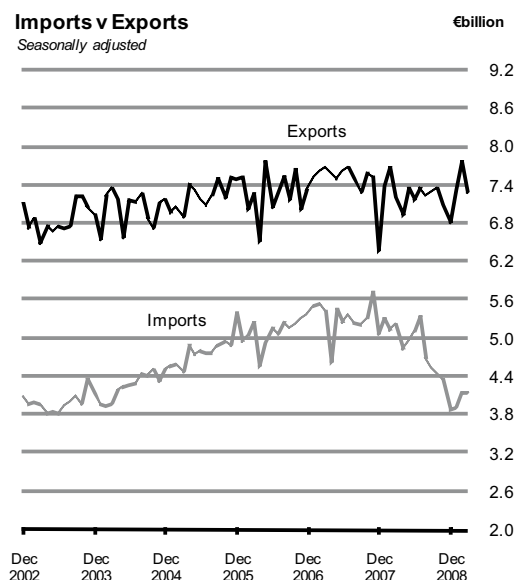




**Imports v Exports**  
Seasonally adjusted



## External Trade

February 2009 (Provisional details),  
March 2009 (Preliminary)

### Seasonally adjusted trade summary

	€ million		
	Imports	Exports	Surplus
<b>December 2008</b>	3,868	6,789	2,920
<b>January 2009</b>	3,907	7,308	3,401
<b>February 2009</b>	4,147	7,747	3,600
<b>March 2009</b>	4,141	7,284	3,143

### Seasonally adjusted Exports down in March

**Seasonally adjusted** exports fell by 6% and imports were unchanged in March, relative to February 2009 (*see graph and Table 2*). Relative to January 2009, exports and imports both increased by 6% in February 2009.

On an **unadjusted** basis, the value of exports in March 2009 (*see Table 1*) was up 12%, while the value of imports was down 9% on March 2008. The value of exports in February was down 5% on February 2008 and the value of imports was down 22%.

The **January-February** figures for 2009 when compared with those of 2008 (*see Tables 3-4*) show that:

**Exports** decreased from €14,429m to €13,898m (-4%) –

- ◆ Electrical machinery decreased by 40%, Computer equipment by 29%, Chemical products by 26% and Industrial machinery by 42%.

Medical and pharmaceutical products increased by 4%, Organic chemicals by 19%, Professional, scientific and controlling apparatus by 31% and Other transport equipment (including aircraft) by 615%.

- ◆ Goods to China decreased by 24%, to Great Britain by 6%, to Germany by 19% and to Malaysia by 35%.

Goods to the United States increased by 6%, to Japan by 7%, to Bermuda by €70m and to Switzerland by 111%.

**Imports** decreased from €10,659m to €8,018m (-25%) –

- ◆ Road vehicles decreased by 74%, Computer equipment by 34%, Other Transport equipment (including aircraft) by 17%, Specialised machinery by 56%, Industrial machinery by 34%, Electrical machinery by 20%, Iron and steel by 49%, Telecommunications equipment by 29% and Petroleum products by 24%.

Power generating machinery increased by 42%, Medical and pharmaceutical products by 7% and Animal feed by 18%.

- ◆ Goods from Germany decreased by 44%, the United States by 13%, Great Britain by 27%, China by 23%, South Korea by 66% and Japan by 44%.

Goods from Austria increased by 99%, from Argentina by 138%, from Canada by 27% and from Poland by 19%.

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**Table 1 Summary of trade**

Period	Value			Volume Index <sup>1</sup>		Price Index <sup>1</sup>		Terms of Trade <sup>2</sup>
	Imports	Exports	Trade Surplus	Base year 1990=100				
				Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	
	€m	€m	€m					
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	276.6	435.1	126.7	118.5	93.5
2003	47,864.6	82,076.1	34,211.5	259.7	418.4	116.1	108.0	93.0
2004	51,105.4	84,409.5	33,304.1	283.6	446.5	113.5	104.0	91.7
2005	57,464.9	86,732.3	29,267.3	316.3	456.7	114.4	104.5	91.3
2006	60,857.4	86,772.0	25,914.6	325.2	458.0	117.7	104.4	88.7
2007	63,485.7	89,226.1	25,740.5	340.9	481.8	117.3	101.9	86.9
2008	57,107.1	86,293.8	29,186.7	..	..	..	..	..
2007 <sup>3</sup> January	5,694.4	7,279.2	1,584.8	365.5	463.4	115.8	104.0	89.8
February	5,394.6	6,947.2	1,552.6	343.4	449.6	116.4	102.4	87.9
March	5,645.4	8,419.8	2,774.3	355.9	541.6	117.6	102.3	87.0
April	4,856.5	7,532.4	2,675.9	309.0	484.0	117.0	102.6	87.7
May	5,462.5	7,491.9	2,029.3	344.6	481.3	117.0	102.5	87.6
June	4,985.7	7,900.5	2,914.9	312.2	499.6	117.6	103.4	87.9
July	5,037.3	7,388.9	2,351.7	318.9	477.2	116.9	102.2	87.4
August	4,743.5	6,858.4	2,114.9	296.2	434.3	118.4	102.4	86.4
September	4,840.8	7,367.8	2,527.0	305.9	476.0	117.4	101.1	86.1
October	5,722.9	7,771.7	2,048.8	355.7	502.6	117.0	100.2	85.7
November	6,008.2	8,103.9	2,095.7	380.7	532.6	117.5	98.7	84.0
December	5,093.8	6,164.3	1,070.6	319.2	398.9	118.8	101.3	85.2
2008 <sup>3</sup> January	5,447.9	7,119.6	1,671.7	341.7	468.1	118.4	98.9	83.5
February	5,211.2	7,309.2	2,098.0	333.5	485.0	118.6	99.1	83.5
March	4,952.3	7,053.9	2,101.5	321.0	491.6	116.9	97.1	83.1
April	4,960.9	7,271.5	2,310.6	320.0	515.6	116.1	94.8	81.7
May	4,825.8	7,298.9	2,473.1	310.1	514.8	117.0	95.0	81.2
June	4,858.1	7,191.6	2,333.5	306.3	496.9	116.6	95.2	81.6
July <sup>4</sup>	5,113.5	7,281.8	2,168.3	322.2	490.8	115.6	95.4	82.5
August	4,024.2	6,476.9	2,452.7	254.9	437.2	117.1	97.0	82.8
September	4,495.6	7,432.4	2,936.8	280.9	493.7	120.6	99.3	82.3
October	4,715.6	7,555.8	2,840.2	290.6	482.1	122.2	103.2	84.4
November <sup>4</sup>	4,367.0	7,530.2	3,163.3	274.1	464.9	120.0	106.5	88.7
December	4,135.0	6,772.0	2,637.0	262.8	435.1	118.9	102.8	86.4
2009 <sup>3</sup> January	3,937.2	6,932.2	2,995.0	..	..	..	..	..
February	4,080.5	6,965.4	2,884.9	..	..	..	..	..
March <sup>5</sup>	4,501.1	7,887.4	3,386.3	..	..	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Monthly data for 2008 has been rescaled to make their average equal to the annual

<sup>2</sup> Export Price Index divided by Import Price Index

<sup>3</sup> Provisional

<sup>4</sup> Revised

<sup>5</sup> Preliminary data based on current Intrastat response levels

.. Data not yet available

**Table 2 Seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup> Series**

Period		Value			Volume Index	
		Imports €m	Exports €m	Trade Surplus €m	Base year 1990=100	
					Imports	Exports
2006	January	4,948.4	7,509.1	2,560.7	318.0	462.4
	February	5,027.7	7,004.4	1,976.7	319.2	427.1
	March	5,219.1	7,237.9	2,018.8	333.0	449.0
	April	4,548.7	6,520.9	1,972.3	290.2	413.1
	May	4,916.8	7,744.5	2,827.6	317.7	494.1
	June	5,152.9	7,047.7	1,894.8	326.0	454.7
	July	5,051.8	7,279.8	2,228.0	324.3	467.9
	August	5,232.6	7,516.4	2,283.8	334.0	485.4
	September	5,142.0	7,154.8	2,012.9	334.5	452.6
	October	5,186.6	7,640.3	2,453.7	332.6	482.7
	November	5,272.6	7,019.0	1,746.5	339.4	450.0
	December	5,340.9	7,317.1	1,976.2	343.4	469.1
2007	January	5,499.6	7,520.9	2,021.4	353.3	469.0
	February	5,506.3	7,587.1	2,080.8	350.5	489.1
	March	5,401.6	7,672.5	2,270.9	337.9	491.5
	April	4,606.1	7,572.5	2,966.5	296.0	489.3
	May	5,423.1	7,495.9	2,072.8	343.5	480.8
	June	5,235.9	7,586.5	2,350.7	330.0	481.9
	July	5,335.5	7,663.7	2,328.2	339.1	494.1
	August	5,239.5	7,474.7	2,235.2	329.1	476.2
	September	5,208.7	7,281.3	2,072.5	327.4	473.6
	October	5,298.5	7,573.8	2,275.3	326.2	490.9
	November	5,696.5	7,498.3	1,801.8	360.8	494.4
	December	5,046.1	6,360.4	1,314.4	315.6	412.7
2008	January	5,291.4	7,365.0	2,073.6	330.9	475.7
	February	5,099.4	7,657.8	2,558.4	327.1	505.1
	March	5,202.4	7,177.7	1,975.2	337.0	502.5
	April	4,814.9	6,917.7	2,102.8	310.6	490.5
	May	4,942.3	7,334.0	2,391.8	320.8	514.6
	June	5,091.8	7,144.7	2,052.9	325.8	497.8
	July	5,317.1	7,335.7	2,018.6	333.6	495.6
	August	4,666.5	7,207.9	2,541.4	297.7	487.5
	September	4,531.0	7,283.9	2,752.9	281.7	485.1
	October	4,424.0	7,329.2	2,905.2	269.9	469.2
	November	4,362.6	7,069.5	2,706.9	273.2	438.9
	December	3,868.4	6,788.5	2,920.1	244.1	437.5
2009	January	3,907.2	7,308.0	3,400.8	..	..
	February	4,146.7	7,747.0	3,600.3	..	..
	March	4,141.2	7,283.7	3,142.5	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2008. Accordingly all values in this table have been revised

.. Data not yet available

**Table 3 Trade classified by Commodity**

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Imports				Exports			
	Feb 2008	Feb 2009	Jan-Feb 2008	Jan-Feb 2009	Feb 2008	Feb 2009	Jan-Feb 2008	Jan-Feb 2009
<b>0 Food and live animals</b>	<b>350.7</b>	<b>366.7</b>	<b>762.7</b>	<b>690.9</b>	<b>573.6</b>	<b>496.4</b>	<b>1,111.2</b>	<b>956.8</b>
00 Live animals other than animals of Division 03	17.1	7.6	37.7	20.3	9.1	16.4	19.6	28.0
01 Meat & meat preparations	53.6	52.6	110.6	99.4	185.9	169.2	347.8	330.0
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	36.8	31.2	79.5	54.7	85.0	86.2	167.0	156.5
03 Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and preparations thereof	12.7	10.7	27.6	20.6	38.4	21.7	59.4	39.3
04 Cereals & cereal preparations	56.8	59.9	127.2	116.3	26.6	20.2	51.0	41.2
05 Vegetables & fruit	70.5	68.0	144.3	129.4	22.0	18.6	43.9	41.8
06 Sugars, sugar preparations & honey	18.6	24.2	37.5	41.2	8.8	9.7	17.3	18.1
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices & manufactures thereof	26.9	36.5	58.2	59.1	23.7	20.9	44.7	40.8
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl unmilled cereals)	27.2	46.1	77.2	91.1	15.6	12.1	29.0	25.9
09 Miscellaneous edible products & preparations	30.5	29.8	62.8	58.7	158.5	121.5	331.5	235.3
<b>1 Beverages and tobacco</b>	<b>61.4</b>	<b>46.9</b>	<b>120.9</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>82.3</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>168.9</b>	<b>150.1</b>
11 Beverages	54.4	40.6	108.6	74.4	76.4	66.4	155.8	136.6
12 Tobacco & tobacco manufactures	7.0	6.3	12.3	12.8	5.8	5.8	13.0	13.5
<b>2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels</b>	<b>87.1</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>157.2</b>	<b>94.0</b>	<b>112.1</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>229.5</b>	<b>138.2</b>
21 Hides, skins & furskins, raw	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	6.5	3.3	12.0	7.0
22 Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	0.9	2.2	3.5	3.8	0.1	0.2	2.2	0.3
23 Crude rubber (incl synthetic & reclaimed)	1.3	0.7	2.4	1.4	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.1
24 Cork & wood	23.7	10.6	47.6	22.7	6.5	3.8	11.8	7.4
25 Pulp & waste paper	2.5	2.9	4.4	5.5	4.8	3.4	9.6	8.3
26 Textile fibres & their wastes	1.3	1.1	3.0	2.4	10.4	7.3	19.5	16.3
27 Crude fertilisers & minerals (excl coal, petroleum and precious stones)	25.2	6.8	41.0	15.6	3.0	8.0	5.5	14.8
28 Metalliferous ores & metal scrap	14.1	8.7	26.5	20.1	74.3	31.1	148.3	65.9
29 Crude animal & vegetable materials nes	17.9	13.7	28.4	22.6	6.4	8.9	20.2	18.0
<b>3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials</b>	<b>566.0</b>	<b>402.2</b>	<b>1,039.4</b>	<b>840.0</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>86.2</b>	<b>73.9</b>
32 Coal, coke & briquettes	28.9	16.0	48.4	22.8	6.7	7.7	11.4	12.4
33 Petroleum, petroleum products & related materials	413.9	270.7	739.9	563.0	31.5	34.5	72.1	60.1
34 Gas, natural & manufactured	114.6	111.7	235.0	235.4	0.9	0.3	1.3	0.5
35 Electric Current	8.6	3.8	16.1	18.8	0.6	0.0	1.5	1.0
<b>4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>
41 Animal oils & fats	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.1	3.1	1.5	9.6	2.6
42 Fixed vegetable fats & oils	12.5	12.9	25.4	26.7	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.1
43 Animal or vegetable fats & oils, processed; waxes	2.1	2.3	4.6	4.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
<b>5 Chemicals and related products nes</b>	<b>766.5</b>	<b>705.4</b>	<b>1,436.1</b>	<b>1,302.8</b>	<b>3,871.0</b>	<b>4,015.3</b>	<b>7,439.6</b>	<b>7,912.9</b>
51 Organic chemicals	195.7	199.3	353.6	353.7	1,470.9	1,867.5	3,095.8	3,675.9
52 Inorganic chemicals	14.8	13.8	32.0	27.7	18.7	4.3	27.6	8.7
53 Dyeing, tanning & colouring materials	18.3	12.4	33.7	23.6	5.3	3.4	9.9	7.0
54 Medical & pharmaceutical products	228.9	244.8	423.3	452.0	1,541.2	1,485.5	2,731.0	2,850.0
55 Essential oils; perfume materials; toilet & cleansing preparations	96.1	81.1	179.2	154.5	477.8	418.4	908.4	876.2
56 Fertilisers (other than those of Division 27)	63.7	38.9	112.0	68.6	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2
57 Plastics in primary forms	61.2	40.2	119.5	83.8	21.5	18.5	42.5	36.3
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	35.1	31.9	74.4	62.6	29.6	17.1	51.3	33.1
59 Chemical materials & products nes	52.9	42.9	108.3	76.4	305.9	200.4	572.7	425.5

**Table 3 Trade classified by Commodity - continued**

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Imports				Exports			
	Feb 2008	Feb 2009	Jan-Feb 2008	Jan-Feb 2009	Feb 2008	Feb 2009	Jan-Feb 2008	Jan-Feb 2009
<b>6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material</b>	<b>484.1</b>	<b>303.5</b>	<b>972.9</b>	<b>634.8</b>	<b>149.5</b>	<b>109.8</b>	<b>286.9</b>	<b>209.8</b>
61 Leather; leather manufactures nes; dressed furskins	1.1	1.4	2.8	2.6	1.5	1.1	3.0	2.3
62 Rubber manufactures nes	27.8	19.9	57.2	39.5	5.2	4.3	10.1	7.8
63 Cork & wood manufactures (excl furniture)	24.1	15.1	55.4	29.4	24.4	14.9	43.1	27.4
64 Paper, paperboard & articles thereof	72.7	58.2	146.6	119.2	11.9	9.5	26.8	19.0
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles & related products	36.7	28.1	76.4	53.2	17.5	12.0	33.6	24.4
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	63.0	38.8	127.5	77.5	24.8	19.1	47.1	35.5
67 Iron & steel	86.0	39.6	175.8	90.5	7.6	4.4	16.3	9.0
68 Non-ferrous metals	70.4	24.2	118.8	57.5	9.2	4.8	18.8	9.6
69 Manufactures of metals nes	102.3	78.3	212.5	165.4	47.5	39.6	88.1	74.8
<b>7 Machinery and transport equipment</b>	<b>2,016.6</b>	<b>1,367.3</b>	<b>4,348.7</b>	<b>2,732.1</b>	<b>1,581.7</b>	<b>1,117.3</b>	<b>3,283.0</b>	<b>2,340.0</b>
71 Power generating machinery & equipment	41.9	55.6	100.7	143.1	77.0	32.5	123.3	51.0
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	115.5	47.6	232.2	101.7	49.6	27.2	80.9	51.9
73 Metalworking machinery	12.2	4.4	23.4	8.6	3.5	2.5	5.9	4.2
74 General industrial machinery & equipment nes & parts nes	115.0	76.8	232.4	154.2	117.8	69.2	235.2	135.5
75 Office machines & automatic data processing machines	538.3	369.0	1,249.0	829.0	775.1	492.8	1,666.0	1,187.3
76 Telecommunications & sound equipment	138.9	94.5	278.7	197.6	105.7	78.1	218.2	175.8
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus & appliances nes & parts	232.7	199.1	498.1	400.7	412.8	303.2	875.8	528.9
78 Road vehicles (incl air-cushion vehicles)	441.8	99.8	948.0	245.5	26.6	14.6	52.9	27.5
79 Other transport equipment	380.4	420.6	786.3	651.6	13.5	97.3	24.9	177.9
<b>8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles</b>	<b>553.9</b>	<b>504.3</b>	<b>1,117.6</b>	<b>976.0</b>	<b>731.9</b>	<b>789.0</b>	<b>1,424.8</b>	<b>1,522.1</b>
81 Prefab buildings; plumbing & electrical fixtures & fittings	25.7	18.6	50.4	35.4	10.4	10.3	24.6	20.8
82 Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, cushions etc	47.8	27.9	94.5	56.7	8.5	6.8	16.3	14.6
83 Travel goods, handbags & similar containers	8.4	8.1	18.0	16.1	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.5
84 Articles of apparel; clothing accessories	146.0	134.9	288.6	268.5	16.1	12.4	26.7	24.4
85 Footwear	30.0	26.0	58.5	50.3	2.4	2.0	5.0	4.0
87 Professional, scientific & controlling apparatus nes	73.2	74.3	149.3	149.3	199.9	295.6	386.7	506.2
88 Photographic apparatus; optical goods; watches & clocks	18.3	13.8	38.4	27.5	72.3	83.4	140.3	151.8
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles nes	204.6	200.8	419.8	372.2	421.3	377.4	823.2	797.9
<b>9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere</b>	<b>258.6</b>	<b>203.5</b>	<b>518.5</b>	<b>390.0</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>150.4</b>	<b>294.1</b>	<b>388.7</b>
<b>Unclassified estimates<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>117.8</b>	<b>154.0</b>	<b>237.3</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>104.7</b>	<b>94.2</b>	<b>202.2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,211.2</b>	<b>4,080.5</b>	<b>10,659.1</b>	<b>8,017.7</b>	<b>7,309.0</b>	<b>6,965.4</b>	<b>14,428.6</b>	<b>13,897.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Estimates for which a commodity classification is not available

**Table 4 Trade by Country**

€ million

Country	Imports				Exports			
	Feb 2008	Feb 2009	Jan-Feb 2008	Jan-Feb 2009	Feb 2008	Feb 2009	Jan-Feb 2008	Jan-Feb 2009
Great Britain	1,569.3	1,034.0	3,078.8	2,259.6	1,057.1	1,070.5	2,248.8	2,113.6
Northern Ireland	107.5	71.2	216.1	139.8	126.1	101.9	257.4	202.9
Austria	17.8	56.3	33.2	66.2	50.0	26.0	78.8	55.2
Belgium	129.9	84.1	230.7	155.6	1,180.6	1,090.4	2,158.7	2,111.9
Bulgaria	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9	5.7	1.6	14.0	5.0
Cyprus	2.0	0.7	4.3	1.0	1.9	3.9	5.8	8.6
Czech Republic	20.4	13.6	49.8	25.7	25.9	20.8	58.8	46.7
Denmark	57.2	60.9	110.8	97.2	37.6	29.5	81.1	63.8
Estonia	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.9	3.0	1.5	5.3	3.1
Finland	23.9	22.7	48.6	41.9	28.4	20.0	55.8	39.2
France	198.8	233.8	406.9	367.1	416.8	380.0	810.9	772.1
Germany	481.4	268.8	962.5	541.5	509.9	387.3	995.6	806.2
Greece	2.5	1.8	5.6	3.6	24.3	27.7	55.7	56.2
Italy	141.2	92.2	280.2	182.5	249.2	257.4	508.0	488.1
Latvia	5.7	1.0	7.7	5.1	3.8	4.8	4.7	6.9
Lithuania	1.7	3.2	5.3	5.0	2.2	0.8	3.1	1.8
Luxembourg	3.5	4.1	6.2	7.0	14.4	13.8	28.4	25.6
Hungary	27.3	21.1	50.2	45.1	14.5	16.5	27.5	31.0
Malta	0.3	0.3	1.4	1.1	5.7	1.2	6.8	2.4
Netherlands	210.4	218.1	443.0	442.2	253.6	275.0	513.7	509.0
Poland	21.5	28.7	54.6	65.1	56.0	35.0	116.9	86.8
Portugal	12.1	8.0	25.2	19.1	39.9	27.4	76.3	58.4
Romania	4.2	3.5	7.4	6.7	18.6	22.0	40.2	36.5
Slovakia	2.0	1.5	3.4	3.6	6.1	4.8	11.4	10.1
Slovenia	1.6	1.0	3.4	2.3	4.1	1.5	6.6	3.3
Spain	79.0	50.3	170.3	96.9	331.3	270.7	586.6	552.9
Sweden	60.6	30.1	110.7	51.2	65.2	64.4	146.1	120.9
EU Country not specified	27.7	41.2	61.0	66.6	4.3	2.6	12.1	5.2
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>3,210.3</b>	<b>2,353.2</b>	<b>6,378.8</b>	<b>4,700.6</b>	<b>4,536.1</b>	<b>4,159.3</b>	<b>8,914.9</b>	<b>8,223.5</b>
<i>of which Euro-Zone<sup>1</sup></i>	<b>1,332.2</b>	<b>1,083.3</b>	<b>2,683.0</b>	<b>1,996.3</b>	<b>3,116.2</b>	<b>2,787.4</b>	<b>5,899.1</b>	<b>5,499.3</b>
Australia	9.4	6.3	17.8	10.4	64.7	41.3	129.5	99.2
Brazil	15.2	7.8	47.7	18.6	13.9	15.5	25.2	36.5
Canada	16.2	35.4	52.1	66.4	43.3	33.9	78.2	59.2
China <sup>2</sup>	302.4	259.8	717.2	555.7	202.8	194.1	467.4	355.8
India	15.8	23.0	39.1	49.1	11.5	10.4	24.0	20.7
Japan	123.6	52.5	259.9	144.9	149.6	145.3	273.3	293.5
Malaysia	29.6	24.2	71.4	43.9	87.6	65.3	179.8	116.6
Mexico	16.7	12.4	45.0	24.8	48.2	42.3	97.5	72.4
Norway	131.0	144.0	282.9	212.7	32.5	30.9	74.8	62.1
Philippines	8.6	3.3	18.4	6.3	33.9	13.4	76.8	26.4
Russia	15.4	12.6	34.6	16.1	27.5	14.7	46.7	28.3
Saudi Arabia	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.7	37.0	25.6	76.2	64.6
Singapore	70.4	39.5	136.6	92.6	60.9	45.9	112.5	75.4
South Africa	8.9	12.0	17.5	16.5	26.1	18.3	51.3	36.4
South Korea	84.1	21.2	163.1	55.5	49.6	19.8	100.4	60.3
Switzerland	57.7	31.4	92.0	58.3	142.5	249.9	283.5	598.0
Taiwan	38.8	26.1	85.9	56.2	22.9	44.0	44.9	54.4
Thailand	36.8	25.6	83.2	53.6	10.8	6.9	26.5	16.0
Turkey	32.7	16.8	78.1	38.6	36.2	27.2	64.1	55.1
USA	746.9	751.6	1,573.9	1,369.9	1,477.8	1,566.9	2,888.3	3,053.9
Other countries <sup>3</sup>	143.5	110.0	248.8	197.9	177.7	156.4	363.8	412.0
Country unknown <sup>4</sup>	5.7	11.7	23.9	33.2	15.4	11.8	28.0	26.3
Unclassified estimates <sup>5</sup>	91.5	99.7	190.4	195.5	0.4	26.3	0.9	51.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,211.2</b>	<b>4,080.5</b>	<b>10,659.1</b>	<b>8,017.7</b>	<b>7,309.0</b>	<b>6,965.4</b>	<b>14,428.6</b>	<b>13,897.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Euro-zone members from January 2009: Austria, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Malta, Cyprus and Slovakia

<sup>2</sup> China includes Hong Kong and Macao

<sup>3</sup> Other non-EU countries not listed individually

<sup>4</sup> Trade for which the country of origin or country of final destination is unknown

<sup>5</sup> Estimates not allocated by country

Table 5 Trade classified by Commodity and Principal Countries

€ million

Country by Section level of SITC (data for the latest month is preliminary)	Imports		Exports	
	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Mar 2008	Mar 2009
<b>Great Britain &amp; Northern Ireland</b>				
0 Food and live animals	195	170	265	242
1 Beverages and tobacco	29	29	44	43
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	23	17	33	21
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	349	198	26	9
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	6	5	1	1
5 Chemicals and related products nes	201	164	421	323
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	218	148	64	58
7 Machinery and transport equipment	419	179	309	210
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	221	171	134	120
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	73	68	56	110
<b>Other EU</b>				
0 Food and live animals	128	133	180	175
1 Beverages and tobacco	29	27	17	13
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	25	28	60	37
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	124	75	7	7
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	7	7	2	1
5 Chemicals and related products nes	306	252	1,888	2,565
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	146	95	54	39
7 Machinery and transport equipment	581	468	698	559
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	104	85	248	288
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	95	83	87	93
<b>USA</b>				
0 Food and live animals	7	14	3	4
1 Beverages and tobacco	1	1	16	14
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	4	4	1	3
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	3	0	0	15
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	1	1	–	0
5 Chemicals and related products nes	90	94	785	1,059
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	26	23	8	5
7 Machinery and transport equipment	333	828	166	259
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	67	88	175	285
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	46	78	45	118
<b>Japan</b>				
0 Food and live animals	0	0	2	0
1 Beverages and tobacco	0	0	0	0
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	0	0	0	0
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	–	0	0
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	–	–
5 Chemicals and related products nes	24	21	55	39
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2	1	2	0
7 Machinery and transport equipment	82	23	30	25
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	8	6	47	64
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	7	3	5	3
<b>China<sup>1</sup></b>				
0 Food and live animals	1	2	3	9
1 Beverages and tobacco	0	0	1	0
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	2	1	4	13
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	0	0
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	0	0
5 Chemicals and related products nes	8	13	36	51
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	24	18	2	1
7 Machinery and transport equipment	201	137	123	128
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	65	62	9	8
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	5	6	4	3
<b>Switzerland</b>				
0 Food and live animals	0	1	1	0
1 Beverages and tobacco	2	1	1	0
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	0	0	0	0
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	0	–
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	–	–	–
5 Chemicals and related products nes	19	22	196	154
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2	1	1	1
7 Machinery and transport equipment	7	8	11	6
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	3	3	3	4
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	1	1	4	2
<b>Rest of World</b>				
0 Food and live animals	41	34	115	95
1 Beverages and tobacco	3	7	9	7
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	14	12	12	5
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	60	123	28	13
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	3	2	0	0
5 Chemicals and related products nes	62	89	187	242
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	25	25	8	6
7 Machinery and transport equipment	268	154	300	227
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	62	74	42	56
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	93	120	20	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,952</b>	<b>4,501</b>	<b>7,054</b>	<b>7,887</b>

<sup>1</sup> China includes Hong Kong and Macao



## 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.

**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 seventh preceding month 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 7,700 while about 1,900 must make a detailed export return. The response rate in terms of number of traders in February 2009 was 76%, covering an estimated 94% of the total value of intra-EU trade. For March 2009 the respective response rates being 70% and 84%.

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.

**Extrastat System** 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.