



**MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY
MALAYSIA**

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MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS

**TRADE PERFORMANCE FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY- MAY 2016 AND THE
MONTH OF MAY 2016** #

Trade Surplus Up 7.5% in First Five Months of 2016

Malaysia's **trade** for the period **January-May of 2016** registered a value of RM576.6 billion compared with RM574.44 billion in the same period of 2015. Expansion in trade with the United States of America (USA), China, ASEAN, Turkey, Mexico and the European Union (EU) contributed to the increase.

For the first five months of 2016, the **trade surplus** expanded by 7.5% to RM36.25 billion as against RM33.71 billion recorded in the corresponding period of 2015. **Exports** grew by 0.8% to RM306.42 billion, while **imports** decreased marginally by RM189.8 million to RM270.17 billion compared to the same period of 2015.

In **May 2016**, Malaysia registered a trade surplus of RM3.26 billion, making it the 223rd consecutive month of trade surpluses recorded since November 1997. Exports in May 2016 were lower by RM533.6 million or 0.9% year-on-year to RM59.92 billion. Imports

rose RM1.72 billion or 3.1% to RM56.66 billion, resulting in a 1% growth in trade to RM116.58 billion.

Export Performance of Major Sectors

Overall, exports of both manufactured and agricultural goods increased in **the first five months of 2016**. Exports of mining goods, however, decreased.

Manufactured Goods Exports Expanded 5.3%

Exports of **manufactured goods** in **January-May 2016** grew by RM12.8 billion or 5.3% to RM253.63 billion compared to RM240.83 billion in the first five months of 2015. The share of manufactured exports expanded to 82.8% from 79.2% for the same period of 2015. The higher exports were driven mainly by increased exports of electrical and electronic (E&E) products, manufactures of metal, machinery, equipment and parts, optical and scientific equipment, chemicals and chemical products as well as processed food.

Exports of **agricultural goods** increased by 5.2% to RM26.01 billion, attributed mainly to higher exports of palm oil which registered an increase of 3.9% or RM555.8 million, mainly due to higher Average Unit Value (AUV).

Exports of **mining goods** decreased by 31.8% to RM25 billion with lower exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and crude petroleum due to the contraction in the AUV and volume.

Major exports in January-May 2016 were:

- E&E products valued at RM109.79 billion and constituting 35.8% of total exports, increased by 3.2% from the corresponding period of 2015;
- Chemicals and chemical products (RM23.12 billion), 7.5% of total exports, an increase of 6.5%;
- Petroleum products (RM20.52 billion), 6.7% of total exports, declined by 4.1%;

- Palm oil and palm-based agriculture products (RM17.21 billion), 5.6% of total exports, an increase of 5.1%; and
- Machinery, equipment and parts (RM16.62 billion), 5.4% of total exports, an increase of 18.1%;

In **May 2016**, exports of manufactured goods increased by 2.7% to RM50.16 billion. Higher exports were recorded for E&E products, chemicals and chemical products, optical and scientific equipment, machinery, equipment and parts, processed food, transport equipment and manufactures of metal. Exports of agricultural goods recorded a value of RM5.54 billion, a decrease of 0.2% or RM8.4 million, with lower exports of palm oil and palm-based agriculture products. Exports of mining goods decreased by 32.6% to RM3.84 billion.

Performance of Major Markets

Exports to ASEAN Up 5.4%

In **January-May 2016**, exports to **ASEAN** grew by RM4.6 billion to reach a value of RM90.03 billion, accounting for 29.4% share of Malaysia's total exports. The increase was due to higher exports of E&E products (electronic integrated circuits), manufactures of metal (aluminium alloys), machinery, equipment and parts (air conditioner), processed food as well as chemicals and chemical products (alcohols, phenols and derivatives). **Imports** from ASEAN contracted by 4.3% to RM67.51 billion while **trade** with ASEAN grew by 1% to RM157.54 billion.

Breakdown of **exports to ASEAN countries** as follows:

- Singapore RM 43.89 billion, **increased** by 3.7%
- Thailand RM 17.61 billion, ↓0.1%
- Indonesia RM 11.22 billion, ↓2.6%
- Viet Nam RM 8.87 billion, ↑35%
- Philippines RM 5.58 billion, ↑14.4%
- Myanmar RM 1.38 billion, ↑26%
- Brunei RM 894.5 million, ↓12.4%
- Cambodia RM 541.6 million, ↑53.8%

- Lao PDR RM 38.4 million, ↑72.9%

Exports to **Singapore** expanded by RM1.55 billion, with higher exports of E&E products. Exports to **Viet Nam** increased by RM2.3 billion, contributed mainly by higher exports of petroleum products, manufactures of metal as well as machinery, equipment and parts. Exports to **Thailand** decreased by RM21.2 million with lower exports of crude petroleum while exports to **Indonesia** declined by RM299.2 million attributed to lower exports of petroleum products.

In **May 2016**, exports to **ASEAN** grew by 0.5% to RM18 billion. The increase was due to higher exports of E&E products, manufactures of metal, chemicals and chemical products as well as palm oil and palm-based agriculture products. **Imports** from ASEAN dropped 9.2% to RM13.45 billion and **trade** with ASEAN declined by 3.9% to RM31.45 billion.

Double Digit Expansion in Exports to the USA

In the **first five months of 2016**, trade with the USA grew by 11.9% to RM55.32 billion. **Exports** surged by 13.9% to RM32.08 billion while **imports** totalled RM23.24 billion, higher by 9.4%. Products which contributed to the increase in exports were E&E products (photosensitive semi-conductor devices), transport equipment (parts for aircraft), optical and scientific equipment (parts and accessories for oscilloscope, spectrum analyser and other instruments) as well as manufactures of metal (aluminium not alloyed).

In **May 2016**, Malaysia's **exports to the USA** grew by 18.7% or RM1 billion to RM6.38 billion. The share of total exports to the USA increased from 8.9% to 10.7% in May 2016. This was driven mainly by higher demand for manufactured goods, which increased by RM1 billion. Products that contributed to the increase in exports to the USA were E&E products, optical and scientific equipment, transport equipment, chemicals and chemical products as well as manufactures of metal. **Imports** expanded by 18.7% to RM4.73 billion. **Trade** with the USA increased by 18.7% to RM11.11 billion in May 2016.

Trade with China Up 2.4%

In the **first five months of 2016**, **trade** with China registered a growth of 2.4% to RM87.93 billion. **Imports** expanded by 8.5% to RM53.29 billion. **Exports** were down 5.6% to RM34.64 billion with softer demand for E&E products and commodities, including palm oil and palm-based agriculture products and LNG as well as petroleum products. However, higher exports were registered for manufactures of metal, optical and scientific equipment as well as chemicals and chemical products.

In **May 2016**, **trade** with **China** accounted for 16.3% or RM19.06 billion of Malaysia's total trade, higher by 1.2%. **Exports** to China were valued at RM7.09 billion, a decline of 12.2% due to lower exports of palm oil and palm-based agriculture products, rubber products, petroleum products and manufactures of metal. **Imports** from China increased by 11.2% to RM11.97 billion.

Trade with the EU Rebounded in May 2016

Exports to the EU remained positive for the period **January-May of 2016**, recording a growth of 3.8% to RM31.41 billion. Among the top 10 EU markets, 7 markets registered growth in exports. Markets which recorded double digit growth were Spain (↑42.1%), Belgium (↑25.9%), Italy (↑24%), Germany (↑19%) and France (↑13.7%). Expansion in exports were contributed mainly by higher exports of machinery, equipment and parts (air conditioner), optical and scientific equipment (medical instruments and apparatus for surgical, dental and veterinary), chemicals and chemical products, rubber gloves as well as textiles. **Imports** declined by 1.1% to RM28.31 billion while **trade** increased by 1.4% to RM59.72 billion.

In the **first five months of 2016**, exports to the **United Kingdom (UK)** valued at RM3.54 billion, accounted for 1.2% of Malaysia's total exports, a decrease of 2.3% attributed to lower exports of E&E products. Trade with the UK was valued at RM6.37 billion or 1.1% share of Malaysia's trade. The UK was Malaysia's 18th largest trading partners for the period of January-May 2016, and the 4th within the EU markets. Imports from the UK declined by 3.8% to RM2.83 billion.

Trade with the EU was up by RM1.19 billion or 10% to RM13.18 billion in **May 2016**. Malaysia's **exports** to the EU rebounded by 0.9% to RM6.17 billion after a decline of 5.3% in April 2016. This was contributed by higher exports of chemicals and chemical products, optical and scientific equipment, machinery, equipment and parts as well as manufactures of metal. **Imports** from the EU were higher by 19.4% to RM7.01 billion.

Exports to Japan Down 18.4%

During the **first five months of 2016**, trade with **Japan** was valued at RM48.41 billion, a decline of 9.9%. **Exports** totalled RM25.95 billion while **imports** amounted to RM22.45 billion. Exports declined by 18.4% due to lower exports of LNG which accounted for 33.6% share of total exports to Japan. However, exports of manufactured goods increased by 1.3% or RM191.7 million to RM15.49 billion mainly contributed by higher exports of machinery, equipment and parts, non-metallic mineral products, processed food as well as textiles.

In **May 2016**, trade with Japan amounted to RM8.4 billion with exports and imports value of RM4.26 billion and RM4.15 billion, respectively. The decline in exports to Japan by 7.3% was due mainly to lower exports of LNG.

Trade with FTA Partners

During **January-May of 2016**, total trade with **Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners** was valued at RM359.7 billion or 62.4% of Malaysia's trade. Exports were valued at RM189.44 billion and imports totalled RM170.26 billion. Higher exports were recorded to Viet Nam, Singapore, Turkey, the Philippines, India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Cambodia and Laos.

Exports to **Turkey** rose 124.5% to RM2.46 billion, contributed mainly by higher exports of palm oil and palm-based agriculture products, manufactures of metal as well as chemicals and chemical products. Exports to the **Philippines** registered a double digit increase of 14.4% to RM5.58 billion due to higher exports of processed food and E&E products. Exports to **India** amounted to RM12.58 billion, an increase of

3.7%. This was contributed by higher exports of manufactures of metal, palm oil and palm-based agriculture products as well as E&E products.

In **May 2016**, trade with FTA partners amounted to RM72.48 billion, accounting for 62.2% of Malaysia's trade. Exports to FTA partners recorded a value of RM36.96 billion while imports, RM35.52 billion.

Growth in New Markets

In the **first five months of 2016**, markets that marked a growth in exports were Nigeria which increased by RM1.05 billion with main exports being petroleum products, Mexico (↑RM989.1 million, E&E products), Bangladesh (↑RM702.5 million, palm oil and palm-based agriculture products) and the United Arab Emirates (↑RM628.7 million, jewellery).

Imports

During the **first five months of 2016**, imports were valued at RM270.17 billion almost at the same level as in the corresponding period of 2015. The **three main categories** of imports by end use were:

- **Intermediate goods**, valued at RM155.18 billion or 57.4% **share** of total imports, **decreased** by 3.3%, due mainly to lower imports of petroleum products;
- **Capital goods** (RM37.7 billion, 14% share, **down** 4.6%), due mainly to lower imports of telecommunication equipment; and
- **Consumption goods** (RM27.53 billion, 10.2% share, **up** 20%), with higher imports of food products.

In **May 2016**, imports increased by 3.1% to RM56.66 billion. The **three main categories** by end use were intermediate goods which valued at RM31.62 billion,

lower by 0.2%, capital goods (RM9.29 billion, ↑17.2%) and consumption goods (RM6.15 billion, ↑13.6%).

Note:

It should be noted that, conceptually, the export and import figures in the external trade statistics are different from that in the goods account of the balance of payments compilation. The compilation of international merchandise trade statistics is usually based on customs records, which essentially reflect the physical movement of goods across borders, and follow international guidelines on concepts and definitions i.e. International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions 2010 (IMTS 2010) which is different from the principles of the System of National Accounts (SNA) and the Balance of Payments Compilation. Goods are defined in the SNA as “physical objects for which a demand exists, over which ownership rights can be established and whose ownership can be transferred from one institutional unit to another by engaging in transactions on markets”.

This is a preliminary release, full details would be published in the “MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS” report by the Department of Statistics, Malaysia, to be disseminated at 1200 hours, Friday, 1st July 2016 and can be downloaded through e-services at the Department of Statistics, Malaysia’s portal (<https://newss.statistics.gov.my/newss-portalx/ep/epLogin.seam>).

+ *This media release can be accessed through the portal of Malaysian External Trade Statistics, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (<http://www.miti.gov.my>) and Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (<http://www.matrade.gov.my>).*

The May 2016 data is provisional and subject to revision in later issue.

With effect from reference month September 2015, there are some minor changes to the selection of codes for exports and imports of major and selected products/commodities by sectors.

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF MALAYSIA'S EXTERNAL TRADE

Year/ Period	<u>Total Exports</u> (RM Million)	<u>Total Imports</u> (RM Million)	<u>Trade Balance</u> (RM Million)	<u>Total Trade</u> (RM Million)
2015^P				
January	63,604.8	54,647.7	8,957.1	118,252.5
February	53,168.7	48,613.6	4,555.1	101,782.3
March	66,466.4	58,644.6	7,821.8	125,111.1
April	60,381.7	53,516.6	6,865.1	113,898.3
May	60,453.9	54,941.0	5,512.9	115,395.0
June	64,258.4	56,280.1	7,978.3	120,538.5
July	63,216.7	60,850.3	2,366.3	124,067.0
August	66,499.0	56,336.9	10,162.1	122,835.9
September	70,161.3	60,470.9	9,690.4	130,632.2
October	75,810.2	63,645.6	12,164.6	139,455.7
November	67,627.6	57,393.1	10,234.5	125,020.6
December	68,297.9	60,050.2	8,247.6	128,348.1
2015 (Jan-Dec)^P	779,946.6	685,390.7	94,555.9	1,465,337.3
2016^P				
January	61,851.8	56,460.1	5,391.7	118,311.9
February	56,719.7	49,368.1	7,351.6	106,087.9
March	66,586.2	55,393.6	11,192.6	121,979.7
April	61,346.9	52,291.9	9,054.9	113,638.8
May	59,920.3	56,660.1	3,260.2	116,580.4
2015 (Jan-May)^P	304,075.7	270,363.6	33,712.1	574,439.3
2016 (Jan-May)^P	306,424.8	270,173.8	36,251.0	576,598.6

TABLE 2: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS

Products	May 2016 ^p	Apr 2016 ^p	May 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	59,920.3	61,346.9	60,453.9
Electrical and Electronic Products	21,753.5	21,472.1	21,076.5
Chemicals & Chemical Products	4,743.9	4,653.3	4,242.7
Petroleum Products	4,196.7	5,215.0	4,866.0
Palm Oil & Palm-Based Agriculture Products	3,748.1	3,484.4	3,944.2
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	3,264.9	3,520.0	3,041.9
Manufactures of Metal	2,667.9	2,811.0	2,494.1
Optical & Scientific Equipment	2,242.5	2,369.3	1,875.2
LNG	1,871.5	2,164.6	2,645.8
Processed Food	1,601.3	1,627.2	1,389.0
Rubber Products	1,557.2	1,663.9	1,822.4

TABLE 3: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS

Markets	May 2016 ^p	Apr 2016 ^p	May 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	59,920.3	61,346.9	60,453.9
Singapore	8,472.2	9,148.9	8,834.1
China	7,086.0	6,747.2	8,069.2
USA	6,383.2	6,630.7	5,378.9
Japan	4,258.2	4,409.1	4,594.5
Thailand	3,448.9	3,163.3	3,666.6
Hong Kong	2,941.4	3,119.1	3,011.0
India	2,738.8	2,313.2	2,675.2
Indonesia	2,264.4	2,394.0	2,402.5
Viet Nam	2,199.3	2,107.5	1,441.2
Australia	1,941.8	2,401.1	2,119.8

TABLE 4: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY- MAY)

Products	Jan-May 2016 ^p	Jan-May 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	306,424.8	304,075.7
Electrical & Electronic Products	109,787.9	106,339.9
Chemicals & Chemical Products	23,121.6	21,712.0
Petroleum Products	20,524.0	21,408.4
Palm Oil & Palm-Based Agriculture products	17,211.8	16,381.9
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	16,616.4	14,064.4
Manufactures of Metal	14,159.5	11,225.0
LNG	13,520.1	22,349.3
Optical & Scientific Equipment	11,655.8	10,027.8
Rubber Products	8,030.2	8,107.1
Processed Food	7,947.8	6,890.1

TABLE 5: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS (JANUARY- MAY)

Markets	Jan-May 2016 ^p	Jan-May 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	306,424.8	304,075.7
Singapore	43,890.3	42,337.1
China	34,640.1	36,699.6
USA	32,082.5	28,169.5
Japan	25,954.8	31,799.9
Thailand	17,613.5	17,634.7
Hong Kong	14,964.7	15,085.5
India	12,584.1	12,137.0
Indonesia	11,224.8	11,524.0
Australia	11,004.0	11,709.1
ROK	9,502.9	10,652.1

TABLE 6: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS

Products	May 2016 ^P	Apr 2016 ^P	May 2015 ^P
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	56,660.1	52,291.9	54,941.0
Electrical & Electronic Products	16,638.1	15,528.5	15,805.2
Chemicals & Chemical Products	5,862.3	5,747.9	5,338.6
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	5,202.0	4,775.3	4,935.8
Transport Equipment	4,313.9	2,841.6	3,133.2
Petroleum Products	4,132.6	3,767.8	5,082.8
Manufactures of Metal	3,064.9	3,004.5	3,195.5
Textiles, Clothings & Footwear	1,877.5	1,548.8	1,600.3
Optical & Scientific Equipment	1,803.8	1,777.7	1,664.6
Iron & Steel Products	1,763.0	1,552.1	1,676.3
Processed Food	1,398.7	1,423.4	1,450.1

TABLE 7: MAJOR IMPORT SOURCES

Markets	May 2016 ^P	Apr 2016 ^P	May 2015 ^P
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	56,660.1	52,291.9	54,941.0
China	11,972.2	10,807.6	10,765.9
Singapore	5,553.0	5,420.1	6,827.2
USA	4,730.8	4,487.0	3,985.6
Japan	4,146.6	4,596.0	3,884.5
Thailand	3,550.6	3,296.4	3,407.2
Taiwan	3,348.0	3,098.7	2,838.2
ROK	2,944.1	2,418.2	2,730.5
Indonesia	2,206.7	2,409.8	2,485.8
Germany	1,907.1	1,947.3	2,025.1
France	1,753.4	620.9	1,202.4

TABLE 8: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY- MAY)

Products	Jan-May 2016 ^p	Jan-May 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	270,173.8	270,363.6
Electrical and Electronic Products	82,397.9	78,328.4
Chemicals & Chemical Products	27,760.8	25,936.3
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	24,553.0	23,511.1
Petroleum Products	18,745.9	23,641.8
Transport Equipment	15,597.7	15,327.5
Manufactures of Metal	15,290.9	18,329.0
Optical & Scientific Equipment	8,827.0	8,391.1
Iron & Steel Products	8,082.5	9,600.5
Textiles, Clothings & Footwear	7,482.8	5,243.0
Processed Food	7,290.6	7,017.3

TABLE 9: MAJOR IMPORT MARKETS (JANUARY- MAY)

Markets	Jan-May 2016 ^p	Jan-May 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	270,173.8	270,363.6
China	53,289.4	49,132.0
Singapore	28,472.2	31,686.9
USA	23,236.5	21,248.3
Japan	22,452.5	21,906.6
Thailand	17,286.8	16,181.3
Taiwan	15,359.7	14,228.2
ROK	12,775.1	12,459.4
Indonesia	11,698.7	12,203.4
Germany	9,600.7	9,353.8
Viet Nam	6,630.7	7,108.2

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia
Compiled By: MATRADE

Notes:

p - provisional data

CHART 1: MALAYSIA'S MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE PERFORMANCE, 2009-2016

