

Direction of Trade Report



May 2023



Bank of Zambia



Bank of Zambia

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Table of Contents

1.0 Major Destinations for Zambia's Exports	2
2.0 Major Source Countries for Zambia's Imports	5
Chart A: Major Export Destinations for Zambia's Exports (US\$ Millions)	9
Appendix Two: Major Source Countries for Zambia's Imports (US\$ Millions)	10
Chart A2: Major Source Countries for Zambia's Imports (US\$ Millions)	11
Appendix Three: Zambia's Trade with SADC (Exclusively) (US\$ Millions)	12
Appendix Four: Zambia's Trade with COMESA (Exclusively) (US\$ Millions)	12
Appendix Five: Zambia's Trade with SADC and COMESA (US\$ Millions)	12

This Report analyses the direction of merchandise trade for the first quarter of 2023. The statistics based on the Harmonised Coding System (HS) are reported and exports are valued as free on board (f.o.b.) while imports are reported at cost, including insurance and freight (c.i.f.).

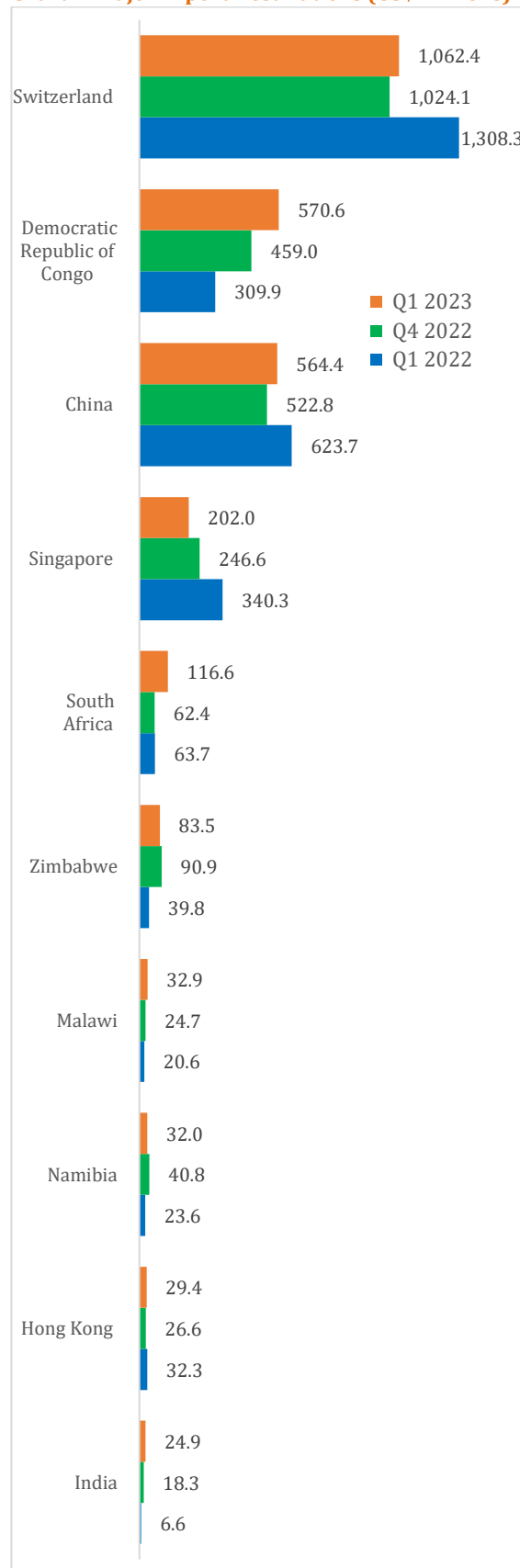
1.0 Major Destinations for Zambia's Exports

... major export destinations were Switzerland, Democratic Republic of Congo, China, Singapore, and South Africa

Total export earnings fell by 3.9 percent to US\$2.8 billion in the first quarter of 2023 relative to a year ago. This was due to the reduction in copper export earnings which fell by 20.4 percent to US\$2.2 billion, reflecting lower export volumes. A decline in copper output amid low ore grade, operational challenges, and routine closures for maintenance at some mines accounted for the reduction in export volumes. Nonetheless, non-traditional exports (NTEs) grew by 45.9 percent to about US\$1 billion. The increase was broad-based, largely driven by sustained strong demand in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Namibia. Key contributors to the growth in NTEs were plastics, salt sulphur lime and cement, and mineral fuels and oils—mainly electricity (Charts 2a and 2b).

Chart 1 and Table 1 show export earnings from the main destinations as well as products and associated destination countries, respectively.

Chart 1: Major Export Destinations (US\$ millions)



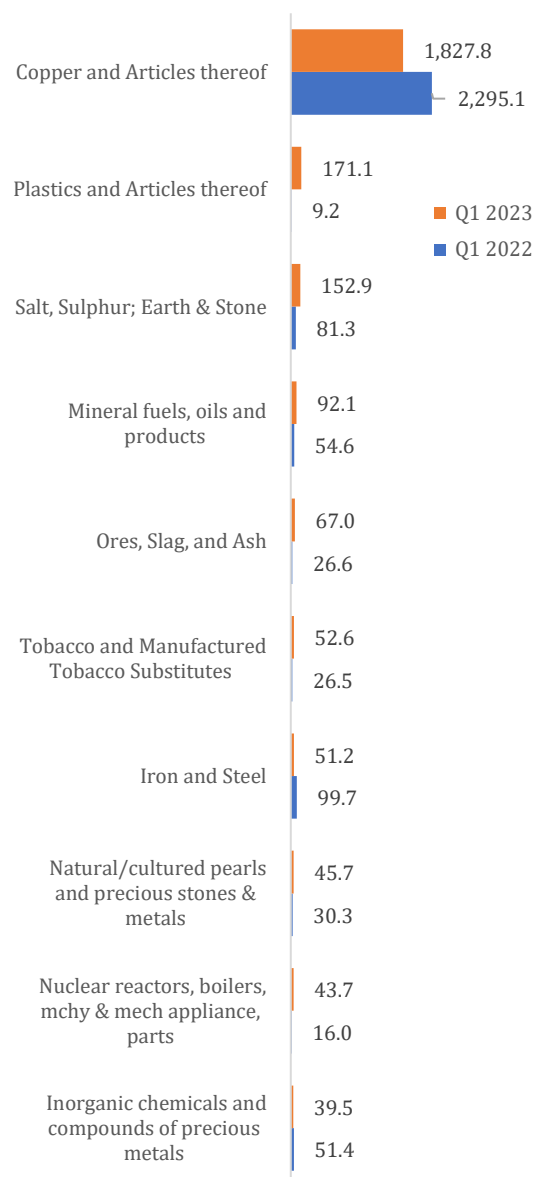
Source: Zambia Statistics Agency (Zamstats) and Bank of Zambia

Table 1: Top Export Destinations by Product Type (US\$ millions)

Country	Main Product (s)	Q1 2022	Q1 2023	Percent Change
Switzerland	Copper and articles thereof	1,280.2	1,030.6	(19.5)
Democratic Republic of Congo	Plastics and articles thereof	7.0	170.1	2,327.3
Democratic Republic of Congo	Salt, Sulphur; Earth & Stone	59.6	126.0	111.4
Namibia	Mineral fuels, oils and products	18.9	25.8	36.6
Switzerland	Ores, Slag, and Ash	23.5	30.5	29.7

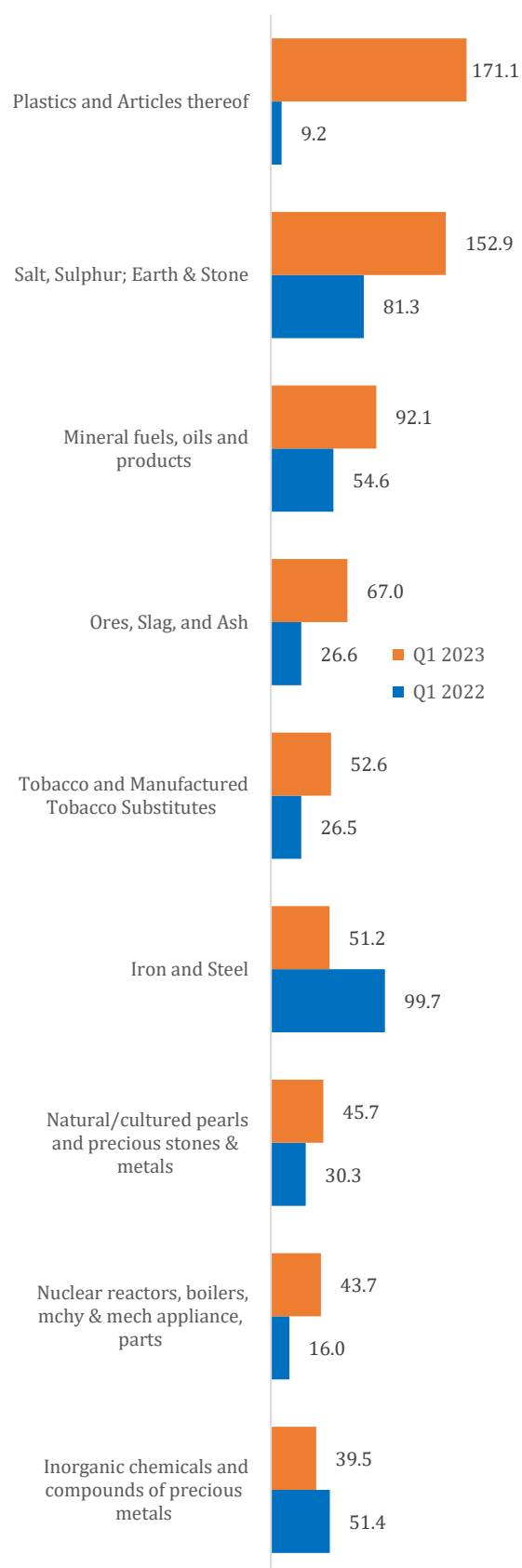
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 2a: Export Earnings (US\$ millions)



Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

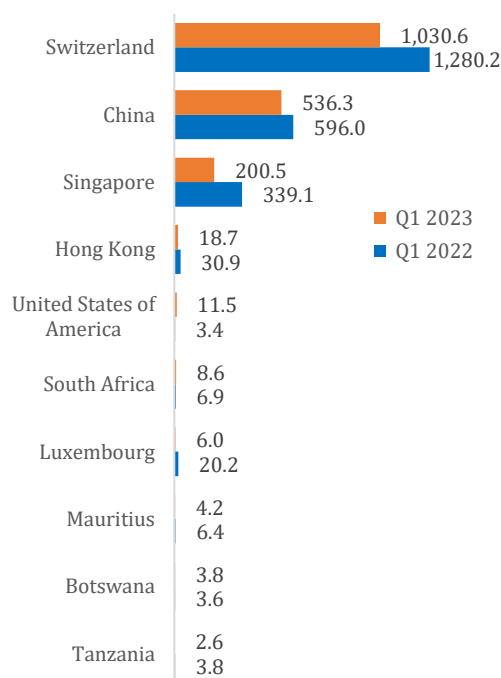
Chart 2b: Export earnings, excluding Copper (US\$ millions)



Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

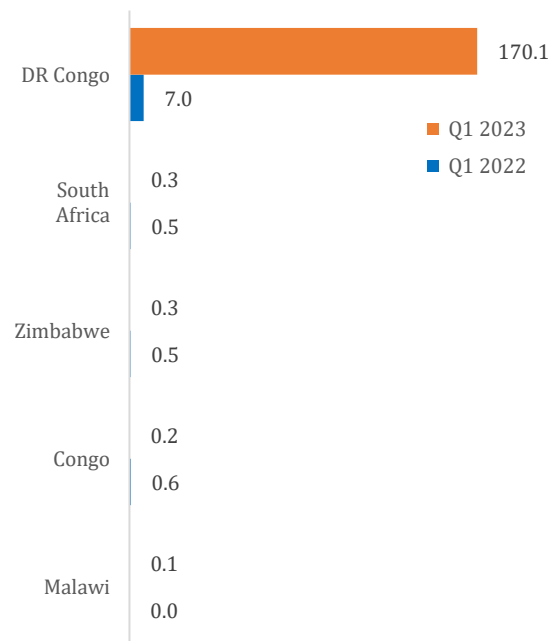
The major export destinations for the top five export commodities are shown in Charts 3a-3e.

Chart 3a: Major export destinations for Copper and Articles thereof (US\$ millions)



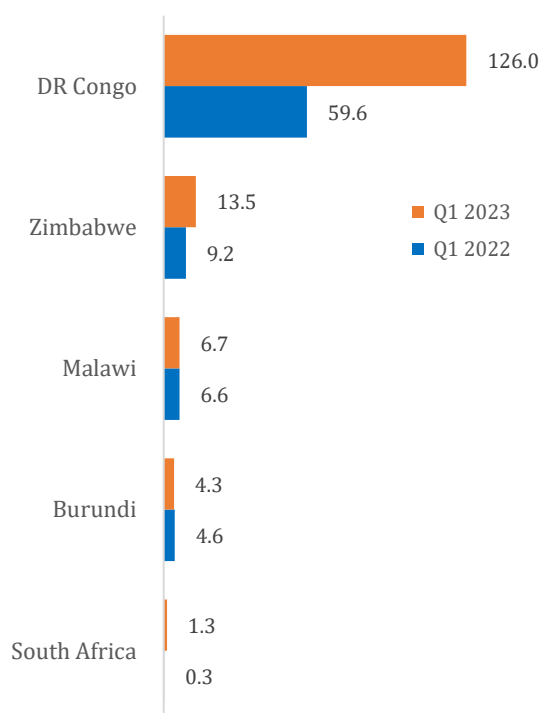
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 3b: Major export destinations for Plastics and Articles thereof (US\$ millions)



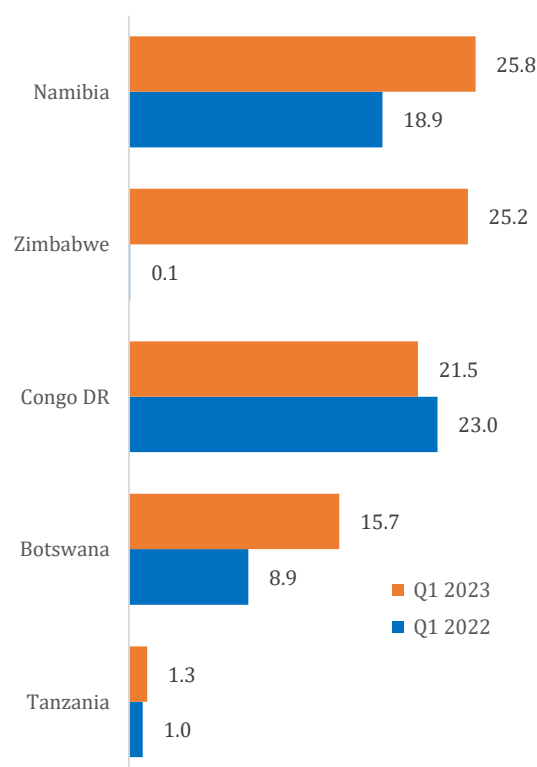
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 3c: Major export destinations of Salt, Sulphur; Lime and Cement (US\$ millions)



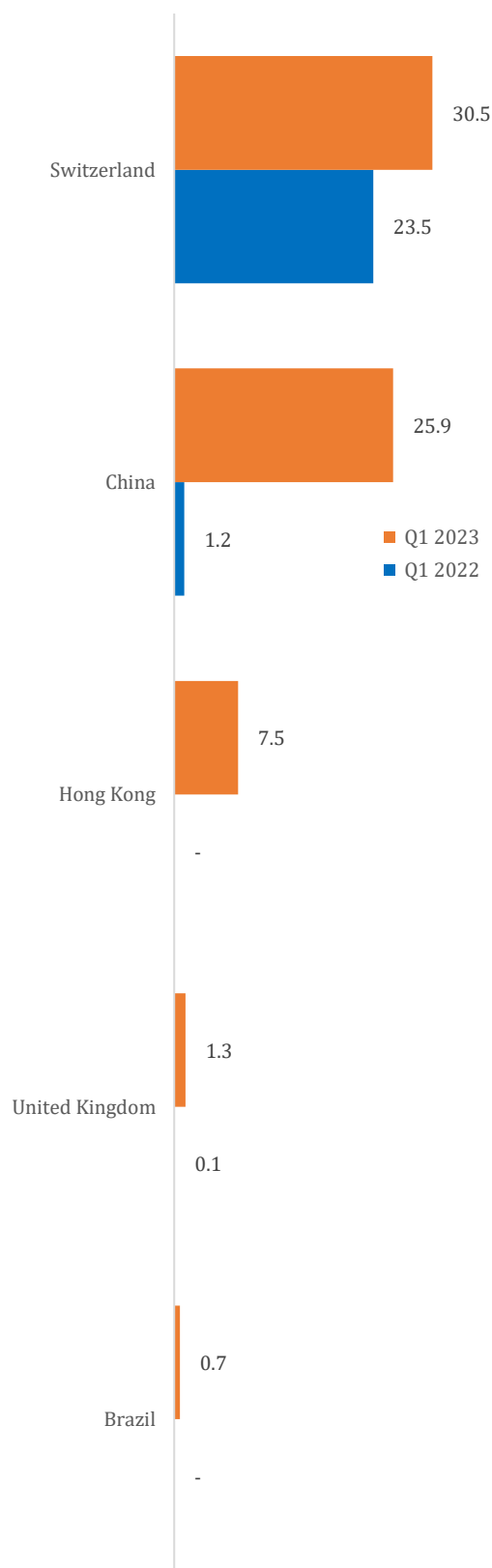
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 3d: Major Export destinations of Mineral fuels, oils and products (US\$ millions)



Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 3e: Major export destinations of Ores, Slag, and Ash (US\$ millions)



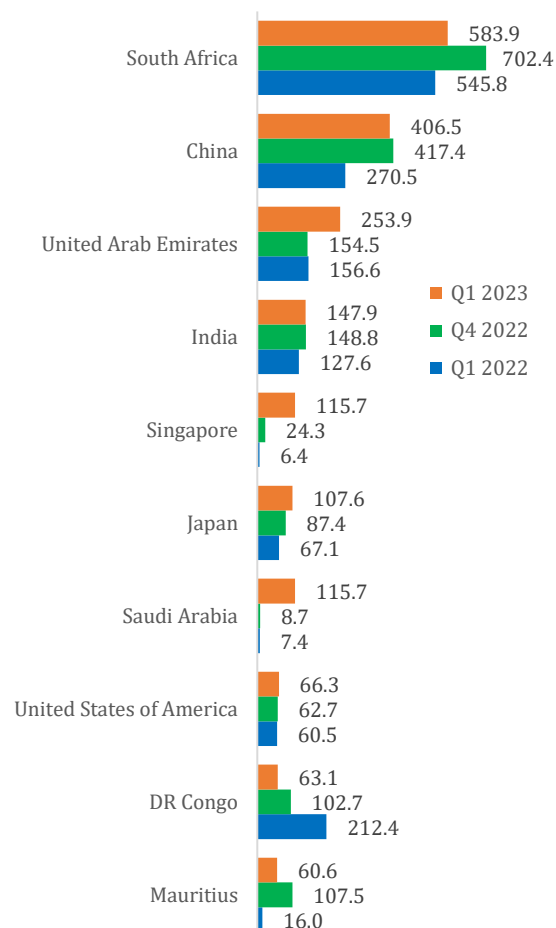
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

2.0 Major Source Countries for Zambia's Imports

... major source countries for imports were South Africa, China, United Arab Emirates, India, and Singapore

Merchandise imports were 33.6 percent higher, at US\$2.5 billion, in the first quarter of 2023 than a year ago. The increase was broad-based, reflecting improvements in domestic economic activity (Table 2.0). Imports from the top five source countries accounted for 59.0 percent, with South Africa being the largest contributor, at 22.8 percent (Chart 4).

Chart 4: Top Source countries for Imports (US\$ millions)



Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

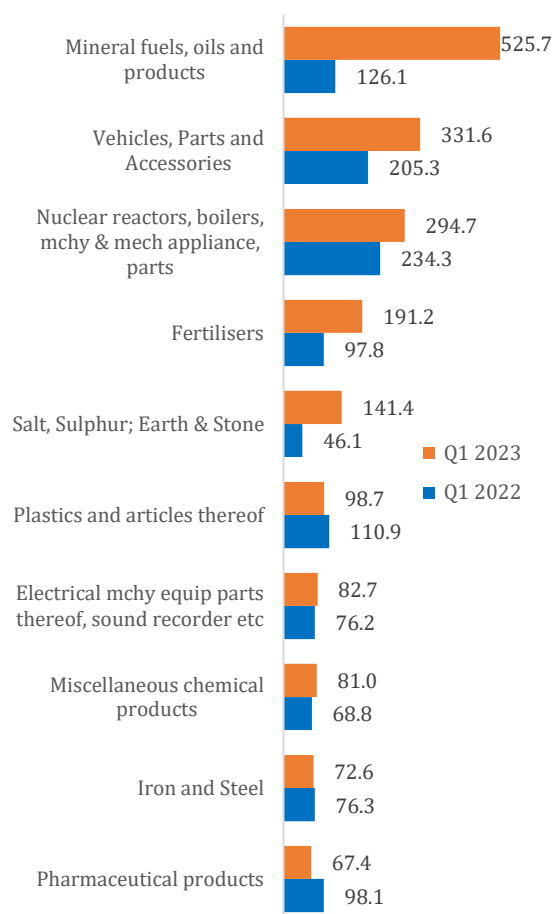
Table 2: Import performance by product and source country (US\$ millions)

Country	Main Product (s)	Q1 2022	Q1 2023	Percent Change
United Arab Emirates	Mineral, Fuels, Oils and Products	80.9	175.6	117.0
Japan	Vehicles and Vehicle accessories	46.0	81.3	76.9
China	Nuclear Reactors, Boilers, and Mechanical Appliances and parts	31.3	82.0	161.7
South Africa	Fertilisers	39.5	70.7	78.9
South Africa	Salt, Sulphur; Earth & Stone	32.6	30.5	(6.6)

Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

The top five import commodities are presented in Chart 5.

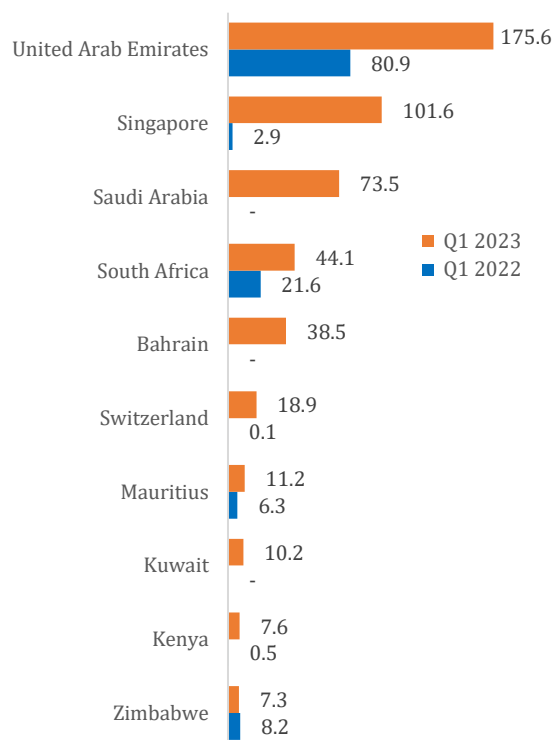
Chart 5: Major Import Commodities (US\$ millions)



Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

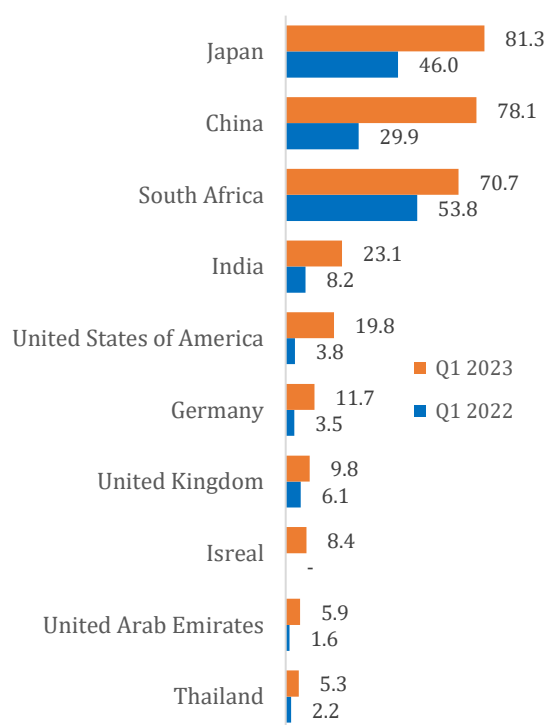
The source countries for Zambia's top five major imports are provided in Charts 6a to 6e.

Chart 6a: Source countries for Mineral Fuels, Oils and Products (US\$ millions)



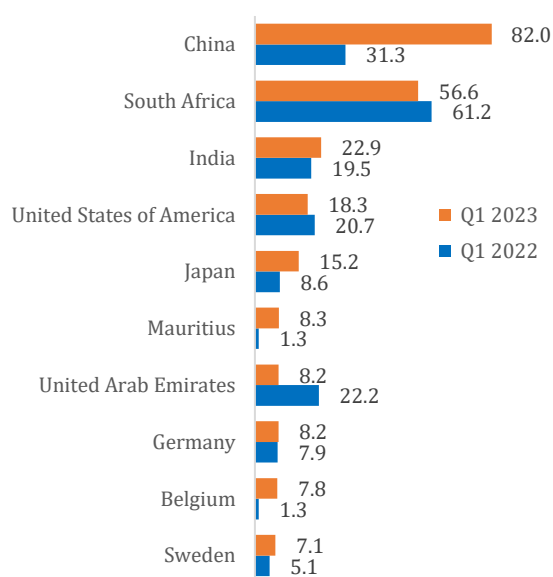
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 6b: Source countries for Vehicles and Vehicle Accessories (US\$ millions)



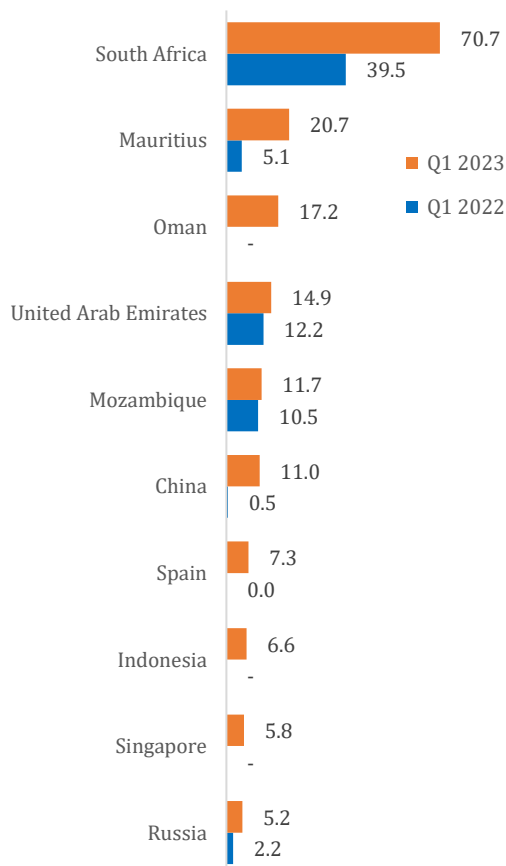
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 6c: Source countries for Nuclear Reactors, Boilers, and Mechanical Appliances and parts (US\$ millions)



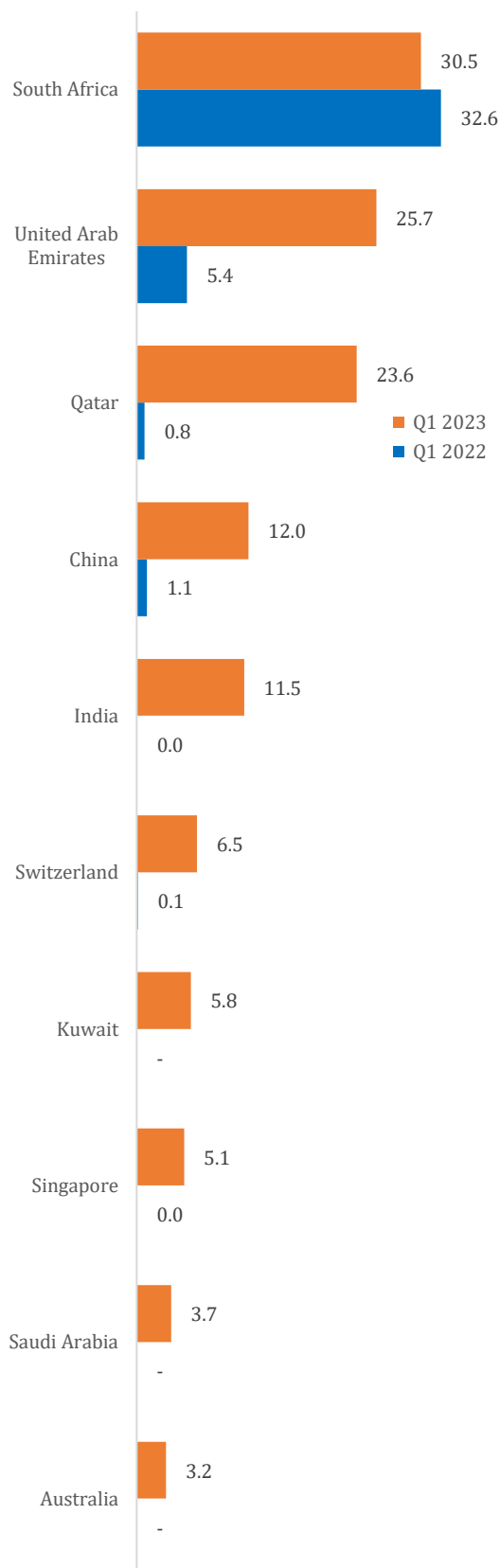
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 6d: Source countries for Fertilisers (US\$ millions)



Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart 6e: Source countries for Salt, Sulphur; Lime and Cement (US\$ millions)



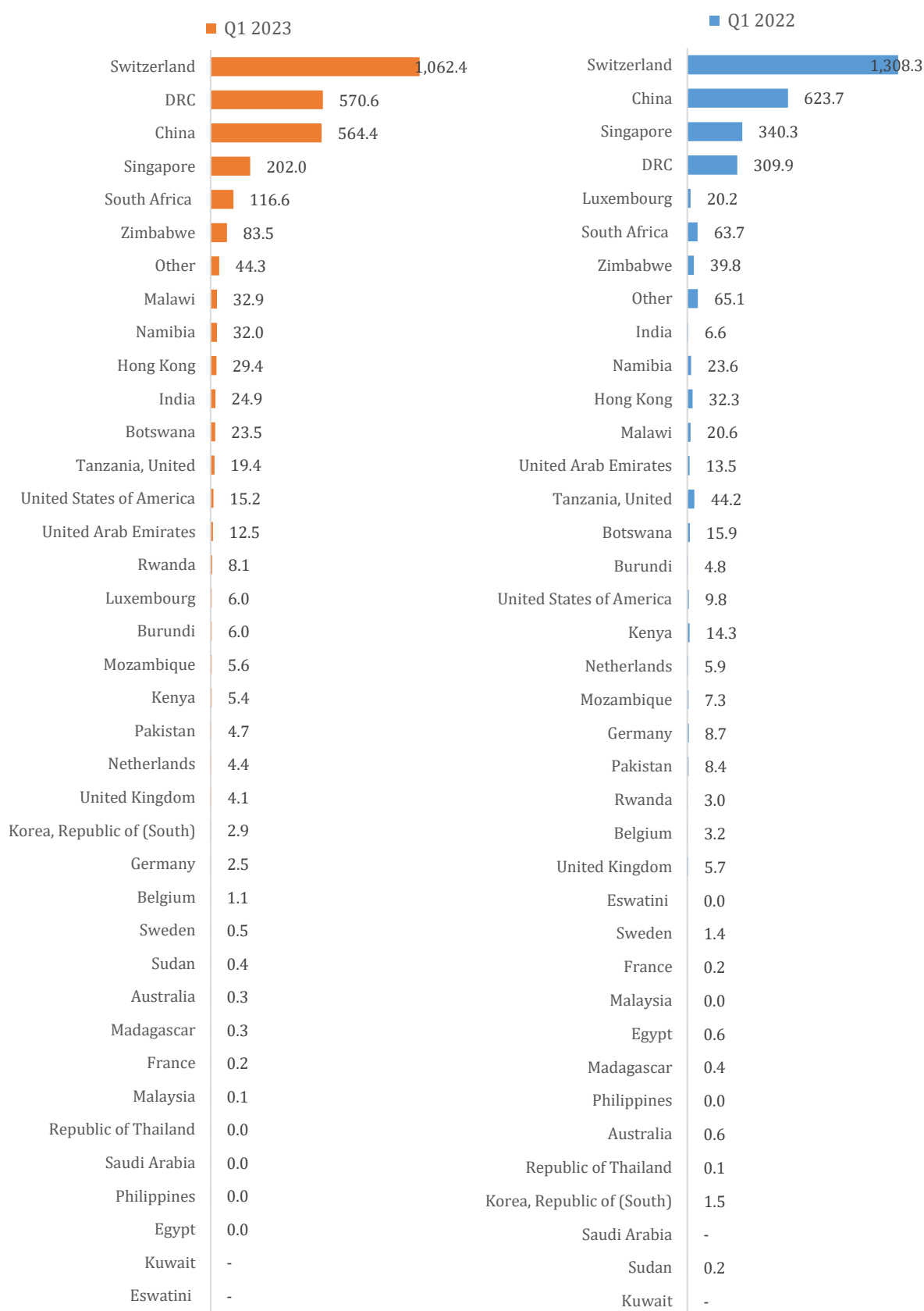
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Appendix One: Major Export Destinations for Zambia's Exports (US\$ Millions)

Country	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023
Australia	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3
Belgium	3.2	1.5	8.4	8.9	1.1
Botswana	15.9	10.2	10.7	20.3	23.5
Burundi	4.8	5.3	5.9	8.3	6.0
China	623.7	663.6	599.3	522.8	564.4
Democratic Republic of Congo	309.9	354.2	476.2	459.0	570.6
Egypt	0.6	2.3	0.4	1.0	0.0
Eswatini	0.0	0.8	2.0	0.2	-
France	0.2	0.4	0.2	1.0	0.2
Germany	8.7	3.4	6.7	8.7	2.5
Hong Kong	32.3	43.1	29.5	26.6	29.4
India	6.6	5.7	7.6	18.3	24.9
Kenya	14.3	20.8	31.8	17.9	5.4
Korea, Republic of (South)	1.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	2.9
Kuwait	-	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	20.2	19.8	12.1	19.0	6.0
Madagascar	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3
Malawi	20.6	41.2	34.3	24.7	32.9
Malaysia	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1
Mozambique	7.3	7.7	9.1	7.4	5.6
Namibia	23.6	37.3	39.8	40.8	32.0
Netherlands	5.9	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.4
Other	65.1	67.9	50.8	70.4	44.3
Pakistan	8.4	1.9	2.8	4.2	4.7
Philippines	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0
Republic of Thailand	0.1	0.2	0.1	18.3	0.0
Rwanda	3.0	3.9	8.0	12.0	8.1
Saudi Arabia	-	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
Singapore	340.3	356.8	283.3	246.6	202.0
South Africa	63.7	69.9	72.5	62.4	116.6
Sudan	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4
Sweden	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.5
Switzerland	1,308.3	1,096.7	1,049.0	1,024.1	1,062.4
Tanzania, United	44.2	65.4	42.5	30.1	19.4
United Arab Emirates	13.5	1.9	16.8	3.9	12.5
United Kingdom	5.7	5.8	7.7	2.8	4.1
United States of America	9.8	18.7	16.6	8.5	15.2
Zimbabwe	39.8	51.5	85.6	90.9	83.5
Total	3,003.7	2,963.5	2,914.3	2,765.2	2,886.3

Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart A: Major Export Destinations for Zambia's Exports (US\$ Millions)



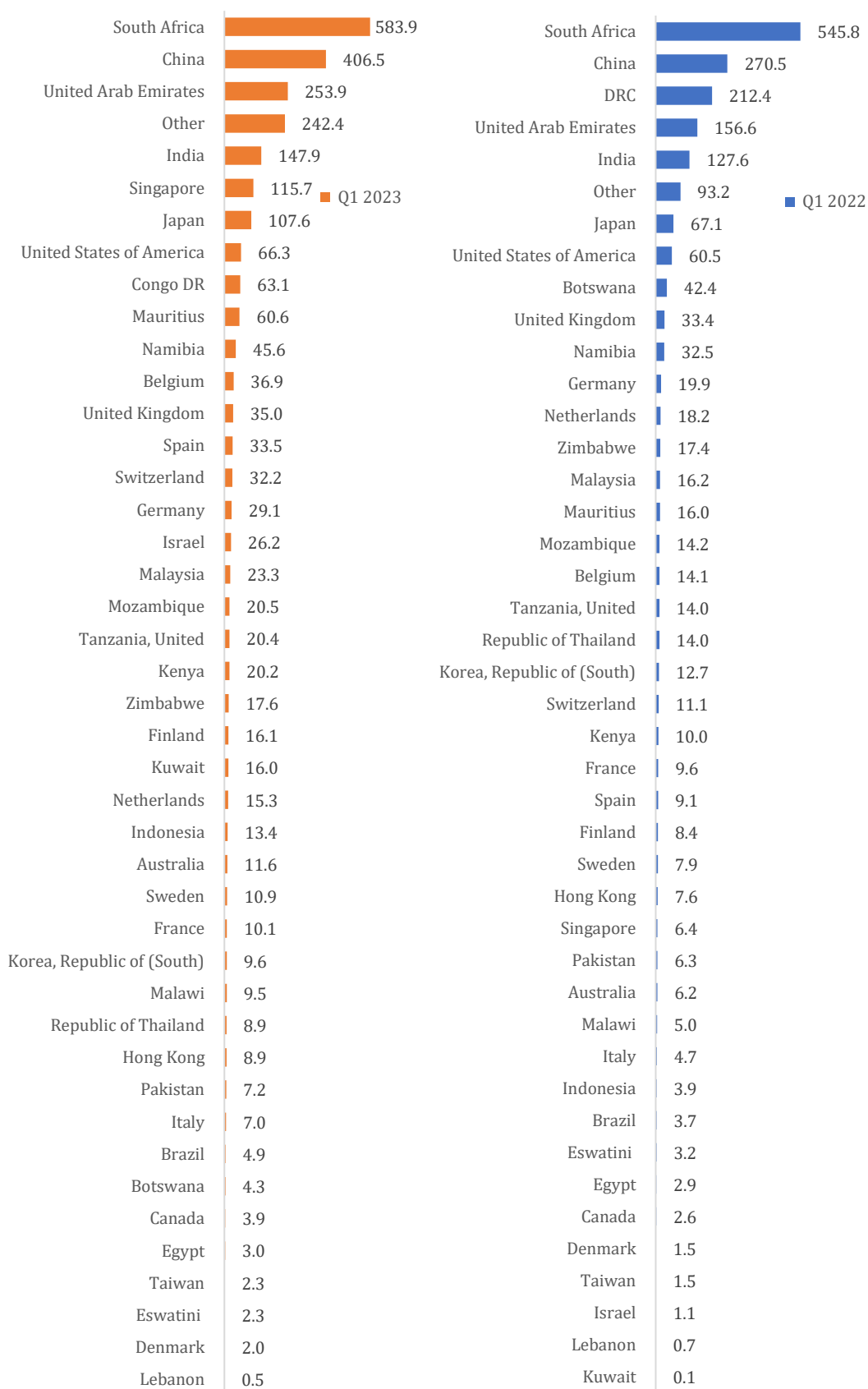
Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Appendix Two: Major Source Countries for Zambia's Imports (US\$ Millions)

Country	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023
Australia	6.0	6.2	7.0	6.9	8.6	11.6
Belgium	13.7	14.1	63.3	29.0	11.8	36.9
Botswana	6.8	42.4	6.6	6.5	9.5	4.3
Brazil	4.5	3.7	4.1	6.7	6.4	4.9
Canada	2.1	2.6	6.0	3.2	4.4	3.9
China	240.3	270.5	331.6	382.9	417.4	406.5
Democratic Republic of Congo	80.3	212.4	205.7	133.6	102.7	63.1
Denmark	4.7	1.5	2.3	4.5	13.0	2.0
Egypt	3.4	2.9	3.9	7.1	3.1	3.0
Eswatini	2.1	3.2	6.1	6.0	6.2	2.3
Finland	12.9	8.4	12.5	15.6	8.5	16.1
France	6.4	9.6	8.6	26.5	9.8	10.1
Germany	19.9	19.9	24.6	31.4	31.8	29.1
Hong Kong	15.2	7.6	11.9	22.0	17.0	8.9
India	101.9	127.6	181.9	132.1	148.8	147.9
Indonesia	15.5	3.9	6.5	3.6	4.4	13.4
Israel	4.1	1.1	0.2	0.4	1.5	26.2
Italy	4.6	4.7	19.0	16.7	5.8	7.0
Japan	68.2	67.1	82.5	79.1	87.4	107.6
Kenya	16.7	10.0	15.6	13.2	15.0	20.2
Korea, Republic of (South)	11.9	12.7	8.5	9.7	9.8	9.6
Kuwait	0.0	0.1	0.0	8.1	6.4	16.0
Lebanon	0.3	0.7	2.1	0.5	0.4	0.5
Malawi	5.5	5.0	9.7	6.6	14.1	9.5
Malaysia	31.0	16.2	19.1	18.9	21.8	23.3
Mauritius	33.4	16.0	21.1	59.2	107.5	60.6
Mozambique	23.0	14.2	7.4	7.2	19.6	20.5
Namibia	34.6	32.5	39.2	37.9	35.2	45.6
Netherlands	19.3	18.2	17.6	18.0	15.1	15.3
Other	108.0	93.2	101.2	121.2	206.0	242.4
Pakistan	5.3	6.3	7.2	6.9	7.2	7.2
Republic of Thailand	8.5	14.0	18.2	10.0	9.6	8.9
Singapore	5.8	6.4	11.9	16.0	24.3	115.7
South Africa	640.0	545.8	724.8	742.8	702.4	583.9
Spain	7.8	9.1	6.8	7.4	5.4	33.5
Sweden	9.3	7.9	14.0	9.4	26.9	10.9
Switzerland	6.5	11.1	3.3	7.2	13.9	32.2
Taiwan	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.7	2.3
Tanzania, United	16.3	14.0	13.0	15.8	19.4	20.4
United Arab Emirates	213.4	156.6	196.5	172.2	154.5	253.9
United Kingdom	27.7	33.4	44.2	42.3	43.9	35.0
United States of America	77.7	60.5	59.4	62.0	62.7	66.3
Zimbabwe	28.7	17.4	21.3	27.0	24.8	17.6
Total	1,944.8	1,912.5	2,348.4	2,335.2	2,446.5	2,556.0

Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Chart A2: Major Source Countries for Zambia's Imports (US\$ Millions)



Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Appendix Three: Zambia's Trade with SADC (Exclusively) (US\$ Millions)

	Q1 2022		Q2 2022		Q3 2022		Q4 2022		Q1 2023	
Country	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM
Angola	2.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	1.5	0.0	2.2	0.1	1.7	0.0
Botswana	15.9	42.4	10.2	6.6	10.7	6.5	20.3	9.5	23.5	4.3
Lesotho	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0
Mozambique	7.3	14.2	7.7	7.4	9.1	7.2	7.4	19.6	5.6	20.5
Namibia	23.6	32.5	37.3	39.2	39.8	37.9	40.8	35.2	32.0	45.6
South Africa	63.7	545.8	69.9	724.8	72.5	742.8	62.4	702.4	116.6	583.9
Tanzania	44.2	14.0	65.4	13.0	42.5	15.8	30.1	19.4	19.4	20.4
TOTAL	127.9	648.2	191.8	791.1	178.3	810.3	163.2	786.2	199.4	674.7

X and IM denote exports and Imports, respectively

Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Appendix Four: Zambia's Trade with COMESA (Exclusively) (US\$ Millions)

	Q1 2022		Q2 2022		Q3 2022		Q4 2022		Q1 2023	
Country	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM
Burundi	4.8	0.0	5.3	0.0	5.9	0.0	8.3	0.0	6.0	0.0
Comoros	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Djibouti	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Egypt	0.6	2.9	2.3	3.9	0.4	7.1	1.0	3.1	0.0	3.0
Eritrea	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ethiopia	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kenya	14.3	10.0	20.8	15.6	31.8	13.2	17.9	15.0	5.4	20.2
Libya	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rwanda	3.0	0.0	3.9	0.1	8.0	0.0	12.0	0.1	8.1	0.0
Sudan	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0
Uganda	4.5	2.0	5.0	0.3	3.9	0.3	5.3	0.7	4.8	5.9
TOTAL	27.7	14.9	37.4	19.9	50.0	20.7	44.5	18.9	24.6	29.2

Note: X and IM denote exports and Imports, respectively

Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia

Appendix Five: Zambia's Trade with SADC and COMESA (US\$ Millions)

	Q1 2022		Q2 2022		Q3 2022		Q4 2022		Q1 2023	
Country	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM	X	IM
DRC	309.9	212.4	354.2	205.7	476.2	133.6	459.0	102.7	570.6	63.1
Madagascar	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0
Malawi	20.6	5.0	41.2	9.7	34.3	6.6	24.7	14.1	32.9	9.5
Mauritius	6.8	16.0	8.7	21.1	5.6	59.2	5.0	107.5	7.3	60.6
Seychelles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0
Eswatini	0.0	3.2	0.8	6.1	2.0	6.0	0.2	6.2	0.0	2.3
Zimbabwe	39.8	17.4	51.5	21.3	85.6	27.0	90.9	24.8	83.5	17.6
TOTAL	356.0	253.7	456.4	264.0	604.1	232.6	580.0	261.5	694.5	153.1

Note: X and IM denote exports and Imports, respectively

Source: Zamstats and Bank of Zambia



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