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Preliminary figures show that Malta registered a trade deficit of €253.3 million in June 2015, compared to €357.4 million in the corresponding month of 2014.

International Trade: June 2015

Cut-off date:
03 August 2015

Provisional data for international trade show that the trade deficit in June stood at €253.3 million, down by €104.1 million when compared to the corresponding month of 2014. Imports declined by €80.5 million while exports registered an increase of €23.5 million (Table 1a). The decrease in the value of imports was primarily due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€61.8 million). Other decreases were recorded for machinery and transport equipment, food, beverages and tobacco, and crude materials. Regarding exports, mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials accounted for the main increase (€32.8 million), with food, and machinery and transport equipment also registering increases (Table 2).

January-June 2015

During the first six months, the trade deficit widened by €459.9 million, to €1,449.9 million when compared to the corresponding period last year. Imports increased by €269.7 million, while exports registered a decline of €190.2 million (Table 1a). Higher imports were mainly due to machinery and transport equipment (€667.6 million), while the decrease in the value of exports was triggered by lower mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€203.1 million), and machinery and transport equipment (€8.7 million) (Table 2).

Malta's trade imports from the European Union reached €1,806.3 million, or 56.4 per cent of total imports. There was an increase of €272.1 million in imports from euro area countries when compared to the same period last year. Main increases and decreases in imports were registered from the Netherlands (€239.8 million) and the United States of America (€177.7 million) respectively. On the export side the main increase was directed to China (€18.1 million), whereas Libya (€80.0 million) registered the highest decrease (Table 3) ■

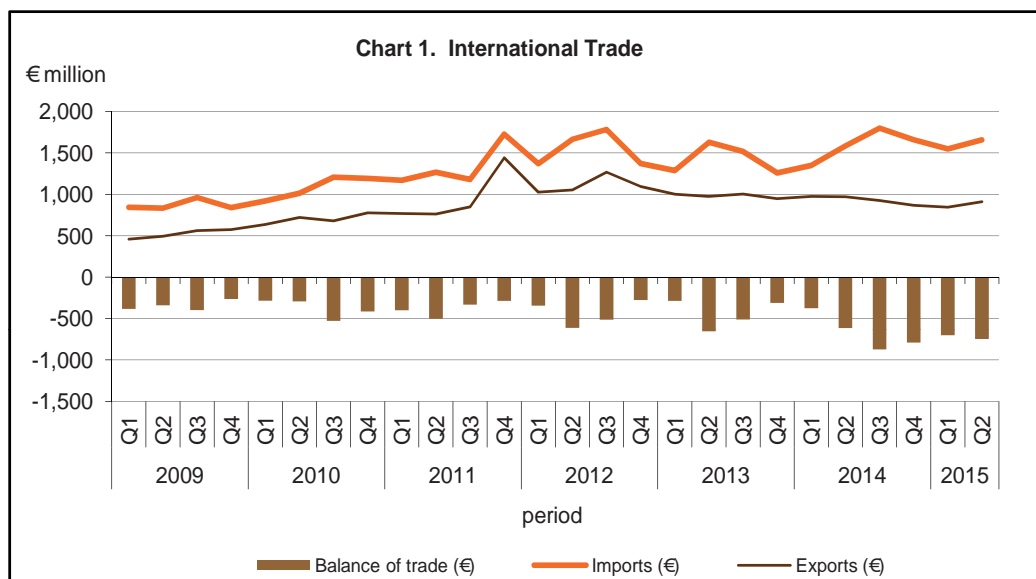
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Table 1a. Trade by period and broad economic category

€ million

Broad economic category	2013 ^P	2014 ^P	June		January-June	
			2014 ^P	2015 ^P	2014 ^P	2015 ^P
Imports	5,689.0	6,391.2	644.0	563.5	2,934.2	3,203.9
Industrial Supplies	1,549.8	1,409.4	108.5	106.6	689.5	675.8
Primary	95.1	81.2	11.5	4.8	29.6	28.1
Semi-Finished	1,294.7	1,177.3	85.6	86.0	581.2	548.0
Finished	160.0	151.0	11.4	15.7	78.6	99.7
Capital Goods and Others	868.8	1,307.1	182.7	158.3	433.1	1,105.8
Consumer Goods	1,040.7	1,113.6	92.9	100.4	532.7	548.2
Food and Beverages	451.0	471.6	40.9	41.0	220.8	216.7
Durable Goods	335.5	372.8	30.0	33.5	177.9	193.6
Others	254.2	269.1	22.0	25.9	134.0	138.0
Fuels and Lubricants	2,229.7	2,561.1	259.9	198.2	1,278.9	874.0
Exports	3,925.5	3,737.0	286.6	310.1	1,944.2	1,754.0
Balance of Trade	-1,763.5	-2,654.2	-357.4	-253.3	-990.0	-1,449.9

^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	2014 Q1 ^P	2014 Q2 ^P	2014 Q3 ^P	2014 Q4 ^P	2015 Q1 ^P	2015 Q2 ^P
Industrial Supplies	363.3	326.2	354.7	365.3	343.7	332.2
Primary	11.1	18.5	30.4	21.2	16.7	11.4
Semi-Finished	309.1	272.2	293.9	302.1	276.1	271.9
Finished	43.1	35.5	30.4	42.0	50.9	48.9
Capital Goods and Others	143.1	290.0	401.6	472.4	469.3	636.5
Consumer Goods	242.2	290.5	284.9	296.0	259.6	288.6
Food and Beverages	100.0	120.9	126.1	124.7	98.9	117.8
Durable Goods	80.5	97.4	91.4	103.6	93.7	99.9
Others	61.7	72.3	67.3	67.7	67.1	70.9
Fuels and Lubricants	600.8	678.1	756.8	525.4	474.5	399.5
Exports	974.1	970.1	925.3	867.5	844.7	909.3
Balance of Trade	-375.3	-614.7	-872.7	-791.5	-702.3	-747.5

^P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 1c. Exports net of fuels and lubricants by period

€ million

Broad economic category	2013 ^P	2014 ^P	June		January-June	
			2014 ^P	2015 ^P	2014 ^P	2015 ^P
Total Exports	3,925.5	3,737.0	286.6	310.1	1,944.2	1,754.0
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	1,665.7	1,608.2	99.2	132.0	879.5	675.0
Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants	2,259.8	2,128.8	187.4	178.1	1,064.6	1,079.1

^P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

€ million

Major commodity group	2013 ^P	2014 ^P	June		January-June	
			2014 ^P	2015 ^P	2014 ^P	2015 ^P
Imports	5,689.0	6,391.2	644.0	563.5	2,934.2	3,203.9
Food	503.9	504.8	47.3	39.8	229.6	221.4
Beverages and Tobacco	74.8	89.6	9.6	9.1	44.1	40.2
Crude Materials	26.4	24.4	2.1	1.9	10.8	11.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	2,235.8	2,563.5	260.0	198.2	1,279.1	875.5
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	8.5	8.7	1.0	1.0	4.7	4.6
Chemicals	440.7	506.3	31.8	37.1	235.8	237.5
Semi-Manufactured Goods	311.0	341.9	27.1	29.2	165.5	169.0
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,668.2	1,918.9	233.1	210.7	760.0	1,427.6
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	398.9	421.3	31.6	35.9	199.0	209.3
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	20.9	11.9	0.5	0.7	5.7	7.8
Exports	3,925.5	3,737.0	286.6	310.1	1,944.2	1,754.0
Food	212.5	197.8	7.0	9.3	80.8	98.6
Beverages and Tobacco	35.5	45.3	3.7	3.7	22.7	18.5
Crude Materials	15.3	16.1	1.9	1.3	7.8	9.4
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,665.7	1,608.2	99.2	132.0	879.5	676.4
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	358.2	376.4	36.9	29.5	180.5	178.3
Semi-Manufactured Goods	117.8	116.0	9.3	6.6	63.4	60.2
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,112.4	1,000.2	95.3	96.2	505.5	496.8
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	404.5	375.6	33.3	31.4	202.8	215.5
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	3.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.3
Balance of Trade	-1,763.5	-2,654.2	-357.4	-253.3	-990.0	-1,449.9
Food	-291.4	-307.0	-40.2	-30.4	-148.8	-122.8
Beverages and Tobacco	-39.4	-44.2	-6.0	-5.4	-21.4	-21.7
Crude Materials	-11.1	-8.3	-0.2	-0.6	-3.0	-1.7
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-570.1	-955.2	-160.8	-66.1	-399.5	-199.1
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-8.5	-8.7	-1.0	-1.0	-4.7	-4.6
Chemicals	-82.5	-130.0	5.1	-7.6	-55.2	-59.1
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-193.2	-225.8	-17.8	-22.6	-102.1	-108.9
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-555.7	-918.7	-137.8	-114.4	-254.5	-930.7
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	5.6	-45.6	1.8	-4.5	3.8	6.2
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-17.1	-10.6	-0.5	-0.7	-4.5	-7.6

^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 by period

€ million

Region and Country	June						January-June					
	2014 ^P			2015 ^P			2014 ^P			2015 ^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	376.4	112.9	-263.4	393.9	95.3	-298.6	1,999.8	705.3	-1,294.5	2,192.2	549.9	-1,642.3
European Union	278.6	81.8	-196.7	339.4	91.8	-247.6	1,470.7	579.6	-891.1	1,806.3	509.7	-1,296.6
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	24.4	8.1	-16.3	45.4	10.3	-35.1	161.7	47.6	-114.1	221.1	61.3	-159.9
Euro Area	238.4	59.6	-178.8	270.9	70.3	-200.6	1,147.8	451.8	-696.0	1,419.9	390.1	-1,029.8
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	99.4	9.8	-89.6	117.7	12.2	-105.5	551.2	103.7	-447.5	589.8	63.0	-526.8
Netherlands	39.4	3.1	-36.3	42.5	2.2	-40.3	94.5	22.8	-71.6	334.3	15.8	-318.5
Spain	34.2	2.4	-31.9	27.7	3.5	-24.2	107.9	19.5	-88.4	81.3	20.1	-61.2
Belgium	6.3	0.6	-5.8	27.4	0.5	-26.9	49.0	4.1	-44.9	90.6	3.4	-87.2
Germany	25.6	24.2	-1.4	26.3	22.1	-4.2	179.0	167.1	-11.9	158.3	164.0	5.8
France	24.9	16.6	-8.2	19.3	26.3	7.0	114.8	90.6	-24.3	97.4	107.2	9.8
EFTA Countries	10.9	1.7	-9.2	4.1	2.1	-2.0	64.1	13.9	-50.1	23.8	16.4	-7.4
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	10.1	1.5	-8.6	3.9	1.7	-2.1	25.8	10.4	-15.4	20.1	14.1	-6.0
Other European Countries	86.9	29.5	-57.4	50.4	1.5	-48.9	465.0	111.8	-353.2	362.0	23.8	-338.3
Asia	54.8	70.0	15.2	55.6	55.2	-0.4	331.4	393.7	62.3	335.9	360.5	24.6
<i>of which:</i>												
China	11.1	1.4	-9.7	15.5	1.8	-13.7	62.7	12.8	-49.8	93.2	30.9	-62.3
India	6.0	1.1	-4.8	9.2	0.8	-8.4	45.3	19.7	-25.6	48.8	13.0	-35.9
Singapore	3.7	16.5	12.9	7.5	16.2	8.6	23.9	95.7	71.7	42.3	82.1	39.8
Kazakhstan	0.1	0.0	-0.1	5.3	0.0	-5.3	0.1	0.0	-0.1	5.3	0.0	-5.3
Japan	2.1	2.2	0.1	3.7	2.1	-1.6	21.0	20.2	-0.8	33.8	10.7	-23.2
North and Central America	77.5	12.6	-64.9	26.3	15.8	-10.4	349.7	116.2	-233.5	466.3	91.9	-374.4
<i>of which:</i>												
United States of America	77.0	9.3	-67.7	25.9	11.1	-14.8	329.6	97.7	-231.9	151.9	63.2	-88.7
Africa	47.8	67.9	20.1	8.2	69.8	61.6	124.2	515.7	391.5	50.9	485.8	434.9
<i>of which:</i>												
Libya	4.8	7.7	2.9	4.2	13.1	8.9	13.6	151.6	137.9	16.3	71.6	55.3
Australia and Oceania	43.4	1.1	-42.3	29.1	1.4	-27.6	46.0	4.0	-42.1	32.8	9.1	-23.7
South America	3.2	0.3	-2.9	2.3	0.3	-2.0	15.7	4.7	-11.0	12.0	7.0	-5.0
Ships and Aircraft Stores	40.9	20.6	-20.3	0.1	72.1	72.0	67.2	202.7	135.4	23.5	248.5	225.1
Caribbean and Bahamas Islands	0.0	1.2	1.2	48.1	0.1	-48.0	0.2	2.0	1.8	90.4	1.4	-89.1
Grand Total	644.0	286.6	-357.4	563.5	310.1	-253.3	2,934.2	1,944.2	-990.0	3,203.9	1,754.0	-1,449.9

^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 period and principal traded commodities

€ 000

Chapter number	Commodity description	June		January-June	
		2014 ^P	2015 ^P	2014 ^P	2015 ^P
Main imports					
2	Meat and edible offal	4,359	5,194	22,860	25,275
3	Fish and crustaceans, etc	10,933	3,866	16,880	9,083
4	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	3,895	4,043	22,045	21,154
8	Edible fruit and nuts	2,637	2,528	16,794	14,497
16	Preparations of meat/fish	3,554	3,958	23,356	20,893
19	Preparations of cereals	4,726	5,596	26,690	28,973
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	2,492	2,303	12,833	12,521
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	3,986	3,759	19,241	18,072
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	6,656	6,323	28,984	29,011
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	3,068	2,918	15,468	11,587
25	Salt/sulphur/earths/plastering materials and cement	1,862	2,081	9,760	11,725
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	259,951	198,178	1,279,108	875,504
29	Organic chemicals	4,383	6,197	63,271	58,251
30	Pharmaceutical products	9,073	12,428	59,577	68,519
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	2,160	2,568	15,192	14,898
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	3,674	3,399	21,048	20,099
38	Miscellaneous chemical products	2,116	2,085	11,719	11,357
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	12,495	13,655	73,861	75,092
48	Paper and paperboard articles	4,845	7,701	38,613	40,909
61	Knitted clothing	2,954	2,889	19,337	20,176
62	Woven clothing	2,214	3,551	18,847	20,069
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	3,706	3,171	24,607	20,598
73	Articles of iron or steel	4,115	3,948	28,031	28,889
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	19,713	21,474	131,423	124,506
85	Electrical machinery etc.	45,848	46,787	299,221	279,906
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	11,483	12,366	65,228	72,592
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	28,154	12,115	82,525	393,083
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	128,222	119,610	184,292	563,105
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	3,488	5,437	25,463	32,881
94	Furniture; bedding, etc;	5,152	6,811	28,641	31,894
Main exports					
3	Fish and crustaceans, etc	1,415	2,391	15,773	13,288
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,258	5,034	42,757	48,530
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	99,089	131,970	879,273	675,987
29	Organic chemicals	12,065	1,842	45,574	34,631
30	Pharmaceutical products	22,571	23,559	118,406	121,912
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	1,314	2,065	9,743	9,440
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	3,146	4,370	22,201	26,284
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	4,284	1,754	28,518	26,626
49	Printed books, newspapers	7,723	8,446	51,555	65,019
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	2,579	2,355	15,763	13,198
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	2,321	1,246	17,695	9,057
73	Articles of iron or steel	1,116	1,105	8,807	11,415
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	9,817	6,575	51,780	55,603
85	Electrical machinery etc.	81,735	80,185	406,537	379,996
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	1,751	4,285	7,723	20,155
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	2,095	5,251	40,422	39,738
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	5,857	6,672	32,277	39,865
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	10,205	7,260	57,701	48,335
99	Special classifications	2,787	2,969	11,881	12,141

^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.
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. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
10. 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>
Classification: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/index.cfm?>