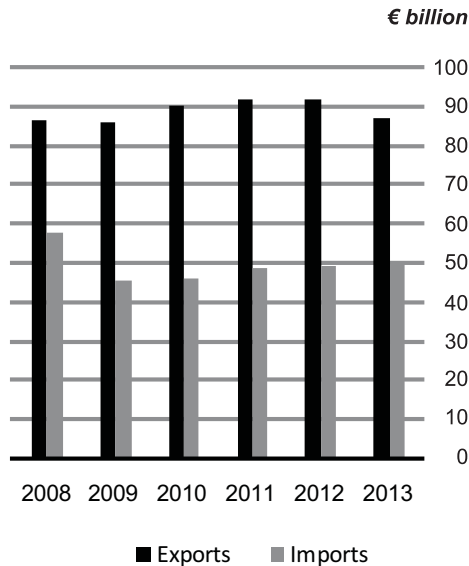




## Exports and Imports



## Goods Exports and Imports December 2013

	€ million		
	Exports	Imports	Surplus
<b>Jan-Dec 2012</b>	91,688	49,151	42,538
<b>Jan-Dec 2013</b>	86,890	49,635	37,255
<b>% change</b>	-5.2%	+1.0%	-12.4%
	<b>Seasonally adjusted</b>		
<b>October 2013</b>	7,336	4,340	2,996
<b>November 2013</b>	6,971	4,422	2,549
<b>December 2013</b>	7,745	4,304	3,440

### Goods exports down 5% in 2013

Preliminary figures for 2013 indicate a decrease in the value of exports of €4,798 million (-5%) to €86,890 million from 2012. Imports were up by 1% to €49,635 million resulting in a 12% decrease in the trade surplus to €37,255 million (see Table 1). This is the lowest annual trade surplus since 2008.

The main changes in 2013 for **exports** were:

- Exports of *Medical and pharmaceutical products* decreased by €2,934 million (-12%) to €21,617 million, *Organic chemicals* by €1,762 million (-9%) to €18,291 million and *Petroleum* by €824 million (-53%) to €721 million.
- Exports of *Food and live animals* increased by €616 million (+8%) to €8,748 million.
- In 2013, the United States (21%), Great Britain (14%), Belgium (13%) and Germany (8%) were Ireland's main export markets, accounting for 56% of the value of exports.

The main changes in 2013 for **imports** were:

- Imports of *Medical and pharmaceutical products* increased by €345 million (+8%) to €4,509 million and *Food and live animals* by 8% to €6,050 million.
- Imports of *Other transport equipment (including aircraft)* decreased by €1,486 million (-60%) to €1,008 million.
- In 2013, Great Britain (32%), the United States (11%), Germany (8%) and China (6%) accounted for 56% of the value of imports.

Preliminary estimates for December 2013 show seasonally adjusted exports of €7,745 million, up 11% on November 2013 and seasonally adjusted imports of €4,304 million, down 3% (see Table 2).

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road  
Dublin 6  
Ireland

Skehard Road  
Cork  
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)  
0870 876 0256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000  
Fax: +353 1 498 4240

Tel: +353 21 453 5000  
Fax: +353 21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)  
and go to  
Economy: External Trade

Director General: Pádraig Dalton

Enquiries:

Trade statistics      Trade Help Desk (01) 498 4200  
                                    trade@cso.ie  
General queries      Information Section, ext 5021  
                                    information@cso.ie

© Central Statistics Office

The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

Print ISSN 2009-4655  
On-line ISSN 2009-5155

For more information contact Norita Murphy at (01) 498 4295 or Damian Malone at (01) 498 4206.

**Table 1 Goods Exports and Imports summary analysis**

Period	Value			Volume index <sup>1</sup>		Unit value index <sup>1</sup>		Terms of Trade <sup>2</sup>
	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
2013	86,890	49,635	37,255	..	..	..	..	..
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 <sup>3</sup> 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	8,086	4,138	3,948	505.8	237.1	105.6	131.9	80.1
April	7,473	4,239	3,234	462.8	239.0	106.6	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	7,593	3,937	3,656	482.5	221.2	103.9	134.5	77.3
August	6,972	3,985	2,987	439.9	230.9	104.7	130.4	80.3
September	7,311	3,982	3,328	462.5	221.7	104.4	135.8	76.9
October	7,290	4,382	2,907	468.6	249.1	102.7	133.0	77.3
November	7,667	4,328	3,339	490.4	248.4	103.2	131.7	78.4
December <sup>4</sup>	6,594	4,363	2,232	422.8	247.0	103.0	133.5	77.2

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

<sup>2</sup> Export unit value index divided by Import unit value index

<sup>3</sup> Revised, see Background notes

<sup>4</sup> December 2013 is based on current Intrastat response levels, see Background notes

.. Indices are not yet available

**Table 2 Goods Exports and Imports seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup> series**

Period	Value			Volume index	
	Exports €m	Imports €m	Trade Surplus €m	Base year 1990=100	
				Exports	Imports
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	7,414	3,806	3,609	459.7	217.4
April	7,351	4,062	3,288	457.4	230.4
May	7,092	4,025	3,067	444.8	227.0
June	7,122	4,169	2,953	453.0	235.1
July	7,326	4,157	3,169	469.6	230.8
August	7,662	4,490	3,172	485.7	254.9
September	7,275	4,059	3,216	461.6	227.8
October	7,336	4,340	2,996	464.3	240.5
November	6,971	4,422	2,549	443.8	253.1
December	7,745	4,304	3,440	497.1	245.0

<sup>1</sup> 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 commodity<sup>1</sup>**

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Exports				Imports			
	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2013	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2013
<b>0 Food and live animals</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>8,132</b>	<b>8,748</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>5,589</b>	<b>6,050</b>
00 Live animals other than animals of Division 03	42	84	330	440	41	58	189	222
01 Meat and meat preparations	297	290	2,979	3,019	71	73	789	806
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	133	165	1,647	1,902	42	63	543	645
03 Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and preparations thereof	55	44	523	473	16	18	211	208
04 Cereals and cereal preparations	25	25	282	293	72	97	925	1,010
05 Vegetables and fruit	19	20	232	242	78	88	1,007	1,024
06 Sugars, sugar preparations and honey	7	6	111	116	21	46	326	409
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof	19	23	362	378	30	35	391	415
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl unmilled cereals)	24	25	235	249	74	60	804	898
09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	84	136	1,431	1,636	28	35	404	414
<b>1 Beverages and tobacco</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>1,178</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>815</b>
11 Beverages	82	89	1,124	1,095	63	68	773	725
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	6	4	85	84	7	4	89	90
<b>2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>1,733</b>	<b>1,714</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>673</b>
21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw	10	11	112	138	0	0	0	0
22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits	3	0	16	8	3	3	22	31
23 Crude rubber (incl synthetic and reclaimed)	0	0	1	3	1	1	21	16
24 Cork and wood	5	7	112	122	6	6	102	100
25 Pulp and waste paper	4	3	52	52	3	5	51	47
26 Textile fibres and their wastes	10	8	144	141	1	1	14	19
27 Crude fertilisers and minerals (excl coal, petroleum and precious stones)	12	7	143	135	7	7	124	115
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	76	82	1,045	1,010	9	17	196	187
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials nes	8	9	107	106	9	11	163	159
<b>3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1,647</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>7,160</b>	<b>6,885</b>
32 Coal, coke and briquettes	4	4	68	77	20	20	206	219
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	64	39	1,545	721	380	373	5,475	5,021
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	1	1	30	19	143	139	1,450	1,576
35 Electric current	0	0	4	6	1	5	29	69
<b>4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>236</b>
41 Animal oils and fats	4	3	47	42	1	1	14	13
42 Fixed vegetable fats and oils	1	1	7	7	14	15	206	200
43 Animal or vegetable fats and oils, processed; waxes	0	0	2	2	3	2	31	23
<b>5 Chemicals and related products</b>	<b>3,064</b>	<b>3,402</b>	<b>55,045</b>	<b>50,418</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>10,265</b>	<b>10,875</b>
51 Organic chemicals	1,282	1,167	20,053	18,291	207	228	2,485	2,545
52 Inorganic chemicals	12	15	192	198	15	15	198	210
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	11	6	160	150	10	13	179	183
54 Medical and pharmaceutical products	1,071	1,529	24,551	21,617	287	353	4,164	4,509
55 Essential oils; perfume materials; toilet and cleansing preparations	444	423	6,246	6,250	88	99	1,047	1,084
56 Fertilisers (other than those of Division 27)	0	0	3	3	39	55	405	473
57 Plastics in primary forms	22	21	304	313	50	62	734	804
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	20	29	327	390	28	37	441	463
59 Chemical materials and products nes	202	212	3,209	3,206	35	41	613	605

**Table 3 Goods Exports and Imports classified by commodity<sup>1</sup> - continued**

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Exports				Imports			
	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2013	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2013
<b>6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>1,690</b>	<b>1,706</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>3,713</b>	<b>3,848</b>
61 Leather; leather manufactures nes; dressed furskins	2	1	27	28	0	1	14	17
62 Rubber manufactures nes	4	4	65	64	16	18	273	274
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excl furniture)	13	15	220	239	9	10	156	159
64 Paper, paperboard and articles thereof	11	12	143	152	63	64	846	808
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	11	9	155	137	24	26	329	329
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	17	21	285	292	28	31	388	387
67 Iron and steel	7	8	107	118	32	36	522	504
68 Non-ferrous metals	4	4	77	63	24	44	443	556
69 Manufactures of metals nes	38	52	610	611	52	63	741	813
<b>7 Machinery and transport equipment</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>10,314</b>	<b>10,430</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>12,560</b>	<b>12,063</b>
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	56	58	790	795	74	51	866	761
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	36	41	468	557	72	235	790	1,262
73 Metalworking machinery	2	2	28	21	4	5	70	70
74 General industrial machinery and equipment nes and parts nes	93	114	1,354	1,428	66	101	955	1,197
75 Office machines and automatic data processing machines	326	508	3,501	3,998	227	252	2,648	2,823
76 Telecommunications and sound equipment	78	63	953	664	122	125	1,212	1,114
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances nes and parts	180	149	2,614	2,277	143	175	1,927	1,966
78 Road vehicles (incl air-cushion vehicles)	14	15	215	229	185	245	1,598	1,863
79 Other transport equipment	18	70	390	460	55	24	2,494	1,008
<b>8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>10,831</b>	<b>10,693</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>6,069</b>	<b>6,027</b>
81 Prefab buildings; plumbing and electrical fixtures and fittings	5	7	92	110	11	13	151	156
82 Furniture and parts thereof; bedding, cushions etc	8	14	96	123	25	28	296	317
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	1	1	29	14	9	10	115	107
84 Articles of apparel; clothing accessories	20	18	363	215	119	125	1,647	1,498
85 Footwear	3	3	53	30	25	23	330	306
87 Professional, scientific and controlling apparatus nes	237	274	3,608	3,583	75	90	1,008	1,283
88 Photographic apparatus; optical goods; watches and clocks	81	78	1,115	1,066	17	17	201	212
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles nes	406	463	5,474	5,551	203	200	2,320	2,150
<b>9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>1,066</b>
<b>Unclassified estimates<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>24</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>1,096</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,778</b>	<b>6,595</b>	<b>91,688</b>	<b>86,890</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>4,363</b>	<b>49,151</b>	<b>49,635</b>

<sup>1</sup> December 2013 is based on current Intrastat response levels, see Background notes

<sup>2</sup> Estimates for which a commodity classification is not available

**Table 4 Goods Exports and Imports classified by country<sup>1</sup>**

€ million

Country	Exports				Imports			
	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2013	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2013
Great Britain	844	1,094	13,682	12,505	1,359	1,427	15,403	15,657
Northern Ireland	111	121	1,436	1,470	76	84	1,026	1,014
Austria	33	58	380	479	15	14	215	201
Belgium	718	735	13,619	11,221	66	76	956	995
Bulgaria	3	4	66	70	1	5	12	22
Croatia <sup>2</sup>	–	2	–	13	–	0	–	1
Cyprus	3	1	33	33	0	0	4	3
Czech Republic	23	40	333	458	27	33	297	331
Denmark	45	66	530	542	28	30	456	683
Estonia	2	2	22	22	1	2	12	15
Finland	19	23	357	344	6	5	114	103
France	277	330	4,348	4,016	135	161	1,907	2,086
Germany	349	415	7,461	6,572	340	345	3,436	4,053
Greece	12	23	254	270	2	2	24	30
Italy	152	142	2,656	2,291	54	71	782	862
Latvia	2	3	73	47	2	2	38	24
Lithuania	2	3	55	33	7	10	52	77
Luxembourg	6	6	62	57	2	2	47	47
Hungary	17	17	264	261	25	13	131	109
Malta	2	2	24	24	1	1	9	11
Netherlands	232	297	3,292	3,671	200	239	2,318	2,667
Poland	37	68	672	811	33	34	370	382
Portugal	18	27	384	323	9	11	132	141
Romania	17	19	351	374	6	14	126	113
Slovakia	5	4	61	61	6	10	62	64
Slovenia	1	2	31	35	1	5	9	16
Spain	229	206	2,766	2,693	55	75	660	770
Sweden	108	142	804	822	30	33	367	376
EU Country not specified <sup>3</sup>	1	4	21	44	88	128	1,206	1,273
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>3,268</b>	<b>3,855</b>	<b>54,036</b>	<b>49,563</b>	<b>2,575</b>	<b>2,831</b>	<b>30,169</b>	<b>32,126</b>
<i>of which Euro-Zone<sup>4</sup></i>	<b>2,058</b>	<b>2,273</b>	<b>35,751</b>	<b>32,112</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>11,006</b>	<b>12,327</b>
Australia	42	39	724	713	13	10	105	91
Brazil	19	25	256	262	15	15	516	274
Canada	41	45	781	772	16	33	259	337
China	135	147	2,168	1,941	220	275	2,878	3,078
India	21	60	235	281	17	24	365	386
Japan	148	158	2,085	1,692	53	165	733	1,041
Malaysia	15	13	239	198	16	16	216	208
Mexico	49	38	680	690	20	27	271	317
Norway	19	17	298	345	18	24	938	1,103
Russia	38	37	603	637	5	19	102	142
Saudi Arabia	43	34	626	642	0	0	4	75
Singapore	33	44	512	560	27	29	298	430
South Africa	17	19	283	259	4	7	118	92
South Korea	30	24	356	321	25	40	334	405
Switzerland	239	588	5,070	5,116	59	64	957	838
Taiwan	13	10	129	130	21	25	252	214
Thailand	11	11	138	138	20	33	299	356
Turkey	24	23	455	430	25	37	310	296
USA	1,320	1,127	18,157	18,389	323	413	6,441	5,220
Other countries	251	278	3,812	3,785	164	255	2,965	2,219
Country unknown <sup>5</sup>	3	2	45	28	80	21	620	389
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,778</b>	<b>6,595</b>	<b>91,688</b>	<b>86,890</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>4,363</b>	<b>49,151</b>	<b>49,635</b>

<sup>1</sup> December 2013 is based on current Intrastat response levels, see Background notes

<sup>2</sup> Croatia joined the EU on 1 July 2013

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

<sup>4</sup> 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

<sup>5</sup> 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 countries<sup>1</sup>**

€ million

Country by Section level of SITC	Exports				Imports			
	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2013	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	Jan-Dec 2013
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>13,682</b>	<b>12,505</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>1,427</b>	<b>15,403</b>	<b>15,657</b>
0 Food and live animals	319	365	3,270	3,451	224	269	2,392	2,474
1 Beverages and tobacco	28	22	282	294	25	25	269	272
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	26	24	362	344	9	9	146	137
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	10	39	1,002	538	384	383	4,275	4,498
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	2	1	21	16	4	4	41	43
5 Chemicals and related products	219	348	5,271	4,310	151	169	1,946	1,956
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	37	47	658	679	112	118	1,520	1,506
7 Machinery and transport equipment	116	143	1,595	1,650	226	218	2,327	2,310
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	76	80	961	941	191	188	1,959	1,898
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	12	26	260	280	32	44	528	564
<b>Other EU<sup>2,3</sup></b>	<b>2,424</b>	<b>2,761</b>	<b>40,354</b>	<b>37,058</b>	<b>1,216</b>	<b>1,404</b>	<b>14,766</b>	<b>16,468</b>
0 Food and live animals	275	282	3,088	3,313	204	209	2,322	2,539
1 Beverages and tobacco	27	26	370	336	32	31	433	394
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	81	82	967	943	17	18	241	230
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	59	5	478	107	29	12	362	654
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	2	2	30	29	11	11	161	147
5 Chemicals and related products	1,335	1,430	26,465	22,911	312	393	4,150	4,707
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	47	46	735	702	89	110	1,346	1,456
7 Machinery and transport equipment	325	515	4,000	4,438	343	391	3,323	3,672
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	256	337	3,873	3,913	89	93	1,109	1,213
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	17	37	348	367	89	136	1,319	1,454
<b>USA</b>	<b>1,320</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>18,157</b>	<b>18,389</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>6,441</b>	<b>5,220</b>
0 Food and live animals	8	10	104	120	9	31	165	290
1 Beverages and tobacco	19	34	343	350	0	2	12	14
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	3	2	31	26	1	2	41	39
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	163	144	34	0	168	34
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
5 Chemicals and related products	930	690	12,667	12,794	113	153	1,755	1,887
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	6	21	116	153	18	21	247	292
7 Machinery and transport equipment	76	82	1,002	1,038	89	143	3,239	1,863
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	275	286	3,709	3,719	56	57	772	757
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	2	2	22	44	3	4	40	43
<b>China<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>135</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>2,168</b>	<b>1,941</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>2,878</b>	<b>3,078</b>
0 Food and live animals	20	45	269	381	1	2	27	25
1 Beverages and tobacco	0	0	4	4	0	0	1	0
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	6	5	93	93	1	1	17	27
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	3	0	0	0	0
5 Chemicals and related products	23	43	575	462	8	13	176	192
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1	1	21	20	16	22	295	293
7 Machinery and transport equipment	70	31	972	734	117	153	1,237	1,509
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	14	20	231	244	76	81	1,096	994
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	0	0	0	0	2	3	29	37
<b>Rest of World</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>17,327</b>	<b>16,998</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>843</b>	<b>9,663</b>	<b>9,212</b>
0 Food and live animals	84	114	1,402	1,483	35	61	684	723
1 Beverages and tobacco	13	10	209	194	13	15	147	134
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	13	15	279	308	11	21	249	241
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	4	34	97	143	2,354	1,699
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	0	1	4	3	4	46	44
5 Chemicals and related products	558	891	10,067	9,941	175	174	2,239	2,133
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	14	12	160	152	15	22	304	300
7 Machinery and transport equipment	216	250	2,745	2,571	174	309	2,434	2,709
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	140	135	2,057	1,876	73	87	1,133	1,165
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	17	38	404	436	5	7	73	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,778</b>	<b>6,595</b>	<b>91,688</b>	<b>86,890</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>4,363</b>	<b>49,151</b>	<b>49,635</b>

<sup>1</sup> December 2013 is based on current Intrastat response levels, see Background notes

<sup>2</sup> Croatia joined the EU on 1 July 2013

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

<sup>4</sup> 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 (November 2013 in this publication), -4 (August 2013) and -8 (April 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 December 2013 was 69%, covering an estimated 91% of the total value of intra-EU trade (these response rates will have increased by the next time we publish data for December).

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.