

7 November 2014 | 1100 hrs | 211/2014

Preliminary figures show that Malta registered a trade deficit of €253.3 million in September, compared to €59.1 million in the corresponding month last year.

International Trade: September 2014

Cut-off date:
31 October 2014

Provisional data for international trade show that the trade deficit in September stood at €253.3 million, up by €194.2 million when compared to the corresponding month in 2013. Imports increased by €121.0 million, while exports decreased by €73.2 million (Table 1a). The increase in the value of imports was primarily due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (+€103.3 million). Other increases were recorded for machinery and transport equipment, food, semi-manufactured goods, and miscellaneous transactions and commodities. Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials accounted for the main decline in the value of exports (-€33.3 million). Other decreases were registered for machinery and transport equipment, miscellaneous manufactured articles, food, and miscellaneous transactions and commodities (Table 2).

January-September 2014

During the first nine months this year, the trade deficit widened by €373.0 million, to €1,822.6 million. When compared to the corresponding period last year, imports registered an increase of €215.0 million, while exports decreased by €158.1 million (Table 1a). The increase in imports was mainly due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials, with other increases registered for machinery and transport equipment, chemicals, beverages and tobacco, semi-manufactured goods, and animal and vegetable oils and fats. The decrease in the value of exports was primarily due to machinery and transport equipment (Table 2).

Malta's trade imports from the European Union reached €2,313.9 million, or 49.8 per cent of the total for the period under review (Table 3). There was a drop of €357.1 million in imports from euro area countries when compared to the same period last year. Increases in imports were mainly registered from the United States of America, Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom. Malta's exports to the euro area decreased by €94.4 million ■

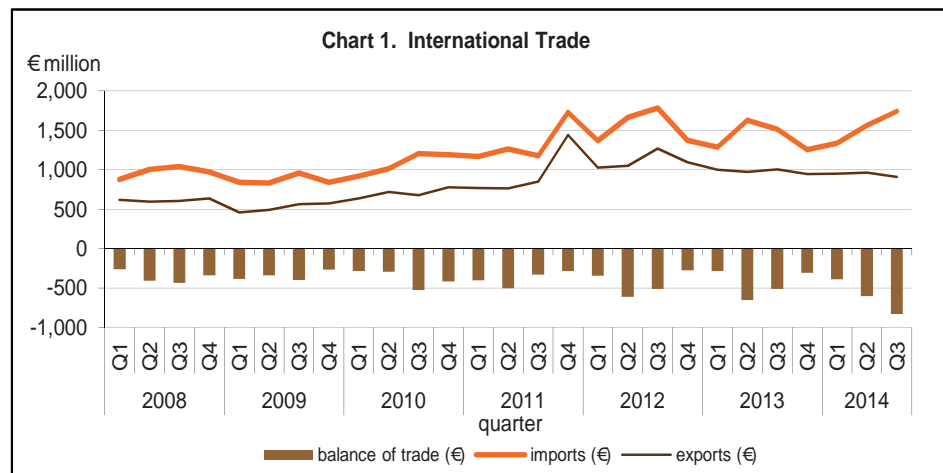
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Table 1a. Trade by final use*

€ million

	2012 ^P	2013 ^P	September		January-September	
			2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P
			Imports	6,187.5	5,684.3	464.0
Industrial Supplies	1,564.9	1,549.4	124.1	108.1	1,175.8	1,018.9
Primary	111.6	95.1	3.7	6.7	72.8	58.5
Semi-Finished	1,302.5	1,294.4	109.5	92.6	984.1	852.9
Finished	150.8	159.9	11.0	8.8	118.9	107.5
Capital Goods and Others	811.0	868.6	64.8	103.4	670.4	818.7
Consumer Goods	1,023.3	1,036.7	91.0	86.1	762.5	788.2
Food and Beverages	427.5	449.0	39.3	41.1	329.0	337.5
Durable Goods	339.4	335.0	29.7	25.8	244.8	257.7
Others	256.4	252.7	22.0	19.1	188.6	193.0
Fuels and Lubricants	2,788.3	2,229.7	184.1	287.4	1,819.3	2,017.1
Exports	4,438.6	3,925.4	404.9	331.7	2,978.4	2,820.3
Balance of Trade	-1,748.9	-1,758.9	-59.1	-253.3	-1,449.6	-1,822.6

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

€ million

	2013 Q2 ^P	2013 Q3 ^P	2013 Q4 ^P	2014 Q1 ^P	2014 Q2 ^P	2014 Q3 ^P
Imports	1,626.7	1,514.9	1,256.3	1,338.3	1,563.6	1,741.0
Industrial Supplies	391.8	385.7	373.5	358.8	318.4	341.8
Primary	21.8	32.3	22.3	11.1	18.9	28.5
Semi-Finished	325.5	319.4	310.3	304.8	264.3	283.8
Finished	44.6	33.9	41.0	42.8	35.2	29.5
Capital Goods and Others	251.1	272.8	198.2	140.7	283.0	395.1
Consumer Goods	260.6	269.3	274.2	238.0	284.3	265.8
Food and Beverages	111.0	122.1	120.0	99.0	118.8	119.6
Durable Goods	85.3	82.8	90.1	78.4	95.3	84.0
Others	64.3	64.5	64.1	60.7	70.2	62.2
Fuels and Lubricants	723.2	587.1	410.4	600.8	678.0	738.3
Exports	974.1	1,003.2	947.0	948.9	961.6	909.8
Balance of Trade	-652.6	-511.7	-309.3	-389.4	-602.0	-831.2

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

€ million

	2012 ^P	2013 ^P	September		January-September	
			2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P
			Total Exports	4,438.6	3,925.4	404.9
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	2,010.7	1,665.7	190.6	157.3	1,291.0	1,302.1
Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants	2,427.9	2,259.8	214.3	174.4	1,687.4	1,518.3

* 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	September		January-September	
			2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P
Imports	6,187.5	5,684.3	464.0	585.0	4,428.0	4,643.0
Food	500.4	502.0	39.6	44.4	369.2	361.4
Beverages and Tobacco	85.4	74.8	6.5	6.0	58.1	65.5
Crude Materials	28.9	26.4	3.2	1.9	20.7	18.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	2,791.3	2,235.8	184.1	287.4	1,825.3	2,018.0
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	9.0	8.5	0.7	0.7	6.2	6.6
Chemicals	447.5	439.1	41.7	40.6	337.9	349.8
Semi-Manufactured Goods	318.5	310.6	24.5	26.6	232.6	240.0
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,567.7	1,668.0	123.9	145.4	1,262.6	1,286.3
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	408.9	398.4	38.7	30.9	297.9	288.3
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	29.7	20.9	1.1	1.2	17.5	8.9
Exports	4,438.6	3,925.4	404.9	331.7	2,978.4	2,820.3
Food	187.5	212.5	8.9	6.7	108.7	97.8
Beverages and Tobacco	39.7	35.5	3.9	5.0	26.2	36.0
Crude Materials	20.0	15.3	1.2	1.5	11.2	12.3
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	2,010.8	1,665.7	190.6	157.3	1,291.0	1,302.1
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	321.2	358.1	31.4	36.5	269.4	275.4
Semi-Manufactured Goods	126.5	117.8	8.7	9.0	89.9	88.5
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,322.2	1,112.4	120.7	90.6	866.4	731.9
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	400.9	404.5	39.3	25.1	312.6	275.1
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	9.7	3.7	0.3	0.0	2.9	1.3
Balance of Trade	-1,748.9	-1,758.9	-59.1	-253.3	-1,449.6	-1,822.6
Food	-312.9	-289.5	-30.7	-37.7	-260.6	-263.6
Beverages and Tobacco	-45.7	-39.3	-2.5	-1.0	-31.9	-29.5
Crude Materials	-8.9	-11.1	-2.1	-0.4	-9.6	-5.8
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-780.6	-570.1	6.5	-130.1	-534.2	-715.9
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-9.0	-8.5	-0.6	-0.7	-6.2	-6.6
Chemicals	-126.3	-81.0	-10.3	-4.2	-68.4	-74.5
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-191.9	-192.8	-15.9	-17.6	-142.7	-151.5
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-245.5	-555.5	-3.3	-54.8	-396.2	-554.4
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-8.0	6.1	0.6	-5.8	14.8	-13.3
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-20.0	-17.1	-0.8	-1.1	-14.6	-7.6

^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	September						January-September					
	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	345.0	110.9	-234.2	334.3	116.8	-217.5	3,236.1	1,149.2	-2,086.8	3,142.7	995.9	-2,146.7
<i>of which:</i>												
European Union	298.7	105.9	-192.8	243.0	102.8	-140.2	2,610.9	930.5	-1,680.4	2,313.9	819.6	-1,494.3
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	26.6	6.9	-19.7	75.8	6.9	-68.8	235.0	78.9	-156.1	282.4	69.6	-212.8
Euro Area	223.7	84.2	-139.5	147.8	81.0	-66.7	2,138.3	719.1	-1,419.2	1,781.2	624.7	-1,156.4
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	116.2	7.5	-108.7	82.4	14.2	-68.2	1,157.4	87.6	-1,069.8	850.7	111.3	-739.4
Germany	25.1	45.8	20.7	20.2	21.6	1.5	244.7	275.5	30.7	238.8	239.2	0.4
France	20.8	23.0	2.3	17.6	21.4	3.8	221.5	189.3	-32.2	164.1	143.6	-20.5
Netherlands	10.9	2.0	-8.9	10.1	3.0	-7.2	164.8	40.7	-124.2	185.0	30.2	-154.8
Belgium	14.0	0.6	-13.5	6.4	0.9	-5.6	73.3	7.4	-65.8	66.2	6.0	-60.1
Spain	20.8	3.1	-17.7	5.0	2.0	-3.1	113.2	28.5	-84.6	148.6	26.0	-122.6
EFTA Countries	3.8	2.0	-1.8	3.4	2.2	-1.2	103.9	21.3	-82.5	74.7	19.2	-55.4
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	3.5	1.8	-1.6	3.2	1.2	-2.0	39.3	16.5	-22.9	35.2	14.2	-20.9
Other European Countries	42.5	3.0	-39.5	87.9	11.8	-76.1	521.3	197.4	-323.9	754.1	157.1	-597.0
Asia	94.3	91.4	-2.8	57.5	53.5	-4.1	676.9	783.7	106.8	516.4	520.3	3.9
<i>of which:</i>												
China	13.4	5.7	-7.7	11.7	1.4	-10.3	108.1	38.2	-70.0	105.6	15.9	-89.8
Saudi Arabia	5.2	7.7	2.4	9.7	0.4	-9.3	6.5	24.1	17.6	61.7	11.2	-50.5
India	7.9	1.5	-6.4	8.1	0.8	-7.3	66.0	21.2	-44.8	72.6	22.9	-49.7
Republic of Korea	4.5	0.2	-4.2	6.7	0.4	-6.4	62.9	4.6	-58.2	48.6	31.5	-17.1
Singapore	5.2	20.4	15.2	5.8	17.4	11.6	68.7	212.0	143.3	41.5	134.9	93.3
North and Central America	7.3	17.1	9.8	147.0	14.0	-133.0	140.8	165.5	24.7	587.1	155.1	-431.9
<i>of which:</i>												
United States of America	5.7	14.1	8.5	119.1	10.9	-108.2	86.6	136.8	50.2	538.1	126.4	-411.7
Africa	14.5	70.3	55.7	30.3	42.1	11.8	231.4	460.2	228.8	218.6	739.2	520.6
<i>of which:</i>												
Morocco	1.1	0.0	-1.1	13.7	0.0	-13.6	4.0	1.1	-2.9	43.3	19.9	-23.3
Egypt	0.6	41.9	41.3	8.9	27.1	18.2	8.3	157.6	149.2	25.2	366.2	341.0
Tunisia	0.2	0.6	0.3	4.3	1.7	-2.6	6.1	8.1	2.0	16.5	107.9	91.4
Australia and Oceania	1.1	2.1	1.0	13.1	1.6	-11.6	14.8	7.5	-7.3	79.3	9.6	-69.7
South America	1.6	5.0	3.3	2.7	2.2	-0.5	14.1	9.6	-4.5	19.9	13.8	-6.1
Ships and Aircraft Stores	0.2	108.1	107.9	0.0	101.1	101.1	75.9	401.6	325.7	78.8	382.2	303.3
Caribbean and Bahamas Islands	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.4	38.0	1.1	-36.8	0.2	4.3	4.0
Grand Total	464.0	404.9	-59.1	585.0	331.7	-253.3	4,428.0	2,978.4	-1,449.6	4,643.0	2,820.3	-1,822.6

^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	September		January-September	
		2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P
		Main imports			
2	Meat and edible offal	3,434	4,324	35,419	37,171
3	Fish and crustaceans, etc	4,427	8,456	43,630	45,220
4	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	4,264	3,840	32,635	33,312
16	Preparations of meat/fish	3,341	4,034	32,639	35,701
17	Sugars and sugar confectionary	1,950	2,494	18,302	15,432
18	Cocoa and cocoa preparations	2,499	2,271	13,388	13,060
19	Preparations of cereals	4,953	5,604	41,461	41,202
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	2,710	3,205	26,180	29,064
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	4,293	4,525	41,855	43,686
23	Food residues and waste	3,023	2,290	24,525	23,483
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	184,159	287,424	1,826,216	2,018,020
29	Organic chemicals	14,315	16,085	82,909	105,932
30	Pharmaceutical products	8,350	7,736	84,282	87,283
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	2,515	2,479	23,068	21,021
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	3,564	4,040	31,746	29,942
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	10,742	9,715	113,361	103,618
48	Paper and paperboard articles	7,639	6,722	60,520	56,429
49	Printed books, newspapers	2,955	2,762	15,243	15,657
61	Knitted clothing	4,230	3,770	28,612	29,692
62	Woven clothing	3,560	3,215	25,321	26,814
64	Footwear, gaiters etc.and parts	2,497	2,336	16,172	18,263
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	7,502	2,516	46,209	33,217
73	Articles of iron or steel	2,329	5,032	29,634	41,101
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	16,373	18,513	180,014	183,545
85	Electrical machinery etc.	57,851	42,489	578,080	436,332
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	7,704	8,073	83,174	89,800
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	6,757	4,702	131,867	101,337
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	36,256	71,907	297,418	479,328
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	2,969	5,209	41,988	37,923
94	Furniture; bedding, etc;	4,327	3,511	39,398	39,757
		Main exports			
3	Fish and crustaceans, etc	1,181	1,426	23,015	19,753
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,820	3,944	52,816	52,760
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	763	1,437	6,774	8,476
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	1,349	1,726	7,772	14,973
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	190,545	157,200	1,290,361	1,301,367
29	Organic chemicals	5,861	12,132	38,660	74,325
30	Pharmaceutical products	22,633	21,588	206,376	178,724
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	4,369	2,842	37,409	28,853
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	3,989	3,845	36,740	41,029
49	Printed books, newspapers	13,266	4,997	85,659	66,060
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	2,780	2,026	29,553	20,497
73	Articles of iron or steel	915	1,592	11,340	14,037
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	5,553	8,626	57,477	74,804
85	Electrical machinery etc.	88,921	75,937	730,545	567,355
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	25,666	4,468	65,331	77,800
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	4,921	6,141	46,736	47,106
91	Clocks and watches/parts	779	1,472	5,998	7,241
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	8,443	7,120	87,113	82,102
99	Special classifications	2,893	3,112	19,133	20,904

^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?>