

8 August 2018 | 1100 hrs | 124/2018

Preliminary figures show that Malta registered a trade deficit of €312.1 million in June 2018, compared to a trade deficit of €128.8 million in the corresponding month of 2017.

## International Trade: June 2018

Cut-off date:  
**1 August 2018**

Provisional data for international trade show that a trade deficit of €312.1 million was registered in June, compared to a deficit of €128.8 million in the corresponding month of 2017. Imports increased by €123.9 million, while exports show a decrease of €59.4 million (Table 1a). The increase in the value of imports was primarily due to machinery and transport equipment (€164.8 million), while mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials accounted for the main decrease (€54.8 million) in exports (Table 2).

### January-June 2018

During the first six months this year, the trade deficit narrowed by €281.4 million when compared to the corresponding period of 2017, reaching €1,113.7 million. Imports show a decrease of €142.2 million, while exports increased by €139.2 million (Table 1a). Lower imports were mainly due to a decrease of €209.7 million in machinery and transport equipment. With regard to exports, the main increase was registered in machinery and transport equipment (€345.2 million), which was partly outweighed by a decrease of €261.4 million in mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (Table 2).

Malta's trade imports from the European Union reached €1,980.4 million, or 67.2 per cent of total imports. There was an increase of €310.8 million in imports from euro area countries when compared to the same period of 2017. Main increases and decreases in imports were registered from Italy (€87.6 million) and Canada (€113.5 million) respectively. The main increase in exports was directed to France (€32.0 million), whereas the highest decrease (€66.2 million) was registered in exports to Italy (Table 3) ■

**Chart 1. International Trade**

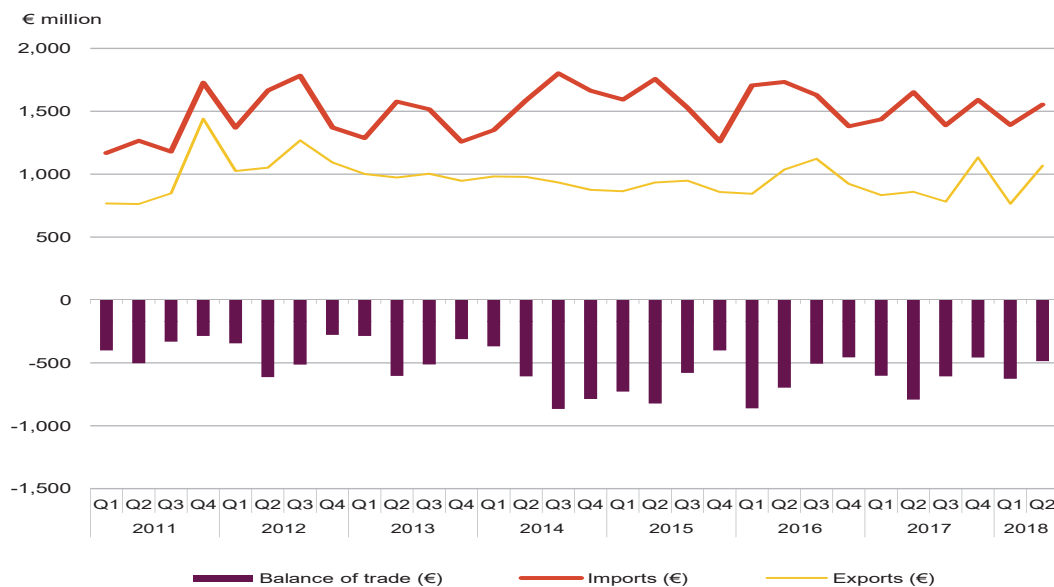


Table 1a. Trade by period and broad economic category

€ million

Broad economic category	2016 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	June		January-June	
			2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Imports</b>	<b>6,448.6</b>	<b>6,068.8</b>	<b>421.6</b>	<b>545.5</b>	<b>3,088.3</b>	<b>2,946.1</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>1,334.7</b>	<b>1,321.4</b>	<b>107.2</b>	<b>114.2</b>	<b>644.3</b>	<b>680.7</b>
Primary	112.7	126.3	19.5	18.2	52.1	44.1
Semi-Finished	1,028.5	1,009.8	72.0	87.6	494.6	519.6
Finished	193.5	185.3	15.7	8.4	97.6	117.0
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>2,283.5</b>	<b>1,683.7</b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>236.5</b>	<b>947.1</b>	<b>731.2</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>1,240.7</b>	<b>1,341.9</b>	<b>109.7</b>	<b>105.6</b>	<b>649.3</b>	<b>674.3</b>
Food and Beverages	499.1	529.2	41.9	41.9	247.1	251.6
Durable Goods	432.4	466.4	37.3	34.9	235.9	228.2
Others	309.1	346.2	30.6	28.8	166.3	194.4
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>1,589.8</b>	<b>1,721.9</b>	<b>135.3</b>	<b>89.2</b>	<b>847.6</b>	<b>860.0</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,927.2</b>	<b>3,608.1</b>	<b>292.8</b>	<b>233.4</b>	<b>1,693.2</b>	<b>1,832.4</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-2,521.5</b>	<b>-2,460.7</b>	<b>-128.8</b>	<b>-312.1</b>	<b>-1,395.1</b>	<b>-1,113.7</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

€ million

Broad economic category	2017				2018	
	Q1 <sup>P</sup>	Q2 <sup>P</sup>	Q3 <sup>P</sup>	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	Q1 <sup>P</sup>	Q2 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Imports</b>	<b>1,436.4</b>	<b>1,651.9</b>	<b>1,389.2</b>	<b>1,591.3</b>	<b>1,391.9</b>	<b>1,554.2</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>296.2</b>	<b>348.1</b>	<b>337.5</b>	<b>339.6</b>	<b>318.2</b>	<b>362.5</b>
Primary	15.5	36.6	20.3	53.9	5.8	38.4
Semi-Finished	231.2	263.3	277.3	237.9	242.8	276.8
Finished	49.5	48.1	39.9	47.8	69.6	47.3
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>342.2</b>	<b>604.8</b>	<b>240.3</b>	<b>496.3</b>	<b>281.2</b>	<b>450.0</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>311.9</b>	<b>337.4</b>	<b>341.9</b>	<b>350.7</b>	<b>336.6</b>	<b>337.6</b>
Food and Beverages	121.4	125.7	143.4	138.8	120.6	131.0
Durable Goods	110.3	125.7	112.0	118.4	113.1	115.1
Others	80.3	86.0	86.5	93.5	102.9	91.5
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>486.1</b>	<b>361.6</b>	<b>469.5</b>	<b>404.7</b>	<b>455.8</b>	<b>404.1</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>833.4</b>	<b>859.7</b>	<b>781.3</b>	<b>1,133.7</b>	<b>765.2</b>	<b>1,067.2</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-602.9</b>	<b>-792.2</b>	<b>-607.9</b>	<b>-457.6</b>	<b>-626.7</b>	<b>-487.0</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

€ million

Broad economic category	2016 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	June		January-June	
			2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>
Total Exports	3,927.2	3,608.1	292.8	233.4	1,693.2	1,832.4
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	1,130.1	1,318.3	109.3	56.6	631.6	367.3
<b>Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>2,797.0</b>	<b>2,289.8</b>	<b>183.5</b>	<b>176.8</b>	<b>1,061.6</b>	<b>1,465.1</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Notes:

1 Table 1c 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: respectively 'Fuels and lubricants, primary' and 'Fuels and lubricants, processed'.

2 Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

€ million

Major commodity group	2016 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	June		January-June	
			2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>
			<b>Imports</b>	<b>6,448.6</b>	<b>6,068.8</b>	<b>421.6</b>
Food	571.5	623.4	56.0	53.0	272.8	264.5
Beverages and Tobacco	98.0	95.6	9.5	9.1	47.6	48.8
Crude Materials	26.4	26.2	1.4	1.7	13.9	11.7
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,597.0	1,725.1	135.4	89.2	847.8	863.0
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	9.4	9.3	1.1	1.0	4.7	4.6
Chemicals	465.7	517.7	41.2	49.8	252.2	293.0
Semi-Manufactured Goods	375.8	361.0	27.2	30.6	182.4	201.9
Machinery and Transport Equipment	2,853.8	2,239.1	111.2	276.0	1,229.9	1,020.2
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	439.5	466.2	38.2	34.8	234.2	236.2
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	11.7	5.3	0.4	0.4	2.9	2.3
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,927.2</b>	<b>3,608.1</b>	<b>292.8</b>	<b>233.4</b>	<b>1,693.2</b>	<b>1,832.4</b>
Food	254.9	281.0	5.7	2.7	88.6	85.7
Beverages and Tobacco	41.1	38.6	3.3	2.8	16.7	17.4
Crude Materials	12.6	13.4	0.7	2.1	6.1	7.8
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,162.6	1,367.5	111.4	56.6	648.2	386.8
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	965.0	383.3	39.4	31.6	181.3	192.0
Semi-Manufactured Goods	121.2	151.7	12.0	18.0	65.1	94.2
Machinery and Transport Equipment	962.4	990.7	86.4	81.9	482.3	827.5
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	406.6	381.2	33.8	37.8	204.4	220.7
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	0.7	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.2
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-2,521.5</b>	<b>-2,460.7</b>	<b>-128.8</b>	<b>-312.1</b>	<b>-1,395.1</b>	<b>-1,113.7</b>
Food	-316.6	-342.5	-50.3	-50.3	-184.2	-178.8
Beverages and Tobacco	-56.9	-57.0	-6.2	-6.3	-30.9	-31.3
Crude Materials	-13.8	-12.9	-0.7	0.4	-7.7	-3.9
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-434.4	-357.6	-23.9	-32.6	-199.7	-476.2
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-9.4	-9.2	-1.1	-1.0	-4.6	-4.6
Chemicals	499.4	-134.4	-1.8	-18.2	-70.8	-100.9
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-254.6	-209.3	-15.2	-12.6	-117.3	-107.7
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-1,891.4	-1,248.3	-24.9	-194.1	-747.6	-192.7
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-32.9	-85.0	-4.4	3.0	-29.8	-15.5
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-10.9	-4.5	-0.2	-0.4	-2.5	-2.1

<sup>P</sup> 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

Groupings	June						January-June					
	2017 <sup>P</sup>			2018 <sup>P</sup>			2017 <sup>P</sup>			2018 <sup>P</sup>		
	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
<b>Europe</b>	<b>310.7</b>	<b>138.1</b>	<b>-172.7</b>	<b>346.2</b>	<b>149.9</b>	<b>-196.2</b>	<b>1,883.4</b>	<b>750.9</b>	<b>-1,132.5</b>	<b>2,150.6</b>	<b>768.6</b>	<b>-1,382.0</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
<b>European Union</b>	<b>270.7</b>	<b>131.6</b>	<b>-139.1</b>	<b>321.9</b>	<b>133.0</b>	<b>-188.9</b>	<b>1,633.8</b>	<b>708.4</b>	<b>-925.5</b>	<b>1,980.4</b>	<b>735.3</b>	<b>-1,245.1</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	40.0	7.1	-32.9	23.8	3.7	-20.1	222.7	37.8	-184.9	269.1	32.1	-237.0
euro area	210.9	107.5	-103.4	270.7	109.8	-161.0	1,307.5	593.3	-714.2	1,618.3	610.7	-1,007.6
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	112.2	41.4	-70.8	93.4	27.9	-65.5	615.5	209.6	-405.9	703.1	143.4	-559.7
France	14.4	19.8	5.4	80.9	33.6	-47.2	118.9	107.2	-11.7	165.9	139.2	-26.6
Spain	16.3	4.3	-12.0	38.7	4.5	-34.2	111.7	30.4	-81.2	158.6	32.8	-125.8
Germany	31.3	35.7	4.5	26.7	36.9	10.2	206.5	208.0	1.5	214.8	228.1	13.3
Netherlands	11.9	2.0	-9.9	12.7	2.4	-10.3	88.8	12.2	-76.6	115.3	35.7	-79.7
Greece	4.2	0.5	-3.7	6.3	0.6	-5.7	62.3	3.0	-59.3	116.0	4.1	-111.9
<b>EFTA Countries</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>-20.2</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	3.6	3.2	-0.5	2.2	1.4	-0.8	20.2	19.4	-0.8	21.2	9.2	-11.9
<b>Other European Countries</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>-33.6</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>-6.1</b>	<b>227.3</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>-207.0</b>	<b>138.4</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>-116.7</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Russian Federation	13.6	0.1	-13.5	12.7	0.0	-12.6	133.0	0.4	-132.6	71.6	0.3	-71.3
<b>Asia</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>-12.1</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>-25.3</b>	<b>500.1</b>	<b>264.0</b>	<b>-236.1</b>	<b>438.6</b>	<b>607.1</b>	<b>168.5</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
China	16.5	4.6	-11.9	18.1	2.1	-16.0	106.0	18.6	-87.4	101.1	20.8	-80.3
Japan	2.8	1.2	-1.6	9.3	1.6	-7.7	24.3	17.1	-7.2	38.6	44.9	6.3
India	10.5	0.8	-9.7	8.4	2.3	-6.0	66.6	4.8	-61.8	65.1	6.1	-59.0
Saudi Arabia	1.8	2.9	1.2	8.2	0.0	-8.2	9.9	11.3	1.5	14.9	1.5	-13.4
Israel	3.2	0.1	-3.1	4.7	0.4	-4.3	64.2	1.2	-62.9	54.0	0.9	-53.1
<b>North and Central America</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>-14.2</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>-28.9</b>	<b>312.4</b>	<b>89.6</b>	<b>-222.7</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>89.1</b>	<b>-16.8</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Canada	0.5	2.2	1.7	33.3	1.8	-31.5	150.9	11.7	-139.1	37.4	9.1	-28.3
United States of America	26.7	10.2	-16.5	8.4	10.2	1.8	156.3	69.1	-87.2	67.4	73.3	5.9
<b>Africa</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>132.8</b>	<b>251.5</b>	<b>118.6</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>233.8</b>	<b>138.6</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Egypt	23.4	18.8	-4.6	2.8	2.6	-0.2	59.7	84.4	24.7	29.1	36.3	7.2
<b>Australia and Oceania</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>-10.1</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-5.7</b>
<b>South America</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>-19.1</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>-5.7</b>
<b>Caribbean and Bahamas Islands</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-80.1</b>	<b>221.0</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-219.1</b>	<b>123.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-121.9</b>
<b>Ships and Aircraft Stores</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>328.6</b>	<b>325.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>111.3</b>	<b>111.3</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>421.6</b>	<b>292.8</b>	<b>-128.8</b>	<b>545.5</b>	<b>233.4</b>	<b>-312.1</b>	<b>3,088.3</b>	<b>1,693.2</b>	<b>-1,395.1</b>	<b>2,946.1</b>	<b>1,832.4</b>	<b>-1,113.7</b>

<sup>P</sup> 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.
4. A full list of countries is available on the EXCEL version of this news release: [http://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/View\\_by\\_Unit/Unit\\_A4/International\\_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx](http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx)

Table 4. Trade by period and principal traded commodities

€ 000

Chapter number	Commodity description	June		January-June	
		2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Main imports</b>					
02	Meat and edible offal	4,207	4,707	27,116	30,296
03	Fish and crustaceans, etc.	18,868	16,787	39,573	39,752
04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	4,362	3,912	23,771	26,224
16	Preparations of meat/fish	4,686	5,509	25,308	25,734
19	Preparations of cereals	4,641	5,549	30,756	30,192
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	2,574	2,224	13,376	13,983
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	3,734	3,862	19,467	21,312
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	6,305	7,076	32,331	35,109
25	Salt/sulphur/earths/plastering materials and cement	1,982	2,794	13,306	14,474
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	135,327	89,194	848,685	863,044
29	Organic chemicals	4,847	12,004	43,483	42,968
30	Pharmaceutical products	16,446	16,975	86,568	120,660
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	3,293	4,084	16,537	22,233
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	2,988	3,158	17,649	18,367
38	Miscellaneous chemical products	3,676	2,105	15,321	14,121
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	13,104	13,167	84,262	85,412
48	Paper and paperboard articles	5,692	5,412	33,869	43,333
61	Knitted clothing	4,558	4,192	27,475	25,613
62	Woven clothing	3,604	2,877	24,628	26,567
69	Ceramic products	2,053	2,148	11,624	14,350
72	Iron and steel	879	2,551	11,170	16,567
73	Articles of iron or steel	3,949	7,371	39,086	40,880
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	30,267	36,181	161,899	220,334
85	Electrical machinery etc.	32,691	39,663	242,688	228,400
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	12,102	13,092	89,845	84,471
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	10,770	97,965	256,914	240,702
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	25,926	89,516	480,112	244,974
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	5,994	7,586	32,386	48,272
94	Furniture; bedding, etc.	5,185	5,346	32,634	32,355
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	1,816	2,311	12,173	12,040
<b>Main exports</b>					
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	3,147	1,163	39,572	27,973
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	111,380	56,445	647,389	386,028
29	Organic chemicals	2,368	3,046	14,856	15,474
30	Pharmaceutical products	31,895	23,566	136,666	151,052
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	1,172	2,046	7,094	7,894
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	6,811	5,373	37,454	32,434
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	5,251	5,537	29,951	34,606
49	Printed books, newspapers	4,792	9,857	29,038	53,131
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	2,388	2,354	13,764	13,518
64	Footwear, gaiters etc.and parts	1,754	1,071	19,047	7,878
72	Iron and steel	60	1,094	2,444	3,945
73	Articles of iron or steel	757	5,527	8,214	28,023
82	Tools, implements/cutlery etc.,parts	677	3,078	1,455	5,213
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	10,297	11,590	67,889	79,534
85	Electrical machinery etc.	66,262	61,207	347,513	328,226
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	8,822	8,604	60,054	52,048
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	8,114	8,873	42,098	43,885
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	10,697	11,577	67,103	76,164
99	Special classifications	2,744	3,057	13,821	13,541

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

## Notes:

1. 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'.

2. A full list of chapters is available on the EXCEL version of this news release:

[http://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/View\\_by\\_Unit/Unit\\_A4/International\\_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx](http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx)

## 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 the "Statistical Concepts" link below.
7. Individual countries' data not appearing in this release are available from the NSO upon request and in the excel version.
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:

Sources and Methods: [https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources\\_and\\_Methods/Unit\\_A4/International\\_Trade/Pages/External-Trade-Statistics.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/External-Trade-Statistics.aspx)

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?>
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](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)