

## Foreign Trade and Import prices

May 2018

Istat presents data on Italy's foreign trade as well as unit value and volume indices (base year 2015=100) referring to May 2018.

- In May 2018 seasonally-adjusted data, compared to April 2018, decreased for outgoing flows (-1.6%) and increased for incoming flows and (+0.8%). Exports fell for both non EU and EU countries (-3.1% and -0.5% respectively). Imports raised for EU countries (+1.9%) and decreased for non EU countries (-0.8%). Over the last three months, seasonally-adjusted data, compared to the three months earlier, showed a decreased for exports (-0.7%) and an increased for imports (+0.8%).
- In May 2018, compared with the same month of the previous year, exports declined (-0.8%) while import increased (+1.7%). Outgoing flows raised by 0.7% for EU countries and decreased by 2.8% for non EU countries. Incoming flows increased by 3.9% for EU area and fell by 1.4% for non EU area. The trade balance in May 2018 amounted to +3,378 million Euros (+2,362 million Euros for non EU area and +1,015 million Euros for EU countries).

TABLE 1. EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND TRADE BALANCE. May 2018

	NON SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED				SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED			
	Millions of euro		Percentage changes		Millions of euro		Percentage changes	
	May 2018	Jan.- May 2018	May 18 May 17	Jan.-May 18 Jan.-May 17	May 2018	May 18 Apr. 18	Mar.-May 18 Dec. 17-Feb. 18	
<b>TOTAL</b>								
Exports	40,568	189,340	-0.8	3.0	37,610	-1.6	-0.7	
Imports	37,191	175,446	1.7	3.7	34,932	0.8	0.8	
Trade balance	3,378	13,895			2,678			
<b>EU COUNTRIES</b>								
Exports	23,105	108,922	0.7	4.9	21,385	-0.5	-1.0	
Imports	22,090	104,532	3.9	5.1	20,928	1.9	-0.7	
Trade balance	1,015	4,390			457			
<b>NON-EU COUNTRIES</b>								
Exports	17,463	80,418	-2.8	0.6	16,225	-3.1	-0.3	
Imports	15,101	70,913	-1.4	1.6	14,004	-0.8	3.1	
Trade balance	2,362	9,505			2,221			

TABLE 2. EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND TRADE BALANCE BY MAIN INDUSTRIAL GROUPINGS. May 2018

MIGS	EXPORTS			IMPORTS			TRADE BALANCE	
	Share (a)	Percentage changes		Share (a)	Percentage changes		Millions of euro	
		May 18 May 17	Jan.-May 18 Jan.-May 17		May 18 May 17	Jan.-May 18 Jan.-May 17	May 2018	Jan.- May 2018
Consumer goods	32.2	-0.3	3.3	28.7	-1.2	0.4	2,343	11,324
- consumer durables	5.8	-4.9	1.2	3.6	-3.0	1.3	920	4,817
- consumer non durables	26.4	0.9	3.8	25.1	-0.9	0.3	1,423	6,507
Capital goods	33.7	-3.5	1.1	26.0	-3.9	2.8	4,053	17,304
Intermediate goods	31.0	0.4	4.8	33.4	5.6	5.5	226	1,015
Energy	3.2	11.7	3.6	11.9	11.3	8.3	-3,244	-15,749
Total (except energy)	96.8	-1.2	3.0	88.1	0.5	3.1	6,621	29,644
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3,378</b>	<b>13,895</b>

(a) Calculated on 2017 total foreign trade.

TABLE 3. EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND TRADE BALANCE BY COUNTRIES. May 2018

COUNTRIES	EXPORTS			IMPORTS			TRADE BALANCE	
	Share (a)	Percentage changes		Share (a)	Percentage changes		Millions of euro	
		May 18 May 17	Jan.-May 18 Jan.-May 17		May 18 May 17	Jan.-May 18 Jan.-May 17	May 2018	Jan.- May 2018
<b>EU COUNTRIES</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>4,390</b>
EMU19:	40.7	-0.2	4.4	47.6	3.5	5.8	-639	-3,324
Austria	2.1	2.7	6.8	2.3	5.9	6.4	20	148
Belgium	3.0	-6.8	-3.0	4.5	12.2	4.7	-619	-2,573
France	10.3	-1.2	4.2	8.8	-6.1	5.6	1,284	4,917
Germany	12.5	-0.1	4.7	16.3	3.8	9.8	-1,054	-4,909
Netherlands	2.3	3.9	11.0	5.6	3.3	2.9	-957	-4,452
Spain	5.2	2.9	3.9	5.3	5.3	-5.2	149	1,346
Poland	2.8	3.4	10.2	2.5	-0.8	-3.5	345	1,817
United Kingdom	5.2	-1.0	0.6	2.8	2.2	0.1	1,067	4,686
Czech Republic	1.3	7.6	9.3	1.6	-2.4	2.2	-22	-188
Romania	1.6	-1.2	3.1	1.6	13.2	10.4	42	149
<b>NON-EU COUNTRIES</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>39.9</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2,362</b>	<b>9,505</b>
European non-EU countries	10.7	1.3	4.4	9.8	7.9	2.5	206	1,847
Russian Federation	1.8	-10.7	-3.3	3.1	7.4	5.7	-567	-2,795
Switzerland	4.6	6.2	8.5	2.8	5.6	-7.1	660	4,063
Turkey	2.3	-11.3	-0.8	2.1	5.4	5.8	-12	65
North Africa	2.7	1.2	-5.2	3.2	28.1	15.1	-268	-1,684
Other African countries	1.2	-16.2	-2.9	1.4	-16.8	1.1	30	-422
North America	9.9	-1.3	1.0	4.1	0.2	-2.3	2,228	11,185
United States	9.0	-0.7	1.1	3.7	1.0	-2.4	2,008	10,264
Central and South America	3.2	-7.4	2.7	2.3	-3.2	-2.1	410	1,854
Middle Eastern countries	4.5	-17.7	-10.0	4.7	-3.1	5.7	-70	-864
Other Asian countries	10.4	-0.9	0.2	13.8	-11.4	-1.6	-809	-5,208
China	3.0	-5.7	-0.5	7.1	-5.7	1.5	-1,286	-6,840
Japan	1.5	0.1	-2.2	1.0	-50.0	-19.2	223	926
India	0.8	11.7	16.1	1.3	-19.1	3.8	-76	-872
Oceania and other territories	1.9	5.6	11.1	0.5	-6.9	1.3	635	2,797
OPEC	4.3	-16.6	-11.7	5.7	28.6	17.4	-751	-4,224
MERCOSUR	1.3	-4.9	6.3	1.3	-8.6	-5.2	70	298
ASEAN	1.8	5.2	-2.6	2.0	-12.0	-14.1	-2	44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3,378</b>	<b>13,895</b>

(a) Calculated on 2017 total foreign trade.

TABLE 4 - INDEX UNIT VALUES AND VOLUME. May 2018

	INDEXES		PERCENTAGE CHANGES			
	Unit value indexes	Volume indexes	Unit value indexes		Volume indexes	
	May 2018	May 2018	<u>May 18</u> May 17	<u>Jan.-May 18</u> Jan.-May 17	<u>May 18</u> May 17	<u>Jan.-May 18</u> Jan.-May 17
<b>TOTAL</b>						
Exports	107.5	109.8	3.5	2.0	-4.2	1.0
Imports	105.5	114.2	3.9	2.1	-2.1	1.6
<b>EU COUNTRIES</b>						
Exports	108.8	112.8	4.6	3.1	-3.8	1.8
Imports	107.3	113.6	3.3	2.2	0.6	2.9
<b>NON-EU COUNTRIES</b>						
Exports	106.1	106.0	2.2	0.9	-4.9	-0.3
Imports	103.0	114.9	4.8	1.9	-5.9	-0.3

The import price index measures the evolution of prices for industrial products bought by industrial and commercial enterprises in Italy, both in the euro zone and the non-euro zone. Since January 2018 indices are compiled in the reference base 2015.

In May 2018 the total import price index increased by 0.6 % compared to the previous month (the index decreased by 0.1% for the euro zone instead increased by 1.2% for the non-euro zone); the total twelve-month rate of change increased by 2.3% (respectively increased by 0.5% for the euro zone and by 4.0% for the non-euro zone).

The quarterly total index increased by 0.5% compared to the previous period, it increased by 0.2% for the euro zone and by 0.7% for the non-euro zone.

TABLE 5. IMPORT PRICE INDEX (BASE 2015). May 2018 (a)

	Index	Percentage changes on the previous period		Percentage changes on the same period of the previous year	
		<u>May 18</u> Apr. 18	<u>Mar.-May 18</u> Dec. 17-Feb. 18	<u>May 18</u> May 17	<u>Jan.-May 18</u> Jan.-May 17
<b>TOTAL INDEX</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Euro zone	101.2	-0.1	0.2	0.5	0.8
Non-euro zone	102.4	1.2	0.7	4.0	2.4

(a) Data are provisional and subject to revisions

## **For more detailed information please refer to the Italian version**

Date of previous release: June 18<sup>th</sup> 2018

Date of next release: August 10<sup>th</sup> 2018

---

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

Contact persons:

**Adele Vendetti** (vendetti@istat.it)

International trade

Istat – Italian National Institute of Statistics

Via Cesare Balbo 16, 00184 Rome - Italy

phone +39 06 4673.6342

**Lorenzo Soriani** (soriani@istat.it)

International trade

Istat – Italian National Institute of Statistics

Via Tuscolana 1788, 00173 Rome - Italy

phone +39 06 4673.6673

**Veronica Rondinelli** (rondinel@istat.it)

Industrial producer prices and import prices

Istat – National Institute of Statistics

Via Tuscolana 1788, 00173 Rome - Italy

phone +39 06 4673.6661

**Roberto Foti** (foti@istat.it)

Industrial producer prices and import prices

Istat – National Institute of Statistics

Via Tuscolana 1788, 00173 Rome - Italy

phone +39 06 4673.6517

**Francesca Coppola** (frcoppola@istat.it)

Industrial producer prices and import prices

Istat – National Institute of Statistics

Via Tuscolana 1788, 00173 Rome - Italy

phone +39 06 4673.6162