



EXPORT CONCORDANCE MASTER TAPES

1983-1988

DOCUMENTATION

Record Group 29

Records of the Bureau of the Census

Revised July 28, 1992

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P. D. Palmer

ABSTRACT

United States Bureau of the Census, Export
Concordance Master Tapes: 1983-1988 [electronic data
files] created by the Bureau of the Census --
Washington, DC: Bureau of the Census [producer] 1983-
1988/ Washington, DC: The National Archives and
Records Administration [distributor].

PROVENANCE: The Foreign Trade Division, Bureau of the
Census created the Annual Export Concordance Master Tapes.

TYPE OF FILE: Aggregated data; the unit of analysis is the
Schedule B number.

UNIVERSE DESCRIPTION: The universe is export commodity codes for
domestic and foreign merchandise that both government and
nongovernment export from the United States to foreign
countries.

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE: There are no geographic identifiers. Unlike
Annual Export Data Bank (EA 622), there are no data elements
for country of destination and/or custom district of
exportation.

SUBJECT CONTENT: Each Export Concordance Master Tape provides
data on exports by Schedule B number, end-use code, Standard
Industrial Classification (SIC) based product code,
Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) code,
agricultural or nonagricultural code, Schedule B short and
long alphabetic descriptions, units of quantity, and Schedule
E number. The Export Concordance Master Tapes are created by
extracting data elements from the Export Edit Master Files,
which are used to input, edit, process, and tabulate data to
create the Bureau of the Census export publications and
reports. The concordance tapes are used to identify
comparable Schedule B and Schedule E numbers, to convert
Schedule B numbers to the SIC codes, and to correlate
Schedule B numbers to the categories comprising end-use
commodities.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:

FILE STRUCTURE: Fixed-length, non-hierarchical.

File Size: See below.

EXPORT CONCORDANCE MASTER TAPES

<u>YEAR OF DATA</u>	<u>NO. OF RECORDS</u>	<u>LOGICAL RECORD LENGTH</u>
1983	4,843	240
1984	4,837	240
1985	4,985	240
1986	5,021	240
1987	5,044	240
1988	5,043	250

FILE SORT SEQUENCE: Except for the first nine records, arranged numerically by Schedule B number.

DESCRIPTORS: CENSUS, COMMERCE, COMMODITIES, EXPORTS, FOREIGN TRADE, TRANSPORTATION

REFERENCE MATERIALS: Export Concordance Master Tapes, 1983-1988 Documentation Package is a guide to the electronic data tapes. It contains approximately 55 pages per statistical year and is available from the Archival Services Branch (address given below). It contains an abstract, a general introduction to the master tapes, a record layout, description of data elements, validation statement with attachment(s) listing values for some codes, and sample computer printout. This guide also contains one appendix: Appendix A---Description of Export Statistics.

[The Foreign Trade Division provided 23 pages of "Export Schedule B x SIC Table" dated August 19, 1988. A copy of the table can be purchased from the Archival Services Branch.]

RELATED PRINTED PUBLICATIONS: Publications from the Bureau of the Census.

U.S. Foreign Trade Statistics Classifications and Cross-Classifications 1980: contains the basic schedules of commodity classifications used in the compilation and publication of U.S. foreign trade statistics. Included are the Schedule B classifications and their respective correlation to the categories comprising end-use commodities. Schedule E commodities. Schedule E which has been converted on a one-for-one basis to Schedule B also is included.

Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics 1983: contains an explanation of the coverage of the statistics and provides sample illustrations of the content and

general arrangement of the data presented in individual foreign trade reports and tabulations.

U.S. Exports: Schedule E Commodity by Country (EI410)
[1983-1988]: contains domestic merchandise export data for total value for Schedule E groups of commodities, and net quantity and value.

U.S. Exports: Schedule B Commodity by Country (EI446)
[1983-1988]: contains data on the quantity and value of individual commodities exported during the year, by country of destination.

Highlights of U.S. Export and Import Trade (EI990): contains data on United States exports (domestic and foreign merchandise) in terms equivalent to free-alongside-ship value, and provides similar data for imports in terms of customs, and cost, insurance, and freight values.

Publication from the Executive
Office of the President, Office of Management & Budget.

Standard Industrial Classification Manual: contains the titles and description of industries, a numerical and alphabetic index of non-manufacturing industries, and a numerical and alphabetic index of manufacturing industries.

(Recent publications can be purchased from the
Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government
Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.)

RELATED ELECTRONIC RECORDS: The following files are currently available from the Archival Services Branch of the National Archives and Records Administration:

Annual Trade Summaries, Foreign Trade Exports Between The U.S. And U.S. Possessions (EA 694), Bureau of the Census, 1981-1988.

Annual Import Data Bank (IA 245), Bureau of the Census, 1974-1988.

Monthly Import Data Bank (IM 145), Bureau of the Census, 1966 and 1967.

Import Concordance Master Tape, Bureau of the Census, 1983-1988.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: There are no restrictions on the use of these files.

FILE AVAILABILITY: These files are currently available from:

Center for Electronic Records
Archival Services Branch (NSXA)
National Archives and Records Administration
Washington, DC 20408

INTRODUCTION TO DOCUMENTATION

This documentation package pertains to the Export Concordance Master Tapes, 1983 through 1988. The package consists of an abstract, a general introduction to the data bank, a record layout, description of data elements, validation statement with attachment(s) listing values for some codes, a sample computer printout, and an appendix.

As early as its beginnings, the United States government can trace its interest in compiling statistics on foreign trade. The first Congress of the United States provided for the compilation of statistics on foreign trade, and the Treasury Department, through its customhouses, began keeping a record of foreign trade beginning August 1, 1789. (1) Annual statements on foreign commerce and navigation of the United States were first compiled in 1790 by the Treasury Department. By an act approved February 10, 1820, Congress established the Division of Commerce and Navigation in the office of the Register of the Treasury and required that collectors of customs compile and transmit annual reports to that office showing the detailed trade with foreign countries. (2)

In 1866 Congress established a Bureau of Statistics in the Treasury Department. In 1903 Congress transferred the Bureau of Statistics from the Treasury Department to the new Department of Commerce and Labor. (3) In 1912 the Bureau of Statistics was consolidated with the Bureau of Manufactures creating the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce in the Department of Commerce and Labor. The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce was established to promote the development of United States commerce and industry by compiling and distributing information on domestic and foreign trade, manufacturing, and markets. (4)

In 1923 the Bureau of Customs Statistics of the Treasury Department was transferred to the Department of Commerce and made part of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. The Foreign Commerce Service, established within the Bureau in 1927 to investigate foreign commercial and industrial conditions, was transferred to the Department of State in 1939. The functions and records of the Bureau's Division of Foreign Trade Statistics were transferred to the Bureau of the Census in 1941. (5)

The Foreign Trade Division, Bureau of the Census, compiles and disseminates data relating to export statistics of the United States. A general description of United States export statistics are provided in Appendix A of this documentation package. The basic export statistics are initially collected and compiled in accordance with the commodity classification in Schedule B, Statistical Classification of Domestic and Foreign Commodities Exported from the United States. Prior to 1978, the export

statistics were presented only in terms of Schedule B classifications. Effective with the 1978 edition of Schedule B, the export classification schedule was based on the framework of the import classification system in the Tariff Schedules of the United States Annotated (TSUSA). In 1978 the Schedule B classifications were converted on a one-for-one basis to a new classification system--Schedule E, which is based on the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Revision 2. (6) According to information provided in FT 410 December 1978, U.S. Exports, Schedule E Commodity by Country, to assist users in identifying comparable Schedule B and Schedule E numbers, a concordance had been prepared which lists the Schedule E numbers with their equivalent 1977 and 1978 Schedule B numbers. (7) The earliest statistical year of the Export Concordance Master Tape that the Bureau of the Census transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is for 1983.

The Foreign Trade Division generates export statistics to serve the various needs of both government and nongovernment users. Government uses the export statistics in developing the merchandise trade figures in balance of payment accounts; to appraise and analyze major movements and trends in international trade; to evaluate and plan such programs as the export expansion program, or the agricultural development and assistance programs; to measure the impact of tariff and trade concessions; and to implement and analyze operations under various international trade agreements. Nongovernment users in finance, industry, research institutions, and other fields use export statistics to appraise the general trade situation and outlook; in share-of-the-market development; for measuring the impact of competition, and as one of the statistical bases for determining marketing policies. The transportation industry makes extensive use of the data not only in market share and penetration analyses, but also in the critical area of anticipating the need for and the design of future facilities and equipment. (8)

The Export Concordance Master Tapes assist users in identifying comparable Schedule B and Schedule E numbers, converting Schedule B numbers to SIC codes, and correlating Schedule B numbers to the categories comprising end-use commodities. The compilation of export data in terms of classifications related to the SITC permits comparison of United States export statistics with the foreign trade statistics compiled by other trading nations. (9) The compilation of export data in terms of classification related to SIC codes facilitates the comparison of data on United States exports with other data related to the domestic economy. (10)

The Export Concordance Master Tapes are created by extracting data elements from the Export Edit Master Files, which are used to input, edit, process, and tabulate data to produce the Bureau of the Census export publications and reports. (11) Except for the first nine records, each Export Concordance Master Tape contains the following data elements: Schedule B number, end-use code, Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) based product code, SITC

code, Schedule E code, agricultural or nonagricultural code, units of quantity, and Schedule B short and long alphabetic descriptions. The first nine records list the eight major commodity sections and "Foreign Merchandise." Excluding the first nine records, the tapes that were transferred to NARA are arranged by Schedule B number.

To assist users in interpreting the tapes there is a government publication recommended for use: U.S. Foreign Trade Statistics Classifications and Cross-Classifications 1980. Users should be aware that this publication was not updated, thus other foreign trade publications such as the relevant edition of FT446 U.S. Exports: Schedule B, Commodity by Country should be used when interpreting the tapes.

At this time a copy of the U.S. Foreign Trade Statistics Classifications and Cross-Classifications 1980 has not been transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration. However, some of the sections from that publication that are relevant to these tapes are provided in this documentation package. Copies of recent publications may be obtained from the Trade Data Services Branch, Foreign Trade Division, Bureau of the Census, Federal Office Building #3, Washington, DC 20233 (located at Suitland, MD) and U.S. Trade Reference Room, International Trade Administration, Commerce Building, Washington, DC 20230. Photocopies of older out-of-print publications, unavailable from other sources, may be supplied by the Library, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233 (located at Suitland, MD).

Three of the principal reference locations for foreign trade statistics are the Library, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233 (located at Suitland, Maryland); Trade Information Branch, Foreign Trade Division, Bureau of the Census, Federal Office Building #3, Washington, DC 20233 (located Suitland, Maryland); and U.S. Trade Reference Room, International Trade Administration, DC 20230. (12)

This documentation package was prepared by P. Dian Palmer.

FOOTNOTES

1

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970 (Washington, DC, 1975), Vol. 2, p. 876.

2

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States-1965 (Washington, DC, 1970), Vol. 1, p. V.

3

Ibid.

4

General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, Guide to the National Archives of the United States (Washington, DC, 1974), p. 486.

5

Ibid.

6

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics 1983 (Washington, DC, 1983), p. 14.

7

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Exports Schedule E Commodity by Country [FT 410 December 1978] (Washington, DC, 1979), p. IX.

8

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics 1983 (Washington, DC, 1983), p. 3.

9

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Exports Schedule E Commodity by Country [FT 410 December 1987] (Washington, DC, 1988), p. 3.

10

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Highlights of U.S. Export and Import Trade [FT 990 December 1986] (Washington, DC, 1987), p. 4.

FOOTNOTES

11

Michael Miller, National Archives and Records Administration,
"Job No. N1-029-88-2," memorandum dated September 9, 1988.

12

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Exports
Schedule E Commodity by Country [FT 410 December 1987]
(Washington, DC 1988), p. 5.

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General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, Guide to the National Archives of the United States. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1983.

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U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States-1965 Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Commodity by Country. Volume 1, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1970. (House Document No. 354, Part 1 - 91st Congress, 2d Session).

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics 1983. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1983.

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