

FOCUS ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SLOVENIA

THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA TODAY

Location	The Republic of Slovenia (formerly the Socialist Republic of Slovenia, a constituent republic of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia) is situated in south-central Europe touching the Alps and bordering the Mediterranean. It is bounded by Austria to the north, Hungary to the northeast, Croatia to the south and east and by Italy to the west, and it has a short western coastline on the Adriatic Sea.
Size	20,273 sq. km. (7,827 sq. miles). Land:20,151 sq km and water:122 sq km.
Geographical coordinates (Extreme geographical points of Slovenia)	North: 46 ⁰ 53' N 16 ⁰ 14'E, South: 45 ⁰ 25'N 15 ⁰ 10'E, East: 46 ⁰ 28'N 16 ⁰ 36'E and West:46 ⁰ 17'N 13 ⁰ 23'E
Land boundaries	Total: 1,334 km; Border countries: Austria 330 km, Croatia 670 km, Italy 232 km and Hungary 102 km.
Coastline	46.6km.
Elevation extreme	Lowest point: Adriatic Sea: 0 m and highest point: 2,864 m.
Land use	Arable land: 12%, permanent crops: 3%, permanent pastures:24%, forests and woodland:54% and other: 7%.
Irrigated land	30 sq. km. (Approx).
Population	2,101,208 estimated for July 2022.
Population Density	99.15 (approx) per sq. km.
Population growth (annual %)	-0.06% in 2022.*
Life expectancy at birth	Total population:81.82 years, 78.96 years (men) and 84.79 years (women). (2022)*.
Birth rate	8.3 births/1,000 population in 2022.*
Death rate	10.4 deaths/1,000 population in 2022*.
Net migration rate	1.54 migrant (s)/1,000 population in 2022*.
Literacy	Total population: 99.7%, male: 99.7% and female:99.7%. (2015)*
Capital City	Ljubljana
Other Large Cities	Maribor, Kranj, Celje, Koper (Capodistria), Novo mesto and Nova gorcia etc.
Religion	The majority religion in Slovenia is Roman Catholicism, although there are small communities of other Christian (in particular Eastern Orthodox) denominations and of Muslims and Jews.
Language	The official language is Slovene, and in ethnically-mixed regions also Hungarian and Italian.
Climate	The climate is Alpine in the mountainous areas, Mediterranean along the coast and continental in the interior. Average temperatures range from between 0°C (32°F) and 22°C (71°F) inland, and between 2°C (35.6°F) and 24°C (75.2°F) on the coast. Average annual rainfall ranges from 800 mm (31.5 ins) in the east to 3,000 mm (118.1 ins) in the northwest.
International Relations	Slovenia is a member of the UN, WTO, BIS, NATO Partnership for Peace, Council of Europe, OSCE, CEFTA, CEI, the Inter-American Development Bank and IOM, and is an Associate Partner of the WEU and an Associate Member of the EU. Intensive negotiations regarding Slovenia's accession to full membership of the EU began in April 1998. It joined the union in May 2004.
Internet domain	.sl
International dialing code	+386
Currency	The unit of currency is the tolar (SLT) of 100 stotinas.

* Estimated figures

NATIONAL ECONOMY

The pandemic is inflicting much suffering, which has been met with swift, substantial, and well-coordinated policy responses. The anti-crisis measures have helped preserve jobs, provide liquidity to companies and income support to vulnerable groups. They averted a much larger decline in output and kept unemployment under control. However, real GDP still dropped by 5.5 percent in 2020, as containment measures led to falling economic activity. The COVID-related spending, together with lower revenue, drove up the fiscal deficit and public debt rose to about 81 percent of GDP, from about 65.5 percent in 2019. The current account surplus rose to about 7 percent of GDP, driven by an increase of private sector saving relative to investment.

A strong economic rebound is expected as the pandemic abates, with GDP growing by 3.9 percent this year and 4.5 percent in 2022. However, the outlook is clouded by significant uncertainty and risks are tilted to the downside. Delays in mass vaccination and the spread of new virus variants could require stricter containment measures with adverse economic effects. Other risks include weak external demand and worsening financial market conditions.

Executive Board Assessment

In the course of Article IV consultation between the IMF and Slovenia, the Directors of IMF commended the authorities for their swift, substantial, and coordinated policy response. The anti-crisis measures have mitigated the economic and social consequences of the pandemic, including by preserving jobs and providing liquidity and income support to firms and households. The recovery is expected to be driven by a rebound in consumption and investment, including public investment supported by EU funds. Uncertainty around the outlook is high and there are downside risks, mainly related to epidemiological developments.

Directors recommended maintaining the strong fiscal support in the near term, with well-targeted policies that are continuously assessed and adjusted to the evolving conditions. Once the recovery is entrenched, the emergency measures should be withdrawn, and the focus should shift toward consolidation. The large fiscal deficit should be reduced gradually over the medium term to maintain buffers, and fiscal rules should continue to play a strong role. The ambitious public investment plans call for improved public finance management to mitigate execution risks.

Although bankruptcies have not increased so far, risks to financial stability have risen. Directors stressed the need for continuing the close monitoring of banks' asset quality. Given that the exit from loan moratoria has started, the phasing out of measures should be gradual and well-coordinated to avoid cliff-edge effects. Macroprudential policies should continue to be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure an appropriate balance between financial stability and the need for credit to the economy.

The pandemic has had an uneven impact on employment. Directors encouraged the authorities to continue to adapt policies to facilitate labor reallocation and provide support to those affected the most—low-skilled workers, women and youth. Active labor market programs could effectively be used to help transition between jobs. These programs could be supplemented with measures to improve the business environment and to strengthen the social safety net.

Directors welcomed the authorities' focus on digitalization and climate change mitigation. Improving the digital infrastructure, building human capital, and promoting digital inclusion would boost productivity and resilience. The goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2050 would be best achieved by combining investment in green technologies with taxation of polluting industries. The Next Generation EU instrument could play a key role in Slovenia's digital and green transformation.

Slovenia: Selected Economic Indicators, 2018–23

(Annual percentage change, unless indicated otherwise)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
				Staff Projections		
Nominal GDP (EUR millions)	45,863	48,393	46,297	48,522	51,444	54,138
GDP per Capita (EUR)	22,189	23,255	22,090	23,061	24,377	25,607
Real economy						
Real GDP	4.4	3.2	-5.5	3.9	4.5	3.6
Domestic demand (contribution to growth)	5.0	3.4	-5.9	4.3	4.9	3.9
Private consumption	3.6	4.8	-9.8	4.3	4.6	3.7
Public consumption	3.0	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.6	0.5
Gross capital formation	10.3	1.5	-5.8	9.8	10.4	8.4
Net exports (contribution to growth)	-0.1	0.1	0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3
Exports of goods and services	6.3	4.1	-8.7	8.8	6.0	3.8
Imports of goods and services	7.2	4.4	-10.2	10.5	7.1	4.5
Output gap (in percent of potential GDP)	0.3	0.6	-4.5	-3.5	-1.8	-1.0
Prices						
Consumer prices (national definition, period average)	1.7	1.6	-0.1	0.6	1.2	1.5
Employment and wages						
Unemployment rate (in percent, ILO definition)	5.1	4.5	5.0	5.3	4.9	4.8
Real wages (all sectors)	1.6	2.7	6.0	4.0	3.1	2.8
Public finance (percent of GDP)						
General government balance 1/	0.7	0.4	-8.4	-8.0	-4.8	-3.3
Structural balance 2/	0.3	0.0	-6.3	-6.3	-3.9	-2.7
Structural primary balance 2/	2.3	1.7	-4.7	-4.9	-2.7	-1.7
General government debt 3/	70.3	65.6	80.8	81.8	80.5	79.7
Monetary and financial indicators						
Credit to the private sector	2.5	3.4	-0.2	5.3	6.3	5.8
Lending rates 4/	2.1	1.6	1.8	...	...	...
Deposit rates 5/	0.2	0.2	0.1	...	...	...
Balance of payments (percent of GDP)						
Trade balance (goods and services)	8.5	8.5	9.7	8.8	8.5	7.9
Current account balance	5.8	5.6	7.1	6.5	6.3	6.1
Gross external debt (percent of GDP, end-period)	91.9	90.5	104.1	103.1	98.2	94.8
Nominal effective exchange rate (2010=100)	105.2	104.8	106.9	...	...	...
Real effective exchange rate (2010=100, CPI-based)	97.9	97.2	97.8	...	...	...

Sources: Slovenia authorities and IMF staff calculations and projections.

1/ Accrual basis.

2/ Excludes one-offs and adjusted for the output gap and calendar year

shifts between receipt and expenditure of earmarked EU funds.
3/ Includes EUR 1.1 bn in 2013 and EUR 0.7 bn in 2014 of debt issuance of the Bank Asset Management Company (BAMC).
4/ Floating or up-to-one-year fixed rate for new loans to non-financial corporations over 1 million euros.
5/ For household time deposits with maturity up to one year.

“NATIONAL ECONOMY” is based on IMF Executive Board Concludes 2021 Article IV Consultation with the Republic of Slovenia May 26, 2021.

FOREIGN TRADE

Slovenia’s total exports in 2016 were of the order of US\$ 27,658 million. It increased to US\$ 37,345 million in 2020. Exports during the period from 2016 to 2020, in terms of percentage, grew highest (15.32%) in 2017 and fell maximum (-0.53%) in 2020 in comparison with 2016 and 2019 respectively. The annual average compound growth rate worked out at 7.90%.

Imports, on the other hand, were of the order of US\$ 36,354 million in 2020 while in 2016 it was US\$ 26,695 million. Imports during the period from 2016 to 2020, in terms of percentage, grew highest (16.70%) in 2017 and fell maximum (-3.25%) in 2020 as compared to 2016 and 2019 respectively. The annual average compound growth rate worked out at 8.03%.

Volume of trade registered an annual average (compound) rate of growth of 7.91% from US\$ 54,353 million in 2016 to US\$ 73,699 million in 2020.

The Slovenia faced a deficit balance of trade during the said period.

The Slovenia’s export and import, volume and balance of trade between 2016 and 2020 along with their growth rates are given in **Table-I**.

Major exports of Slovenia are included road vehicles and parts, furniture, refrigerators and freezers, medicinal and pharmaceutical products, paper, paperboard and articles thereof, textile yarn, iron and steel etc. and principal import commodities were road vehicles, electrical machinery, industrial machinery, petroleum and petroleum products, iron and steel, power-generating machinery and equipment, clothing and accessories etc.

Principal trading partners of Slovenia are Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China PR, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea Republic, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and USA etc.

There are three international airports in Slovenia, at Brnik (Ljubljana), Maribor and Portoroz. The national carrier, Adria Airways, has flights to most major European cities and Tel Aviv.

Slovenia’s principal international trading port, at Koper, handles some 6m. tons of freight annually, and has terminals for general, bulk and liquid cargo, containers and ‘roll on, roll off’ traffic, as well as warehousing facilities. The port is a duty-free zone. There are also major ports at Portoroz and Izola.

BILATERAL TRADE WITH INDIA

Indo-Slovenia bilateral trade in 2016-17 was of the order of Rs. 2,371.30 crores. It increased to Rs.4,646.89 crores in 2020-21. The annual compound growth rate of volume of trade during the period from 2016-17 to 2020-21 was 18.32%. India enjoyed a surplus balance of trade

during the year 2016-17 and 2020-21 of the said period (**see table II**). The average annual compound growth rates of exports and imports worked out at 11.72% and 31.12% respectively.

India's exports to, and imports from Slovenia of Merchandised Goods during the period from 2016-17 to 2020-21 along with their growth rates are presented in **Table II**.

India's top ten merchandise goods exported to and imported from Slovenia during the said period, along with their growth rates are depicted in **Table III & IV** respectively.

SOME IMPORTANT LINKS

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Email:

vnd@gov.si

Website URL:

<http://newdelhi.embassy.si/en>

Names and addresses of the organizations engaged in foreign trade in Slovenia are:-

Slovenian Trade and Investment Promotion

Agency (TIPO),

Kotnikova 28

1000 LJUBLJANA

Tel : (003861) 4783557

Fax : (003861) 4783599

Email : tipo@gov.si

Url : <http://www.investslovenia.org>

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia (CCIS)

Dimiceva 13

1504 LJUBLJANA

Tel : (003861) 5898000

Fax : (003861) 5898100

Email : infolink@gzs.si

Url : <http://www.gzs.si>

Chamber of Craft of Slovenia

Celovska Cesta 71

P.O.Box 50

1000 LJUBLJANA

Tel : (003861) 5830500

Fax : (003861) 5898400

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Trade Point Slovenia

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1000 LJUBLJANA

Tel: (003861) 5891800

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URL: <http://www.tradepoint.si>

Source: The Statesman Year Book, the Europa World Year Book,
Monthly Bulletin on Statistics UN Publication, imf.org, worldbank.org,
BBC News, the World Fact Book, World Development Indicator,
Ministry of Commerce & Industry, MEA,
wikipedia.org, expresstextile.com
and D.G.C.I & S etc.

NOTICE

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Kolkata – 700 107**

TABLE - I

SLOVENIA'S TOTAL EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, VOLUME AND BALANCE OF TRADE

BETWEEN 2016 TO 2020.

(Figures in US MILLION DOLLARS)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Percentage Growth in Exports</i>	<i>Import</i>	<i>Percentage Growth in Imports</i>	<i>Volume of Trade</i>	<i>Percentage Growth in Vol. of Trade</i>	<i>Balance of Trade</i>
2016	27,658		26,695		54,353		963
2017	31,894	15.32	31,154	16.70	63,048	16.00	740
2018	36,488	14.40	36,273	16.43	72,761	15.41	215
2019	37,543	2.89	37,575	3.59	75,118	3.24	-32
2020	37,345	-0.53	36,354	-3.25	73,699	-1.89	991

**Annual
Compound
Growth
Rate**

7.80

8.03

7.91

NOTE : Figures relate to calendar year, January to December.

SOURCE : *UN COMTRADE PUBLICATION*

TABLE - II

INDIA'S EXPORT TO AND IMPORT FROM SLOVENIA OF MERCHANDISE GOODS DURING 2016-2017 TO 2020-2021

(Value in Rs. CRORES)

Year	Exports	Percentage Growth in Exports	Import	Percentage Growth in Imports	Volume of Trade	Percentage Growth in Vol. of Trade	Balance of Trade
2016-17	1689.91		681.39		2371.30		1008.52
2017-18	1848.96	9.41	722.39	6.02	2571.35	8.44	1126.57
2018-19	2215.58	19.83	1744.09	141.43	3959.67	53.99	471.49
2019-20	2369.89	6.96	1764.44	1.17	4134.33	4.41	605.45
2020-21	2632.79	11.09	2014.10	14.15	4646.89	12.40	618.69
Annual Compound Growth Rate	11.72		31.12		18.32		

NOTE : Figures relate to Financial Year April to March.

SOURCE : Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics,
Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Kolkata 700 107.

TABLE -III**INDIA'S MAJOR MERCHANDISE EXPORT TO SLOVENIA****2016-2017 TO 2020-2021 AND THEIR GROWTH RATES****(Value in Rs.CRORES)**

Sl. No.	Name of the Merchandise Commodities	Value of Exports					Annual Growth Rates			
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	17-18 over 2016-17	18-19 over 2017-18	19-20 over 2018-19	20-21 over 2019-20
1	Drugs, Pharmaceuticals & Fine Chems.	346.27	346.51	460.63	483.23	515.33	0.07	32.93	4.91	6.64
	Share in total export	20.49	18.74	20.79	20.39	19.57				
2	Residual Chemicals And Allied Prods.	157.00	200.81	252.94	442.28	408.36	27.90	25.96	74.86	-7.67
	Share in total export	9.29	10.86	11.42	18.66	15.51				
3	Electric Machinery And Equipments	24.81	54.62	96.15	250.08	103.58	120.15	76.03	160.09	-58.58
	Share in total export	1.47	2.95	4.34	10.55	3.93				
4	Auto Components/Parts	24.34	47.01	46.34	107.52	172.31	93.14	-1.43	132.02	60.26
	Share in total export	1.44	2.54	2.09	4.54	6.54				
5	Organic Chemicals	112.93	147.95	110.99	132.96	161.76	31.01	-24.98	19.79	21.66
	Share in total export	6.68	8.00	5.01	5.61	6.14				
6	Bulk Drugs, Drugs Intermediates	173.57	107.11	178.92	104.33	119.23	-38.29	67.04	-41.69	14.28
	Share in total export	10.27	5.79	8.08	4.40	4.53				
7	Iron And Steel	36.60	99.14	82.60	71.52	111.47	170.87	-16.68	-13.41	55.86
	Share in total export	2.17	5.36	3.73	3.02	4.23				
8	Other Misc. Chemicals	24.51	40.68	51.06	28.29	55.53	65.97	25.52	-44.59	96.29
	Share in total export	1.45	2.20	2.30	1.19	2.11				
9	Coffee	120.20	82.04	82.04	71.69	53.61	-31.75	0.00	-12.62	-25.22
	Share in total export	7.11	4.44	3.70	3.03	2.04				
10	Agro Chemicals	11.86	11.01	62.96	120.25	46.90	-7.17	471.84	90.99	-61.00
	Share in total export	0.70	0.60	2.84	5.07	1.78				
	Total export to SLOVENIA	1689.91	1848.96	2215.58	2369.89	2632.79	9.41	19.83	6.96	11.09

NOTE : Figures relate to Financial Year, April to March.**SOURCE** : Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Kolkata : 700 107.

TABLE -IV**INDIA'S MAJOR MERCHANDISE IMPORT FROM SLOVENIA****2016-2017 TO 2020-2021 AND THEIR GROWTH RATES****(Value in Rs. CRORES)**

Sl. No.	Name of the Merchandise Commodities	Value of Imports					Annual Growth Rates			
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	17-18 over 2016-17	18-19 over 2017-18	19-20 over 2018-19	20-21 over 2019-20
1	Bulk Drugs, Drugs Intermediates	71.69	3.95	178.26	251.51	442.56	-94.49	4412.91	41.09	75.96
	Share in total imports	10.51	0.55	10.22	14.25	21.97				
2	Indl. Machinery For Dairy Etc.	28.53	53.15	159.72	200.19	258.34	86.30	200.51	25.34	29.05
	Share in total imports	4.18	7.36	9.16	11.35	12.83				
3	IC Engine Parts	5.13	1.19	1.61	227.46	177.61	-76.80	35.29	14027.95	-21.92
	Share in total imports.	0.75	0.16	0.09	12.89	8.82				
4	Iron & Steel	149.69	135.30	290.18	234.59	170.25	-9.61	114.47	-19.16	-27.43
	Share in total import	21.95	18.73	16.64	13.30	8.45				
5	Ceramics And Allied Products	0.31	1.70	5.29	12.69	127.50	448.39	211.18	139.89	904.73
	Share in total import	0.05	0.24	0.30	0.72	6.33				
6	Paper, Paper Board And Products	38.34	30.22	47.04	77.90	100.48	-21.18	55.66	65.60	28.99
	Share in total import	5.62	4.18	2.70	4.41	4.99				
7	Medical And Scientific Instruments	13.44	6.31	51.73	28.55	78.89	-53.05	719.81	-44.81	176.32
	Share in total import	1.97	0.87	2.97	1.62	3.92				
8	Electri Machinery And Equipments	33.71	41.19	119.20	100.41	78.74	22.19	189.39	-15.76	-21.58
	Share in total import	4.94	5.70	6.83	5.69	3.91				
9	Products Of Iron And Steel	6.88	4.84	64.89	71.90	62.08	-29.65	1240.70	10.80	-13.66
	Share in total import	1.01	0.67	3.72	4.07	3.08				
10	Residual Chemicals And Ald. Prods.	79.31	197.97	141.67	68.12	52.14	149.62	-28.44	-51.92	-23.46
	Share in total import	11.63	27.40	8.12	3.86	2.59				
	Total import from SLOVENIA	681.86	722.39	1744.09	1764.44	2014.10	5.94	141.43	1.17	14.15

NOTE : Figures relate to Financial Year, April to March.**SOURCE** : Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Kolkata : 700 107.