

**Embargo until 1200 hours,  
Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

## **MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS**

### **TRADE PERFORMANCE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2017 AND THE PERIOD OF JANUARY- JULY 2017 #**

#### ***Trade Breached One Trillion Mark in the First Seven Months of 2017***

**Malaysia's total trade surpassed the one trillion mark in January-July 2017**, with a value of RM1.008 trillion, expanding by 22.7% from the corresponding period in 2016. This was the fastest period trade breached the one trillion mark, two months earlier than the normal trend. Expansion was supported mainly by trade with ASEAN, China, the United States of America (USA), the European Union (EU), Japan, India and Taiwan. Exports increased by 22.3% to RM529.68 billion while imports rose by 23% to RM478.71 billion, resulting in a trade surplus of RM50.97 billion.

Exports in July 2017 maintained its steady growth momentum recording a value of RM78.62 billion, rising by 30.9% compared with a year ago. **Exports posted a stronger year-on-year growth than imports for the third straight month.** Imports was higher by 21.8% to RM70.59 billion and total trade expanded by 26.4% to RM149.21 billion. July's trade surplus of RM8.03 billion marked the 237<sup>th</sup> consecutive month of trade surplus since November 1997.

On a month-on-month basis, total trade, exports and imports in July 2017 were higher by 9.5%, 7.6%, and 11.7%, respectively.

## **Export Performance of Major Sectors**

### ***All Major Export Products Registered Increases***

Exports of **manufactured goods** for July 2017 grew by 32.6% year-on-year (y-o-y) to RM64.66 billion and contributed 82.2% to Malaysia's total exports. **This was led by higher exports of all products in the manufacturing sector.** Electrical and electronic (E&E) exports continued to register a double-digit growth for the seventh straight month, increasing by 28.3% or RM6.15 billion in July.

Exports of **mining goods** in July 2017 expanded by 27.5% to RM6.71 billion, accounting for 8.5% of Malaysia's total exports. The higher growth was driven by increased exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG), underpinned by both higher Average Unit Value (AUV) and volume.

Exports of **agriculture goods** increased by 14.8% to RM6.42 billion and constituted 8.2% of Malaysia's total exports. This was steered by higher exports of palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products especially palm oil, as a result of higher AUV and volume.

Major exports in **July 2017** were:

- E&E products valued at RM27.91 billion, constituting 35.5% of total exports, increased by 28.3% from July 2016;
- Petroleum products, RM7.09 billion, 9% of total exports, increased by 76%;
- Chemicals and chemical products, RM5.72 billion, 7.3% of total exports, increased by 18%;
- Palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products, RM4.46 billion, 5.7% of total exports, increased by 13.1%; and
- LNG, RM3.79 billion, 4.8% of total exports, increased by 50.8%.

Compared to June 2017, exports of manufactured and agriculture goods rose by 8.4% and 7.6%, respectively while exports of mining goods contracted by 0.9%.

In the first seven months of 2017, exports of manufactured goods expanded by 20.9% to RM432.79 billion compared with January-July 2016, on account of higher exports of E&E products, petroleum products, chemicals and chemical products, rubber products as well as iron and steel products. Exports of mining goods rose by 31.8% to RM46.23 billion, mainly due to increased exports of LNG and crude petroleum, underpinned by higher AUV and volume. Exports of agriculture goods increased by 22.3% to RM45.41 billion, with higher exports of palm oil and natural rubber, also due to higher AUV and volume.

### **Performance of Major Markets**

#### ***Trade with ASEAN Up by 37% - the Fastest Growth since April 2010***

Trade with ASEAN expanded by 37% y-o-y to RM42.59 billion, accounting for 28.5% of Malaysia's total trade in July 2017. Exports up by 33.8% to RM24.32 billion, while imports rose by 41.3% to RM18.26 billion. **Exports to all ASEAN countries attained double-digit growth**, due to higher exports of petroleum products, E&E products, machinery, equipment and parts, optical and scientific equipment, chemicals and chemical products as well as iron and steel products.

Breakdown of exports to ASEAN countries in July 2017 is as follows:

- Singapore                    RM 12.11 billion, **increased** by 32.3%
- Thailand                     RM 4.68 billion, ↑31.4%
- Indonesia                    RM 2.75 billion, ↑30.7%
- Viet Nam                     RM 2.64 billion, ↑46.4%
- Philippines                 RM 1.40 billion, ↑34.6%
- Myanmar                    RM 439.4 million, ↑56.8%
- Brunei                        RM 201.8 million, ↑38.6%
- Cambodia                    RM 105.6 million, ↑24.2%
- Lao PDR                     RM 4.4 million, ↑19.6%

Exports to **Singapore** surged by RM2.95 billion, contributed largely by higher exports of E&E products. Exports to **Thailand** increased by RM1.12 billion, owing to higher exports of crude petroleum. After three consecutive months of decline, exports to **Viet**

**Nam** rebounded by RM837 million due to higher uptake of petroleum products and E&E products.

On a month-on-month basis, total trade, exports and imports rose by 17.3%, 19.4% and 14.7%, respectively.

In January-July 2017, trade with ASEAN soared by 23.6% to RM276.88 billion and exports expanded by 21.8% to RM156.28 billion from the same period of 2016. Higher exports were registered for E&E products, petroleum products, chemicals and chemical products, crude petroleum as well as machinery, equipment and parts. Imports from ASEAN increased by 25.9% to RM120.6 billion.

### ***Exports to China Sustained Double Digit Growth***

In July 2017, trade with China valued at RM23.7 billion, surged by 26.4% compared to July 2016 and constituted 15.9% of Malaysia's total trade. **Exports to China remained sturdy with a double-digit growth for nine consecutive months**, growing by 28.8% to RM9.38 billion in July 2017. This was due to higher exports of E&E products, rubber products, LNG, chemicals and chemical products as well as manufactures of metal. Imports from China increased by 24.8% to RM14.32 billion.

Compared to June 2017, exports declined by 4.2% while total trade and imports were higher by 4.2% and 10.5%, respectively.

Trade with China in January-July 2017 expanded by 27.7% to RM163.02 billion compared with the previous period of 2016. Exports to China surged by 39.4% to RM69.17 billion, due to higher exports of E&E products, petroleum products, rubber products, chemicals and chemical products as well as LNG. Imports from China increased by 20.3% to RM93.85 billion.

### ***Trade with the EU Surged 34.5%***

Malaysia's trade with the EU in July 2017 stood at RM15.75 billion or 10.6% of Malaysia's total trade, an increase of 34.5% from July 2016. **Exports to the EU maintained the strong double-digit growth since the start of the year, expanding by 34.1% to RM8.16 billion.** Major contributors to the expansion were E&E products, petroleum products, palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products, iron and steel products as well as rubber products. Imports grew by 35% to RM7.6 billion.

Among the top 10 EU markets, exports to 9 markets registered increases, with 6 recording double-digit growth, namely, **the Netherlands** (↑47.9%), **Germany** (↑34.4%), **Belgium** (↑69.5%), **the United Kingdom** (↑19.9%), **Poland** (↑82.2%) and **Hungary** (↑23.6%).

On a month-on-month basis, total trade, exports and imports rose by 18.9%, 12.4% and 26.6%, respectively.

In the first seven months of 2017, trade with the EU recorded a growth of 17.2% to RM98.11 billion compared with the corresponding period of 2016. Exports increased by 23.6% to RM54.52 billion while imports grew by 10% to RM43.58 billion. Products that contributed to the increase in exports were E&E products, palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products, iron and steel products, chemicals and chemical products, rubber products as well as optical and scientific equipment.

### ***USA –Manufactured Goods Drove Export Growth***

In July 2017, Malaysia's trade with the USA rose by 20% y-o-y to RM12.59 billion and accounted for 8.4% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports to the USA grew by 14.4% to RM7.26 billion, led by greater exports of manufactured goods. **Exports of manufactured goods increased by 17.1% or RM1.03 billion with higher exports recorded for all sub-sectors** except for transport equipment and jewellery. Imports was higher by 28.7% to RM5.33 billion.

Compared to June 2017, exports increased marginally by 1.3% while total trade and imports contracted by 3% and 8.3%, respectively.

In January-July of 2017, trade with the USA expanded by 20.3% to RM93.77 billion from the same period of 2016. Exports to the USA rose by 11.1% to RM50.54 billion supported by higher shipments of E&E products, rubber products, machinery, equipment and parts, iron and steel products as well as chemicals and chemical products. Imports from the USA surged by 33.1% to RM43.23 billion.

### ***Japan – Double Digit Export Growth in All Key Sectors***

On a year-on-year basis, trade with Japan in July 2017 expanded by 20.6% to RM11.76 billion and accounted for 7.9% of Malaysia's total trade. **The upward trend of exports to Japan continued in July with an expansion of 25.5% to RM6.32 billion, on the back of improvements in all key sectors.** Higher exports were recorded for LNG, E&E products, optical and scientific equipment, iron and steel products, chemicals and chemical products as well as textiles, apparels and footwear. Imports were up by 15.3% to RM5.44 billion.

Total trade, exports and imports were higher by 7.4%, 3.8% and 11.9% respectively, compared to June 2017.

During the first seven months of 2017, trade with Japan amounted to RM80.28 billion, grew by 17.9% from the corresponding period a year ago. Exports to Japan were valued at RM44.03 billion, grew by 22.4% due to higher exports of E&E products, LNG, chemicals and chemical products, crude petroleum, textiles, apparels and footwear as well as petroleum products. Imports from Japan rose by 12.7% to RM36.25 billion.

### ***Trade with FTA Partners***

In July 2017, trade with Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners grew by 27.1% y-o-y to RM95.17 billion and accounted for 63.8% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports to FTA

partners amounted to RM49.76 billion, up by 33.7% while imports totalled RM45.41 billion, higher by 20.6%.

Exports to **Australia** surged by 50.5% to RM2.65 billion, underpinned by higher exports of petroleum products, **the ROK** (↑50.5% to RM2.34 billion, LNG), **India** (↑33.5% to RM3.07 billion, E&E products), **Turkey** (↑50.8% to RM794.7 million, manufactures of metal) and **Pakistan** (↑39.1% to RM503.4 million, palm oil and palm oil-based agriculture products).

Compared to June 2017, total trade, exports and imports increased by 10.2%, 7.8% and 12.9%, respectively.

During January-July of 2017, total trade with FTA partners was valued at RM638.12 billion, grew by 24% and accounted for 63.3% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports amounted to RM335.56 billion, rose by 25.4% and imports totalled RM302.55 billion, expanded by 22.4%. Higher exports were recorded to China, Singapore, Japan, Thailand and Indonesia.

## Imports

In July 2017, imports increased by 21.8% to RM70.59 billion. The three main categories of imports by end use were:

- **Intermediate goods**, valued at RM39.9 billion or 56.5% of total imports, increased by 24.2%, underpinned by increased imports of processed industrial supplies, particularly jewellery;
- **Capital goods**, amounted to RM9.18 billion or 13% of total imports, fell by 16.5%, due mainly to lower imports of capital goods (except transport equipment), particularly ships, boats and floating structures; and

- **Consumption goods**, totalled RM5.99 billion or 8.5% of total imports, increased by 21.8%, as a result of higher imports of processed food and beverages mainly for household consumption especially meat.

During the first seven months of 2017, imports were valued at RM478.71 billion, an increase of 23% from the corresponding period of 2016. **Intermediate goods** were valued at RM278.71 billion, increased by 25.6%, **capital goods** (RM65.78 billion, ↑15.7%) and **consumption goods** (RM40.35 billion, ↑5.1%).

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 i.e. International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions 2010 (IMTS 2010) which is different from 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, Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and can be downloaded through eStatistik at the Department of Statistics, Malaysia’s portal (<https://newss.statistics.gov.my/newss-portalx/ep/epLogin.seam>).*

- + *This media release can be accessed through the portal of 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 July 2017 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 by sectors.*



**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)
<b>2016<sup>f</sup></b>				
January	61,850.8	56,455.2	5,395.6	118,306.0
February	56,716.7	49,365.9	7,350.7	106,082.6
March	66,555.0	55,391.0	11,164.0	121,946.0
April	61,319.2	52,285.6	9,033.6	113,604.8
May	59,990.4	56,772.6	3,217.8	116,763.1
June	66,508.3	60,926.5	5,581.8	127,434.8
<b>July</b>	<b>60,067.3</b>	<b>57,967.6</b>	<b>2,099.7</b>	<b>118,034.9</b>
August	67,667.6	59,044.7	8,622.9	126,712.3
September	68,182.1	60,468.8	7,713.3	128,650.9
October	69,334.2	59,452.0	9,882.2	128,786.3
November	72,971.0	63,857.6	9,113.5	136,828.6
December	75,801.5	66,831.1	8,970.4	142,632.6
<b>2016 (Jan-Dec)<sup>f</sup></b>	<b>786,964.2</b>	<b>698,818.7</b>	<b>88,145.5</b>	<b>1,485,782.8</b>
<b>2017<sup>p</sup></b>				
January	70,269.8	65,529.6	4,740.2	135,799.5
February	71,793.4	63,061.0	8,732.4	134,854.5
March	82,624.8	77,224.6	5,400.2	159,849.4
April	73,871.7	65,213.5	8,658.2	139,085.2
May	79,418.1	73,901.0	5,517.1	153,319.2
June	73,083.1	63,191.4	9,891.7	136,274.4
<b>July</b>	<b>78,621.1</b>	<b>70,591.7</b>	<b>8,029.5</b>	<b>149,212.8</b>
<b>2016 (Jan-Jul)<sup>f</sup></b>	<b>433,007.7</b>	<b>389,164.5</b>	<b>43,843.2</b>	<b>822,172.2</b>
<b>2017 (Jan-Jul)<sup>p</sup></b>	<b>529,682.1</b>	<b>478,712.8</b>	<b>50,969.3</b>	<b>1,008,394.9</b>

Note: Total may not add up due to rounding.

**TABLE 2: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS**

Products	July 2017 <sup>p</sup>	June 2017 <sup>p</sup>	July 2016 <sup>f</sup>
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>78,621.1</b>	<b>73,083.1</b>	<b>60,067.3</b>
Electrical & Electronic Products	27,906.0	27,965.8	21,752.3
Petroleum Products	7,092.7	4,701.0	4,029.2
Chemicals & Chemical Products	5,716.2	5,162.4	4,845.8
Palm Oil & Palm Oil-Based Agriculture Products	4,460.6	4,251.1	3,944.5
LNG	3,793.3	3,978.6	2,515.6
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	3,472.0	3,290.2	2,726.5
Manufactures of Metal	3,036.1	2,793.0	2,247.5
Optical & Scientific Equipment	2,856.4	2,238.5	2,317.8
Rubber Products	2,258.4	2,017.2	1,613.9
Crude Petroleum	2,010.0	1,895.7	2,052.4

**TABLE 3: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS**

Markets	July 2017 <sup>p</sup>	June 2017 <sup>p</sup>	July 2016 <sup>f</sup>
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>78,621.1</b>	<b>73,083.1</b>	<b>60,067.3</b>
Singapore	12,107.8	10,752.2	9,154.4
China	9,382.4	9,789.1	7,283.8
USA	7,262.4	7,165.7	6,349.6
Japan	6,324.9	6,096.2	5,038.8
Thailand	4,679.6	3,849.1	3,561.5
Hong Kong SAR	3,568.1	3,730.9	2,779.7
India	3,071.5	3,114.6	2,301.1
Indonesia	2,747.3	1,898.7	2,101.8
Australia	2,652.0	2,596.1	1,762.0
Viet Nam	2,641.7	2,088.7	1,804.7

**TABLE 4: MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY- JULY)**

Products	Jan-Jul 2017 <sup>p</sup>	Jan-Jul 2016 <sup>f</sup>
	RM Million	RM Million
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>529,682.1</b>	<b>433,007.7</b>
Electrical & Electronic Products	189,517.0	155,886.9
Petroleum Products	43,112.4	29,754.6
Chemicals & Chemical Products	39,147.2	32,987.0
Palm Oil & Palm Oil- Based Agriculture Products	31,113.2	24,821.4
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	24,054.9	22,499.9
LNG	22,958.5	18,047.0
Manufactures of Metal	20,875.4	19,625.9
Optical & Scientific Equipment	18,015.8	16,382.1
Crude Petroleum	16,297.8	11,754.2
Rubber Products	15,441.7	11,291.8

**TABLE 5: MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS (JANUARY- JULY)**

Markets	Jan-Jul 2017 <sup>p</sup>	Jan-Jul 2016 <sup>f</sup>
	RM Million	RM Million
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>529,682.1</b>	<b>433,007.7</b>
Singapore	78,166.0	62,911.7
China	69,170.8	49,624.1
USA	50,541.4	45,472.9
Japan	44,028.6	35,957.5
Thailand	29,168.2	24,931.2
Hong Kong SAR	23,972.8	21,127.7
India	20,489.4	17,450.2
Indonesia	19,354.0	15,310.5
Australia	18,866.3	15,185.5
Viet Nam	15,596.9	13,359.0

**TABLE 6: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS**

Products	July 2017 <sup>p</sup>	June 2017 <sup>p</sup>	July 2016 <sup>f</sup>
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>70,591.7</b>	<b>63,191.4</b>	<b>57,967.6</b>
Electrical & Electronic Products	21,246.3	19,608.9	17,273.5
Petroleum Products	7,734.3	4,782.8	4,097.7
Chemicals & Chemical Products	6,583.3	6,019.7	5,257.5
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	6,518.4	5,975.6	5,588.5
Manufactures of Metal	3,650.4	3,644.9	2,988.2
Transport Equipment	3,257.5	3,128.5	5,955.7
Iron & Steel Products	2,302.3	2,008.6	2,005.3
Optical & Scientific Equipment	2,193.1	2,015.5	1,635.9
Processed Food	1,645.2	1,686.0	1,442.2
Textiles, Apparels & Footwear	1,411.2	1,428.5	1,301.6

**TABLE 7: MAJOR IMPORT SOURCES**

Markets	July 2017 <sup>p</sup>	June 2017 <sup>p</sup>	July 2016 <sup>f</sup>
	RM Million	RM Million	RM Million
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>70,591.7</b>	<b>63,191.4</b>	<b>57,967.6</b>
China	14,320.9	12,958.2	11,473.8
Singapore	8,210.6	6,390.9	5,855.2
Japan	5,438.7	4,861.6	4,716.2
USA	5,332.1	5,816.3	4,142.5
Taiwan	4,890.7	4,184.6	3,907.7
Thailand	4,058.8	3,845.6	3,232.5
ROK	3,211.2	2,691.2	5,982.0
Indonesia	2,875.0	2,622.1	1,869.7
Germany	2,349.9	1,904.7	2,059.5
Viet Nam	2,182.4	1,917.3	1,237.4

**TABLE 8: MAJOR IMPORT PRODUCTS (JANUARY- JULY)**

Products	Jan-Jul 2017 <sup>p</sup>	Jan-Jul 2016 <sup>f</sup>
	RM Million	RM Million
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>478,712.8</b>	<b>389,164.5</b>
Electrical & Electronic Products	141,419.7	117,788.1
Chemicals & Chemical Products	45,806.8	39,031.6
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	44,710.0	35,718.0
Petroleum Products	43,469.3	28,399.8
Transport Equipment	24,437.6	24,649.2
Manufactures of Metal	24,094.0	21,543.8
Iron & Steel Products	15,985.1	12,285.6
Optical & Scientific Equipment	14,446.0	12,340.0
Processed Food	12,086.6	10,135.9
Textiles, Apparels & Footwear	10,319.7	10,579.3

**TABLE 9: MAJOR IMPORT SOURCES (JANUARY- JULY)**

Markets	Jan-Jul 2017 <sup>p</sup>	Jan-Jul 2016 <sup>f</sup>
	RM Million	RM Million
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>478,712.8</b>	<b>389,164.5</b>
China	93,851.2	78,000.8
Singapore	48,892.0	41,137.2
USA	43,232.8	32,477.4
Japan	36,248.4	32,154.9
Taiwan	30,388.3	22,759.7
Thailand	27,978.6	23,995.7
Indonesia	22,519.5	16,044.0
ROK	20,991.0	21,503.7
India	14,947.2	8,398.0
Germany	14,623.2	13,637.8

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia  
 Tabulated By: MATRADE

Notes:

f - final data

p - provisional data

**CHART 1: MALAYSIA'S MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE PERFORMANCE, 2011-2017**

