Although the G-7 countries dominate the ranking of the largest services traders, other countries have shown remarkable increases in services trade since 1986. Table 4 presents the results of a compilation of the growth in exports and imports of services by countries that had at least 1% of world trade in services in 1996. Calculations were made for a ten-year period and for the year 1996 only. On the export side, Thailand, Malaysia and China showed the highest average annual change in the last ten years. On the import side, China, Thailand and Korea had the highest average growth during that same period. More generally, Latin America and Asia have experienced the greatest growth in trade in services.

TABLE 4

OTHER SIGNIFICANT EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS
(in percentage)

EXPORTS	Average annual change (86-96)	1996/95	*IMPORTS*	Average annual change (86-96)	1996/95
Thailand	22.8 %	18%	China	29,5%	7%
Malaysia	21 %	27%	Thailand	25,9%	12%
China	20.1 %	11%	Korea	21,1%	15%
Singapore	18.9 %	0.5%	Spain	18,2%	11%
Chinese Taipei	18.5 %	7%	Singapore	16,7%	13%
Turkey	17.1 %	4%	Austria	15,9%	7%
Korea	16.3 %	1%	Chinese Taipei	15,9%	3%
Australia	15.1 %	17%	Brazil	15,5%	15%
Hong Kong	15 %	9%	Italy	15,4%	15%
Belgium-Luxembourg	13.5 %	2%	Hong Kong	15,3%	4%

Source: WTO Annual report 1997

-Classification of trade in services

In recent years, it has been observed that what the WTO characterizes as "other commercial services" are becoming increasingly important in trade. In 1996, total trade of commercial services[90] represented more than 40% of trade in services with 1 trillion US dollars. Between 1990 and 1996, the share of commercial services (exports and imports) in total trade in services increased by approximately 2.6 percent. Table 5 illustrates that exports and imports of commercial services grew more rapidly than any other sector in 1996, i.e., by 7 and 8 percent respectively. The transportation sector experienced the least growth.

[90] Here commercial services will be used instead of "other commercial services" by the WTO, i.e., finance, insurance, etc.