



Trade statistics on the Swiss-EU agreement on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment (MRA) – 2019

The Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the European Community on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment (MRA) is an instrument designed to reduce technical barriers in trade of industrial products between Switzerland and the EU.¹

The MRA covers 20 product sectors. In 2019, these 20 sectors covered approximately two thirds of trade in industrial products between Switzerland and the EU. This amounts to CHF 76 billion of Swiss exports to the EU (equivalent to approx. 69 % of industrial products exported to the EU) and CHF 74 billion of imports from the EU to Switzerland (equivalent to approx. 61 % of industrial products imports from the EU). For a breakdown by sector, please refer to the table below.

The following points should be borne in mind before considering the MRA trade statistics:

- The MRA trade statistics only show the volume of trade between Switzerland and the EU in the product sectors covered by the MRA.
- The trade statistics do not capture, neither directly nor indirectly, the immediate benefits of the MRA for manufacturing businesses based in Switzerland and the EU. They include avoiding double certification, eliminating the need for Swiss exporters to designate an importer/a representative in the EU or preventing interruptions in the production and distribution chains.
- The MRA trade statistics are only an indicative estimate of trade in each product sector since the trade statistics are based on tariff lines, which may not necessarily be consistent with the product definitions used in the MRA.
- Trade statistics on good laboratory practice (GLP, Chapter 14) and good manufacturing practice (GMP, Chapter 15) cover all pharmaceutical and chemical products. However, the MRA only partially facilitates market access for these products by covering only some aspects of conformity assessment.
- Chapter 10 of the MRA (construction plant and equipment) is not included in the trade statistics as it only covers the noise emissions aspect of construction plant and equipment. Trade in these equipment products and machines is covered by the other MRA chapters.

¹ www.seco.admin.ch/mra

Trade statistics on the MRA between Switzerland and the EU for the year 2019		
MRA-Chapter	Import (CHF) from the EU	Export (CHF) to the EU
1	Machinery	11'860'108'716
2	Personal protective equipment	110'933'858
3	Toys	491'515'985
4	Medical devices	3'216'413'252
5	Gas appliances and boilers	231'725'993
6	Pressure vessels	550'984'963
7	Radio equipment and telecommuni- cations terminal equipment	1'302'839'804
8	Equipment and protective systems in- tended for use in potentially explo- sive atmospheres	800'516'209
9	Electrical equipment and Electromag- netic compatibility	3'265'329'516
11	Measuring instruments and prepack- ages	1'405'426'034
12	Motor vehicles	11'224'350'416
13	Agricultural or forestry tractors	370'407'890
14	Good laboratory practice (GLP)	5'451'753'650
15	Medicinal products, GMP inspection and batch certification	27'553'010'836
16	Construction products	6'036'307'417
17	Lifts	587'956'599
18	Biocidal products	45'243'442
19	Cableway installations	29'935'443
20	Explosives for civil use	28'915'775
Total MRA trade		74'563'675'798
For comparison:		
Total industrial goods trade with the EU		121'744'229'285
		109'655'973'115