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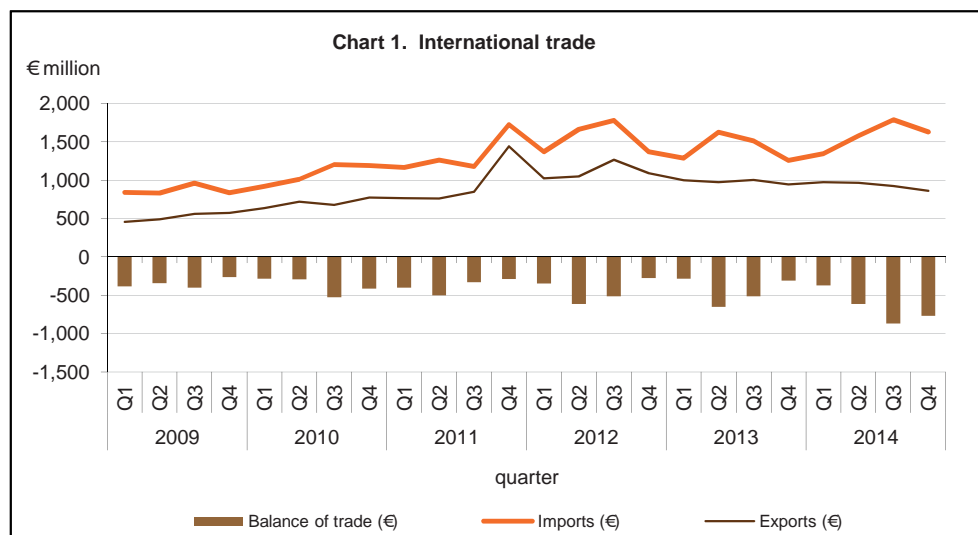
Preliminary figures show that Malta registered a trade deficit of €99.6 million in January, compared to €108.3 million in the corresponding month in 2014.

International Trade: January 2015

Cut-off date:
3 March 2015

Provisional data for international trade show that the trade deficit in January stood at €99.6 million, down by €8.7 million when compared to the corresponding month in 2014. Both imports and exports registered decreases of €67.6 million and €58.9 million respectively (Table 1a). The decrease in the value of imports was primarily due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€46.8 million). Other decreases were recorded for semi-manufactured goods, food, machinery and transport equipment, miscellaneous manufactured articles, chemicals, and beverages and tobacco. Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials accounted for the main decrease in exports (€40.6 million). Other decreases were recorded for all commodity groups except for miscellaneous manufactured articles (Table 2).

During January, imports from the European Union reached €186.2 million, or 48.0 per cent of total imports. There was a drop of €10.0 million in imports from euro area countries when compared to January 2014. Main increases and decreases in imports were registered from Turkey (€24.6 million) and the United Kingdom (€12.6 million) respectively. On the export side the main increase was directed to Egypt (€47.8 million), with the United States of America (€35.9 million) registering the highest decrease (Table 3) ■



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Table 1a. Trade by broad economic category

€ million

Broad economic category	January-December				January	
	2011 ^P	2012 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2014 ^P	2015 ^P
Imports	5,339.6	6,187.6	5,686.3	6,350.2	455.9	388.3
Industrial Supplies	1,549.1	1,565.0	1,549.6	1,400.3	113.4	104.7
Primary	52.3	111.6	95.1	80.9	6.1	2.0
Semi-Finished	1,362.7	1,302.5	1,294.5	1,169.4	92.9	85.8
Finished	134.2	150.9	160.0	150.0	14.5	16.9
Capital Goods and Others	876.0	811.0	868.7	1,295.7	38.3	31.3
Consumer Goods	980.7	1,023.3	1,038.3	1,094.0	74.9	69.7
Food and Beverages	404.2	427.5	449.2	464.6	32.4	28.5
Durable Goods	338.6	339.4	335.3	365.5	24.1	22.1
Others	237.8	256.4	253.8	263.9	18.4	19.1
Fuels and Lubricants	1,933.8	2,788.3	2,229.7	2,560.2	229.3	182.6
Exports	3,819.0	4,438.8	3,925.5	3,727.6	347.6	288.7
Balance of Trade	-1,520.6	-1,748.7	-1,760.8	-2,622.5	-108.3	-99.6

^P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 1b. Trade by broad economic category - last six quarters

€ million

Broad economic category	2013Q3 ^P	2013Q4 ^P	2014Q1 ^P	2014Q2 ^P	2014Q3 ^P	2014Q4 ^P
	Imports	1,515.5	1,257.2	1,347.7	1,581.0	1,791.1
Industrial Supplies	385.7	373.7	362.9	325.6	352.6	359.2
Primary	32.3	22.3	11.1	19.0	29.8	20.9
Semi-Finished	319.4	310.4	308.7	271.1	292.5	297.0
Finished	34.0	41.1	43.1	35.5	30.2	41.2
Capital Goods and Others	272.8	198.2	143.0	289.6	400.5	462.6
Consumer Goods	269.8	274.9	241.0	287.8	281.1	284.1
Food and Beverages	122.2	120.0	99.4	119.6	125.1	120.5
Durable Goods	82.9	90.3	80.3	96.9	90.0	98.4
Others	64.7	64.5	61.3	71.3	66.0	65.3
Fuels and Lubricants	587.1	410.4	600.8	678.0	756.8	524.5
Exports	1,003.3	947.0	973.9	968.5	923.7	861.5
Balance of Trade	-512.2	-310.2	-373.8	-612.5	-867.4	-768.9

^P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 1c. Exports net of fuels and lubricants

€ million

Broad economic activity	January-December				January	
	2011 ^P	2012 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2014 ^P	2015 ^P
Total Exports	3,819.0	4,438.8	3,925.5	3,727.6	347.6	288.7
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	1,621.7	2,010.7	1,665.7	1,608.2	178.0	137.3
Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants	2,197.3	2,428.2	2,259.8	2,119.4	169.7	151.4

^P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Balance of trade by major commodity group

€ million

Major commodity group	January-December				January	
	2011 ^P	2012 ^P	2013 ^P	2014 ^P	2014 ^P	2015 ^P
Imports	5,339.6	6,187.6	5,686.3	6,350.2	455.9	388.3
Food	425.5	500.4	502.2	498.7	38.0	29.6
Beverages and Tobacco	64.1	85.4	74.8	88.3	3.6	3.4
Crude Materials	23.7	28.9	26.4	24.1	1.2	1.4
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,943.2	2,791.3	2,235.8	2,562.5	229.4	182.6
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	8.6	9.1	8.5	8.7	0.6	0.7
Chemicals	434.1	447.5	440.0	500.2	41.6	41.2
Semi-Manufactured Goods	331.2	318.5	310.9	337.2	30.7	19.3
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,695.2	1,567.8	1,668.1	1,904.7	82.5	81.6
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	379.6	408.9	398.7	413.8	27.7	27.1
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	34.4	29.7	20.9	11.9	0.6	1.4
Exports	3,819.0	4,438.8	3,925.5	3,727.6	347.6	288.7
Food	129.9	187.5	212.5	197.7	17.0	13.3
Beverages and Tobacco	21.6	39.7	35.5	45.3	3.5	2.5
Crude Materials	19.8	20.0	15.3	16.1	1.7	1.5
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,621.7	2,010.8	1,665.7	1,608.2	177.9	137.3
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	258.8	321.4	358.2	376.3	26.8	26.6
Semi-Manufactured Goods	132.9	126.5	117.8	113.5	15.5	12.7
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,241.3	1,322.2	1,112.4	995.0	75.4	64.7
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	383.2	400.9	404.5	374.1	29.7	29.9
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	9.8	9.7	3.7	1.3	0.2	0.1
Balance of Trade	-1,520.6	-1,748.7	-1,760.8	-2,622.5	-108.3	-99.6
Food	-295.6	-312.9	-289.7	-301.0	-21.0	-16.3
Beverages and Tobacco	-42.6	-45.7	-39.3	-43.0	-0.2	-0.9
Crude Materials	-3.9	-8.9	-11.1	-8.0	0.5	0.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-321.5	-780.6	-570.1	-954.3	-51.5	-45.3
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-8.6	-9.1	-8.5	-8.6	-0.6	-0.7
Chemicals	-175.3	-126.1	-81.9	-123.9	-14.8	-14.5
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-198.4	-191.9	-193.1	-223.7	-15.2	-6.6
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-453.9	-245.6	-555.7	-909.7	-7.2	-17.0
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	3.6	-8.1	5.8	-39.7	2.0	2.9
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-24.5	-19.9	-17.1	-10.6	-0.4	-1.2

^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

€ million

Region and country	January					
	2014 ^P			2015 ^P		
	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade
Europe	309.5	117.0	-192.4	267.8	72.3	-195.6
<i>of which:</i>						
European Union	204.8	91.9	-112.9	186.2	65.9	-120.4
<i>of which:</i>						
United Kingdom	32.7	7.5	-25.2	20.1	5.6	-14.5
Euro Area	148.1	69.5	-78.6	138.1	54.3	-83.8
<i>of which:</i>						
Italy	83.5	9.8	-73.7	76.0	14.1	-62.0
Germany	21.1	33.3	12.3	23.3	17.9	-5.4
France	15.0	18.3	3.3	11.9	13.2	1.3
Spain	7.2	2.3	-4.9	10.3	3.0	-7.2
Netherlands	8.5	2.0	-6.5	7.4	3.0	-4.4
Belgium	5.6	1.1	-4.5	4.3	0.2	-4.0
EFTA Countries	3.8	2.5	-1.2	3.0	3.3	0.3
<i>of which:</i>						
Switzerland	3.2	1.6	-1.7	2.4	2.9	0.5
Other European Countries	100.9	22.6	-78.3	78.5	3.1	-75.5
<i>of which:</i>						
Turkey	25.8	2.1	-23.7	50.4	2.6	-47.8
Asia	62.0	67.4	5.4	58.9	69.8	10.9
<i>of which:</i>						
China	11.3	2.3	-9.0	14.3	20.7	6.4
India	9.8	3.3	-6.6	8.6	0.7	-8.0
Singapore	3.5	22.9	19.4	8.3	9.7	1.3
Saudi Arabia	7.5	4.1	-3.5	7.4	7.7	0.3
Japan	3.6	9.4	5.8	5.5	1.2	-4.2
North and Central America	59.1	47.2	-11.8	55.1	11.8	-43.3
<i>of which:</i>						
United States of America	58.3	43.8	-14.5	54.3	7.9	-46.5
Africa	20.4	55.4	35.0	2.3	103.9	101.6
<i>of which:</i>						
Egypt	4.1	14.8	10.7	1.1	62.6	61.5
Australia and Oceania	0.5	0.6	0.1	1.4	0.6	-0.8
South America	4.5	0.4	-4.1	2.7	0.4	-2.3
Ships and Aircraft Stores	0.0	59.2	59.2	0.1	29.9	29.8
Caribbean and Bahamas Islands	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grand Total	455.9	347.6	-108.3	388.3	288.7	-99.6

^P Provisional

Notes:

1. Arrivals/Dispatches relate to transactions with EU Member States.
2. Imports/Exports relate to transactions with Non-EU Member States (see methodological note 8 for country groupings).
3. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Trade by principal traded commodities

€ 000

Chapter number	Commodity description	January	
		2014 ^P	2015 ^P
Main imports			
2	Meat and edible offal	3,956	3,562
4	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	3,442	2,956
8	Edible fruit and nuts	2,535	1,937
16	Preparations of meat/fish	3,956	3,096
19	Preparations of cereals	4,390	4,026
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	1,895	1,528
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	2,291	2,162
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	3,123	2,506
23	Food residues and waste	3,392	2,949
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	229,356	182,625
29	Organic chemicals	14,909	14,856
30	Pharmaceutical products	10,388	10,376
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	2,455	1,872
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	2,368	2,008
34	Soap, etc, lubricants, waxes, dental preparations	1,424	1,516
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	10,587	11,060
48	Paper and paperboard articles	8,043	6,172
49	Printed books, newspapers	1,509	1,737
61	Knitted clothing	3,005	3,234
62	Woven clothing	2,357	2,315
64	Footwear, gaiters etc.and parts	1,175	1,667
69	Ceramic products	1,575	1,492
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	3,650	2,639
73	Articles of iron or steel	9,075	2,750
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	23,883	16,151
85	Electrical machinery etc.	37,666	43,219
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	9,979	9,919
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	8,438	12,730
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	4,485	6,954
94	Furniture; bedding, etc;	3,403	2,976
Main exports			
19	Preparations of cereals	3,292	4,026
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,849	7,531
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	177,955	137,249
29	Organic chemicals	4,626	5,078
30	Pharmaceutical products	19,265	19,253
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	4,314	2,683
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	5,601	5,231
49	Printed books, newspapers	3,954	9,208
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	3,050	2,159
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	3,719	1,416
73	Articles of iron or steel	4,483	4,192
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	10,679	9,267
85	Electrical machinery etc.	50,492	52,852
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	873	1,561
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	13,182	1,047
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	4,744	4,241
91	Clocks and watches/parts	482	1,354
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	9,412	9,369
99	Special classifications	1,308	1,247

^P Provisional

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

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. This News Release is based on data available as on the cut-off date printed on the front page of this release. These are provisional figures based on information provided by traders 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. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
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 at <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=7>.
7. Individual countries' data not appearing in this release are available from the NSO upon request.
8.
 - 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, 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.
9. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=7>
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