



## Goods Exports and Imports

### February 2013

	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>		
	€ million		
	Exports	Imports	Surplus
<b>September 2012</b>	7,362	4,614	2,748
<b>October 2012</b>	7,586	4,253	3,333
<b>November 2012</b>	8,072	3,772	4,300
<b>December 2012</b>	6,815	3,783	3,032
<b>January 2013</b>	6,850	3,945	2,906
<b>February 2013</b>	7,004	3,876	3,128

### Seasonally adjusted trade surplus up in February

Preliminary figures for February 2013 indicate a seasonally adjusted increase in exports of €154 million (or 2.2%) to €7,004 million from January 2013. Seasonally adjusted imports decreased by €69 million (or -2%) to €3,876 million resulting in an 8% increase in the seasonally adjusted trade surplus to €3,128 million (*see Table 2*).

Comparing February 2013 with February 2012, the value of exports decreased by €753 million (or -10%) to €6,646 million. The main drivers being decreases in the exports of *Medical and pharmaceutical products* of €309 million (or -15%) and €286 million (or -18%) for *Organic chemicals*.

On an overall basis the EU accounted for €3,845 million (or 58%) of total exports in February 2013. The USA was the main non-EU destination accounting for 22% (€1,492 million) of total exports in February 2013.

Comparing February 2013 with February 2012, the value of imports decreased by €61 million (or -2%) to €3,891 million. Imports of *Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials* decreased by €128 million (or -21%).

Two-thirds of the value of imports in February 2013 came from the EU, with one-third coming from Great Britain. The USA (9%) and China (6%) were the main non-EU sources of imports.

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Ardee Road Skehard Road  
Dublin 6 Cork  
Ireland Ireland

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

Tel: +353 1 498 4000 Tel: +353 21 453 5000  
Fax: +353 1 498 4240 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](mailto:trade@cso.ie)  
General queries Information Section, ext 5021  
[information@cso.ie](mailto:information@cso.ie)

*For more information contact Damian Malone at (01) 498 4206 or Bernie Ryan at (01) 498 4235.*

**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	48,315	42,913	507.9	240.8	99.7	126.4	78.8
2012	92,109	49,168	42,942	..	..	..	..	..
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	4,135	2,458	437.6	237.4	105.5	129.2	81.6
2012 <sup>3</sup> January	7,670	4,460	3,210	482.4	248.9	105.0	135.5	77.5
February	7,399	3,952	3,447	469.0	222.7	104.2	134.3	77.6
March	8,623	4,984	3,639	546.4	283.6	104.2	133.0	78.4
April	7,069	3,738	3,331	448.3	208.4	104.1	135.6	76.8
May	7,624	4,063	3,561	477.7	229.6	105.5	133.9	78.8
June	8,056	3,976	4,080	491.2	222.9	108.1	134.3	80.5
July	7,820	3,787	4,033	480.7	210.8	107.4	135.8	79.1
August	8,376	3,852	4,523	506.7	212.5	109.1	137.1	79.6
September	7,529	4,330	3,198	463.9	240.1	107.2	136.3	78.7
October	7,564	4,366	3,198	469.9	243.2	106.3	135.7	78.4
November	8,357	3,959	4,398	522.9	221.8	105.6	134.9	78.3
December	6,022	3,699	2,322	371.1	209.4	107.2	133.5	80.3
2013 <sup>3</sup> January	6,788	4,405	2,383	..	..	..	..	..
February <sup>4</sup>	6,646	3,891	2,755	..	..	..	..	..

<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> February 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
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	4,142	2,971	488.7	239.5
2012					
January	8,294	4,501	3,793	514.4	250.9
February	7,284	3,726	3,558	460.8	212.7
March	7,735	4,620	3,115	496.9	258.3
April	7,025	3,581	3,444	442.0	200.3
May	7,522	4,115	3,406	470.7	227.5
June	7,464	4,009	3,455	458.1	226.1
July	7,845	3,991	3,854	484.4	222.9
August	9,188	4,202	4,986	559.5	229.7
September	7,362	4,614	2,748	456.1	258.6
October	7,586	4,253	3,333	463.9	235.8
November	8,072	3,772	4,300	497.0	213.8
December	6,815	3,783	3,032	428.8	216.4
2013					
January	6,850	3,945	2,906	..	..
February	7,004	3,876	3,128	..	..

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

.. Indices are not yet available

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

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Exports				Imports			
	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2012	Jan-Feb 2013	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2012	Jan-Feb 2013
<b>0 Food and live animals</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>1,179</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>951</b>
00 Live animals other than animals of Division 03	14	16	24	36	4	10	25	24
01 Meat and meat preparations	227	218	431	454	59	59	115	124
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	106	114	216	219	48	54	89	101
03 Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and preparations thereof	61	48	98	93	21	16	34	31
04 Cereals and cereal preparations	22	21	44	45	60	71	122	152
05 Vegetables and fruit	18	18	36	37	76	78	152	158
06 Sugars, sugar preparations and honey	9	9	16	22	28	32	49	63
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof	29	30	44	63	31	29	59	60
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl unmilled cereals)	19	20	35	41	53	90	137	176
09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	120	125	234	249	30	30	66	61
<b>1 Beverages and tobacco</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>98</b>
11 Beverages	80	77	158	158	43	44	88	84
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	5	6	12	13	7	8	13	14
<b>2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>101</b>
21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw	8	10	16	21	0	0	0	0
22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits	0	0	2	0	1	2	4	4
23 Crude rubber (incl synthetic and reclaimed)	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	3
24 Cork and wood	10	9	18	19	7	7	16	13
25 Pulp and waste paper	4	4	9	9	5	2	10	7
26 Textile fibres and their wastes	11	11	22	24	1	1	2	3
27 Crude fertilisers and minerals (excl coal, petroleum and precious stones)	12	9	23	22	10	9	20	17
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	96	83	174	166	19	14	38	30
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials nes	10	10	16	18	16	15	26	24
<b>3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>1,308</b>	<b>1,111</b>
32 Coal, coke and briquettes	7	7	12	12	21	18	29	48
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	138	62	343	109	605	477	1,043	803
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	3	2	3	2	119	123	236	259
35 Electric current	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	2
<b>4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>40</b>
41 Animal oils and fats	5	5	10	10	1	1	2	2
42 Fixed vegetable fats and oils	1	1	1	1	18	16	35	32
43 Animal or vegetable fats and oils, processed; waxes	0	0	0	0	3	3	5	5
<b>5 Chemicals and related products</b>	<b>4,435</b>	<b>3,870</b>	<b>9,294</b>	<b>7,858</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>1,568</b>	<b>1,807</b>
51 Organic chemicals	1,610	1,324	3,749	2,787	207	212	402	441
52 Inorganic chemicals	15	14	31	29	15	16	32	32
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	12	18	24	38	16	14	31	30
54 Medical and pharmaceutical products	2,019	1,710	4,018	3,354	289	354	569	711
55 Essential oils; perfume materials; toilet and cleansing preparations	488	494	919	1,021	73	82	151	161
56 Fertilisers (other than those of Division 27)	0	0	0	0	55	39	93	86
57 Plastics in primary forms	26	36	47	64	57	60	122	129
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	26	27	45	56	34	74	70	108
59 Chemical materials and products nes	240	246	461	509	61	62	98	108

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

€ million

SITC (Rev 4)	Exports				Imports			
	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2012	Jan-Feb 2013	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2012	Jan-Feb 2013
<b>6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>608</b>
61 Leather; leather manufactures nes; dressed furskins	3	2	5	3	1	1	3	2
62 Rubber manufactures nes	5	5	10	10	23	23	46	47
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excl furniture)	17	19	34	38	12	14	26	27
64 Paper, paperboard and articles thereof	11	13	22	25	63	63	129	137
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	11	11	24	23	26	25	53	53
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	22	18	41	36	30	30	62	59
67 Iron and steel	9	13	16	21	45	39	87	80
68 Non-ferrous metals	8	5	15	10	33	46	67	80
69 Manufactures of metals nes	54	44	102	88	64	58	137	125
<b>7 Machinery and transport equipment</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>1,609</b>	<b>1,575</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>2,294</b>
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	47	52	97	97	49	55	101	134
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	38	44	71	80	65	70	127	146
73 Metalworking machinery	2	2	3	4	5	5	9	11
74 General industrial machinery and equipment nes and parts nes	145	109	243	202	74	76	173	167
75 Office machines and automatic data processing machines	249	322	523	617	228	219	435	499
76 Telecommunications and sound equipment	70	53	144	128	79	69	174	165
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances nes and parts	213	181	438	369	155	141	326	303
78 Road vehicles (incl air-cushion vehicles)	18	17	34	35	223	189	413	378
79 Other transport equipment	35	20	56	42	26	18	753	492
<b>8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>1,747</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>910</b>
81 Prefab buildings; plumbing and electrical fixtures and fittings	8	10	15	18	13	11	27	24
82 Furniture and parts thereof; bedding, cushions etc	8	8	14	16	24	24	49	47
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	2	1	4	2	10	8	18	16
84 Articles of apparel; clothing accessories	29	13	55	27	147	115	269	238
85 Footwear	5	2	9	4	30	24	55	49
87 Professional, scientific and controlling apparatus nes	297	274	571	553	81	82	172	172
88 Photographic apparatus; optical goods; watches and clocks	98	84	185	174	14	18	29	34
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles nes	473	435	894	884	167	161	333	330
<b>9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>Unclassified estimates<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>52</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>199</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,399</b>	<b>6,646</b>	<b>15,069</b>	<b>13,434</b>	<b>3,952</b>	<b>3,891</b>	<b>8,412</b>	<b>8,296</b>

<sup>1</sup> February 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			
	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2012	Jan-Feb 2013	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2012	Jan-Feb 2013
Great Britain	1,201	888	2,470	1,853	1,276	1,295	2,561	2,567
Northern Ireland	116	111	221	221	84	75	171	155
Austria	25	21	52	49	13	13	45	27
Belgium	1,320	822	2,577	1,553	71	127	130	204
Bulgaria	4	5	9	9	1	1	1	2
Cyprus	2	2	4	4	0	0	1	0
Czech Republic	29	29	62	60	39	28	63	60
Denmark	46	50	87	100	41	30	90	62
Estonia	1	2	2	3	0	2	1	4
Finland	30	32	54	68	9	8	17	16
France	365	321	737	643	166	169	330	329
Germany	514	634	1,035	1,150	312	336	595	739
Greece	25	24	51	51	2	3	4	5
Italy	256	195	485	450	63	68	121	139
Latvia	1	3	9	7	1	3	4	4
Lithuania	2	2	4	4	10	6	13	13
Luxembourg	4	5	10	11	2	3	5	6
Hungary	16	22	28	42	10	10	17	18
Malta	2	2	4	4	1	1	2	3
Netherlands	269	294	509	591	173	175	331	444
Poland	62	60	98	113	25	25	56	57
Portugal	32	31	57	61	9	11	20	21
Romania	26	30	49	63	9	8	21	21
Slovakia	5	5	10	11	6	5	17	11
Slovenia	2	2	3	4	1	1	1	1
Spain	213	187	445	359	64	57	122	120
Sweden	56	60	106	126	31	28	95	63
EU Country not specified	1	10	2	20	90	103	194	218
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>4,625</b>	<b>3,845</b>	<b>9,179</b>	<b>7,629</b>	<b>2,509</b>	<b>2,590</b>	<b>5,030</b>	<b>5,309</b>
<i>of which Euro-Zone<sup>2</sup></i>	<b>3,064</b>	<b>2,574</b>	<b>6,033</b>	<b>5,007</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>2,109</b>
Australia	76	61	120	115	7	4	12	11
Brazil	34	18	48	39	31	14	44	28
Canada	60	84	123	138	10	13	25	34
China	170	127	383	315	235	234	478	461
India	16	21	39	40	38	29	69	62
Japan	165	131	301	280	62	76	131	155
Malaysia	19	14	38	36	15	15	35	33
Mexico	52	68	102	123	20	25	42	44
Norway	24	27	54	64	71	120	131	184
Philippines	5	5	12	14	2	2	5	4
Russia	53	50	94	98	11	10	21	30
Saudi Arabia	48	60	99	118	1	26	1	26
Singapore	43	47	88	94	22	17	41	45
South Africa	20	18	54	37	11	4	23	9
South Korea	28	21	57	47	31	27	57	64
Switzerland	218	210	753	423	57	92	112	169
Taiwan	12	8	23	15	18	14	35	29
Thailand	11	9	22	17	21	34	37	60
Turkey	32	33	57	74	28	23	57	47
USA	1,388	1,492	2,830	3,102	372	333	1,418	1,106
Other countries	299	295	583	611	326	159	511	266
Country unknown <sup>3</sup>	4	2	9	4	57	33	100	119
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,399</b>	<b>6,646</b>	<b>15,069</b>	<b>13,434</b>	<b>3,952</b>	<b>3,891</b>	<b>8,412</b>	<b>8,296</b>

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

<sup>2</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>3</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			
	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2012	Jan-Feb 2013	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2012	Jan-Feb 2013
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>1,201</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>2,470</b>	<b>1,853</b>	<b>1,276</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>2,567</b>
0 Food and live animals	237	245	454	503	170	176	346	364
1 Beverages and tobacco	21	19	40	36	14	18	26	33
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	33	26	60	56	12	9	23	22
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	105	56	288	96	420	443	823	813
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	3	2	5	5	4	3	7	8
5 Chemicals and related products	537	290	1,097	652	151	157	303	298
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	50	50	100	99	119	117	241	250
7 Machinery and transport equipment	119	101	235	212	195	182	411	391
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	70	74	141	145	143	141	284	293
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	25	25	49	50	48	47	97	95
<b>Other EU</b>	<b>3,424</b>	<b>2,957</b>	<b>6,709</b>	<b>5,775</b>	<b>1,233</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>2,468</b>	<b>2,742</b>
0 Food and live animals	234	237	441	467	172	207	342	420
1 Beverages and tobacco	23	24	47	49	29	26	58	51
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	89	77	153	150	20	18	37	33
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	42	14	69	28	25	37	87	93
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	3	2	5	4	14	13	27	26
5 Chemicals and related products	2,285	1,851	4,535	3,574	319	386	645	731
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	66	58	122	112	106	118	216	232
7 Machinery and transport equipment	334	348	648	664	341	271	638	716
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	318	302	626	641	95	95	186	186
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	31	44	62	87	112	123	233	254
<b>USA</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>1,492</b>	<b>2,830</b>	<b>3,102</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>1,106</b>
0 Food and live animals	10	7	18	17	17	22	33	50
1 Beverages and tobacco	27	24	54	54	1	1	1	1
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	2	1	4	3	3	4	6	7
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	0	0	18	2	20	13
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	–	0	–	0	0	0	1	0
5 Chemicals and related products	925	1,088	1,980	2,313	155	129	258	285
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	10	10	20	18	20	20	44	39
7 Machinery and transport equipment	69	71	135	133	97	94	929	587
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	342	288	615	557	59	56	120	117
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	2	3	4	6	3	4	7	8
<b>China <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>170</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>461</b>
0 Food and live animals	20	25	40	51	2	2	4	4
1 Beverages and tobacco	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	8	7	16	16	1	2	2	4
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	0	1	0	0	0	0
5 Chemicals and related products	59	25	145	81	12	15	28	27
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2	1	3	3	27	23	56	46
7 Machinery and transport equipment	67	52	152	128	97	116	203	220
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	14	17	27	36	94	74	178	155
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	0	0	0	0	3	3	6	6
<b>Rest of World</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>2,677</b>	<b>2,388</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>1,487</b>	<b>1,419</b>
0 Food and live animals	123	106	225	220	48	60	123	113
1 Beverages and tobacco	13	14	30	31	7	7	16	12
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	19	26	48	56	25	18	50	35
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0	0	1	1	281	137	377	193
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0	2	0	2	4	3	7	6
5 Chemicals and related products	629	615	1,538	1,240	169	228	334	466
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	13	12	23	23	25	21	52	42
7 Machinery and transport equipment	227	229	439	438	175	178	331	380
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	174	147	337	299	95	76	184	159
9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	18	30	37	78	7	7	12	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,399</b>	<b>6,646</b>	<b>15,069</b>	<b>13,434</b>	<b>3,952</b>	<b>3,891</b>	<b>8,412</b>	<b>8,296</b>

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

<sup>2</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 (January 2013 in this publication), -4 (October 2012) and -8 (June 2012) 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 February 2013 was 66%, covering an estimated 89% of the total value of intra-EU trade.

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.