

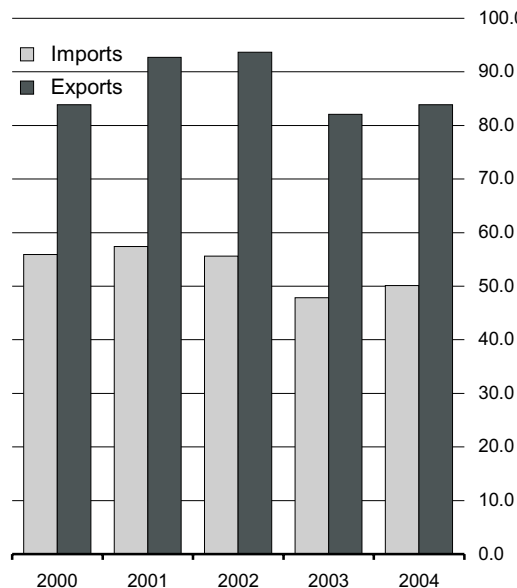


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

16 March 2005

Imports v Exports

€billion



External Trade

December 2004 (Details),
January 2005 (First estimate)

	Imports	Exports	Surplus
Jan-Dec 2003	€47,865m	€82,076m	€34,211m
Jan-Dec 2004	€50,100m	€83,892m	€33,792m
% Change	+5%	+2%	-1%
November 2004	€4,429m	€7,368m	€2,939m
December 2004	€4,545m	€6,978m	€2,433m
January 2005 (Preliminary)	€4,274m	€6,447m	€2,173m

Merchandise Exports up 2% and Imports up 5% in 2004

Exports of merchandise trade for the year 2004 were €83,892m, up 2% on 2003. The rise was due mainly to Pharmaceuticals but was offset by a fall in Computer equipment. Imports for 2004 were €50,100m, up 5% on 2003. This increase was principally due to Road and Other Transport (including aviation) and Fuels.

In December 2004 (*see Table 1*) the value of exports was €6,978m, up €81m on December 2003, while imports were €4,545m, up €194m. On a seasonally adjusted basis (*see table 2*) the value of exports in December 2004 was €7,047m, down €37m on November 2004 (-1%), while imports were €4,395m, up €401m (+10%).

Preliminary estimates for January 2005 (*see Table 5*) show exports of €6,447m and imports of €4,274m. The corresponding seasonally adjusted values for January 2005 (*see table 2*) are €7,132m for exports and €4,383m for imports. *Table 5 introduces a broad commodity by principal country classification of the preliminary month contrasted with the corresponding month in the previous year.*

Comparing the 2004 figures with those of 2003 shows that (*see Tables 3-4*):

- ◆ Exports of Medical and Pharmaceutical products increased from €13,612m to €15,111m (+11%), Essential oils and cleansing preparations from €4,173m to €4,761m (+14%) and professional and scientific apparatus increased from €3,267m to €3,808m (+17%). Exports of Computer equipment decreased from €14,837m to €13,453m (-9%).
- ◆ Exports of goods to Belgium increased from €10,334m to €12,315m (+19%) and to Japan from €2,109m to €2,333m (+11%). Goods to the USA decreased from €16,939m to €16,509m (-3%), to Germany from €6,845m to €6,422m (-6%) and to the Netherlands from €4,184m to €3,814m (-9%).
- ◆ Imports of Other transport equipment (including aviation) increased from €812m to €1,501m (+85%) and Petroleum and related materials from €1,593m to €2,136m (+34%). Road vehicles increased from €2,809m to €3,254m (+16%). Medical and Pharmaceutical products decreased from €2,168m to €1,976m (-9%) and General industrial machinery and equipment decreased from €1,207m to €1,097m (-9%).
- ◆ Imports of goods from China increased from €2,215m to €2,839m (+28%), Great Britain from €13,662m to €14,299m (+5%), France from €1,914m to €2,232m (+17%) and Germany from €3,498m to €3,764m (+8%). Goods from the USA decreased from €7,416m to €6,961m (-6%).

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Table 1 Summary of trade

Period	Value			Volume Index		Price Index		Terms of Trade ¹
	Imports	Exports	Trade Surplus	Base year 1990=100				
				Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	
	€m	€m	€m					
1988	12,970.1	15,623.9	2,653.9	82.8	82.9	98.9	103.6	104.7
1989	15,597.8	18,534.4	2,936.6	93.6	92.2	105.3	110.5	104.9
1990	15,832.1	18,203.9	2,371.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1991	16,317.2	19,070.1	2,752.9	100.8	105.6	102.3	99.3	97.0
1992	16,753.9	21,260.2	4,506.4	105.6	121.1	100.2	96.6	96.4
1993	18,899.7	25,178.5	6,278.9	113.0	133.4	105.4	103.9	98.6
1994	21,945.4	28,890.9	6,945.6	127.9	153.2	108.1	103.8	96.0
1995	26,180.9	35,330.1	9,149.2	146.3	184.0	112.7	105.7	93.7
1996	28,479.5	38,608.9	10,129.6	160.9	202.2	111.4	105.1	94.3
1997	32,863.5	44,868.0	12,004.5	184.8	232.4	112.0	106.3	94.9
1998	39,715.0	57,321.8	17,606.7	218.3	289.2	114.6	109.1	95.2
1999	44,327.1	66,956.2	22,629.1	236.5	336.5	118.0	109.5	92.8
2000	55,908.8	83,888.9	27,980.1	275.2	401.4	128.0	115.0	89.9
2001	57,384.2	92,689.9	35,305.7	274.2	422.0	131.8	120.9	91.7
2002	55,628.1	93,675.2	38,047.1	275.7	434.9	126.7	118.5	93.5
2003	47,864.6	82,076.1	34,211.5	258.0	418.6	116.1	108.0	93.0
2004 ²	50,099.6	83,891.5	33,791.8	..	..	..	..	..
2002 January	5,227.7	8,251.9	3,024.2	304.4	456.5	129.8	119.3	91.9
February	4,784.1	7,668.4	2,884.3	279.2	427.5	129.2	118.4	91.6
March	5,327.8	9,099.0	3,771.3	314.8	503.6	127.8	119.3	93.4
April	5,405.6	7,789.0	2,383.5	318.7	437.3	128.0	117.5	91.8
May	5,499.4	9,122.3	3,623.0	325.3	504.5	126.3	119.3	94.5
June	4,113.8	7,662.6	3,548.8	246.9	431.6	125.8	117.2	93.2
July	4,643.0	7,915.6	3,272.5	282.5	443.1	124.1	117.9	95.0
August	3,760.5	6,437.0	2,676.5	227.5	360.2	124.8	117.9	94.5
September	3,984.2	7,895.8	3,911.6	236.5	442.5	126.7	117.6	92.8
October	4,338.8	7,347.0	3,008.3	257.5	407.4	126.0	119.1	94.5
November	4,408.6	7,645.9	3,237.3	264.0	426.2	126.0	118.6	94.1
December	4,134.6	6,840.6	2,706.0	248.5	378.0	125.6	119.6	95.2
2003 January	4,055.0	6,350.7	2,295.7	261.2	375.3	117.3	111.8	95.4
February	3,857.6	6,410.2	2,552.5	243.4	383.5	119.7	110.6	92.4
March	4,127.1	7,058.2	2,931.0	260.9	422.0	119.6	110.9	92.7
April	4,082.4	6,725.8	2,643.4	263.2	408.0	117.4	109.1	92.9
May	3,812.7	6,625.3	2,812.6	246.9	411.9	116.7	106.9	91.7
June	3,662.6	7,096.6	3,433.9	239.9	439.8	115.2	107.1	93.0
July	3,850.3	6,665.5	2,815.2	253.3	411.2	114.0	107.6	94.4
August	3,400.3	5,870.8	2,470.5	221.6	360.3	115.3	107.9	93.5
September	4,039.8	7,632.5	3,592.7	263.6	469.4	114.7	107.3	93.5
October	4,211.7	7,423.7	3,212.0	272.7	459.2	115.4	106.4	92.2
November	4,414.1	7,319.8	2,905.7	285.9	456.7	113.8	105.5	92.7
December ³	4,350.9	6,897.1	2,546.2	284.1	430.7	113.8	104.4	91.7
2004 ² January	3,925.5	6,129.6	2,204.1	250.1	385.8	115.5	103.4	89.6
February	3,868.8	6,806.5	2,937.6	249.7	437.0	115.0	102.3	88.9
March	4,330.7	8,115.7	3,785.0	271.4	498.7	117.0	105.8	90.4
April	4,444.8	7,172.5	2,727.7	281.8	448.8	117.0	105.0	89.8
May	4,086.2	6,418.1	2,331.9	264.2	399.6	115.1	104.6	90.9
June ³	4,188.9	7,697.0	3,508.1	270.2	479.2	114.4	104.8	91.7
July	3,868.0	6,964.1	3,096.1	250.6	446.7	116.6	103.0	88.3
August	3,831.9	6,237.8	2,405.8	244.5	392.3	118.4	105.0	88.7
September	4,153.9	7,217.9	3,064.1	268.8	457.2	116.8	104.4	89.4
October	4,426.6	6,785.7	2,359.1	290.0	433.3	115.3	103.4	89.7
November	4,429.3	7,368.4	2,939.1	290.8	483.4	115.1	100.7	87.5
December	4,545.0	6,978.2	2,433.1	300.7	459.2	114.2	100.4	87.8
2005 ² January ⁴	4,274.0	6,447.0	2,173.0	..	..	..	..	..

¹ Export Price Index divided by Import Price Index² Provisional³ Revised⁴ Based on current Intrastat response levels.

.. Data not yet available

Table 2 Seasonally adjusted¹ Series

Period		Value			Volume Index	
		Imports €m	Exports €m	Trade Surplus €m	Base year 1990=100	
					Imports	Exports
2001	January	4,900.5	7,964.3	3,063.7	280.3	446.7
	February	5,080.1	7,738.5	2,658.3	295.6	431.6
	March	5,190.9	7,989.0	2,798.2	298.0	445.8
	April	4,698.8	7,631.4	2,932.6	270.3	418.4
	May	4,563.3	7,070.4	2,507.1	257.7	392.5
	June	4,715.1	8,088.2	3,373.0	264.4	428.2
	July	4,659.3	7,945.0	3,285.7	259.9	427.6
	August	4,766.8	7,859.8	3,093.0	269.5	425.4
	September	4,817.2	7,691.6	2,874.4	277.0	411.6
	October	4,870.1	7,935.9	3,065.8	276.9	425.3
	November	4,421.7	7,451.3	3,029.6	259.7	391.8
	December	4,694.8	7,383.1	2,688.3	269.2	416.2
2002	January	5,063.5	8,871.6	3,808.1	289.0	488.4
	February	4,957.9	8,176.1	3,218.2	288.7	452.0
	March	5,102.3	8,228.8	3,126.5	299.9	455.1
	April	5,095.0	8,102.8	3,007.8	299.7	454.9
	May	5,408.6	9,116.7	3,708.1	318.1	504.9
	June	4,427.2	7,044.3	2,617.1	265.1	394.8
	July	4,668.8	7,917.3	3,248.5	284.3	441.5
	August	4,345.5	7,364.7	3,019.2	263.5	414.6
	September	4,183.6	7,536.3	3,352.7	248.8	426.2
	October	4,066.9	7,093.3	3,026.3	242.2	397.1
	November	4,122.5	7,283.1	3,160.7	251.7	400.9
	December	4,088.2	7,158.7	3,070.5	249.9	401.0
2003	January	3,975.1	6,807.5	2,832.5	251.3	398.2
	February	3,998.2	6,832.4	2,834.2	251.8	403.8
	March	3,943.8	6,438.5	2,494.7	247.3	388.2
	April	3,832.0	6,791.2	2,959.2	245.5	410.2
	May	3,847.9	6,703.9	2,856.0	247.2	415.0
	June	3,830.3	6,615.2	2,784.9	251.0	411.1
	July	3,903.2	6,665.4	2,762.2	255.9	410.8
	August	4,017.5	6,800.7	2,783.2	262.3	415.2
	September	4,113.3	7,180.7	3,067.4	267.8	445.1
	October	4,002.4	7,167.5	3,165.0	262.0	444.4
	November	4,241.4	7,078.3	2,836.9	279.0	440.5
	December	4,157.9	6,997.7	2,839.8	278.4	445.5
2004	January	3,950.8	6,646.4	2,695.6	246.1	413.5
	February	3,954.0	7,106.8	3,152.8	254.6	449.3
	March	3,909.1	7,237.5	3,328.4	241.6	449.0
	April	4,204.6	7,320.0	3,115.4	266.9	457.7
	May	4,202.2	6,622.9	2,420.8	270.3	408.8
	June	4,252.9	6,942.3	2,689.4	271.4	432.1
	July	4,052.9	6,969.9	2,917.0	264.0	445.9
	August	4,366.8	7,378.4	3,011.6	278.4	465.1
	September	4,298.7	6,661.0	2,362.3	277.1	427.8
	October	4,422.5	6,716.1	2,293.6	293.3	423.8
	November	3,994.0	7,084.4	3,090.4	266.8	466.8
	December	4,394.6	7,046.7	2,652.0	299.5	474.1
2005	January	4,383.0	7,132.0	2,749.0	..	..

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2004.

.. Data not yet available

Table 3 Trade classified by Commodity

€ million

SITC (Rev 3)	Imports				Exports			
	Dec 2003	Dec 2004	Jan-Dec 2003	Jan-Dec 2004	Dec 2003	Dec 2004	Jan-Dec 2003	Jan-Dec 2004
0 Food and live animals	346.6	321.3	3,159.8	3,167.5	529.7	544.2	5,779.4	5,969.1
00 Live animals other than animals of Division 03	69.5	71.5	210.8	211.8	45.6	33.6	238.3	225.9
01 Meat & meat preparations	38.7	46.6	416.5	461.2	185.4	216.3	1,857.6	1,994.8
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	32.7	25.8	333.8	332.2	68.1	87.9	955.6	1,050.1
03 Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and preparations thereof	7.9	8.7	95.5	100.9	37.1	35.7	372.3	362.5
04 Cereals & cereal preparations	43.4	43.9	495.6	505.2	18.8	15.0	214.9	199.9
05 Vegetables & fruit	51.7	45.6	622.4	588.1	23.8	17.1	242.7	218.0
06 Sugars, sugar preparations & honey	16.4	17.1	165.2	169.2	9.6	17.1	118.9	141.9
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices & manufactures thereof	30.5	21.9	252.1	247.5	34.5	19.0	268.4	261.0
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl unmilled cereals)	33.2	24.7	335.2	329.2	14.7	15.0	152.9	167.9
09 Miscellaneous edible products & preparations	22.6	15.6	232.6	222.3	92.2	87.5	1,357.9	1,347.2
1 Beverages and tobacco	46.7	57.3	705.7	675.3	81.1	84.4	1,107.5	1,043.2
11 Beverages	41.7	53.6	598.8	617.7	77.3	78.7	1,012.7	955.5
12 Tobacco & tobacco manufactures	4.9	3.8	106.9	57.6	3.8	5.8	94.8	87.7
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	60.5	60.8	790.1	825.4	68.7	84.8	865.5	975.5
21 Hides, skins & furskins, raw	0.3	0.5	5.8	2.5	5.5	6.4	85.6	82.1
22 Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	4.0	2.4	14.5	21.4	0.4	0.8	1.7	6.5
23 Crude rubber (incl synthetic & reclaimed)	1.2	1.7	19.3	17.8	0.1	0.2	1.2	1.6
24 Cork & wood	20.9	26.2	328.0	351.8	5.2	4.2	81.3	79.2
25 Pulp & waste paper	1.2	1.3	20.3	20.3	3.5	3.0	23.5	36.5
26 Textile fibres & their wastes	1.3	1.5	33.4	19.3	6.6	10.1	117.2	112.3
27 Crude fertilisers & minerals (excl coal, petroleum and precious stones)	11.9	12.8	163.9	168.8	4.1	4.3	52.1	57.4
28 Metalliferous ores & metal scrap	11.6	6.2	101.3	114.1	33.2	47.1	420.1	515.0
29 Crude animal & vegetable materials nes	8.1	8.3	103.7	109.3	10.1	8.8	82.8	85.0
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	132.5	263.1	1,969.0	2,633.3	16.5	30.3	201.2	398.2
32 Coal, coke & briquettes	10.0	15.0	122.3	203.3	2.9	2.5	60.5	58.9
33 Petroleum, petroleum products & related materials	95.4	207.1	1,592.8	2,135.7	13.1	25.5	135.5	321.7
34 Gas, natural & manufactured	23.8	35.8	225.0	256.8	0.2	0.2	2.5	6.6
35 Electric Current	3.3	5.2	28.9	37.6	0.3	2.2	2.7	11.0
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	9.0	8.9	120.7	114.4	3.5	3.0	31.3	25.9
41 Animal oils & fats	0.3	0.3	3.6	4.9	1.5	2.6	23.6	19.6
42 Fixed vegetable fats & oils	5.3	5.7	74.3	73.0	0.1	0.1	0.9	1.5
43 Animal or vegetable fats & oils, processed; waxes	3.5	2.9	42.9	36.5	1.9	0.3	6.9	4.8
5 Chemicals and related products nes	558.8	536.8	6,897.4	7,029.6	2,606.4	2,689.5	35,785.5	37,454.8
51 Organic chemicals	163.2	164.5	1,841.0	2,156.1	1,118.7	955.0	15,081.1	14,658.7
52 Inorganic chemicals	12.4	13.6	154.6	174.1	14.0	9.2	131.0	159.0
53 Dyeing, tanning & colouring materials	12.1	13.1	170.1	171.8	3.3	3.6	59.3	63.3
54 Medical & pharmaceutical products	166.3	139.9	2,168.0	1,976.1	928.6	1,085.7	13,611.6	15,111.3
55 Essential oils; perfume materials; toilet & cleansing preparations	71.4	77.8	880.6	881.4	366.6	424.7	4,173.0	4,761.0
56 Fertilisers (other than those of Division 27)	32.8	23.9	244.0	247.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6
57 Plastics in primary forms	40.5	46.1	531.5	564.6	14.1	15.4	179.0	189.3
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	27.8	28.9	424.0	422.0	10.4	13.7	190.6	212.8
59 Chemical materials & products nes	32.3	28.9	483.6	435.9	150.7	182.3	2,359.2	2,298.6

Table 3 Trade classified by Commodity - continued

€ million

SITC (Rev 3)	Imports				Exports			
	Dec 2003	Dec 2004	Jan-Dec 2003	Jan-Dec 2004	Dec 2003	Dec 2004	Jan-Dec 2003	Jan-Dec 2004
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	315.8	337.1	4,245.0	4,458.0	123.9	118.3	1,792.1	1,772.8
61 Leather; leather manufactures nes; dressed furskins	0.7	0.7	10.3	11.6	1.9	1.8	44.3	33.0
62 Rubber manufactures nes	17.5	19.2	230.8	232.2	6.6	6.6	86.5	88.2
63 Cork & wood manufactures (excl furniture)	18.2	19.7	269.3	299.7	13.5	16.0	209.7	222.9
64 Paper, paperboard & articles thereof	61.1	58.8	798.0	723.8	14.1	12.1	206.3	177.8
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles & related products	39.7	38.1	491.6	496.1	20.7	22.6	337.1	327.8
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	40.7	49.6	550.2	612.4	24.7	22.5	370.9	361.0
67 Iron & steel	43.8	48.7	567.7	660.0	4.7	3.9	55.4	66.1
68 Non-ferrous metals	27.6	24.5	408.2	451.2	5.5	4.4	64.1	76.4
69 Manufactures of metals nes	66.5	77.8	918.8	971.0	32.2	28.3	417.7	419.6
7 Machinery and transport equipment	2,041.0	2,226.5	20,732.0	21,759.9	2,315.1	2,231.9	23,521.3	22,664.0
71 Power generating machinery & equipment	57.0	41.7	679.1	581.8	50.2	18.3	376.5	405.3
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	75.8	73.3	1,004.5	977.3	24.7	19.5	278.5	282.2
73 Metalworking machinery	16.8	9.4	192.3	136.2	6.1	5.3	71.3	83.3
74 General industrial machinery & equipment nes & parts nes	81.3	89.8	1,207.1	1,097.1	72.6	88.2	1,007.8	1,137.7
75 Office machines & automatic data processing machines	781.6	748.3	7,986.7	7,893.6	1,576.4	1,525.9	14,837.0	13,453.2
76 Telecommunications & sound equipment	165.7	207.2	1,393.7	1,649.6	146.3	104.5	1,392.8	1,314.4
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus & appliances nes & parts	367.8	390.5	4,646.7	4,669.4	416.0	438.8	5,096.3	5,547.3
78 Road vehicles (incl air-cushion vehicles)	326.4	421.8	2,809.5	3,253.7	17.7	14.7	359.6	310.1
79 Other transport equipment	168.5	244.5	812.4	1,501.4	5.2	16.7	101.4	130.6
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	563.7	502.4	6,302.6	6,209.0	871.4	921.7	9,456.9	9,848.9
81 Prefab buildings; plumbing & electrical fixtures & fittings	20.6	23.2	226.7	268.1	6.5	8.0	93.9	92.6
82 Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, cushions etc	32.9	35.1	360.2	422.5	8.2	7.2	103.2	95.5
83 Travel goods, handbags & similar containers	5.5	5.7	65.2	64.6	1.0	0.9	15.8	14.1
84 Articles of apparel; clothing accessories	96.2	98.5	1,296.2	1,292.1	20.5	18.6	319.7	293.2
85 Footwear	20.2	20.2	267.0	272.5	2.1	2.3	29.7	30.5
87 Professional, scientific & controlling apparatus nes	65.6	65.0	822.0	705.1	292.2	324.3	3,267.3	3,808.4
88 Photographic apparatus; optical goods; watches & clocks	18.4	22.3	267.3	221.1	49.3	57.2	670.6	710.7
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles nes	304.3	232.4	2,998.0	2,962.9	491.5	503.4	4,956.6	4,803.9
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	126.2	116.9	1,265.8	1,351.2	204.9	254.5	2,697.2	2,965.0
Unclassified estimates¹	150.2	113.8	1,676.6	1,875.9	75.9	15.4	838.1	774.1
Total	4,350.9	4,545.0	47,864.6	50,099.6	6,897.1	6,978.2	82,076.1	83,891.5

¹ Estimates for which a commodity classification is not available.

Table 4 Trade by Country

€ million

Country	Imports				Exports			
	Dec 2003	Dec 2004	Jan-Dec 2003	Jan-Dec 2004	Dec 2003	Dec 2004	Jan-Dec 2003	Jan-Dec 2004
Great Britain	1,220.6	1,333.3	13,662.1	14,299.2	1,188.3	1,095.8	13,434.7	13,401.6
Northern Ireland	87.6	85.3	1,042.3	1,102.7	98.2	101.1	1,408.3	1,419.6
Austria	18.2	8.5	163.1	123.0	34.0	37.9	332.0	359.9
Belgium	62.2	82.5	751.2	930.2	768.4	823.6	10,334.5	12,314.8
Cyprus	0.6	0.4	8.9	5.2	1.4	2.3	23.7	24.1
Czech Republic	13.7	12.0	144.6	110.3	21.0	18.1	177.1	196.3
Denmark	64.0	43.8	815.2	747.7	52.5	55.3	504.4	498.6
Estonia	2.0	1.0	35.2	21.7	0.8	1.0	24.0	12.7
Finland	25.3	23.8	264.3	238.9	35.4	27.2	293.9	296.5
France	212.3	192.9	1,913.6	2,232.3	472.9	479.9	5,010.5	5,028.2
Germany	349.1	349.5	3,498.2	3,764.2	623.1	612.5	6,845.4	6,421.6
Greece	4.0	3.3	49.1	39.7	24.2	28.1	312.7	328.1
Italy	82.9	96.2	1,072.0	1,090.3	326.8	322.5	3,748.6	3,809.6
Latvia	2.7	1.2	47.1	37.8	0.6	0.5	19.6	16.7
Lithuania	2.7	1.7	23.6	28.1	0.5	0.8	13.6	7.3
Luxembourg	1.6	1.5	20.6	24.4	9.1	10.2	105.8	102.4
Hungary	46.0	14.0	163.5	214.6	13.5	9.1	138.5	146.9
Malta	0.3	0.3	4.3	3.0	0.7	1.0	15.2	10.5
Netherlands	120.0	143.1	1,679.2	1,874.4	411.8	461.4	4,184.4	3,814.3
Poland	14.0	10.1	158.2	126.6	27.2	31.3	259.6	259.7
Portugal	19.8	18.0	179.2	200.4	35.9	32.0	309.2	338.0
Slovakia	1.8	0.4	17.7	18.7	6.8	3.9	40.4	36.5
Slovenia	1.0	1.0	16.3	13.9	1.4	2.1	30.0	26.3
Spain	138.6	68.5	666.5	649.8	213.6	278.1	2,359.6	2,430.7
Sweden	41.7	48.8	435.1	517.1	91.1	93.3	1,163.3	1,108.2
EU Country not specified	37.8	31.3	436.8	431.4	0.1	9.2	1.2	37.6
Total EU¹	2,570.8	2,572.2	27,267.8	28,845.5	4,459.3	4,538.2	51,090.1	52,446.7
<i>of which EU-15</i>	2,486.0	2,530.2	26,648.5	28,265.7	4,385.4	4,468.0	50,348.5	51,709.8
Australia	14.0	20.2	124.2	176.3	49.6	65.7	647.6	736.1
Brazil	16.3	15.7	221.5	231.7	11.2	17.3	141.7	151.2
Canada	45.7	23.5	452.4	269.9	25.5	25.4	469.3	326.4
China	230.3	281.7	2,215.5	2,838.6	80.0	61.3	585.0	639.2
Hong Kong	32.1	45.5	382.3	495.2	64.4	70.6	688.3	832.9
India	8.5	12.7	134.8	152.5	7.5	11.4	95.1	109.5
Japan	232.5	204.4	2,296.4	2,170.1	228.2	216.6	2,109.4	2,332.6
Malaysia	37.3	53.2	468.8	466.0	51.7	40.8	578.1	447.5
Mexico	11.2	10.6	209.3	149.5	26.0	75.6	518.5	459.4
Norway	60.6	85.0	760.9	936.6	42.1	48.3	530.1	490.3
Philippines	11.1	9.2	181.8	109.5	17.5	20.5	208.0	194.1
Russia	6.5	9.6	44.2	60.1	18.4	25.3	251.4	213.1
Singapore	86.8	79.3	1,039.1	885.1	57.2	68.8	734.2	866.4
South Africa	10.2	11.6	154.9	157.9	21.7	18.7	269.1	254.1
South Korea	71.3	82.0	733.4	991.9	41.6	48.8	509.6	587.8
Switzerland	26.9	23.9	487.5	536.1	214.9	251.0	2,603.3	2,761.4
Taiwan	77.9	83.7	787.9	948.4	21.2	40.2	285.6	355.8
Thailand	33.9	25.7	334.9	350.9	11.2	8.6	145.1	161.8
Turkey	15.5	30.4	262.2	321.0	18.8	19.5	303.8	300.6
USA	588.3	711.2	7,416.4	6,960.7	1,254.1	1,100.7	16,939.2	16,509.3
Other countries ²	76.4	61.2	933.8	988.0	143.2	171.2	1,863.0	2,242.9
Country unknown ³	10.9	9.7	119.2	104.7	30.1	30.5	499.1	412.7
Unclassified estimates ⁴	75.9	82.9	835.4	953.3	1.9	2.9	11.3	59.7
Total	4,350.9	4,545.0	47,864.6	50,099.6	6,897.1	6,978.2	82,076.1	83,891.5

¹ On 1st May 2004, ten countries joined the EU - Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia.² Other non-EU countries not listed individually.³ Trade for which the country of origin or country of final destination is unknown.⁴ Estimates not allocated by country.

Table 5 Trade classified by Commodity and Principal Countries

(data for January 2005 is preliminary)

€ million					€ million				
Country by Section level of SITC(Rev 3)	Imports		Exports		Country by Section level of SITC(Rev 3)	Imports		Exports	
	Jan 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 2004	Jan 2005		Jan 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 2004	Jan 2005
Great Britain & Northern Ireland					China				
0 Food and live animals	134	141	208	212	0 Food and live animals	1	1	1	1
1 Beverages and tobacco	19	20	20	24	1 Beverages and tobacco	0	0	0	0
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	13	15	22	23	2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	3	3	2	2
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	108	159	13	22	3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	1	–	0
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	4	3	1	1	4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	0	–
5 Chemicals and related products nes	151	155	317	296	5 Chemicals and related products nes	3	4	10	11
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	164	189	62	60	6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	8	15	1	0
7 Machinery and transport equipment	346	352	309	385	7 Machinery and transport equipment	163	205	41	49
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	171	173	108	92	8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	31	34	2	3
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	14	17	23	23	9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	0	0	0	2
Other EU					Switzerland				
0 Food and live animals	65	72	140	121	0 Food and live animals	0	0	1	1
1 Beverages and tobacco	12	16	23	13	1 Beverages and tobacco	0	0	0	1
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	21	24	36	35	2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	0	0	1	1
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	12	37	6	8	3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	–	–	–	–
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	3	2	1	1	4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	–	–	–	0
5 Chemicals and related products nes	228	190	1,338	1,261	5 Chemicals and related products nes	22	22	265	340
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	109	115	49	41	6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2	2	1	1
7 Machinery and transport equipment	467	542	885	830	7 Machinery and transport equipment	18	7	37	17
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	79	83	225	245	8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	3	1	10	8
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	23	34	90	125	9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	2	5	5	6
USA					Rest of World				
0 Food and live animals	15	7	6	9	0 Food and live animals	23	25	84	77
1 Beverages and tobacco	1	1	14	12	1 Beverages and tobacco	6	7	10	8
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	4	5	2	3	2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	15	24	12	15
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2	2	9	0	3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	79	66	7	6
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	1	2	0	–	4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	1	1	0	0
5 Chemicals and related products nes	100	105	467	865	5 Chemicals and related products nes	47	61	187	168
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	16	16	13	20	6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	28	36	11	9
7 Machinery and transport equipment	297	362	157	175	7 Machinery and transport equipment	350	406	324	253
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	138	108	239	251	8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	52	56	52	57
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	10	10	25	48	9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	16	12	30	30
Japan					Total				
0 Food and live animals	0	0	3	4	3,926	4,274	6,130	6,447	
1 Beverages and tobacco	0	0	1	1					
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	0	0	0	0					
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	–	0	0	–					
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	–	–					
5 Chemicals and related products nes	26	32	44	42					
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	3	3	2	1					
7 Machinery and transport equipment	114	134	45	37					
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	10	8	54	60					
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	20	40	6	4					

Background Notes

Introduction The statistics are a combination of Customs-based non-EU trade statistics and estimates from the Intrastat Survey of Irish traders involved in trade with other EU member states. Details of non-EU trade for December 2004 have already been published in a separate Statistical Release.

Revisions All figures are estimates. They are subject to revision on the incorporation of late Intrastat and VAT returns and corrections made by traders to Intrastat returns already submitted.

When the results for a particular month are published, the results for the same month in the previous year are revised for the last time and may be considered final. However, further revisions are possible in very exceptional cases.

Intrastat System The Intrastat system has two components. Firstly, the Intrastat survey itself (conducted by the Revenue Commissioners), in which the larger traders make detailed monthly returns giving information on the quantity and value of all exports to or imports from EU countries.

The total number of traders required to make a detailed import return is about 6,885 while about 2,040 must make a detailed export return. The response rate in terms of number of traders in December 2004 was 91%, covering an estimated 95% of the total value of intra-EU trade. The response rates for January 2005 are 57% and 80% respectively.

The second component of the Intrastat system is the regular VAT return, on which all traders are required to record the *total* value of goods imported from and exported to other EU member states. This information provides the basis for determining total EU trade for those traders below the Intrastat survey thresholds. It is also used to maintain the register of EU traders.

Estimation The figures in this release include estimates for traders above the Intrastat thresholds who did not make detailed returns for the period and for traders below the thresholds who did not provide aggregate intra-EU trade figures on their VAT returns.

Estimates for Intrastat non-respondents are apportioned to individual commodities and countries whenever previous Intrastat returns are available. Estimates for traders below the Intrastat thresholds are assigned to partner country where possible, but not to commodity.

The estimate of imports incorporates an upward adjustment equivalent to about 1.75% of total imports, which is included in 'Unclassified estimates'. This special adjustment arises from the difficulty of comprehensively covering all EU imports through the Intrastat survey system.

The unclassified category also includes certain miscellaneous adjustments.

Price and Volume Indices The monthly price (unit value) index measures monthly price trends relative to the annual levels in the preceding year using value weights relating to that year's trade (Laspeyres index).

The annual index is compiled using value weights for both the current and previous year (Fisher index) to allow for change in the structure of external trade.

The monthly index series should be regarded as interim measures suitable for month-to-month comparisons within a given year. However, when the annual price index is compiled, the monthly price indices are rescaled to make their average equal to the annual index.