OECD SERVICES TRADE RESTRICTIVENESS INDEX (STRI)

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What is the STRI?

A regulatory database
» Information sourced from laws and regulations in place (currently covers more than 16000 laws and regulations)
» Verified and peer reviewed by governments, frequently updated
» Available online, highly interactive

Composite indices
» A snapshot of trade restrictiveness, 18 sectors across 40 countries
» STRIs take values between zero and one, one being the most restrictive
Why the STRI?

Services shares, OECD average

- Employment
- GDP
- FDI inward
- VA exports
- Gross exports

OECD
STRI sector coverage

- Computer services
- Construction
- Distribution
- Financial services
  - Commercial banking
  - Insurance
- Professional services
  - Accounting
  - Architecture
  - Engineering
  - Legal services
- Telecommunications
- Transport
  - Air
  - Maritime
  - Rail
  - Road
  - Courier
- Audiovisual services
  - Motion pictures
  - Broadcasting
  - Sound recording
Restrictions on foreign entry
Restrictions to movement of people
Other discriminatory measures
Barriers to competition
Regulatory transparency
Average
STRI (average, minimum and maximum scores by sector)
Countries with high trade barriers import less, but also export less services.

Estimated growth in trade from lowering the STRI:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal services</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Services trade restrictions matter for services performance in banking,…

Domestic credit to private sector by banks (% of GDP)

Net interest margin
In transport...

Maritime transport and STRI

Road transport and STRI

![Graphs showing time for imports and exports under different STRI levels for maritime and road transport.](image-url)
And in telecoms…

![Graph showing internet subscribers per 100 inhabitants vs STRI telecoms](image-url)
Level of trade restrictiveness permitted by the GATS (bound level)

Actual level of trade restrictiveness (STRI)
Concluding comments

» The STRI provides a snapshot of individual countries, relative to average and best practise

» Allows countries to benchmark,

» …trade negotiators to target bottlenecks,

» …and firms to identify requirements to enter new markets

» The STRI does not prescribe generic solutions,

» …but helps governments to identify opportunities to improve their services policy performance.
For more information, please visit

http://oe.cd/stri

and get free access to STRI analysis & tools including

› 40 country notes
› 18 sector notes
› A policy brief
› The compare your country tool
› An interactive policy simulator
› Our comprehensive regulatory database