

## Foreign Trade

April 2012

Istat presents data on Italy's foreign trade as well as unit value and volume indices (base year 2005=100) referring to April 2012. The results of the flash estimates on extra-EU trade for April 2012 have been disseminated on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- Compared to the previous month, export in April increased by 0.2% reflecting a growth of 1.0% of sales to EU markets. Imports increased by 2.5%, with a growth of purchases by both EU markets (2.4%) and non-EU (2.6%). In the quarter (February 2012-April 2012), exports registered an economic growth of 0.5% due to an increase in sales to countries outside the EU (+2.6%). For purchases of goods there is a fall of 0.9% greater for EU markets (-2.1%).
- In April 2012, compared with the same month of the previous year, export decreased by 1.7% and affects EU markets (-4.8%). The decrease of imports (-9.3%) was due to reduced purchases by both EU countries (-10.4%) and non EU countries (-8.1%). In April, trade balance amounted to -202 million euros: +702 million for the EU countries and -904 for non-EU countries. Net of energy products, the balance was 5.4 billion euros (Table 2).

Table 1 – Exports, imports and trade balance. April 2012

	NON SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED				SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED		
	Millions of euro		Percentage changes		Millions of euro	Percentage changes	
	Apr.2012	Jan.- Apr. 2012	Apr.12 Apr.11	Jan.-Apr.12 Jan.-Apr.11	Apr.2012	Apr.12 Mar.12	Feb-Apr.12 Nov.11-Jan. 12
<b>TOTAL</b>							
Exports	30,519	125,651	-1.7	3.7	32,435	0.2	0.5
Imports	30,721	129,268	-9.3	-5.7	32,471	2.5	-0.9
Trade balance	-202	-3,617			-36		
<b>EU COUNTRIES</b>							
Exports	16,618	70,495	-4.8	0.5	17,728	1.0	-1.1
Imports	15,916	67,060	-10.4	-7.6	16,985	2.4	-2.1
Trade balance	702	3,434			743		
<b>NON-EU COUNTRIES</b>							
Exports	13,901	55,156	2.3	8.0	14,707	-0.8	2.6
Imports	14,805	62,208	-8.1	-3.7	15,486	2.6	0.5
Trade balance	-904	-7,052			-779		

Table 2 – Exports, imports and trade balance by Main Industrial Groupings. April 2012

MIGS	EXPORTS			IMPORTS			TRADE BALANCE	
	Share (a)	Percentage changes		Share (a)	Percentage changes		Millions of euro	
		Apr.12 Apr.11	Jan.-Apr.12 Jan.-Apr.11		Apr.12 Apr.11	Jan.-Apr.12 Jan.-Apr.11	Apr.2012	Jan.-Apr.2012
Consumer goods	28.9	-0.6	4.7	25.0	-5.2	-2.8	788	4,286
- consumer durables	5.9	-1.8	0.8	3.0	-9.6	-9.8	867	3,510
- consumer non durables	23.0	-0.2	5.7	22.0	-4.5	-1.8	-80	776
Capital goods	32.2	-2.1	1.9	20.8	-20.3	-13.9	4,452	14,072
Intermediate goods	34.3	-2.9	2.6	34.5	-12.9	-13.0	112	1,019
Energy	4.7	3.6	17.3	19.7	4.4	13.0	-5,553	-22,994
Total (except energy)	95.3	-1.9	3.0	80.3	-12.7	-10.2	5,351	19,377
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-9.3</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>-202</b>	<b>-3,617</b>

(a) Calculated on 2011 total foreign trade.

Table 3 – Exports, imports and trade balance by countries. April 2012

COUNTRIES	EXPORTS			IMPORTS			TRADE BALANCE	
	Share (a)	Percentage changes		Share (a)	Percentage changes		Millions of euro	
		Apr.12 Apr.11	Jan.-Apr.12 Jan.-Apr.11		Apr.12 Apr.11	Jan.-Apr.12 Jan.-Apr.11	Apr.2012	Jan.-Apr.2012
<b>EU countries</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>-10.4</b>	<b>-7.6</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>3,434</b>
EMU17:	42.7	-5.9	-0.5	43.2	-9.6	-7.1	-325	-667
<i>Austria</i>	2.3	-4.2	-2.0	2.2	-1.8	0.0	-31	-129
<i>Belgium</i>	2.6	0.0	2.8	3.6	-3.8	-3.2	-384	-1,519
<i>France</i>	11.6	-7.1	0.6	8.3	-4.0	-4.7	848	3,820
<i>Germany</i>	13.1	-4.4	3.3	15.6	-12.6	-10.3	-521	-1,882
<i>Netherlands</i>	2.4	6.4	3.2	5.2	-14.4	-7.4	-733	-3,546
<i>Spain</i>	5.3	-15.2	-9.3	4.5	-14.0	-9.9	93	834
Poland	2.5	-9.2	-2.8	1.9	-9.1	-6.8	126	597
United Kingdom	4.7	4.2	8.9	2.7	-30.4	-16.4	715	2,855
Czech Republic	1.1	4.2	4.7	1.2	-5.6	-4.7	-49	-262
Romania	1.6	-2.7	0.3	1.3	-12.0	-6.7	151	330
<b>Non-EU countries</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>-8.1</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>-904</b>	<b>-7,052</b>
European non-EU countries	13.3	2.4	12.4	11.1	-15.0	-4.7	605	2,469
<i>Russian Federation</i>	2.5	6.3	7.3	4.5	-18.1	5.7	-666	-3,329
<i>Switzerland</i>	5.5	12.4	22.3	2.8	-7.9	-4.2	853	3,739
<i>Turkey</i>	2.6	-2.4	0.8	1.5	-17.9	-19.4	366	1,403
North Africa	2.9	12.6	11.9	4.5	92.8	14.6	-1,259	-5,261
Other African countries	1.4	10.1	14.5	2.4	-37.3	2.7	-70	-1,497
North America	6.8	6.9	7.4	3.7	-1.6	6.7	1,326	3,711
<i>United States</i>	6.1	7.4	7.9	3.3	-6.7	5.4	1,279	3,415
Central and South America	3.8	-4.7	9.4	3.0	-1.0	-12.0	188	896
Middle Eastern countries	4.9	-2.7	2.9	7.3	-5.3	3.5	-960	-2,977
Other Asian countries	9.3	-1.8	1.9	14.1	-26.2	-15.4	-1,100	-5,765
<i>China</i>	2.7	-13.8	-10.7	7.3	-28.9	-22.3	-1,076	-5,187
<i>Japan</i>	1.3	34.1	19.5	1.1	-29.3	-22.5	96	387
<i>India</i>	1.0	-9.5	-7.4	1.2	-22.7	-16.8	-87	-305
Oceania and other territories	1.7	7.7	9.5	0.6	2.0	-3.9	366	1,373
OPEC	4.7	22.1	18.2	8.6	58.5	20.1	-1,877	-8,039
MERCOSUR	1.6	-12.4	5.7	1.5	-16.4	-13.0	66	285
DAE	3.2	-4.0	7.4	2.0	-37.6	-25.7	437	1,636
ASEAN	1.5	-3.2	5.7	1.7	-6.8	-6.0	23	-196
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-9.3</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>-202</b>	<b>-3,617</b>

(a) Calculated on 2011 total foreign trade.

Table 4 - Index unit values and volume – April 2012

	INDEXES		PERCENTAGE CHANGES			
	Unit value indexes	Volume indexes	Unit value indexes		Volume indexes	
	Apr.2012	Apr.2012	<u>Apr.12</u> <u>Apr.11</u>	<u>Jan.-Apr.12</u> <u>Jan.-Apr.11</u>	<u>Apr.12</u> <u>Apr.11</u>	<u>Jan.-Apr.12</u> <u>Jan.-Apr.11</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>						
Exports	133.9	91.2	3.4	4.7	-4.9	-1.0
Imports	141.7	84.1	4.0	5.5	-12.8	-10.7
<b>EU COUNTRIES</b>						
Exports	131.3	82.7	2.7	3.4	-7.3	-2.7
Imports	121.9	85.2	0.8	1.3	-11.2	-8.7
<b>NON-EU COUNTRIES</b>						
Exports	138.1	103.9	4.3	6.9	-2.0	1.0
Imports	166.8	84.9	7.5	10.2	-14.5	-12.6

**For more detailed information please refer to the Italian version**Date of previous release: May 16<sup>th</sup> 2012Date of next release: July 16<sup>th</sup> 2012

Further information and detailed data related to external trade statistics are available on line at [www.coeweb.istat.it](http://www.coeweb.istat.it)

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