



MEDIA STATEMENT

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

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MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS SEPTEMBER 2025

***Malaysia's trade rebounded in September 2025 to RM257.5 billion,
supported by stronger exports (+12.2%) and imports (+7.3%)***

PUTRAJAYA, 17 OCTOBER 2025 – Malaysia's trade performance rebounded in September 2025, with total trade rising by 9.8 per cent to RM257.5 billion from RM234.4 billion in September 2024. The improvement was mainly driven by double-digit export growth (+12.2%) to RM138.7 billion and a 7.3 per cent increase in imports to RM118.8 billion. Additionally, the trade surplus widened by 54.7 per cent, from RM12.8 billion to RM19.9 billion in September 2025 as reported in the **MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS BULETIN, SEPTEMBER 2025** released today. This bulletin also presents the performance of export and import products with its trading partners.

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin highlighted Malaysia's exports increased in September 2025 in line with the rise in re-exports and domestic exports. Re-exports making up 24.9 per cent of total exports and jumped 46.1 per cent year-on-year to RM34.5 billion, while domestic exports accounted for 75.1 per cent and rose to RM104.2 billion. Similarly, imports also increased to RM118.8 billion, reflecting a rise of 7.3 per cent. Trade surplus ballooned by 54.7 per cent to RM19.9 billion, marking the 65th consecutive month of surplus

since May 2020. Compared with August 2025, exports, imports, total trade and trade surplus recorded an increase of 5.6 per cent, 2.9 per cent, 4.3 per cent and 25.3 per cent, respectively.

Disaggregated by commodity groups perspective, 142 out of 260 export groups and 135 out of 256 import groups showed an increase as compared to the same month of the previous year.

Chief Statistician Malaysia further explained higher exports were primarily driven by increased of exports goods to Singapore (+RM5.1 billion), followed by the United States (+RM3.9 billion), the European Union (+RM2.0 billion), Mexico (+RM1.4 billion), Viet Nam (+RM1.0 billion), India (+RM1.0 billion) and Thailand (+RM643.6 million). Moreover, the uplift in imports was mainly attributed to stronger inflows from China (+RM9.9 billion), followed by Taiwan (+RM4.1 billion), Oman (+RM1.9 billion), the United Arab Emirates (+RM1.5 billion), Viet Nam (+728.8 million), Australia (+RM585.9 million) and Russian Federation (+RM272.0 million).

Further commenting on exports, the increase was primarily driven by higher shipments of E&E products (+RM10.6 billion); metalliferous ores & metal scrap (+RM988.8 million); machinery, equipment & parts (+RM813.9 million); other manufactures (+RM809.8 million); optical & scientific equipment (+RM809.0 million); and palm oil-based manufactured products (+RM768.5 million). On top of that, the import uptick was driven by heightened inflows of E&E products (+RM4.9 billion); crude petroleum (+RM1.8 billion); machinery, equipment & parts (+RM973.0 million); other manufactures (+RM961.1 million); transport equipment (+RM666.3 million); and palm oil & palm-based agriculture products (+RM614.5 million).

To that end, the Chief Statistician Malaysia also underscored that the upswing in imports by End Use reflected higher demand for capital goods and consumption goods. Capital goods (15.6% of total imports) rose 9.3 per cent or RM1.6 billion to reach RM18.5 billion. Imports of consumption goods (7.8% of total imports) expanded by 5.1 per cent or RM445.2 million, amounting to RM9.3 billion compared to September 2024. However, imports of intermediate goods (45.7% of total imports) contracted by 7.6 per cent or RM4.4 billion, settling at RM54.2 billion.

Malaysia's total trade reached RM2.2 trillion for the January to September 2025 period, marking a year-on-year increase of 4.4 per cent. The growth was supported by stronger export performance (+4.8%) and a 4.0 per cent rise in imports. The trade surplus also expanded, rising 13.6 per cent to RM105.7 billion compared to the same period in 2024.

Performance for the third quarter of 2025, total trade, exports and trade surplus experienced an increase as compared to the same period last year. The encouraging economic performance led to a 2.8 per cent rise in total trade, in line with the increase in exports (+7.4%) and trade surplus (+252.0%). On the other hand, imports amounted to RM359.8 billion, a decrease of 2.1 per cent as compared to the same period in 2024.

ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Malaysia, for the first time, ranked as number one (1) globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW),

surpassing 197 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20th as National Statistics Day (MyStats Day), with the theme 'Statistics is the Essence of Life'. Meanwhile, the Fourth World Statistics Day will be celebrated on 20th October 2025, with the theme 'Driving Change with Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone'.

OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

Chart 1: External Trade Statistics, Jan 2024 – Sep 2025 (Value)

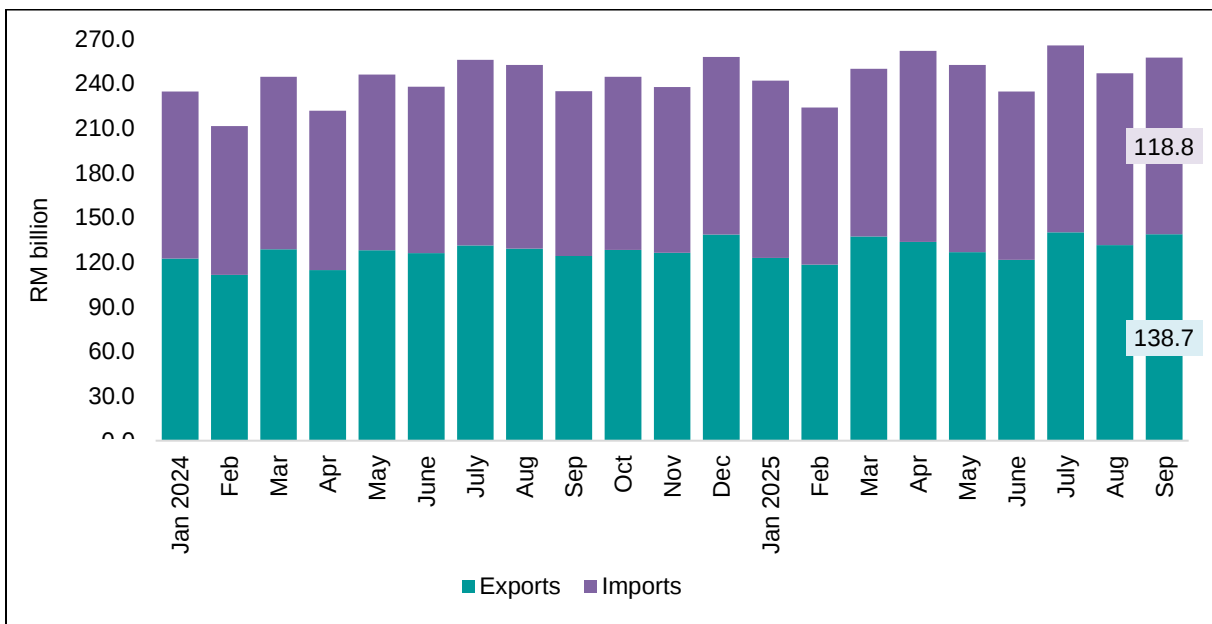


Chart 2: External Trade Statistics, Jan 2024 – Sep 2025
(Annual Percentage Change)

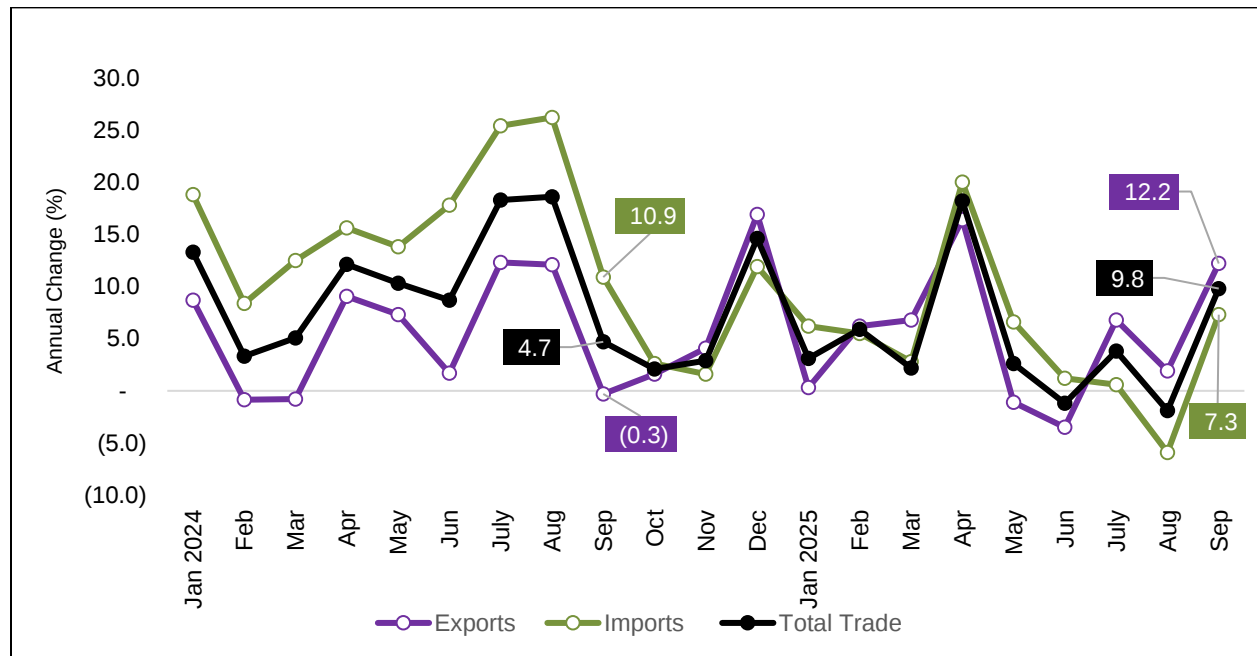
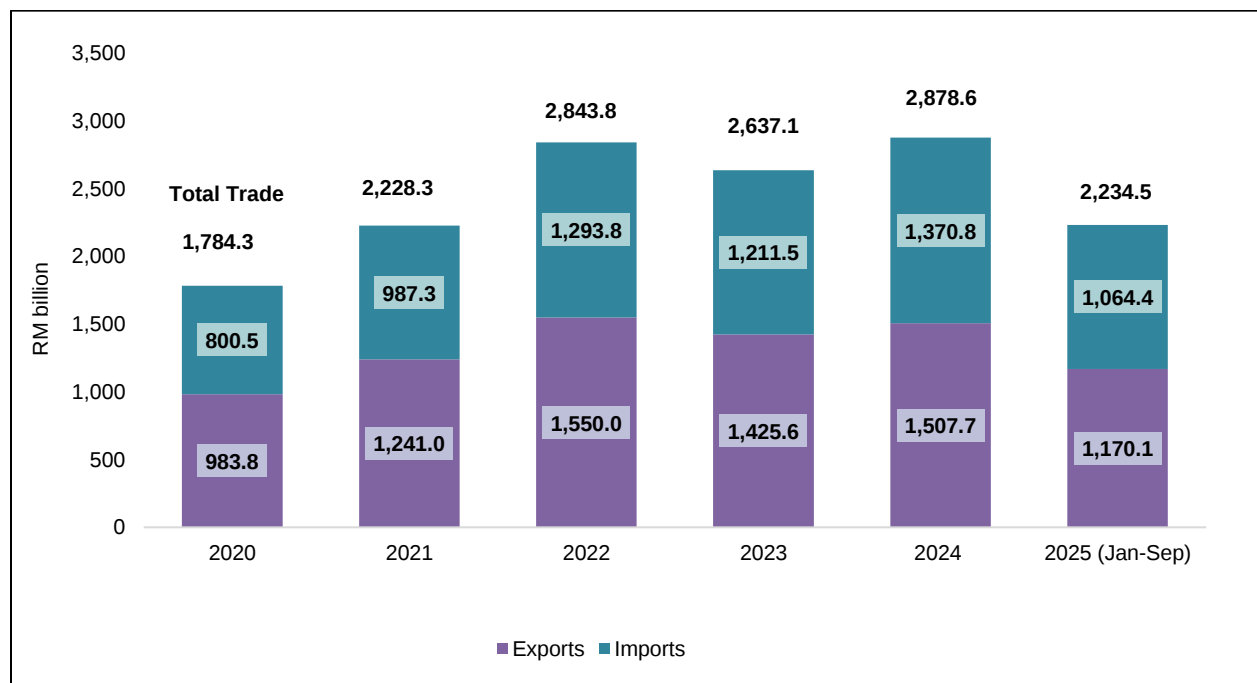
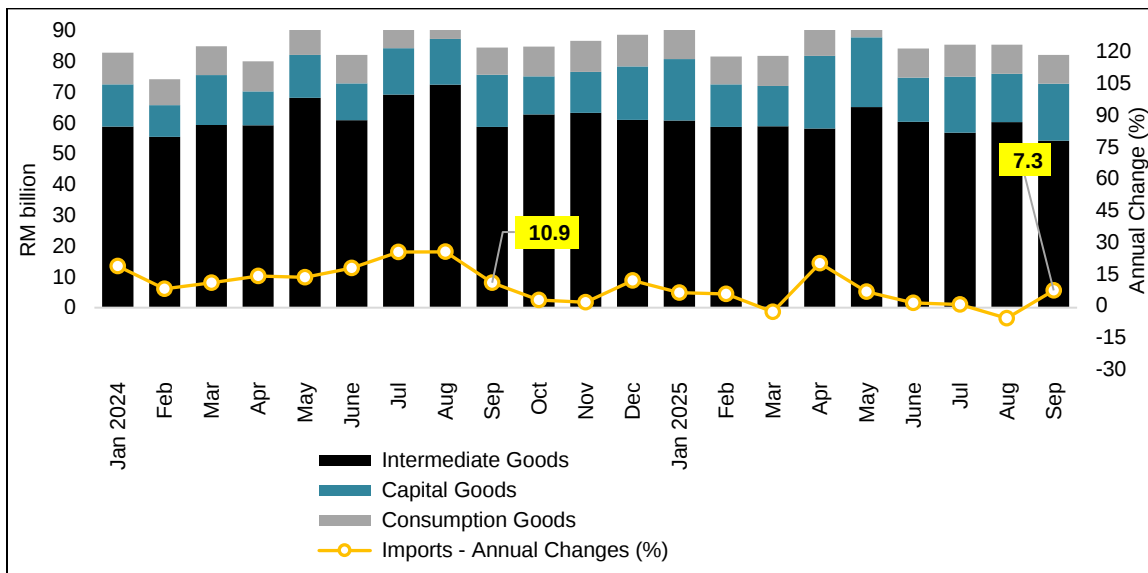


Chart 3: External Trade Statistics, 2020 – 2025 (Jan – Sep)



*Chart 4: Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification,
Jan 2024 – Sep 2025
(Value and Annual Percentage Change)*



*Chart 5: Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification,
2020 – 2025 (Jan – Sep)*

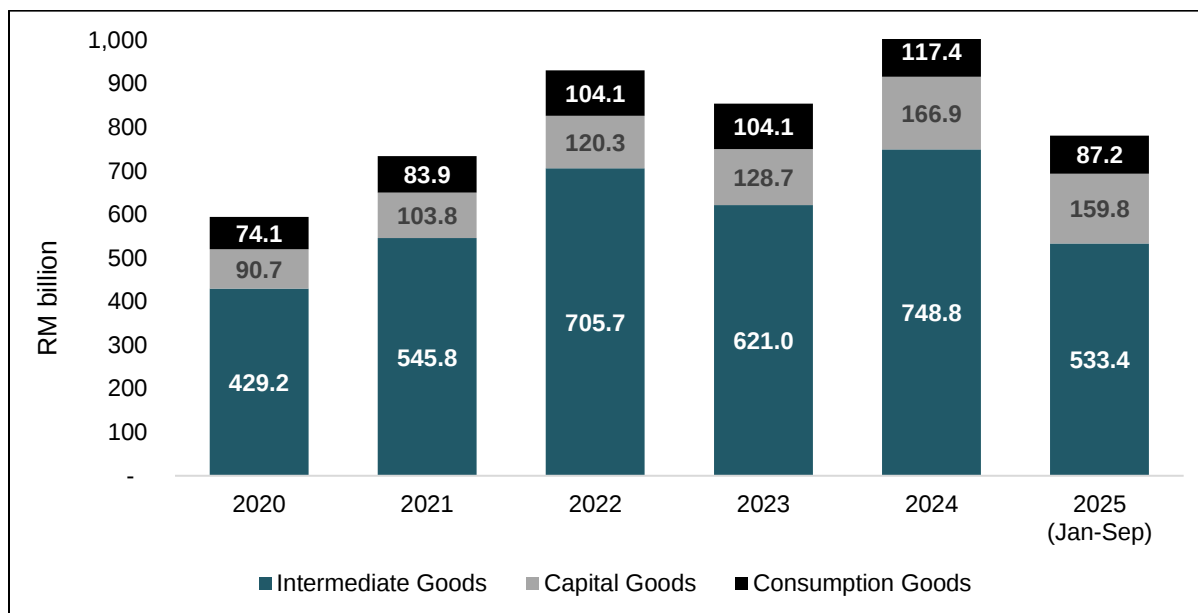


Table 1: Major Sub-sector Contributing to Export

COMMODITY DESCRIPTION	2024	2025	2025	SHARE TO TOTAL %	Y.O.Y	
	SEPTEMBER RM MIL.	AUGUST RM MIL.	SEPTEMBER RM MIL.		VALUE RM MIL.	%
Total	123,630	131,318	138,681	100.0	15,051	12.2
<i>Electrical & Electronic Products (E&E)</i>	54,499	55,534	65,144	47.0	10,645	19.5
<i>Petroleum Products</i>	8,188	9,096	8,747	6.3	559.2	6.8
<i>Palm Oil & Palm-Based Agriculture Products</i>	6,863	7,322	7,450	5.4	587.6	8.6
<i>Machinery, Equipment & Parts</i>	5,529	6,753	6,343	4.6	813.9	14.7
<i>Optical & Scientific Equipment</i>	4,856	6,086	5,665	4.1	809.0	16.7

Table 2: Major Sub-sector Contributing to Import

COMMODITY DESCRIPTION	2024	2025	2025	SHARE TO TOTAL %	Y.O.Y	
	SEPTEMBER RM MIL.	AUGUST RM MIL.	SEPTEMBER RM IML.		VALUE RM MIL.	%
Total	110,790	115,469	118,824	100.0	8,034	7.3
<i>Electrical & Electronic Products (E&E)</i>	40,775	42,904	45,706	38.5	4,932	12.1
<i>Machinery, Equipment & Parts</i>	8,735	9,887	9,708	8.2	973.0	11.1
<i>Petroleum Products</i>	10,284	8,276	8,018	6.7	(2,266)	(22.0)
<i>Chemical & Chemical Products</i>	7,947	8,223	7,503	6.3	(444.5)	(5.6)
<i>Crude Petroleum</i>	4,864	3,589	6,664	5.6	1,799	37.0

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

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