

11. EXTERNAL TRADE

The information source on the external trade in goods is data collected by customs authorities. Starting since the processing of the data for January 2004, the data collection and the first check have been carried out by the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic (CA CR). The Czech Statistical Office is in charge of the further data processing, checks, and publishing.

In compliance with binding EU regulations the surveying of data on exports and imports is regulated by the Customs Act, and since 1 May 2004 it has also been regulated by the Decree of the Ministry of Finance of the CR on trade with third countries implementing certain provisions of the Customs Act and repealing certain decrees regulating exemptions from import duty and the non-preferential origin of goods. For Intrastat purposes the surveying is governed by the Decree of the Czech Statistical Office and the Ministry of Finance of the CR on the statistics of exported and imported goods and the method of the sharing of the data on trade among the Czech Republic and the other Member States of the European Communities.

The data on trade with the EU Member States are obtained directly from enterprises by means of the Intrastat questionnaire (goods dispatched and received) in relation to the data on VAT. The Intrastat data processing includes mathematical and statistical imputations and adjustments, which compensate for information lost due to non-response and introduction of statistical thresholds. The remaining part of the external trade, which is implemented mostly in trade with third countries, continues to be a subject of the traditional customs procedure. The Extrastat data are sourced from customs declarations (Single Administrative Documents).

Methodology and definitions of basic terms

*The statistical value of the **dispatched/exported goods** is based on invoiced prices of the goods. The statistical value includes only direct trading costs (freight and insurance, in particular) associated with transport of the dispatched/exported goods within the Czech Republic, no matter whether paid by the buyer or the seller. The statistical value encompasses neither banking fees and banking compensations related to the dispatch/export of goods nor export-related taxes and levies.*

*The statistical value of the **received/imported goods** is based on invoiced prices of the goods. It includes only direct trading costs associated with transport of received/imported goods outside the Czech Republic, no matter whether paid by the buyer or the seller. The statistical value contains neither banking compensations related to the receipt/import of goods nor import-related taxes and levies.*

*Since the accession to the EU, in accordance with the international methodology, the external trade statistics are published in FOB values (exports) and CIF values (imports). The FOB value of **exports** refers to the value of goods plus direct trading costs associated with transport to the country border of the CR (the statistical value) irrespectively who is reimbursing the costs. The CIF value of **imports** refers to value of goods plus external direct trading costs associated with transport to the country border of the CR (the statistical value). The FOB value of **imports** refers to value of goods excluding direct trading costs associated with transport from the country border of dispatching country.*

The external trade balance is the difference between of the export value and the value of imports in a certain period.

The external trade is measured in national currency. For conversion of foreign currency to CZK, the conversion rate is published on the website of the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic (Exchange Rate List – monthly rates for the calculation of customs duty and other fees): <http://www.celnisprava.cz/en/Pages/default.aspx>

The data for the years before 1999 were processed by the Customs Administration of the CR. Since 1999 the data have been processed by the CZSO. The data published before 2010 are final data, the data for 2010 are preliminary ones.

Classification of countries:

Since 1999, following the recommendation of Eurostat, the Czech Statistical Office has been using the territorial breakdown according to the Geonomenclature. Eurostat updates this nomenclature of countries.

Developed market economies: EU27 countries + EFTA countries + other developed market economies.

EU27 – (European Union 27 countries): Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; the Czech Republic; Cyprus; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; France (including Monaco and the French overseas departments (French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Réunion); Germany; Greece; Hungary; Ireland; Italy; Latvia; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Malta; the Netherlands; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Sweden; and the United Kingdom (including the Channel Islands and Isle of Man; The Channel Islands comprise Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark.).

EFTA countries (European Free Trade Association): Iceland; Liechtenstein; Norway (including Svalbard Archipelago and Jan Mayen Island); and Switzerland.

Other developed market economies: Andorra; Australia; Canada; the Faroe Islands; Gibraltar; Greenland; Israel; Japan; New Zealand; South Africa; San Marino; Turkey; the United States (including Puerto Rico), and Holy See (Vatican City State).

Developing economies: Afghanistan; Algeria; American Samoa; Angola; Anguilla; Antarctica; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Aruba; Bahamas; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belize; Benin; Bermuda; Bhutan; Bolivia; Botswana; Bouvet Island; Brazil; British Indian Ocean Territory; Brunei Darussalam; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cambodia; Cameroon; Cape Verde; Cayman Islands; Central African Republic; Ceuta; Chad; Chile; Christmas Island; Cocos Islands (or Keeling Islands); Columbia; Comoros; Congo; Congo, Democratic Republic of; Cook Islands; Costa Rica; Cote d'Ivoire; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Falkland Islands (Malvinas); Fiji; French Polynesia; French Southern Territories; Gabon; Gambia; Ghana; Grenada; Guam; Guatemala; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Guyana; Haiti; Heard Island and McDonald Islands; Honduras; Hong Kong; India; Indonesia; Iran, Islamic Republic of; Iraq; Jamaica; Jordan; Kenya; Kiribati; Korea, Republic of; Kuwait; Lesotho; Lebanon; Liberia; Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; Macao; Madagascar; Malawi; Malaysia; Maldives; Mali; Marshall Islands; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mayotte; Melilla; Mexico; Micronesia, Federated States of; Montserrat; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Namibia; Nauru; Nepal; Netherlands Antilles; New Caledonia; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; Niue; Norfolk Island; Northern Mariana Islands; Occupied Palestinian Territory; Oman; Pakistan; Palau; Panama; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Pitcairn; Qatar; Rwanda; Saint Pierre and Miquelon; Samoa; Saudi Arabia; Sao Tome and Principe; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Somalia; South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands; Sri Lanka; Saint Helena, including dependencies of Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha Islands; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; St Vincent and the Grenadines; Sudan; Suriname; Swaziland; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Tanzania, United Republic of; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Togo; Tokelau; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turks and Caicos Islands; Tuvalu; Uganda; United Arab Emirates; United States Minor Outlying Islands; Uruguay; Vanuatu; Venezuela; Virgin Islands, British; Virgin Islands, United States; Wallis and Futuna; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

European transition economies: Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; Kosovo; Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic; Montenegro; Serbia.

CIS countries (Commonwealth of Independent States): Armenia; Azerbaijan; Belarus; Georgia; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyz, Republic; Moldova, Republic of; Russian Federation; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan; Ukraine; Uzbekistan.

Others: China; Cuba; Korea, Democratic People's Republic of; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Mongolia; Vietnam.

OECD countries (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development): Austria; Australia; Belgium; Canada; Cocos Islands (or Keeling Islands); the Czech Republic; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany; Greece; Heard Island and McDonald Islands; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Japan; Korea, Republic of; Luxembourg; Mexico; the Netherlands; New Zealand; Norfolk Island; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Slovakia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; the United Kingdom; the United States (including Puerto Rico); Christmas Island; Virgin Islands, United States.

Classification of goods:

The external trade data for the Czech Republic follow the breakdown of the **Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System** contained in the Customs Tariff. The conversion of the data to the SITC, Rev. 4 (Standard International Trade Classification – the UN international classification of goods) and the Classification of Products CZ-CPA used in this chapter is based on the correspondence tables.

Exports and imports at current and constant prices

Exports and imports are reported at current prices. External trade at constant prices is calculated from external trade at current prices (according to the two-digit classification of the SITC, Rev. 4) and from the sample indices of nominal export and import prices, same period of the previous year is used as the base period. The **index of exports and imports**, respectively at constant prices (**volume index**) shows relative changes in the volume of exchange of goods in the current period compared to the base period, adjusted for effects of price changes. The **deflator of exports and imports**, respectively is the ratio between the index of exports or imports, respectively at current prices and the index of exports or imports, respectively at constant prices. **Terms of trade** are the ratio of export prices and import prices.

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More detailed information on external trade is available in other CZSO publications issued in the Czech-English language version according to the Catalogue of Publications 2011 in the thematic section ECONOMY, subsection External Trade:

- 6008-11 “External Trade of the Czech Republic in 2010” – September 2011; and
- in the thematic section – CROSS-THEMATIC INFORMATION, subsection – Comprehensive Data:
- 1403-10 “Indicators of Social and Economic Development of the Czech Republic” – quarterly, 90th calendar day.

More detailed data for 1993–1998, or earlier reference periods, are provided only by means of the Information Services of the CZSO (infoservis@czso.cz).

Further data can be found on webpages of the Czech Statistical Office at:

- http://www.czso.cz/eng/redakce.nsf/i/external_trade_in_goods
- <http://apl.czso.cz/pll/stazo/STAZO.STAZO?jazyk=EN> – there are available data on exports, imports, and external trade balance since 1999. The query system of the pages enables to show breakdowns by commodity (down to eight-digit and five-digit levels of the Customs Tariff and the SITC Rev. 4, respectively), territory (countries, continents, groupings of countries), and period (monthly, quarterly, yearly). The export and import data are in thousands of CZK, EUR, and USD and measured FOB/CIF; data on quantities are in kg and additional measuring units. The application is available in English as well.