



Exports and Imports
Seasonally adjusted

€billion



Goods Exports and Imports

October 2013

Seasonally adjusted

€ million

	Exports	Imports	Surplus
May 2013	7,092	4,025	3,067
June 2013	7,122	4,169	2,953
July 2013	7,328	4,122	3,206
August 2013	7,674	4,391	3,283
September 2013	7,275	4,059	3,216
October 2013	7,306	4,335	2,971

Seasonally adjusted surplus down 8% in October

Preliminary figures for October 2013 indicate a marginal increase in seasonally adjusted exports of €31 million (+0.4%) to €7,306 million from September 2013. Coupled with an increase of €276 million (+7%) in seasonally adjusted imports, the seasonally adjusted trade surplus decreased by 8% to €2,971 million (*see Table 2*).

Comparing October 2013 with October 2012, the value of exports decreased by €210 million (-3%) to €7,260 million. The main drivers were decreases of €177 million (-8%) in the exports of *Medical and pharmaceutical products* and €67 million (-5%) in the exports of *Organic chemicals*.

On an overall basis the EU accounted for €4,118 million (57%) of total exports in October 2013. The USA was the main non-EU destination accounting for 21% (€1,560m) of total exports in October 2013.

Comparing October 2013 with October 2012, the value of imports rose by €49 million (+1%) to €4,377 million. Imports of *Organic chemicals* increased by €137 million (+75%) and *Medical and pharmaceutical products* by €62 million (+16%). Imports of *Petroleum and related products* decreased by €167 million (-31%).

The EU accounted for 65% of the value of imports in October 2013, with 31% coming from Great Britain. The USA (10%) and China (7%) were the main non-EU sources of imports.

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Table 1 Goods Exports and Imports summary analysis

Period	Value			Volume index ¹		Unit value index ¹		Terms of Trade ²
	Exports	Imports	Trade Surplus	Base year 1990=100				
				Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	
€m	€m	€m						
1990	18,204	15,832	2,372	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1991	19,070	16,317	2,753	105.6	100.8	99.3	102.3	97.0
1992	21,260	16,754	4,506	121.1	105.6	96.6	100.2	96.4
1993	25,178	18,900	6,279	133.4	113.0	103.9	105.4	98.6
1994	28,891	21,945	6,946	153.2	127.9	103.8	108.1	96.0
1995	35,330	26,181	9,149	184.0	146.3	105.7	112.7	93.7
1996	38,609	28,480	10,130	202.2	160.9	105.1	111.4	94.3
1997	44,868	32,864	12,004	232.4	184.8	106.3	112.0	94.9
1998	57,322	39,715	17,607	289.2	218.3	109.1	114.6	95.2
1999	66,956	44,327	22,629	336.5	236.5	109.5	118.0	92.8
2000	83,889	55,909	27,980	401.4	275.2	115.0	128.0	89.9
2001	92,690	57,384	35,306	422.0	274.2	120.9	131.8	91.7
2002	93,675	55,628	38,047	435.1	276.6	118.5	126.7	93.5
2003	82,076	47,865	34,212	418.4	259.7	108.0	116.1	93.0
2004	84,410	51,105	33,304	446.5	283.6	104.0	113.5	91.7
2005	86,732	57,465	29,267	456.7	316.3	104.5	114.4	91.3
2006	86,772	60,857	25,915	458.0	325.2	104.4	117.7	88.7
2007	89,226	63,486	25,740	481.8	340.9	101.9	117.3	86.9
2008	86,394	57,585	28,810	484.5	300.5	98.0	119.7	81.9
2009	85,804	45,061	40,742	468.4	249.2	98.9	113.9	86.8
2010	89,703	45,764	43,940	485.5	241.3	101.2	119.2	84.9
2011	91,228	48,302	42,925	507.9	240.8	99.7	126.4	78.8
2012	91,688	49,151	42,538	479.1	231.9	105.8	133.7	79.2
2011 January	6,948	4,302	2,646	462.9	252.5	100.3	125.7	79.7
February	7,586	4,297	3,288	512.6	252.0	99.3	125.4	79.2
March	8,511	4,286	4,225	573.8	249.1	99.1	126.6	78.3
April	7,841	4,669	3,172	527.4	280.5	98.0	126.0	77.7
May	7,446	3,745	3,701	505.6	229.0	96.7	123.8	78.1
June	8,280	3,883	4,397	562.5	232.5	98.7	124.4	79.3
July	7,072	3,519	3,554	475.7	211.4	98.5	126.3	78.0
August	7,029	3,686	3,343	472.8	223.3	97.5	125.6	77.6
September	7,988	3,823	4,165	543.5	227.8	99.7	127.2	78.4
October	7,337	3,810	3,526	497.2	229.4	100.1	128.1	78.1
November	8,596	4,159	4,436	564.7	238.3	102.5	128.5	79.7
December	6,593	4,122	2,471	437.6	237.4	105.5	129.2	81.6
2012 January	7,678	4,466	3,212	483.9	251.4	104.7	134.2	78.0
February	7,402	3,957	3,445	470.5	224.9	103.9	133.0	78.1
March	8,628	4,987	3,640	548.1	286.5	103.9	131.7	78.9
April	7,073	3,741	3,332	449.8	210.5	103.8	134.3	77.3
May	7,631	4,066	3,564	479.3	231.8	105.2	132.5	79.4
June	8,065	3,980	4,085	492.8	225.1	107.8	133.0	81.0
July	7,808	3,799	4,009	482.2	212.9	107.1	134.5	79.7
August	8,376	3,865	4,511	508.3	214.6	108.8	135.7	80.1
September	7,464	4,204	3,260	465.4	242.5	106.8	134.9	79.2
October	7,470	4,328	3,142	471.4	245.6	106.0	134.3	78.9
November	8,317	4,042	4,275	524.5	224.0	105.2	133.6	78.8
December	5,778	3,717	2,061	372.3	211.5	106.8	132.2	80.8
2013 ³ January	6,729	4,442	2,287	419.9	251.3	105.8	133.6	79.2
February	6,619	3,913	2,706	424.1	222.4	103.1	133.0	77.5
March	8,091	4,148	3,943	506.8	237.4	105.4	132.0	79.9
April	7,475	4,236	3,239	462.6	238.9	106.7	134.0	79.6
May	7,223	3,948	3,276	450.9	225.5	105.4	131.5	80.1
June	7,333	3,978	3,355	462.8	225.7	104.6	133.2	78.6
July	7,595	3,904	3,692	480.6	219.4	104.4	134.5	77.6
August	6,983	3,896	3,086	439.5	225.4	104.9	130.6	80.3
September	7,311	3,982	3,328	462.5	221.7	104.4	135.8	76.9
October ⁴	7,260	4,377	2,882	466.1	248.4	102.9	133.2	77.2

¹ Monthly data have been rescaled to make their average equal to the annual² Export unit value index divided by Import unit value index³ Revised, see Background notes⁴ October 2013 is based on current Intrastat response levels, see Background notes

Table 2 Goods Exports and Imports seasonally adjusted¹ series

Period	Value			Volume index		
	Exports €m	Imports €m	Trade Surplus €m	Base year 1990=100		
				Exports	Imports	
2010	January	7,128	3,455	3,673	488.4	225.4
	February	7,157	3,607	3,550	467.9	234.4
	March	6,939	3,906	3,032	462.1	248.6
	April	7,215	4,221	2,994	465.3	269.2
	May	7,695	3,669	4,026	477.2	236.8
	June	7,252	4,129	3,122	460.7	254.6
	July	7,938	3,786	4,152	494.3	235.3
	August	7,658	3,849	3,809	494.1	243.9
	September	7,863	3,980	3,883	505.7	247.9
	October	7,580	3,597	3,983	510.0	226.3
	November	7,628	3,532	4,096	519.5	222.6
	December	7,706	4,064	3,642	494.3	241.7
2011	January	7,289	4,495	2,795	485.9	263.6
	February	8,051	4,322	3,729	535.5	251.8
	March	7,626	3,820	3,806	520.7	222.1
	April	7,577	4,919	2,658	495.4	289.2
	May	7,568	3,724	3,844	503.9	227.2
	June	7,840	3,833	4,007	537.2	228.2
	July	7,022	3,805	3,217	470.7	228.9
	August	7,784	3,986	3,798	524.5	240.5
	September	7,799	3,827	3,973	531.2	231.9
	October	7,461	3,861	3,601	501.9	233.9
	November	8,095	3,806	4,289	541.9	219.5
	December	7,113	4,129	2,984	488.7	239.5
2012	January	8,302	4,506	3,796	516.1	253.4
	February	7,286	3,730	3,556	462.3	214.8
	March	7,739	4,623	3,116	498.5	260.9
	April	7,029	3,584	3,445	443.4	202.3
	May	7,528	4,119	3,409	472.2	229.7
	June	7,471	4,012	3,459	459.5	228.3
	July	7,833	4,003	3,829	485.9	225.1
	August	9,188	4,215	4,973	561.3	232.0
	September	7,299	4,479	2,820	457.5	261.2
	October	7,492	4,216	3,276	465.4	238.1
	November	8,033	3,851	4,182	498.6	216.0
	December	6,539	3,801	2,738	430.2	218.5
2013	January	6,791	3,978	2,813	423.4	236.5
	February	6,976	3,898	3,078	444.0	222.9
	March	7,419	3,815	3,604	460.6	217.7
	April	7,353	4,060	3,293	457.2	230.3
	May	7,092	4,025	3,067	444.8	227.0
	June	7,122	4,169	2,953	453.0	235.1
	July	7,328	4,122	3,206	467.7	228.9
	August	7,674	4,391	3,283	485.3	248.8
	September	7,275	4,059	3,216	461.6	227.8
	October	7,306	4,335	2,971	461.8	239.9

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2012. Accordingly all values in this table may have been revised

Table 3 Goods Exports and Imports classified by commodity¹

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Exports				Imports			
	Oct 2012	Oct 2013	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2013	Oct 2012	Oct 2013	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2013
0 Food and live animals	738	757	6,663	7,136	559	505	4,579	4,912
00 Live animals other than animals of Division 03	51	52	235	286	33	41	129	119
01 Meat and meat preparations	269	262	2,415	2,450	76	69	644	661
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	141	166	1,364	1,565	42	54	455	517
03 Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and preparations thereof	41	37	414	390	16	17	179	174
04 Cereals and cereal preparations	26	27	233	244	91	77	752	826
05 Vegetables and fruit	19	21	194	201	83	75	846	853
06 Sugars, sugar preparations and honey	11	11	95	101	38	34	273	330
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof	32	34	310	325	42	43	327	339
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl unmilled cereals)	20	19	185	206	103	59	631	751
09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	126	128	1,218	1,368	36	36	343	343
1 Beverages and tobacco	136	125	992	967	101	91	703	672
11 Beverages	127	115	920	893	93	79	630	591
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	9	9	72	73	8	12	72	81
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	153	141	1,466	1,433	70	53	607	567
21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw	10	11	91	111	0	0	0	0
22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits	4	1	9	4	2	2	18	25
23 Crude rubber (incl synthetic and reclaimed)	0	0	0	2	2	1	20	13
24 Cork and wood	9	11	98	104	10	9	87	85
25 Pulp and waste paper	4	7	44	45	5	4	45	39
26 Textile fibres and their wastes	15	16	121	121	1	2	12	16
27 Crude fertilisers and minerals (excl coal, petroleum and precious stones)	11	11	120	117	11	9	108	97
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	91	75	898	842	21	14	176	155
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials nes	8	9	86	87	19	11	142	137
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	107	81	1,511	735	683	525	6,051	5,717
32 Coal, coke and briquettes	5	5	60	69	10	21	166	190
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	100	73	1,422	644	539	372	4,692	4,191
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	1	2	26	17	132	124	1,167	1,282
35 Electric current	0	1	2	5	3	8	26	54
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	6	5	46	42	20	17	212	198
41 Animal oils and fats	5	4	39	34	2	1	12	11
42 Fixed vegetable fats and oils	1	0	6	6	16	14	175	168
43 Animal or vegetable fats and oils, processed; waxes	0	0	1	2	2	2	25	20
5 Chemicals and related products	4,342	4,098	46,774	42,658	857	1,066	8,705	9,237
51 Organic chemicals	1,410	1,343	16,762	15,234	182	319	2,093	2,215
52 Inorganic chemicals	13	11	164	165	17	22	165	183
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	12	8	136	136	15	15	156	156
54 Medical and pharmaceutical products	2,122	1,945	21,209	18,486	377	439	3,562	3,835
55 Essential oils; perfume materials; toilet and cleansing preparations	466	471	5,228	5,321	97	98	859	887
56 Fertilisers (other than those of Division 27)	0	0	3	3	14	9	344	399
57 Plastics in primary forms	24	27	258	265	63	73	622	673
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	32	38	279	324	41	42	376	383
59 Chemical materials and products nes	261	255	2,735	2,723	51	48	528	508

Table 3 Goods Exports and Imports classified by commodity¹ - continued

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Exports				Imports			
	Oct 2012	Oct 2013	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2013	Oct 2012	Oct 2013	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2013
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	151	163	1,429	1,403	342	346	3,140	3,197
61 Leather; leather manufactures nes; dressed furskins	3	3	23	23	2	1	13	15
62 Rubber manufactures nes	5	6	55	54	26	24	234	234
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excl furniture)	21	24	185	204	14	15	132	132
64 Paper, paperboard and articles thereof	15	15	116	124	77	74	708	667
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	13	12	129	114	30	29	276	270
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	28	29	242	240	38	37	324	321
67 Iron and steel	9	9	90	100	47	46	445	419
68 Non-ferrous metals	7	6	67	54	41	43	382	468
69 Manufactures of metals nes	50	59	522	491	68	77	627	670
7 Machinery and transport equipment	842	852	8,667	8,432	977	998	10,639	9,635
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	111	75	665	685	107	78	718	657
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	37	62	392	457	59	111	649	833
73 Metalworking machinery	3	2	24	17	8	7	56	56
74 General industrial machinery and equipment nes and parts nes	112	95	1,131	1,120	87	120	813	973
75 Office machines and automatic data processing machines	266	315	2,876	3,147	233	272	2,141	2,320
76 Telecommunications and sound equipment	80	57	799	529	126	96	963	861
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances nes and parts	195	201	2,259	1,939	180	175	1,606	1,595
78 Road vehicles (incl air-cushion vehicles)	16	19	183	193	105	123	1,272	1,444
79 Other transport equipment	22	26	339	345	74	17	2,422	896
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	916	940	9,140	8,837	571	590	5,037	4,904
81 Prefab buildings; plumbing and electrical fixtures and fittings	9	11	77	93	15	17	124	125
82 Furniture and parts thereof; bedding, cushions etc	9	11	79	95	25	27	247	257
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	2	1	26	12	10	8	96	85
84 Articles of apparel; clothing accessories	32	22	309	177	159	146	1,383	1,238
85 Footwear	4	4	46	24	28	26	281	257
87 Professional, scientific and controlling apparatus nes	291	325	3,081	2,954	86	133	843	1,039
88 Photographic apparatus; optical goods; watches and clocks	97	93	935	880	17	19	163	175
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles nes	471	474	4,589	4,603	230	214	1,900	1,729
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	52	36	405	454	92	95	868	877
Unclassified estimates²	29	63	501	523	55	91	850	909
Total	7,470	7,260	77,593	72,619	4,328	4,377	41,392	40,825

¹ October 2013 is based on current Intrastat response levels, see Background notes

² Estimates for which a commodity classification is not available

Table 4 Goods Exports and Imports classified by country¹

€ million

Country	Exports				Imports			
	Oct 2012	Oct 2013	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2013	Oct 2012	Oct 2013	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2013
Great Britain	1,235	1,128	11,777	10,339	1,331	1,373	12,631	12,745
Northern Ireland	130	138	1,199	1,225	91	86	858	840
Austria	33	32	262	389	15	23	179	169
Belgium	1,124	867	11,474	9,413	110	82	799	843
Bulgaria	5	6	57	60	1	4	10	14
Croatia ²	–	2	–	10	–	0	–	0
Cyprus	3	3	27	29	0	0	3	2
Czech Republic	27	46	280	370	30	31	238	253
Denmark	45	42	445	430	38	30	388	564
Estonia	2	3	19	18	1	2	9	10
Finland	35	31	312	292	10	10	99	90
France	300	343	3,736	3,335	159	175	1,597	1,762
Germany	638	554	6,489	5,656	262	360	2,795	3,365
Greece	24	21	222	227	4	5	19	26
Italy	193	216	2,256	1,961	74	73	658	715
Latvia	4	2	65	42	4	1	32	20
Lithuania	5	2	49	26	4	3	39	65
Luxembourg	4	4	52	45	7	3	43	38
Hungary	21	15	227	217	8	8	88	87
Malta	2	2	20	21	1	1	7	10
Netherlands	267	302	2,793	3,026	236	267	1,955	2,244
Poland	53	58	561	659	40	39	287	310
Portugal	38	26	338	273	15	14	108	118
Romania	41	30	305	327	11	10	108	90
Slovakia	4	4	51	50	5	5	52	48
Slovenia	2	4	26	31	1	1	7	9
Spain	214	173	2,349	2,258	61	75	542	624
Sweden	71	54	627	615	29	35	302	313
EU Country not specified ³	1	9	19	58	120	114	1,007	1,057
Total EU	4,520	4,118	46,039	41,400	2,669	2,827	24,863	26,429
<i>of which Euro-Zone⁴</i>	2,882	2,585	30,428	27,023	1,005	1,119	9,131	10,319
Australia	57	54	623	619	10	8	83	75
Brazil	16	15	216	223	16	10	489	184
Canada	63	92	639	665	44	43	213	257
China	163	169	1,885	1,642	285	319	2,386	2,509
India	21	16	191	204	27	29	322	335
Japan	171	138	1,757	1,421	65	85	620	719
Malaysia	20	14	204	172	16	14	186	176
Mexico	60	57	572	600	26	35	228	258
Norway	21	22	252	300	135	73	859	997
Russia	50	59	509	545	4	6	86	118
Saudi Arabia	49	44	524	564	0	1	4	74
Singapore	33	48	441	463	25	23	239	354
South Africa	20	26	245	205	8	7	109	71
South Korea	27	29	297	272	28	25	282	332
Switzerland	301	436	4,010	3,802	34	123	823	729
Taiwan	9	12	104	107	24	19	210	170
Thailand	7	12	117	116	26	35	252	291
Turkey	32	26	390	371	31	26	256	232
USA	1,494	1,560	15,311	15,701	501	446	5,754	4,409
Other countries	334	311	3,231	3,205	302	204	2,632	1,759
Country unknown ⁵	2	1	35	20	49	18	496	345
Total	7,470	7,260	77,593	72,619	4,328	4,377	41,392	40,825

¹ October 2013 is based on current Intrastat response levels, see Background notes

² Croatia joined the EU on 1 July 2013

³ Includes estimates for traders below the Intrastat threshold and transactions where the EU country was not specified

⁴ Euro-zone members from January 2011: Austria, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Malta, Cyprus, Slovakia and Estonia

⁵ Trade for which the country of origin or country of final destination is unknown

Table 5 Goods Exports and Imports classified by commodity and principal countries¹

€ million

Country by Section level of SITC	Exports				Imports			
	Oct 2012	Oct 2013	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2013	Oct 2012	Oct 2013	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2013
Great Britain	1,235	1,128	11,777	10,339	1,331	1,373	12,631	12,745
0 Food and live animals	318	322	2,628	2,754	230	217	1,955	1,955
1 Beverages and tobacco	33	29	222	239	32	30	216	231
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	28	29	303	285	13	10	127	114
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	99	73	942	464	315	369	3,501	3,675
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	2	2	17	13	4	4	33	36
5 Chemicals and related products	459	330	4,737	3,661	165	165	1,632	1,618
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	61	65	558	559	141	143	1,271	1,251
7 Machinery and transport equipment	138	168	1,337	1,354	207	206	1,867	1,886
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	84	82	798	771	190	179	1,567	1,506
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	14	28	234	239	33	49	463	474
Other EU^{2,3}	3,284	2,990	34,261	31,064	1,339	1,454	12,231	13,685
0 Food and live animals	277	281	2,540	2,733	230	215	1,877	2,113
1 Beverages and tobacco	38	34	305	275	49	45	357	326
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	87	76	812	769	29	18	203	193
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	8	8	402	94	60	27	314	577
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	3	3	25	24	12	10	137	124
5 Chemicals and related products	2,135	1,817	22,621	19,562	343	465	3,484	4,042
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	64	63	623	596	124	126	1,134	1,208
7 Machinery and transport equipment	327	330	3,331	3,464	286	299	2,672	2,920
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	324	338	3,289	3,210	102	122	920	996
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	21	40	313	337	103	127	1,133	1,187
USA	1,494	1,560	15,311	15,701	501	446	5,754	4,409
0 Food and live animals	8	14	88	97	19	26	126	239
1 Beverages and tobacco	39	38	287	282	1	2	11	10
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	3	3	26	21	5	3	38	35
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	163	144	15	2	100	35
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
5 Chemicals and related products	1,029	1,050	10,688	11,077	179	181	1,533	1,605
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	10	19	99	106	21	25	210	244
7 Machinery and transport equipment	86	100	833	865	190	136	3,048	1,575
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	316	332	3,109	3,070	67	67	653	629
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	2	5	18	38	3	3	34	36
China⁴	163	169	1,885	1,642	285	319	2,386	2,509
0 Food and live animals	28	32	225	306	2	2	23	20
1 Beverages and tobacco	0	1	3	4	0	0	0	0
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	7	9	77	80	2	2	14	23
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
5 Chemicals and related products	38	52	515	381	18	27	159	163
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1	1	18	16	30	29	257	247
7 Machinery and transport equipment	72	52	848	654	114	147	978	1,205
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	15	22	196	199	116	109	928	819
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	0	0	0	0	2	3	26	31
Rest of World	1,293	1,412	14,358	13,873	872	785	8,389	7,477
0 Food and live animals	107	108	1,183	1,246	77	45	598	586
1 Beverages and tobacco	25	23	173	166	19	14	118	104
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	27	25	248	278	22	19	225	202
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	3	33	293	126	2,135	1,430
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	1	2	4	3	41	38
5 Chemicals and related products	682	849	8,211	7,977	150	227	1,898	1,810
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	14	14	131	126	26	24	267	247
7 Machinery and transport equipment	219	202	2,319	2,096	181	210	2,075	2,050
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	176	166	1,748	1,586	95	112	968	954
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	43	25	340	362	6	5	63	57
Total	7,470	7,260	77,593	72,619	4,328	4,377	41,392	40,825

¹ October 2013 is based on current Intrastat response levels, see Background notes

² Croatia joined the EU on 1 July 2013

³ Includes estimates for traders below the Intrastat threshold and transactions where the EU country was not specified

⁴ China includes Hong Kong and Macao

Background Notes

Introduction Goods Exports and Imports statistics provide data on the movement of goods between countries. The statistics are a combination of Customs-based non-EU trade statistics and data from the Intrastat Survey of Irish traders involved in trade with other EU member states. The collection of trade data is the responsibility of VIMA (a branch of Revenue). The CSO is responsible for processing and disseminating the data.

Revisions Trade figures are subject to revision on the incorporation of late Intrastat and VAT returns and corrections made by traders. When the preliminary results for a month are published, the results for months -1 (September 2013 in this publication), -4 (June 2013) and -8 (February 2013) are revised.

Intrastat System The Intrastat system has two components. Firstly, the Intrastat survey (conducted by the Revenue Commissioners), in which traders, above the Intrastat survey trade thresholds, 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 around 6,700 while around 1,900 must make a detailed export return. The response rate in terms of number of traders in October 2013 was 66%, covering an estimated 88% of the total value of intra-EU trade (these response rates will have increased by the next time we publish data for October).

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 countries. 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 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.

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.

Imports incorporate an upward adjustment of 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.

More information is now being processed on lower value transactions. Prior to January 2012, transactions below €254 were grouped together, this value has now decreased to €127. Therefore, this has resulted in more detail being available at commodity level in Table 3 and at country level in Tables 4 and 5.

Unit Value Indices The monthly unit value index measures monthly unit value 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 trade in goods.

The monthly index series should be regarded as interim measures suitable for month-to-month comparisons within a given year. Previous monthly indices are revised when late returns are received.

When the annual unit value index is compiled, the monthly unit value indices are rescaled to make their average equal to the annual index.

Seasonally Adjusted Series Monthly exports, imports, trade surplus and the volume series for exports and imports have been seasonally adjusted using the US Bureau of the Census X-11 Variant of the Census Method 11 Seasonal Adjustment Program. In the main, monthly projections are based on series recalculated at the end of the previous year.

Services Exports and Imports The quarterly Balance of Payments (BOP) statistics provide detail on Services exports and imports.