

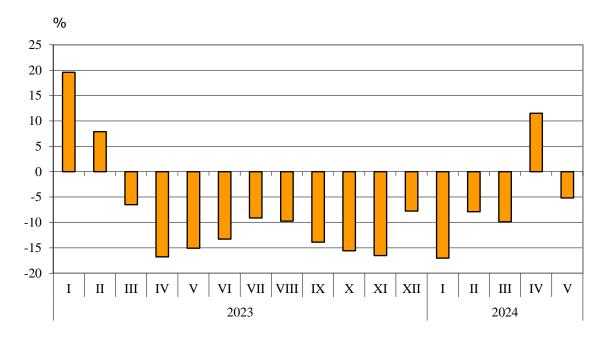
TRADE IN GOODS OF BULGARIA WITH THE EU IN THE PERIOD JANUARY - MAY 2024

(PRELIMINARY DATA)

In the period **January - May 2024, the exports of goods** from Bulgaria **to the EU** decreased by 6.2% in comparison with the same period of 2023 and added up to 22 176.3 million BGN (Annex, Tables 1 and 2). Main trade partners of Bulgaria were Germany, Romania, Italy, Greece and France, which accounted for 62.6% of the exports to the EU Member States (Annex, Table 3).

Figure 1. Nominal value¹ change of exports of goods from Bulgaria to the EU in the period 2023 - 2024





In the exports of goods from Bulgaria to the EU, distributed according to the **Standard International Trade Classification**, the most notable growth was recorded in the section 'Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials' (45.0%) (Annex, Table 4). The most notable fall was reported in the section 'Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes' (27.4%).

In **May 2024,** the exports to the EU decreased by 5.2% compared to the corresponding month of the previous year and amounted to 4 496.2 million BGN.

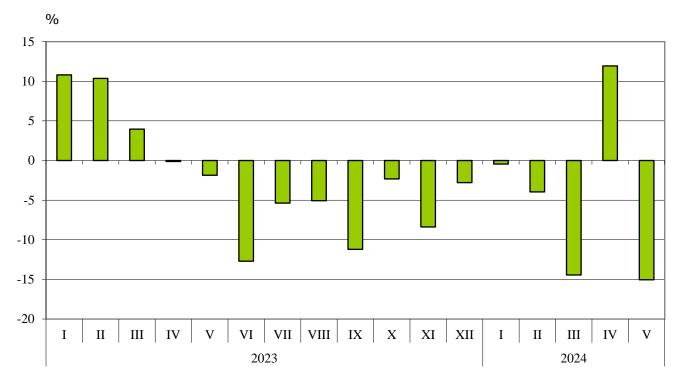
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¹ Value changes at current prices.

Imports of goods to Bulgaria **from the EU** in the period **January - May 2024** decreased by 4.9% in comparison with the same period of 2023 and is worth to 23 247.5 million BGN (at CIF prices)¹ (Annex, Tables 1 and 2). The largest amounts were reported for the goods imported from Germany, Romania, Italy, Greece and the Netherlands (Annex, Table 3).

Figure 2. Nominal value² change of imports of goods to Bulgaria from the EU in the period 2023 - 2024





In the imports of goods to Bulgaria from the EU Member States, distributed according to the **Standard International Trade Classification,** the largest growth was recorded in the section 'Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials' (64.6%). The most notable fall was reported in the section 'Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (16.4%).

In **May 2024,** the imports from the EU decreased by 15.0% compared to the corresponding month of the previous year and reached 4 228.4 million BGN.

The foreign trade balance of Bulgaria (export FOB - import CIF) with the EU in the period January - May 2024 was negative and added up to 1 071.2 million BGN (Annex, Table 1).

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

² Value changes at current prices.

ANNEX

Table 1

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

(Million BGN)

Months/	Months/			I	mports - CIF	2	Trade balance - FOB/CIF			
Periods	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 August 12, 2024.

(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 2024^1 compared to the same period of the previous year

(Per cent)

		Exports - FO	В	Imports - CIF				
Months/ Periods	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 - IV	-6.6	-6.2	-7.3	-1.4	-4.9	4.0		

¹ Data are preliminary as of August 12, 2024.

² Imports at FOB prices are calculated by BNB

Table 3

Exports, imports and trade balance by groups of countries and main partner countries¹ of

Bulgaria in the period January - May 2023² and 2024²

	E	ports - FOB			Imports - CI	Trade balance - FOB/CIF		
Countries and	2023	2024	Change compared to the	2023 2024		Change compared to	2023	2024
countries	groups of countries Million BGN		same period of the previous year - %	Million	n BGN	the same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN	
Total	36541.4	34145.7	-6.6	40302.2	39735.9	-1.4	-3760.8	-5590.2
EU	23633.0	22176.3	-6.2	24452.0	23247.5	-4.9	-819.0	-1071.2
Austria	806.5	549.5	-31.9	1062.7	962.5	-9.4	-256.2	-413.0
Belgium	1011.9	736.4	-27.2	939.9	804.2	-14.4	72.0	-67.8
Croatia	290.1	494.6	70.5	108.0	131.4	21.7	182.1	363.2
Cyprus	120.0	99.2	-17.3	63.8	32.0	-49.8	56.2	67.2
Czechia	700.9	678.4	-3.2	1141.1	1077.5	-5.6	-440.2	-399.1
Denmark	177.5	157.8	-11.1	322.1	203.9	-36.7	-144.6	-46.1
Estonia	64.5	36.0	-44.2	100.4	146.4	45.8	-35.9	-110.4
Finland	82.5	68.5	-17.0	116.4	95.6	-17.9	-33.9	-27.1
France	1212.3	1201.6	-0.9	1109.1	1003.7	-9.5	103.2	197.9
Germany	5073.7	5384.3	6.1	5045.4	4568.7	-9.4	28.3	815.6
Greece	2021.6	1769.9	-12.5	1894.4	1848.1	-2.4	127.2	-78.2
Hungary	494.0	489.2	-1.0	1381.0	1399.3	1.3	-887.0	-910.1
Ireland	117.6	107.1	-8.9	157.8	155.5	-1.5	-40.2	-48.4
Italy	2924.0	2552.4	-12.7	2803.4	2446.4	-12.7	120.6	106.0
Latvia	45.9	38.7	-15.7	32.2	38.6	19.9	13.7	0.1
Lithuania	105.2	86.2	-18.1	94.8	103.6	9.3	10.4	-17.4
Luxembourg	11.4	11.9	4.4	33.5	32.5	-3.0	-22.1	-20.6
Malta	17.7	14.9	-15.8	12.2	12.2	0.0	5.5	2.7
Netherlands	761.7	654.5	-14.1	1704.1	1510.8	-11.3	-942.4	-856.3
Poland	942.9	916.2	-2.8	1637.2	1440.5	-12.0	-694.3	-524.3
Portugal	101.2	99.6	-1.6	77.8	91.2	17.2	23.4	8.4
Romania	3357.6	2968.9	-11.6	2616.0	2971.7	13.6	741.6	-2.8
Slovakia	438.8	363.7	-17.1	468.0	516.3	10.3	-29.2	-152.6
Slovenia	240.8	225.1	-6.5	371.7	376.5	1.3	-130.9	-151.4
Spain	901.0	682.9	-24.2	732.7	702.4	-4.1	168.3	-19.5
Sweden	343.7	330.8	-3.8	317.6	267.6	-15.7	26.1	63.2
Not specified	1268.0	1458.0	15.0	108.7	308.4	183.7	1159.3	1149.6

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 August 12, 2024.

Table 3

Exports, imports and trade balance by groups of countries and main partner countries¹ of Bulgaria in the period January - May 2023² and 2024²

(Continued)

	Ex	xports - FOE	3		Imports - CI	Trade balance - FOB/CIF		
Countries and groups of countries	2023	2024	Change compared to the	2023	2024	Change compared to the	2023	2024
	Million BGN		same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN		same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN	
Non-EU countries	12908.4	11969.4	-7.3	15850.2	16488.4	4.0	-2941.8	-4519.0
CIS ³	768.7	728.2	-5.3	2622.4	1508.6	-42.5	-1853.7	-780.4
of which:								
Kazakhstan	70.5	71.0	0.7	6.8	329.1	4739.7	63.7	-258.1
Russian Federation	418.0	292.0	-30.1	2235.6	820.5	-63.3	-1817.6	-528.5
OECD ⁴	4656.1	4551.8	-2.2	5319.2	5844.0	9.9	-663.1	-1292.2
of which:								
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
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
Korea, Republic of	78.4	209.1	166.7	157.5	151.3	-3.9	-79.1	57.8
Türkiye	2244.6	2171.8	-3.2	3377.7	3624.1	7.3	-1133.1	-1452.3
United Kingdom⁵	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

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 August 12, 2024.

³ CIS includes: Azerbaijan; Armenia; Belarus; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Moldova, Republic of; Russian Federation; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

⁴ OECD includes: Australia; Virgin Islands (US); United States; Iceland; Canada; Chile; Colombia; Costa Rica; Mexico; New Zealand; Norway; Korea, Republic of; Türkiye; United Kingdom; Switzerland; Japan and Israel.

⁵ The United Kingdom includes: Northern Ireland; Great Britain; Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

Table 3

Exports, imports and trade balance by groups of countries and main partner countries¹ of Bulgaria in the period January - May 2023² and 2024²

(Continued)

	Exports - FOB			I	mports - (Trade balance - FOB/CIF		
Countries and groups of	2023	2024	Change compare d to the	2023	2024	Change compare d to the	2023	2024
countries	Million BGN		same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN		same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN	
EFTA ³	355.9	332.5	-6.6	310.6	677.1	118.0	45.3	-344.6
of which:								
Norway	48.1	56.1	16.6	23.5	316.2	1245.5	24.6	-260.1
Switzerland	305.0	273.3	-10.4	283.7	359.2	26.6	21.3	-85.9

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 August 12, 2024.

³ EFTA includes: Norway; Switzerland; Iceland and Liechtenstein.

Table 3

Exports, imports and trade balance by groups of countries and main partner countries¹ of Bulgaria in the period January - May 2023² and 2024²

(Continued and end)

	E	xports - F	ОВ]	Imports -	Trade balance - FOB/CIF		
Countries and groups of countries	2023	2024	Change compared	2023	2024	Change compared	2023	2024
	Million BGN		to the same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN		to the same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN	
Countries not								
included								
in the upper groups								
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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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 August 12, 2024.

Table 4 Exports, imports and trade balance of Bulgaria by sections of SITC, rev. 4, $in\ the\ period\ January\ -\ May\ 2023^1\ and\ 2024^1$

	E	xports - FOE	3		Imports - C	Trade balance - FOB/CIF		
Sections by SITC	2023	2024	Change	2023	2024	Change	2023	2024
	Million BGN		compared to the same period of the previous year - %	period of the previous		compared to the same period of the previous year - %		Million BGN
Total	36541.4	34145.7	-6.6	40302. 2	39735.9	-1.4	-3760.8	-5590.2
of which: EU	23633.0	22176.3	-6.2	24452. 0	23247.5	-4.9	-819.0	-1071.2
Food and live animals	4473.2	3528.3	-21.1	3370.4	3513.9	4.3	1102.8	14.4
of which: EU	2284.6	1880.3	-17.7	2502.3	2586.6	3.4	-217.7	-706.3
Beverages and tobacco	302.4	283.2	-6.3	665.7	756.2	13.6	-363.3	-473.0
of which: EU	187.7	181.2	-3.5	511.1	603.3	18.0	-323.4	-422.1
Crude materials, inedible (except fuel)	2238.0	1989.4	-11.1	3185.9	3460.5	8.6	-947.9	-1471.1
of which: EU	1377.2	1087.7	-21.0	901.8	920.4	2.1	475.4	167.3
Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials	2711.2	3062.5	13.0	4130.0	4907.8	18.8	-1418.8	-1845.3
of which: EU	680.3	986.7	45.0	669.6	1102.4	64.6	10.7	-115.7
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	748.5	573.4	-23.4	340.5	443.3	30.2	408.0	130.1
of which: EU	337.1	244.8	-27.4	164.5	191.8	16.6	172.6	53.0
Chemical and related products n.e.c.	4002.0	3717.3	-7.1	5650.8	5370.5	-5.0	-1648.8	-1653.2
of which: EU	2524.0	2080.9	-17.6	4241.0	3870.4	-8.7	-1717.0	-1789.5

¹ Data are preliminary as of August 12, 2024.

Table 4

Exports, imports and trade balance of Bulgaria by sections of SITC, rev. 4, in the period January - May 2023^1 and 2024^1

(Continued and end)

	E	xports - FOB		1	imports - CII	Trade balance - FOB/CIF		
	2023	2024	Change	2023	2024	Change	2023	2024
Sections by SITC	Million BGN		compare d to the same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN		compare d to the same period of the previous year - %	Million BGN	
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	7559.6	7707.2	2.0	6722.3	6019.9	-10.4	837.3	1687.3
of which: EU	5610.4	5819.0	3.7	3709.1	3102.6	-16.4	1901.3	2716.4
Machinery and transport equipment	8689.3	8012.1	-7.8	12644.7	11563.4	-8.6	-3955.4	-3551.3
of which: EU	6350.1	5738.7	-9.6	9315.0	8439.2	-9.4	-2964.9	-2700.5
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	5567.3	5220.7	-6.2	3546.0	3517.1	-0.8	2021.3	1703.6
of which: EU	4260.2	4140.8	-2.8	2397.8	2302.2	-4.0	1862.4	1838.6
Commodities and transactions n.e.c.	249.9	51.6	-79.4	45.9	183.3	299.3	204.0	-131.7
of which: EU	21.4	16.2	-24.3	39.8	128.6	223.1	-18.4	-112.4

 $^{^{\}rm 1}\,\text{Data}$ are preliminary as of August 12, 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.