

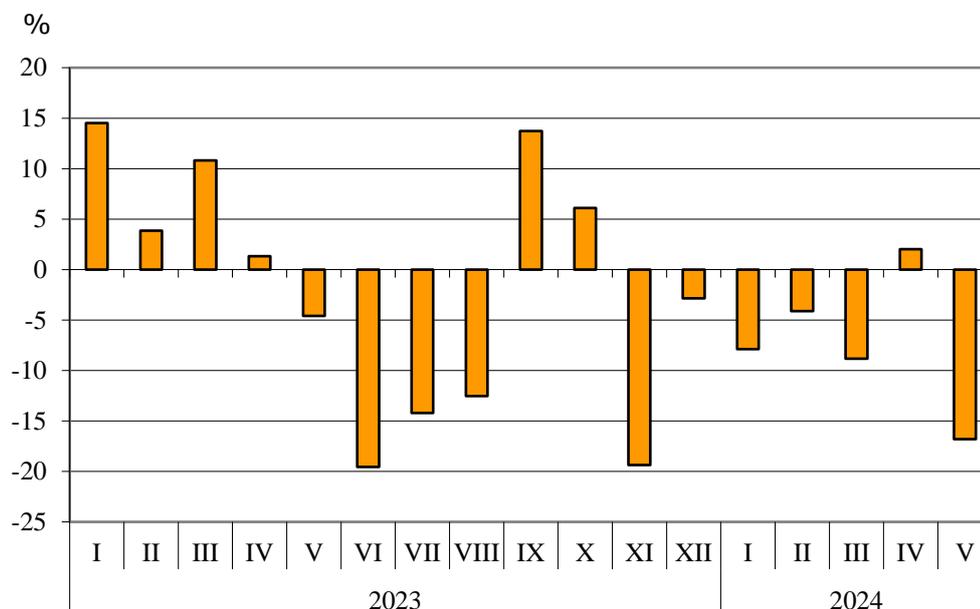


**TRADE IN GOODS OF BULGARIA WITH
THIRD COUNTRIES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY - MAY 2024
(PRELIMINARY DATA)**

In the period **January - May 2024**, the **exports** of goods from Bulgaria to **third countries** decreased by 7.3% in comparison with the same period of 2023 and added up to 11 969.4 million BGN (Annex, Tables 1 and 2). The main trade partners of Bulgaria were Türkiye, Serbia, the United States, the Republic of North Macedonia, China, the United Kingdom and Egypt which accounted for 51.6% of the exports to non-EU countries (Annex, Table 3).

In **May 2024** the **exports** of goods from Bulgaria to **third countries** decreased by 16.8% compared to the corresponding month of the previous year and amounted to 2 173.5 million BGN.

**Figure 1. Nominal value¹ change of exports of goods from Bulgaria to non-EU countries in the period 2023 - 2024
(Compared to the same month of the previous year)**



In the exports of goods from Bulgaria to third countries, distributed according to the **Standard International Trade Classification**, the most notable growth was recorded in

¹ Value changes at current prices.

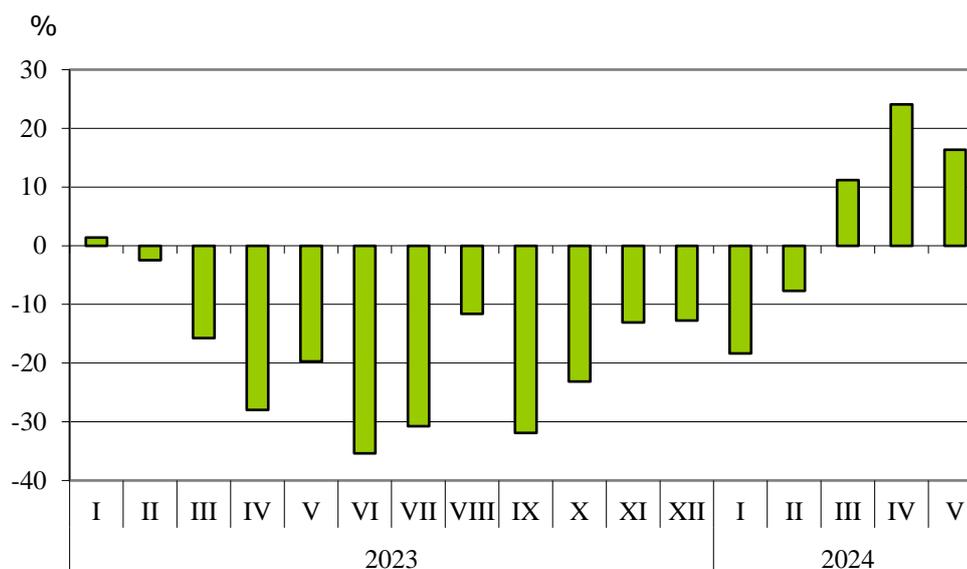
Trade in goods of Bulgaria with third countries in the period January - May 2024
(Preliminary data)

the sections 'Chemical and related products n.e.c.' (10.7%) (Annex, Table 4). The most notable fall was reported in the section 'Food and live animals' (24.7%).

Imports of goods to Bulgaria **from third countries** in the period **January - May 2024** increased by 4.0% in comparison with the same period of 2023 and added up to 16 488.4 million BGN (at CIF prices)¹ (Annex, Tables 1 and 2). The largest amounts were reported for the goods imported from Türkiye, China, Egypt and Ukraine (Annex, Table 3).

In May 2024 the imports of goods to Bulgaria **from third countries** increased by 16.4% compared to the corresponding month of the previous year and amounted to 3 690.3 million BGN.

Figure 2. Nominal value² change of imports of goods to Bulgaria from non-EU countries in the period 2023 - 2024
(Compared to the same month of the previous year)



In the imports of goods to Bulgaria from third countries, distributed according to the **Standard International Trade Classification**, the largest growth was recorded in the section 'Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes' (42.8%) (Annex, Table 4). The most notable fall was reported in the section 'Machinery and transport equipment' (6.2%).

¹ Imports at FOB prices are calculated by BNB (<http://bnb.bg/Statistics/StExternalSector/StForeignTrade/StFTImports/index.htm?toLang= EN>).

² Value changes at current prices.

Trade in goods of Bulgaria with third countries in the period January - May 2024
(Preliminary data)

The foreign trade balance of Bulgaria (exports FOB - imports CIF) with third countries in **the period January - May 2024** was negative and added up to 4 519.0 million BGN (Annex, Table 1).

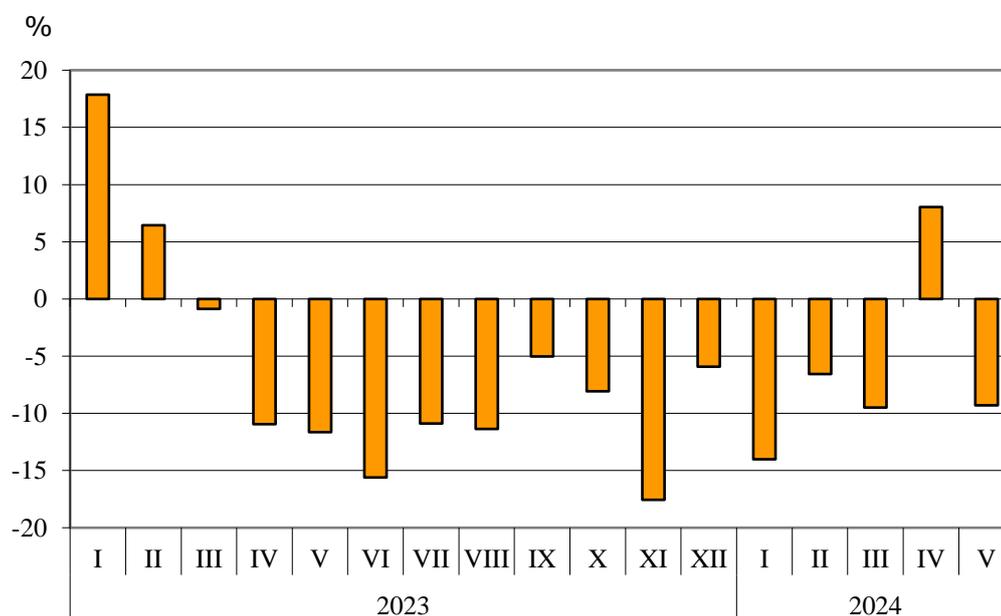
In May 2024 the foreign trade balance of Bulgaria (export FOB - import CIF) with third countries was also negative and amounted to 1 516.8 million BGN.

Trade in goods of Bulgaria with third countries and the EU - total

In **the period January - May 2024**, the total value of **all the goods exported** from Bulgaria amounted to 34 145.7 million BGN, which is 6.6% less than the same month of the previous year (Annex, Tables 1 and 2).

In May 2024 the total exports of goods added up to 6 669.7 million BGN and decreased by 9.3% compared to the corresponding month of the previous year.

**Figure 3. Nominal value¹ change of exports of goods from Bulgaria in the period 2023 - 2024
(Compared to the same month of the previous year)**



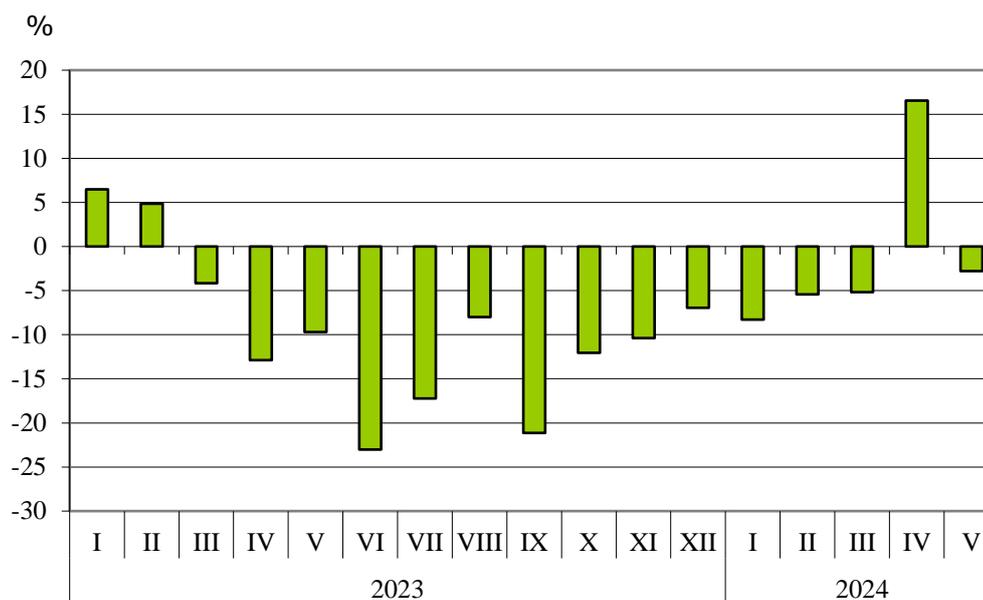
The total value of **all the goods imported** into the country in **the period January - May 2024** amounted to 39 735.9 million BGN (at CIF prices), or 1.4% less than the same period of 2023 (Annex, Tables 1 and 2).

¹ Value changes at current prices.

Trade in goods of Bulgaria with third countries in the period January - May 2024
(Preliminary data)

In May 2024 the total imports of goods decreased by 2.8% compared to the same month of the previous year and added up to 7 918.7 million BGN.

**Figure 4. Nominal value¹ change of imports of goods to Bulgaria
in the period 2023 - 2024
(Compared to the same month of the previous year)**



The total foreign trade balance (exports FOB - imports CIF) was negative in **the period January - May 2024** and amounted to 5 590.2 million BGN (Annex, Table 1).

In May 2024 the total foreign trade balance (exports FOB - import CIF) was also negative and added up to 1 249.0 million BGN.

¹ Value changes at current prices.

Trade in goods of Bulgaria with third countries in the period January - May 2024
(Preliminary data)

Annex

Table 1

Exports, imports and trade balance of Bulgaria in the period
January - May 2023¹ and 2024¹ by months

(Million BGN)

| Months/Periods | Exports - FOB | | | Imports - CIF ² | | | Trade balance - FOB/CIF | | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Total | EU | Non-EU | Total | EU | Non-EU | Total | EU | Non-EU |
| I.2023 | 7359.5 | 4931.8 | 2427.7 | 8138.4 | 4578.7 | 3559.7 | -778.9 | 353.1 | -1132.0 |
| II.2023 | 7103.6 | 4609.3 | 2494.3 | 8067.4 | 4845.9 | 3221.5 | -963.8 | -236.6 | -727.2 |
| III.2023 | 7964.9 | 5073.0 | 2891.9 | 8595.1 | 5487.7 | 3107.4 | -630.2 | -414.7 | -215.5 |
| I - III.2023 | 22428.0 | 14614.1 | 7813.9 | 24800.9 | 14912.3 | 9888.6 | -2372.9 | -298.2 | -2074.7 |
| IV.2023 | 6760.1 | 4278.3 | 2481.8 | 7356.3 | 4566.2 | 2790.1 | -596.2 | -287.9 | -308.3 |
| V.2023 | 7353.3 | 4740.6 | 2612.7 | 8145.0 | 4973.5 | 3171.5 | -791.7 | -232.9 | -558.8 |
| I - V.2023 | 36541.4 | 23633.0 | 12908.4 | 40302.2 | 24452.0 | 15850.2 | -3760.8 | -819.0 | -2941.8 |
| I.2024 | 6327.2 | 4091.2 | 2236.0 | 7465.4 | 4558.6 | 2906.8 | -1138.2 | -467.4 | -670.8 |
| II.2024 | 6637.3 | 4245.7 | 2391.6 | 7628.7 | 4654.4 | 2974.3 | -991.4 | -408.7 | -582.7 |
| III.2024 | 7208.9 | 4572.7 | 2636.2 | 8149.5 | 4695.0 | 3454.5 | -940.6 | -122.3 | -818.3 |
| I - III.2024 | 20173.4 | 12909.6 | 7263.8 | 23243.6 | 13908.0 | 9335.6 | -3070.2 | -998.4 | -2071.8 |
| IV.2024 | 7302.6 | 4770.5 | 2532.1 | 8573.6 | 5111.1 | 3462.5 | -1271.0 | -340.6 | -930.4 |
| V.2024 | 6669.7 | 4496.2 | 2173.5 | 7918.7 | 4228.4 | 3690.3 | -1249.0 | 267.8 | -1516.8 |
| I - V.2024 | 34145.7 | 22176.3 | 11969.4 | 39735.9 | 23247.5 | 16488.4 | -5590.2 | -1071.2 | -4519.0 |

¹ Data are preliminary as of July 10, 2024.

² Imports at FOB prices are calculated by BNB

(<http://bnb.bg/Statistics/StExternalSector/StForeignTrade/StFTImports/index.htm?toLang= EN&toLang= EN>)

Table 2

Value changes of exports and imports of Bulgaria in the
period January - May 2024¹ compared to the same period of
the previous year

(Per cent)

| Months/Periods | Exports - FOB | | | Imports - CIF | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Total | EU | Non-EU | Total | EU | Non-EU |
| I | -14.0 | -17.0 | -7.9 | -8.3 | -0.4 | -18.3 |
| II | -6.6 | -7.9 | -4.1 | -5.4 | -4.0 | -7.7 |
| III | -9.5 | -9.9 | -8.8 | -5.2 | -14.4 | 11.2 |
| I - III | -10.1 | -11.7 | -7.0 | -6.3 | -6.7 | -5.6 |
| IV | 8.0 | 11.5 | 2.0 | 16.5 | 11.9 | 24.1 |
| V | -9.3 | -5.2 | -16.8 | -2.8 | -15.0 | 16.4 |
| I - V | -6.6 | -6.2 | -7.3 | -1.4 | -4.9 | 4.0 |

¹ Data are preliminary as of July 10, 2024.

Trade in goods of Bulgaria with third countries in the period January - May 2024
(Preliminary data)

Table 3
Exports, imports and trade balance of Bulgaria with main non-EU partner countries¹ in the period January - May 2023² and 2024²

| Countries | Exports - FOB | | | Imports - CIF | | | Trade balance - FOB/CIF | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---|----------------|----------------|---|-------------------------|----------------|
| | 2023 | 2024 | Change compared to the same period of the previous year - % | 2023 | 2024 | Change compared to the same period of the previous year - % | 2023 | 2024 |
| | Million BGN | | | Million BGN | | | Million BGN | |
| Third countries -total | 12908.4 | 11969.4 | -7.3 | 15850.2 | 16488.4 | 4.0 | -2941.8 | -4519.0 |
| of which: | | | | | | | | |
| Albania | 110.0 | 300.7 | 173.4 | 41.9 | 41.9 | 0.0 | 68.1 | 258.8 |
| Algeria | 661.8 | 227.1 | -65.7 | 83.3 | 49.4 | -40.7 | 578.5 | 177.7 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 74.7 | 75.3 | 0.8 | 33.3 | 59.3 | 78.1 | 41.4 | 16.0 |
| Brazil | 27.6 | 26.5 | -4.0 | 264.9 | 232.3 | -12.3 | -237.3 | -205.8 |
| Canada | 74.7 | 116.7 | 56.2 | 39.8 | 127.4 | 220.1 | 34.9 | -10.7 |
| Chile | 11.7 | 19.2 | 64.1 | 158.2 | 254.0 | 60.6 | -146.5 | -234.8 |
| China | 890.4 | 629.1 | -29.3 | 2252.1 | 1945.7 | -13.6 | -1361.7 | -1316.6 |
| Egypt | 461.2 | 510.4 | 10.7 | 311.0 | 1173.7 | 277.4 | 150.2 | -663.3 |
| Georgia | 145.6 | 289.1 | 98.6 | 274.4 | 105.1 | -61.7 | -128.8 | 184.0 |
| Gibraltar | 201.3 | 491.5 | 144.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | x | 201.3 | 491.5 |
| India | 183.6 | 124.2 | -32.4 | 219.2 | 196.0 | -10.6 | -35.6 | -71.8 |
| Indonesia | 36.8 | 55.4 | 50.5 | 205.8 | 448.8 | 118.1 | -169.0 | -393.4 |
| Iran, Islamic Republic of | 81.0 | 130.8 | 61.5 | 46.1 | 51.0 | 10.6 | 34.9 | 79.8 |
| Israel | 208.3 | 110.9 | -46.8 | 126.0 | 50.0 | -60.3 | 82.3 | 60.9 |
| Japan | 52.8 | 61.1 | 15.7 | 179.3 | 149.2 | -16.8 | -126.5 | -88.1 |
| Kazakhstan | 70.5 | 71.0 | 0.7 | 6.8 | 329.1 | 4739.7 | 63.7 | -258.1 |
| Korea, Republic of | 78.4 | 209.1 | 166.7 | 157.5 | 151.3 | -3.9 | -79.1 | 57.8 |
| Libya | 86.0 | 17.9 | -79.2 | 3.2 | 475.5 | 14759.4 | 82.8 | -457.6 |
| Morocco | 104.2 | 172.6 | 65.6 | 42.8 | 90.7 | 111.9 | 61.4 | 81.9 |
| Namibia | 0.4 | 0.7 | 75.0 | 8.5 | 106.1 | 1148.2 | -8.1 | -105.4 |
| Norway | 48.1 | 56.1 | 16.6 | 23.5 | 316.2 | 1245.5 | 24.6 | -260.1 |
| Peru | 22.4 | 6.0 | -73.2 | 221.5 | 350.6 | 58.3 | -199.1 | -344.6 |
| Republic of North Macedonia | 719.6 | 678.9 | -5.7 | 413.6 | 444.8 | 7.5 | 306.0 | 234.1 |
| Russian Federation | 418.0 | 292.0 | -30.1 | 2235.6 | 820.5 | -63.3 | -1817.6 | -528.5 |
| Serbia | 842.4 | 807.8 | -4.1 | 935.6 | 907.0 | -3.1 | -93.2 | -99.2 |
| Singapore | 25.9 | 29.7 | 14.7 | 36.4 | 17.6 | -51.6 | -10.5 | 12.1 |
| South Africa | 91.4 | 103.7 | 13.5 | 108.8 | 26.5 | -75.6 | -17.4 | 77.2 |
| Switzerland | 305.0 | 273.3 | -10.4 | 283.7 | 359.2 | 26.6 | 21.3 | -85.9 |
| Taiwan | 111.3 | 35.2 | -68.4 | 146.3 | 109.7 | -25.0 | -35.0 | -74.5 |
| Tunisia | 131.1 | 93.2 | -28.9 | 18.8 | 94.0 | 400.0 | 112.3 | -0.8 |
| Turkey | 2244.6 | 2171.8 | -3.2 | 3377.7 | 3624.1 | 7.3 | -1133.1 | -1452.3 |
| Ukraine | 819.3 | 407.8 | -50.2 | 723.7 | 997.7 | 37.9 | 95.6 | -589.9 |
| United Arab Emirates | 117.7 | 120.2 | 2.1 | 39.3 | 35.6 | -9.4 | 78.4 | 84.6 |
| United Kingdom ³ | 562.7 | 599.6 | 6.6 | 330.8 | 354.1 | 7.0 | 231.9 | 245.5 |
| United States | 924.0 | 776.9 | -15.9 | 532.2 | 380.9 | -28.4 | 391.8 | 396.0 |
| Viet Nam | 29.8 | 33.8 | 13.4 | 107.5 | 153.2 | 42.5 | -77.7 | -119.4 |

¹ Partner country:

- In case of exports (or dispatches) is the country (or Member State) of final destination of the goods.
- In case of imports (or arrivals) is the country (or Member State) of consignment of the goods.

² Data are preliminary as of July 10, 2024.

³ The United Kingdom includes: Northern Ireland; Great Britain; Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

'x' - not applicable.

'0' - less than half of unit employed.

Trade in goods of Bulgaria with third countries in the period January - May 2024
(Preliminary data)

Table 4
Exports, imports and trade balance of Bulgaria with non-EU countries by sections of SITC,
rev.4 in the period January - May 2023¹ and 2024¹

| Sections by SITC | Exports - FOB | | | Imports - CIF | | | Trade balance - FOB/CIF | |
|---|----------------|----------------|---|----------------|----------------|---|-------------------------|----------------|
| | 2023 | 2024 | Change compared to the same period of the previous year - % | 2023 | 2024 | Change compared to the same period of the previous year - % | 2023 | 2024 |
| | Million BGN | | | Million BGN | | | Million BGN | |
| Third countries - total | 12908.4 | 11969.4 | -7.3 | 15850.2 | 16488.4 | 4.0 | -2941.8 | -4519.0 |
| Food and live animals | 2188.6 | 1648.1 | -24.7 | 868.1 | 927.3 | 6.8 | 1320.5 | 720.8 |
| Beverages and tobacco | 114.7 | 102.0 | -11.1 | 154.6 | 152.8 | -1.2 | -39.9 | -50.8 |
| Crude materials, inedible (except fuel) | 860.9 | 901.7 | 4.7 | 2284.1 | 2540.2 | 11.2 | -1423.2 | -1638.5 |
| Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials | 2030.9 | 2075.8 | 2.2 | 3460.4 | 3805.4 | 10.0 | -1429.5 | -1729.6 |
| Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes | 411.5 | 328.6 | -20.1 | 176.1 | 251.5 | 42.8 | 235.4 | 77.1 |
| Chemical and related products n.e.c. | 1478.0 | 1636.4 | 10.7 | 1409.8 | 1500.1 | 6.4 | 68.2 | 136.3 |
| Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material | 1949.1 | 1888.2 | -3.1 | 3013.2 | 2917.3 | -3.2 | -1064.1 | -1029.1 |
| Machinery and transport equipment | 2339.2 | 2273.3 | -2.8 | 3329.8 | 3124.2 | -6.2 | -990.6 | -850.9 |
| Miscellaneous manufactured articles | 1307.1 | 1079.9 | -17.4 | 1148.1 | 1214.9 | 5.8 | 159.0 | -135.0 |
| Commodities and transactions n.e.c. | 228.4 | 35.4 | -84.5 | 6.0 | 54.7 | 811.7 | 222.4 | -19.3 |

¹ Data are preliminary as of July 10, 2024.

Methodological Notes

Legislative Framework

Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics (including intra-EU trade in goods).

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and rules pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics.

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1704 of 14 July 2021 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council by further specifying the details of the statistical information to be provided by tax and customs authorities, and amending Annexes V and VI thereof (text relevant to the EEA).

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1225 of 27 July 2021 laying down the rules for data exchange pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 regarding the member country of extra-EU export and the obligations of reporting units.

Law on Statistics of Intra-EU Trade in Goods effective from 1 July 2012, amended and supplemented, Issue 61 of 2 August 2022.

Scope and Basic Terminology

External trade in goods covers trade with third countries (Extrastat) and with EU member states (Intrastat), with detailed statistical information collected at the commodity code level (8 digits) of the Combined Nomenclature.

Imports include all goods entering the statistical territory* of the Republic of Bulgaria from other countries intended for domestic consumption, processing in the country for export after processing, as well as imports of goods processed outside the country.

Exports include all goods leaving the statistical territory of the Republic of Bulgaria intended for normal export to another country. This includes goods returned to the trading partner after processing in Bulgaria or goods exported for processing in another country with the intention of being returned to Bulgaria.

The **statistical territory of the European Union (EU)**, in the context of international trade in goods statistics, corresponds to the combined customs territories of the EU member states with one exception: unlike the customs territory, the statistical territory of Germany includes Helgoland.

Statistical volumes of imports and exports do not include imported goods placed under customs warehousing without processing, nor do exports include the re-export of these goods.

International trade statistics do not account for the transit of goods through the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Main Sources of Information

Customs declaration - Single Administrative Document (SAD), which is filled out by all entities importing or exporting goods to/from third countries.

Intrastat declaration for intra-EU imports and exports to/from EU member states.

The **Customs Agency** is the institution responsible for collecting customs declarations (SAD), and the **National Revenue Agency** is responsible for Intrastat declarations.

Trade estimates are made to compensate for the impact of thresholds below which traders are exempt from submitting Intrastat declarations, as well as for those who have not responded.