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Provisional figures for registered trade in Malta recorded a trade deficit of €222.3 million during June 2020, compared to a deficit of €423.3 million in the corresponding month of 2019.

International Trade in Goods: June 2020

Cut-off date:
3 August 2020

Data in this news release presents all international trade in goods registered up to the indicated cut-off date (refer to methodological notes). Provisional data for registered international trade recorded a trade deficit of €222.3 million during June, compared to a deficit of €423.3 million in the corresponding month of 2019. Both imports and exports registered decreases of €291.6 million and €90.6 million respectively when compared to the same month last year (Table 1). The decrease in the value of imports was primarily due to machinery and transport equipment (€133.7 million) and mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€128.6 million). On the exports side, the main decrease was registered in mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€87.2 million) (Table 2).

January-June 2020

During the first six months of this year, the trade deficit narrowed by €951.0 million when compared to the corresponding period of 2019, and amounted to €1,230.7 million. Both imports and exports decreased by €1,129.1 million and €178.1 million respectively (Table 1). Lower imports were mainly recorded in machinery and transport equipment (€792.9 million) and mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€237.6 million). On the exports side, mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€185.1 million) accounted for the main decrease (Table 2).

Imports from the European Union reached €1,382.7 million, or 50.4 per cent of total imports. There was a decrease of €164.3 million in imports from euro area countries when compared to the same period in 2019. Main increases and decreases in imports were registered from Luxembourg (€172.5 million) and the United Kingdom (€865.1 million) respectively. With respect to exports, the main increase was directed to Ireland (€20.7 million), whereas Italy registered the highest decrease (€98.7 million) (Table 3) ■

Chart 1. International Trade in Goods - quarterly

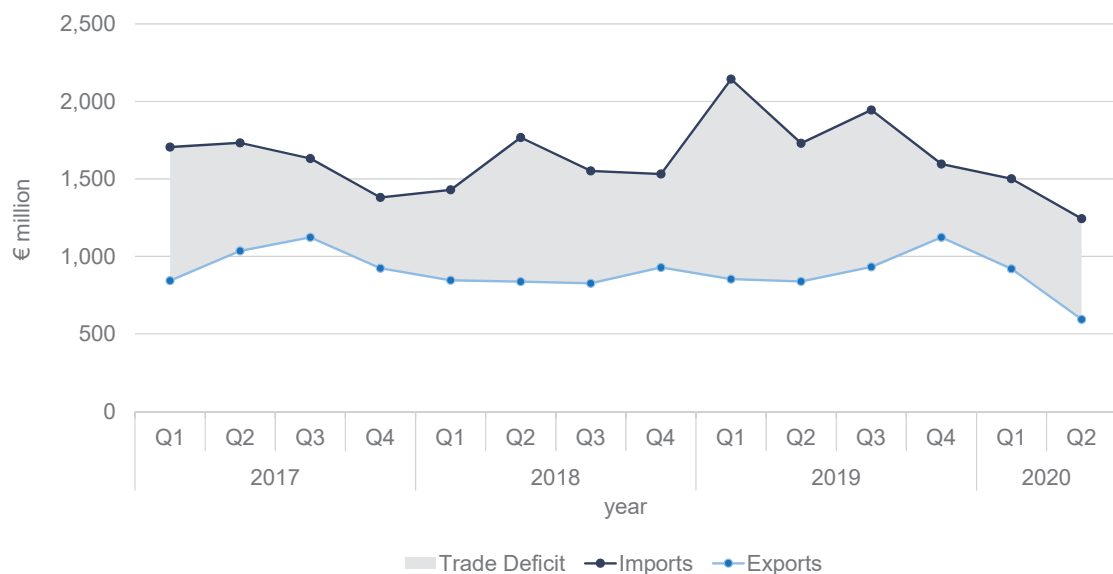


Table 1. Trade in goods by period and broad economic category

€ million

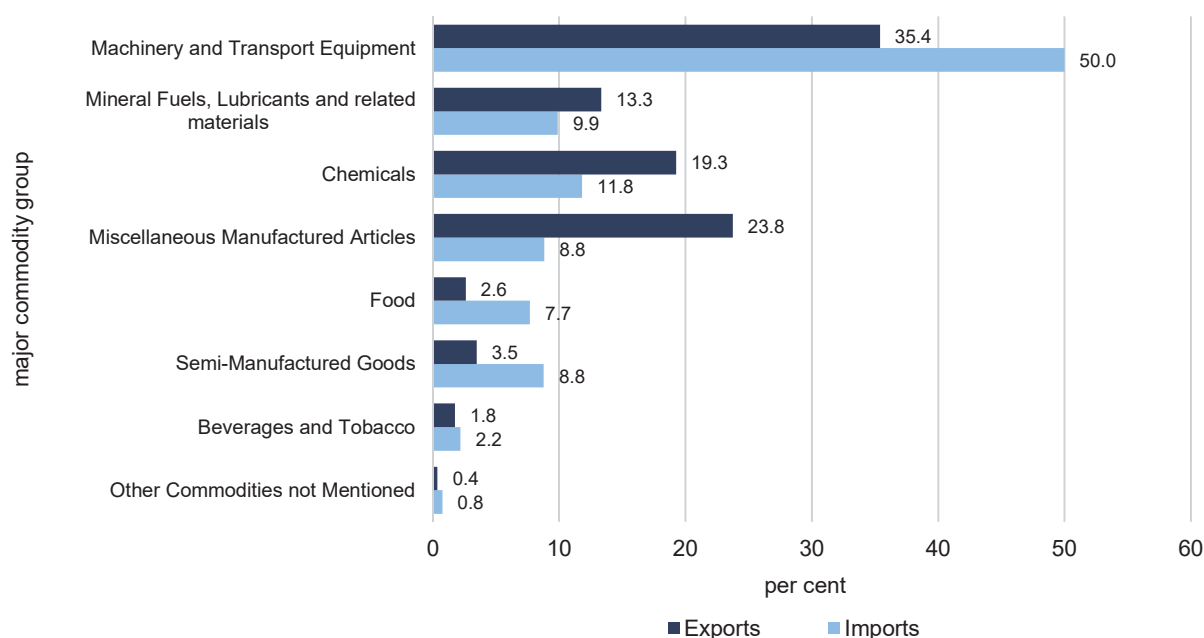
Broad economic category	2018 ^P	2019 ^P	June		January-June	
			2019 ^P	2020 ^P	2019 ^P	2020 ^P
Imports	6,280.9	7,414.5	709.0	417.4	3,874.2	2,745.1
Industrial Supplies	1,471.1	1,657.2	153.5	95.9	808.6	645.8
Primary	125.7	116.5	29.0	2.5	48.7	23.9
Semi-Finished	1,140.0	1,336.3	112.1	86.6	642.1	561.6
Finished	205.4	204.3	12.5	6.8	117.8	60.2
Capital Goods and Others	1,401.5	2,374.2	287.8	172.7	1,513.5	819.5
Consumer Goods	1,473.7	1,552.0	115.5	107.5	743.6	683.2
Food and Beverages	548.7	559.9	43.1	33.2	266.6	228.4
Durable Goods	497.1	548.7	41.7	38.7	262.7	233.2
Others	428.0	443.4	30.7	35.6	214.3	221.6
Fuels and Lubricants	1,934.5	1,831.2	152.2	41.3	808.5	596.7
Exports	3,440.9	3,749.3	285.7	195.1	1,692.5	1,514.4
<i>of which:</i>						
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	986.6	1,079.3	113.2	26.0	512.4	346.4
Balance of Trade	-2,840.0	-3,665.2	-423.3	-222.3	-2,181.7	-1,230.7

^P Provisional

Notes:

1. Table 1 is based on the United Nations Statistical Division BEC codes (Broad Economic Categories). Figures for 'Fuels and Lubricants' refer to BEC 0031 and BEC 0032; respectively 'Fuels and lubricants, primary' and 'Fuels and lubricants, processed'.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. A disaggregation by quarter is available on the excel version of this news release:
http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx

Chart 2. Percentage distribution of registered trade in June 2020 by major commodity group



Notes:

1. The commodity breakdown is in accordance with the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Rev. 3.
2. "Other Commodities not Mentioned" includes the commodity groups "Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities", "Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats" and "Crude Materials".
3. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Balance of trade in goods by period and major commodity groups

€ million

Major commodity group	2018 ^P	2019 ^P	June		January-June	
			2019 ^P	2020 ^P	2019 ^P	2020 ^P
Imports	6,280.9	7,414.5	709.0	417.4	3,874.2	2,745.1
Food	628.7	609.2	64.8	32.1	273.8	225.3
Beverages and Tobacco	112.3	130.3	12.0	9.2	59.4	51.7
Crude Materials	27.4	36.4	3.0	2.2	18.5	15.3
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,947.0	1,865.1	169.9	41.3	839.4	601.8
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	9.6	9.6	0.9	0.7	4.9	4.7
Chemicals	603.1	687.5	41.9	49.3	323.8	309.6
Semi-Manufactured Goods	413.8	441.0	30.9	36.7	215.4	219.6
Machinery and Transport Equipment	2,005.0	3,054.0	342.4	208.7	1,868.0	1,075.1
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	528.8	576.9	43.0	36.9	269.1	240.2
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	5.2	4.5	0.3	0.3	1.8	1.9
Exports	3,440.9	3,749.3	285.7	195.1	1,692.5	1,514.4
Food	345.3	287.4	4.4	5.1	87.7	62.5
Beverages and Tobacco	44.6	46.9	4.1	3.5	19.5	25.6
Crude Materials	13.3	10.0	1.3	0.6	5.3	5.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,048.6	1,109.0	113.2	26.0	531.5	346.4
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	387.0	524.0	31.6	37.6	214.6	217.6
Semi-Manufactured Goods	153.8	137.9	10.9	6.8	79.3	50.0
Machinery and Transport Equipment	957.0	1,025.6	81.5	69.0	485.6	507.7
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	488.8	605.8	38.7	46.3	267.1	299.1
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	2.5	2.6	0.0	0.1	1.9	0.5
Balance of Trade	-2,840.0	-3,665.2	-423.3	-222.3	-2,181.7	-1,230.7
Food	-283.4	-321.8	-60.4	-27.0	-186.1	-162.8
Beverages and Tobacco	-67.7	-83.3	-7.9	-5.7	-39.9	-26.0
Crude Materials	-14.1	-26.4	-1.7	-1.6	-13.2	-10.3
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-898.4	-756.1	-56.7	-15.3	-307.9	-255.4
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-9.6	-9.6	-0.9	-0.7	-4.9	-4.7
Chemicals	-216.1	-163.5	-10.2	-11.7	-109.2	-92.0
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-260.0	-303.1	-20.0	-29.9	-136.2	-169.6
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-1,048.0	-2,028.4	-261.0	-139.7	-1,382.4	-567.4
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-40.0	28.9	-4.3	9.5	-2.0	58.8
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-2.7	-1.9	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	-1.3

^P Provisional

Notes:

1. The commodity breakdown is in accordance with the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Rev. 3.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Direction of trade in goods by period

€ million

Country/Region	June						January-June					
	2019 ^P			2020 ^P			2019 ^P			2020 ^P		
	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade
Europe	584.4	184.8	-399.6	292.6	98.2	-194.4	2,971.5	899.8	-2,071.6	1,774.0	671.4	-1,102.6
<i>of which:</i>												
European Union	318.8	173.5	-145.3	238.5	90.5	-148.0	1,569.9	842.3	-727.6	1,382.7	623.5	-759.2
<i>of which:</i>												
euro area	309.9	148.8	-161.1	227.6	79.4	-148.2	1,471.7	723.4	-748.3	1,307.4	537.3	-770.1
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	134.1	36.2	-97.9	69.2	10.7	-58.6	579.8	167.7	-412.1	433.1	69.0	-364.1
Ireland	13.5	0.8	-12.8	38.4	22.2	-16.2	61.2	2.8	-58.5	63.9	23.5	-40.3
Luxembourg	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.1	0.0	-34.1	0.4	0.3	-0.1	172.9	0.2	-172.6
Germany	30.1	34.0	3.9	22.3	24.8	2.5	225.4	238.0	12.6	178.5	252.7	74.2
France	61.8	20.7	-41.1	21.5	10.1	-11.4	217.2	154.0	-63.2	164.5	107.0	-57.5
Spain	25.3	32.3	7.0	15.8	2.8	-13.0	90.2	65.0	-25.2	102.6	19.3	-83.2
EFTA Countries	4.3	1.2	-3.1	4.0	1.4	-2.6	29.8	13.6	-16.2	25.1	9.8	-15.3
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	4.1	0.9	-3.2	3.6	1.0	-2.6	21.5	11.5	-10.0	17.0	7.4	-9.5
Other European Countries	261.4	10.2	-251.2	50.1	6.3	-43.8	1,371.8	43.9	-1,327.9	366.2	38.1	-328.2
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom*	198.6	6.3	-192.3	29.1	2.8	-26.2	1,063.0	31.0	-1,032.0	197.9	18.4	-179.5
Turkey	25.5	2.8	-22.7	15.1	1.6	-13.5	154.8	9.1	-145.7	96.0	11.1	-84.9
Asia	78.1	33.8	-44.3	57.3	40.5	-16.8	484.3	270.9	-213.4	501.0	299.5	-201.5
<i>of which:</i>												
China	19.2	2.4	-16.7	25.8	1.8	-24.1	118.9	15.5	-103.4	239.7	16.3	-223.4
India	10.2	1.2	-9.0	12.8	2.1	-10.7	81.0	8.7	-72.3	81.7	9.1	-72.6
Japan	4.3	1.6	-2.7	2.9	1.4	-1.6	26.9	53.9	27.1	22.0	35.4	13.4
South Korea	3.4	0.6	-2.8	2.8	0.9	-1.8	22.0	11.3	-10.7	25.1	10.8	-14.3
Thailand	2.0	0.2	-1.7	2.6	0.2	-2.4	13.4	1.3	-12.1	12.9	1.0	-11.9
North and Central America	18.7	13.4	-5.3	52.6	7.5	-45.1	75.7	105.9	30.2	203.8	79.6	-124.3
<i>of which:</i>												
Canada	0.6	1.2	0.6	46.3	2.2	-44.1	15.0	8.8	-6.2	143.3	7.4	-135.9
United States of America	17.6	10.9	-6.7	6.1	4.8	-1.3	56.2	91.4	35.2	59.6	68.5	8.9
Africa	12.9	16.1	3.2	13.0	23.8	10.8	70.2	142.6	72.5	130.7	209.2	78.5
<i>of which:</i>												
Algeria	-	0.7	0.7	9.4	0.1	-9.3	0.0	8.5	8.5	76.4	6.4	-70.0
Australia and Oceania	1.4	0.3	-1.1	0.6	0.4	-0.2	110.1	2.7	-107.4	10.1	2.0	-8.0
South America	1.2	0.7	-0.5	1.4	0.1	-1.3	11.6	16.1	4.5	10.4	5.2	-5.1
Caribbean and Bahamas Islands	12.2	0.2	-12.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	150.6	2.5	-148.1	115.1	4.0	-111.1
Ships and Aircraft Stores	-	36.3	36.3	-	24.0	24.0	0.2	251.9	251.7	-	243.5	243.5
Grand Total	709.0	285.7	-423.3	417.4	195.1	-222.3	3,874.2	1,692.5	-2,181.7	2,745.1	1,514.4	-1,230.7

^P Provisional

* For the exclusion/inclusion of the United Kingdom in the European Union computation, refer to methodological note 7 (ii).

Notes:

1. Ranking is based according to top countries of import for the period under review.
2. Arrivals/Dispatches relate to registered transactions with EU Member States.
3. Imports/Exports relate to registered transactions with Non-EU Member States (see methodological notes for country groupings).
4. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
5. A full list of countries is available on the excel version of this news release:

http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx

Table 4. Trade in goods by period and principal traded commodities

€ 000

Chapter number	Commodity description	June		January-June	
		2019 ^P	2020 ^P	2019 ^P	2020 ^P
Main imports					
02	Meat and edible offal	4,172	4,280	29,183	25,002
04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	4,233	4,022	26,879	25,455
16	Preparations of meat/fish	4,897	3,259	24,907	23,389
19	Preparations of cereals	5,482	3,861	34,518	30,424
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	3,492	3,598	21,261	18,859
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	7,423	3,500	40,711	27,232
23	Food residues and waste	2,689	2,974	15,724	17,186
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	4,630	5,744	19,116	24,748
25	Salt/sulphur/earths/plastering materials and cement	3,481	3,671	19,598	21,628
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	169,904	41,336	841,862	601,803
29	Organic chemicals	5,727	9,185	63,604	46,978
30	Pharmaceutical products	15,564	19,489	125,850	135,595
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	4,045	5,279	23,307	23,438
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	3,097	2,425	21,720	18,383
34	Soap, etc, lubricants, waxes, dental preparations	1,883	2,457	13,488	13,803
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	14,143	11,944	88,524	87,494
48	Paper and paperboard articles	5,990	10,718	48,074	56,608
61	Knitted clothing	4,857	3,836	32,570	29,972
62	Woven clothing	3,990	5,691	27,598	30,802
63	Made up textile articles	1,015	3,960	6,328	16,428
69	Ceramic products	2,444	2,294	15,169	13,228
72	Iron and steel	1,656	2,805	14,363	18,795
73	Articles of iron or steel	5,290	3,818	35,632	30,834
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	26,581	23,731	196,839	151,438
85	Electrical machinery etc.	49,806	37,046	289,665	247,665
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	14,844	14,868	96,194	76,425
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	27,312	118,744	217,447	482,265
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	224,741	14,429	1,071,873	117,106
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	7,058	5,919	39,924	42,109
94	Furniture; bedding, etc.	6,842	5,142	39,182	29,620
Main exports					
03	Fish and crustaceans, etc.	819	936	52,335	36,194
19	Preparations of cereals	530	505	6,619	4,568
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	2,750	3,184	26,309	19,231
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	1,398	3,210	6,706	20,592
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	113,150	25,934	530,977	345,846
29	Organic chemicals	1,568	4,213	25,745	23,621
30	Pharmaceutical products	24,692	29,268	150,890	158,822
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	1,219	1,126	8,380	5,838
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	6,165	5,832	42,194	43,947
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	4,734	3,241	31,758	25,821
49	Printed books, newspapers	9,464	24,116	76,817	128,126
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	1,918	2,055	12,940	11,952
64	Footwear, gaiters etc.and parts	2,209	1,093	15,060	11,053
73	Articles of iron or steel	2,180	559	17,130	3,635
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	15,036	7,421	71,448	59,192
85	Electrical machinery etc.	55,541	36,951	329,858	307,617
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	10,856	24,267	80,717	136,569
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	5,423	5,722	46,141	40,035
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	12,387	10,787	72,504	75,283

^P Provisional

Notes:

- Table 4 is based on the World Customs Organisations Harmonised System (HS) codes. Figures for chapter 27 include 'Industrial supplies, primary' and 'Industrial supplies, processed'.
- A full list of chapters is available on the excel version of this news release:
http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx
- Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Methodological Notes

1. Figures presented in this news release are based on register data available as at the cut-off date printed on the front page of this release. These are provisional figures based on information provided by traders and customs declarations on a monthly basis. Regular revisions to monthly and annual trade data may be carried out for up to two (2) years after the reference period. No estimations are included in these figures to compensate for late or non-response by traders or late documentation of customs declarations.
2. Data in this release are based on:
 - a. The Intrastat Supplementary Declaration that traders in merchandise goods must submit in respect of arrivals (imports) and dispatches (exports) of goods from and to the Member States of the European Union (EU) in compliance with Legal Notice 131 of 2004, and
 - b. The Customs Declarations for imports from and exports to countries that are not Member States of the EU.
3. The Intrastat Supplementary Declaration for the collection of data on trade in goods between the Member States of the EU replaced the Customs Declaration as from 1 May 2004. The requirements of the Supplementary Declaration, which at EU level were introduced as from 1 January 1993, are similar in all the Member States of the EU.
4. As from May 2004, with the introduction of the Intrastat Supplementary Declaration as the source document for trade statistics, it was no longer possible to disaggregate total exports into domestic exports and re-exports.
5. The 'Balance of Trade' is the difference between a country's exports and imports. A country has a trade deficit if it imports more than it exports; the opposite scenario signifies a trade surplus.
6. National concepts differ from the harmonised methodology used by Eurostat, leading to differences between figures in this release and those published by Eurostat. Malta uses the "General Trade" system for dissemination purposes in line with UN recommendations. On the other hand, monthly data sent to Eurostat for both Intra-EU and Extra-EU are compiled according to the "Special Trade" methodology. A more detailed explanation of these two concepts can be found in the "Statistical Concepts" link below.
7.
 - i. Up to 31 December 2014, the euro area included Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia (from 2014), Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain. From 1 January 2015, the euro area also includes Lithuania. Trade data for Lithuania is included with the euro area data as from reference month January 2015.
 - ii. The European Union includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia (from July 2013), Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. As of February 1, 2020, the United Kingdom is no longer part of the European Union.

For reference periods February 2020 onwards, monthly news releases having a country breakdown will carry EU data excluding the United Kingdom. Users are advised to use data with caution when making comparisons since this will result in discrepancies, unless United Kingdom information is removed from previous figures.
 - iii. EFTA (European Free Trade Association) countries comprise Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
8. More detailed and disaggregated data not appearing in this release is available in the excel version of this release or upon request from the NSO.
9. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and Methods: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/External-Trade-Statistics.aspx

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=7>

Classification: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/index.cfm?>
10. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
11. A detailed news release calendar is available on: https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx