



**MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY
MALAYSIA**

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MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS

**TRADE PERFORMANCE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2018 AND THE PERIOD OF
JANUARY- JULY 2018 #**

July Exports- A New Record High at RM86.12 Billion

Malaysia's total trade in July 2018 rose 9.8% from a year earlier to reach a value of RM163.95 billion. The expansion was supported mainly by higher trade with China, Hong Kong SAR, Taiwan, ASEAN, India and Saudi Arabia.

Malaysia's exports in July 2018 registered a new high of RM86.12 billion, increasing by 9.4% year-on-year (y-o-y). Imports also recorded the highest monthly value, expanding by 10.3% to RM77.83 billion. Trade surplus rebounded by 1.7% to RM8.3 billion after a y-o-y decline of 41.1% in June 2018. This was the 249th consecutive month of trade surplus since November 1997.

On a month-on-month (m-o-m) basis, total trade, exports, imports and trade surplus grew by 8.4%, 9.6%, 7.2% and 38.3%, respectively.

For the first 7 months of 2018, total trade expanded by 6.1% to RM1.069 trillion compared to the same period in 2017. Exports accelerated by 7.3% to RM568.72 billion while imports grew at a slower pace of 4.8% to RM499.91 billion. Trade surplus for this period surged by 29.7% to RM68.81 billion compared to the same period last year.

Export Performance of Major Sectors

Exports of Manufactured Goods Continued to Remain Buoyant

Exports of manufactured goods which accounted for 84.6% of Malaysia's total exports, continued the double-digit expansion for 2nd consecutive month, increasing by 12.6% y-o-y to RM72.82 billion in July 2018. The expansion was driven mainly by higher exports of electrical and electronic (E&E) products, chemicals and chemical products as well as manufactures of metal.

Exports of mining goods which constituted 8.5% of Malaysia's total exports, rebounded by 7.1% to RM7.34 billion compared to the decline of 8.8% in June 2018. Higher exports were recorded for crude petroleum which increased by 90.1% or RM1.81 billion, due to higher Average Unit Value (AUV).

Exports of agriculture goods which accounted for 6.4% of total exports contracted by 14.5% to RM5.49 billion. This was due to lower exports of palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products, particularly palm oil, which decreased by 23.1% or RM904.6 million. This was on account of lower export volume and AUV for palm oil.

Major exports in July 2018:

- E&E products valued at RM34.5 billion, constituting 40.1% of total exports, increased by 23.6% from July 2017;
- Petroleum products, RM6.17 billion, 7.2% of total exports, decreased by 13%;
- Chemicals and chemical products, RM4.79 billion, 5.6% of total exports, increased by 19.3%;
- Crude petroleum, RM3.82 billion, 4.4% of total exports, increased by 90.1%; and

- Manufactures of metal, RM3.75 billion, 4.4% of total exports, increased by 23.3%.

Compared to June 2018, exports of manufactured, mining and agriculture goods were higher by 8.5%, 21.6% and 13%, respectively.

In the first 7 months of 2018, exports of manufactured goods which constituted 83.6% of total exports expanded by 10% to RM475.68 billion compared to the corresponding period of 2017, mainly led by higher exports of E&E products, manufactures of metal, chemicals and chemical products, optical and scientific equipment as well as transport equipment. Exports of mining goods increased by 3.1% to RM48.4 billion (8.5% share), supported mainly by higher exports of crude petroleum. Meanwhile, exports of agriculture goods contracted by 12.8% to RM39.62 billion (7% share), owing to lower exports of palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products.

Performance of Major Markets

ASEAN Absorbed 26.9% of Malaysia's Trade

Trade with ASEAN constituted 26.9% of Malaysia's total trade, rising by 3.7% y-o-y to RM44.17 billion. Exports amounted to RM24.62 billion, an increase of 1.2%, due to higher exports of E&E products, chemicals and chemical products, transport equipment as well as manufactures of metal. Imports from ASEAN rose by 7.1% to RM19.55 billion.

Breakdown of exports to ASEAN countries in July 2018:

- Singapore RM 11.88 billion, **decreased** by 2%
- Thailand RM 4.95 billion, ↑6.0%
- Viet Nam RM 2.97 billion, ↑12.8%
- Indonesia RM 2.87 billion, ↑4.2%
- Philippines RM 1.46 billion, ↑4.3%
- Brunei RM 209.1 million, ↑3.6%
- Myanmar RM 181.2 million, ↓58.8%
- Cambodia RM 100.7 million, ↓4.6%
- Lao PDR RM 2.6 million, ↓40.4%

Among the major markets within ASEAN, exports to **Viet Nam** expanded by RM337.1 million on account of higher exports of E&E products and manufactures of metal, **Thailand** (↑RM279.8 million, E&E products) and **Indonesia** (↑RM115.5 million, crude petroleum). Exports to **Singapore** however contracted by RM236.5 million as a result of lower exports of petroleum products as well as machinery, equipment and parts.

On a m-o-m basis, trade, exports and imports were greater by 10.8%, 12.8% and 8.5%, respectively.

For the first 7 months of 2018, trade with ASEAN expanded by 4% to RM288.25 billion compared to the same period of 2017. Exports to this region rose by 3.4% to RM161.77 billion contributed mainly by higher exports of E&E products, crude petroleum, manufactures of metal and transport equipment. Imports increased by 4.9% to RM126.48 billion.

Double-Digit Trade Growth with China in July 2018

In July 2018, trade with China which absorbed 17.3% of Malaysia's total trade expanded by 19.4% y-o-y to RM28.31 billion. Exports to China remained strong and recorded the highest monthly export value of RM12.92 billion, a 37.5% growth compared to the year before. This was attributed to higher exports of E&E products, chemicals and chemical products, LNG, petroleum products and crude petroleum. Imports from China were up by 7.5% to RM15.39 billion.

Compared to June 2018, trade and exports were higher by 5.5% and 13% respectively, while imports contracted marginally by 0.01%.

Trade with China in the first 7 months of 2018 expanded by 8.9% to RM177.49 billion compared to the same period last year. Exports to China were stronger by 12.1% to RM77.48 billion, attributed to higher exports of E&E products, chemicals and chemical products, manufactures of metal as well as optical and scientific equipment. Imports from China rose by 6.6% to RM100.01 billion.

Exports to the EU Continued to Expand

Malaysia's trade with the EU in July 2018 stood at RM15.69 billion or 9.6% of Malaysia's total trade, a marginal decline of 0.4% y-o-y. Exports increased by 2.2% to RM8.33 billion, stemming from higher exports of manufactures of metal, palm oil-based manufactured products, crude petroleum as well as rubber products. Imports were lower by 3.2% to RM7.35 billion.

Among the top 10 EU markets which accounted for 90.3% of Malaysia's total exports to the EU, 7 countries registered positive growth namely, **Italy** (↑32.8%), **France** (↑19.2%), **the Czech Republic** (↑70.3%), **Spain** (↑23.7%), **Slovenia** (↑33.3%), **Hungary** (↑26.4%) and **Germany** (↑1.7%).

On a m-o-m basis, trade, exports and imports increased by 7.9%, 8.8% and 6.9%, respectively.

In January-July 2018, trade with the EU rose by 10% to RM107.92 billion compared to the same period last year. Exports increased by 7.7% to RM58.7 billion, on account of higher exports of manufactures of metal, E&E products, chemicals and chemical products as well as iron and steel products. Imports from the EU were up by 12.9% to RM49.22 billion.

Exports to the USA Rebounded

Malaysia's trade with the United States of America (USA) in July 2018 recorded a growth of 7% to RM13.48 billion or accounted for 8.2% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports totalled RM7.75 billion, rose by 6.7%, reversing the negative y-o-y growth registered for the previous 2 months. This was underpinned by higher exports of optical and scientific equipment, machinery, equipment and parts, manufactures of metal as well as crude petroleum. Imports expanded by 7.5% to RM5.73 billion.

Compared to June 2018, trade, exports and imports were stronger by 11.4%, 10.2% and 13.1%, respectively.

In January-July 2018, trade with the USA amounted to RM87.6 billion, contracting by 2.4% compared to the corresponding period in 2017. Exports to the USA were up by 1.7% to RM51.39 billion supported by higher exports of transport equipment, optical and scientific equipment as well as manufactures of metal. Imports from the USA declined by 7.6% to RM36.21 billion.

LNG and E&E Products Led Decline in Exports to Japan

Trade with Japan in July 2018 which constituted 6.5% of Malaysia's total trade or RM10.73 billion, contracted by 9.8% y-o-y. Exports to Japan declined by 17.1% y-o-y to RM5.35 billion. The decline was attributed mainly to lower exports of LNG and E&E products. However, higher exports were recorded for petroleum products, machinery, equipment and parts, manufactures of metal as well as wood products. Imports from Japan also decreased, by 1.2% to RM5.37 billion.

On a m-o-m basis, trade and exports increased by 0.2% and 2.6%, while imports contracted by 2.2%.

Trade with Japan for the first 7 months of 2018 amounted to RM76.94 billion, lower by 4.7% from the same period last year. Exports to Japan amounted to RM40.4 billion, reduced by 9.2% on account of lower exports of LNG, E&E products as well as optical and scientific equipment. Meanwhile, products registering higher exports were manufactures of metal, chemicals and chemical products, iron and steel products as well as petroleum products. Imports from Japan however grew marginally by 0.8% to RM36.53 billion.

Trade with FTA Partners

In July 2018, trade with Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners rose by 7.1% to RM102.08 billion and accounted for 62.3% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports to FTA partners amounted to RM53.64 billion, higher by 7.5% and imports expanded by 6.7% to RM48.44 billion.

Higher exports were registered to **India**, increasing by 16.3% to RM3.57 billion, attributed mainly to higher exports of crude petroleum, **the Republic of Korea (ROK)** (↑17.9% to RM2.76 billion, E&E products) and **Australia** (↑6.3% to RM2.82 billion, crude petroleum).

Compared to June 2018, trade, exports and imports were up by 7.8%, 11.1% and 4.4%, respectively.

Trade with FTA partners for the first 7 months of 2018 rose by 3.7% to RM665.06 billion and accounted for 62.2% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports amounted to RM348.87 billion, an increase of 3.9% while imports totalled RM316.18 billion, expanding by 3.6%.

Other Markets Registering Higher Exports

In July 2018, **other markets with significant growth in exports were Hong Kong SAR and Taiwan**. Exports to **Hong Kong SAR** expanded by 80.8% y-o-y to RM6.45 billion, driven mainly by higher exports of E&E products. Exports to **Taiwan** rose by 34.7% to RM2.48 billion, buoyed mainly by higher exports of E&E products and petroleum products.

Domestic Export Performance

In July 2018, domestic exports which accounted for 78.3% of Malaysia's total exports rebounded by 1.1% y-o-y to RM67.47 billion after registering a y-o-y decline the previous month. Compared to June 2018, domestic exports were higher by 7.3%. During the first 7 months of 2018, domestic export contracted marginally by 0.2% to RM449.93 billion.

Re-export Performance

In July 2018, re-exports were valued at RM18.65 billion, an expansion of 55.1% y-o-y. This marked the 7th consecutive month re-exports recorded a double-digit expansion

since January 2018. On a m-o-m basis, re-exports grew by 18.5%. For January-July 2018, re-exports expanded by 49.3% to RM118.79 billion.

Import Performance

In July 2018, **imports increased by 10.3% y-o-y to RM77.83 billion**. The three main categories of imports by end use which accounted for 72.1% of total imports were:

- **Intermediate goods**, valued at RM39.86 billion or 51.2% of total imports, decreased by 0.1%, as a result of lower imports of parts and accessories of capital goods (except transport equipment), particularly electrical machinery, equipment and parts;
- **Capital goods**, valued at RM9.61 billion or 12.4% of total imports, expanded by 4.7%, led by higher imports of industrial transport equipment, particularly aircraft and parts; and
- **Consumption goods**, valued at RM6.66 billion or 8.6% of total imports, rose by 11.1%, driven by higher imports of semi-durables, particularly articles of apparel and clothing.

During January-July 2018, imports amounted to RM499.91 billion, grew by 4.8% from the corresponding period of 2017. **Intermediate goods** totalled RM260.51 billion, dropped by 6.5%, **capital goods** (RM63.76 billion, ↓1%) and **consumption goods** (RM40.9 billion, ↑1.4%).

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 at 1200 hours, Wednesday, 5th September 2018 and can be downloaded through statistic at the Department of Statistics, Malaysia’s portal (<https://estatistik.dosm.gov.my>).”

+ *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 2018 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.

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF MALAYSIA'S EXTERNAL TRADE

Year/ Period	<u>Total Exports</u> (RM Million)	<u>Domestic Exports</u> (RM Million)	<u>Total Imports</u> (RM Million)	<u>Total Trade</u> (RM Million)	<u>Trade Balance</u> (RM Million)
2017^f					
January	70,309.4	60,008.2	65,439.6	135,749.0	4,869.8
February	71,979.3	61,009.7	63,058.5	135,037.8	8,920.8
March	82,890.9	70,496.5	77,240.3	160,131.2	5,650.6
April	74,243.4	63,322.0	65,210.7	139,454.2	9,032.7
May	79,216.0	65,830.9	72,973.4	152,189.4	6,242.6
June	72,823.6	63,268.5	62,627.4	135,451.0	10,196.2
July	78,747.8	66,719.6	70,589.6	149,337.4	8,158.3
August	82,024.8	71,217.9	72,113.0	154,137.9	9,911.8
September	77,861.5	64,752.0	69,650.4	147,511.9	8,211.1
October	81,862.2	67,372.9	71,851.1	153,713.3	10,011.1
November	83,485.9	70,744.2	73,551.9	157,037.8	9,934.1
December	79,482.0	67,384.1	72,116.3	151,598.2	7,365.7
2017 (Jan-Dec)^f	934,926.8	792,126.5	836,422.2	1,771,349.0	98,504.6
2018^P					
January	82,820.1	65,419.1	73,152.8	155,972.8	9,667.3
February	70,342.6	55,811.6	61,325.0	131,667.5	9,017.6
March	84,467.0	68,375.8	69,778.7	154,245.7	14,688.3
April	84,246.7	64,119.8	71,225.2	155,472.0	13,021.5
May	82,110.4	65,854.6	73,993.6	156,104.0	8,116.8
June	78,610.8	62,876.2	72,609.9	151,220.7	6,000.9
July	86,124.5	67,472.2	77,827.4	163,951.8	8,297.1
2017^f					
Q1	225,179.6	191,514.4	205,738.4	430,917.9	19,441.2
Q2	226,283.0	192,421.3	200,811.6	427,094.5	25,471.4
Q3	238,634.1	202,689.5	212,353.0	450,987.1	26,281.2
Q4	244,830.1	205,501.2	217,519.3	462,349.4	27,310.8
2018^P					
Q1	237,629.6	189,606.5	204,256.4	441,886.1	33,373.2
Q2	244,968.0	192,850.6	217,828.8	462,796.7	27,139.2
2017 (Jan-Jul)^f	530,210.4	450,655.4	477,139.5	1,007,349.9	53,070.9
2018 (Jan-Jul)^P	568,722.1	449,929.2	499,912.5	1,068,634.6	68,809.5

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding

TABLE 2: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS

Products	July 2018 ^p	June 2018 ^p	July 2017 ^f
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	86,124.5	78,610.8	78,747.8
Electrical & Electronic Products	34,495.7	29,879.1	27,912.2
Petroleum Products	6,174.5	6,251.4	7,100.0
Chemicals & Chemical Products	4,792.5	4,512.8	4,016.7
Crude Petroleum	3,821.8	2,375.8	2,010.0
Manufactures of Metal	3,746.9	3,990.4	3,038.0
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	3,515.1	3,632.7	3,447.7
Palm Oil & Palm Oil-Based Agriculture Products	3,482.2	3,125.6	4,476.6
Optical & Scientific Equipment	3,114.9	2,937.2	2,855.3
LNG	2,419.2	2,735.3	3,929.2
Rubber Products	2,273.2	2,162.7	2,258.4

TABLE 3: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS

Markets	July 2018 ^p	June 2018 ^p	July 2017 ^f
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	86,124.5	78,610.8	78,747.8
China	12,922.4	11,439.6	9,395.9
Singapore	11,878.6	10,674.6	12,115.1
USA	7,746.1	7,027.4	7,262.4
Hong Kong SAR	6,451.3	6,134.2	3,568.1
Japan	5,351.0	5,214.1	6,455.1
Thailand	4,952.9	4,357.2	4,673.1
India	3,571.4	2,869.6	3,071.5
Viet Nam	2,966.5	2,727.1	2,629.4
Indonesia	2,868.4	2,355.3	2,752.9
Australia	2,820.0	2,474.8	2,652.0

TABLE 4: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY-JULY)

Products	Jan-Jul 2018 ^p	Jan-Jul 2017 ^f
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	568,722.1	530,210.4
Electrical & Electronic Products	213,538.7	189,563.8
Petroleum Products	44,355.0	42,945.7
Chemicals & Chemical Products	31,778.7	26,902.9
Manufactures of Metal	27,010.8	20,812.0
Palm Oil & Palm Oil- Based Agriculture Products	26,828.7	31,221.5
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	24,315.9	23,983.0
LNG	21,080.6	23,475.0
Crude Petroleum	20,736.0	16,514.1
Optical & Scientific Equipment	20,230.5	18,018.7
Rubber Products	15,113.7	15,441.8

TABLE 5: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS (JANUARY-JULY)

Markets	Jan-Jul 2018 ^p	Jan-Jul 2017 ^f
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	568,722.1	530,210.4
China	77,480.3	69,119.2
Singapore	76,814.2	78,215.0
USA	51,388.5	50,541.4
Hong Kong SAR	42,132.8	23,973.1
Japan	40,404.8	44,502.4
Thailand	32,920.2	29,151.5
India	21,619.5	20,458.7
Viet Nam	19,966.6	15,584.8
Indonesia	18,817.5	19,552.7
ROK	18,472.9	14,929.9

TABLE 6: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS

Products	July 2018 ^p	June 2018 ^p	July 2017 ^f
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	77,827.4	72,609.9	70,589.6
Electrical & Electronic Products	23,496.6	21,212.8	21,243.3
Chemicals & Chemical Products	7,391.8	6,950.6	6,197.2
Petroleum Products	7,309.2	6,775.7	7,734.3
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	6,249.2	6,400.4	6,521.1
Manufactures of Metal	4,004.2	3,878.5	3,650.5
Transport Equipment	3,963.0	3,662.1	3,256.6
Iron & Steel Products	2,726.6	2,963.8	2,302.4
Optical & Scientific Equipment	1,996.5	2,145.2	2,193.8
Crude Petroleum	1,939.9	1,229.7	885.1
Textiles, Apparels & Footwear	1,704.0	1,622.6	1,411.1

TABLE 7: MAJOR IMPORT SOURCES

Markets	July 2018 ^p	June 2018 ^p	July 2017 ^f
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	77,827.4	72,609.9	70,589.6
China	15,389.4	15,390.5	14,320.8
Singapore	8,853.5	8,029.1	8,210.4
Taiwan	6,072.7	5,463.6	4,890.7
USA	5,733.4	5,071.0	5,332.0
Japan	5,374.0	5,492.5	5,438.6
Thailand	4,048.0	4,352.0	4,057.4
Indonesia	3,796.7	3,011.8	2,875.0
ROK	3,013.8	3,612.3	3,211.2
India	2,534.1	1,479.6	1,797.6
Germany	2,261.0	2,290.3	2,350.1

TABLE 8: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY-JULY)

Products	Jan-Jul 2018 ^p	Jan-Jul 2017 ^f
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	499,912.5	477,139.5
Electrical & Electronic Products	147,899.1	141,429.1
Petroleum Products	48,046.6	43,313.5
Chemicals & Chemical Products	46,533.2	42,731.0
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	42,873.6	44,674.7
Transport Equipment	26,910.2	23,038.3
Manufactures of Metal	26,290.9	24,102.3
Iron & Steel Products	18,156.6	15,992.2
Optical & Scientific Equipment	13,183.5	14,453.8
Crude Petroleum	11,896.2	9,695.6
Processed food	11,113.3	12,065.7

TABLE 9: MAJOR IMPORT SOURCES (JANUARY-JULY)

Markets	Jan-Jul 2018 ^p	Jan-Jul 2017 ^f
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	499,912.5	477,139.5
China	100,010.5	93,800.1
Singapore	57,990.1	48,898.1
Japan	36,533.3	36,251.4
USA	36,209.1	39,186.9
Taiwan	35,330.9	30,388.2
Thailand	27,782.0	27,963.6
Indonesia	22,564.9	22,516.3
ROK	22,304.4	23,667.2
Germany	15,266.0	14,639.2
India	14,624.8	14,913.9

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia
 Tabulated by: MATRADE

Notes:

p - provisional data

f – final data

CHART 1: MALAYSIA'S MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE PERFORMANCE, 2012 - July 2018

