

30/2019 - 15 February 2019

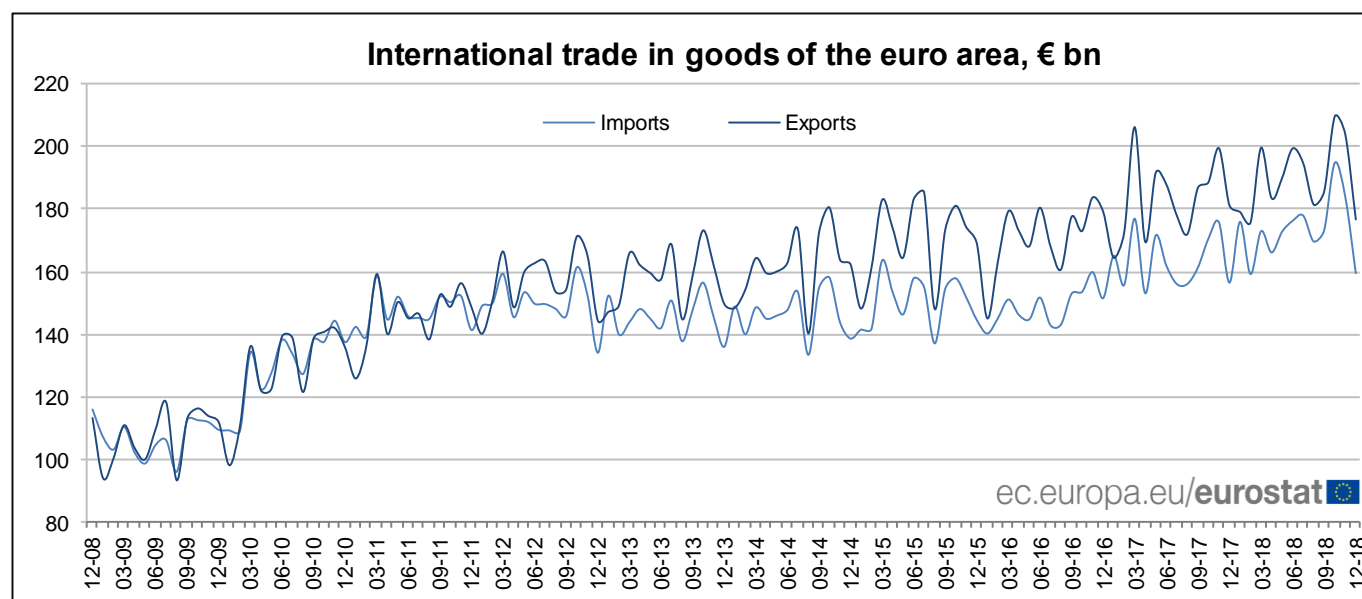
December 2018

Euro area international trade in goods surplus**€17.0 bn**

€0.7 bn surplus for EU28

Euro area

The first estimate for **euro area** (EA19) exports of goods to the rest of the world in December 2018 was €176.5 billion, a decrease of 2.5% compared with December 2017 (€181.0 bn). Imports from the rest of the world stood at €159.5 bn, a rise of 1.9% compared with December 2017 (€156.5 bn). As a result, the **euro area** recorded a €17.0 bn surplus in trade in goods with the rest of the world in December 2018, compared with +€24.5 bn in December 2017. **Intra-euro area** trade fell to €142.6 bn in December 2018, down by 1.2% compared with December 2017.



In January to December 2018, **euro area** exports of goods to the rest of the world rose to €2 276.3 bn (an increase of 3.7% compared with January-December 2017), and imports rose to €2 082.1 bn (an increase of 6.2% compared with January-December 2017). As a result the **euro area** recorded a surplus of €194.2 bn, compared with +€234.9 bn in January-December 2017. **Intra-euro area** trade rose to €1 941.9 bn in January-December 2018, up by 5.2% compared with January-December 2017.

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

Flows	Dec 17	Dec 18	Growth	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth
Extra-EA19 exports	181.0	176.5	-2.5%	2 195.5	2 276.3	3.7%
Extra-EA19 imports	156.5	159.5	1.9%	1 960.6	2 082.1	6.2%
Extra-EA19 trade balance	24.5	17.0		234.9	194.2	
Intra-EA19 trade	144.4	142.6	-1.2%	1 845.1	1 941.9	5.2%

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

European Union

The first estimate for **extra-EU28** exports of goods in December 2018 was €153.9 billion, down by 3.9% compared with December 2017 (€160.1 bn). Imports from the rest of the world stood at €153.2 bn, up by 4.3% compared with December 2017 (€146.9 bn). As a result, the **EU28** recorded a €0.7 bn surplus in trade in goods with the rest of the world in December 2018, compared with +€13.1 bn in December 2017. **Intra-EU28** trade fell to €255.2 bn in December 2018, -1.5% compared with December 2017.



In January to December 2018, **extra-EU28** exports of goods rose to €1 954.9 bn (an increase of 4.0% compared with January-December 2017), and imports rose to €1 977.5 bn (an increase of 6.5% compared with January-December 2017). As a result, the **EU28** recorded a deficit of €22.6 bn, compared with a surplus of €22.2 bn in January-December 2017. **Intra-EU28** trade rose to €3 514.3 bn in January-December 2018, +4.8% compared with January-December 2017.

EU28 trade - non seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Dec 17	Dec 18	Growth	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth
Extra-EU28 exports	160.1	153.9	-3.9%	1 879.0	1 954.9	4.0%
Extra-EU28 imports	146.9	153.2	4.3%	1 856.9	1 977.5	6.5%
Extra-EU28 trade balance	13.1	0.7		22.2	-22.6	
Intra-EU28 trade	259.2	255.2	-1.5%	3 352.6	3 514.3	4.8%

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

Main products - EU28

bn €

	Extra-EU28 exports			Extra-EU28 imports			Trade balance	
	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18
Total	1 879.0	1 954.9	4.0%	1 856.9	1 977.5	6.5%	22.2	-22.6
Primary goods:	270.3	286.6	6.0%	524.4	606.3	15.6%	-254.1	-319.7
<i>Food & drink</i>	121.5	121.7	0.2%	112.0	112.3	0.3%	9.5	9.3
<i>Raw materials</i>	49.5	50.8	2.6%	78.2	81.4	4.1%	-28.8	-30.6
<i>Energy</i>	99.3	114.1	14.9%	334.2	412.5	23.4%	-234.8	-298.5
Manufactured goods:	1 550.8	1 603.3	3.4%	1 268.4	1 316.3	3.8%	282.4	287.0
<i>Chemicals</i>	332.9	355.8	6.9%	196.3	203.3	3.6%	136.5	152.5
<i>Machinery & vehicles</i>	793.8	808.0	1.8%	594.9	618.3	3.9%	198.8	189.7
<i>Other manuf'd goods</i>	424.1	439.5	3.6%	477.1	494.8	3.7%	-53.0	-55.3
Other	58.0	65.0	12.1%	64.1	54.9	-14.4%	-6.1	10.1

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

Main trading partners - EU28

bn €

	EU28 exports to			EU28 imports from			Trade balance	
	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18
United States	376.2	406.4	8.0%	256.6	266.7	3.9%	119.6	139.7
China	197.6	209.9	6.2%	375.4	394.0	5.0%	-177.7	-184.0
Switzerland	150.2	156.5	4.2%	110.7	109.1	-1.4%	39.5	47.4
Russia	86.0	85.3	-0.8%	144.9	168.1	16.0%	-58.9	-82.8
Turkey	84.8	77.2	-9.0%	69.8	76.1	9.0%	15.0	1.2
Norway	50.7	53.8	6.1%	73.7	83.5	13.3%	-23.1	-29.7
Japan	60.8	65.4	7.6%	68.9	70.5	2.3%	-8.1	-5.1
South Korea	50.1	49.2	-1.8%	51.7	51.0	-1.4%	-1.6	-1.9
India	41.7	45.7	9.6%	44.1	45.7	3.6%	-2.4	0.0
Canada	37.7	41.4	9.8%	31.5	31.0	-1.6%	6.2	10.4

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-Dec 18	Growth / Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth / Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth / Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth / Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth / Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Growth / Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Jan-Dec 17	Jan-Dec 18	Jan-Dec 17
Belgium	393.0	3%	286.4	4%	106.6	0%	379.2	5%	243.6	4%	135.5	5%	13.8	19.1	42.8	41.5	-29.0	-22.4
Bulgaria	28.1	1%	19.3	9%	8.8	-13%	32.1	6%	20.4	6%	11.7	8%	-4.0	-2.4	-1.1	-1.7	-2.9	-0.8
Czechia	171.1	6%	144.0	6%	27.2	5%	155.6	8%	118.5	5%	37.1	17%	15.5	16.7	25.4	22.5	-9.9	-5.7
Denmark	92.2	2%	56.2	0%	36.0	4%	86.6	5%	60.6	5%	26.0	5%	5.6	8.2	-4.3	-1.5	10.0	9.8
Germany	1 321.2	3%	778.7	4%	542.5	2%	1 088.3	6%	722.5	6%	365.8	5%	232.8	252.3	56.2	67.7	176.6	184.6
Estonia	14.4	12%	9.8	6%	4.6	27%	16.2	10%	12.4	4%	3.8	36%	-1.8	-1.9	-2.6	-2.7	0.8	0.8
Ireland	139.9	15%	70.3	13%	69.6	17%	89.9	14%	58.1	13%	31.8	16%	50.0	43.2	12.2	11.0	37.8	32.1
Greece	33.4	16%	17.6	14%	15.8	18%	55.1	10%	28.3	8%	26.8	11%	-21.7	-21.4	-10.7	-10.6	-11.0	-10.8
Spain	292.1	3%	193.4	3%	98.7	3%	328.2	5%	191.8	3%	136.5	9%	-36.1	-28.6	1.6	1.5	-37.7	-30.1
France	492.5	4%	290.6	4%	201.9	3%	570.0	3%	394.4	2%	175.6	5%	-77.5	-80.6	-103.8	-109.2	26.3	28.7
Croatia	14.7	4%	10.0	9%	4.8	-7%	23.8	8%	18.4	8%	5.3	9%	-9.1	-7.8	-8.5	-8.0	-0.6	0.2
Italy	462.8	3%	260.5	4%	202.3	2%	423.0	5%	249.3	3%	173.7	9%	39.8	47.6	11.3	8.7	28.5	38.9
Cyprus	4.2	44%	1.2	7%	3.0	67%	9.1	11%	5.2	5%	3.9	21%	-4.9	-5.2	-4.0	-3.8	-0.9	-1.4
Latvia	13.2	7%	8.8	8%	4.4	4%	16.3	10%	12.2	4%	4.1	29%	-3.1	-2.5	-3.4	-3.5	0.2	1.0
Lithuania	28.3	7%	16.6	8%	11.7	7%	31.0	9%	21.1	5%	9.8	18%	-2.6	-2.1	-4.5	-4.7	1.9	2.6
Luxembourg	13.7	-2%	11.5	-2%	2.2	-1%	20.4	1%	17.9	6%	2.5	-27%	-6.7	-6.3	-6.3	-5.1	-0.3	-1.2
Hungary	106.5	6%	87.0	6%	19.4	3%	102.5	8%	76.6	6%	26.0	14%	3.9	5.6	10.5	9.4	-6.5	-3.9
Malta	2.5	15%	1.5	23%	1.1	5%	5.3	4%	3.9	20%	1.5	-23%	-2.8	-2.9	-2.4	-2.0	-0.4	-0.9
Netherlands	611.0	6%	455.2	5%	155.8	9%	545.3	7%	250.3	7%	295.0	7%	65.7	68.7	205.0	200.5	-139.2	-131.8
Austria	156.1	5%	111.4	5%	44.7	4%	163.9	5%	127.1	6%	36.7	4%	-7.7	-6.8	-15.7	-14.4	8.0	7.5
Poland	220.7	6%	177.2	7%	43.4	5%	225.7	9%	156.5	6%	69.2	18%	-5.0	0.6	20.7	17.5	-25.7	-17.0
Portugal	57.9	5%	44.0	8%	13.9	-3%	75.1	8%	56.8	7%	18.2	11%	-17.1	-14.4	-12.8	-12.4	-4.3	-2.1
Romania	67.4	8%	52.0	9%	15.5	2%	82.9	10%	61.9	8%	21.0	15%	-15.4	-13.0	-9.9	-9.8	-5.5	-3.2
Slovenia	37.4	10%	28.5	11%	8.9	8%	35.7	12%	24.0	8%	11.7	20%	1.7	2.1	4.6	3.6	-2.8	-1.5
Slovakia	79.9	7%	68.5	7%	11.4	7%	79.8	8%	63.8	8%	16.0	8%	0.2	1.0	4.7	5.2	-4.6	-4.2
Finland	64.4	7%	38.0	6%	26.3	8%	66.4	6%	46.4	4%	20.0	13%	-2.0	-2.2	-8.4	-8.9	6.4	6.7
Sweden	140.5	4%	83.6	4%	56.9	3%	143.7	5%	100.5	4%	43.2	9%	-3.2	-0.8	-16.9	-16.6	13.7	15.8
United Kingdom	409.8	5%	192.4	3%	217.4	6%	570.1	0%	301.1	2%	268.9	-2%	-160.2	-178.8	-108.8	-109.1	-51.5	-69.7

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.

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 February 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 December 2018 compared with November 2018, **euro area** seasonally adjusted exports decreased by 0.1%, while imports remained stable. The seasonally adjusted balance was +€15.6 bn, a slight decrease compared with November (+€15.8 bn).

EA19 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18
Extra-EA19 exports	190.1	184.2	186.9	187.4	187.7	190.9	189.2	192.7	190.5	194.1	192.4	192.2
Extra-EA19 imports	171.3	166.4	166.8	169.6	171.0	174.4	177.0	176.3	177.6	180.4	176.6	176.6
Extra-EA19 trade balance	18.8	17.8	20.1	17.8	16.6	16.5	12.2	16.4	12.9	13.7	15.8	15.6
Intra-EA19 trade	160.6	158.4	159.7	161.7	160.3	164.2	163.9	163.3	163.0	165.3	162.9	161.5

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

In December 2018 compared with November 2018, **EU28** seasonally adjusted exports decreased by 0.9% and imports decreased by 0.3%. The seasonally adjusted balance was -€6.2 bn, a deterioration compared with November (-€5.3 bn).

EU28 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

Flows	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18
Extra-EU28 exports	162.8	156.3	161.8	158.8	158.8	165.1	163.9	166.9	167.1	167.6	164.6	163.1
Extra-EU28 imports	164.8	155.7	156.4	159.7	159.5	164.6	169.0	169.1	167.6	173.3	169.9	169.4
Extra-EU28 trade balance	-2.0	0.7	5.3	-0.9	-0.7	0.5	-5.1	-2.2	-0.5	-5.7	-5.3	-6.2
Intra-EU28 trade	292.0	286.8	287.0	291.9	291.7	296.6	294.8	296.3	294.3	298.7	296.5	297.3

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

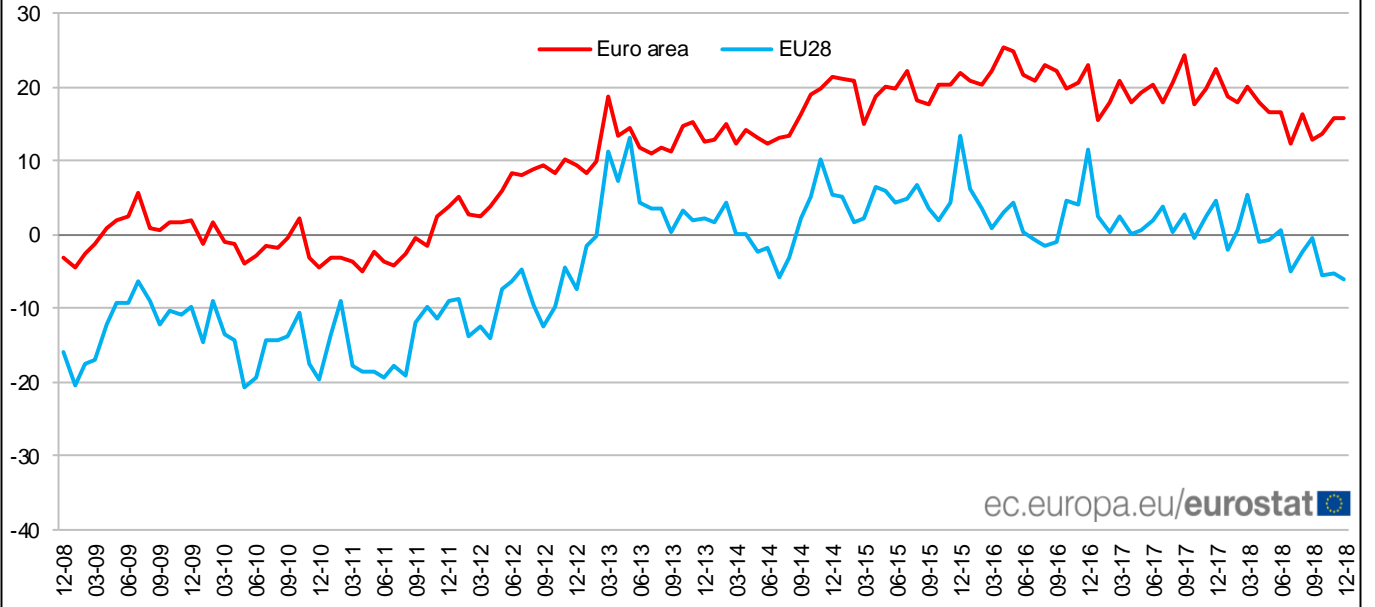
Contribution of EU28 Member States to extra-EU28 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn €

	Total exports			Total imports			Trade balance	
	Nov 18	Dec 18	Growth	Nov 18	Dec 18	Growth	Nov 18	Dec 18
EU28	164.6	163.1	-0.9%	169.9	169.4	-0.3%	-5.3	-6.2
Belgium	8.6	8.3	-3.6%	11.7	11.6	-1.1%	-3.1	-3.3
Bulgaria	0.8	0.8	-0.9%	1.0	0.9	-5.5%	-0.2	-0.2
Czechia	2.3	2.4	2.1%	3.3	3.2	-4.1%	-1.0	-0.8
Denmark	3.2	3.0	-7.1%	2.2	2.2	0.7%	1.0	0.7
Germany	45.8	46.3	1.0%	30.8	29.9	-2.7%	15.0	16.3
Estonia	0.4	0.4	-11.0%	0.3	0.3	-4.9%	0.1	0.1
Ireland	6.2	6.5	5.2%	2.9	4.1	43.8%	3.3	2.4
Greece	1.3	1.2	-7.9%	2.2	2.1	-3.9%	-0.9	-0.9
Spain	8.5	8.3	-2.3%	11.6	11.8	1.8%	-3.1	-3.5
France	17.1	17.8	4.0%	14.6	15.4	5.3%	2.5	2.4
Croatia	0.4	0.3	-13.8%	0.5	0.4	-16.7%	-0.1	-0.1
Italy	17.3	16.7	-3.2%	15.1	14.9	-1.1%	2.1	1.8
Cyprus	0.1	0.1	9.0%	0.5	0.5	10.8%	-0.4	-0.4
Latvia	0.3	0.4	8.9%	0.3	0.4	11.0%	0.0	0.0
Lithuania	1.0	1.0	2.6%	0.8	0.8	0.2%	0.2	0.2
Luxembourg	0.2	0.2	10.5%	0.1	0.3	93.8%	0.0	-0.1
Hungary	1.6	1.6	-0.4%	2.2	2.3	2.6%	-0.6	-0.7
Malta	0.1	0.1	26.6%	0.1	0.1	-16.0%	0.0	0.0
Netherlands	13.3	13.2	-0.4%	24.9	24.4	-2.1%	-11.6	-11.2
Austria	3.8	3.7	-2.8%	3.2	2.9	-7.7%	0.7	0.8
Poland	3.7	3.8	2.4%	6.1	6.4	4.3%	-2.4	-2.6
Portugal	1.1	1.1	2.9%	1.6	1.5	-4.7%	-0.5	-0.4
Romania	1.2	1.2	0.7%	1.8	1.8	0.7%	-0.5	-0.5
Slovenia	0.8	0.8	2.2%	1.1	1.1	4.3%	-0.3	-0.3
Slovakia	1.0	1.1	5.5%	1.4	1.3	-2.3%	-0.3	-0.2
Finland	2.3	2.2	-2.4%	1.7	1.7	1.8%	0.6	0.5
Sweden	5.1	4.9	-3.0%	3.6	3.7	3.7%	1.5	1.2
United Kingdom	17.0	15.6	-8.3%	24.1	23.0	-4.7%	-7.1	-7.4

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

International trade in goods balance, seasonally adjusted, € bn



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