Information About the Data

This data release accompanies USITC Publication 4780, *U.S. Trade and Investment with Sub-Saharan Africa: Recent Developments*, USITC investigation no. 332-564. The data were used to perform gravity modeling analyses as described in appendix F of the report. All the data included in this release come from public sources. The data cover 235 countries and territories. Industries are classified according to the USITC digest system, which contains 250 sectors. The included variables are listed in table 1 below.

Recommended citation for this dataset:

U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC). *U.S. Trade and Investment with Sub-Saharan Africa: Recent Developments.* USITC Publication 4780. Washington, DC: USITC, May 2018. https://www.usitc.gov/publications/332/pub4780.pdf.

Table 1 Description of variable names

Variable name	Description
exporter	country code of the exporter
importer	country code of the importer
digest	USITC digest sector

The following variables were taken from the Dynamic Gravity Dataset, which provides a full description of the variables and the original data sources:[1]

Ln_dist	log of distance (in km) between the countries
contig	indicator of a shared border
common_language	indicator of a shared commonly spoken language
ever_colony_o	indicator of the exporter ever being a colony of the importer
ever_colony_d	indicator of the importer ever being a colony of the exporter
pta	Indicator of membership in a common preferential trade agreement
gsp	indicator of GSP eligibility
agoa	indicator of AGOA eligibility

Variables from other public sources:

trade	dollar value of merchandise trade between the importer and exporter (UN Comtrade)[2]
lpi_o	Overall Logistics Performance Index for the exporter (World Bank)[3]
lpi_d	Overall Logistics Performance Index for the importer (World Bank)[4]

Note on trade data: UN Comtrade data are concorded from HS6 to Commission digest sectors. Trade values are averaged across 2013–15 to increase data availability and improve data quality. Trade values are also averaged between those reported by the exporter and those reported by the importer, when both are available.

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1 Tamara Gurevich and Peter Herman, 2018, "The Dynamic Gravity Dataset: 1948–2016," USITC Working Paper 2018-02-A, available at https://gravity.usitc.gov
2 UN, Comtrade Database, available at https://comtrade.un.org/
3 World Bank, Logistics Performance Index, available at https://lpi.worldbank.org/
4 Ibid.