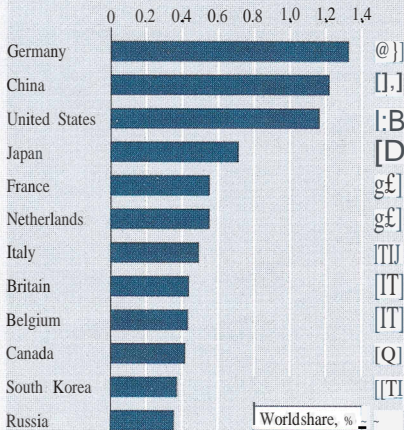


## Top exporters

The volume of global merchandise trade grew by 5.5% in 2007, according to a preliminary assessment of trade figures from the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Germany topped the WTO's ranking of leading exporters, with 9.5% of global sales last year. China and America were close behind. Together, these three accounted for more than a quarter of world exports. Outside the top three, only Japan has an export share above 5%. America was by some distance the world's biggest importer in 2007, sucking in a staggering \$2 trillion of merchandise from abroad. Its share of global imports, 14.2%, was almost twice that of the next largest importer, Germany. China was ranked third among importers, with 6.1%.

Merchandise exports, 2007, \$trn



Source: WTO