



**MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY
MALAYSIA**

**Embargo until 1200 hours,
Wednesday, 6th April 2016**

MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS

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

February Exports Higher by 6.7%

Malaysia's **export** growth in **February 2016** rebounded by 6.7% or RM3.55 billion to RM56.72 billion, after posting a negative growth of 2.8% year-on-year in January 2016. **Imports** increased by 1.6% to RM49.37 billion from RM48.61 billion which recorded in February 2015.

Trade surplus widened to RM7.35 billion in February 2016 from RM5.39 billion in the previous month, making it the 220th consecutive month of trade surplus since November 1997.

Total trade rose 4.2% from a year ago to RM106.09 billion. Increases in trade were recorded with the United States of America (USA) which rose RM2.21 billion, ASEAN (↑RM1.9 billion), China (↑RM829.6 million), the Republic of Korea (ROK) (↑RM637.3

million), the European Union (EU) (↑RM447.7 million), Hong Kong (↑RM433.3 million) and Turkey (↑RM320 million).

During the **first two months of 2016**, **total trade** increased by 2% to RM224.4 billion from the corresponding period of 2015. **Exports** grew by 1.5% to RM118.57 billion while **imports** rose 2.5% to RM105.83 billion, resulting in a **trade surplus** of RM12.74 billion.

Export Performance of Major Sectors

Manufactured Goods Registered a Double Digit Growth

Overall, exports both of manufactured and agricultural goods increased in **February 2016**. Exports of mining goods, however, declined.

Exports of **manufactured goods** grew by 11.5% or RM4.77 billion to RM46.22 billion. Higher exports were recorded for all manufactured subsectors except for petroleum products as well as iron and steel products. The higher exports was driven mainly by increased exports of electrical and electronic (E&E) products especially parts and accessories for office machines as well as photosensitive semi-conductor devices. Other manufactured products which registered significant increases were manufactures of metal, machinery, equipment and parts, chemicals and chemical products, transport equipment as well as optical and scientific equipment.

Exports of **agricultural goods** in **February 2016** expanded by 7.9% to RM4.49 billion, attributed mainly to higher exports of palm oil and palm-based products which expanded by 6.6% or RM181.4 million to RM2.93 billion. Exports of palm oil in February 2016 amounted to RM2.47 billion, an increase of 4.4% or RM104 million, contributed mainly by higher export volume.

Exports of **mining goods** decreased by 21.7% to RM5.64 billion due mainly to lower exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and crude petroleum. Lower exports of both

LNG and crude petroleum were caused by contraction in the Average Unit Value (AUV).

Major exports in February 2016 were:

- E&E products valued at RM20.08 billion which constituted 35.4% of total exports, increased by 8.9% from February 2015;
- Chemicals and chemical products (RM4.3 billion), 7.6% of total exports, increased by 11.7%;
- Petroleum products (RM3.45 billion), 6.1% of total exports, a decrease of 18.4%;
- LNG (RM3.22 billion), 5.7% of total exports, a decrease of 34%; and
- Machinery, equipment and parts (RM2.95 billion), 5.2% of total exports, an increase of 30.2%.

During the period of **January to February 2016**, exports of manufactured goods increased by 7.5% to RM96.81 billion. Exports of agricultural goods recorded a value of RM9.76 billion, an increase of 6.7%. Exports of mining goods amounted to RM11.26 billion, a decrease of 32.6%.

Performance of Major Markets

Trade with ASEAN Up by RM1.9 billion

In **February 2016**, **exports** to **ASEAN** expanded by 9.7% to RM16.08 billion, contributing 28.4% to Malaysia's total exports. The increase was due to higher exports of E&E products (electronic integrated circuits), machinery, equipment and parts (parts for civil engineering and contractor's plant and equipment), manufactures of metal (aluminium not alloyed), chemicals and chemical products (plastics in primary forms) and processed food. **Imports** from ASEAN increased by 4% to RM12.6 billion while **trade** with ASEAN grew by 7.1% to RM28.68 billion.

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

- Singapore RM 7.94 billion, **increased** by 1.5%
- Thailand RM 3.28 billion, ↑8.0%
- Indonesia RM 2.02 billion, ↑26.3%
- Viet Nam RM 1.27 billion, ↑29.8%
- Philippines RM 1.09 billion, ↑30.6%
- Myanmar RM 265.2 million, ↑48.8%
- Brunei RM 138.4 million, ↓7.2%
- Cambodia RM 62.8 million, ↑15.7%
- Lao PDR RM 4.9 million, ↑20.3%

Exports to **Singapore** increased by RM118.3 million due to higher exports of E&E products (electronic integrated circuits) as well as machinery, equipment and parts. Exports to **Thailand** grew by RM243.2 million, supported by higher exports of E&E products (storage units for computers) as well as manufactures of metal.

Exports to **Indonesia** increased by RM421.7 million, contributed mainly by higher exports of petroleum products, crude petroleum as well as chemicals and chemical products. Exports to **Viet Nam** rose by RM291.3 million with higher exports of petroleum products, chemicals and chemical products as well as manufactures of metal, while expansion in exports to **the Philippines** by RM256.8 million was due to higher exports of petroleum products, crude petroleum as well as E&E products.

In **the first two months of 2016, trade** with ASEAN increased by 6% to RM61.53 billion from the same period in 2015, accounting for 27.4% of Malaysia's total trade. **Exports** grew by 7% to RM34.46 billion while **imports** rose 4.8% to RM27.07 billion.

Strong Export Growth to the USA

Trade with **the USA** expanded by 26.1% to RM10.66 billion, with **exports** valued at RM5.93 billion and **imports** totalled RM4.73 billion. Both exports and imports recorded growth of 21% and 33.1%, respectively. The sturdy export performance to the USA was attributed mainly to E&E products, particularly, photosensitive semiconductor devices. Other products that contributed to the increase in exports to the

USA were manufactures of metal (aluminum not alloyed), palm oil and palm based products, parts for aircrafts and furniture.

For **January to February 2016**, **trade** with the USA increased by 15.8% to RM21.45 billion. **Exports** grew by 13.9% to RM12.26 billion while **imports** expanded by 18.6% to RM9.19 billion.

Double Digit Growth in Exports to China

In **February 2016**, **exports to China** rose 12% to RM6.49 billion due to significant increases in exports of manufactures of metal, metalliferous ores, chemicals and chemical products as well as optical and scientific equipment.

Imports from China were valued at RM8.87 billion, an increase of 1.5% from February 2015. **Trade** with China increased by 5.7% to RM15.35 billion.

In the **first two months of 2016**, **trade** with China registered a growth of 5.2% to RM33.55 billion. **Exports** rose 6.2% to RM13 billion while **imports** increased by 4.6% to RM20.56 billion.

Exports to the EU Up 11.3%

Exports to the EU expanded by 11.3% to RM6.04 billion in **February 2016**. Among the top 10 EU markets, growth in exports were registered to Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Belgium, Greece, Sweden, Spain and the Czech Republic.

In terms of products, higher exports to the EU were contributed by E&E products (electronic integrated circuits), optical and scientific equipment (instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinar), apparels, chemicals and chemical products (alcohols, phenols and their derivatives and biodiesel) as well as machinery, equipment and parts (air conditioners). Imports from the EU were lower by 3% to RM5.39 billion. Trade with the EU grew by 4.1% to RM11.42 billion.

Trade with the EU in the **first two months of 2016** rose 1.3% to RM23.15 billion with **export** growth of 8.7% while **imports** declined by 6.3% to RM10.55 billion.

Exports to Japan Down 20.6%

Trade with **Japan** in **February 2016** was valued at RM10.1 billion, a decrease of 9.6%. **Exports** totalled RM5.6 billion while **imports** increased by 9.4% to RM4.5 billion. Exports to Japan declined by 20.6% due to lower exports of LNG, petroleum products, manufactures of metal as well as optical and scientific equipment. Increases in exports were however registered for E&E products (electronic integrated circuits), machinery, equipment and parts, processed food, textiles, non metallic mineral products, iron and steel products, manufactures of plastics, transport equipment, metalliferous ores, wood products, crude petroleum as well as chemicals and chemical products. These products collectively amounted to RM2.68 billion or 47.7% share of Malaysia's exports to Japan.

During the **first two months of 2016**, **trade** with Japan amounted to RM19.76 billion with **export** and **import** value of RM11.12 billion and RM8.65 billion, respectively.

Trade with FTA Partners

In **February 2016**, total **trade** with **Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners** was higher by 2.4% to RM66.03 billion. **Exports** increased by 2.7% to RM35.44 billion and **imports** expanded by 2.1% to RM30.58 billion. Higher exports were recorded to China, the ROK, Indonesia, Turkey, Viet Nam, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos. Exports to **the ROK** rose 23.9% to RM2.21 billion, contributed mainly by higher exports of LNG, E&E products as well as chemicals and chemical products. Exports to **Turkey** surged by 186.3% to RM456.4 million due to increase in exports of palm oil and palm-based products, chemicals and chemical products as well as manufactures of metal.

During the **first two months of 2016**, trade with **FTA partners** amounted to RM140.9 billion, accounting for 62.8% of Malaysia's trade. **Exports** to FTA partners recorded a value of RM73.87 billion while **imports**, RM67.03 billion.

Imports

Total imports in **February 2016** increased by 1.6% from RM48.61 billion to RM49.37 billion. The **three main categories** of imports by end use were:

- **Intermediate goods**, valued at RM27.42 billion or 55.5% **share** of total imports, **decreased by** 6.6%, due mainly to lower imports of petroleum products;
- **Capital goods** (RM7 billion, 14.2% share, up 1.7%), due mainly to higher imports of telecommunication cellular phones; and
- **Consumption goods** (RM4.6 billion, 9.3% share, up 17.9%) with higher imports of food products.

During the period of **January-February 2016**, imports increased by 2.5% to RM105.83 billion. The **three main categories** by end use were intermediate goods which valued at RM62.16 billion, capital goods (RM14.1 billion) and consumption goods (RM10.44 billion).

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, which do not fully conform to 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, Thursday, 7th April 2016.

- + *This report can be accessed through the homepages of the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (<http://www.statistics.gov.my>) under Latest Releases: 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 February 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.

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
2015 (Jan-Feb)^P	116,773.5	103,261.3	13,512.2	220,034.9
2016 (Jan-Feb)^P	118,571.5	105,828.2	12,743.3	224,399.7

TABLE 2: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS

Products	Feb 2016 ^p	Jan 2016 ^p	Feb 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	56,719.7	61,851.8	53,168.7
Electrical & Electronic Products	20,076.3	22,350.5	18,438.8
Chemicals & Chemical Products	4,298.2	4,347.4	3,848.4
Petroleum Products	3,453.8	3,353.6	4,234.5
LNG	3,217.0	3,204.9	4,874.0
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	2,947.3	3,276.3	2,263.6
Palm oil & palm-based products (palm oil; palm kernel oil & other palm based products)	2,927.2	3,450.7	2,745.8
Manufactures of Metal	2,723.7	2,519.8	1,879.1
Optical & Scientific Equipment	2,084.4	2,428.7	1,774.2
Crude Petroleum	1,572.8	1,679.4	1,830.4
Rubber Products	1,484.6	1,658.4	1,330.6

TABLE 3: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS

Markets	Feb 2016 ^p	Jan 2016 ^p	Feb 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	56,719.7	61,851.8	53,168.7
Singapore	7,943.6	9,001.5	7,825.3
China	6,485.7	6,510.6	5,788.9
USA	5,929.4	6,334.4	4,899.1
Japan	5,600.4	5,515.2	7,056.3
Thailand	3,280.8	4,046.0	3,037.6
Hong Kong	2,671.1	2,893.0	2,343.0
ROK	2,206.3	2,004.8	1,781.4
India	2,097.4	2,562.8	2,216.5
Australia	2,041.2	2,174.7	2,190.9
Indonesia	2,022.3	2,289.6	1,600.6

TABLE 4: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY-FEBRUARY)

Products	Jan-Feb 2016 ^P	Jan-Feb 2015 ^P
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	118,571.5	116,773.5
Electrical & Electronic Products	42,426.7	40,223.3
Chemicals & Chemical Products	8,645.6	8,050.8
Petroleum Products	6,807.4	8,207.0
LNG	6,421.9	11,057.5
Palm oil & palm-based products (palm oil; palm kernel oil & other palm based products)	6,377.9	5,906.9
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	6,223.6	4,951.2
Manufactures of Metal	5,243.5	3,902.8
Optical & Scientific Equipment	4,513.1	3,795.8
Crude Petroleum	3,252.2	4,547.8
Rubber Products	3,143.0	2,817.2

TABLE 5: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS (JANUARY-FEBRUARY)

Markets	Jan-Feb 2016 ^P	Jan-Feb 2015 ^P
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Exports	118,571.5	116,773.5
Singapore	16,945.2	16,521.0
China	12,996.3	12,237.8
USA	12,263.8	10,771.5
Japan	11,115.6	14,509.9
Thailand	7,326.8	6,854.7
Hong Kong	5,564.2	5,582.9
India	4,660.2	4,536.2
Indonesia	4,311.9	4,016.4
Australia	4,216.0	4,819.9
ROK	4,211.1	4,538.2

TABLE 6: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS

Products	Feb 2016 ^p	Jan 2016 ^p	Feb 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	49,368.1	56,460.1	48,613.6
Electrical & Electronic Products	15,357.7	17,546.2	13,922.3
Chemicals & Chemical Products	4,945.1	5,374.7	4,662.1
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	4,375.5	5,215.7	3,882.1
Petroleum Products	3,339.7	3,971.6	5,756.6
Transport Equipment	3,110.1	2,436.3	2,712.6
Manufactures of Metal	2,983.4	3,383.1	3,202.9
Optical & Scientific Equipment	1,538.1	1,718.3	1,399.7
Iron & Steel Products	1,370.4	1,719.8	1,584.4
Processed Food	1,262.9	1,588.3	1,203.5
Textiles, Apparels & Footwear	1,167.9	1,616.8	684.0

TABLE 7: MAJOR IMPORT SOURCES

Markets	Feb 2016 ^p	Jan 2016 ^p	Feb 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	49,368.1	56,460.1	48,613.6
China	8,867.2	11,688.8	8,734.4
Singapore	5,331.0	6,554.5	5,366.6
USA	4,733.4	4,455.6	3,556.0
Japan	4,498.1	4,148.3	4,111.8
Thailand	3,199.3	3,429.2	2,744.0
Taiwan	2,456.9	3,033.1	2,766.9
Indonesia	2,249.4	2,355.9	2,140.5
ROK	2,214.3	2,847.6	2,001.9
Germany	1,854.2	1,948.1	1,488.5
Viet Nam	1,168.4	1,509.2	1,132.1

TABLE 8: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY-FEBRUARY)

Products	Jan-Feb 2016 ^p	Jan-Feb 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	105,828.2	103,261.3
Electrical & Electronic Products	32,903.9	30,186.1
Chemicals & Chemical Products	10,319.8	9,646.5
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	9,591.2	8,727.5
Petroleum Products	7,311.3	9,396.6
Manufactures of Metal	6,366.4	7,887.6
Transport Equipment	5,546.5	5,677.0
Optical & Scientific Equipment	3,256.4	3,108.0
Iron & Steel Products	3,090.2	3,656.4
Processed Food	2,851.2	2,784.8
Textiles, Apparels & Footwear	2,784.7	1,607.3

TABLE 9: MAJOR IMPORT MARKETS (JANUARY-FEBRUARY)

Markets	Jan-Feb 2016 ^p	Jan-Feb 2015 ^p
	RM Million	RM Million
Total Imports	105,828.2	103,261.3
China	20,556.0	19,657.7
Singapore	11,885.6	11,215.8
USA	9,189.0	7,746.6
Japan	8,646.4	8,418.0
Thailand	6,628.5	5,986.8
Taiwan	5,490.0	5,949.5
ROK	5,061.9	4,470.0
Indonesia	4,605.4	4,357.9
Germany	3,802.2	3,329.0
India	2,678.6	2,396.9

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia
Compiled By: MATRADE

Notes:
p - provisional data

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

