

157/2019 - 16 October 2019

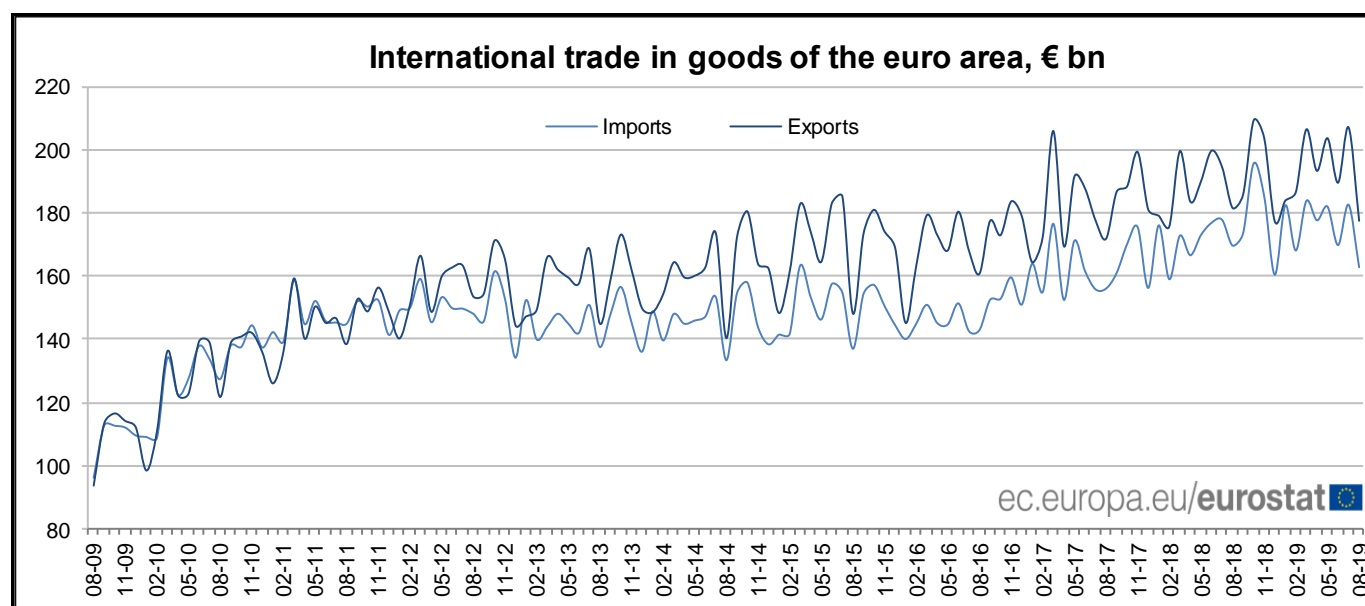
August 2019

Euro area international trade in goods surplus**€14.7 bn**

€12.1 bn deficit for EU28

Euro area

The first estimate for **euro area** (EA19) exports of goods to the rest of the world in August 2019 was €177.4 billion, a decrease of 2.2% compared with August 2018 (€181.4 bn). Imports from the rest of the world stood at €162.6 bn, a fall of 4.1% compared with August 2018 (€169.5 bn). As a result, the **euro area** recorded a €14.7 bn surplus in trade in goods with the rest of the world in August 2019, compared with +€11.9 bn in August 2018. **Intra-euro area** trade fell to €133.7 bn in August 2019, down by 5.6% compared with August 2018.



In January to August 2019, **euro area** exports of goods to the rest of the world rose to €1 546.9 bn (an increase of 3.0% compared with January-August 2018), and imports rose to €1 407.9 bn (an increase of 2.7% compared with January-August 2018). As a result the **euro area** recorded a surplus of €139.0 bn, compared with +€132.0 bn in January-August 2018. **Intra-euro area** trade rose to €1 304.6 bn in January-August 2019, up by 1.2% compared with January-August 2018.

EA19 trade - non seasonally adjusted data**bn €**

Flows	Aug 18	Aug 19	Growth	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth
Extra-EA19 exports	181.4	177.4	-2.2%	1 502.5	1 546.9	3.0%
Extra-EA19 imports	169.5	162.6	-4.1%	1 370.6	1 407.9	2.7%
Extra-EA19 trade balance	11.9	14.7		132.0	139.0	
Intra-EA19 trade	141.6	133.7	-5.6%	1 288.8	1 304.6	1.2%

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

European Union

The first estimate for **extra-EU28** exports of goods in August 2019 was €154.2 billion, down by 3.3% compared with August 2018 (€159.4 bn). Imports from the rest of the world stood at €166.3 bn, down by 0.6% compared with August 2018 (€167.3 bn). As a result, the **EU28** recorded a €12.1 bn deficit in trade in goods with the rest of the world in August 2019, compared with -€7.9 bn in August 2018. **Intra-EU28** trade fell to €253.1 bn in August 2019, down by 4.3% compared with August 2018.



In January to August 2019, **extra-EU28** exports of goods rose to €1 334.5 bn (an increase of 3.6% compared with January-August 2018), and imports rose to €1 357.6 bn (an increase of 4.6% compared with January-August 2018). As a result, the **EU28** recorded a deficit of €23.1 bn, compared with -€10.3 bn in January-August 2018. **Intra-EU28** trade rose to €2 368.9 bn in January-August 2019, +1.7% compared with January-August 2018.

EU28 trade - non seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Aug 18	Aug 19	Growth	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth
Extra-EU28 exports	159.4	154.2	-3.3%	1 288.1	1 334.5	3.6%
Extra-EU28 imports	167.3	166.3	-0.6%	1 298.4	1 357.6	4.6%
Extra-EU28 trade balance	-7.9	-12.1		-10.3	-23.1	
Intra-EU28 trade	264.5	253.1	-4.3%	2 329.2	2 368.9	1.7%

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

Main products - EU28

bn €

	Extra-EU28 exports			Extra-EU28 imports			Trade balance	
	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19
Total	1 288.1	1 334.5	3.6%	1 298.4	1 357.6	4.6%	-10.3	-23.1
Primary goods:	188.4	192.4	2.1%	397.5	390.2	-1.8%	-209.1	-197.9
<i>Food & drink</i>	79.0	86.4	9.4%	74.6	77.2	3.5%	4.4	9.1
<i>Raw materials</i>	34.2	35.5	3.8%	54.7	55.8	2.0%	-20.5	-20.3
<i>Energy</i>	75.2	70.5	-6.3%	268.2	257.2	-4.1%	-193.0	-186.7
Manufactured goods:	1 055.2	1 099.1	4.2%	864.5	910.2	5.3%	190.7	189.0
<i>Chemicals</i>	237.3	257.6	8.6%	136.3	147.1	7.9%	101.0	110.5
<i>Machinery & vehicles</i>	527.6	539.3	2.2%	400.3	423.9	5.9%	127.3	115.4
<i>Other manuf'd goods</i>	290.2	302.3	4.2%	327.8	339.2	3.5%	-37.6	-36.9
Other	44.5	43.0	-3.4%	36.4	57.2	57.1%	8.1	-14.2

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

Main trading partners - EU28

bn €

	EU28 exports to			EU28 imports from			Trade balance	
	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19
United States	265.5	295.9	11.5%	174.9	193.2	10.5%	90.6	102.7
China	136.3	145.3	6.6%	252.5	272.7	8.0%	-116.3	-127.4
Switzerland	104.7	105.6	0.9%	71.7	86.2	20.2%	33.0	19.4
Russia	56.4	58.6	3.9%	110.5	105.0	-5.0%	-54.1	-46.4
Turkey	56.1	47.5	-15.3%	50.5	53.2	5.3%	5.6	-5.7
Japan	42.3	45.4	7.3%	46.7	49.8	6.6%	-4.4	-4.4
Norway	35.6	37.1	4.2%	55.0	48.8	-11.3%	-19.4	-11.7
South Korea	33.7	31.8	-5.6%	33.6	34.9	3.9%	0.1	-3.1
India	29.8	28.5	-4.4%	31.1	32.8	5.5%	-1.3	-4.4
Canada	27.5	29.3	6.5%	20.3	22.3	9.9%	7.3	7.0

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-Aug 19	Growth/ Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth/ Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth/ Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth/ Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth/ Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Growth/ Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Jan-Aug 18	Jan-Aug 19	Jan-Aug 18
Belgium	261.9	-1%	189.1	-1%	72.8	1%	251.5	-1%	160.8	-1%	90.6	0%	10.4	10.2	28.3	29.1	-17.8	-18.9
Bulgaria	19.3	5%	13.2	4%	6.1	10%	20.7	-1%	13.8	2%	6.9	-7%	-1.4	-2.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.8	-1.9
Czechia	116.4	5%	97.9	4%	18.5	6%	103.2	2%	78.4	0%	24.9	8%	13.2	9.5	19.5	15.2	-6.4	-5.6
Denmark	64.9	6%	38.2	2%	26.6	13%	57.5	-1%	40.1	0%	17.4	-2%	7.4	3.1	-1.9	-2.8	9.2	5.9
Germany	884.0	0%	517.3	-1%	366.7	2%	733.9	2%	489.0	2%	244.9	1%	150.1	159.7	28.4	42.3	121.8	117.4
Estonia	9.6	3%	6.8	5%	2.8	-2%	10.7	1%	8.3	2%	2.3	-4%	-1.0	-1.2	-1.5	-1.7	0.5	0.4
Ireland	101.1	11%	49.0	7%	52.1	14%	55.7	-2%	37.5	0%	18.3	-6%	45.4	34.6	11.6	8.4	33.8	26.2
Greece	22.4	2%	12.5	8%	9.9	-5%	37.0	4%	19.1	3%	17.9	6%	-14.6	-13.5	-6.7	-7.1	-7.9	-6.5
Spain	197.5	1%	131.1	2%	66.4	1%	219.6	1%	125.9	-1%	93.7	4%	-22.1	-22.7	5.1	2.0	-27.3	-24.7
France	337.6	5%	198.2	3%	139.4	7%	386.2	3%	262.5	1%	123.7	6%	-48.6	-54.1	-64.4	-67.2	15.8	13.1
Croatia	10.1	5%	6.8	5%	3.3	7%	16.8	6%	13.4	9%	3.3	-5%	-6.7	-6.2	-6.7	-5.8	0.0	-0.4
Italy	313.0	3%	176.4	2%	136.7	3%	280.8	1%	164.3	0%	116.5	2%	32.3	27.2	12.1	9.4	20.2	17.8
Cyprus	2.1	-35%	1.1	36%	1.0	-59%	5.4	-9%	3.6	0%	1.8	-23%	-3.3	-2.7	-2.5	-2.8	-0.8	0.1
Latvia	9.0	1%	6.2	4%	2.8	-5%	10.9	1%	8.4	3%	2.5	-5%	-2.0	-1.9	-2.3	-2.2	0.3	0.3
Lithuania	19.4	6%	11.5	6%	7.8	5%	21.2	5%	14.2	2%	6.9	12%	-1.8	-1.8	-2.7	-3.1	0.9	1.3
Luxembourg	10.3	13%	8.8	13%	1.6	11%	14.7	10%	12.1	4%	2.6	58%	-4.4	-4.2	-3.4	-4.0	-1.0	-0.2
Hungary	73.4	4%	60.2	5%	13.3	4%	71.0	5%	52.1	2%	18.8	13%	2.5	2.7	8.1	6.7	-5.6	-4.0
Malta	1.8	7%	1.0	2%	0.7	15%	4.4	19%	3.3	23%	1.1	9%	-2.7	-2.1	-2.3	-1.7	-0.4	-0.4
Netherlands	413.6	3%	305.9	3%	107.7	5%	372.6	4%	170.4	4%	202.1	4%	41.0	41.7	135.5	132.6	-94.4	-90.9
Austria	106.2	3%	75.8	2%	30.5	5%	110.7	2%	85.9	3%	24.9	2%	-4.5	-4.7	-10.1	-9.4	5.6	4.7
Poland	153.2	6%	122.2	5%	31.0	9%	153.0	3%	105.1	1%	47.9	9%	0.2	-2.8	17.1	12.8	-16.9	-15.6
Portugal	39.6	2%	30.4	3%	9.2	-2%	53.4	7%	40.7	9%	12.8	3%	-13.8	-11.0	-10.3	-7.9	-3.6	-3.0
Romania	45.5	2%	35.1	2%	10.5	1%	56.6	5%	42.2	5%	14.4	5%	-11.0	-9.2	-7.1	-5.9	-4.0	-3.3
Slovenia	26.5	8%	19.7	5%	6.8	17%	25.6	10%	16.4	4%	9.2	23%	1.0	1.4	3.4	3.1	-2.4	-1.7
Slovakia	52.4	1%	44.3	0%	8.0	13%	52.8	3%	42.7	4%	10.1	-1%	-0.4	0.2	1.6	3.4	-2.1	-3.1
Finland	43.4	3%	25.4	1%	18.1	5%	43.6	-1%	30.9	0%	12.7	-4%	-0.2	-1.7	-5.5	-5.7	5.4	4.0
Sweden	95.6	4%	56.0	3%	39.6	7%	93.0	-1%	64.9	-2%	28.1	1%	2.6	-2.6	-8.9	-11.6	11.5	9.0
United Kingdom	273.6	0%	129.0	0%	144.6	0%	401.5	7%	200.2	1%	201.3	15%	-128.0	-99.9	-71.3	-69.5	-56.7	-30.4

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, Czechia, 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.

Dutch trade flows are over-estimated because of the so-called 'Rotterdam effect' (or quasi-transit trade): that is goods bound for other EU countries arrive in Dutch ports and, according to EU rules, are recorded as extra-EU imports by the Netherlands (the country where goods are released for free circulation). This in turn increases the intra-EU flows from the Netherlands to those Member States to which the goods are re-exported. Although to a lesser extent, trade figures of other Member States like Belgium or Luxembourg may also be overestimated due to quasi-transit.

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 13 October 2019. 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

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Annex - Seasonally adjusted data

In August 2019 compared with July 2019, **euro area** seasonally adjusted exports increased by 0.4%, while imports decreased by 1.2%. The seasonally adjusted balance was +€20.3 bn, an increase compared with July (+€17.5 bn).

EA19 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Sep 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19
Extra-EA19 exports	190.8	193.6	192.3	193.3	195.7	194.7	196.3	192.6	195.2	193.8	194.1	194.8
Extra-EA19 imports	177.3	181.4	177.7	177.5	178.2	175.0	179.1	177.3	176.9	176.0	176.6	174.5
Extra-EA19 trade balance	13.5	12.2	14.6	15.8	17.6	19.7	17.2	15.2	18.3	17.8	17.5	20.3
Intra-EA19 trade	163.3	164.8	163.1	162.8	165.9	164.6	163.7	163.9	165.7	163.0	162.7	160.1

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

In August 2019 compared with July 2019, **EU28** seasonally adjusted exports decreased by 0.3%, while imports decreased by 1.0%. The seasonally adjusted balance was -€5.5 bn, an improvement compared with July (-€6.7 bn).

EU28 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Sep 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19
Extra-EU28 exports	167.1	166.6	164.4	163.3	166.9	166.0	167.0	170.5	171.2	169.0	168.0	167.5
Extra-EU28 imports	167.6	173.9	170.3	170.1	171.9	168.1	168.9	170.1	168.6	166.5	174.8	172.9
Extra-EU28 trade balance	-0.5	-7.3	-5.9	-6.7	-5.1	-2.1	-1.9	0.3	2.6	2.5	-6.7	-5.5
Intra-EU28 trade	294.8	298.7	296.8	295.8	301.8	301.7	304.2	293.9	298.2	294.4	294.9	295.2

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

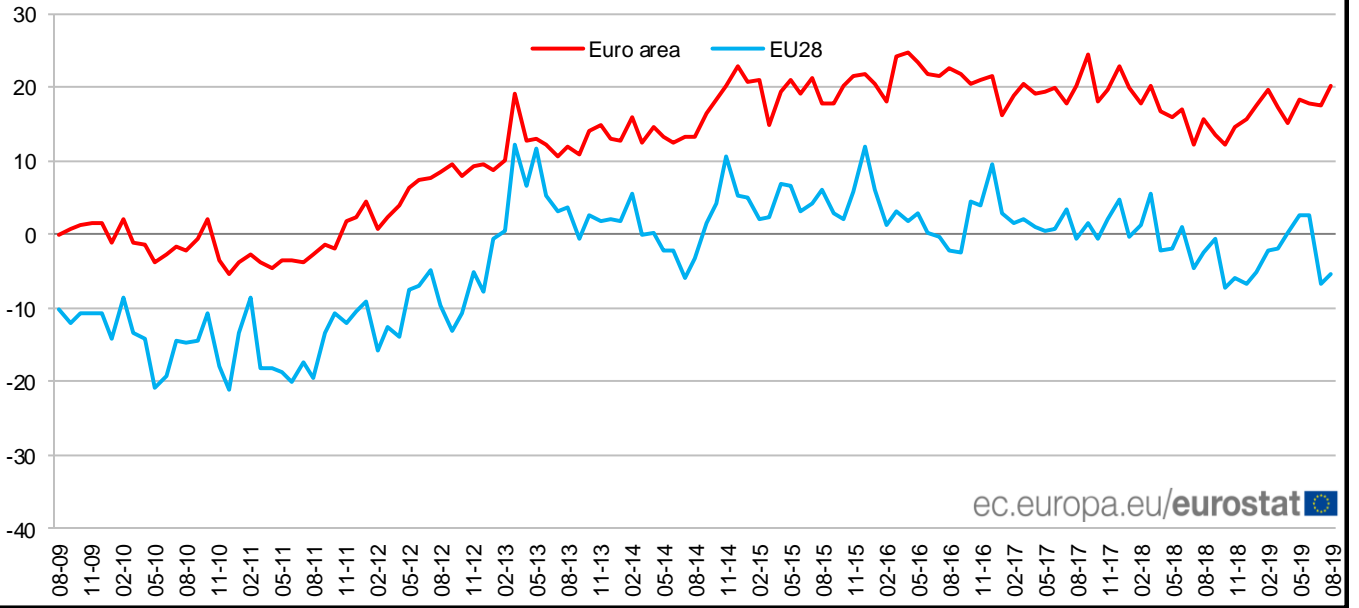
Contribution of EU28 Member States to extra-EU28 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

	Total exports			Total imports			Trade balance	
	Jul 19	Aug 19	Growth	Jul 19	Aug 19	Growth	Jul 19	Aug 19
EU28	168.0	167.5	-0.3%	174.8	172.9	-1.0%	-6.7	-5.5
Belgium	9.3	9.5	2.1%	11.1	10.9	-1.5%	-1.8	-1.4
Bulgaria	0.8	0.8	1.3%	0.9	0.8	-13.9%	-0.1	0.0
Czechia	2.5	2.4	-3.3%	3.3	3.2	-4.3%	-0.9	-0.8
Denmark	3.4	3.6	6.9%	2.2	2.1	-2.4%	1.2	1.5
Germany	46.8	45.1	-3.8%	30.6	29.9	-2.2%	16.3	15.2
Estonia	0.4	0.4	0.6%	0.3	0.3	-14.7%	0.0	0.1
Ireland	6.7	6.8	2.4%	2.5	2.4	-6.6%	4.1	4.5
Greece	1.3	1.1	-13.3%	2.3	2.3	0.3%	-1.0	-1.1
Spain	8.2	8.2	0.1%	11.4	11.4	0.1%	-3.2	-3.2
France	17.3	17.9	3.7%	15.2	15.9	4.6%	2.1	2.0
Croatia	0.4	0.4	-7.3%	0.5	0.4	-15.8%	0.0	0.0
Italy	17.2	17.3	0.4%	14.5	14.2	-2.1%	2.7	3.1
Cyprus	0.1	0.1	8.1%	0.2	0.2	-15.2%	-0.1	-0.1
Latvia	0.4	0.4	10.3%	0.3	0.3	-12.1%	0.1	0.1
Lithuania	1.0	1.1	12.1%	1.0	0.9	-9.3%	0.0	0.2
Luxembourg	0.2	0.2	1.7%	0.2	0.2	13.1%	0.0	0.0
Hungary	1.8	1.8	-0.3%	2.4	2.4	2.3%	-0.6	-0.7
Malta	0.1	0.2	68.1%	0.1	0.1	7.6%	0.0	0.0
Netherlands	13.4	13.5	0.6%	26.3	25.3	-3.9%	-13.0	-11.9
Austria	3.8	3.9	2.3%	3.4	2.9	-17.3%	0.3	1.0
Poland	4.1	3.9	-4.7%	6.3	6.1	-2.6%	-2.2	-2.2
Portugal	1.1	1.1	-5.6%	1.7	1.3	-22.0%	-0.5	-0.2
Romania	1.2	1.3	5.8%	1.9	1.7	-6.4%	-0.6	-0.5
Slovenia	0.9	0.9	4.5%	1.3	1.0	-20.2%	-0.4	-0.1
Slovakia	1.0	0.9	-8.5%	1.2	1.2	6.4%	-0.2	-0.3
Finland	2.3	2.3	0.9%	1.6	1.6	-3.0%	0.6	0.7
Sweden	5.3	4.9	-7.8%	3.6	3.6	-1.6%	1.7	1.3
United Kingdom	17.2	17.6	2.5%	28.5	30.4	6.4%	-11.3	-12.7

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

International trade in goods balance, seasonally adjusted, € bn



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