

10 September 2018 | 1100 hrs | 141/2018

Preliminary figures show that Malta registered a trade deficit of €218.8 million in July 2018, compared to a trade deficit of €220.6 million in the corresponding month of 2017.

## International Trade: July 2018

Cut-off date:  
**5 September 2018**

Provisional data for international trade show that a trade deficit of €218.8 million was registered in July, compared to a deficit of €220.6 million in the corresponding month of 2017. Both imports and exports increased by €28.6 million and €30.4 million respectively (Table 1a). The increase in the value of imports was primarily due to machinery and transport equipment (€35.7 million), while mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€16.5 million) accounted for the main increase in exports (Table 2).

### January-July 2018

During the first seven months of this year, the trade deficit increased by €123.7 million when compared to the corresponding period of 2017, reaching €1,739.8 million. Both imports and exports show decreases of €61.2 million and €184.9 million respectively (Table 1a). Lower imports were mainly due to a decrease of €167.2 million in machinery and transport equipment partly outweighed by an increase of €53.7 million in Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials. With regard to exports, the main decrease was registered in mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€244.9 million) (Table 2).

Malta's trade imports from the European Union reached €2,356.9 million, or 66.6 per cent of total imports. There was an increase of €417.6 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 (€109.8 million) and Canada (€103.9 million) respectively. The main increase in exports was directed to France (€30.6 million), whereas Italy (€91.4 million) registered the highest decrease (Table 3) ■

**Chart 1. International Trade**

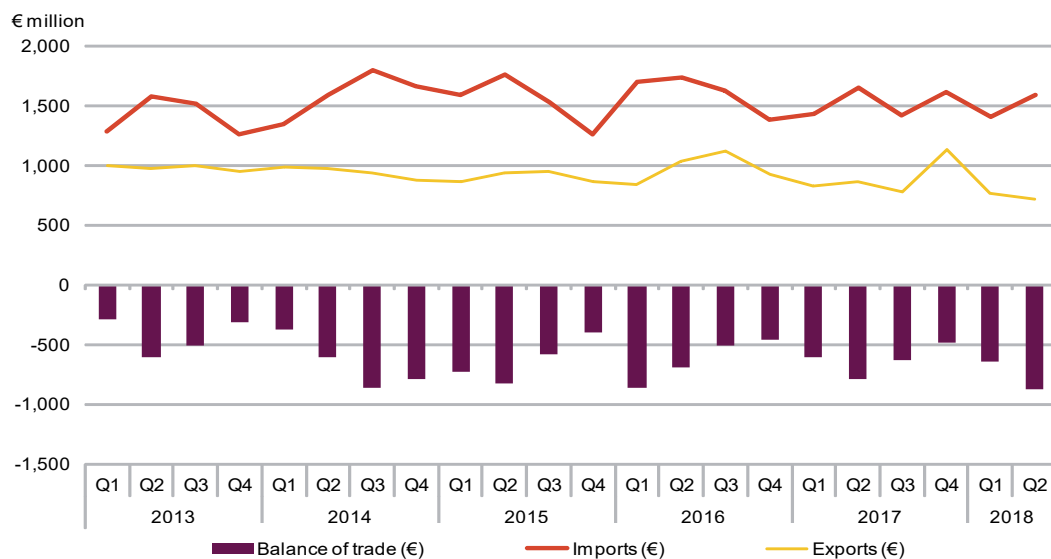


Table 1a. Trade by period and broad economic category

€ million

Broad economic category	2016 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	July		January-July	
			2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>
			<b>Imports</b>	<b>6,448.8</b>	<b>6,125.5</b>	<b>509.5</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>1,334.9</b>	<b>1,321.9</b>	<b>135.5</b>	<b>119.4</b>	<b>779.9</b>	<b>810.0</b>
Primary	112.7	126.3	14.6	5.0	66.7	49.2
Semi-Finished	1,028.6	1,010.3	107.0	96.6	601.7	624.8
Finished	193.6	185.3	13.8	17.8	111.4	136.0
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>2,283.5</b>	<b>1,683.9</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>114.5</b>	<b>1,031.3</b>	<b>848.8</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>1,240.7</b>	<b>1,343.0</b>	<b>113.6</b>	<b>120.6</b>	<b>763.1</b>	<b>803.4</b>
Food and Beverages	499.1	529.8	47.5	45.2	294.7	300.5
Durable Goods	432.4	466.9	39.7	39.3	275.8	270.8
Others	309.2	346.3	26.3	36.1	192.6	232.1
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>1,589.8</b>	<b>1,776.7</b>	<b>176.3</b>	<b>183.6</b>	<b>1,024.0</b>	<b>1,074.7</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,927.2</b>	<b>3,608.7</b>	<b>288.9</b>	<b>319.3</b>	<b>1,982.1</b>	<b>1,797.2</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-2,521.7</b>	<b>-2,516.7</b>	<b>-220.6</b>	<b>-218.8</b>	<b>-1,616.1</b>	<b>-1,739.8</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>1,652.2</b>	<b>1,419.3</b>	<b>1,617.4</b>	<b>1,405.3</b>	<b>1,593.5</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>296.2</b>	<b>348.2</b>	<b>337.6</b>	<b>339.8</b>	<b>318.9</b>	<b>371.7</b>
Primary	15.5	36.6	20.3	53.9	5.8	38.4
Semi-Finished	231.3	263.4	277.4	238.1	243.2	285.0
Finished	49.5	48.1	39.9	47.8	69.9	48.3
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>342.2</b>	<b>604.9</b>	<b>240.4</b>	<b>496.3</b>	<b>282.0</b>	<b>452.3</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>311.9</b>	<b>337.5</b>	<b>342.4</b>	<b>351.1</b>	<b>337.1</b>	<b>345.6</b>
Food and Beverages	121.4	125.8	143.8	139.0	120.9	134.4
Durable Goods	110.3	125.7	112.1	118.7	113.2	118.3
Others	80.3	86.0	86.5	93.5	103.0	93.0
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>486.1</b>	<b>361.6</b>	<b>498.9</b>	<b>430.2</b>	<b>467.3</b>	<b>423.8</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>833.4</b>	<b>859.8</b>	<b>781.9</b>	<b>1,133.7</b>	<b>765.5</b>	<b>712.4</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-603.0</b>	<b>-792.5</b>	<b>-637.5</b>	<b>-483.8</b>	<b>-639.8</b>	<b>-881.1</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>	July		January-July	
			2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>
			Total Exports	3,927.2	3,608.7	288.9
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	1,130.1	1,318.9	124.3	145.0	755.9	512.3
<b>Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>2,797.0</b>	<b>2,289.8</b>	<b>164.6</b>	<b>174.3</b>	<b>1,226.2</b>	<b>1,284.9</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>	July		January-July	
			2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>	2017 <sup>P</sup>	2018 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Imports</b>	<b>6,448.8</b>	<b>6,125.5</b>	<b>509.5</b>	<b>538.1</b>	<b>3,598.2</b>	<b>3,537.0</b>
Food	571.5	623.8	61.0	48.8	333.7	316.9
Beverages and Tobacco	98.0	95.8	9.2	12.2	56.8	61.3
Crude Materials	26.4	26.2	2.6	1.9	16.4	13.7
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,597.0	1,779.9	176.4	183.6	1,024.2	1,077.8
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	9.4	9.3	0.7	0.9	5.4	5.5
Chemicals	465.7	517.7	55.7	46.3	307.8	341.7
Semi-Manufactured Goods	375.9	361.3	36.9	37.5	219.5	243.2
Machinery and Transport Equipment	2,853.9	2,239.5	129.0	164.7	1,359.0	1,191.8
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	439.5	466.7	37.9	41.6	272.2	282.3
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	11.7	5.3	0.3	0.4	3.2	2.7
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,927.2</b>	<b>3,608.7</b>	<b>288.9</b>	<b>319.3</b>	<b>1,982.1</b>	<b>1,797.2</b>
Food	254.9	281.0	4.8	4.6	93.4	90.4
Beverages and Tobacco	41.1	38.6	4.0	3.8	20.7	21.2
Crude Materials	12.6	13.4	1.7	1.1	7.8	8.9
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,162.6	1,368.1	136.8	153.3	785.0	540.1
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	965.0	383.3	33.0	28.2	214.3	220.9
Semi-Manufactured Goods	121.2	151.7	8.7	9.0	73.8	103.3
Machinery and Transport Equipment	962.4	990.8	68.9	79.5	551.2	551.3
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	406.6	381.2	30.9	39.5	235.3	260.4
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	0.7	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-2,521.7</b>	<b>-2,516.7</b>	<b>-220.6</b>	<b>-218.8</b>	<b>-1,616.1</b>	<b>-1,739.8</b>
Food	-316.6	-342.8	-56.2	-44.2	-240.3	-226.5
Beverages and Tobacco	-56.9	-57.3	-5.2	-8.4	-36.1	-40.0
Crude Materials	-13.8	-12.9	-0.9	-0.8	-8.6	-4.8
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-434.4	-411.8	-39.5	-30.3	-239.2	-537.7
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-9.4	-9.3	-0.7	-0.9	-5.3	-5.5
Chemicals	499.4	-134.5	-22.7	-18.1	-93.5	-120.8
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-254.6	-209.6	-28.2	-28.5	-145.6	-139.9
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-1,891.5	-1,248.7	-60.1	-85.2	-807.8	-640.5
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-32.9	-85.5	-7.0	-2.2	-36.9	-21.9
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-10.9	-4.5	-0.2	-0.1	-2.7	-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	July						January-July					
	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>338.0</b>	<b>141.6</b>	<b>-196.4</b>	<b>397.1</b>	<b>103.4</b>	<b>-293.7</b>	<b>2,221.8</b>	<b>892.6</b>	<b>-1,329.2</b>	<b>2,577.8</b>	<b>877.1</b>	<b>-1,700.7</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
<b>European Union</b>	<b>263.2</b>	<b>131.7</b>	<b>-131.4</b>	<b>353.2</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>-254.9</b>	<b>1,897.4</b>	<b>840.2</b>	<b>-1,057.2</b>	<b>2,356.9</b>	<b>838.7</b>	<b>-1,518.1</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	32.0	6.8	-25.2	36.7	3.6	-33.2	254.7	44.6	-210.1	308.6	35.9	-272.7
euro area	217.5	108.4	-109.1	304.8	72.9	-231.9	1,525.3	701.8	-823.6	1,942.9	688.4	-1,254.5
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	103.9	35.9	-68.0	119.5	10.3	-109.2	719.6	245.6	-474.0	829.3	154.2	-675.1
Netherlands	16.0	2.1	-13.9	40.4	1.8	-38.5	104.8	14.3	-90.5	156.5	37.6	-118.9
Germany	27.5	34.2	6.7	39.2	30.1	-9.1	234.0	242.2	8.2	259.7	261.7	1.9
Greece	8.0	0.7	-7.2	37.8	0.5	-37.3	70.3	3.7	-66.5	153.9	5.1	-148.7
Spain	12.8	3.3	-9.5	24.7	3.5	-21.2	124.5	33.7	-90.8	186.1	36.4	-149.7
France	26.5	25.8	-0.6	16.2	24.4	8.2	145.5	133.1	-12.4	183.6	163.7	-19.9
<b>EFTA Countries</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>-21.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	2.7	0.7	-2.0	2.3	1.0	-1.2	22.9	20.1	-2.8	23.4	10.3	-13.1
<b>Other European Countries</b>	<b>72.0</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>-62.9</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>-37.7</b>	<b>299.2</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>-269.9</b>	<b>186.6</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>-161.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Turkey	33.6	1.7	-31.9	31.6	1.3	-30.3	122.8	14.8	-108.0	93.7	7.9	-85.8
<b>Asia</b>	<b>83.9</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>-52.8</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>-35.1</b>	<b>584.0</b>	<b>295.0</b>	<b>-289.0</b>	<b>530.3</b>	<b>281.4</b>	<b>-248.9</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
China	17.5	3.3	-14.1	21.7	2.2	-19.5	123.5	22.0	-101.5	122.8	23.0	-99.8
India	12.2	0.6	-11.5	13.5	0.4	-13.1	78.7	5.4	-73.3	78.7	6.6	-72.1
Japan	6.0	1.3	-4.7	8.2	1.7	-6.5	30.3	18.4	-11.9	46.8	46.6	-0.2
Israel	0.4	0.4	-0.1	3.9	0.3	0.3	64.6	1.6	0.3	69.4	1.2	-68.2
United Arab Emirates	0.6	0.6	0.0	3.6	0.8	-2.7	5.2	16.8	11.5	40.3	10.2	-30.1
<b>North and Central America</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>-5.3</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>330.8</b>	<b>102.8</b>	<b>-228.0</b>	<b>121.5</b>	<b>102.2</b>	<b>-19.2</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Canada	0.4	3.2	2.7	10.0	1.7	-8.2	151.3	14.9	-136.4	47.4	10.8	-36.6
United States of America	17.8	9.0	-8.8	5.4	10.4	5.1	174.1	78.1	-96.0	72.8	83.8	11.0
<b>Africa</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>89.1</b>	<b>57.7</b>	<b>157.3</b>	<b>291.8</b>	<b>134.5</b>	<b>126.6</b>	<b>322.9</b>	<b>196.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Nigeria	0.0	0.1	0.1	15.6	0.3	-15.3	0.0	3.7	3.7	15.6	5.8	-9.8
<b>Australia and Oceania</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>-4.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>-14.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>-6.0</b>
<b>South America</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-7.5</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>-16.1</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>-26.6</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>-21.8</b>
<b>Caribbean and Bahamas Islands</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-30.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>252.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-250.1</b>	<b>125.8</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-123.5</b>
<b>Ships and Aircraft Stores</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>390.2</b>	<b>387.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>184.2</b>	<b>184.2</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>509.5</b>	<b>288.9</b>	<b>-220.6</b>	<b>538.1</b>	<b>319.3</b>	<b>-218.8</b>	<b>3,598.2</b>	<b>1,982.1</b>	<b>-1,616.1</b>	<b>3,537.0</b>	<b>1,797.2</b>	<b>-1,739.8</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	July		January-July	
		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	5,729	5,070	32,846	35,402
03	Fish and crustaceans, etc.	18,567	10,745	58,140	50,504
04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	4,821	5,352	28,592	31,834
08	Edible fruit and nuts	3,655	2,660	23,433	20,340
16	Preparations of meat/fish	4,710	4,786	30,018	30,665
19	Preparations of cereals	5,119	4,878	35,876	35,617
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	2,983	2,692	16,359	16,889
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,016	3,486	23,483	25,146
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	6,961	8,069	39,318	43,461
23	Food residues and waste	3,288	3,471	19,840	18,434
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	2,283	4,231	17,792	18,288
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	176,255	183,574	1,024,940	1,077,809
29	Organic chemicals	19,654	5,959	63,137	48,938
30	Pharmaceutical products	13,718	20,260	100,287	140,995
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	4,863	4,035	21,399	26,468
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	2,602	2,979	20,253	21,998
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	13,878	14,460	98,142	101,351
48	Paper and paperboard articles	5,740	9,206	39,609	52,691
61	Knitted clothing	3,871	6,042	31,346	32,268
62	Woven clothing	4,998	3,422	29,626	30,481
64	Footwear, gaiters etc.and parts	3,414	4,225	36,253	28,527
72	Iron and steel	3,352	3,707	14,554	20,303
73	Articles of iron or steel	11,140	5,592	50,268	48,067
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	35,527	37,061	197,430	260,114
85	Electrical machinery etc.	40,351	41,486	283,144	273,439
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	14,881	12,103	104,726	97,182
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	4,630	18,464	261,544	259,206
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	34,401	55,322	514,513	300,296
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	4,848	6,773	37,233	55,580
94	Furniture; bedding, etc.	5,949	6,985	38,590	39,795
<b>Main exports</b>					
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	2,318	2,194	41,890	30,168
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	1,263	1,112	6,522	5,667
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	136,699	153,117	784,088	539,145
29	Organic chemicals	781	1,636	15,637	17,670
30	Pharmaceutical products	29,042	22,648	165,708	173,756
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	878	1,203	7,972	9,097
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	4,627	5,175	42,080	37,653
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	4,834	4,801	34,785	39,407
49	Printed books, newspapers	5,929	11,382	34,967	64,520
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	1,356	1,543	15,121	15,061
61	Knitted clothing	779	1,094	8,279	6,197
64	Footwear, gaiters etc.and parts	735	1,208	19,782	9,136
73	Articles of iron or steel	741	1,325	8,954	29,349
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	9,063	18,969	76,952	98,616
85	Electrical machinery etc.	51,245	47,370	398,817	375,780
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	7,001	11,444	67,056	67,114
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	6,085	8,166	48,183	52,163
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	11,711	12,385	78,814	88,550
99	Special classifications	3,456	3,638	17,276	17,179

<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)