

95/2016 - 17 May 2016

March 2016

Euro area international trade in goods surplus €28.6 bn

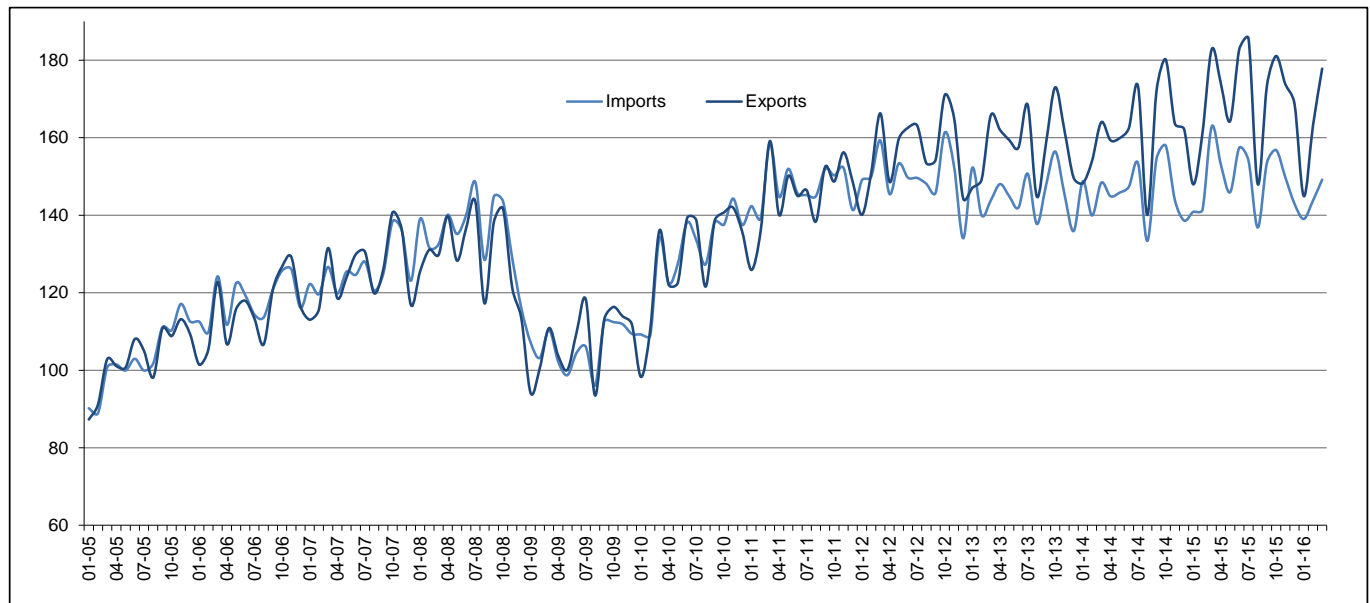
€7.2 bn surplus for EU28

Euro area

The first estimate for **euro area** (EA19) exports of goods to the rest of the world in March 2016 was €177.8 billion, a decrease of 3% compared with March 2015 (€182.8 bn). Imports from the rest of the world stood at €149.2 bn, a fall of 8% compared with March 2015 (€162.9 bn). As a result, the **euro area** recorded a €28.6 bn surplus in trade in goods with the rest of the world in March 2016, compared with +€19.9 bn in March 2015. **Intra-euro area** trade fell to €149.3 bn in March 2016, down by 2% compared with March 2015.

These data are released by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.**

International trade in goods of the euro area, € bn



In January to March 2016, **euro area** exports of goods to the rest of the world fell to €485.8 bn (a decrease of 1% compared with January-March 2015) and imports fell to €432.0 bn (a decrease of 3% compared with January-March 2015). As a result the **euro area** recorded a surplus of €53.9 bn, compared with +€46.8 bn in January-March 2015. **Intra-euro area** trade remained nearly stable at €422.1 bn in January-March 2016.

EA19 trade - non seasonally adjusted data

bn €

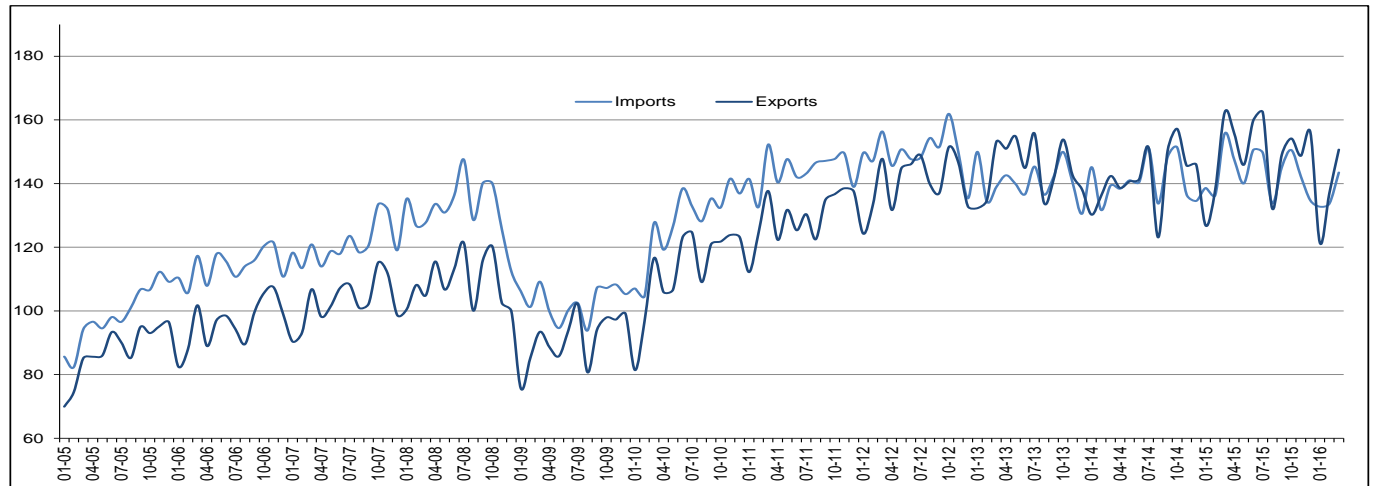
Flows	Mar 15	Mar 16	Growth	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth
Extra-EA19 exports	182.8	177.8	-3%	492.0	485.8	-1%
Extra-EA19 imports	162.9	149.2	-8%	445.2	432.0	-3%
Extra-EA19 trade balance	19.9	28.6		46.8	53.9	
Intra-EA19 trade	152.0	149.3	-2%	420.8	422.1	0%

The source dataset is available [here](#).

European Union

The first estimate for **extra-EU28** exports of goods in March 2016 was €150.7 billion, down by 7% compared with March 2015 (€162.4 bn). Imports from the rest of the world stood at €143.5 bn, down by 8% compared with March 2015 (€155.7 bn). As a result, the **EU28** recorded a €7.2 bn surplus in trade in goods with the rest of the world in March 2016, compared with +€6.7 bn in March 2015. **Intra-EU28** trade fell to €270.9 bn in March 2016, -2% compared with March 2015.

International trade in goods of the EU28, € bn



In January to March 2016, **extra-EU28** exports of goods fell to €409.1 bn (a decrease of 4% compared with January-March 2015) and imports fell to €409.9 bn (a decrease of 5% compared with January-March 2015). As a result, the **EU28** recorded a deficit of €0.8 bn, compared with -€3.5 bn in January-March 2015. **Intra-EU28** trade rose to €767.1 bn in January-March 2016, +1% compared with January-March 2015.

EU28 trade - non seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Mar 15	Mar 16	Growth	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth
Extra-EU28 exports	162.4	150.7	-7%	427.2	409.1	-4%
Extra-EU28 imports	155.7	143.5	-8%	430.7	409.9	-5%
Extra-EU28 trade balance	6.7	7.2		-3.5	-0.8	
Intra-EU28 trade	275.6	270.9	-2%	759.7	767.1	1%

The source dataset is available [here](#).

Main products - EU28

bn €

	Extra-EU28 exports			Extra-EU28 imports			Trade balance	
	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16
Total	427.2	409.1	-4%	430.7	409.9	-5%	-3.5	-0.8
Primary goods:	58.6	52.5	-10%	127.3	99.9	-21%	-68.7	-47.5
<i>Food & drink</i>	27.1	27.2	0%	26.6	27.0	1%	0.5	0.3
<i>Raw materials</i>	11.2	10.3	-8%	18.0	16.6	-8%	-6.9	-6.3
<i>Energy</i>	20.3	14.9	-27%	82.7	56.3	-32%	-62.4	-41.4
Manufactured goods:	351.9	341.8	-3%	291.2	294.2	1%	60.7	47.6
<i>Chemicals</i>	76.0	75.0	-1%	46.8	48.0	3%	29.2	27.0
<i>Machinery & vehicles</i>	177.8	171.2	-4%	129.7	132.2	2%	48.0	39.0
<i>Other manuf'd goods</i>	98.2	95.6	-3%	114.7	114.0	-1%	-16.6	-18.4
Other	16.7	14.8	-11%	12.2	15.8	30%	4.6	-0.9

The source dataset is available [here](#).

Main trading partners - EU28

bn €

	EU28 exports to			EU28 imports from			Trade balance	
	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16
United States	88.3	84.3	-5%	60.9	60.8	0%	27.4	23.5
China	38.9	38.7	-1%	89.3	85.6	-4%	-50.4	-46.9
Switzerland	38.3	34.6	-10%	25.3	27.1	7%	13.0	7.5
Russia	17.0	15.5	-9%	33.8	26.7	-21%	-16.9	-11.2
Turkey	19.3	18.8	-3%	15.1	16.8	11%	4.2	2.0
Japan	13.3	13.1	-2%	15.1	16.4	8%	-1.8	-3.2
Norway	12.0	11.2	-7%	19.5	14.9	-24%	-7.5	-3.7
South Korea	11.7	10.4	-11%	9.7	9.5	-2%	2.0	0.9
India	9.5	9.0	-6%	10.3	10.2	-1%	-0.8	-1.3
Canada	8.4	8.2	-3%	7.8	7.2	-7%	0.6	0.9

The source dataset is available [here](#).

Member States' total trade (intra-EU + extra-EU)

bn €

	Total exports						Total imports						Trade balance					
	Total		Intra-EU		Extra-EU		Total		Intra-EU		Extra-EU		Total		Intra-EU		Extra-EU	
	Jan-Mar 16	Growth / Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth / Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth / Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth / Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth / Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Growth / Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Jan-Mar 15	Jan-Mar 16	Jan-Mar 15
Belgium	87.9	-1%	63.8	1%	24.1	-4%	82.1	-2%	50.9	-1%	31.2	-3%	5.8	4.8	12.9	11.9	-7.1	-7.1
Bulgaria	5.4	-2%	3.6	3%	1.8	-9%	5.9	-7%	4.0	0%	1.9	-19%	-0.5	-0.8	-0.4	-0.5	-0.1	-0.3
Czech Republic	37.2	7%	31.5	8%	5.7	0%	31.5	4%	25.0	7%	6.5	-7%	5.7	4.4	6.5	5.6	-0.8	-1.2
Denmark	20.7	-6%	12.7	-5%	8.0	-6%	18.8	-3%	13.5	1%	5.3	-12%	2.0	2.5	-0.7	0.0	2.7	2.5
Germany	295.6	1%	176.8	3%	118.7	-2%	235.2	0%	155.7	2%	79.4	-3%	60.4	59.1	21.1	19.9	39.3	39.2
Estonia	2.8	-2%	2.1	-2%	0.7	-4%	3.2	1%	2.7	5%	0.6	-14%	-0.5	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	0.0
Ireland	26.4	2%	14.0	1%	12.5	3%	14.6	-11%	10.1	-5%	4.5	-22%	11.8	9.5	3.9	3.2	7.9	6.2
Greece	5.7	-9%	3.4	0%	2.3	-20%	10.1	-8%	5.7	-1%	4.4	-16%	-4.4	-4.7	-2.3	-2.4	-2.1	-2.3
Spain	61.9	-1%	42.0	1%	20.0	-6%	67.5	-2%	41.5	0%	26.0	-5%	-5.6	-6.3	0.5	0.0	-6.1	-6.3
France	112.3	0%	68.7	0%	43.6	-1%	129.5	1%	90.0	3%	39.5	-3%	-17.2	-15.5	-21.3	-18.9	4.1	3.5
Croatia	2.7	4%	1.8	3%	0.9	7%	4.4	3%	3.6	5%	0.8	-4%	-1.7	-1.7	-1.7	-1.6	0.1	0.0
Italy	99.1	0%	57.2	3%	41.9	-5%	89.8	-2%	54.1	1%	35.8	-7%	9.3	7.4	3.1	1.6	6.2	5.9
Cyprus	0.4	-28%	0.2	-45%	0.2	-2%	1.1	-5%	0.8	-5%	0.3	-6%	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.1	-0.1
Latvia	2.4	-5%	1.7	-7%	0.7	1%	2.9	-5%	2.3	-5%	0.6	-7%	-0.4	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	0.1	0.0
Lithuania	5.2	1%	3.2	-2%	2.0	8%	5.6	-3%	3.9	2%	1.7	-13%	-0.3	-0.6	-0.7	-0.5	0.3	-0.1
Luxembourg	3.8	-1%	3.2	0%	0.6	-3%	4.7	-12%	3.6	-5%	1.1	-29%	-0.9	-1.6	-0.4	-0.6	-0.5	-1.0
Hungary	22.3	2%	18.4	3%	3.9	-4%	20.4	2%	15.8	4%	4.6	-3%	1.9	1.9	2.6	2.6	-0.7	-0.7
Malta	0.6	12%	0.3	2%	0.4	20%	1.5	19%	0.6	-8%	0.9	49%	-0.9	-0.7	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3
Netherlands	122.4	-3%	94.0	-2%	28.4	-6%	107.1	-4%	50.7	0%	56.4	-7%	15.3	15.2	43.3	45.7	-28.0	-30.4
Austria	33.7	1%	24.0	2%	9.7	-2%	34.8	0%	26.5	1%	8.3	-4%	-1.2	-1.5	-2.5	-2.7	1.3	1.2
Poland	44.1	0%	35.6	1%	8.5	-4%	42.1	-1%	30.3	-1%	11.8	-2%	2.0	1.5	5.3	4.7	-3.3	-3.2
Portugal	11.9	-2%	9.2	3%	2.7	-17%	14.4	1%	11.2	1%	3.1	0%	-2.4	-2.0	-2.0	-2.1	-0.5	0.1
Romania	13.9	3%	10.5	6%	3.3	-4%	15.8	7%	12.3	9%	3.5	1%	-2.0	-1.4	-1.8	-1.4	-0.2	0.0
Slovenia	7.2	3%	5.6	3%	1.7	3%	6.5	0%	4.5	0%	2.0	0%	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.9	-0.4	-0.4
Slovakia	16.5	0%	14.2	1%	2.3	-4%	15.8	1%	12.7	3%	3.1	-8%	0.7	0.9	1.5	1.9	-0.8	-1.0
Finland	12.1	-7%	7.2	-6%	4.8	-9%	12.8	-7%	9.5	-3%	3.3	-17%	-0.7	-0.8	-2.2	-2.0	1.5	1.3
Sweden	30.7	-1%	18.4	0%	12.3	-2%	30.0	0%	21.4	3%	8.6	-7%	0.7	0.9	-3.0	-2.4	3.7	3.3
United Kingdom	91.3	-8%	43.8	-4%	47.5	-11%	137.2	-2%	72.7	-3%	64.5	-2%	-45.9	-41.6	-28.9	-29.4	-17.0	-12.2

The source dataset is available [here](#).

Geographical information

The **euro area** (EA19) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union** (EU28) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Methods and definitions

Since the introduction of Intrastat for intra-EU trade on 1 January 1993, the value of dispatches has been consistently higher than that of arrivals. In theory, as dispatches are declared FOB and arrivals CIF, the value of arrivals should be slightly higher than that of dispatches. Eurostat uses dispatches as the more reliable measure of total intra-EU trade as, at aggregated levels, total dispatches has better coverage than total arrivals. Due to this divergence in intra-EU trade, and to the difficulties of interpreting figures in absolute terms at the level of individual Member States, trade balances for individual Member States must be interpreted with caution. The same caution applies to the trade balance of the euro area, which includes some intra-EU trade.

National concepts may differ from the harmonised methodology used by Eurostat, leading to differences between figures in this release and those published nationally, both for raw data and for seasonally adjusted series.

Products are classified according to the Standard international trade classification (SITC), Revision 4.

Revisions and timetable

This News Release is based on data available on 11 May 2016. These are provisional figures based on information provided by Member States. They are subject to frequent revision for up to two years after the month in question.

For more information

Eurostat website section on international trade in goods


Eurostat database section on international trade in goods

Eurostat Statistics Explained article on international trade in goods statistics

Eurostat €-indicators release calendar

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**


Vincent BOURGAIIS
Tel: +352-4301-33 444
eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

 ec.europa.eu/eurostat/

For further information on data:

Michele MAROTTA
Tel: +352-4301-32 493
estat-etfree@ec.europa.eu

 [@EU_Eurostat](https://twitter.com/EU_Eurostat)

 **Media requests:** Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33 408 / eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu

Annex - Seasonally adjusted data

In March 2016 compared with February 2016, **euro area** seasonally adjusted exports decreased by 1.3% and imports decreased by 2.7%. The seasonally adjusted balance was +€22.3 bn, an increase compared with February (+€20.6 bn).

EA19 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sep 15	Oct 15	Nov 15	Dec 15	Jan 16	Feb 16	Mar 16
Extra-EA19 exports	171.5	170.6	172.0	173.0	166.7	167.9	168.2	170.8	170.5	166.6	167.3	165.1
Extra-EA19 imports	152.0	149.2	152.7	150.4	147.2	148.1	148.4	147.7	148.0	145.7	146.8	142.8
Extra-EA19 trade balance	19.5	21.4	19.3	22.6	19.5	19.8	19.8	23.1	22.5	20.8	20.6	22.3
Intra-EA19 trade	140.7	140.3	143.9	142.9	139.9	140.9	141.3	142.0	141.4	139.7	140.3	137.7

The source dataset is available [here](#).

In March 2016 compared with February 2016, **EU28** seasonally adjusted exports fell by 1.1%, while imports rose by 1.2%. The seasonally adjusted balance was +€2.2 bn, a fall compared with February (+€5.5 bn).

EU28 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sep 15	Oct 15	Nov 15	Dec 15	Jan 16	Feb 16	Mar 16
Extra-EU28 exports	152.6	150.3	151.1	150.9	146.0	146.2	145.2	146.9	151.1	142.5	143.3	141.7
Extra-EU28 imports	146.7	143.6	146.9	144.5	140.1	141.2	142.7	141.2	139.4	137.6	137.8	139.5
Extra-EU28 trade balance	5.9	6.6	4.3	6.5	5.9	5.0	2.5	5.7	11.6	4.9	5.5	2.2
Intra-EU28 trade	253.8	254.7	259.9	258.4	253.9	256.4	257.6	259.7	257.1	254.7	257.2	251.2

The source dataset is available [here](#).

Contribution of EU28 Member States to extra-EU28 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

	Total exports			Total imports			Trade balance	
	Feb 16	Mar 16	Growth	Feb 16	Mar 16	Growth	Feb 16	Mar 16
EU28	143.3	141.7	-1.1%	137.8	139.5	1.2%	5.5	2.2
Belgium	8.4	7.8	-7.7%	10.9	9.4	-13.5%	-2.5	-1.6
Bulgaria	0.7	0.6	-7.8%	0.7	0.7	-8.9%	0.0	0.0
Czech Republic	2.0	1.9	-4.6%	2.2	2.1	-5.1%	-0.2	-0.2
Denmark	2.7	2.9	7.6%	1.8	1.8	-2.9%	0.9	1.1
Germany	41.1	41.0	-0.1%	26.3	26.7	1.5%	14.8	14.4
Estonia	0.2	0.3	8.2%	0.2	0.2	-11.2%	0.0	0.1
Ireland	4.2	4.3	4.1%	1.6	1.6	-0.4%	2.5	2.7
Greece	0.9	0.8	-2.3%	1.6	1.5	-5.2%	-0.7	-0.7
Spain	7.1	7.3	3.6%	8.8	8.8	0.6%	-1.7	-1.5
France	15.1	15.0	-0.9%	13.3	12.7	-4.6%	1.8	2.3
Croatia	0.3	0.3	-2.2%	0.3	0.3	-0.9%	0.0	0.0
Italy	15.0	14.6	-3.0%	11.9	11.2	-5.5%	3.1	3.3
Cyprus	0.1	0.1	1.0%	0.1	0.1	-4.8%	0.0	0.0
Latvia	0.3	0.3	-0.8%	0.2	0.2	7.2%	0.1	0.0
Lithuania	0.8	0.8	-3.5%	0.6	0.6	6.8%	0.2	0.2
Luxembourg	0.2	0.2	-7.6%	0.5	0.3	-40.2%	-0.2	-0.1
Hungary	1.4	1.3	-4.1%	1.6	1.6	-1.2%	-0.2	-0.3
Malta	0.1	0.2	190.8%	0.5	0.2	-50.8%	-0.4	0.0
Netherlands	9.3	9.5	3.0%	19.5	19.1	-2.2%	-10.2	-9.5
Austria	3.2	3.3	1.9%	2.7	2.6	-4.4%	0.5	0.7
Poland	3.0	3.1	6.0%	4.1	4.1	-0.1%	-1.2	-1.0
Portugal	0.9	1.0	8.5%	1.1	1.2	14.4%	-0.1	-0.2
Romania	1.3	1.1	-17.5%	1.3	1.2	-6.3%	0.0	-0.1
Slovenia	0.6	0.6	-8.3%	0.7	0.7	-0.1%	-0.1	-0.1
Slovakia	0.8	0.8	-5.5%	1.1	1.0	-6.1%	-0.2	-0.2
Finland	1.8	1.8	-1.5%	1.1	1.2	7.1%	0.7	0.6
Sweden	4.1	4.3	4.8%	2.8	2.9	3.5%	1.3	1.4
United Kingdom	17.7	16.5	-7.1%	20.4	25.4	24.9%	-2.6	-9.0

The source dataset is available [here](#).

International trade in goods balance, seasonally adjusted, € bn

