



External Trade

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

	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i> € million		
	Imports	Exports	Surplus
January 2009	3,899	7,223	3,324
February 2009	4,147	7,747	3,600
March 2009	4,139	7,333	3,194
April 2009	3,909	7,771	3,862

Exports up, Imports down in April

Seasonally adjusted exports increased by 6% in April, relative to March 2009 and imports fell by 6% (*see graph and Table 2*). Relative to February 2009, exports decreased by 5% and imports held steady in March 2009.

On an **unadjusted** basis, the value of exports in April 2009 (*see Table 1*) was up 6%, while the value of imports was down 27% on April 2008. The value of exports in March was up 13% on March 2008 and the value of imports was down 9%.

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

Exports increased from €21,482m to €21,838m (+2%) –

- ◆ Medical and pharmaceutical products increased by 19%, Organic chemicals by 18%, Professional, scientific and controlling apparatus by 32% and Other transport equipment (including aircraft) by 974% (€320m).

Electrical machinery decreased by 33%, Computer equipment by 26%, Chemical products by 21%, Telecommunications equipment by 33% and Industrial machinery by 39%.

- ◆ Goods to the United States increased by 18%, Belgium by 20%, Bermuda by €70m and Switzerland by 53%.

Goods to China decreased by 12%, Northern Ireland by 20%, Great Britain by 9%, Germany by 15% and Malaysia by 37%.

Imports decreased from €15,611m to €12,516m (-20%) –

- ◆ Road vehicles decreased by 76%, Computer equipment by 33%, Specialised machinery by 56%, Industrial machinery by 34%, Electrical machinery by 14%, Iron and steel by 50%, Telecommunications equipment by 31% and Petroleum products by 28%.

Other Transport equipment (including aircraft) increased by 40%, Power generating machinery by 60%, Medical and pharmaceutical products by 6%, Organic chemicals by 3% and Animal feed by 13%.

- ◆ Goods from Germany decreased by 47%, Great Britain by 29%, China by 22%, South Korea by 68%, Italy by 32% and Japan by 48%.

Goods from the United States increased by 16%, Austria by 60%, Canada by 61%, India by 43% and Poland by 14%.

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

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Table 1 Summary of trade

Period	Value			Volume Index ¹		Price Index ¹		Terms of Trade ²
	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	57,130.7	86,287.3	29,156.6	300.5	484.5	119.7	98.0	81.9
2007 ³ 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 ³ January	5,447.9	7,119.6	1,671.7	337.4	471.1	119.9	98.2	81.9
February	5,211.2	7,309.2	2,098.0	329.3	488.2	120.1	98.4	82.0
March	4,952.3	7,053.9	2,101.5	316.9	494.8	118.4	96.4	81.5
April	4,960.9	7,271.5	2,310.6	315.9	519.0	117.6	94.2	80.1
May	4,825.8	7,298.9	2,473.1	306.2	518.2	118.5	94.4	79.7
June	4,858.1	7,191.6	2,333.5	302.4	500.2	118.1	94.5	80.0
July	5,113.5	7,281.8	2,168.3	318.1	494.0	117.1	94.7	80.9
August ⁴	4,037.5	6,468.3	2,430.9	251.7	440.1	118.6	96.4	81.2
September	4,495.6	7,432.4	2,936.8	277.3	496.9	122.1	98.6	80.8
October	4,715.6	7,555.8	2,840.2	286.9	485.3	123.8	102.5	82.8
November	4,367.0	7,530.2	3,163.3	270.6	467.9	121.6	105.8	87.0
December ⁴	4,145.4	6,774.1	2,628.7	259.5	438.0	120.4	102.1	84.8
2009 ³ January	3,937.2	6,932.2	2,995.0	240.5	441.3	123.7	103.7	83.9
February	4,080.8	6,965.4	2,884.6	250.0	444.6	123.4	103.5	83.9
March	4,498.4	7,940.8	3,442.4	275.5	497.7	123.5	104.7	84.8
April ⁵	3,632.7	7,726.0	4,093.3

¹ Monthly data for 2008 has been rescaled to make their average equal to the annual

² Export Price Index divided by Import Price Index

³ Provisional

⁴ Revised

⁵ Preliminary data 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	
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	326.7	478.8
	February	5,099.4	7,657.8	2,558.4	323.0	508.4
	March	5,202.4	7,177.7	1,975.2	332.7	505.8
	April	4,814.9	6,917.7	2,102.8	306.6	493.7
	May	4,942.3	7,334.0	2,391.8	316.7	518.0
	June	5,091.8	7,144.7	2,052.9	321.6	501.1
	July	5,317.1	7,335.7	2,018.6	329.4	498.9
	August	4,681.9	7,198.4	2,516.5	293.9	490.7
	September	4,531.0	7,283.9	2,752.9	278.2	488.3
	October	4,424.0	7,329.2	2,905.2	266.5	472.3
	November	4,362.6	7,069.5	2,706.9	269.8	441.8
	December	3,878.1	6,790.5	2,912.5	241.0	440.3
2009	January	3,899.0	7,222.8	3,323.9	239.9	460.4
	February	4,147.0	7,747.0	3,600.0	254.0	491.1
	March	4,138.8	7,333.1	3,194.3	253.4	460.6
	April	3,909.0	7,770.5	3,861.6

¹ 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			
	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Jan-Mar 2008	Jan-Mar 2009	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Jan-Mar 2008	Jan-Mar 2009
0 Food and live animals	371.8	359.7	1,134.5	1,051.0	569.9	540.7	1,681.1	1,497.6
00 Live animals other than animals of Division 03	9.7	2.1	47.4	22.5	10.8	13.9	30.4	41.9
01 Meat & meat preparations	52.8	53.6	163.4	153.2	200.0	184.9	547.8	514.8
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	45.5	39.2	125.0	93.9	83.3	89.4	250.2	245.9
03 Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and preparations thereof	13.4	11.4	41.0	32.1	38.2	40.9	97.6	80.3
04 Cereals & cereal preparations	62.6	62.0	189.9	178.3	24.8	18.2	75.8	59.4
05 Vegetables & fruit	74.0	78.8	218.2	208.3	22.6	22.4	66.6	64.2
06 Sugars, sugar preparations & honey	22.9	20.3	60.4	61.5	8.0	8.8	25.2	26.9
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices & manufactures thereof	24.8	24.7	83.0	83.7	18.8	20.4	63.4	61.2
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl unmilled cereals)	34.5	35.2	111.7	126.3	15.9	14.2	44.9	40.1
09 Miscellaneous edible products & preparations	31.6	32.5	94.4	91.2	147.6	127.8	479.0	363.0
1 Beverages and tobacco	63.6	63.5	184.5	150.8	87.5	72.9	256.3	223.0
11 Beverages	57.8	53.6	166.4	128.0	81.9	67.2	237.7	203.8
12 Tobacco & tobacco manufactures	5.7	10.0	18.1	22.8	5.6	5.7	18.7	19.2
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	68.5	64.7	225.8	158.6	110.2	79.6	339.8	217.9
21 Hides, skins & furskins, raw	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.1	6.2	3.9	18.2	10.9
22 Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	2.4	2.1	5.9	5.8	0.0	0.2	2.3	0.5
23 Crude rubber (incl synthetic & reclaimed)	1.4	0.9	3.8	2.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2
24 Cork & wood	21.1	10.9	68.7	33.6	6.3	4.3	18.2	11.6
25 Pulp & waste paper	2.2	2.1	6.6	7.6	4.0	3.5	13.6	11.9
26 Textile fibres & their wastes	0.9	1.4	3.9	3.7	8.5	9.0	28.0	25.3
27 Crude fertilisers & minerals (excl coal, petroleum and precious stones)	16.9	23.0	57.9	38.6	3.1	8.0	8.7	22.8
28 Metalliferous ores & metal scrap	9.7	8.3	36.2	28.4	71.3	43.3	219.7	109.2
29 Crude animal & vegetable materials nes	13.9	15.9	42.3	38.5	10.7	7.5	30.8	25.5
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	536.1	399.3	1,575.5	1,239.4	62.1	44.2	148.3	118.1
32 Coal, coke & briquettes	4.2	43.9	52.6	66.7	6.1	11.8	17.5	24.1
33 Petroleum, petroleum products & related materials	405.2	257.6	1,145.1	820.7	54.4	32.3	126.5	92.4
34 Gas, natural & manufactured	118.2	94.3	353.1	329.7	0.9	0.2	2.1	0.7
35 Electric Current	8.6	3.5	24.7	22.3	0.7	0.0	2.2	1.0
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	16.8	15.5	47.9	47.9	2.8	1.4	13.2	4.2
41 Animal oils & fats	0.6	0.6	1.8	1.7	2.5	1.2	12.1	3.8
42 Fixed vegetable fats & oils	13.7	12.8	39.1	39.5	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.2
43 Animal or vegetable fats & oils, processed; waxes	2.4	2.0	7.0	6.6	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2
5 Chemicals and related products nes	710.8	657.1	2,146.8	1,961.2	3,567.8	4,473.4	11,007.4	12,386.5
51 Organic chemicals	141.8	157.9	495.4	511.5	1,558.8	1,826.2	4,654.6	5,502.1
52 Inorganic chemicals	18.2	11.6	50.2	39.3	14.8	8.9	42.4	17.6
53 Dyeing, tanning & colouring materials	15.5	11.3	49.2	34.8	5.3	4.9	15.2	11.9
54 Medical & pharmaceutical products	235.4	246.1	658.7	698.0	1,263.5	1,910.4	3,994.5	4,760.4
55 Essential oils; perfume materials; toilet & cleansing preparations	94.2	82.3	273.4	237.0	428.6	451.2	1,337.0	1,327.5
56 Fertilisers (other than those of Division 27)	60.3	35.5	172.3	104.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.3
57 Plastics in primary forms	60.6	41.6	180.1	125.6	20.1	19.5	62.6	55.8
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	33.4	29.7	107.7	93.4	19.9	23.5	71.2	56.7
59 Chemical materials & products nes	51.4	41.1	159.7	117.5	256.5	228.6	829.2	654.2

Table 3 Trade classified by Commodity - continued

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Imports				Exports			
	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Jan-Mar 2008	Jan-Mar 2009	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Jan-Mar 2008	Jan-Mar 2009
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	443.5	295.7	1,416.4	931.1	139.0	108.7	425.9	318.8
61 Leather; leather manufactures nes; dressed furskins	1.2	0.9	4.0	3.5	2.3	2.3	5.3	4.6
62 Rubber manufactures nes	25.1	19.1	82.2	58.7	4.5	3.5	14.6	11.3
63 Cork & wood manufactures (excl furniture)	22.1	13.1	77.5	42.6	21.9	13.6	65.0	41.2
64 Paper, paperboard & articles thereof	73.1	55.2	219.7	174.4	11.4	10.2	38.2	29.2
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles & related products	35.1	36.0	111.5	89.3	16.0	14.7	49.7	39.1
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	54.4	39.8	182.0	117.1	20.3	18.7	67.3	54.3
67 Iron & steel	79.9	38.1	255.7	128.6	6.0	5.4	22.3	14.4
68 Non-ferrous metals	47.6	23.4	166.4	81.6	7.9	4.7	26.8	14.3
69 Manufactures of metals nes	104.9	70.0	317.4	235.4	48.7	35.6	136.8	110.4
7 Machinery and transport equipment	1,890.3	1,794.4	6,239.1	4,527.1	1,636.1	1,413.3	4,919.1	3,754.7
71 Power generating machinery & equipment	46.6	92.1	147.3	235.3	55.6	43.2	178.9	94.4
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	131.9	59.9	364.1	161.2	37.9	39.5	118.8	91.3
73 Metalworking machinery	8.9	4.2	32.3	12.7	6.3	3.8	12.2	8.0
74 General industrial machinery & equipment nes & parts nes	110.8	73.1	343.2	227.7	105.9	72.3	341.1	208.2
75 Office machines & automatic data processing machines	585.8	397.0	1,834.8	1,226.2	830.4	659.1	2,496.4	1,846.4
76 Telecommunications & sound equipment	156.8	101.8	435.4	299.6	165.5	80.5	383.7	256.5
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus & appliances nes & parts	227.3	222.7	725.3	623.4	402.9	322.8	1,278.7	851.8
78 Road vehicles (incl air-cushion vehicles)	392.6	76.8	1,340.7	322.7	23.7	17.6	76.6	45.8
79 Other transport equipment	229.6	766.7	1,015.9	1,418.3	7.9	174.4	32.8	352.3
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	530.5	499.2	1,648.1	1,476.2	658.5	831.9	2,083.3	2,354.6
81 Prefab buildings; plumbing & electrical fixtures & fittings	23.0	14.9	73.5	50.3	9.2	10.4	33.8	31.3
82 Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, cushions etc	45.6	25.6	140.1	82.3	10.1	7.0	26.4	21.6
83 Travel goods, handbags & similar containers	8.0	6.3	26.1	22.4	1.0	1.0	3.0	3.5
84 Articles of apparel; clothing accessories	138.6	129.9	427.3	398.5	13.3	14.1	40.0	38.4
85 Footwear	28.8	26.5	87.3	76.8	2.1	2.2	7.2	6.2
87 Professional, scientific & controlling apparatus nes	73.6	87.1	222.9	236.9	195.1	258.9	581.8	765.1
88 Photographic apparatus; optical goods; watches & clocks	22.2	14.3	60.6	41.8	71.5	78.3	211.8	230.4
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles nes	190.5	194.7	610.3	567.2	356.2	460.0	1,179.4	1,258.1
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	230.2	226.6	748.7	617.0	175.6	270.4	469.7	659.1
Unclassified estimates¹	90.3	122.7	244.3	356.4	44.3	104.3	138.5	303.8
Total	4,952.3	4,498.4	15,611.4	12,516.4	7,053.8	7,940.8	21,482.4	21,838.4

¹ Estimates for which a commodity classification is not available

Table 4 Trade by Country

€ million

Country	Imports				Exports			
	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Jan-Mar 2008	Jan-Mar 2009	Mar 2008	Mar 2009	Jan-Mar 2008	Jan-Mar 2009
Great Britain	1,624.3	1,060.8	4,703.1	3,322.5	1,226.1	1,030.7	3,474.9	3,145.9
Northern Ireland	110.6	86.8	326.7	227.2	126.9	104.8	384.3	308.0
Austria	15.5	11.8	48.8	78.0	33.7	31.1	112.5	86.3
Belgium	141.1	95.7	371.8	251.4	1,038.6	1,720.8	3,197.3	3,832.8
Bulgaria	0.6	1.0	1.4	1.9	5.8	2.8	19.8	7.8
Cyprus	2.2	0.4	6.5	1.4	2.5	4.0	8.2	12.5
Czech Republic	17.4	9.9	67.3	36.0	26.1	23.8	84.9	70.5
Denmark	26.0	112.2	136.8	209.4	43.9	35.8	125.0	99.6
Estonia	0.3	0.4	1.1	1.3	3.6	2.0	8.9	5.1
Finland	37.4	17.7	86.0	59.6	32.0	22.1	87.9	61.3
France	192.2	245.7	599.1	612.9	462.8	458.5	1,273.7	1,230.6
Germany	515.3	247.8	1,477.8	790.2	528.1	485.4	1,523.8	1,291.9
Greece	3.6	3.0	9.2	6.6	31.0	29.9	86.7	86.1
Italy	126.6	92.4	406.8	275.0	252.8	211.1	760.8	699.1
Latvia	8.3	5.4	16.1	10.5	5.2	8.1	9.9	15.0
Lithuania	2.2	2.2	7.5	7.2	2.1	1.2	5.2	3.0
Luxembourg	3.6	1.5	9.8	8.4	14.7	13.8	43.1	39.4
Hungary	26.6	20.8	76.7	65.9	14.6	14.9	42.1	45.9
Malta	0.4	1.1	1.7	2.2	1.4	1.5	8.2	3.9
Netherlands	204.7	211.6	647.7	654.0	264.8	256.4	778.4	765.4
Poland	29.9	30.8	84.5	96.0	56.1	46.9	173.0	133.8
Portugal	11.5	10.0	36.7	29.1	35.7	37.7	112.0	96.1
Romania	5.0	4.0	12.4	10.8	19.2	16.7	59.3	53.2
Slovakia	1.6	2.1	5.0	5.7	5.3	5.3	16.7	15.4
Slovenia	2.3	0.6	5.7	2.9	2.5	3.4	9.1	6.7
Spain	86.1	60.9	256.4	157.7	275.8	337.4	862.4	890.6
Sweden	47.7	28.8	158.4	80.1	75.5	60.2	221.6	181.1
EU Country not specified	37.5	29.1	98.5	95.7	7.1	3.3	19.2	8.5
Total EU	3,280.6	2,394.8	9,659.4	7,099.8	4,593.9	4,969.5	13,508.8	13,195.7
<i>of which Euro-Zone¹</i>	1,381.1	1,030.9	4,064.0	3,028.4	2,981.8	3,618.2	8,880.8	9,118.1
Australia	6.5	8.0	24.3	18.3	44.1	47.4	173.6	146.7
Brazil	12.1	9.0	59.8	27.6	19.3	17.8	44.4	54.3
Canada	20.1	49.9	72.2	116.3	26.0	34.5	104.2	93.7
China ²	304.8	238.0	1,022.0	793.7	181.9	213.6	649.3	569.4
India	19.1	34.0	58.2	83.1	17.4	16.9	41.3	37.5
Japan	123.6	54.7	383.5	199.8	140.8	131.7	414.2	425.2
Malaysia	35.2	21.1	106.6	65.0	68.2	39.5	248.0	156.1
Mexico	12.6	14.4	57.6	39.2	39.7	35.4	137.2	107.8
Norway	51.8	81.7	334.6	294.4	53.4	64.1	128.3	126.2
Philippines	4.8	5.3	23.2	11.6	31.7	10.3	108.5	36.8
Russia	10.5	13.4	45.1	29.4	32.3	24.2	79.1	52.5
Saudi Arabia	0.1	0.5	0.7	1.2	30.6	34.4	106.8	98.9
Singapore	67.7	38.2	204.3	130.8	33.2	45.3	145.6	120.6
South Africa	6.4	16.4	23.9	32.9	20.0	12.8	71.3	49.2
South Korea	58.0	16.0	221.0	71.5	43.4	37.7	143.8	98.0
Switzerland	34.0	38.0	126.0	96.3	216.2	167.5	499.7	765.4
Taiwan	53.4	27.6	139.3	83.8	12.3	12.9	57.2	67.3
Thailand	23.5	24.1	106.7	77.8	9.7	13.8	36.3	29.8
Turkey	32.9	24.7	111.0	63.3	34.3	27.4	98.5	82.5
USA	577.7	1,132.4	2,151.6	2,502.4	1,198.6	1,761.7	4,086.9	4,815.6
Other countries ³	122.5	125.9	371.3	323.8	184.4	178.6	548.2	590.5
Country unknown ⁴	7.3	17.4	31.2	50.5	22.0	18.4	50.0	44.6
Unclassified estimates ⁵	87.3	113.1	277.8	304.2	0.3	25.5	1.3	73.9
Total	4,952.3	4,498.4	15,611.4	12,516.4	7,053.8	7,940.8	21,482.4	21,838.4

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

² China includes Hong Kong and Macao

³ Other non-EU countries not listed individually

⁴ Trade for which the country of origin or country of final destination is unknown

⁵ 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	
	Apr 2008	Apr 2009	Apr 2008	Apr 2009
Great Britain & Northern Ireland				
0 Food and live animals	203	171	285	247
1 Beverages and tobacco	27	25	42	39
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	32	17	34	18
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	334	212	35	21
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	6	5	1	1
5 Chemicals and related products nes	209	185	460	608
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	248	122	72	56
7 Machinery and transport equipment	320	172	314	176
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	215	155	122	110
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	71	65	50	97
Other EU				
0 Food and live animals	133	120	192	168
1 Beverages and tobacco	28	24	16	13
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	24	15	69	22
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	178	75	32	12
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	9	9	1	1
5 Chemicals and related products nes	359	198	1,667	2,132
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	160	90	54	32
7 Machinery and transport equipment	598	271	620	403
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	111	82	262	269
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	58	92	71	87
USA				
0 Food and live animals	21	11	4	7
1 Beverages and tobacco	1	1	19	15
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	5	3	1	1
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	3	2	18	0
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	1	1	-	0
5 Chemicals and related products nes	90	82	991	1,311
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	24	19	8	4
7 Machinery and transport equipment	168	362	127	125
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	77	85	246	245
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	49	71	37	123
Japan				
0 Food and live animals	1	0	2	1
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	21	20	44	73
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2	1	3	1
7 Machinery and transport equipment	89	22	36	22
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	12	4	45	74
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	3	3	4	2
China¹				
0 Food and live animals	1	1	6	9
1 Beverages and tobacco	0	0	0	0
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	2	1	7	6
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	11	11	32	40
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	23	17	2	1
7 Machinery and transport equipment	226	140	108	140
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	66	66	8	7
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	5	5	3	1
Switzerland				
0 Food and live animals	1	1	1	0
1 Beverages and tobacco	3	1	0	1
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	31	21	298	223
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2	1	1	0
7 Machinery and transport equipment	11	6	15	6
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	3	3	4	2
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	1	1	3	2
Rest of World				
0 Food and live animals	40	40	96	79
1 Beverages and tobacco	3	6	12	8
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	12	12	10	8
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	75	101	15	13
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	2	2	0	0
5 Chemicals and related products nes	64	63	285	296
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	39	21	9	7
7 Machinery and transport equipment	282	154	299	277
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	62	71	56	54
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	103	97	18	31
Total	4,961	3,633	7,272	7,726

¹ 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 March 2009 was 76%, covering an estimated 95% of the total value of intra-EU trade. For April 2009 the respective response rates being 72% and 88%.

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 statistics of trade with non-EU countries are compiled mainly from the documents supplied by importers and exporters to the Customs authorities. The document is the Single Administrative Document (SAD) used for Customs clearance purposes. The VIMA Office in Dundalk is the branch of Revenue responsible for editing and validation of the data supplied. The VIMA Office passes the edited data to the External Trade Statistics section of the Central Statistics Office (CSO).

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.