11. EXTERNAL TRADE

The source of external trade statistics is data collected by customs authorities. Starting from processing of the January 2004 data, data collection and the first check are carried out by the Directorate General of Customs (DGC), while the Czech Statistical Office is in charge of further data processing, checks and publishing.

In compliance with binding EU regulations, the measurement of exports and imports is provided for by the Customs Act, and since 1 May 2004 by 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. Intrastat is governed by Decree of the Czech Statistical Office and the Ministry of Finance of the CR on statistics on exported and imported goods and the way of transmitting trade data between the Czech Republic and the other Member States of the European Communities.

The data on trade with EU member states are obtained directly from the respondents (dispatches and arrivals of goods) in relation to VAT data using the Intrastat forms. Intrastat data processing includes mathematical and statistical imputations and adjustments, which compensate for the loss of information due to non-response and statistical thresholds. The remaining part of the external trade, i.e. predominantly trade with third countries, continues to undergo the traditional customs procedure. Extrastat data are sourced from customs declarations (Single Administrative Documents).

Methodology and definitions of basic concepts

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

The statistical value of **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. Statistical value includes neither banking compensations related to the receipt/import of goods nor import-related taxes and levies.

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

External trade balance in a period is the value of exports less the value of imports.

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 Directorate General of Customs (Exchange Rate List – monthly rates for 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 Directorate General of Customs, data from 1999 onwards were processed by the CZSO. The data published until 2008 are finalised, data for 2009 are preliminary.

Classification of countries:

Since 1999, following recommendation by Eurostat, the Czech Statistical Office has been using the territorial (geographical) breakdown according to the Geonomenclature. This nomenclature of countries is updated annually by Eurostat.

Developed market economies: EU 27 countries + EFTA countries + other developed market economies.

EU 27 – (European Union 27 countries): Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; the Czech Republic; Cyprus; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; France (incl. Monaco and 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 (incl. the Isle of Man and islands Guernsey and Jersey).

EFTA countries (European Free Trade Association): Iceland; Liechtenstein; Norway (incl. territories Svalbard and Jan Mayen); 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 (incl. Puerto Rico) and Holy See.

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; Columbia; Comoros; Congo; Congo, Democratic Republic of; Cook Islands; Costa Rica; Cote d'Ivoire; Djibouty; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Falkland Islands; 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; 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; Virgin Islands (US); Virgin Islands, British; Vanuatu; Venezuela; Wallis and Futuna; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

European transition economies: Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; Kosovo; Macedonia; Montenegro; Serbia.

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

Others: China, Peoples Republic of; Cuba; Korea, Democratic Peoples Republic of; Lao Peoples Democratic Republic; Mongolia; Viet-Nam.

OECD countries (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development): Austria; Australia; Belgium; Canada; Cocos 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 Islands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Slovakia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; the United Kingdom; the United States (including Puerto Rico); Christmas Island; Virgin Islands (US).

Classification of goods:

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 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 SITC, Rev. 4, two-digit codes) 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 (imports)** at constant prices **volume index)** shows relative changes in the volume of exchange of goods in current period compared to base period, adjusted for effects of price changes. The **deflator of exports (imports)** is the ratio between the index of exports (imports) at current prices and the index of exports (imports) 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 published in accordance with the Catalogue of Publications 2010:

a) in thematic group 6 – EXTERNAL TRADE:

– 6008-10 "External Trade of the Czech Republic in 2009" (Czech-English) – April 2010

b) in thematic group 1 – COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION, subgroup 14 – Comprehensive Publications:

– 1401-10 "CZSO Monthly Statistics" (Czech-English) – 29th calendar day

– 1403-10 "Indicators of Social and Economic Development of the Czech Republic" (Czech-English) – quarterly, 90th calendar day

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

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

– http://czso.cz/eng/redakce.nsf/i/external_trade_ekon

– http://apl.czso.cz/pll/stazo/STAZO.STAZO?jazyk=EN available are data on exports, imports and external trade balance from 1999 onwards. The query system of the pages makes it possible to have 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, quantities in kg and supplementary units. The application is available also in English.