# STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES



Department of Economic Planning and Statistics Ministry of Finance and Economy Brunei Darussalam

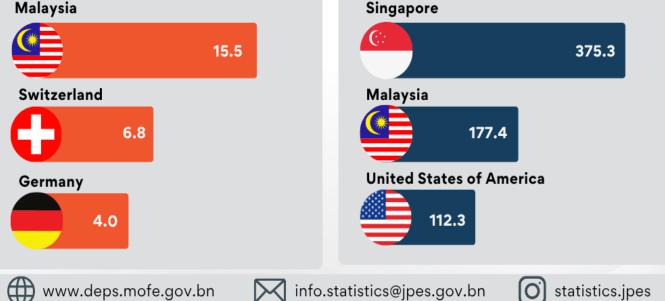
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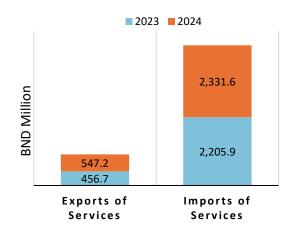


# Highlights

In 2024, the total trade in services was valued at BND2,878.8 million, reflecting an 8.1 per cent increase compared to the 36.8 per cent growth recorded in 2023. This accounted for 14.0 per cent of Brunei Darussalam's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at current prices.

Both exports (receipts) and imports (payments) of trade in services experienced growth, increasing by 19.8 per cent and 5.7 per cent respectively. The expansion in service exports was primarily driven by increases in Transport services, Travel services and Other Business services. (Chart 1 and Table 1)

#### Chart 1: Exports and Imports of Trade in Services



		ge (%)								
	2022	2023	2024	2023	2024					
				2022	2023					
Exports of Services	388.2	456.7	547.2	17.6	19.8					
Imports of Services	1,557.7	2,205.9	2,331.6	41.6	5.7					
Trade Balance (Net Services)	-1,169.5	-1,749.3	-1,784.4	49.6	2.0					
Total Trade	1,945.9	2,662.6	2,878.8	36.8	8.1					

Table 1: Exports and Imports of Trade in Services

Notes: Net Services = Exports of Services - Imports of Services Total Trade = Exports of Services + Imports of Services

# **Exports of Services by Major Components**

The main component contributing to exports of services in 2024 was Transport services valued at BND294.1 million or 53.7 per cent. This was followed by Travel services (BND170.4 million or 31.1 per cent) and Other Business services (BND28.7 million or 5.2 per cent).



Transport BND294.1 million



**Travel** BND170.4 million



Other Business Services BND28.7 million Meanwhile, the increase in the exports of services at 19.8 per cent was mainly driven by the increase in Transport services from BND246.3 million in 2023 to BND294.1 million in 2024. This was mainly due to an increase in sea and air freight activities in Brunei Darussalam.

This was followed by increases in Travel services mainly driven by the increase in foreigner travellers spending activities in Brunei Darussalam, as well as Other Business services due to technical activities related to services to oil and gas extraction owned by non-residents in Brunei Darussalam. (Table 2)

	Table 2: Exports in Services by Major Components									
Major Components	()	BND Million)			inge %)	Contribution (%)				
	2022	2023	2024	2023	2024	2024				
				2022	2023					
1. Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	-	-	-	-	-	-				
2. Maintenance and repair services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)	0.1	0.4	1.2	223.7	178.0	0.2				
3. Transport	271.8	246.3	294.1	-9.4	19.4	53.7				
4. Travel	19.0	95.4	170.4	402.8	78.7	31.1				
5. Construction	41.2	22.0	6.3	-46.8	-71.5	1.1				
6. Insurance services	1.9	0.3	0.4	-82.4	12.4	0.1				
7. Financial services	0.6	0.6	0.9	4.9	60.7	0.2				
8. Charges for the use of intellectual property not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)	-	-	-	-	-	-				
9. Telecommunications, computer and information services	8.0	46.1	19.7	476.3	-57.2	3.6				
10. Other business services	20.1	20.1	28.7	-0.2	42.8	5.2				
11. Personal, cultural and recreational services	0.0	0.0	0.0	-29.2	-26.9	0.0				
12. Government goods and services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.).	25.5	25.5	25.5	-	-	4.7				
Total	388.2	456.7	547.2	17.6	19.8	100.0				

Table 2: Exports in Services by Major Components

Notes: '-' - Nil Figure me

Figure may not tally due to rounding

# Imports of Services by Major Components

The imports of services in 2024 increased by 5.7 per cent to BND2,331.6 million from BND2,205.9 million in the previous year. This was mainly due to the increase in services under Travel services (BND738.3 million) followed by increases in Other Business services, and Transport services valued at BND691.5 million and BND396.4 million, respectively. These main components contributing about 78.3 per cent of total imports of services.

The increase in imports of Travel services was due to an increase in Brunei's travellers spending abroad and Other Business services growth was led by the increase in the import of acquiring services under scientific and other technical, and professional and management consulting services. Meanwhile, the increase in Transport services was mainly due to sea and air freight activities (Table 3).

**Table 3: Imports in Services by Major Components** 



**Travel** BND738.3 million



Other Business Services BND691.5 million



Transport BND396.4 million

Major Components		BND (Million)			nge %)	Contribution (%)	
	2022	2023	2024	2023 2022	2024 2023	2024	
1. Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2. Maintenance and repair services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)	124.1	190.9	177.1	53.8	-7.2	7.6	
3. Transport	330.8	391.8	396.4	18.4	1.2	17.0	
4. Travel	165.8	548.9	738.3	231.1	34.5	31.7	
5. Construction	289.8	235.9	107.2	-18.6	-54.6	4.6	
6. Insurance services	101.3	73.3	60.0	-27.6	-18.1	2.6	
7. Financial services	2.1	1.1	1.5	-48.3	37.5	0.1	
8. Charges for the use of intellectual property not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)	8.5	8.1	26.1	-3.9	221.1	1.1	
9. Telecommunications, computer and information services	54.8	78.6	89.9	43.5	14.3	3.9	
10. Other business services	436.1	633.4	691.5	45.2	9.2	29.7	
11. Personal, cultural and recreational services	4.4	3.9	3.7	-10.9	-5.9	0.2	
12. Government goods and services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.).	40.0	40.0	40.0	-	-	1.7	
Total	1,557.7	2,205.9	2,331.6	41.6	5.7	100.0	

Notes: '-' - Nil Figure may not tally due to rounding

The Brunei's travellers spending abroad contributed the highest imports of Travel services. Meanwhile, the sub-component services of scientific and other technical, and sea and air freight activities were the main contributors to the increase of Other Business services and Transport services respectively.

# **Exports and Imports of Services by Trading Partners**

In 2024, the main exports of services went to Malaysia valued at BND15.5 million. This was followed by Switzerland (BND6.8 million) and Germany (BND4.0 million).



**Malaysia** BND15.5 million



**Switzerland** BND6.8 million



Germany BND4.0 million

Meanwhile, the main imports of services was from Singapore which grew by 30.5 per cent from BND279.9 million in 2023 to BND375.3 million in 2024. This was followed by imports of services from Malaysia and the United States of America valued at BND177.4 million and BND112.3 million respectively.



Singapore BND375.3 million



**Malaysia** BND177.4 million



United States of America BND112.3 million

## **Technical Notes**

#### 1. Introduction

Statistics on International Trade in Services (SITS) are generally compiled in accordance with the United Nations' recommendations, as outlined in the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 (MSITS 2010) and the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the IMF Balance of Payments Manual (BPM6).

#### 2. Data Sources

The main sources of SITS data are based on

#### • Survey on International Trade in Services

The survey on International Trade in Services is the primary source of data for exports and imports of services and encompasses enterprises involved in international trade in services between Brunei Darussalam residents and non-residents.

The survey is conducted under the authority of the Statistics Act, Chapter 81 of the Laws of Brunei Darussalam. All information provided will be treated as confidential and used solely for statistical purposes. Partner country data is also used to estimate service transactions and for comparison purposes.

#### • Administrative Sources

Administrative data is collected from government agencies and private agencies for the compilation of international trade in services under government transactions, travel, transport, and communication.

#### 3. Concept of Resident and Non-Resident

A resident is defined as any individual, enterprise or other organization ordinarily domiciled in Brunei Darussalam. Brunei Darussalam branches and subsidiaries of non-resident companies are considered residents of Brunei Darussalam.

On the other hand, a non-resident is any individual, enterprise or other organization ordinarily domiciled in a country other than Brunei Darussalam. Similarly, foreign branches and subsidiaries of Brunei Darussalam companies who are residing temporarily in Brunei Darussalam are considered as non-residents.

There are exceptions to these definitions. Individuals and members of their immediate families who reside outside Brunei Darussalam but work with the Brunei Government, such as diplomats, consular officials, and members of the armed forces, are considered Brunei residents. Brunei students studying at foreign educational institutions are also considered as Brunei residents, regardless of the duration of their study abroad.

Conversely, individuals and members of their immediate families working in Brunei Darussalam for foreign embassies, consulates or other missions as well as foreign students enrolled at Brunei Darussalam's educational institutions are not considered as Brunei Darussalam residents, regardless of their length of stay.

#### 4. Classifications

The international trade in services are compiled in accordance to the MSITS and BPM6 standard services major components, which consist of 12 headings, as follows:

#### 1. Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others

Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others include activities such as processing, assembly, labelling and packing that are undertaken by enterprises that do not own the goods. Examples include oil refining, liquefaction of natural gas and assembly of clothing and electronics. Exclusions from this category are the assembly of prefabricated construction (included in construction) and labelling and packing incidental to transport (included in transport services).

The manufacturing is undertaken by an entity that does not own the goods and is paid a fee by the owner. The ownership of the goods does not change, so no general merchandise transaction is recorded between the processor and the owner. Only the fee charged by the processor is included under this item, although such a fee may include the cost of materials purchased by the processor.

#### 2. Maintenance and repair services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)

Maintenance and repair services n.i.e. include maintenance and repair work by residents on goods owned by non-residents (and vice versa). The repairs may be performed at the site of the repairer or elsewhere. Maintenance and repairs on ships, aircraft and other transport equipment are included in this item. Cleaning of transport equipment is included in transport services. Construction repairs and maintenance are included under construction. Maintenance and repairs of computers are included under computer services.

The value recorded for maintenance and repairs is the value of the repair work done, not the gross value of the goods before and after repairs. The value of maintenance and repairs encompasses any parts or materials supplied by the repairer and included in the price (parts and materials charged separately are excluded from services and included in general merchandise). Both minor repairs that maintain the item in working order and major repairs that extend the efficiency or capacity of the good or extend its life are included. No distinction is made between those repairs included by the customer in intermediate consumption and those included in capital formation.

#### 3. Transport

Transport covers the carriage of people and objects from one location to another, along with related supporting and auxiliary services, as well as rentals (charters) of carriers with crew. Postal and courier services are also included. Transport can be classified based on the mode of transport and the items carried (passengers or freight).

#### 4. Travel

Travel includes goods and services acquired by individuals undertaking study or medical care outside the territory of residence. It also includes acquisitions of goods and services by seasonal, border and other short-term workers in the economy of employment.

Travel excludes the acquisition of goods and services by diplomats, consular staff, military personnel, etc., and their dependents in the territory in which they are posted (these are included in Government goods and services n.i.e.).

#### 5. Construction

Construction covers the creation, management, renovation, repair or extension of fixed assets in the form of buildings, land improvements of an engineering nature and other constructions such as roads, bridges and dams. It also includes related installation and assembly work, site preparation and general construction as well as specialised services such as painting, plumbing and demolition.

#### 6. Insurance services

Insurance services cover the provision to non-residents of various types of insurance by resident insurance enterprises, and vice versa. Insurance and pension services be disaggregated into direct insurance; reinsurance and auxiliary insurance.

Direct insurance is further broken down into life insurance, freight insurance and other forms of direct insurance. Insurance provides financial protection to individual units (such as governments, enterprises and households) exposed to certain risks, covering the consequences of the occurrence of specified events. In addition, insurers frequently act as financial intermediaries, investing funds collected from these units in financial or other assets in order to meet future claims.

#### 7. Financial services

Financial services cover financial intermediation and auxiliary services, excluding those provided by insurance enterprises and pension schemes. These services include those usually offered by banks and other financial intermediaries and auxiliaries. Included are services related to transactions in financial instruments, as well as other services associated with financial activity. These services include, inter alia, deposit taking and lending, letters of credit, credit card services, commissions and charges related to financial leasing, factoring, underwriting and clearing of payments. Also included are

financial advisory services, custody of financial assets or bullion, financial asset management, monitoring services, convenience services, liquidity provision services, risk assumption services other than insurance, merger and acquisition services, credit rating services, stock exchange services and trust services.

- 8. Charges for the use of intellectual property not included elsewhere (n.i.e.) Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e. include:
  - Charges for the use of proprietary rights, such as patents, trademarks, copyrights, industrial processes and designs, trade secrets, and franchises, where rights arise from research and development, as well as from marketing.
  - Charges for licences to reproduce and/or distribute intellectual property embodied in produced originals or prototypes, such as copyrights on books and manuscripts, computer software, cinematographic works and sound recordings, and related rights, such as for the recording of live performances and for television, cable or satellite broadcast.

#### 9. Telecommunications, computer and information services

Telecommunications services covers the broadcast or transmission of sound, images, data, or other information via telephone, telex, telegram, radio and television cable transmission, radio and television satellite, electronic mail, facsimile, etc. This category includes business network services, teleconferencing and support services. It excludes the value of the information transported. Also included are mobile telecommunications services, Internet backbone services and online access services, including the provision of access to the Internet. Exclusions from this category are installation services for telephone network equipment (included in construction), and database services (included in information services).

Computer services consist of hardware and software related services and data processing services. These include sales of customized and non-customized software, installation and consultancy services.

Information services include news agencies services, database services (database conception, storage, and dissemination), and direct non-bulk subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, whether by mail, electronic transmission or other means.

#### **10. Other business services**

Other business services comprised of three sub-components: research and development services, professional and management consulting services and technical, trade-related and other business services.

- Research and development services covers those services associated with basic research, applied research and experimental development of new products and processes. This includes activities in the physical sciences, the social sciences and the humanities.
- Professional and management consulting services are divided into two parts:
  - Legal, accounting, management consulting, and public relations services; and
  - Advertising, market research and public opinion polling.
- Technical, trade-related and other business services is broken down into five subcomponents: architectural, engineering, scientific and other technical services; waste treatment and de-pollution, agricultural and mining services; operating leasing services; trade-related services; and other business services n.i.e. Architectural, engineering, scientific and other technical services is broken down into three components:
  - Architectural services, which includes transactions related to the design of buildings;
  - Engineering services, which includes the design, development and utilization of machines, materials, instruments, structures, processes and systems. Services of this type involve the provision of designs, plans and studies related to engineering projects. Mining engineering is excluded and included instead in services incidental to mining, and oil and gas extraction; and
  - Scientific and other technical services, which include surveying; cartography; product testing and certification; and technical inspection services.

#### 11. Personal, cultural and recreational services

Personal, cultural, and recreational services comprise of two sub-components: audiovisual and related services and other personal, cultural, and recreational services.

#### 12. Government goods and services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)

Government goods and services n.i.e. cover:

- Goods and services supplied by and to enclaves, such as embassies and military bases.
- Goods and services acquired from the host economy by diplomats, consular staff and military personnel located abroad and their dependants.
- Services supplied by and to Governments and not included in other categories of service.

## 5. International Trade in Services by Trading Partner

The international trade in services by partner country are collected via surveys conducted by the Department of Statistics of the Department of Economic Planning and Statistics, Ministry of Finance and Economy. The record is based on the country of residence of the non-resident transactor and the value of the transactions vis-à-vis each country. The compilation of trading partners data does not include transport, travel and government services.

## Annex 1: Exports in Services by Major Components

Major Components		В	ND (Million)		
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1. Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	-	-	-	-	-
2. Maintenance and repair services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)	0.0	0.9	0.1	0.4	1.2
3. Transport	200.1	133.1	271.8	246.3	294.1
4. Travel	52.3	2.8	19.0	95.4	170.4
5. Construction	188.7	86.1	41.2	22.0	6.3
6. Insurance services	2.0	0.6	1.9	0.3	0.4
7. Financial services	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.9
8. Charges for the use of intellectual property not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
9. Telecommunications, computer and information services	10.1	10.3	8.0	46.1	19.7
10. Other business services	7.0	9.6	20.1	20.1	28.7
11. Personal, cultural and recreational services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
12. Government goods and services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.).	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5
Total	485.9	269.3	388.2	456.7	547.2

Notes: '-' - Nil

Figure may not tally due to rounding

## Annex 2: Imports in Services by Major Components

Major Components		В	ND (Million)		
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1. Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	-	-	-	-	-
2. Maintenance and repair services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)	166.1	83.1	124.1	190.9	177.1
3. Transport	313.7	312.5	330.8	391.8	396.4
4. Travel	134.7	17.9	165.8	548.9	738.3
5. Construction	120.0	135.3	289.8	235.9	107.2
6. Insurance services	15.7	73.5	101.3	73.3	60.0
7. Financial services	5.4	5.4	2.1	1.1	1.5
8. Charges for the use of intellectual property not included elsewhere (n.i.e.)	16.9	18.3	8.5	8.1	26.1
9. Telecommunications, computer and information services	219.9	104.0	54.8	78.6	89.9
10. Other business services	630.9	412.8	436.1	633.4	691.5
11. Personal, cultural and recreational services	1.2	2.6	4.4	3.9	3.7
12. Government goods and services not included elsewhere (n.i.e.).	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Total	1,664.5	1,205.2	1,557.7	2,205.9	2,331.6

Notes: '-' – Nil

Figure may not tally due to rounding

Trading Partners	BND Million						Percentage Share (%)						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
Total	207.8	107.9	72.0	89.6	34.3		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		
ASEAN	4.0	4.5	8.4	28.7	18.2		1.9	4.2	11.6	32.1	53.1		
Malaysia	2.7	3.8	5.5	17.3	15.5		1.3	3.5	7.6	19.4	45.2		
Phillipines	-	0.1	1.2	0.7	0.3		-	0.1	1.7	0.8	1.0		
Singapore	0.7	0.3	0.9	9.4	1.7		0.3	0.2	1.3	10.5	5.1		
Viet Nam	0.3	0.2	0.2	-	0.1		0.2	0.1	0.3	-	0.2		
Others	0.3	0.3	0.6	1.3	0.5		0.1	0.3	0.8	1.4	1.6		
Other Countries	203.8	103.4	63.6	60.9	16.1		98.1	95.8	88.4	68.0	46.9		
Australia	0.1	-	0.1	0.3	1.3		0.0	-	0.1	0.4	3.8		
Germany	184.3	-	33.2	15.6	4.0		88.7	-	46.2	17.5	11.7		
Hong Kong SAR	0.4	0.8	0.3	28.6	0.3		0.2	0.8	0.5	32.0	1.0		
Japan	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5		0.0	0.3	0.6	0.5	1.3		
Qatar	-	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.0		-	0.1	0.2	0.4	3.0		
Switzerland	0.0	0.1	-	2.0	6.8		0.0	0.1	-	2.3	19.9		
United Kingdom	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.3		0.0	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.8		
USA	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.3		0.0	0.0	0.1	1.5	0.8		
Others	18.8	101.4	29.3	11.9	1.6		9.0	93.3	38.8	13.3	4.7		

Notes: '-' - Nil

Figure may not tally due to rounding

Excluding components under transport, travel and government services

## Annex 4: Imports in Services by Trading Partners

Trading Partners				Percentage						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	1,176.1	834.8	1,021.1	1,225.2	1,232.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
ASEAN	215.9	341.9	459.9	582.2	661.2	18.4	41.0	45.0	47.5	53.7
Malaysia	164.8	160.3	149.6	243.6	177.4	14.0	19.2	14.6	19.9	14.4
Philippines	24.1	-	0.5	0.2	55.3	2.0	-	0.1	0.0	4.5
Singapore	-	142.7	257.8	279.9	375.3	-	17.1	25.2	22.8	30.5
Viet Nam	5.5	26.9	50.1	55.0	47.7	0.5	3.2	4.9	4.5	3.9
Others	21.5	12.0	2.0	3.4	5.4	1.8	1.4	0.2	0.3	0.4
Other Countries	960.2	492.9	561.1	643.0	570.9	81.6	59.0	55.0	52.5	46.3
Australia	13.2	16.2	11.5	106.1	80.6	1.1	1.9	1.1	8.7	6.5
France	25.5	39.4	33.0	37.3	34.3	2.2	4.7	3.2	3.0	2.8
Germany	9.9	7.0	3.8	2.1	25.5	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.2	2.1
India	18.0	26.8	2.6	3.7	14.9	1.5	3.2	0.3	0.3	1.2
Netherlands	189.2	53.9	36.4	51.5	63.6	16.1	6.5	3.6	4.2	5.2
People's Republic of China	138.2	41.0	41.2	160.8	35.0	11.8	4.9	4.0	13.1	2.8
Saudi Arabia	256.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	16.9	21.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4
United Arab Emirates	6.8	8.2	5.0	4.1	27.5	0.6	1.0	0.5	0.3	2.2
United Kingdom	36.4	36.7	52.1	63.1	78.7	3.1	4.4	5.1	5.1	6.4
USA	31.7	49.6	31.5	66.1	112.3	2.7	5.9	3.1	5.4	9.1
Others	234.9	214.1	344.0	148.0	81.6	20.0	25.7	33.7	12.1	6.6

Notes: '-' - Nil

Figure may not tally due to rounding

Excluding components under transport, travel and government services