

10 May 2018

International Trade Statistics March 2018

Exports decreased by 5.7% and imports increased by 0.1% respectively, in nominal terms

In **March 2018**, exports of goods recorded a -5.7% year-on-year nominal rate of change, contrary to the growth registered in the preceding month (+5.8%). Imports of goods increased by 0.1%, corresponding to a deceleration visà-vis the +8.1% rate of change recorded in February 2018. These evolutions partly reflect a calendar effect given that there were two less working days in March 2018 compared with March 2017.

The deficit of trade balance amounted to EUR 1,207 million in **March 2018**, i.e. increasing by EUR 306 million when compared with March 2017. Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, the trade balance stood at EUR -915 million, corresponding to an increase of EUR 231 million in the trade deficit compared with March 2017.

In the **1**st **quarter 2018**, exports and imports of goods grew by 2.7% and 6.3% respectively, vis-à-vis the same period a year earlier.

Besides the usual information, this press release includes a detailed analysis of the 2017 results (only available in Portuguese), including the dynamism of Portuguese exports and imports in comparison to the global performance of the main partners (Spain, Germany and France), benefiting from the recent availability of additional data on these countries.

GLOBAL RESULTS

In March 2018, as regards year-on-year rates of change, exports decreased by 5.7% (+5.8% in February 2018), mostly due to the 19.3% decrease in Extra-EU trade (-6.2% in February 2018). Imports increased by 0.1% (+8.1% in February 2018), due to the performance of Intra-EU trade which grew by 0.2% (+8.9% in February 2018), given that Extra-EU imports decreased by 0.2% (+5.5% in February 2018). These evolutions partly reflect a calendar effect: March 2018 had two less working days than March 2017.

Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, in year-on-year terms, **in March 2018** exports decreased by 5.6% and imports declined by 0.8% (+7.2% and +8.9% in February 2018, respectively).

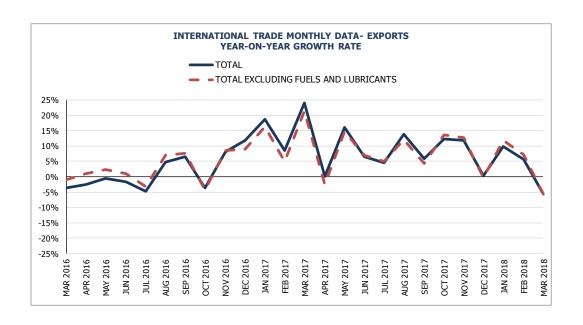
In March 2018, vis-à-vis the preceding month, exports increased by 7.3% and imports grew by 9.9%, mainly due to the performance of Intra-EU trade in both flows.

In the 1st quarter 2018, exports and imports grew by 2.7% and 6.3%, respectively, vis-à-vis the 1st quarter 2017 (+5.4% and +6.2%, in the same order, in the quarter ended in February 2018).





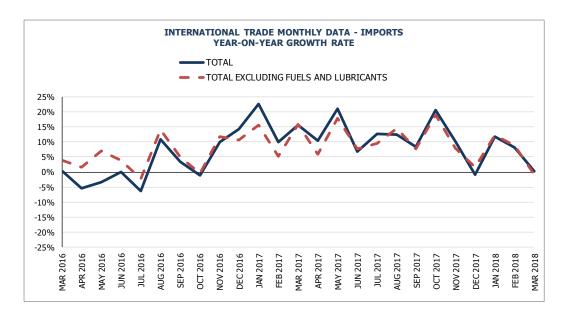
EXPORTS								
			TOTAL		TOTAL	EXCLUDING F LUBRICANT		TOTAL QUARTER ENDED IN:
YEAR	MONTH		GROWTH	RATE (%)		GROWTH	RATE (%)	GROWTH RATE (%)
		€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	Year-on-year
2016	MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	4,224 4,115 4,197 4,463 4,463 3,463 4,392 4,327 4,664 4,063	-3.7 -2.6 -0.6 -1.7 -4.8 4.8 6.5 -3.8 8.1 11.8	5.3 -2.6 2.0 6.3 0.0 -22.4 26.8 -1.5 7.8 -12.9	4,042 3,918 3,963 4,179 4,193 3,210 4,143 4,018 4,388 3,720	-1.0 1.0 2.4 1.0 -3.3 7.0 7.7 -4.4 8.5 9.0	5.8 -3.1 1.1 5.4 0.4 -23.4 29.1 -3.0 9.2 -15.2	-1.6 -1.6 -2.3 -1.6 -2.4 -1.1 1.7 2.2 3.5 4.9
2017	JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	4,344 4,356 5,241 4,122 4,873 4,751 4,662 3,944 4,651 4,865 5,213 4,074	10.1 18.8 8.6 24.1 0.2 16.1 6.5 4.5 13.9 5.9 12.4 11.8 0.3	6.9 0.3 20.3 -21.3 18.2 -2.5 -1.9 -15.4 17.9 4.6 7.2 -21.9	3,999 4,012 4,905 3,817 4,549 4,472 4,402 3,596 4,322 4,566 4,945 3,708	9.1 16.3 5.1 21.4 -2.6 14.8 7.0 5.0 12.0 4.3 13.7 12.7 -0.3	7.5 0.3 22.3 -22.2 19.2 -1.7 -1.6 -18.3 20.2 5.7 8.3 -25.0	12.6 12.9 17.2 11.1 13.6 7.6 8.9 7.8 7.6 10.5 10.1
2018	January February March	4,771 4,607 4,944	9.8 5.8 -5.7	17.1 -3.4 7.3	4,475 4,298 4,629	11.9 7.2 -5.6	20.7 -4.0 7.7	7.6 5.4 2.7







IMPORTS								
		TOTAL			TOTAL	EXCLUDING F		TOTAL QUARTER ENDED IN:
YEAR	MONTH		GROWTH	RATE (%)		GROWTH	RATE (%)	GROWTH RATE (%)
		€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	Year-on-year
2016	MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	5,314 4,903 5,185 5,423 5,097 4,692 5,421 5,269 5,530 5,527	0.2 -5.4 -3.4 -0.1 -6.3 10.8 3.5 -1.1 9.9 14.2	13.0 -7.7 5.7 4.6 -6.0 -8.0 15.5 -2.8 4.9 -0.1	4,822 4,504 4,741 4,867 4,615 4,071 4,856 4,686 4,994 4,747	3.8 1.6 7.0 3.8 -2.3 14.0 5.1 -0.4 11.7 10.6	11.8 -6.6 5.2 2.7 -5.2 -11.8 19.3 -3.5 6.6 -5.0	0.9 -0.5 -2.8 -2.9 -3.2 0.7 2.0 3.9 4.0 7.4
2017	TOTAL JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	68,963 5,348 5,177 6,142 5,415 6,279 5,792 5,743 5,271 5,873 6,351 6,094 5,479	12.3 22.7 10.0 15.6 10.4 21.1 6.8 12.7 12.4 8.3 20.5 10.2 -0.9	-3.2 -3.2 18.6 -11.8 16.0 -7.8 -0.8 -8.2 11.4 8.1 -4.1	4,610 4,540 5,588 4,770 5,592 5,240 5,051 4,661 5,231 5,580 5,386 4,818	10.6 15.6 5.2 15.9 5.9 18.0 7.6 9.5 14.5 7.7 19.1 7.9 1.5	-2.9 -1.5 23.1 -14.6 17.2 -6.3 -3.6 -7.7 12.2 6.7 -3.5 -10.6	15.3 15.5 15.9 12.1 15.8 12.7 13.4 10.5 11.0 13.7 12.9 9.8
2018	January February March	5,976 5,598 6,151	11.8 8.1 0.1	9.1 -6.3 9.9	5,176 4,942 5,544	12.3 8.9 -0.8	7.4 -4.5 12.2	7.0 6.2 6.3



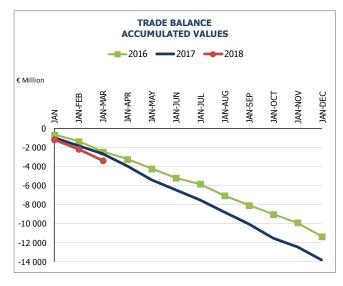


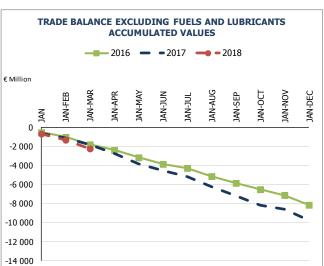


In March 2018, the **deficit of trade balance** amounted to EUR 1,207 million, which stood for an increase of EUR 306 million compared with March 2017.

Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, **in March 2018**, trade balance stood at EUR -915 million, corresponding to a EUR 231 million increase in the trade deficit compared with March 2017.

TRADE BALANCE								
			TOTAL		TOTAL	. EXCLUDING F LUBRICANT		TOTAL QUARTER ENDED IN:
YEAR	MONTH		GROWTH	(10 ⁶ Eur)		GROWTH	(10 ⁶ Eur)	GROWTH (10 ⁶ Eur)
		€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	€ Million	Year-on- year	Month-to- month	Year-on-year
2016	MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	-1,091 -788 -987 -960 -635 -1,229 -1,028 -942 -866 -1,464	-176 173 154 -72 116 -296 85 -109 -151 -256	-397 302 -199 28 325 -594 200 86 76 -598	-780 -586 -778 -689 -421 -861 -713 -668 -606	-221 -33 -216 -139 -36 -292 61 -162 -179 -146	-285 194 -192 89 267 -439 148 45 62 -421	-319 -128 152 256 198 -252 -95 -320 -175 -517
2017	JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER	-13,866 -1,004 -821 -901 -1,293 -1,405 -1,041 -1,081 -1,327 -1,327 -1,222 -1,486 -880 -1,405	-2,481 -303 -127 190 -504 -418 -81 -446 -98 -194 -544 -14 59	460 182 -79 -392 -113 365 -40 -246 105 -264 606 -525	-9,775 -610 -528 -683 -953 -1,043 -768 -649 -1,065 -909 -1,014 -441 -1,110	-1,602 -61 -33 97 -367 -265 -79 -228 -204 -196 -346 165 -83	416 82 -155 -270 -90 275 119 -416 156 -105 573 -669	-710 -686 -240 -441 -732 -1,003 -945 -625 -738 -836 -752
2018	January February March	-1,206 -991 -1,207	-202 -170 -306	199 215 -216	-701 -644 -915	-91 -115 -231	409 58 -271	-157 -312 -677









BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES

In **March 2018** compared to the same month of 2017, almost all economic categories recorded decreases in **exports**, more so in *Industrial supplies* (-7.2%) and *Consumer goods* (-10.5%). In **imports** the emphasis was on the increase in *Transport equipment* (+10.5%).

EXPORTS BY BEC								
		REFERE	NCE MONTH		QUARTER ENDED IN:			
BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES		€ Million		GROWTH RATE	€ Million			GROWTH RATE
	MAR 2018	MAR 2017	GROWTH	%	MAR 2018	MAR 2017	GROWTH	%
FOOD AND BEVERAGES	487	535	-48	-9.0	1.427	1,364	63	4.6
PRIMARY	144	170	-25	-14.9	419	402	17	4.2
PROCESSED	342	365	-23	-6.3	1,008	962	46	4.8
INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	1,629	1,756	-127	-7.2	4,619	4,576	43	0.9
PRIMARY	135	137	-2	-1.4	392	374	17	4.6
PROCESSED	1,494	1,619	-125	-7.7	4,228	4,202	26	0.6
FUELS AND LUBRICANTS	315	336	-21	-6.3	919	1,026	-106	-10.4
PRIMARY	Ð	Ð	ə	-11.2	1	1	ə	53.7
PROCESSED	315	336	-21	-6.3	918	1,025	-107	-10.4
CAPITAL GOODS, AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF (1)	644	705	-61	-8.7	1,866	1,859	7	0.4
CAPITAL GOODS (1)	409	434	-25	-5.7	1,176	1,128	48	4.2
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	235	271	-36	-13.3	690	730	-40	-5.5
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF	922	847	75	8.9	2,767	2,241	526	23.5
PASSENGER MOTOR CARS	285	176	110	62.3	905	451	455	100.9
OTHER	109	132	-23	-17.2	353	322	31	9.5
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	528	539	-12	-2.1	1,509	1,468	40	2.7
CONSUMER GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	944	1,056	-111	-10.5	2,715	2,864	-149	-5.2
DURABLE	132	139	-8	-5.4	366	363	3	0.8
SEMI-DURABLE	511	539	-27	-5.1	1,525	1,561	-36	-2.3
NON-DURABLE	301	378	-76	-20.2	824	940	-116	-12.4
GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	2	5	-3	-60.5	8	10	-3	-25.8
(1) - EXCEPT TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT								

IMPORTS BY BEC								
	REFERENCE MONTH				QUARTER ENDED IN:			
BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES		€ Million		GROWTH RATE	€ Million			GROWTH RATE
	MAR 2018	MAR 2017	GROWTH	%	MAR 2018	MAR 2017	GROWTH	%
FOOD AND DEVENACES	700	001	24	4.2	2 124	2.000	27	1.2
FOOD AND BEVERAGES PRIMARY	768 333	801 355	-34 -22	-4.2 -6.1	2,124	2,096 895	-12	1.3
PROCESSED	435	355 447	-22 -12	-6.1 -2.7	883 1,241	1,201	-12 40	-1.4 3.3
INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	1,851	1,886	-34	-1.8	5,220	4,921	299	6.1
PRIMARY	175	188	-13	-6.8	503	501	2	0.4
PROCESSED	1,676	1,697	-22	-1.3	4,717	4,420	297	6.7
FUELS AND LUBRICANTS	607	554	53	9.6	2,063	1,930	134	6.9
PRIMARY	455	348	106	30.5	1,627	1,381	246	17.8
PROCESSED	153	205	-53	-25.7	436	549	-113	-20.5
CAPITAL GOODS, AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF (1)	981	988	-8	-0.8	2,800	2,587	213	8.2
CAPITAL GOODS (1)	575	581	-6	-1.0	1,593	1,512	81	5.3
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	406	408	-2	-0.5	1,207	1,074	132	12.3
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF	1,089	986	103	10.5	2,989	2,651	338	12.7
PASSENGER MOTOR CARS	467	459	9	1.9	1,308	1,240	68	5.5
OTHER	149	117	32	27.0	349	282	67	23.8
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	472	410	62	15.2	1,333	1,130	203	18.0
CONSUMER GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	855	926	-71	-7.6	2,528	2,478	50	2.0
DURABLE	147	147	ə	-0.1	428	401	27	6.7
SEMI-DURABLE	336	367	-30	-8.3	1,010	996	14	1.4
NON-DURABLE	372	412	-40	-9.7	1,090	1,081	9	0.8
GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED	ə	1	-1	-75.0	2	4	-2	-54.4
(1) - EXCEPT TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT								





MAIN PARTNER COUNTRIES/SUPPLIERS

In **March 2018**, having in consideration the main destination countries in 2017, the emphasis was on the decreases in **exports** to the United States and Angola compared to the same month of 2017 (corresponding to -20.6% and -27.7%, respectively). Only exports to Germany have increased (+0.9%).

In **March 2018**, as far as the main suppliers in 2017 are concerned, only **imports** from France, Belgium and the Netherlands have increased (+4.9%, +11.2% and +5.4% respectively). On the contrary, imports from Russia presented the largest decrease (-74.8%), essentially due to *Fuels and lubricants*.

EXPORTS BY COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIC ZONES								
		REFERE	NCE MONTH		QUARTER ENDED IN:			
COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIC ZONES	€ Million			GROWTH RATE	€ Million		GROWTH RATE	
	MAR 2018	MAR 2017	GROWTH	%	MAR 2018	MAR 2017	GROWTH	%
MAIN PARTNER COUNTRIES IN 2017:								
ES SPAIN	1,285	1,302	-18	-1.4	3,609	3,592	17	0.5
FR FRANCE	661	662	ð	0.0	1,914	1,760	154	8.7
DE GERMANY	583	578	5	0.9	1,696	1,581	115	7.3
GB UNITED KINGDOM	311	324	-12	-3.8	937	934	3	0.3
US UNITED STATES	241	303	-62	-20.6	682	744	-62	-8.3
NL NETHERLANDS	197	211	-15	-7.0	566	547	18	3.4
IT ITALY	205	208	-3	-1.3	570	512	58	11.3
AO ANGOLA	122	169	-47	-27.7	349	449	-100	-22.4
BE BELGIUM	114	122	-8	-6.5	377	343	34	10.0
MA MOROCCO	54	68	-14	-20.6	240	175	66	37.8
TOTAL EURO ZONE	3,216	3,255	-39	-1.2	9,230	8,742	488	5.6
TOTAL EUROPEAN UNION (28 MEMBERS STATES)	3,828	3,858	-30	-0.8	11,047	10,400	647	6.2
TOTAL EXTRA-EU	1,117	1,383	-267	-19.3	3,276	3,541	-266	-7.5

IMPORTS BY COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIC ZONES									
		REFERE	NCE MONTH		QUARTER ENDED IN:				
COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIC ZONES	€ Million			GROWTH RATE	€ Million			GROWTH RATE	
	MAR 2018	MAR 2017	GROWTH	%	MAR 2018	MAR 2017	GROWTH	%	
MAIN PARTNER COUNTRIES IN 2017:									
ES SPAIN	1,968	1,968	ð	0.0	5,668	5,255	413	7.9	
DE GERMANY	859	864	-4	-0.5	2,472	2,316	155	6.7	
FR FRANCE	501	477	24	4.9	1,412	1,294	118	9.1	
IT ITALY	327	355	-28	-7.9	939	895	44	4.9	
NL NETHERLANDS	335	318	17	5.4	916	878	38	4.3	
GB UNITED KINGDOM	165	175	-10	-5.5	520	475	45	9.5	
CN CHINA	200	180	20	11.2	512	461	51	11.0	
BE BELGIUM	158	179	-21	-11.7	454	487	-33	-6.7	
RU RUSSIA	35	137	-103	-74.8	231	507	-276	-54.4	
BR BRAZIL	116	129	-13	-10.4	286	264	22	8.3	
TOTAL EURO ZONE	4,339	4,315	23	0.5	12,341	11,496	844	7.3	
TOTAL EUROPEAN UNION (28 MEMBERS STATES)	4,806	4,795	11	0.2	13,611	12,738	873	6.9	
TOTAL EXTRA-EU	1,344	1,347	-2	-0.2	4,114	3,929	185	4.7	





ABBREVIATIONS

EU - European Union

CN - Combined Nomenclature, 2016, 2017 and 2018 versions

BEC – Classification by Broad Economic Categories, third revision

CPA - Statistical classification of products by activity, version 2.1

CONVENTIONAL SIGNS

ə - Value less than half the module of the unit used

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- **1.** Definitive results for 2016 are included in this press release and disseminated on Statistics Portugal Portal, as statistical indicators, according to the revisions policy applied to International Trade Statistics.
- 2. International Trade compiles the statistical information about the commercial trade of goods with the European Union (Intra-EU trade) and Third Countries (Extra-EU trade). In terms of Intra-EU trade statistics it includes adjustments for non-responses as well as for enterprises with transactions below the defined exemption thresholds (which exempts from providing statistical data a significant number of enterprises).
- **3.** For simplification purposes, the terms associated to International Trade Statistics are narrowed to "imports" and "exports", however stating which market is being referred to (Intra-EU, Extra-EU and International Trade which includes the former two).
- **4.** In this "Press Release" the following statistical data are used:

2016: Intra-EU trade - January to December definitive results;

Extra-EU trade - January to December definitive results.

2017: Intra-EU trade - January to December preliminary results;

Extra-EU trade - January to December preliminary results.

2018: Intra-EU trade – January to March monthly preliminary results;

Extra-EU trade - January to March monthly preliminary results.

- **5.** Due to rounding of numbers, totals might not correspond to the sum of the indicated parcels.
- **6.** Month-to-month growth rate it compares the level of each variable between two consecutive months. Although being an indicator that allows an up to date follow-up of the evolution of each variable, the value of this variation rate is particularly influenced by seasonal fluctuations effects and from other specific effects in one or both compared months.
- **7.** Year-on-year growth rate it compares the level of each variable between the current period and the same period of the previous year. The evolution of this rate is less biased from seasonal fluctuations. However, it might be influenced by these types of effects when referred to a specific period of time.
- **8.** Revisions: data available in this press release include regular revisions of the previous three months (according to the Revisions Policy applicable for the International Trade in Goods statistics) due to the replacement of estimations by new data from the enterprises and, in a lesser dimension, due to the corrections in data made by the reporting enterprises. The following table shows the impact of those revisions in the year-on-year growth rate (three months) disseminated in the previous press release:

YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE - DECEMBER 2017 TO FEBRUARY 2018							
	PREVIOUS PUBLICATION	CURRENT PUBLICATION					
EXPORTS	5.6	5.4					
IMPORTS	6.8	6.2					



- **9.** The BEC nomenclature Classification by Broad Economic Categories doesn't include the *Gold for monetary use* (CN 71082000) and *Coins, including coins with legal tender (except medals, coins mounted in objects of personal adornment coins with character collectibles with numismatic value, waste and scrap) (CN 71189000). The sum of the various categories of the BEC may not match with total trade, due to these exclusions and also for confidentiality reasons.*
- 10. Unit Value Indices for International Trade in Goods

The monthly unit value indices for March 2018 can be consulted within two working days on Statistics Portugal Portal through the following links:

- Monthly unit value indices of exports (Month-on-month growth rate, price %)
- Monthly unit value indices of exports (Month-on-month growth rate, value %)
- Monthly unit value indices of exports (Month-on-month growth rate, volume %)
- Monthly unit value indices of imports (Month-on-month growth rate, price %)
- Monthly unit value indices of imports (Month-on-month growth rate, value %)
- Monthly unit value indices of imports (Month-on-month growth rate, volume %)

The starting Universe corresponds to International Trade in Goods, set on a 40 days basis for the reference month, with the most up to date results at that moment for both periods (month and month-on-month). Definitive results for 2014 and 2015 and preliminary results for 2016 to 2017 are used for the calculation of Quarterly Indices.

The monthly indices are consistent with the quarterly indices (40 days), by applying the Chow-Lin method.

For the purposes of calculating the Unit Value Indices, there are some exclusions in International Trade to be considered, with a low significance in total values, namely transactions with a statistical value lesser than EUR 1 000 and according to the number of observations by enterprise/Economic Area/CN8, Chapters 98 and 99 of the CN and records with a net mass of less than 0.5 kg. However, the representativeness of the sample in each product group is guaranteed, reaching a total coverage of more than 80%.

The unit value indices are calculated at the most detailed level of information (CN8, around 9 500 codes), and aggregated as *Paasche* indices (price) by CPA (Statistical Classification of Products by Activity) for the quarterly indices. Monthly indices are disseminated only for total and total excluding petroleum products. They indicate the change over the same period of the previous year. It is also important to mention that these indices correspond to unit value indices rather than real effective price indices, thus reflecting apart from the changes in prices, also the changes in the composition and in the quality of the goods considered at the most detailed level of information.

The dissemination of the quarterly indices is ensured in the usual International Trade Statistics press release, according to the following calendar:

REFERENCE	DISSEMINATION DATE	MONTHLY INDICES	QUARTERLY INDICES				
PERIOD	INTERNATIONAL TRADE (40 DAYS)	INDICATORS (+2 WORK DAYS)	INDICATORS	REFERENCE QUARTER			
JANUARY	12-03-2018	14-03-2018					
FEBRUARY	09-04-2018	11-04-2018		4 th QUARTER/17			
MARCH	10-05-2018	14-05-2018					
APRIL	08-06-2018	12-06-2018	08-06-2018	1 st QUARTER/18			
MAY	10-07-2018	12-07-2018					
JUNE	09-08-2018	13-08-2018					
JULY	10-09-2018	12-09-2018	10-09-2018	2 nd QUARTER/18			
AUGUST	10-10-2018	12-10-2018					
SEPTEMBER	09-11-2018	13-11-2018					
OCTOBER	10-12-2018	12-12-2018	10-12-2018	3 rd QUARTER/18			

The monthly indices related to the period 2012-2018 are available as statistical indicators on Statistics Portugal Portal, with data available for the total and total excluding petroleum products, including the corresponding value and volume indices.