

April 2013

Euro area international trade in goods surplus 14.9 bn euro

9.2 bn euro surplus for EU27

The first estimate for the **euro area**¹ (EA17) trade in goods balance with the rest of the world in April 2013 gave a 14.9 billion euro surplus, compared with +3.3 bn in April 2012. The March 2013² balance was +22.5 bn, compared with +6.9 bn in March 2012. In April 2013 compared with March 2013, seasonally adjusted exports fell by 0.8% while imports rose by 0.5%. These data³ are released by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

The first estimate for the April 2013 extra-**EU27**¹ trade balance was a 9.2 bn euro surplus, compared with -13.4 bn in April 2012. In March 2013² the balance was +15.9 bn, compared with -8.2 bn in March 2012. In April 2013 compared with March 2013, seasonally adjusted exports fell by 0.2% while imports remained stable.

EU27 detailed results for January to March 2013

The **EU27** deficit for energy decreased (-96.2 bn euro in January-March 2013 compared with -111.1 bn in January-March 2012), while the surplus for manufactured goods increased (+91.1 bn compared with +76.5 bn).

EU27 imports from most of its major partners fell in January-March 2013 compared with January-March 2012, except for **Turkey** (+3%). The most notable decreases were recorded for imports from **Norway** and **Japan** (both -16%) and **Brazil** (-14%). As regards **EU27** exports, the pattern was mixed. The largest increase was recorded for exports to **Switzerland** (+19%), and the largest fall with **India** (-11%).

The **EU27** trade surplus increased with the **USA** (+22.3 bn euro in January-March 2013 compared with +18.4 bn in January-March 2012), **Switzerland** (+19.2 bn compared with +11.4 bn) and **Turkey** (+6.5 bn compared with +5.7 bn). The **EU27** trade deficit declined with **China** (-33.6 bn compared with -34.2 bn), **Russia** (-25.7 bn compared with -27.0 bn), **Norway** (-10.7 bn compared with -15.7 bn) and **Japan** (-0.9 bn compared with -3.4 bn).

Concerning the total trade of Member States, the largest surplus was observed in **Germany** (+49.3 bn euro in January-March 2013), followed by the **Netherlands** (+15.1 bn) and **Ireland** (+8.9 bn). The **United Kingdom** (-24.1 bn) registered the largest deficit, followed by **France** (-20.1 bn), **Greece** (-5.3 bn) and **Spain** (-4.7 bn).

EA17 trade - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

Flows	Apr 12	Apr 13	Growth	Mar 12	Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Apr 12	Jan-Apr 13	Growth
Extra-EA17 exports	147.9	161.3	9%	165.6	165.4 r	0%	602.8	621.8	3%
Extra-EA17 imports	144.7	146.4	1%	158.7	143.0 r	-10%	600.9	579.5	-4%
Extra-EA17 trade balance	3.3	14.9		6.9	22.5 r		2.0	42.3	
Intra-EA17 dispatches ⁴	130.3	135.0	4%	150.6	138.0 r	-8% r	549.4	538.0	-2%

EU27 trade - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

Flows	Apr 12	Apr 13	Growth	Mar 12	Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Apr 12	Jan-Apr 13	Growth
Extra-EU27 exports	131.9	151.1	15%	148.0	154.0	4%	537.6	572.9	7%
Extra-EU27 imports	145.4	141.9	-2%	156.2	138.2 r	-12%	597.4	563.2	-6%
Extra-EU27 trade balance	-13.4	9.2		-8.2	15.9 r		-59.8	9.7	
Intra-EU27 dispatches ⁴	227.0	237.1	4%	259.9	241.2 r	-7%	952.3	939.3	-1%

r: revised

1. The euro area (EA17) consists of Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.
The EU27 includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.
2. Compared with News Release 76/2013 of 16 May 2013, the trade balance for March 2013 has been revised from +22.9 bn euro to +22.5 bn for the EA17 and from +15.8 bn to +15.9 bn for the EU27.
3. This News Release is based on data available on 11 June 2013. These are provisional figures based on information provided by Member States. They are subject to frequent revision for up to two years after the month in question. Furthermore, national concepts may differ from the harmonised methodology used by Eurostat, leading to differences between figures in this release and those published nationally, both for raw data and for seasonally adjusted series.
4. Since the introduction of Intrastat for intra-EU trade on 1 January 1993, the value of dispatches has been consistently higher than that of arrivals. In theory, as dispatches are declared FOB and arrivals CIF, the value of arrivals should be slightly higher than that of dispatches. Eurostat uses dispatches as the more reliable measure of total intra-EU trade as, at aggregated levels, total dispatches has better coverage than total arrivals. Due to this divergence in intra-EU trade, and to the difficulties of interpreting figures in absolute terms at the level of individual Member States, trade balances for individual Member States must be interpreted with caution. The same caution applies to the trade balance of the euro area, which includes some intra-EU trade.

Issued by: Eurostat Press Office

For further information on data:

Louise CORSELLI-NORDBLAD
Tel: +352-4301-35 108
eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

Gilberto GAMBINI
Tel: +352-4301-35 806
estat-etfree@ec.europa.eu

Eurostat news releases on the internet: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>
Selected Principal European Economic Indicators: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/euroindicators>

EA17 trade - previous 6 months - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

Flows	Sep 12	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13
Extra-EA17 exports	153.8	169.8	164.5	143.5	146.5 r	148.6
Extra-EA17 imports	145.2	160.6	151.4 r	133.1	151.4 r	138.8 r
Extra-EA17 trade balance	8.5 r	9.2	13.1 r	10.5 r	-4.9	9.8 r
Intra-EA17 dispatches	134.2	144.5	139.9	116.7	134.6 r	130.4 r

EU27 trade - previous 6 months - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

Flows	Sep 12	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13
Extra-EU27 exports	137.3	151.4	146.9 r	132.9	132.6 r	135.1 r
Extra-EU27 imports	151.0	161.2	148.8	134.4	149.7 r	133.5 r
Extra-EU27 trade balance	-13.7	-9.8	-2.0	-1.4	-17.1 r	1.7
Intra-EU27 dispatches	236.9 r	256.0 r	248.1 r	202.7 r	233.6 r	227.4 r

r: revised

Main products - EA17 - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

	EA17 exports			EA17 imports			Trade balance	
	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13
Primary goods:	71.5	74.0	3%	171.2	159.3	-7%	-99.8	-85.3
<i>Food & drink</i>	30.5	32.9	8%	26.5	26.6	0%	4.0	6.3
<i>Raw materials</i>	12.4	11.7	-6%	21.3	20.5	-4%	-8.8	-8.8
<i>Energy</i>	28.5	29.5	3%	123.4	112.3	-9%	-94.9	-82.8
Manufactured goods:	370.2	372.1	0%	276.4	265.7	-4%	93.8	106.4
<i>Chemicals</i>	76.8	78.9	3%	46.4	46.2	0%	30.4	32.7
<i>Machinery & vehicles</i>	185.3	185.2	0%	126.6	119.1	-6%	58.6	66.1
<i>Other manuf'd goods</i>	108.2	108.0	0%	103.4	100.3	-3%	4.8	7.7
Other	13.2	14.4	9%	8.6	8.1	-5%	4.6	6.3
Total	454.9	460.5	1%	456.2	433.1	-5%	-1.3	27.4

Main products - EU27 - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

	EU27 exports			EU27 imports			Trade balance	
	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13
Primary goods:	66.0	66.8	1%	185.5	169.2	-9%	-119.5	-102.3
<i>Food & drink</i>	22.8	24.8	9%	23.1	23.0	0%	-0.3	1.7
<i>Raw materials</i>	12.6	11.6	-8%	20.7	19.5	-6%	-8.1	-7.9
<i>Energy</i>	30.6	30.5	0%	141.7	126.6	-11%	-111.1	-96.2
Manufactured goods:	326.8	331.3	1%	250.3	240.2	-4%	76.5	91.1
<i>Chemicals</i>	67.5	69.0	2%	40.1	39.6	-1%	27.4	29.5
<i>Machinery & vehicles</i>	168.2	169.8	1%	112.2	104.6	-7%	56.0	65.3
<i>Other manuf'd goods</i>	91.1	92.4	1%	98.0	96.0	-2%	-7.0	-3.6
Other	12.9	23.6	84%	16.2	12.0	-26%	-3.3	11.7
Total	405.6	421.8	4%	452.0	421.3	-7%	-46.4	0.5

Main trading partners - EA17 - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

	EA17 exports to			EA17 imports from			Trade balance	
	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13
United Kingdom	57.3	58.0	1%	42.9	41.4	-4%	14.4	16.6
USA	54.5	53.7	-2%	38.5	35.9	-7%	16.1	17.8
China	30.3	28.3	-7%	52.3	50.1	-4%	-22.0	-21.8
Russia	20.6	21.1	2%	37.7	38.7	3%	-17.0	-17.6
Switzerland	29.7	27.8	-6%	20.3	19.7	-3%	9.5	8.1
Poland	22.4	22.3	0%	18.0	18.0	0%	4.3	4.3
Czech Republic	16.6	15.8	-5%	19.3	18.3	-5%	-2.6	-2.5
Sweden	15.4	14.5	-6%	13.4	13.1	-2%	2.0	1.4
Turkey	14.0	14.8	6%	8.6	9.0	5%	5.4	5.7
Japan	10.7	10.8	2%	12.7	10.7	-16%	-2.1	0.1

Main trading partners – EU27 - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

	EU27 exports to			EU27 imports from			Trade balance	
	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13
USA	71.5	70.3	-2%	53.1	48.0	-10%	18.4	22.3
China	35.8	34.2	-4%	70.0	67.8	-3%	-34.2	-33.6
Russia	28.1	28.7	2%	55.1	54.4	-1%	-27.0	-25.7
Switzerland	35.2	42.0	19%	23.8	22.8	-4%	11.4	19.2
Norway	11.9	12.5	5%	27.6	23.2	-16%	-15.7	-10.7
Turkey	17.8	18.9	6%	12.1	12.4	3%	5.7	6.5
Japan	13.5	13.3	-1%	16.9	14.2	-16%	-3.4	-0.9
India	10.0	8.9	-11%	9.7	9.6	-1%	0.3	-0.6
South Korea	9.0	9.5	6%	9.4	8.4	-10%	-0.4	1.1
Brazil	9.6	9.4	-2%	9.1	7.9	-14%	0.4	1.6

Member States' total trade (intra-EU + extra-EU) - non seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

	Total exports			Total imports			Trade balance	
	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13	Growth	Jan-Mar 12	Jan-Mar 13
Belgium	89.6	89.2	0%	87.4	86.8	-1%	2.2	2.5
Bulgaria	4.6	5.2	13%	5.8	6.0	3%	-1.2	-0.7
Czech Republic	31.2	29.3	-6%	27.4	25.5	-7%	3.9	3.7
Denmark	20.1	19.9	-1%	17.7	17.9	1%	2.4	2.0
Germany	275.3	271.6	-1%	230.4	222.3	-4%	45.0	49.3
Estonia	3.0	3.1	3%	3.3	3.3	2%	-0.3	-0.2
Ireland	23.5	21.2	-10%	13.4	12.3	-8%	10.2	8.9
Greece	6.2	6.5	5%	12.7	11.7	-8%	-6.5	-5.3
Spain	56.4	58.0	3%	67.7	62.6	-8%	-11.3	-4.7
France	113.3	109.6	-3%	135.0	129.7	-4%	-21.7	-20.1
Italy	95.3	94.6	-1%	99.3	91.9	-7%	-4.0	2.7
Cyprus	0.3	0.3	2%	1.4	1.2	-16%	-1.1	-0.8
Latvia	2.4	2.5	6%	3.1	3.1	1%	-0.6	-0.6
Lithuania	5.1	6.0	17%	6.0	6.4	7%	-0.9	-0.4
Luxembourg	4.2	3.3	-23%	5.4	4.9	-9%	-1.2	-1.7
Hungary	20.2	20.0	-1%	18.5	18.3	-1%	1.7	1.7
Malta	0.9	0.7	-20%	1.2	0.9	-23%	-0.3	-0.2
Netherlands	126.9	126.7	0%	115.0	111.5	-3%	11.9	15.1
Austria	32.0	31.9	0%	34.8	33.3	-4%	-2.7	-1.4
Poland	35.0	36.4	4%	38.4	37.3	-3%	-3.3	-0.9
Portugal	11.6	11.5	0%	14.5	13.5	-7%	-2.9	-1.9
Romania	11.1	11.6	5%	12.8	12.7	-1%	-1.7	-1.1
Slovenia	6.2	6.2	1%	6.3	6.2	-2%	-0.2	0.0
Slovakia	14.9	15.3	2%	14.3	14.2	-1%	0.6	1.0
Finland	14.3	13.7	-4%	15.4	14.4	-6%	-1.1	-0.7
Sweden	34.2	32.2	-6%	32.0	29.8	-7%	2.2	2.4
United Kingdom	93.0	97.4	5%	131.1	121.5	-7%	-38.1	-24.1

Annex - Seasonally adjusted data

Seasonally adjusted series have been calculated using a harmonised methodology. The seasonally adjusted series give a complementary view of the monthly developments in trade. Seasonally adjusted figures may not match those published by Member States due to differences in the raw data³, in the choice of seasonal adjustment model and to the use of series in national currency or in euro.

EA17 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

Flows	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 13	Growth:				
							Dec/Nov	Jan/Dec	Feb/Jan	Mar/Feb	Apr/Mar
Extra-EA17 exports	157.1	153.8	157.0	157.2	161.4	160.1	-2.1%	2.1%	0.1%	2.6%	-0.8%
Extra-EA17 imports	146.8	143.7	148.1	145.0	143.3	144.0	-2.1%	3.1%	-2.1%	-1.2%	0.5%
Extra-EA17 trade balance	10.3	10.1	8.9	12.2	18.1	16.1					
Intra-EA17 dispatches	133.8	130.6	134.0	131.8	132.3	130.5	-2.4%	2.6%	-1.6%	0.4%	-1.4%

EU27 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

Flows	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 13	Growth:				
							Dec/Nov	Jan/Dec	Feb/Jan	Mar/Feb	Apr/Mar
Extra-EU27 exports	142.4	139.5	144.2	144.3	149.4	149.1	-2.1%	3.4%	0.1%	3.5%	-0.2%
Extra-EU27 imports	145.4	143.9	145.9	142.4	140.7	140.8	-1.1%	1.4%	-2.4%	-1.2%	0.0%
Extra-EU27 trade balance	-3.0	-4.4	-1.6	1.9	8.7	8.3					
Intra-EU27 dispatches	235.6	229.6	234.2	232.3	233.2	230.7	-2.5%	2.0%	-0.8%	0.4%	-1.1%

Contribution of EU27 Member States to extra-EU27 trade - seasonally adjusted data

bn euro

	Total exports			Total imports			Trade balance	
	Mar 13	Apr 13	Growth	Mar 13	Apr 13	Growth	Mar 13	Apr 13
EU27	149.4	149.1	-0.2%	140.7	140.8	0.0%	8.7	8.3
Belgium	9.7	8.7	-11.0%	9.7	9.1	-5.7%	0.0	-0.5
Bulgaria	0.7	0.9	23.5%	0.8	0.8	1.3%	-0.1	0.0
Czech Republic	1.9	1.9	0.3%	2.2	2.2	-1.3%	-0.2	-0.2
Denmark	2.6	2.5	-3.0%	1.8	1.8	-1.6%	0.8	0.7
Germany	40.7	41.9	3.0%	26.4	26.5	0.5%	14.3	15.4
Estonia	0.3	0.3	13.6%	0.2	0.2	18.5%	0.1	0.1
Ireland	3.3	3.0	-7.9%	1.2	1.2	0.7%	2.1	1.8
Greece	1.2	1.3	5.9%	1.8	2.0	12.2%	-0.6	-0.7
Spain	7.9	7.8	-0.8%	9.5	9.7	2.4%	-1.6	-1.9
France	15.8	15.9	0.2%	13.5	14.4	7.0%	2.4	1.4
Italy	15.3	14.9	-2.9%	13.2	13.0	-2.0%	2.1	1.9
Cyprus	0.0	0.1	7.0%	0.1	0.1	40.3%	0.0	-0.1
Latvia	0.3	0.3	-0.9%	0.2	0.2	-2.3%	0.1	0.1
Lithuania	0.9	0.8	-6.0%	0.9	1.0	13.7%	0.0	-0.2
Luxembourg	0.2	0.2	1.0%	0.4	0.3	-30.1%	-0.2	-0.1
Hungary	1.6	1.7	6.4%	1.9	1.9	0.3%	-0.3	-0.2
Malta	0.1	0.1	-15.0%	0.1	0.1	74.6%	0.1	0.0
Netherlands	10.3	9.7	-5.4%	19.7	19.9	1.1%	-9.4	-10.2
Austria	3.6	3.4	-3.5%	2.8	2.7	-2.7%	0.8	0.7
Poland	3.4	3.2	-4.5%	4.2	3.9	-7.7%	-0.8	-0.7
Portugal	1.2	1.3	4.6%	1.3	1.4	8.0%	-0.1	-0.1
Romania	1.1	1.2	8.8%	1.0	1.0	1.6%	0.1	0.2
Slovenia	0.7	0.7	2.1%	0.7	0.7	6.6%	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	0.9	0.9	1.9%	1.2	1.4	14.4%	-0.3	-0.5
Finland	2.1	2.2	4.6%	1.8	1.7	-5.1%	0.4	0.6
Sweden	4.7	4.6	-2.2%	3.3	2.8	-13.3%	1.4	1.8
United Kingdom	18.7	19.4	3.5%	20.9	20.6	-1.7%	-2.2	-1.2

Seasonally adjusted data

