

COUNTRY:	LAO PDR		
YEAR:	2015		
General information	Legal Basis		
	Organisation		The Custom Department, Ministry of Finance (CD) is responsible for collecting and checking the customs declarations. The DC collects the data by using 2 systems; 1) through the C2000 system, and 2) ASYCUDA system. For statistical purposes this data is delivered monthly to the Lao PDR Statistics Bureau (LSB). LSB is the only responsible institution for the official trade data dissemination.
	Contacts		Ministry of Planning and Investment Lao statistics Bureau Department of Economic statistics Lao PDR Sitrannuea Village, Sikhodthabong District, Vientiane Capital Lao PDR Tel: 021 243670 Contact Person/s: Supervisor: Mr. Vixay SANTIVONG, Deputy Director of Department of Economic Statistics External Trade Specialist: Ms. Korrakoon SILAPHET, Deputy Director of Sector and Price Statistics Division Assistant: Mr. Yayvong XAYSANA, Technical Officer
Methodology	Source of data		The only source for the international trade data is the customs declarations provided by the Customs Department, Ministry of Finance. All Goods covered by Customs; however, some items have to be rechecked and collected from concerned agencies, especially the mining and electricity (the electricity is excluded from the Custom Department's data collecting system)
	Conceptual framework		Lao PDR compiles its IMTS in accordance with the United Nations' recommendations, contained in the International Merchandise Trade Statistics Concepts and Definitions, published in 2010.
	Time of recording		The time of recording is the date of lodgement of the customs declaration, which provides an approximation of the time of crossing the border of the economic territory. Date of lodgement is the date when the declaration is presented to Customs (as an estimate for the date when goods enter or leave the economic territory), which is also called assessment date in Lao PDR.
	Trade system		The IMTS of Lao PDR are compiled by the LSB in accordance with the General trade system.
	Coverage		All goods that enter or leave Lao PDR's statistical territory, and which add or subtract to/from the stock of the country's material resources, are recorded in IMTS. This includes goods returned unchanged (which were not previously subject to temporary import/export).

	Definitions and Classifications	Products	Lao PDR PDR compiles the international trade statistics according to the ASEAN Harmonised Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN) 2002. From 2010 to 2011 will be the AHTN 2007, and from 2012 onwards AHTN 2012 will be used to compile the trade statistics in Lao PDR.
		Countries	Import statistics use the country of origin for the partner country, while the country of last known destination is used for export statistics.
		Customs procedures	A national Customs Procedures classification system is in use in Lao PDR. It is now changed and updated from version 20011 to be 2013 .
	Valuation		The statistical value is the full value of the goods at the national border. The statistical value of goods imported or exported after processing is the so called gross value – it includes the value of exported/imported goods (materials) plus the value of the service performed. The statistical value is calculated automatically from the invoice value by Customs.

For further details, please kindly visit IMTS Methodological Handbook here:

https://cdn.aseanstats.org/public/docs/metadata/imts/detail/Methodology_Handbook_LA_2015.pdf