

**Indicator 59. Extent to Which Economic Framework (Economic Policies and Measures) Supports the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Forests Through Investment and Taxation Policies and a Regulatory Environment That Recognizes the Long-Term Nature of Investments and Permits Nondiscriminatory Trade Policies for Forest Products**

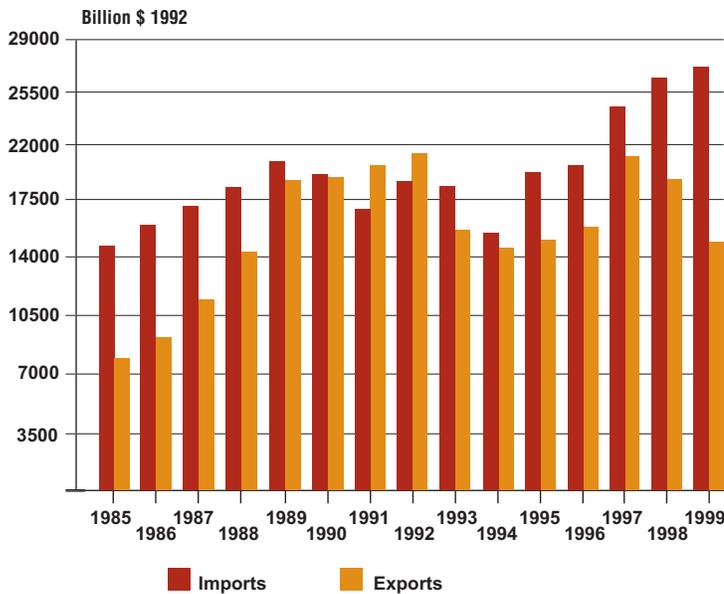


Figure 59-1. Value of imports and exports (billion \$, 1992).

**What Is the Indicator and Why Is It Important?**

This indicator provides information about the Nation’s trade policies and how they may affect markets in ways that can affect sustainable forest management. If trade policies, such as import or export quotas, mask market signals that affect domestic timber harvest, there may be unwanted effects on sustainable forest management.

**What Does the Indicator Show?**

Since 1965, imports as a percent on consumption of industrial roundwood have grown from about 13 percent to about 25 percent. Exports as a percent of production of industrial roundwood increased to a peak of 16.1 percent in 1991 and then generally declined to about 12 percent in 1999, in part because of a strong U.S. dollar. Thus, trade is important in determining domestic timber harvest. The United States participates globally to develop policies that support nondiscriminatory practices in forest products trade. Available data is inadequate, however, to support measurement of nondiscriminatory trade policy linkages to sustainable forest management. Areas needing further analysis include the agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, domestic legislation affecting trade, counter-vailing, antidumping and safeguard actions, invasive and alien species import restrictions, external influences on trade policies, environmental measures to affect forest management, tariff liberalization, internalized costs and benefits, actions under the North American Free Trade Agreement environmental free trade agreement, nontariff measures, national and subnational procurement requirements, domestic processing requirements, and bilateral trade agreements.