

Methodological notes of cross border movements of goods

Cross border movements of goods reflects only physical movements of goods across the border regardless of whether the trade between the Czech and foreign entities occurs. These data are internationally comparable and can be used as indicators of development of value of the trade.

The source of data on cross border movements of goods is information collected by customs authorities. Starting from processing of the January 2004 data, data collection and the first check are carried out by the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic, whereas the Czech Statistical Office is in charge of further data processing, checks and publishing.

Statistics on cross border movements of goods is made up of the sum of intra-Community trade (trade with the EU Member States) and trade with non-EU countries. Data on goods traded among EU Member States are supplied by reporting units to the customs office on the Intrastat forms, with information on dispatches of goods or arrivals of goods. Data on imported and exported goods in trade with non-EU countries are given in a Single Administrative Document. The Intrastat data processing includes mathematical and statistical imputations, which compensate for information lost due to non-response and introduction of statistical thresholds.

In compliance with the binding regulations of the EU, the measurement of data on exports and imports is governed by Customs law No 242/2016 Coll., as amended. Intrastat is governed by Government regulation No 244/2016 Coll., implementing several provisions of Customs Act in the scope of statistics, as amended; and by Act No 235/2004 Coll., on Value Added Tax, as amended.

Data on exports are compiled by country of destination and data on imports are compiled by country of origin.

Statistics on cross border movements of goods is published in FOB (Free On Board) values for exports and CIF (Cost, Insurance and Freight) values for imports. **The FOB value of exports** refers to the value of goods plus direct trading costs associated with transport to the country border of the CR (the statistical value) irrespectively who is reimbursing the costs. **The CIF value of imports** refers to value of goods plus external direct trading costs associated with transport to the country border of the CR (the statistical value).

Beware of the terminology change:

Since 2020, the Czech Statistical Office has changed the terminology and the manner in which data is presented. The external trade is now referred to as international trade. The data based on the change of ownership between residents and non-residents (formerly called the 'national concept of external trade'), is now referred to as 'international trade in goods (change of ownership)'. **The 'cross-border concept of external trade' is now referred to as Cross-border movements of goods.**

Further information: <https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/changes-in-international-trade-statistics>.

Starting from the publishing data for February 2020 (on 6 April 2020), the method of updating data for the international trade in goods (change of ownership) as well as for the cross-border movements of goods has been changed. When data for the reference month is published, six previous months are updated. All months with preliminary data are updated when data for January, March and July is published. Final data shall be published always in September of the following year.

The data for individual months of 2018 are final. The data for individual months of 2019 and 2020 are preliminary.

Casual differences on the last digit position arise from rounding off the absolute number.

EU27_2020 (European Union) - member states of the European Union from 1 February 2020:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden

Eurozone19 (Euro area – monetary union of 19 European Union member states):

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain

Neighbouring countries:

Austria, Germany, Poland, Slovakia