



**MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY
MALAYSIA**

MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS

**TRADE PERFORMANCE FOR JULY 2020 AND THE PERIOD OF JANUARY- JULY
2020 #**

The Highest Export Value Ever Recorded for the Month of July

Malaysia's exports in July 2020 increased by 3.1% to RM92.53 billion compared to July 2019, the highest export value ever recorded for the month of July. This was also the second highest export value ever registered, after RM97.12 billion posted in October 2018. Imports declined by 8.7% to RM67.38 billion. Trade surplus expanded by 57.5% to RM25.15 billion compared to RM15.97 billion in July 2019 and was the highest monthly trade surplus ever recorded.

Total trade in July 2020 decreased by 2.2% year-on-year (y-o-y) to RM159.92 billion as lower trade was recorded with Australia, Thailand, Republic of Korea (ROK), Indonesia and Japan. Meanwhile, higher trade was registered with the United States (US), India, Bahrain, China, Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong SAR.

On a month-on-month (m-o-m) basis, total trade, exports and imports recorded growth of 10.4%, 11.7% and 8.7%, respectively while trade surplus grew by 20.6%.

For the first 7 months of 2020, total trade was valued at RM993.22 billion, contracted by 6.8% compared to the same period of 2019. Lower trade was recorded mainly with

Thailand, Singapore, India and Japan. Meanwhile, higher trade was registered with the ROK, the US and Bahrain. Exports during the period amounted to RM541.47 billion, declined by 6.2% while imports totalled RM451.75 billion, contracted by 7.4%. Trade surplus expanded by 0.8% to RM89.72 billion.

Export Performance of Major Sectors

Exports of Manufactured and Agriculture Goods Grew for 2 Consecutive Months

Exports of manufactured goods in July 2020 which accounted for 87.5% of total exports rose by 4.7% y-o-y to RM80.94 billion. This was contributed by higher exports of electrical and electronic (E&E) products, rubber products, other manufactures especially solid-state storage devices (SSD), optical and scientific equipment, wood products as well as iron and steel products.

Exports of agriculture goods (7.1% share) surged by 30.4% y-o-y to RM6.57 billion, boosted mainly by exports of palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products.

Exports of mining goods (5.1% share) decreased by 30.2% y-o-y to RM4.68 billion mainly on lower exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Major exports in July 2020:

- E&E products, valued at RM39.54 billion and constituted 42.7% of total exports, increased by 9.2% from July 2019;
- Petroleum products, RM5.97 billion, 6.5% of total exports, decreased by 7.1%;
- Palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products, RM4.76 billion, 5.1% of total exports, increased by 52%;
- Optical and scientific equipment, RM4.15 billion, 4.5% of total exports, increased by 9.9%; and
- Rubber products, RM4.01 billion, 4.3% of total exports, increased by 93.9%.

Compared to June 2020, exports of manufactured, agriculture and mining goods expanded by 11.7%, 5% and 23.6%, respectively.

In January to July 2020, exports of manufactured goods contracted by 4.2% to RM464.78 billion compared to the same period of 2019, attributed to lower exports of E&E products, chemicals and chemical products, manufactures of metal as well as petroleum products. However, higher demand were recorded for rubber products, other manufactures (SSD), transport equipment, iron and steel products as well as optical and scientific equipment. Exports of agriculture goods grew by 0.04% to RM38.25 billion mainly on higher exports of palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products while exports of mining goods declined by 27.4% to RM35.91 billion due to lower exports of LNG and crude petroleum.

Trade Performance with Major Markets

E&E Products Drove Exports to ASEAN in July 2020

Trade with ASEAN in July 2020 which contributed RM40.95 billion or 25.6% to Malaysia's total trade, shrank by 5.1% compared to July 2019. Exports increased by 0.1% to RM25.58 billion, buoyed mainly by higher exports of E&E products. Imports from ASEAN decreased by 12.6% to RM15.36 billion.

Breakdown of exports to ASEAN countries:

- Singapore RM12.86 billion, increased by 3.8%
- Thailand RM4.46 billion, ↓9.4%
- Viet Nam RM3.13 billion, ↓4.9%
- Indonesia RM2.40 billion, ↓7.8%
- Philippines RM2.03 billion, ↑13.7%
- Brunei RM321.1 million, ↑75.6%
- Myanmar RM243.2 million, ↑8.0%
- Cambodia RM146.2 million, ↓11.2%
- Lao PDR RM3.6 million, ↑123.1%

Exports to markets in ASEAN that recorded expansion include **Singapore**, which increased by RM474.2 million due to higher exports of E&E products, **the Philippines** (↑RM244.4 million, petroleum products) and **Brunei** (↑RM138.2 million, crude petroleum).

On a m-o-m basis, trade, exports and imports recorded double digit growth of 14.9%, 16.2% and 12.9%, respectively.

During the first 7 months of 2020, trade with ASEAN was valued at RM250.25 billion, slipped by 12.1% compared to the same period of 2019. Exports to this region contracted by 7.9% to RM153.79 billion due to lower exports of crude petroleum, manufactures of metal as well as E&E products. However, increases in exports were recorded for transport equipment, other manufactures (SSD) and palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products. Imports fell by 18% to RM96.47 billion.

Exports to China Continued To Expand for 4 Consecutive Months

In July 2020, trade with China climbed by 1.9% y-o-y to RM29.44 billion, representing 18.4% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports to China continued to expand for 4 consecutive months, recording a 13.9% growth to RM15.58 billion. This was driven by higher exports of iron and steel products, other manufactures (SSD), palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products as well as manufactures of metal. Imports from China was down by 8.9% to RM13.86 billion.

Compared to June 2020, trade and exports expanded by 2.6% and 5.4%, respectively while imports declined marginally by 0.3%.

Trade with China in the first 7 months of 2020 increased by 0.1% to RM178.6 billion compared to the same period of 2019. Exports to China grew by 8.3% to RM85.01 billion boosted by higher exports of iron and steel products, other manufactures (SSD), manufactures of metal as well as palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products. Imports from China contracted by 6.3% to RM93.59 billion.

Double Digit Export Growth to the US in July 2020

Trade with the US in July 2020 rose by 21.7% y-o-y to RM17.47 billion, accounting for 10.9% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports surged by 28.6% to RM11.16 billion

supported mainly by higher exports of manufactured goods, including E&E products, rubber products, wood products, petroleum products as well as machinery, equipment and parts. Imports from the US grew by 11% to RM6.31 billion.

Compared to June 2020, trade, exports and imports recorded double digit growth of 13.3%, 14.4% and 11.5%, respectively.

In the period of January to July 2020, trade with the US picked up by 5.8% to RM97.88 billion compared to the same period of 2019. Exports accelerated by 6.3% to RM57.31 billion underpinned by higher exports of rubber products, wood products, other manufactures (SSD) as well as machinery, equipment and parts. Imports from the US rose by 5.1% to RM40.57 billion.

Exports to the EU Continued to Expand in July 2020

Total trade with the European Union (EU) which constituted 7.8% of Malaysia's total trade in July 2020, declined by 7.3% y-o-y to RM12.48 billion. Exports grew by 3.4% to RM7.71 billion, due to higher shipment of rubber products as well as palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products. Imports from the EU declined by 20.5% to RM4.77 billion.

Among the top 10 EU markets which accounted for 90.3% of Malaysia's total exports to the EU, exports to 6 countries recorded increases namely, **Germany** (↑7.2%), **Italy** (↑15.3%), **the Czech Republic** (↑57.5%), **Slovenia** (↑15.8%), **Hungary** (↑28.6%) and **Poland** (↑44.2%).

On a m-o-m basis, trade, exports and imports expanded by 4.1%, 6.8% and 0.1%, respectively.

For the first 7 months of 2020, trade with the EU amounted to RM79.78 billion, a decline of 16.8% compared to the same period of 2019. Exports totalled RM45.98 billion, a decrease of 13.5% mainly on account of lower exports of E&E products. Growth in exports however were recorded for rubber products, palm oil and palm oil-

based agriculture products as well as chemicals and chemical products. Imports from the EU amounted to RM33.8 billion, a decrease of 20.9%.

Manufactured and Agriculture Goods Cushioned Export Decline to Japan in July 2020

In July 2020, trade with Japan which made up 6.2% of Malaysia's total trade slipped by 7.3% y-o-y to RM9.89 billion. Exports declined by 2.8% to RM5.2 billion mainly on lower exports of LNG. The contraction was cushioned by higher exports of manufactured and agriculture goods to Japan which increased by 3.5% and 10.7%, respectively. Growth in exports were seen for E&E products, rubber products, optical and scientific equipment, palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products as well as petroleum products. Imports from Japan was valued at RM4.7 billion, decreased by 11.8%.

On a m-o-m basis, trade and exports improved by 1.6% and 5%, respectively while imports was down by 1.9%.

For the period of January to July 2020, trade with Japan declined by 7.5% to RM69.52 billion compared to the same period of 2019. Exports edged down by 9.1% to RM36.08 billion attributed mainly to lower exports of LNG. Higher exports however were registered for crude petroleum, rubber products, optical and scientific equipment as well as palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products. Imports from Japan contracted by 5.8% to RM33.44 billion.

Trade with FTA Partners

In July 2020, trade with Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners which accounted for 65.7% of Malaysia's total trade decreased by 3.9% to RM105.05 billion. Exports to FTA partners amounted to RM62.72 billion, rose by 1.9% y-o-y and imports declined by 11.4% to RM42.32 billion.

Increases in exports were recorded to **the ROK**, up by 11.3% to RM3.31 billion, attributed mainly to higher exports of crude petroleum, **Hong Kong SAR** (↑1.5% to

RM6.77 billion, E&E products) and **Pakistan** (↑15.3% to RM491.6 million, palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products).

Compared to June 2020, trade, exports and imports were up by 9.6%, 12.3% and 5.9%, respectively.

Trade with FTA partners for the first 7 months of 2020 which accounted for 66.7% of Malaysia's total trade reduced by 6.5% to RM662.21 billion. Exports during this period amounted to RM370.71 billion, a decline of 6.1% while imports totalled RM291.49 billion, lower by 7.1%.

Import Performance

Total imports in July 2020 contracted by 8.7% y-o-y to RM67.38 billion from RM73.8 billion in July 2019. The three main categories of imports by end use which accounted for 67.2% of total imports were:

- **Intermediate goods**, valued at RM32.16 billion or 47.7% share of total imports, decreased by 17.3%, following lower imports of processed industrial supplies, particularly iron and steel;
- **Capital goods**, valued at RM6.74 billion or 10% of total imports, decreased by 19.7%, due mainly to reduced imports of capital goods (except transport equipment), particularly parts of machinery and mechanical appliances; and
- **Consumption goods**, valued at RM6.38 billion or 9.5% of total imports, rose by 0.1%, as a result of higher imports of durables, particularly parts of machinery and mechanical appliances.

During January to July 2020, imports amounted to RM451.75 billion, decreased by 7.4% from the same period of 2019. Imports of **intermediate goods** totalled RM241.4 billion, decreased by 9.8%, **capital goods** (RM53.13 billion, ↓7.5%) and **consumption goods** (RM41.25 billion, ↓2.4%).

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 on Friday, 4th September 2020 and can be downloaded through statistic at the Department of Statistics, Malaysia’s portal (<https://www.dosm.gov.my/v1>).

+ *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 July 2020 data is provisional and subject to revision in later issue.

With effect from reference month April 2018, selection of codes for exports and imports of palm oil and palm oil-based products has been reviewed and revised for better representation of the product and this has resulted in some changes to the data.

FTA partners comprises of 19 countries: China, Singapore, Japan, Thailand, Republic of Korea, Indonesia, India, Australia, Viet Nam, Philippines, New Zealand, Turkey, Pakistan, Myanmar, Cambodia, Brunei, Chile, Lao PDR and Hong Kong SAR.

With effect from reference month of February 2020, the United Kingdom no longer be a Member State of the European Union (EU).

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)
2019^f				
January	86,340.8	73,921.7	12,419.2	160,262.5
February	67,683.1	55,567.2	12,115.8	123,250.3
March	85,677.0	69,681.4	15,995.6	155,358.4
April	86,227.9	74,376.8	11,851.0	160,604.7
May	84,678.6	75,108.5	9,570.0	159,787.1
June	76,690.9	65,630.3	11,060.6	142,321.2
July	89,764.9	73,796.3	15,968.6	163,561.2
August	81,513.3	70,460.9	11,052.4	151,974.2
September	78,251.5	69,437.6	8,813.9	147,689.1
October	90,861.0	73,288.8	17,572.2	164,149.7
November	80,947.4	74,261.1	6,686.2	155,208.5
December	86,435.7	73,880.2	12,555.6	160,315.9
2019 (Jan-Dec)^f	995,071.9	849,410.8	145,661.1	1,844,482.7
2020^P				
January	84,114.1	72,081.0	12,033.1	156,195.1
February	74,451.0	61,831.6	12,619.4	136,282.6
March	80,118.9	67,804.8	12,314.1	147,923.7
April	64,786.6	68,420.2	-3,633.6	133,206.9
May	62,649.6	52,262.9	10,386.7	114,912.5
June	82,819.5	61,966.0	20,853.5	144,785.5
July	92,530.9	67,384.2	25,146.7	159,915.0
Change m-o-m (%)	11.7	8.7	20.6	10.4
Change y-o-y (%)	3.1	-8.7	57.5	-2.2
2019 ^f (Jan-July)	577,063.1	488,082.2	88,980.9	1,065,145.3
2020^P (Jan-July)	541,470.6	451,750.6	89,720.0	993,221.2
Change (%)	-6.2	-7.4	0.8	-6.8

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding

TABLE 2: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS (JULY)

Products	July 2020 ^p	June 2020 ^p	July 2019 ^f	Change m-o-m	Change y-o-y
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million	%	%
Total Exports	92,530.9	82,819.5	89,764.9	11.7	3.1
Electrical & Electronic Products	39,536.3	32,552.8	36,200.6	21.5	9.2
Petroleum Products	5,970.2	4,488.1	6,423.1	33.0	-7.1
Palm Oil & Palm Oil Based Agriculture Products	4,756.4	4,682.1	3,128.8	1.6	52.0
Optical & Scientific Equipment	4,148.7	3,786.5	3,773.9	9.6	9.9
Rubber Products	4,008.0	3,567.5	2,067.5	12.3	93.9
Chemicals & Chemical Products	3,845.7	4,304.9	5,009.1	-10.7	-23.2
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	3,795.9	4,187.7	3,970.1	-9.4	-4.4
Manufactures of Metal	3,381.1	3,681.1	3,592.8	-8.1	-5.9
Iron & Steel Products	2,031.4	1,892.9	1,861.9	7.3	9.1
Crude Petroleum	1,973.8	911.8	2,076.3	116.5	-4.9

TABLE 3: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS (JULY)

Markets	July 2020 ^p	June 2020 ^p	July 2019 ^f	Change m-o-m	Change y-o-y
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million	%	%
Total Exports	92,530.9	82,819.5	89,764.9	11.7	3.1
China	15,575.1	14,780.1	13,674.4	5.4	13.9
Singapore	12,855.9	10,946.2	12,381.6	17.4	3.8
USA	11,159.6	9,756.8	8,674.8	14.4	28.6
Hong Kong SAR	6,773.9	6,022.7	6,676.9	12.5	1.5
Japan	5,196.1	4,948.7	5,347.4	5.0	-2.8
Thailand	4,460.4	3,758.3	4,923.7	18.7	-9.4
Taiwan	3,611.0	3,217.8	3,786.2	12.2	-4.6
ROK	3,310.3	2,774.3	2,973.9	19.3	11.3
Viet Nam	3,129.3	2,754.4	3,291.2	13.6	-4.9
India	2,961.6	2,078.3	3,197.1	42.5	-7.4

TABLE 4: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY-JULY)

Products	Jan-July 2020 ^p	Jan-July 2019 ^f	Change
	RM Million	RM Million	%
Total Exports	541,470.6	577,063.1	-6.2
Electrical & Electronic Products	205,909.6	218,090.5	-5.6
Petroleum Products	39,171.7	41,640.7	-5.9
Chemicals & Chemical Products	29,060.4	33,691.3	-13.7
Palm Oil & Palm Oil Based Agriculture Products	27,323.0	25,489.8	7.2
Optical & Scientific Equipment	22,342.0	21,814.2	2.4
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	22,244.1	24,262.3	-8.3
Manufactures Of Metal	20,228.1	24,069.4	-16.0
Rubber Products	19,615.9	14,539.5	34.9
LNG	19,595.2	25,712.0	-23.8
Iron & Steel Products	13,626.2	12,785.2	6.6

TABLE 5: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS (JANUARY-JULY)

Markets	Jan-July 2020 ^p	Jan-July 2019 ^f	Change
	RM Million	RM Million	%
Total Exports	541,470.6	577,063.1	-6.2
China	85,009.2	78,529.7	8.3
Singapore	77,557.3	78,361.8	-1.0
USA	57,313.0	53,907.9	6.3
Hong Kong SAR	37,283.0	39,142.8	-4.8
Japan	36,076.7	39,678.2	-9.1
Thailand	25,941.3	34,935.3	-25.7
ROK	20,737.5	19,392.4	6.9
Taiwan	19,778.3	21,055.5	-6.1
Indonesia	18,768.5	17,213.0	9.0
Viet Nam	16,966.6	20,670.5	-17.9

TABLE 6: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS (JULY)

Products	July 2020 ^p	June 2020 ^p	July 2019 ^f	Change m-o-m	Change y-o-y
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million	%	%
Total Imports	67,384.2	61,966.0	73,796.3	8.7	-8.7
Electrical & Electronic Products	23,466.5	21,273.7	20,774.9	10.3	13.0
Chemicals & Chemical Products	5,746.7	5,616.5	7,127.1	2.3	-19.4
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	5,188.0	5,157.4	6,330.1	0.6	-18.0
Petroleum Products	5,082.0	4,157.9	6,051.4	22.2	-16.0
Manufactures Of Metal	4,367.5	3,210.7	3,684.2	36.0	18.5
Optical & Scientific Equipment	1,994.5	1,986.8	2,127.3	0.4	-6.2
Iron & Steel Products	1,989.0	2,145.9	2,739.5	-7.3	-27.4
Processed Food	1,716.9	1,863.1	1,806.7	-7.8	-5.0
Crude Petroleum	1,666.3	830.6	2,795.7	100.6	-40.4
Transport Equipment	1,663.1	1,540.5	3,206.1	8.0	-48.1

TABLE 7: MAJOR IMPORT SOURCES (JULY)

Sources	July 2020 ^p	June 2020 ^p	July 2019 ^f	Change m-o-m	Change y-o-y
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million	%	%
Total Imports	67,384.2	61,966.0	73,796.3	8.7	-8.7
China	13,863.2	13,900.9	15,215.6	-0.3	-8.9
Singapore	7,022.0	6,111.4	7,102.4	14.9	-1.1
USA	6,313.6	5,664.5	5,687.4	11.5	11.0
Taiwan	5,492.7	4,689.7	4,875.1	17.1	12.7
Japan	4,698.7	4,790.6	5,329.3	-1.9	-11.8
Indonesia	2,969.2	2,574.1	3,760.6	15.4	-21.0
Thailand	2,688.8	2,521.9	3,497.8	6.6	-23.1
India	2,602.4	1,907.6	1,712.7	36.4	51.9
ROK	2,530.5	2,512.2	3,900.5	0.7	-35.1
Germany	1,932.9	1,892.2	2,501.5	2.2	-22.7

TABLE 8: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY-JULY)

Products	Jan-July 2020 ^p	Jan-July 2019 ^f	Change
	RM Million	RM Million	%
Total Imports	451,750.6	488,082.2	-7.4
Electrical & Electronic Products	140,939.0	140,305.5	0.5
Chemicals & Chemical Products	41,474.9	47,708.5	-13.1
Petroleum Products	36,417.9	43,298.8	-15.9
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	33,148.8	40,591.1	-18.3
Manufactures Of Metal	25,145.9	25,836.1	-2.7
Transport Equipment	23,230.5	23,759.1	-2.2
Iron & Steel Products	14,426.6	17,305.5	-16.6
Crude Petroleum	13,845.2	16,266.4	-14.9
Optical & Scientific Equipment	12,608.3	13,578.5	-7.1
Processed Food	12,323.4	11,649.2	5.8

TABLE 9: MAJOR IMPORT SOURCES (JANUARY-JULY)

Sources	Jan-July 2020 ^p	Jan-July 2019 ^f	Change
	RM Million	RM Million	%
Total Imports	451,750.6	488,082.2	-7.4
China	93,589.4	99,835.7	-6.3
Singapore	41,887.0	49,983.2	-16.2
USA	40,570.0	38,601.2	5.1
Japan	33,444.4	35,501.7	-5.8
Taiwan	32,312.6	33,694.6	-4.1
ROK	30,566.9	22,414.8	36.4
Indonesia	19,934.2	22,369.3	-10.9
Thailand	17,908.4	26,096.2	-31.4
India	14,287.6	12,757.8	12.0
Germany	13,679.8	15,833.2	-13.6

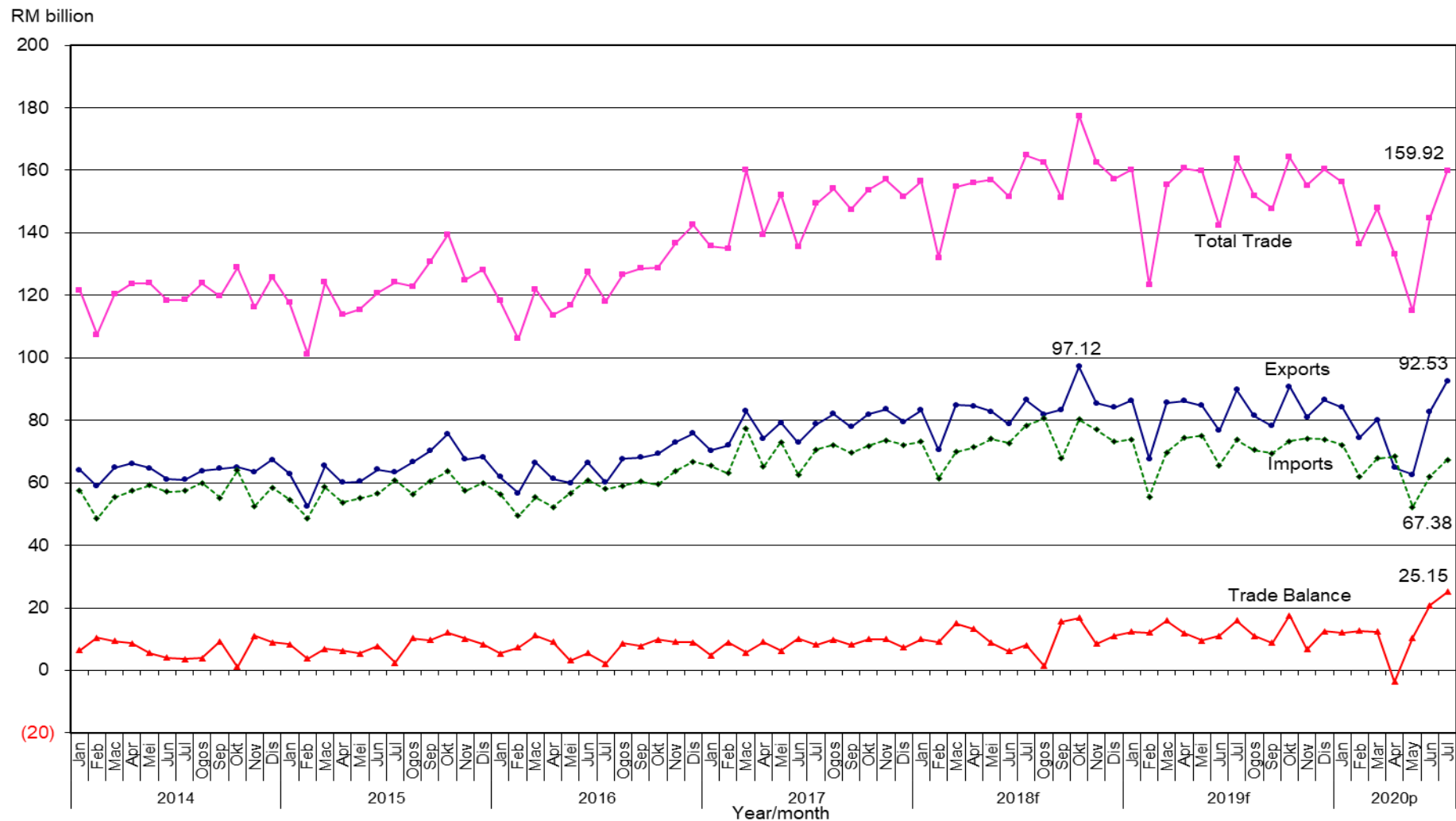
Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia
Tabulated by: MATRADE

Notes:

p - provisional data

f - final data

CHART 1: MALAYSIA'S MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE PERFORMANCE, 2014 – JULY 2020



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