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Preliminary figures show that Malta registered a trade deficit of €276.3 million in July, compared to €299.4 million in the corresponding month last year.

International Trade: July 2014

Cut-off date:
29 August 2014

Provisional data for international trade show that the trade deficit in July stood at €276.3 million, down by €23.1 million when compared to the corresponding month in 2013. Imports decreased by €6.5 million while an increase of €16.6 million was registered for exports (Table 1a). The decrease in the value of imports was primarily due to machinery and transport equipment, while other decreases were recorded for food, miscellaneous transactions and commodities, beverages and tobacco, crude materials, semi-manufactured goods, and miscellaneous manufactured articles. Machinery and transport equipment accounted for the main increase in the value of exports, with other increases registered for mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials, chemicals, beverages and tobacco, and crude materials (Table 2).

January-July 2014

In the first seven months this year, the trade deficit widened by €17.5 million, to €1,252.7 million. Both imports and exports registered decreases when compared to the period January-July 2013. The decrease in imports of €31.5 million was mainly due to machinery and transport equipment, with other decreases registered for food, miscellaneous transactions and commodities, miscellaneous manufactured articles, crude materials, and semi-manufactured goods. The decrease in the value of exports of €49.1 million was primarily due to machinery and transport equipment. Other decreases were noted for miscellaneous manufactured articles, food, miscellaneous transactions and commodities, and crude materials (Table 2).

Malta's trade imports from the European Union reached €1,725.2 million, or 49.7 per cent of the total imports for the period under review (Table 3). There was a drop of €321.9 million in imports from euro area countries when compared to the same period last year. Increases were registered in imports from the United States of America, Spain, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Morocco, the Netherlands, Turkmenistan and India. On the other hand imports from Italy, Libya, Greece, France, Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, China, Germany and Switzerland showed a decrease. Exports to the euro area decreased by €102.7 million, mainly to France, Greece, Germany, the Netherlands and Spain, while increases in exports were recorded for Republic of Korea, Italy, Turkmenistan and India ■

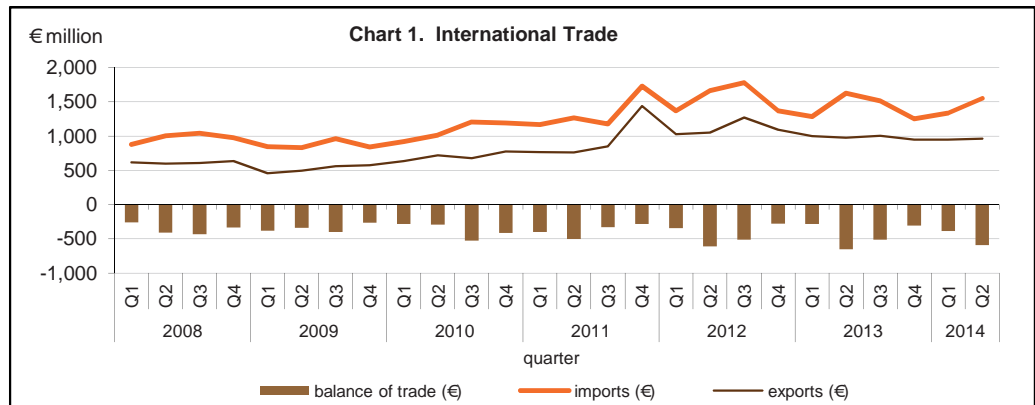
Compiled by:

**Unit A4: International
Trade and Transport
Statistics**

**Directorate A: Economic
Statistics**

Further information on data:

Mr Anthony PORTELLI
T. +356 2599 7160
E. anthony.portelli@gov.mt



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Issued by: **External Cooperation and Communication Unit, National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.**
T. +356 2599 7219 F. +356 2599 7205 E. nso@gov.mt

Table 1a. Trade by final use*

€ million

	2012 ^P	2013 ^P	July		January-July	
			2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P
Imports	6,187.4	5,678.9	594.3	587.8	3,505.3	3,473.8
Industrial Supplies	1,564.9	1,547.9	148.4	128.1	937.6	799.3
Primary	111.6	95.1	24.5	18.3	65.0	48.2
Semi-Finished	1,302.5	1,292.9	111.5	100.4	775.3	664.0
Finished	150.8	159.9	12.3	9.5	97.3	87.1
Capital Goods and Others	810.9	866.4	139.3	119.6	536.1	541.3
Consumer Goods	1,023.2	1,035.0	95.7	90.0	588.5	604.4
Food and Beverages	427.4	448.8	42.7	39.7	249.6	254.7
Durable Goods	339.4	333.8	28.8	29.0	190.9	199.9
Others	256.4	252.3	24.1	21.3	148.1	149.8
Fuels and Lubricants	2,788.3	2,229.7	210.9	250.1	1,443.1	1,528.8
Exports	4,438.6	3,925.2	294.9	311.5	2,270.1	2,221.0
Balance of Trade	-1,748.8	-1,753.7	-299.4	-276.3	-1,235.2	-1,252.7

Table 1b. Trade by final use - last six quarters*

€ million

	2013 Q1 ^P	2013 Q2 ^P	2013 Q3 ^P	2013 Q4 ^P	2014 Q1 ^P	2014 Q2 ^P
Imports	1,285.1	1,625.9	1,514.3	1,253.6	1,334.8	1,551.1
Industrial Supplies	397.7	391.6	385.4	373.3	357.1	314.0
Primary	18.7	21.8	32.3	22.2	11.1	18.9
Semi-Finished	338.6	325.2	319.1	310.0	303.3	260.3
Finished	40.4	44.6	33.9	41.0	42.8	34.9
Capital Goods and Others	146.0	250.8	272.7	196.9	140.2	281.5
Consumer Goods	232.5	260.4	269.2	273.0	236.7	277.7
Food and Beverages	96.0	110.9	122.1	119.9	98.7	116.4
Durable Goods	76.8	85.3	82.7	89.1	77.7	93.1
Others	59.7	64.2	64.4	64.0	60.3	68.2
Fuels and Lubricants	508.9	723.2	587.1	410.4	600.8	677.9
Exports	1,001.1	974.1	1,003.0	947.0	948.8	960.7
Balance of Trade	-284.0	-651.8	-511.2	-306.6	-386.0	-590.4

Table 1c. Total exports net of fuels and lubricants*

€ million

	2012 ^P	2013 ^P	July		January-July	
			2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P
Total Exports	4,438.6	3,925.2	294.9	311.5	2,270.1	2,221.0
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	2,010.7	1,665.7	134.6	143.4	959.5	1,019.4
Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants	2,427.9	2,259.5	160.3	168.1	1,310.6	1,201.6

* Classification by Broad Economic Categories

^P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Balance of trade by major commodity groups

€ million

	2012 ^P	2013 ^P	July		January-July	
			2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P
			Imports	6,187.4	5,678.9	594.3
Food	500.4	501.8	62.2	52.9	289.6	278.1
Beverages and Tobacco	85.4	74.8	8.8	7.5	45.2	49.5
Crude Materials	28.9	26.4	2.9	2.0	14.0	12.5
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	2,791.3	2,235.8	212.9	250.7	1,447.0	1,529.7
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	9.0	8.5	0.8	0.8	4.9	5.4
Chemicals	447.5	438.3	36.7	44.4	261.9	268.7
Semi-Manufactured Goods	318.5	310.2	27.7	27.0	186.9	186.5
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,567.7	1,664.3	206.1	168.0	1,009.8	912.6
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	408.9	397.9	34.0	33.5	230.7	224.0
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	29.7	20.9	2.4	1.1	15.2	6.7
Exports	4,438.6	3,925.2	294.9	311.5	2,270.1	2,221.0
Food	187.5	212.5	7.0	6.8	96.3	87.5
Beverages and Tobacco	39.7	35.5	2.6	3.9	18.9	26.5
Crude Materials	20.0	15.3	0.8	1.4	9.2	9.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	2,010.8	1,665.7	134.6	143.4	959.5	1,019.4
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	321.2	357.9	26.2	31.9	208.8	212.3
Semi-Manufactured Goods	126.5	117.8	9.7	7.8	68.5	69.0
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,322.2	1,112.4	78.9	90.4	664.9	570.6
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	400.9	404.5	35.0	26.0	241.6	225.3
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	9.7	3.7	0.2	0.0	2.4	1.2
Balance of Trade	-1,748.8	-1,753.7	-299.4	-276.3	-1,235.2	-1,252.7
Food	-312.9	-289.3	-55.2	-46.1	-193.3	-190.6
Beverages and Tobacco	-45.7	-39.3	-6.2	-3.6	-26.3	-23.0
Crude Materials	-8.9	-11.1	-2.1	-0.6	-4.8	-3.4
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-780.6	-570.1	-78.3	-107.3	-487.5	-510.2
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-9.0	-8.5	-0.8	-0.8	-4.9	-5.4
Chemicals	-126.3	-80.4	-10.5	-12.5	-53.1	-56.4
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-191.9	-192.5	-17.9	-19.2	-118.3	-117.5
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-245.5	-551.9	-127.2	-77.6	-344.9	-342.0
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-8.0	6.5	1.0	-7.5	10.9	1.3
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-20.0	-17.1	-2.1	-1.0	-12.9	-5.5

^P Provisional

Notes: The commodity breakdown is in accordance with S.I.T.C. Rev. 3 (see methodological note 8).

Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Direction of trade

€ million

Region and Country	July						January-July					
	2013 ^P			2014 ^P			2013 ^P			2014 ^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	417.7	126.9	-290.8	419.9	95.3	-324.6	2,527.9	902.8	-1,625.1	2,376.2	769.7	-1,606.5
<i>of which:</i>												
European Union	347.4	115.9	-231.5	297.9	78.0	-219.9	2,012.3	736.3	-1,276.1	1,725.2	626.6	-1,098.6
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	28.2	9.4	-18.8	25.3	7.6	-17.7	187.0	62.2	-124.8	180.2	54.2	-126.0
Euro Area	283.2	90.6	-192.6	249.4	56.3	-193.1	1,684.4	581.7	-1,102.7	1,362.5	479.0	-883.5
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	167.4	8.5	-158.8	93.3	6.8	-86.5	906.7	74.6	-832.1	626.4	89.5	-536.9
Netherlands	16.1	2.5	-13.6	68.6	2.7	-65.9	142.0	36.6	-105.4	159.2	25.3	-133.9
Greece	2.1	15.9	13.8	26.8	0.4	-26.3	93.2	56.1	-37.1	42.4	25.1	-17.2
Germany	26.9	31.3	4.4	21.0	29.9	8.9	198.6	206.4	7.8	195.2	193.7	-1.5
France	38.3	25.2	-13.2	17.4	10.2	-7.1	179.8	148.3	-31.4	129.6	96.8	-32.8
Spain	9.4	2.8	-6.6	10.1	3.2	-6.8	68.8	23.7	-45.2	116.2	22.5	-93.7
EFTA Countries	16.0	2.1	-13.9	4.9	1.7	-3.2	94.4	17.7	-76.7	68.9	15.6	-53.3
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	3.3	1.6	-1.7	4.2	1.4	-2.8	30.3	13.3	-17.0	29.9	11.8	-18.2
Other European Countries	54.3	8.9	-45.4	117.1	15.7	-101.5	421.2	148.9	-272.3	582.1	127.5	-454.6
Asia	67.1	56.5	-10.6	70.6	38.9	-31.7	524.5	605.4	80.9	397.3	429.3	32.0
<i>of which:</i>												
China	11.9	2.5	-9.4	15.5	1.0	-14.5	83.9	27.6	-56.3	78.2	13.8	-64.4
Saudi Arabia	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.8	0.1	-11.7	1.1	16.2	15.1	44.6	10.7	-33.8
India	7.8	0.9	-6.9	10.1	1.3	-8.9	51.1	18.1	-32.9	55.4	21.0	-34.4
Turkmenistan	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	0.0	-7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	11.9	4.8
Republic of Korea	6.2	0.4	-5.8	6.4	0.3	-6.1	50.6	4.2	-46.4	34.0	30.2	-3.8
North and Central America	46.2	13.4	-32.9	52.4	14.7	-37.7	120.4	132.5	12.2	402.0	129.9	-272.1
<i>of which:</i>												
United States of America	5.1	10.8	5.7	52.0	10.4	-41.6	68.2	109.7	41.5	381.5	107.2	-274.3
Africa	22.5	25.6	3.1	28.1	114.3	86.2	200.0	367.7	167.7	152.3	630.0	477.7
<i>of which:</i>												
Morocco	1.4	0.1	-1.3	14.9	19.5	4.6	2.0	0.4	-1.6	29.1	19.7	-9.4
Algeria	0.0	0.1	0.1	6.2	0.6	-5.5	33.0	0.9	-32.2	73.8	6.1	-67.7
Libya	13.6	9.1	-4.5	4.7	4.5	-0.1	96.8	163.4	66.6	18.3	156.1	137.8
Australia and Oceania	0.9	1.1	0.2	4.5	2.4	-2.1	13.1	4.6	-8.5	50.5	6.9	-43.6
South America	0.8	0.6	-0.2	0.9	0.5	-0.3	9.1	3.7	-5.4	16.6	5.3	-11.3
Ships and Aircraft Stores	5.0	70.8	65.7	11.5	44.0	32.5	72.4	252.5	180.2	78.7	246.6	167.9
Caribbean and Bahamas Islands	34.0	0.0	-34.0	0.0	1.4	1.4	38.0	0.9	-37.1	0.2	3.4	3.2
Grand Total	594.3	294.9	-299.4	587.8	311.5	-276.3	3,505.3	2,270.1	-1,235.2	3,473.8	2,221.0	-1,252.7

^P Provisional

Arrivals/Dispatches relate to transactions with EU Member States

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Imports/Exports relate to transactions with Non-EU Member States

See note 7 for country groupings.

Table 4. Trade by principal traded commodities

€000

CHP NO	Commodity description	July		January-July	
		2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P
		Main imports			
2	Meat and edible offal	5,100	5,291	28,213	27,994
3	Fish and crustaceans, etc	20,834	15,896	33,973	32,391
4	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	3,666	3,848	24,882	25,750
10	Cereals	4,184	3,446	29,636	17,075
16	Preparations of meat/fish	4,807	4,029	25,737	27,208
19	Preparations of cereals	5,083	4,736	31,988	30,980
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	2,718	2,682	15,639	15,195
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	3,537	3,944	20,731	22,441
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	6,171	5,655	32,047	33,641
23	Food residues and waste	3,361	2,907	18,862	19,365
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	213,820	250,759	1,447,978	1,529,701
29	Organic chemicals	7,165	17,600	60,844	76,037
30	Pharmaceutical products	10,104	10,564	67,978	69,175
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	2,144	2,138	18,485	16,788
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	3,650	3,266	24,480	23,088
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	14,177	10,505	90,509	81,826
48	Paper and paperboard articles	5,429	8,208	48,056	46,090
61	Knitted clothing	3,043	2,954	21,028	21,217
62	Woven clothing	2,457	2,260	19,371	19,923
69	Ceramic products	2,440	2,095	13,379	14,276
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	5,663	3,546	35,981	27,990
73	Articles of iron or steel	3,290	3,775	24,386	30,718
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	21,720	18,803	147,845	147,300
85	Electrical machinery etc.	66,395	48,563	459,215	343,423
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	11,843	8,814	66,915	70,048
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	45,332	6,109	117,919	88,628
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	61,398	86,334	224,692	266,619
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	4,610	5,630	35,328	29,286
91	Clocks and watches/parts	1,013	2,594	5,882	8,810
94	Furniture; bedding, etc;	5,513	4,801	31,417	31,723
		Main exports			
3	Fish and crustaceans, etc	1,011	1,344	20,934	17,118
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,796	4,310	46,428	47,051
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	11	1,490	5,506	11,171
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	134,475	143,211	959,038	1,018,985
29	Organic chemicals	1,580	10,025	25,563	55,599
30	Pharmaceutical products	22,512	20,169	163,237	138,416
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	3,872	2,841	29,053	23,172
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	4,142	4,474	28,271	32,799
49	Printed books, newspapers	8,742	5,034	63,746	56,588
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	2,963	1,681	23,561	17,444
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	2,706	1,232	21,524	18,925
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	7,291	6,591	46,016	58,063
85	Electrical machinery etc.	63,795	53,677	570,515	435,661
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	1,158	1,890	11,720	9,006
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	6,618	27,284	36,889	67,706
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	5,816	3,765	37,847	35,524
91	Clocks and watches/parts	749	1,393	4,712	5,230
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	10,159	9,739	68,918	67,429
99	Special classifications	2,709	2,923	13,279	14,803

^P Provisional

Note: The commodity breakdown is the Harmonised System (HS) Code at chapter level (see methodological note 8).

Methodological Notes

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 is a trade surplus.
5. Data in this release are provisional and therefore subject to revision. Regular revisions to monthly and annual trade data may be carried out for up to two (2) years after the reference period. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
6. Individual countries' data not appearing in this release are available from the NSO upon request.
7.
 - i. The euro area includes Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia (from 2014), Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.
 - ii. The European Union includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia (from July 2013), Cyprus, the Czech Republic, 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. SITC Rev 3: Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3.
HS/CN Codes: Harmonised System (HS) and Combined Nomenclature (CN).
For further information on Classifications used please refer to: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/index.cfm?>