



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

**MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS, MALAYSIA
DECEMBER 2025**

Malaysia ends 2025 with December's exports reaching a highest record RM153.0 billion of the year

PUTRAJAYA, JANUARY 20, 2026 – Malaysia ended 2025 on a strong footing, recording double-digit growth in both exports and imports and reflecting a firmer economic base. Malaysia's total trade in 2025 surged from RM2.9 trillion in 2024 to RM3.1 trillion, the highest ever recorded. This performance was driven by a double-digit growth in December 2025 with exports by 10.4 per cent or RM14.3 billion and imports by 12.0 per cent, reaching RM133.7 billion. Moreover, trade balance rose marginally by 0.1 per cent to RM19.3 billion in December 2025 as reported in the **MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS BULETIN, DECEMBER 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 rose in December 2025 reflecting a corresponding increase in re-exports and domestic exports. Re-exports accounted for 25.0 per cent of total exports and increased by 35.0 per cent year-on-year to RM38.2 billion. Meanwhile, domestic exports which contributed to 75.0 per cent, with growth 4.0 per cent to RM114.8 billion. Similarly, imports also gained to RM133.7 billion, reflecting a rise of 12.0 per cent. Trade surplus rose marginally by 0.1 per cent to RM19.3 billion, marking the 68th consecutive month of surplus since May 2020. Compared with November 2025, exports, imports, total trade and trade surplus recorded an increase of 13.4 per cent, 3.7 per cent, 8.7 per cent and 216.8 per cent, respectively.

Disaggregated by commodity groups perspective, 144 out of 258 export groups and 138 out of 259 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 the United States (+RM9.2 billion), followed by the European Union (+RM3.2 billion), Taiwan (+RM2.2 billion), Viet Nam (+RM1.9 billion), Hong Kong (+RM1.2 billion), Indonesia (+RM1.1 billion) and Mexico (+RM765.0 million). Moreover, the uplift in imports was mainly attributed to stronger

inflows from China (+RM7.9 billion), followed by Republic of Korea (+RM2.0 billion), Viet Nam (+RM2.0 billion), Costa Rica (+RM1.5 billion), Japan (+RM1.4 billion), Hong Kong (+RM1.3 billion) and Taiwan (+RM1.1 billion).

Further commenting on exports, the increase was primarily driven by higher shipments of E&E products (+RM14.9 billion); metalliferous ores & metal scrap (+RM1.1 billion); optical & scientific equipment (+RM1.1 billion); others (+RM741.5 million); machinery, equipment & parts (+RM729.2 million); and iron & steel products (+RM604.6 million). On top of that, the import uptick was driven by heightened inflows of E&E products (+RM8.9 billion); textiles, apparels & footwear (+RM1.8 billion); manufacture of plastics (+RM1.5 billion); transport equipment (+RM1.2 billion); machinery, equipment & parts (+RM982.0 million); and other manufactures (+RM902.8 million).

To that end, the Chief Statistician Malaysia also underscored that the upswing in imports by End Use reflected higher demand for consumption goods and intermediate goods. Consumption goods (9.8% of total imports) rose 27.6 per cent or RM2.8 billion to reach RM13.1 billion. Imports of intermediate goods (47.2% of total imports) expanded by 3.6 per cent or RM2.2 billion, amounting to RM63.2 billion compared to December 2024. However, imports of capital goods (11.4% of total imports) contracted by 11.8 per cent or RM2.1 billion, settling at RM15.3 billion.

Malaysia's total trade for January to December 2025 amounted to RM3.1 trillion, reflecting a 6.3 per cent year-on-year expansion. This performance was underpinned by firmer export growth of 6.5 per cent and a 6.2 per cent increase in imports. The trade surplus likewise strengthened, rising 9.2 per cent to RM151.8 billion compared with the corresponding period in 2024.

Performance for the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2025, exports, imports and total trade experienced an increase as compared to the same period last year. The encouraging economic performance led to a positive growth of 11.0 per cent, 12.6 per cent and 11.7 per cent, respectively. However, trade surplus downed marginally by 0.6 per cent from RM46.0 billion to RM45.8 billion.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the Economic Census 2026 (BE2026), themed "Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat". The sixth Economic Census, running from 5th January to 31st October 2026. BE2026 aims to collect comprehensive, structured data from all registered and unregistered business establishments in Malaysia to assess the nation's economic performance, structure and characteristics in an evidence-based manner.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully secured the top position 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.

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: Total Trade Statistics, 2004 – 2025 (Value)

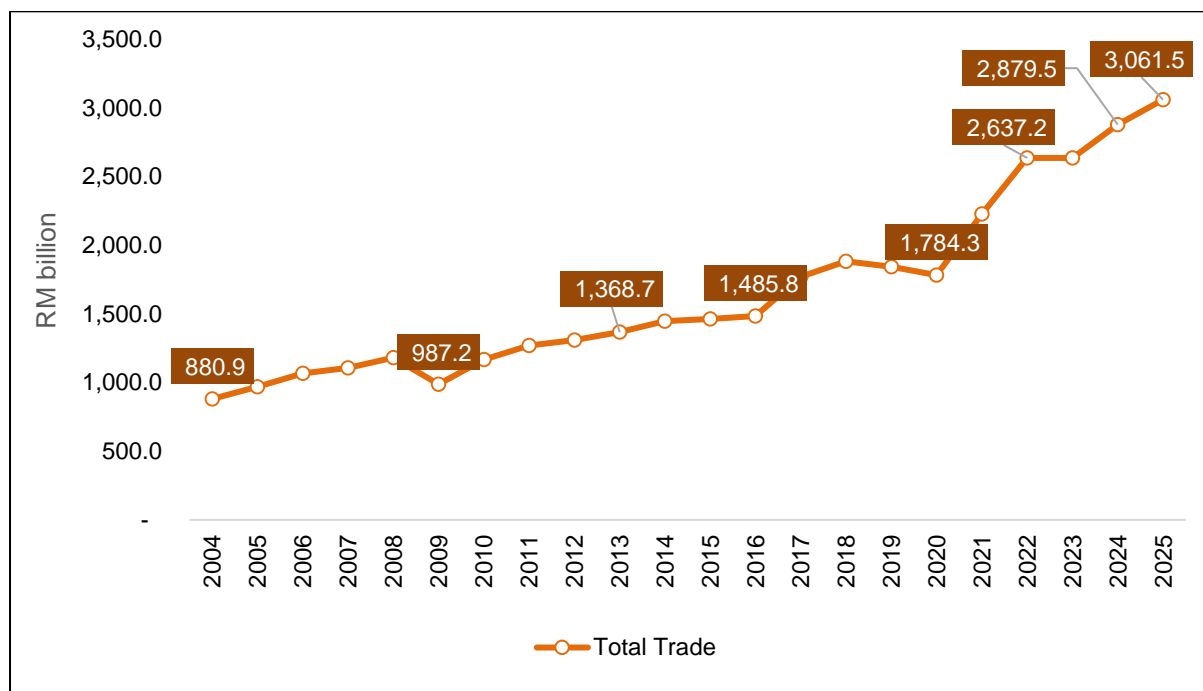


Chart 2: External Trade Statistics, Jan 2024 – Dec 2025 (Value)

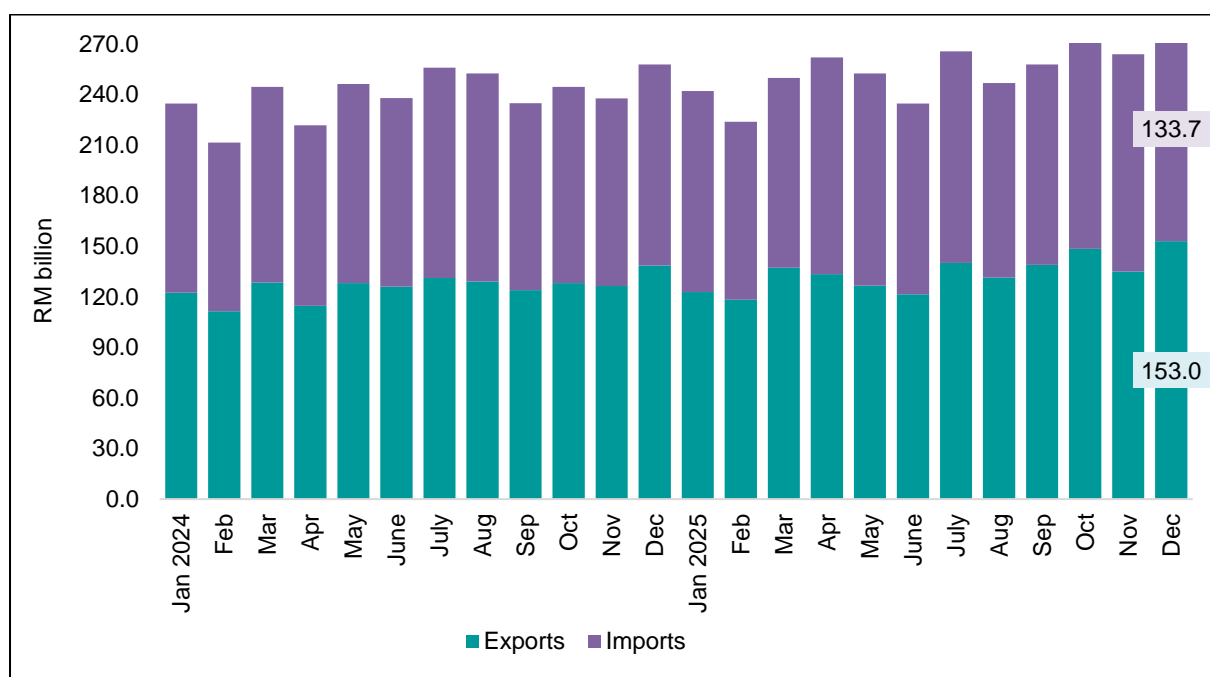


Chart 3 External Trade Statistics, Jan 2024 – Dec 2025
(Annual Percentage Change)

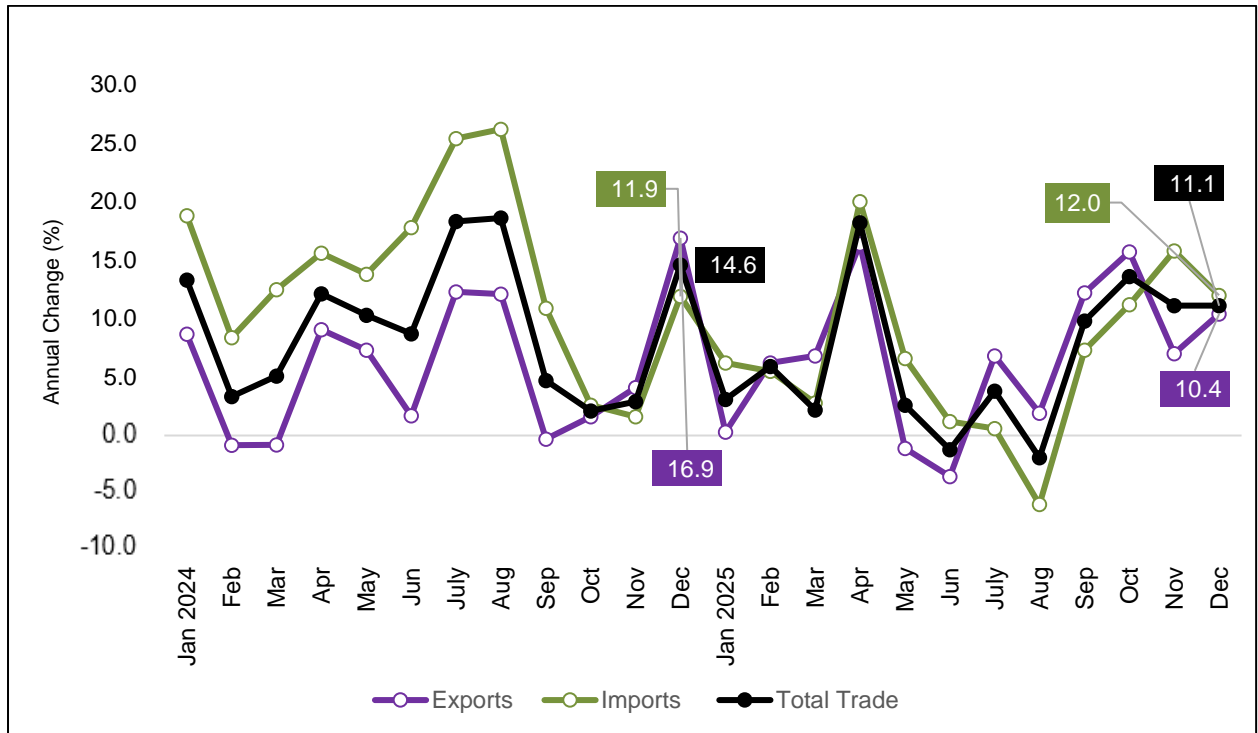


Chart 4: External Trade Statistics, 2020 – 2025 (Jan – Dec)

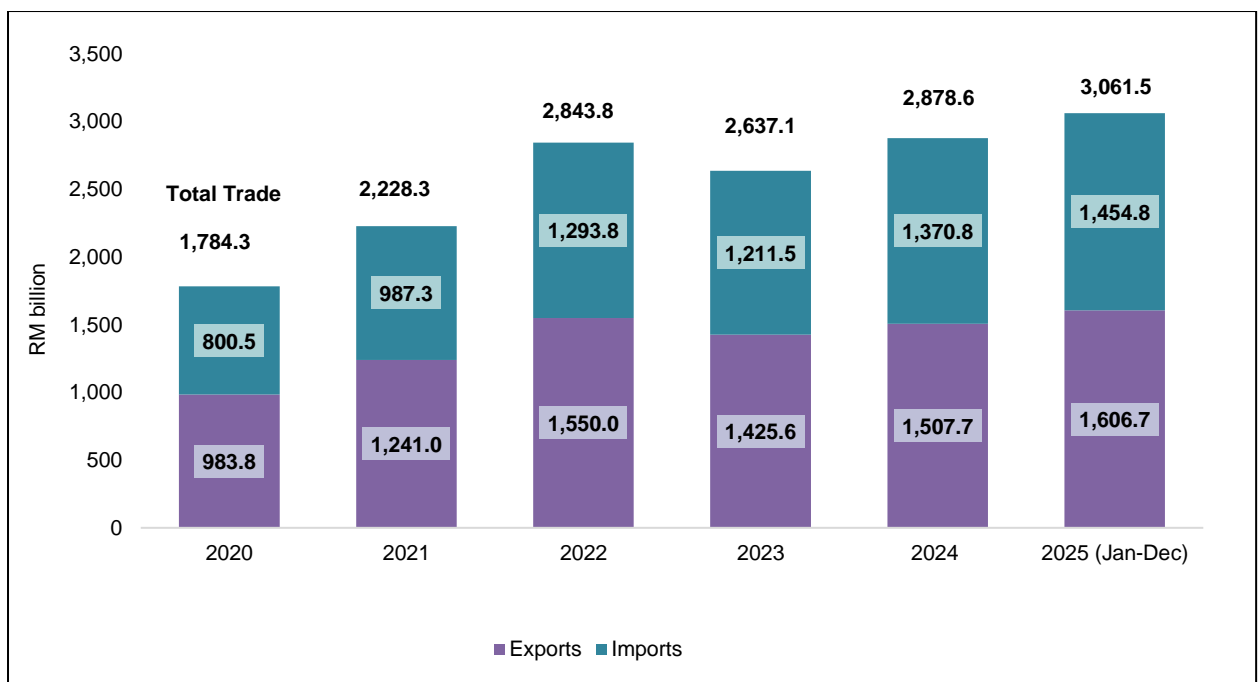


Chart 5: Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification,
Jan 2024 – Dec 2025
(Value and Annual Percentage Change)

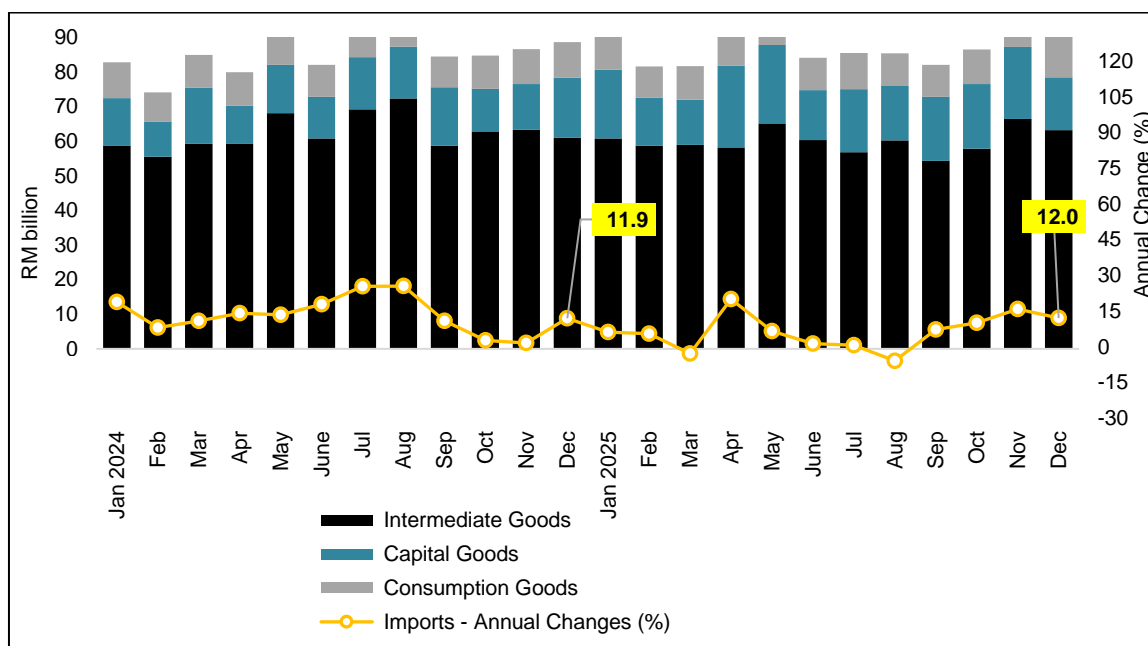


Chart 6: Imports for End Use &
Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification, 2020 – 2025 (Jan – Dec)

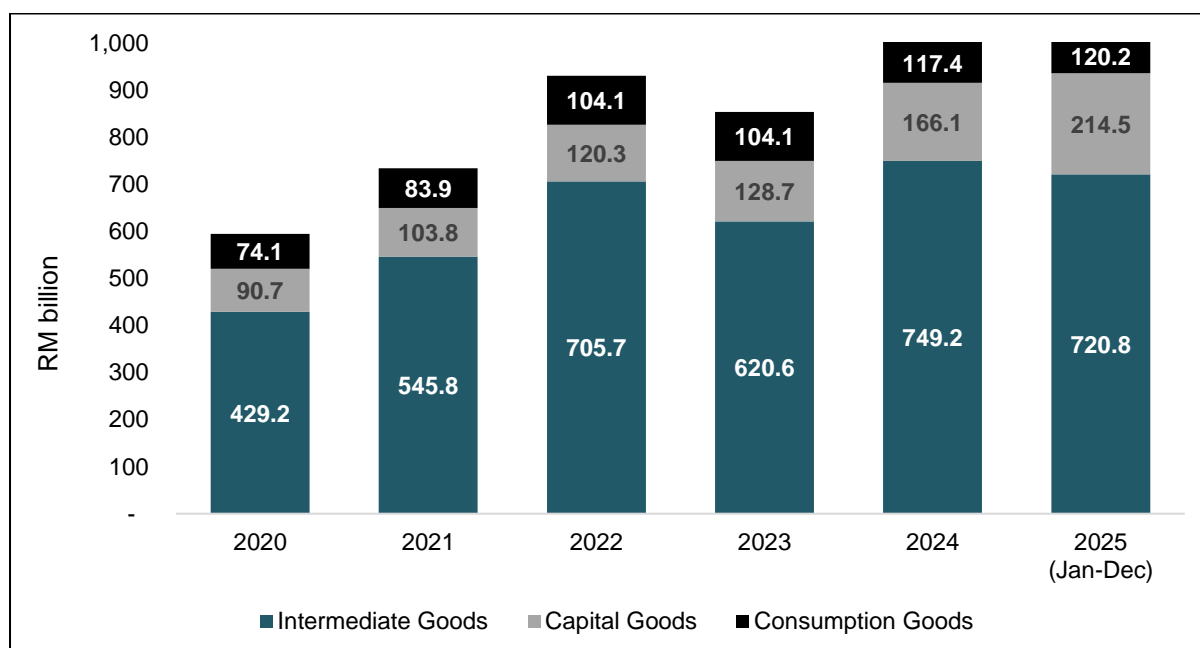


Table 1: Major Sub-sector Contributing to Export

COMMODITY DESCRIPTION	2024	2025	2025	SHARE TO TOTAL %	Y.O.Y	
	DECEMBER RM MIL.	NOVEMBER RM MIL.	DECEMBER RM MIL.		VALUE RM MIL.	%
Total	138,603	134,935	152,952	100.0	14,349	10.4
Electrical & Electronic Products (E&E)	58,778	58,793	73,645	48.1	14,868	25.3
Petroleum Products	9,778	9,012	7,931	5.2	(1,847)	(18.9)
Palm Oil & Palm-Based Agriculture Products	8,192	6,668	7,506	4.9	(686.8)	(8.4)
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	6,473	6,527	7,202	4.7	729.2	11.3
Optical & Scientific Equipment	5,084	6,141	6,143	4.0	1,059	20.8

Table 2: Major Sub-sector Contributing to Import

COMMODITY DESCRIPTION	2024	2025	2025	SHARE TO TOTAL %	Y.O.Y	
	DECEMBER RM MIL.	NOVEMBER RM MIL.	DECEMBER RM IML.		VALUE RM MIL.	%
Total	119,343	128,850	133,676	100.0	14,333	12.0
Electrical & Electronic Products (E&E)	42,630	56,876	51,497	38.5	8,867	20.8
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	10,762	9,759	11,744	8.8	982.0	9.1
Petroleum Products	9,776	7,610	8,468	6.3	(1,308)	(13.4)
Chemical & Chemical Products	8,311	7,257	8,256	6.2	(54.8)	(0.7)
Transport Equipment	5,029	5,395	6,213	4.6	1,184	23.5

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DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
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