
Stone / Glass	16.77	4.36	-23.65	-38.91	-37.92	-58.48	-46.95
Metals	13.81	5.16	-15.04	-22.78	-35.86	-56.44	-53.04
Machinery / Electrical	5.78	-8.64	-20.37	-24.95	-34.56	-42.38	-35.49
Transportation	3.73	-34.99	-36.25	-25.05	-49.08	-47.09	-34.19
Miscellaneous	7.93	-7.26	-19.98	-16.21	-30.70	-35.97	-24.09
Total	28.98	7.85	-14.80	-21.74	-31.92	-43.01	-36.72

Source: Ministry of Finance, Japan, and authors' calculations.

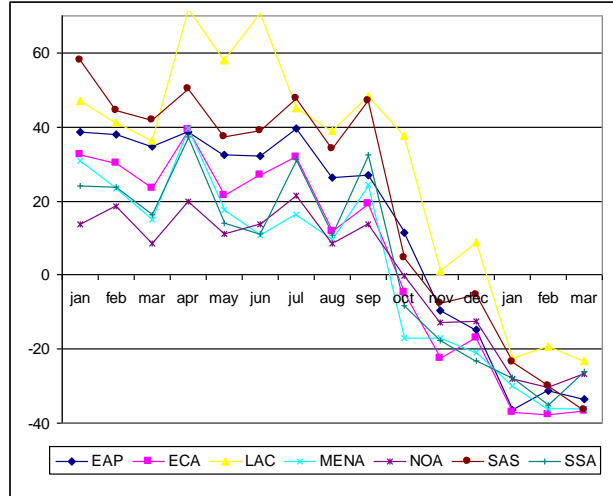
MAY TRADE WATCH

Figure 1: Export Growth by Region



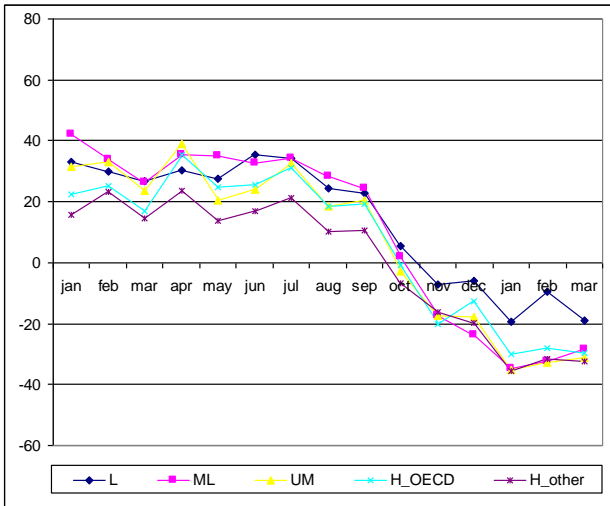
Source: Datastream, U.S. Commerce Department and authors' calculations. Simple average of growth rates across economies within regions for a balanced sample of 46 economies reporting data.

Figure 2: Import Growth by Region



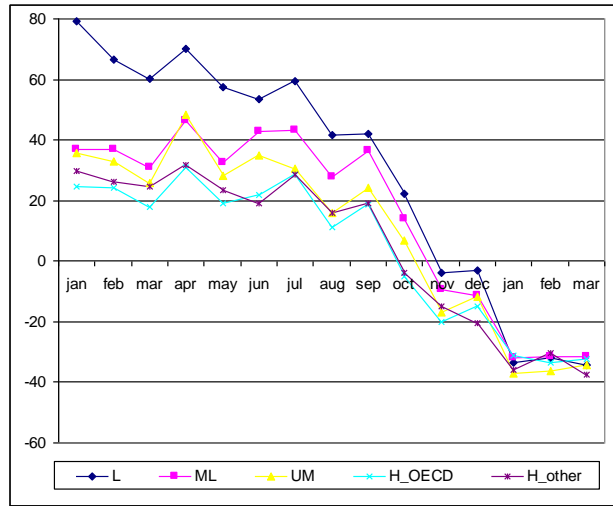
Source: Datastream, U.S. Commerce Department and authors' calculations. Simple average of growth rates across economies within regions for a balanced sample of 47 economies reporting data.

Figure 3: Export Growth by Income Group



Source: Datastream, U.S. Commerce Department and authors' calculations. Simple average of growth rates of economies in income groups for a balanced sample of 46 economies reporting data.

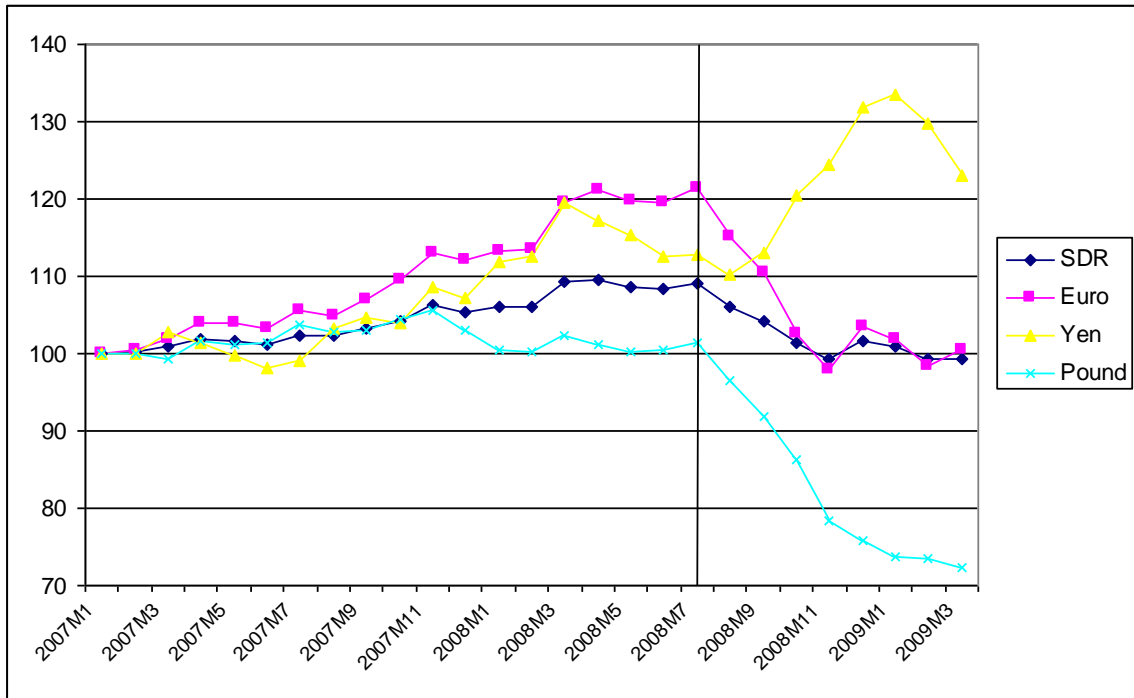
Figure 4: Import Growth by Income Group



Source: Datastream, U.S. Commerce Department and authors' calculations. Simple average of growth rates of economies in income groups for a balanced sample of 47 economies reporting data.

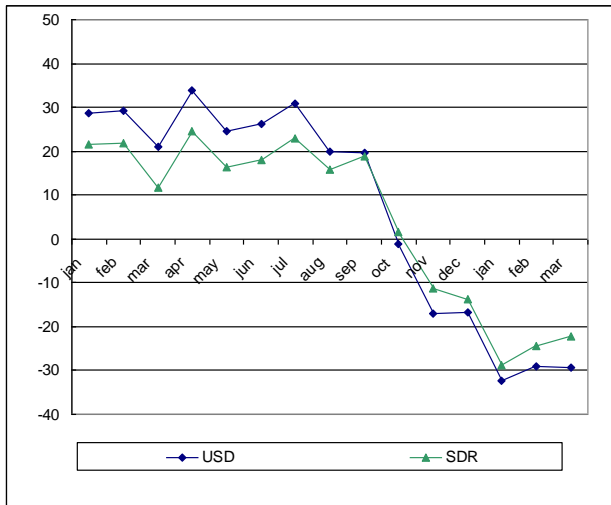
MAY TRADE WATCH

Figure 5: Normalized Exchange Rates



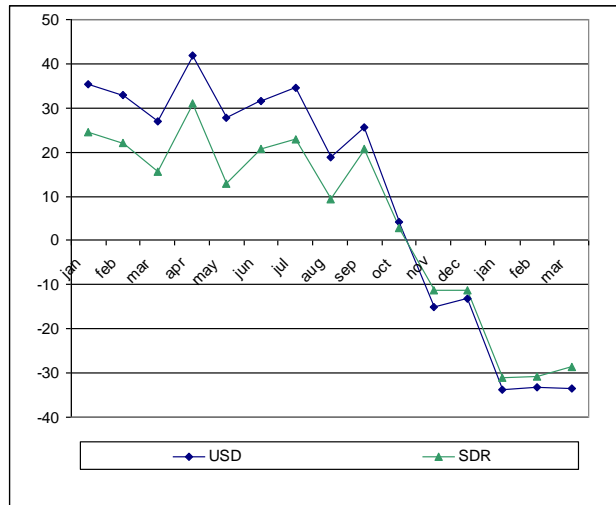
Source: Datastream and authors' calculations. U.S. Dollars per foreign currency

Figure 6: Export Growth



Source: Datastream, U.S. Commerce Department and authors' calculations. Simple average of growth rates of economies for a balanced sample of 46 economies reporting data.

Figure 7: Import Growth



Source: Datastream, U.S. Commerce Department and authors' calculations. Simple average of growth rates of economies for a balanced sample of 47 economies reporting data.