



09 June 2020

International Trade Statistics April 2020

Exports and imports of goods decreased by 39.8% and by 39.1% respectively, in nominal terms

In **April 2020**, exports and imports of goods recorded nominal year-on-year growth rates of -39.8% and -39.1%, respectively (-12.7% and -11.6% in March 2020, in the same order). Reflecting the constraints on the economic activity determined by the measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, almost all product categories showed significant decreases, with exports and imports of *Transport equipment* standing out (-77.6% and -75.2%, respectively). *Food and beverages* were the only major product category to register an increase in exports (+0.3%) in April 2020. There were no increases in imports.

Analysing the imported products related to the COVID-19 pandemic¹, it becomes evident that these products as a whole registered an increase of 18.7% in April, mainly from China (+1266.3%). This variation was due to the increase in imports of protective equipment (+201.5%), which had already registered an increase of 31.6% in March.

Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, exports and imports decreased by 38.8% and by 37.9%, respectively (-13.0% and -12.5%, in the same order, in March 2020).

The trade balance deficit in goods decreased by EUR 672 million when compared to the same month of 2019, reaching EUR 1,131 million in **April 2020**. Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, the trade balance stood at EUR -879 million, corresponding to a decrease of EUR 468 million in the trade deficit vis-à-vis April 2019.

In the **quarter ended in April 2020**, exports and imports of goods decreased by 17.4% and by 16.3% respectively, compared to the quarter ended in April of 2019 (-3.1% and -4.1% in the same order, in the 1st quarter 2020). The two months with effects of the pandemic (March and April 2020) total exports and imports registered reductions of 25.9% and 25.2%, respectively.

This press release includes, besides the usual information, a detailed analysis of the 2019 main results (only available in Portuguese), including a comparison between the evolutions of the Portuguese exports and imports and the respective global imports and exports of the main partners of the national economy (Spain, France, and Germany), benefiting from the recent availability of additional data on these countries.

The information in this press release, regarding April, reflects the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in both the performance of the economic activity and the quantity of primary information available in the compilation of the results presented. Despite the difficulties, we ask for the best collaboration by firms, households, and public entities in answering the requests of Statistics Portugal to obtain information. The quality of official statistics depends crucially on this collaboration that Statistics Portugal is grateful for in advance.

1

¹ see point 8 of the explanatory notes.



The primary information used in compiling the results made available in this press release followed the normal procedures, however, it should be noted that in the current context of the COVID-19 pandemic those procedures might have already been disturbed, although marginally (see point 6 of the explanatory notes).

GLOBAL RESULTS

In April 2020, as regards **year-on-year rates of change**, exports decreased by 39.8% (-12.7% in March 2020) and imports fell by 39.1% (-11.6% in March 2020) in both cases due to the decreases in Intra-EU and Extra-EU trade. Except for exports of *Food and beverages* (+0.3%), all other major goods categories registered decreases with the emphasis on the declines in exports and imports of *Transport equipment* (-77.6% and -75.2% respectively).

Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, in year-on-year terms, **in April 2020** exports decreased by 38.8% and imports declined by 37.9% (-13.0% and -12.5% respectively, in March 2020).

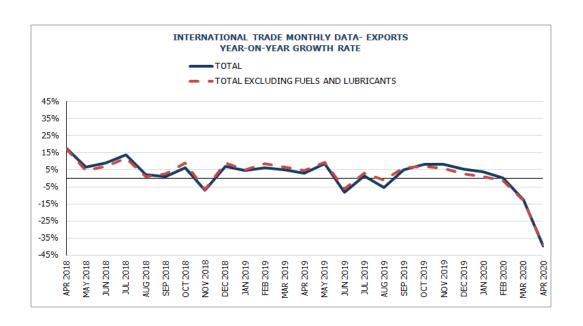
In April 2020, vis-à-vis the preceding month, exports and imports decreased by 33.6% and by 32.4% respectively (-7.3% and -5.0% in the same order, in March 2020).

In the quarter ended in April 2020, exports and imports of goods decreased by 17.4% and by 16.3% respectively, when compared to the quarter ended in April 2019 (-3.1% and -4.1% in the same order, in the 1st quarter 2020). In the two months with effects of the pandemic (March and April 2020) total exports and imports registered reductions of 25.9% and 25.2%, respectively.





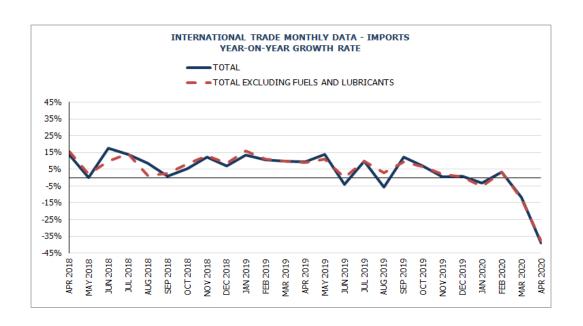
EXPORTS								
			TOTAL		TOTAL	EXCLUDING F LUBRICANT		TOTAL QUARTER ENDED IN:
YEAR	MONTH		GROWTH	RATE (%)		GROWTH	RATE (%)	GROWTH RATE (%)
		€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	Year-on-year
2018	APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	4,841 5,166 5,165 5,312 4,035 4,695 5,167 4,830 4,357	17.8 6.4 9.0 14.0 2.1 1.1 6.2 -7.2 7.1	-1.9 6.7 0.0 2.8 -24.0 16.4 10.1 -6.5	4,472 4,746 4,785 4,933 3,639 4,433 4,985 4,610 4,036	17.4 4.6 7.1 12.0 1.0 2.7 9.0 -6.5 8.8	-3.3 6.1 0.8 3.1 -26.2 21.8 12.5 -7.5 -12.5	5.0 5.3 10.7 9.7 8.7 5.9 3.2 -0.2 1.5
2019	JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	59,895 4,972 4,867 5,182 4,988 5,603 4,745 5,389 3,823 4,930 5,583 5,521 4,594	3.5 4.5 6.0 5.0 3.0 8.5 -8.1 1.4 -5.3 5.0 8.0 8.1 5.4	14.1 -2.1 6.5 -3.7 12.3 -15.3 13.6 -29.1 29.0 13.2 -6.5 -12.0	56,402 4,695 4,658 4,935 4,669 5,196 4,493 5,091 3,605 4,709 5,335 4,868 4,147	4.4 5.1 8.7 6.7 4.4 9.5 -6.1 3.2 -1.0 6.2 7.0 5.6 2.8	16.3 -0.8 5.9 -5.4 11.3 -13.5 13.3 -29.2 30.7 13.3 -8.7 -14.8	0.9 5.8 5.2 4.7 5.6 1.1 0.6 -3.8 0.7 3.2 7.1 7.3
2020	JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL	5,152 4,883 4,526 3,005	3.6 0.3 -12.7 -39.8	12.2 -5.2 -7.3 -33.6	4,739 4,585 4,293 2,858	0.9 -1.6 -13.0 -38.8	14.3 -3.3 -6.4 -33.4	5.7 3.0 -3.1 -17.4







IMPORTS									
			TOTAL		TOTAL	EXCLUDING F LUBRICANT	TOTAL QUARTER ENDED IN:		
YEAR	MONTH		GROWTH	RATE (%)		GROWTH	RATE (%)	GROWTH RATE (%)	
		€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	Year-on-year	
2018	APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	6,196 6,346 6,901 6,608 5,761 5,977 6,798 6,901 5,962	13.5 0.0 17.5 13.7 8.5 1.0 5.5 12.3 6.8	-1.8 2.4 8.7 -4.2 -12.8 3.8 13.7 1.5 -13.6	5,517 5,755 5,819 5,819 4,747 5,393 6,121 6,130 5,311	15.3 2.3 9.9 14.1 1.2 2.3 8.1 12.9 8.5	-2.8 4.3 1.1 0.0 -18.4 13.6 13.5 0.1 -13.4	7.7 4.6 10.0 10.1 13.4 7.7 4.9 6.3 8.2	
2019	TOTAL JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	80,287 6,850 6,244 6,918 6,791 7,233 6,622 7,246 5,444 6,717 7,270 6,941 6,011	6.4 13.6 10.5 9.6 9.6 14.0 -4.0 9.7 -5.5 12.4 6.9 0.6 0.8	14.9 -8.8 10.8 -1.8 6.5 -8.4 9.4 -24.9 23.4 8.2 -4.5	71,350 6,052 5,538 6,234 6,016 6,394 5,822 6,395 4,888 5,897 6,518 6,263 5,333	7.3 15.7 11.2 9.8 9.1 11.1 0.0 9.9 3.0 9.3 6.5 2.2 0.4	13.9 -8.5 12.6 -3.5 6.3 -9.0 9.8 -23.6 20.6 10.5 -3.9	11.0 10.4 11.2 9.9 11.1 6.2 6.3 0.2 5.8 4.8 6.4 2.9	
2020	JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL	6,637 6,442 6,118 4,136	-3.1 3.2 -11.6 -39.1	10.4 -2.9 -5.0 -32.4	5,733 5,725 5,452 3,737	-5.3 3.4 -12.5 -37.9	7.5 -0.1 -4.8 -31.5	-0.6 0.2 -4.1 -16.3	



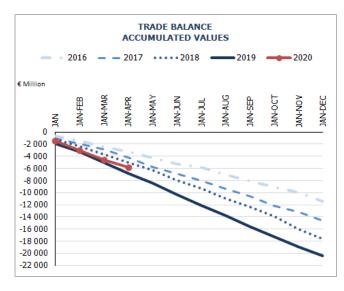


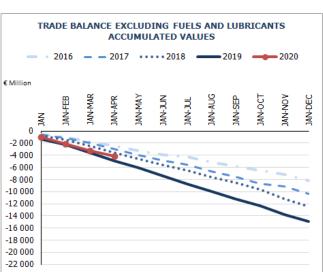


In April 2020, the **deficit of trade balance** amounted to EUR 1,131 million, which stood for a decrease of EUR 672 million in the deficit when compared to the same month of 2019.

Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, **in April 2020**, the trade balance stood at EUR -879 million, corresponding to a decrease of EUR 468 million in the trade deficit vis-à-vis April 2019.

TRADE BALANCE									
		TOTAL			TOTAL	EXCLUDING F		TOTAL QUARTER ENDED IN:	
YEAR	MONTH		GROWTH	(10 ⁶ Eur)		GROWTH	(10 ⁶ Eur)	GROWTH (10 ⁶ Eur)	
		€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	Year-on-year	
2018	APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	-1,355 -1,179 -1,735 -1,296 -1,726 -1,283 -1,630 -2,071 -1,605	-9 310 -602 -144 -367 -12 -52 -1,128 -92	24 175 -556 439 -430 443 -348 -440 466	-1,045 -1,010 -1,034 -885 -1,108 -960 -1,135 -1,519 -1,275	-71 82 -203 -193 -17 -4 -47 -1,022 -89	9 35 -24 149 -222 147 -175 -384	-624 -86 -300 -435 -1,113 -523 -432 -1,193 -1,273	
2019	TOTAL JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	-20,391 -1,878 -1,378 -1,737 -1,803 -1,630 -1,877 -1,657 -1,621 -1,787 -1,687 -1,720 -1,417	-2,802 -606 -318 -358 -448 -451 -142 -561 105 -505 -56 350 188	-273 500 -359 -66 173 -247 20 236 -166 100 -33 303	-14,948 -1,357 -879 -1,299 -1,347 -1,199 -1,329 -1,304 -1,284 -1,188 -1,183 -1,394 -1,185	-2,467 -594 -186 -246 -302 -189 -295 -418 -176 -228 -48 125 90	-82 478 -420 -48 148 -130 25 20 96 5 -211	-1,826 -1,016 -1,282 -1,125 -1,257 -1,041 -1,153 -598 -961 -456 -211	
2020	JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL	-1,485 -1,559 -1,592 -1,131	393 -182 145 672	-68 -74 -33 461	-994 -1,140 -1,159 -879	363 -261 140 468	192 -146 -19 280	931 399 356 635	









BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES

In **April 2020**, when compared to the same month of 2019, in terms of **exports**, the decreases in *Transport equipment* (-77.6%) and *Industrial supplies* (-27.6%, mostly to Spain), as well the only increase in *Food and beverages* (+0.3%), stood out. As far as **imports** are concerned, the emphasis was also on the decreases in *Transport equipment* (-75.2%) and Industrial supplies (-30.4%, mostly from Spain). There were no increases in imports concerning any of the broad economic categories.

EXPORTS BY BEC								
		REFERE	NCE MONTH		QUARTER ENDED IN:			
BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES		€ Million		GROWTH RATE	€ Million			GROWTH RATE
	APR 2020	APR 2019	GROWTH	%	APR 2020	APR 2019	GROWTH	%
FOOD AND BEVERAGES	482	481	1	0.3	1,497	1,468	29	2.0
		150	_		-	455		-3.1
PRIMARY PROCESSED	140 342	331	-10 11	-6.7 3.4	441 1,056	1,013	-14 43	-3.1 4.3
INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	1,191	1,647	-455	-27.6	4,244	4,913	-669	-13.6
PRIMARY	112	153	-41	-26.6	358	439	-80	-18.3
PROCESSED	1,079	1,494	-415	-27.7	3,886	4,474	-589	-13.2
FUELS AND LUBRICANTS	147	319	-171	-53.8	677	773	-96	-12.4
PRIMARY	9	1	8	1402.4	13	20	-7	-34.8
PROCESSED	138	318	-179	-56.4	664	753	-89	-11.8
CAPITAL GOODS, AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF (1)	411	627	-216	-34.4	1,753	1,993	-239	-12.0
CAPITAL GOODS (1)	245	397	-152	-38.2	1,119	1,243	-125	-10.0
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	166	230	-64	-28.0	635	749	-115	-15.3
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF	239	1,070	-831	-77.6	1,987	3,187	-1,199	-37.6
PASSENGER MOTOR CARS	58	349	-290	-83.3	617	1,116	-499	-44.7
OTHER	51	221	-169	-76.7	286	520	-234	-45.0
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	130	501	-371	-74.1	1,085	1,551	-467	-30.1
CONSUMER GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	529	842	-313	-37.2	2,238	2,696	-458	-17.0
DURABLE	51	127	-76	-59.8	271	378	-107	-28.2
SEMI-DURABLE	218	411	-193	-47.0	1,103	1,409	-306	-21.7
NON-DURABLE	259	303	-44	-14.5	865	909	-45	-4.9
GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	5	3	3	107.3	16	7	9	120.7
(1) - EXCEPT TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT								

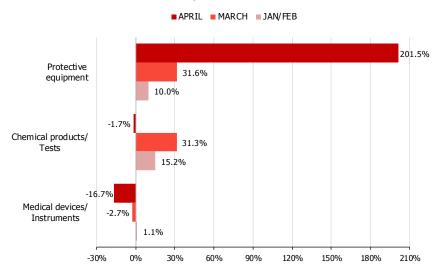
IMPORTS BY BEC								
		REFERE	NCE MONTH		QUARTER ENDED IN:			
BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES		€ Million		GROWTH RATE	€ Million			GROWTH RATE
	APR 2020	APR 2019	GROWTH	%	APR 2020	APR 2019	GROWTH	%
FOOD AND BEVERAGES	724	815	-91	-11.2	2,298	2,287	11	0.5
PRIMARY	327	360	-33	-9.2	981	961	20	2.1
PROCESSED	397	455	-58	-12.8	1,317	1,327	-10	-0.7
INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	1,325	1,905	-580	-30.4	5,015	5,704	-689	-12.1
PRIMARY	140	178	-38	-21.4	486	549	-63	-11.4
PROCESSED	1,185	1,727	-542	-31.4	4,529	5,155	-627	-12.2
FUELS AND LUBRICANTS	399	774	-376	-48.5	1,782	2,165	-384	-17.7
PRIMARY	236	478	-241	-50.5	1,214	1,216	-3	-0.2
PROCESSED	162	297	-135	-45.3	568	949	-381	-40.1
CAPITAL GOODS, AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF (1)	712	1,133	-421	-37.2	2,695	3,307	-612	-18.5
CAPITAL GOODS (1)	410	628	-218	-34.7	1,556	1,869	-314	-16.8
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	301	505	-204	-40.3	1,139	1,437	-298	-20.7
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF	321	1,293	-972	-75.2	2,474	3,821	-1,346	-35.2
PASSENGER MOTOR CARS	128	408	-280	-68.7	985	1,325	-340	-25.6
OTHER	27	363	-335	-92.4	434	932	-498	-53.4
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	165	522	-357	-68.3	1,055	1,564	-509	-32.6
CONSUMER GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	653	869	-216	-24.8	2,423	2,667	-243	-9.1
DURABLE	86	149	-63	-42.1	378	446	-68	-15.2
SEMI-DURABLE	217	328	-111	-33.9	855	1,065	-210	-19.7
NON-DURABLE	350	392	-42	-10.7	1,190	1,155	35	3.0
GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	2	1	1	179.4	8	2	6	254.5
(1) - EXCEPT TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT								



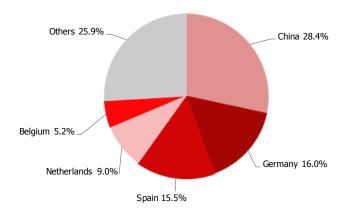
Focusing the analysis only on imported products related to the COVID-19 pandemic, it becomes evident that these products as a whole registered an increase of 18.7% in April, mainly from China (+1266.3%), thus representing an absolute increase higher than the January-February and March periods. This variation was the result of the increase in imports of protective equipment (+201.5%), with a strong acceleration compared to the previous periods (+31.6% in March and +10.0% in the January-February period).

In March, the greatest absolute variation had been registered in the chemical products/tests (corresponding to +31.3%), while the protective equipment also registered a significant increase (+31.6%). Imports of medical devices or instruments only grew in the January-February period (+1.1%), however, it stood for the smallest increase of the three groups in this period.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS - IMPORTS YEAR-ON-YEAR RATES OF CHANGE BY COVID-19 GROUP, JAN/FEB-MAR-APR



INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS - IMPORTS WEIGHT OF THE MAIN SUPPLIERS OF COVID-19 PRODUCTS, APRIL 2020



Note: The groups presented include imported CNs related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the groups have been defined by grouping similar CNs (see point 8 of the explanatory notes).





MAIN PARTNER COUNTRIES/SUPPLIERS

In **April 2020**, when considering the main partner countries in 2019, concerning **exports**, there were decreases towards all the main partners, more so towards Spain (-43.3%) when compared to April 2019, mainly due to the decreases in exports of *Transport equipment* and *Industrial supplies*. In terms of **imports**, the emphasis was on the decreases from Spain (-36.7%) and Germany (-54.5%), being noteworthy the declines in imports of *Transport equipment*. Only China recorded an increase (+26.8%) mostly in *Consumption goods*, given the increase in imports of individual protective equipment (mostly masks).

EXPORTS BY COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIC ZONES									
		REFERE	NCE MONTH		QUARTER ENDED IN:				
COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIC ZONES		€ Million		GROWTH RATE	€ Million			GROWTH RATE	
	APR 2020	APR 2019	GROWTH	%	APR 2020	APR 2019	GROWTH	%	
MAIN PARTNER COUNTRIES IN 2019:									
ES SPAIN	687	1,212	-525	-43.3	3,057	3,716	-659	-17.7	
FR FRANCE	349	632	-283	- 4 3.3 -44.7	1,587	1,971	-384	-17.7	
DE GERMANY	315	570	-254	-44.7	1,418	1,790	-372	-20.8	
GB UNITED KINGDOM	172	303	-131	-43.3	717	947	-230	-24.3	
US UNITED STATES	170	257	-87	-34.0	669	750	-81	-10.8	
IT ITALY	129	245	-115	-47.2	561	730	-169	-23.2	
NL NETHERLANDS	131	222	-91	-40.9	476	590	-114	-19.4	
BE BELGIUM	70	117	-46	-39.7	298	376	-78	-20.7	
AO ANGOLA	73	101	-28	-27.3	220	291	-71	-24.4	
PL POLAND	41	69	-27	-39.8	176	213	-38	-17.6	
TOTAL EURO ZONE	1,823	3,231	-1408	-43.6	7,992	9,917	-1926	-19.4	
TOTAL EUROPEAN UNION (27 MEMBERS STATES)	1,982	3,475	-1,493	-43.0	8,681	10,670	-1,989	-18.6	
TOTAL EUROPEAN UNION (28 MEMBERS STATES)	2,154	3,778	-1624	-43.0	9,398	11,618	-2219	-19.1	
TOTAL EXTRA-EU (27 MEMBERS STATES)	1,023	1,513	-490	-32.4	3,732	4,366	-634	-14.5	
TOTAL EXTRA-EU (28 MEMBERS STATES)	851	1,210	-359	-29.7	3,015	3,418	-403	-11.8	

IMPORTS BY COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIC ZONES									
		REFERE	NCE MONTH		QUARTER ENDED IN:				
COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIC ZONES	€ Million			GROWTH RATE	€ Million			GROWTH RATE	
	APR 2020	APR 2019	GROWTH	%	APR 2020	APR 2019	GROWTH	%	
MAIN PARTNER COUNTRIES IN 2019:									
ES SPAIN	1,257	1,985	-728	-36.7	5.059	6,022	-963	-16.0	
DE GERMANY	458	1,008	-549	-54.5	2,139	2,833	-694	-24.5	
FR FRANCE	276	603	-327	-54.2	1,366	1,911	-544	-28.5	
IT ITALY	190	343	-152	-44.5	829	1,027	-198	-19.3	
NL NETHERLANDS	263	365	-102	-27.9	885	1,024	-140	-13.7	
CN CHINA	242	191	51	26.8	651	654	-3	-0.5	
BE BELGIUM	123	196	-73	-37.1	501	590	-90	-15.2	
GB UNITED KINGDOM	109	153	-44	-28.7	482	480	2	0.4	
US UNITED STATES	82	177	-95	-53.8	314	460	-146	-31.8	
RU RUSSIA	57	184	-127	-69.0	107	368	-261	-70.9	
TOTAL EURO ZONE	2,669	4,652	-1983	-42.6	11,203	13,888	-2685	-19.3	
TOTAL EUROPEAN UNION (27 MEMBERS STATES)	2,878	5,017	-2,139	-42.6	12,069	14,872	-2,803	-18.8	
TOTAL EUROPEAN UNION (28 MEMBERS STATES)	2,988	5,170	-2183	-42.2	12,551	15,353	-2801	-18.2	
TOTAL EXTRA-EU (27 MEMBERS STATES)	1,258	1,774	-516	-29.1	4,626	5,081	-455	-9.0	
TOTAL EXTRA-EU (28 MEMBERS STATES)	1,148	1,620	-472	-29.1	4,144	4,601	-457	-9.9	

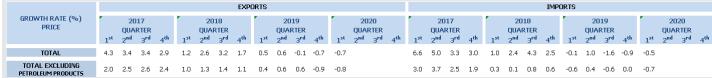


QUARTERLY UNIT VALUE INDICES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS

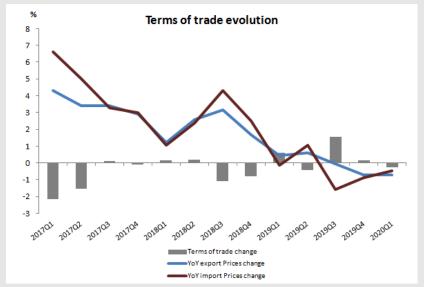
In compliance with the calendar for the dissemination of the Quarterly Unit Value Indices for International Trade, this press release makes available results for the 1st quarter of 2020 based on the March 2020 International Trade in Goods statistics, disseminated on a 40 days basis (on May 8, 2020).

The results show that the unit value indices (year-on-year price changes) continue to record negative rates of change in both exports (-0.7%) and imports (-0.5%). Excluding petroleum products, the unit value indices recorded a year-on-year rate of change of -0.8% in exports and -0.7% in imports.

There was a loss in terms of trade (relative price of exports in terms of imports) in the 1st quarter of 2020, a reversal of the gain registered in the last six months of 2019.



NOTE: Petroleum products - CPA 06 (Crude petroleum and natural gas) and CPA 19 (Coke and refined petroleum products)



The quarterly indices related to the period 2012-2020 are available as statistical indicators on Web-portal of Statistics Portugal, including the corresponding value and volume indices.

- Quarterly unit value indices of imports (Year-on-Year growth rate, value %) by Type of good, product by activity (CPA 2008)
- Quarterly unit value indices of exports (Year-on-Year growth rate, value %) by Type of good, product by activity (CPA 2008)
- Quarterly unit value indices of imports (Year-on-Year growth rate, price %) by Type of good, product by activity (CPA 2008)
- Quarterly unit value indices of exports (Year-on-Year growth rate, price %) by Type of good, product by activity (CPA 2008)
- Quarterly unit value indices of imports (Year-on-Year growth rate, volume %) by Type of good, product by activity (CPA 2008)
- Quarterly unit value indices of exports (Year-on-Year growth rate, volume %) by Type of good, product by activity (CPA 2008)



ABBREVIATIONS

EU - European Union

CN - Combined Nomenclature

BEC - Classification by Broad Economic Categories, third revision

CPA - Statistical classification of products by activity, version 2.1

CONVENTIONAL SIGNS

ə – Value less than half the module of the unit used

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- 1. International Trade compiles the statistical information about the commercial trade of goods with the European Union (Intra-EU trade) and Third Countries (Extra-EU trade). In terms of Intra-EU trade statistics it includes adjustments for non-responses as well as for enterprises with transactions below the defined exemption thresholds (which exempts from providing statistical data a significant number of enterprises). Since February 2020, the United Kingdom is already considered a Third Country. In this press release, for comparison purposes, in the analyses vis-à-vis the same month of the previous year or with the previous month the United Kingdom is considered as a Third Country in these periods.
- **2.** For simplification purposes, the terms associated to International Trade Statistics are narrowed to "imports" and "exports", however stating which market is being referred to (Intra-EU, Extra-EU and International Trade which includes the former two).

In this "Press Release" the following statistical data are used:

2016: Intra-UE trade - January to December definitive results;

Extra-UE trade - January to December definitive results.

2017: Intra-EU trade - January to December definitive results;

Extra-EU trade - January to December definitive results.

2018: Intra-EU trade - January to December definitive results;

Extra-EU trade - January to December definitive results.

2019: Intra-EU trade - January to December preliminary results;

Extra-EU trade - January to December preliminary results.

2020: Intra-EU trade - January to April monthly preliminary results;

Extra-EU trade – January to April monthly preliminary results.

- 3. Due to rounding of numbers, totals might not correspond to the sum of the indicated parcels.
- **4.** Month-to-month growth rate it compares the level of each variable between two consecutive months. Although it allows an up to date follow-up of the evolution of each variable, the value of this variation is particularly influenced by seasonal fluctuations effects and from other specific effects in one or both compared months.
- **5.** Year-on-year growth rate it compares the level of each variable between the current period and the same period of the previous year. Its evolution is less biased from seasonal fluctuations, however, it might be influenced by this type of effects located in a specific period compared.
- **6.** Response rate: this press release includes information from customs (Extra-EU trade) and responses from enterprises to the Intrastat (Intra-EU trade). It is noted that in the current context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the response rates in Intrastat may be lower than the usual pattern. In fact, the response rates observed for the April 2020 reference data were, in exports, 78% in number of enterprises and 92% in value and, in imports, 74% and 91%, respectively, corresponding to around 2 to 7 p.p. below the response rates underlying the same April 2019 data release.



- **7.** Bearing in mind that the Brexit occurred in January 31, 2020, data referring to transactions from/to the United Kingdom are covered in Extra-EU trade as far as the analysis contained in this press release is concerned
- **8.** The CNs used in the analysis of the imported products related to the COVID-19 pandemic were the following (upon a recommendation by Eurostat):
 - "Protective equipment": 6114, 6506, 481890, 611610, 621010, 621020, 621030, 621040, 621050, 621600, 39262000, 39269097, 40151100, 40151900, 40159000, 48185000, 56031110, 56039490, 61130010, 61130090, 63062200, 63062900, 63079010, 63079092, 63079098, 64041910, 65050030, 65050090;
 - "Chemical products/tests": 2909, 340212, 380894, 22071000, 22072000, 22089091, 22089099, 28470000, 29051200, 29151100, 29151200, 29182100, 30021300, 30021400, 30021500, 30029090, 30039000, 30049000, 30059010, 30059099, 34011100, 34011900, 34012010, 34012090, 34013000, 38220000;
 - "Medical devices/instruments": 8415, 901831, 901832, 901839, 901890, 902212, 902780, 39172110, 39172190, 39172210, 39172290, 39172310, 39172390, 39172390, 39172300, 39173300, 39173300, 70171000, 70172000, 70179000, 84138100, 84192000, 84248970, 84798997, 85098000, 85285291, 85285299, 85285900, 85437090, 87139000, 90049010, 90049090, 90181100, 90181200, 90181910, 90181990, 90192000, 90200000, 90221400, 90251120, 90251180, 90251900, 90258040, 94029000, 96032100.
- **9.** Revisions: the revisions policy applied to International Trade statistics has been changed since the May edition of this press release (with 2019 as the reference year) in order to anticipate the dissemination of definitive results (8 months earlier than in the previous revisions policy). Therefore, in each month the information regarding month m (on a 40 days basis) is published and the previous four months are revised. The preliminary results for 2019 are available in June 2020, that is, at the last (fourth) revision in December. The release of definitive results for 2019 will take place in September 2020. The information released monthly contains routine revisions due to the replacement of estimations by new data received in the meantime, and, to a lesser extent, the replacement of values previously reported by corrections reported by the enterprises. The following table shows the impact of those revisions on the year-on-year rate of change (three months) disseminated in the previous press release:

YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE - JANUARY TO MARCH 2020								
	PREVIOUS PUBLICATION	CURRENT PUBLICATION						
EXPORTS	-3.0	-3.1						
IMPORTS	-4.0	-4.1						

- 10. The BEC nomenclature Classification by Broad Economic Categories doesn't include the Gold for monetary use (CN 71082000) and Coins, including coins with legal tender (except medals, coins mounted in objects of personal adornment coins with character collectibles with numismatic value, waste and scrap) (CN 71189000). The sum of the various categories of the BEC may not match with total trade, due to these exclusions and also for confidentiality reasons.
- **11.** Intra-EU trade concerning Euro Zone includes, since 2017, stores and provisions within the framework of Intra-EU trade, which in the previous years are included in non-Euro Zone. However, given the slight weight (lower than 0.1%) in total trade, data are comparable for the all series available.
- 12. Unit Value Indices for International Trade in Goods

The starting Universe corresponds to International Trade in Goods, set on a 40 days basis for the reference month, with the most up to date results at that moment for both periods (month and month-on-month). Definitive results for 2012 to 2017 and preliminary results for 2018 to 2020 are used for the calculation of Quarterly Indices. The monthly indices are consistent with the quarterly indices (40 days), by applying the Chow-Lin method.

Data used in the calculation of Quarterly Indices corresponds to International Trade data at 70 days, with the exception of the quarters of 2018 and 2020, which corresponds to the 40 days version.



For the purposes of calculating the Unit Value Indices, there are some exclusions in International Trade to be considered, with a low significance in total values, namely transactions with a statistical value lesser than EUR 1 000 and according to the number of observations by enterprise/Economic Area/CN8, Chapters 98 and 99 of the CN and records with a net mass of less than 0.5 kg. However, the representativeness of the sample in each product group is guaranteed, reaching a total coverage of more than 80%.

The unit value indices are calculated at the most detailed level of information (CN8, around 9 500 codes), and aggregated as *Paasche* indices (price) by CPA (Statistical Classification of Products by Activity) for the quarterly indices. Monthly indices are disseminated only for total and total excluding petroleum products. They indicate the change over the same period of the previous year. It is also important to mention that these indices correspond to unit value indices rather than real effective price indices, thus reflecting apart from the changes in prices, also the changes in the composition and in the quality of the goods considered at the most detailed level of information.

The dissemination of the quarterly indices is ensured in the usual International Trade Statistics press release, according to the following calendar:

REFERENCE	DISSEMINATION DATE	MONTHLY INDICES	QUARTERL	Y INDICES
PERIOD	INTERNATIONAL TRADE (40 DAYS)	(+2 WORK DAYS)	INDICATORS	REFERENCE QUARTER
JANUARY	11-03-2020	13-03-2020	11-03-2020	4 th QUARTER/19
FEBRUARY	09-04-2020	14-04-2020		
MARCH	08-05-2020	12-05-2020		
APRIL	09-06-2020	15-06-2020	09-06-2020	1* QUARTER/20
MAY	10-07-2020	14-07-2020		
JUNE	07-08-2020	11-08-2020		
JULY	09-09-2020	11-09-2020	09-09-2020	2 [™] QUARTER/20
AUGUST	09-10-2020	13-10-2020		
SEPTEMBER	09-11-2020	11-11-2020		
OCTOBER	10-12-2020	14-12-2020	10-12-2020	3 rd QUARTER/20
NOVEMBER	08-01-2021	12-01-2021		
DECEMBER	09-02-2021	11-02-2021		

The quarterly indices related to the period 2012-2020 are available as statistical indicators on Statistics Portugal Portal, with data broken down by Statistical Classification of Products by Activity (CPA), including the corresponding value and volume indices.

The monthly indices related to the period 2012-2020 are available as statistical indicators on Statistics Portugal Portal, with data available for the total and total excluding petroleum products, including the corresponding value and volume indices.

The monthly unit value indices for April 2020 can be consulted within two working days on Statistics Portugal Portal (through the following links). With the dissemination of the unit value indices for the 1st quarter 2020, monthly indices regarding January, February and March 2020 were adjusted, to quarantee the consistency with the quarterly indices (Chow-Lin method).

- Monthly unit value indices of exports (Month-on-month growth rate, price %)
- Monthly unit value indices of exports (Month-on-month growth rate, value %)
- Monthly unit value indices of exports (Month-on-month growth rate, volume %)
- Monthly unit value indices of imports (Month-on-month growth rate, price %)
- Monthly unit value indices of imports (Month-on-month growth rate, value %)
- Monthly unit value indices of imports (Month-on-month growth rate, volume %)