April 6, 2016

## External trade – February 2016

**In February 2016, according to preliminary data of ‘national concept' in current prices, the trade balance ended in a surplus of CZK 22.0 bn, which was an increase of CZK 4.5 bn, year−on−year (y−o−y).**

**Year−on−year,** total balance in 'national concept' was favourably influenced mainly by growth of the trade surplus in 'machinery and transport equipment' (by CZK 6.3 bn) and a decrease of deficit in 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials' (by CZK 3.2 bn) and 'beverages and tobacco' (by CZK 0.8 bn).  Total balance was unfavourably affected by a y−o−y deepening of deficit in 'chemicals and related products' (by CZK 3.8 bn), and 'food and live animals' (by CZK 0.9 bn) and 'crude materials' (by CZK 0.1 bn). Surplus fell in 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (by CZK 0.8 bn); and balance deteriorated in 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (by CZK 0.4 bn) as a surplus turned into a deficit.

The trade balance with EU28 Member States ended in a surplus of CZK 54.5 bn, which was by CZK 2.0 bn more, y−o−y. Deficit of trade with non-EU countries decreased by CZK 2.8 bn to amount to CZK 30.6 bn.

**Month-on-month**, seasonally adjusted exports and imports in ‘national concept’ rose by 0.8% and 2.8 % respectively. The development trend shows increasing exports (+0.7%) and imports (+1.6%).

**Year−on−year,** 'national concept' exports grew by 5.0% (to CZK 284.0 bn) and imports by 3.5% (to CZK 262.0 bn).

In **January−February 2016,** trade surplus in national concept reached CZK 47.1 bn which represented a y−o−y increase of CZK 10.9 bn. From the beginning of the year exports and imports went up by 3.5% and 1.6% respectively, y−o−y.

Detailed information on external trade in national concept is available on website: <https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/vzonu_ts>. Preliminary data are based on the cross-border trade of residents and estimates of internal trade between residents and non-residents. These estimates will be updated next month.

**In February 2016, according to preliminary data of ‘cross-border concept’ in current prices, exports and imports grew by 7.3% and by 6.6% respectively, y−o−y.**

**Y-o-y**, exports and imports in terms of euro increased by 9.5% and 8.8% respectively. In terms of US dollars exports and imports were higher by 7.0% and by 6.4% respectively.

Total exports of goods in ‘cross-border concept’ (goods leaving the Czech Republic territory) amounted to value of CZK 331.5 bn and total imports in ‘cross-border concept’ (goods entering the Czech Republic territory) reached CZK 289.3 bn.

Total 'machinery and transport equipment' exports grew by 10.1% (CZK +17.3 bn), y−o−y. Exports grew mainly in 'road vehicles' (CZK +10.0 bn), 'electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances' (CZK +3.7 bn) and 'general industrial machinery and equipment' (CZK +2.6 bn). Total 'machinery and transport equipment' imports increased by 9.2% (CZK +11.1 bn), y−o−y. Imports were higher mainly in 'road vehicles' (CZK +3.9 bn), 'electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances' (CZK +3.1 bn) and 'office machines, automatic data-processing machines' (CZK +2.0 bn). Imports of 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials’ dropped by 30.5% (CZK −5.2 bn), y−o−y. Imports of crude petroleum decreased (by 45.1%) in value and (by 11.1%) in volume. Imports of natural gas were lower (by 21.2%) in value and higher (by 3.4%) in volume.

In **January−February 2016,** exports and imports in cross-border concept grew by 7.0% and 3.0% respectively.

Detailed information on external trade in ‘cross-border concept’ is available on website: <https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/vzoph_ts>.

Notes:

*Exports and imports in ‘national concept’ are derived from adjustments of data on movement of goods across the border (‘cross-border concept’). Goods which are moved in/from the territory of the Czech Republic by foreign entities are excluded and, on the other hand goods traded between the Czech and foreign entities on the territory of the Czech Republic are taken into account. Table 5 on website:* [*https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/vzonu\_ts*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/vzonu_ts) *shows this adjustment.*

The both concepts of external trade include the value of goods sent for inward or outward processing. Goods sent for processing are excluded from the value of exports and imports in the balance of payments and in the national accounts according to ESA and BPM6.

The data in national concept are used as an input data source for the balance of the payments and the national accounts.

*The published data are based on data obtained of* *98.5% of companies (for goods dispatched) and 98.6% of companies (for goods arrived) obliged to report to the Intrastat system.* *Data for companies that failed to report (non-response) have been imputed according to dispatches and arrivals that these companies reported in the previous periods. Data for companies exempted from the reporting duty were estimated on the basis of the data given in the VAT return forms. The VAT data which are not available are extrapolated on the basis of the values in previous periods.*

*Data of 2015 and 2016 are preliminary. Data of the reference month are released together with updated data of the previous three months in cross-border concept and with updated data of the last finished quarter and individual months of the reference quarter in national concept. All data are processed from basic reporting units and subsequently rounded.*

Detailed methodology information is available on website of the CZSO:

***National concept:***

[*https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/2-vzonu\_m*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/2-vzonu_m)

***Cross-border concept:***

[*https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/whatisexternal\_trade*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/whatisexternal_trade)

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*Method of data collection: Intrastat forms and Single administrative documents.*

 *Value Added Tax declaration forms*

*End of data collection: 20th working day after the end of the reference month*

*Documents available on the CZSO website: w-241013-16 External Trade of the Czech Republic –detailed breakdown (periodicity: monthly):* [*https://www.czso.cz/current-product/41320*](https://www.czso.cz/current-product/41320)

*External Trade Database:* [*http://apl.czso.cz/pll/stazo/STAZO.STAZO?jazyk=EN*](http://apl.czso.cz/pll/stazo/STAZO.STAZO?jazyk=EN)

*Next News Release: May 9, 2016*

**This press release was not edited for language.**