Methodological notes
on external trade in goods according to the movement (cross-border concept)

External trade statistics represent an important source of information for the needs of the economy-oriented public, ministries and other state authorities of the Czech Republic (Office of the Government, Chamber of Deputies, the Senate, Czech National Bank), institutions of higher education, international organisations (Eurostat, International Monetary Fund, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) and last but not least the business-oriented public.

Cross-border concept of external trade reflects only physical movements of goods across the border regardless of whether the trade between the Czech and foreign entities occurs. These data are internationally comparable and can be used as indicators of development of value of the trade.

The source of data on external trade is information collected by customs authorities. Starting from processing of the January 2004 data, data collection and the first check are carried out by the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic, whereas the Czech Statistical Office is in charge of further data processing, checks and publishing.

External trade statistics is made up of the sum of intra-Community trade (trade with the EU Member States) and trade with non-EU countries. Data on goods traded between Member States of the Communities are supplied by reporting units to the customs office on the Intrastat forms, with information on dispatches of goods or arrivals of goods. Data on imported and exported goods in trade with non-EU countries are given in a Single Administrative Document. The Intrastat data processing includes mathematical and statistical imputations, which compensate for information lost due to non-response and introduction of statistical thresholds.

In compliance with the binding regulations of the EU, the measurement of data on exports and imports is governed by Customs law No. 242/2016 Coll., from 14 July 2016. Intrastat is governed by Government regulation No. 244/2016 Coll. from 18 May 2016 implementing several provisions of Customs law in the scope of statistics.

Annual data on external trade in EUR and in USD are calculated using average monthly exchange rate in a given period as reported by the Czech National Bank.

Data on exports are compiled by country of destination and data on imports are compiled by country of origin.

Discrepancies between the data published by the Czech statistical office and Eurostat are caused mainly by time delays in publishing revised data and by a different methodology defining the term partner country.

2016 and 2017 data are final.

Casual differences on the last digit position arise for rounding off the absolute number.

List of group of countries, classifications and statistical symbol

European Union - EU28: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom

Eurozone19: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain

Neighbouring countries: Austria, Germany, Poland and Slovakia

Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 4 (SITC):

0	Food and live animals
1	Beverages and tobacco
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials
4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes
5	Chemicals and related products
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material
7	Machinery and transport equipment
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles
9	Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC

Statistical symbols:

0	the value of exports (imports) is smaller than half of the unit of measure
-	data did not occur in the reference period
.	data unavailable or inapplicable
*	individual data
x	with indices, indicates the 100 multiple of the resulting value

Data sources

Websites of the Czech Statistical Office:
https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/external_trade_in_goods_according_to_the_movement_-cross_border_concept-
http://apl.czso.cz/pll/stazo/STAZO.STAZO?jazyk=EN

Websites of Eurostat:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/newxtweb/