

Note on the Covid-19 Pandemic Charts

This note describes the purpose and construction of the eight different types of charts in the accompanying ZIP file. In what follows, the essential goods sectors are taken to include the food sector, the agri-food sector, and the medical equipment, medical consumables, and medicines sectors (including vaccines).

Chart 1

The purpose of this chart is to plot the evolution over time of classic import and export policy changes imposed since 1 January 2020 in the essential goods sectors. The chart depicts the total number of policies active in each month for different categories of trade policies. Additional charts were created for each of the seven World Bank-defined regions, one for the medical goods sectors and one for the food sector.

Chart 2

The purpose of this chart is to plot the evolution over time of the number of governments that have imposed import and export policy changes since 1 January 2020. For four types of trade policy intervention, the chart depicts the total number of customs territories with policies in force in a given month. Separate charts have been generated for the medical and the food sectors.

Chart 3

The purpose of this map is to show the geographic distribution of trade restrictive policies implemented since 1 January 2020 that are currently in force. In the map's legend are different ranges of the total number of harmful measures that are still in effect. Separate charts have been generated for the medical and the food sectors.

Chart 4

The purpose of this chart is to visualise the degree to which countries have unwound a class of trade-related policies implemented in the essential good sectors since 1 January 2020. The colours in the map legend relate to the share of policies that remain still in force. Separate charts have been generated for the medical and the food sectors and for import reforms and export curbs.

Chart 5

For a given specified date, this table summarises the number of domestic subsidies awarded by selected governments to domestic firms in the essential goods sectors over three different time frames: the last month, the last quarter, and the past year. Only subsidies whose value equals or exceeds 10 million USD are reported in this table.

Chart 6

For four different types of trade policy interventions affecting the essential goods sectors, the purpose of this chart is to summarise the total number of policy interventions documented since the last deliverable in the previous month. A version of this chart is also produced showing the variation across seven World Bank-defined regions in the total number of trade policy interventions documented in the period in question in the essential goods sectors.

Chart 7

The purpose of this chart is to reveal the variation in the duration of various Covid-19-related policies imposed since 1 January 2020 in both the food and medical goods sectors. The chart depicts the total number of currently active policies which have been in force for one month, for one quarter, for one year, and those that are open-ended (for which no date of termination has been announced).

Chart 8

The purpose of this chart is to reveal which governments have implemented over the past 365 days (a) changes in policies towards the screening of foreign direct investment or (b) have taken at least one decision to deny or amend a proposed foreign direct investment in an essential goods sector.