

Provisional figures for registered trade in goods in Malta recorded a trade deficit of €385.7 million during June 2019.

International Trade in Goods: June 2019

Cut-off date:
2 August 2019

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 €385.7 million during June, compared to a deficit of €315.8 million in the corresponding month of 2018. Imports experienced an increase of €51.3 million while exports decreased by €18.4 million (Table 1). The increase in the value of imports was primarily due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€54.5 million), machinery and transport equipment (€6.9 million), and food (€6.8 million). This was partly outweighed by a decrease in chemicals (14.4 million). On the exports side, semi-manufactured goods (€8.0 million), mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€4.3 million) and machinery and transport equipment (€4.3 million) accounted for the main decrease (Table 2).

January-June 2019

During the first half of the year, the trade deficit widened by €516.4 million when compared to the corresponding period of 2018, reaching €2,136.6 million. Imports and exports increased by €566.3 million and €49.9 million respectively (Table 1). Higher imports were mainly in machinery and transport equipment (€651.8 million), partly outweighed by a decrease of €98.3 million in mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials. The main increase in exports was registered in miscellaneous manufactured articles (€35.1 million) and in chemicals (€20.5 million) partly outweighed by a decrease of €16.6 million in semi-manufactured goods (Table 2).

For the same reference period, imports from the European Union reached €2,516.5 million, or 67.0 per cent of total imports. There was a decrease of €367.8 million in imports from euro area countries when compared to the same period in 2018. Main increases and decreases in imports were registered from the United Kingdom (€774.4 million) and Italy (€204.1 million) respectively. With respect to exports, the main increase was directed to Spain (€31.8 million), whereas Italy (€21.9 million) registered the highest decrease (Table 3) ■

Chart 1. International Trade in Goods - quarterly



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

€ million

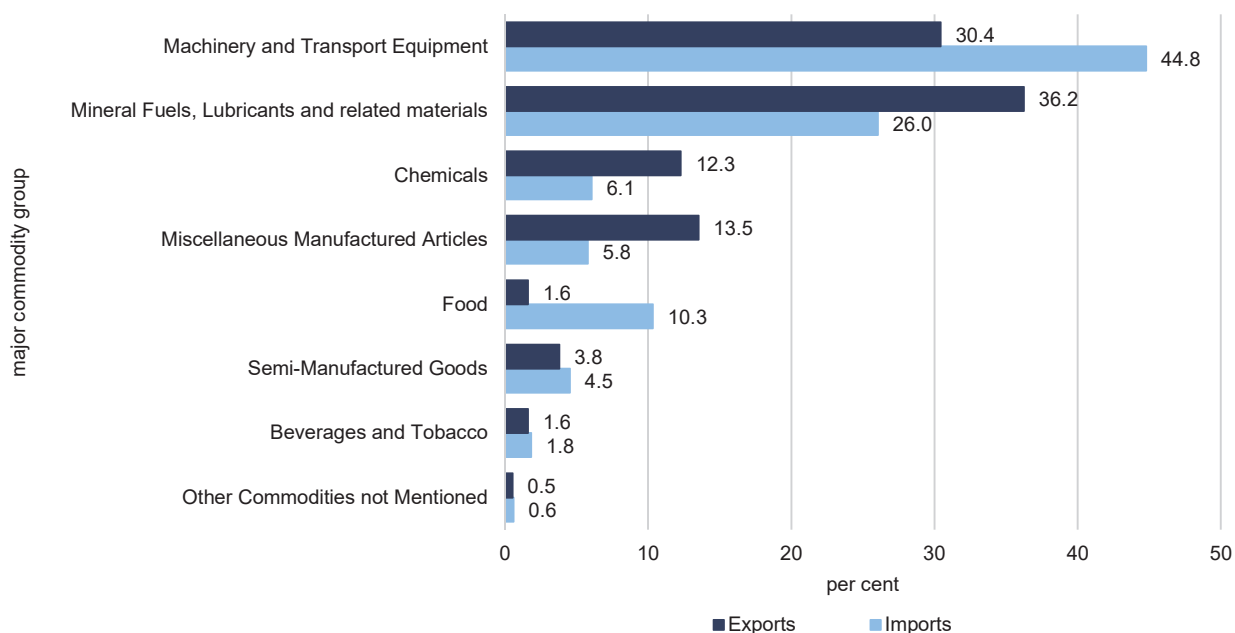
Broad economic category	2017 ^P	2018 ^P	June		January-June	
			2018 ^P	2019 ^P	2018 ^P	2019 ^P
			Imports	6,125.4	6,263.6	591.6
Industrial Supplies	1,323.3	1,464.2	122.8	125.8	706.6	769.9
Primary	126.3	125.6	20.9	3.0	48.9	21.2
Semi-Finished	1,011.5	1,133.4	92.5	112.9	537.1	634.4
Finished	185.5	205.2	9.4	9.9	120.7	114.3
Capital Goods and Others	1,679.5	1,398.5	239.7	234.6	838.1	1,435.8
Consumer Goods	1,350.0	1,464.6	116.0	132.5	706.5	737.4
Food and Beverages	531.0	548.0	46.0	65.6	261.1	284.1
Durable Goods	468.8	490.3	38.1	38.3	240.0	250.3
Others	350.1	426.3	31.8	28.6	205.4	203.0
Fuels and Lubricants	1,772.6	1,936.4	113.1	150.0	941.2	815.5
Exports	3,699.2	3,346.7	275.7	257.3	1,572.1	1,622.0
<i>of which:</i>						
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	1,411.6	992.8	97.5	93.2	448.1	459.1
Balance of Trade	-2,426.2	-2,917.0	-315.8	-385.7	-1,620.2	-2,136.6

^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; 'Fuels and lubricants, primary' and 'Fuels and lubricants, processed' respectively.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. A disaggregation by quarter is available on the excel version of this news release:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/International-Trade-in-Goods.aspx

Chart 2. Percentage distribution of trade in goods in June 2019 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	2017 ^P	2018 ^P	June		January-June	
			2018 ^P	2019 ^P	2018 ^P	2019 ^P
Imports	6,125.4	6,263.6	591.6	642.9	3,192.3	3,758.6
Food	625.1	628.0	59.6	66.4	276.6	270.6
Beverages and Tobacco	96.1	112.2	9.3	11.8	49.5	59.0
Crude Materials	26.2	27.4	2.0	2.8	14.3	16.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,775.0	1,947.0	113.0	167.5	943.8	845.5
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	9.3	9.6	1.0	0.8	4.7	4.8
Chemicals	522.0	602.8	53.4	39.0	305.3	313.0
Semi-Manufactured Goods	361.3	410.9	32.3	29.2	209.2	208.0
Machinery and Transport Equipment	2,236.2	2,003.4	281.0	287.9	1,135.8	1,787.6
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	468.9	517.1	39.5	37.3	250.9	252.1
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	5.3	5.2	0.4	0.3	2.3	1.8
Exports	3,699.2	3,346.7	275.7	257.3	1,572.1	1,622.0
Food	283.4	245.6	2.9	4.2	87.9	87.4
Beverages and Tobacco	38.6	44.6	2.8	4.1	17.9	19.5
Crude Materials	13.4	13.3	2.1	1.3	7.8	5.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,460.6	1,054.7	97.5	93.2	467.5	478.1
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	383.1	386.8	31.9	31.6	193.9	214.4
Semi-Manufactured Goods	150.7	153.7	17.8	9.8	93.6	77.0
Machinery and Transport Equipment	987.8	956.8	82.6	78.3	476.4	476.7
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	380.7	488.8	38.1	34.8	226.7	261.8
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	0.8	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.9
Balance of Trade	-2,426.2	-2,917.0	-315.8	-385.7	-1,620.2	-2,136.6
Food	-341.6	-382.5	-56.7	-62.3	-188.7	-183.2
Beverages and Tobacco	-57.5	-67.7	-6.5	-7.7	-31.6	-39.5
Crude Materials	-12.9	-14.1	0.1	-1.5	-6.4	-11.0
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-314.4	-892.3	-15.5	-74.3	-476.2	-367.4
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-9.3	-9.6	-1.0	-0.8	-4.7	-4.7
Chemicals	-138.9	-216.0	-21.5	-7.4	-111.3	-98.6
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-210.6	-257.2	-14.6	-19.5	-115.6	-131.0
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-1,248.3	-1,046.7	-198.4	-209.6	-659.4	-1,310.9
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-88.2	-28.3	-1.4	-2.5	-24.2	9.8
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-4.5	-2.7	-0.3	-0.2	-2.0	0.1

^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					
	2018 ^P			2019 ^P			2018 ^P			2019 ^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	392.1	164.2	-227.9	518.4	156.4	-362.0	2,306.9	789.7	-1,517.2	2,855.1	829.3	-2,025.8
<i>of which:</i>												
European Union	367.8	134.4	-233.4	451.3	151.3	-300.0	2,109.0	743.0	-1,366.0	2,516.5	802.8	-1,713.8
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	27.0	3.4	-23.6	195.8	5.8	-189.9	277.3	31.9	-245.4	1,051.7	29.6	-1,022.1
euro area	312.8	110.9	-201.9	247.4	122.5	-124.9	1,736.8	617.9	-1,119.0	1,369.1	656.2	-712.9
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	121.6	28.7	-92.9	112.0	13.0	-99.0	746.6	145.7	-600.9	542.5	123.8	-418.7
France	82.2	34.1	-48.1	38.3	18.7	-19.7	172.5	139.7	-32.7	192.6	134.1	-58.5
Spain	26.7	4.1	-22.6	28.8	32.0	3.3	159.9	32.6	-127.3	91.3	64.4	-26.9
Belgium	6.6	0.4	-6.2	23.7	0.3	-23.4	97.4	5.7	-91.7	54.0	2.5	-51.5
Germany	29.6	37.1	7.4	23.6	33.3	9.7	223.6	231.7	8.1	213.8	235.9	22.1
Netherlands	30.0	2.4	-27.6	11.1	4.0	-7.1	164.4	36.0	-128.4	103.9	42.7	-61.2
EFTA Countries	3.2	2.0	-1.3	4.3	1.2	-3.1	32.0	11.6	-20.4	29.8	13.6	-16.2
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	2.2	1.4	-0.8	4.1	0.9	-3.2	21.3	9.2	-12.2	21.5	11.5	-10.0
Other European Countries	21.1	27.9	6.8	62.8	3.9	-59.0	165.9	35.1	-130.8	308.8	12.9	-295.8
<i>of which:</i>												
Russian Federation	12.7	0.0	-12.6	35.5	0.2	-35.2	77.7	0.3	-77.4	143.8	1.2	-142.6
Asia	67.9	42.8	-25.1	78.1	33.8	-44.3	477.8	251.7	-226.0	485.0	270.9	-214.1
<i>of which:</i>												
Israel	4.7	0.4	-4.3	24.4	0.1	-24.3	74.3	0.9	-73.5	101.4	1.6	-99.8
China	18.1	2.1	-16.0	19.2	2.4	-16.7	103.7	21.2	-82.5	118.9	15.5	-103.4
India	8.4	2.3	-6.0	10.2	1.2	-9.0	67.0	6.3	-60.7	81.0	8.7	-72.3
Japan	9.3	1.6	-7.7	4.3	1.6	-2.7	39.3	45.0	5.7	26.9	53.9	27.1
Singapore	4.4	17.6	13.2	3.4	13.2	9.7	23.8	69.5	45.7	22.3	70.8	48.5
North and Central America	42.2	13.3	-28.9	18.7	13.4	-5.3	153.8	91.2	-62.6	75.7	105.9	30.2
<i>of which:</i>												
United States of America	8.6	10.4	1.9	17.6	10.9	-6.7	67.1	75.1	8.0	56.2	91.4	35.2
Africa	7.2	20.3	13.1	12.9	16.1	3.2	95.2	234.1	138.9	70.2	142.6	72.5
<i>of which:</i>												
Egypt	2.8	2.6	-0.2	11.1	0.4	-10.7	29.5	35.4	5.9	44.9	15.2	-29.7
Australia and Oceania	0.4	0.6	0.2	1.4	0.3	-1.1	10.5	2.4	-8.1	110.2	2.7	-107.4
South America	1.4	4.6	3.2	1.2	0.7	-0.5	24.3	21.9	-2.4	11.6	16.1	4.5
Caribbean and Bahamas Islands	80.3	0.2	-80.1	12.2	0.2	-12.0	123.8	1.9	-121.9	150.6	2.5	-148.1
Ships and Aircraft Stores	0.0	29.8	29.8	0.0	36.3	36.3	0.0	179.3	179.3	0.2	251.9	251.7
Grand Total	591.6	275.7	-315.8	642.9	257.3	-385.7	3,192.3	1,572.1	-1,620.2	3,758.6	1,622.0	-2,136.6

^P Provisional

Notes:

1. Ranking is based according to top countries of import for the current month 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:

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

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

€ 000

Chapter number	Commodity description	June		January-June	
		2018 ^P	2019 ^P	2018 ^P	2019 ^P
		Main imports			
02	Meat and edible offal	4,757	4,119	30,506	28,772
03	Fish and crustaceans, etc.	19,377	27,170	42,540	34,066
04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	4,204	3,932	27,083	26,003
16	Preparations of meat/fish	5,654	4,655	26,229	24,265
19	Preparations of cereals	6,102	5,072	31,272	33,211
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	2,434	2,471	14,491	15,237
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,245	3,273	22,319	21,386
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	7,321	7,223	35,701	40,291
23	Food residues and waste	2,305	7,398	15,098	19,782
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	2,068	4,630	14,162	19,116
25	Salt/sulphur/earths/plastering materials and cement	3,066	3,453	15,254	18,846
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	113,025	167,461	945,293	846,784
29	Organic chemicals	12,062	5,679	43,832	63,509
30	Pharmaceutical products	18,338	14,666	126,440	121,518
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	4,246	3,967	22,716	22,913
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	3,757	2,725	19,942	18,740
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	14,008	12,306	87,908	85,013
48	Paper and paperboard articles	5,586	5,868	44,003	47,753
61	Knitted clothing	4,732	4,685	27,943	31,102
62	Woven clothing	3,867	3,565	29,300	25,733
64	Footwear, gaiters etc.and parts	2,222	2,357	25,121	29,438
73	Articles of iron or steel	8,030	4,972	42,883	34,584
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	38,512	24,060	228,056	190,599
85	Electrical machinery etc.	41,587	48,160	236,093	286,424
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	13,692	13,754	86,763	93,781
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	98,079	13,394	281,140	186,064
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	89,517	189,344	302,422	1,034,734
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	7,997	4,777	49,968	37,167
94	Furniture; bedding, etc.	5,697	6,175	33,883	36,557
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	2,406	2,909	12,335	12,944
		Main exports			
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	1,163	2,711	29,001	26,246
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	865	1,076	4,614	4,072
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	13	1,398	4,943	6,706
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	97,410	93,165	466,759	477,588
29	Organic chemicals	3,158	1,568	16,052	25,745
30	Pharmaceutical products	23,622	24,733	151,743	150,913
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	2,046	1,219	7,984	8,380
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	5,410	5,679	32,786	41,622
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	5,537	4,110	34,691	30,214
49	Printed books, newspapers	9,864	9,335	56,788	76,682
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	2,354	1,918	13,589	12,940
64	Footwear, gaiters etc.and parts	1,139	1,517	8,425	14,054
73	Articles of iron or steel	5,281	2,177	27,804	17,120
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	11,459	13,068	78,584	65,126
85	Electrical machinery etc.	61,182	54,309	332,849	327,394
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	9,398	10,848	56,536	80,571
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	8,948	4,869	43,956	45,571
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	11,578	12,372	76,180	72,489
99	Special classifications	3,057	2,920	13,547	14,829

^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:
https://ns0.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/International-Trade-in-Goods.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, Sweden and the United Kingdom.
 - 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/metadadata/concepts.aspx>
Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadadata/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