MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA RELEASE

MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS AUGUST 2026

Malaysia's trade reaches RM354.0 billion in August, rising 43.4 per cent with strong growth in exports and imports

PUTRAJAYA, 18th SEPTEMBER 2026 – Malaysia's trade performance continued to strengthen in August 2026, supported by sustained double-digit growth in both exports and imports. Total trade increased by 43.4 per cent from RM246.8 billion in August 2025 to RM354.0 billion in August 2026. Exports rose by 45.5 per cent to RM191.0 billion, while imports increased by 41.1 per cent to RM163.0 billion. Consequently, the trade surplus expanded by 77.1 per cent to RM28.1 billion. The **MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS BULLETIN, AUGUST 2026** was released today by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). The bulletin presents the latest performance of Malaysia's exports and imports, including performance by commodity group and trading partner.

Malaysia's export performance in August 2026 was supported by double-digit growth in both domestic exports and re-exports. Domestic exports, which accounted for 79.0 per cent of total exports, increased by 46.0 per cent to RM151.0 billion. Re-exports, which contributed 21.0 per cent of total exports, rose by 43.3 per cent to RM40.1 billion. Imports also recorded strong growth, increasing by 41.1 per cent to RM163.0 billion. As a result, the trade surplus widened by 77.1 per cent to RM28.1 billion, marking the 76th consecutive month of trade surplus since May 2020. On a month-on-month basis, exports, imports and total trade decreased by 1.3 per cent, 4.7 per cent and 2.9 per cent, respectively, compared with July 2026. Meanwhile, the trade surplus increased by 24.7 per cent, or RM5.6 billion.

By commodity groups, 136 out of 258 export commodity groups and 142 out of 258 import commodity groups recorded increases compared with the same month of the previous year.

The growth in exports was mainly supported by higher shipments to the United States (+RM21.2 billion), followed by Singapore (+RM11.3 billion), Taiwan (+RM7.2 billion), Hong Kong (+RM5.3 billion), China (+RM3.4 billion), Japan (+RM3.0 billion) and the European Union (+RM2.3 billion). Meanwhile, the increase in imports was primarily attributed to higher inflows from China (+RM16.9 billion), followed by Taiwan (+RM8.8 billion), Singapore (+RM7.0 billion), the Republic of Korea (+RM5.9 billion), Viet Nam (+RM1.8 billion), Japan (+RM1.1 billion) and the United Arab Emirates (+RM1.1 billion).

Export growth was mainly driven by higher shipments of electrical & electronic products (+RM36.9 billion), other manufactures (+RM13.7 billion), liquefied natural gas (+RM2.1 billion), petroleum products (+RM2.0 billion), machinery, equipment & parts (+RM1.9 billion) and manufacture of metal (+RM1.7 billion). Similarly, the increase in imports was driven by higher inflows of electrical & electronic products (+RM38.3 billion), crude petroleum (+RM3.1 billion), petroleum products (+RM2.2 billion), machinery, equipment & parts (+RM2.2 billion), manufacture of metal (+RM1.2 billion) and optical & scientific equipment (+RM1.1 billion).

By End Use, the increase in imports was driven mainly by intermediate goods and capital goods. Imports of intermediate goods (55.6% of total imports) increased by 50.5 per cent or RM30.4 billion to RM90.7 billion. Imports of capital goods (13.3% of total imports) rose by 37.4 per cent or RM5.9 billion to RM21.6 billion. However, imports of consumption goods (5.7% of total imports) decreased by 1.6 per cent or RM153.6 million to RM9.3 billion compared with August 2025.

Malaysia's total trade for January to August 2026 increased by 27.0 per cent to RM2.5 trillion, compared with RM2.0 trillion in the corresponding period of 2025, driven by strong growth in exports (+31.2%) and imports (+22.4%). The trade surplus also expanded by 127.6 per cent to RM198.7 billion.

Overall, Malaysia's trade performance for the first eight months of 2026 remained resilient, supported by continued growth in exports and imports. The strong performance was underpinned mainly by electrical & electronic products, alongside increased trade with major trading partners.

Chart 1: External Trade Statistics, Jan 2025 – Aug 2026
(Value and Annual Percentage Change)

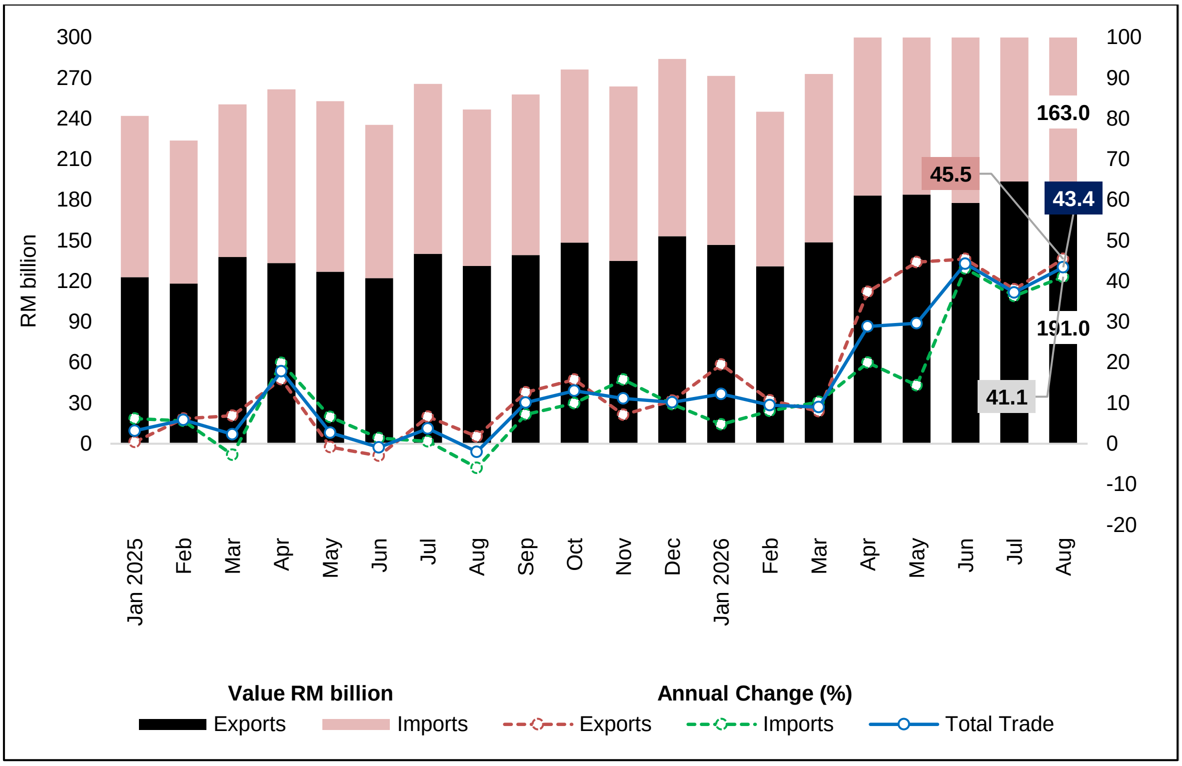

Chart 2: Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification, Jan 2025 – Aug 2026
(Value and Annual Percentage Change)

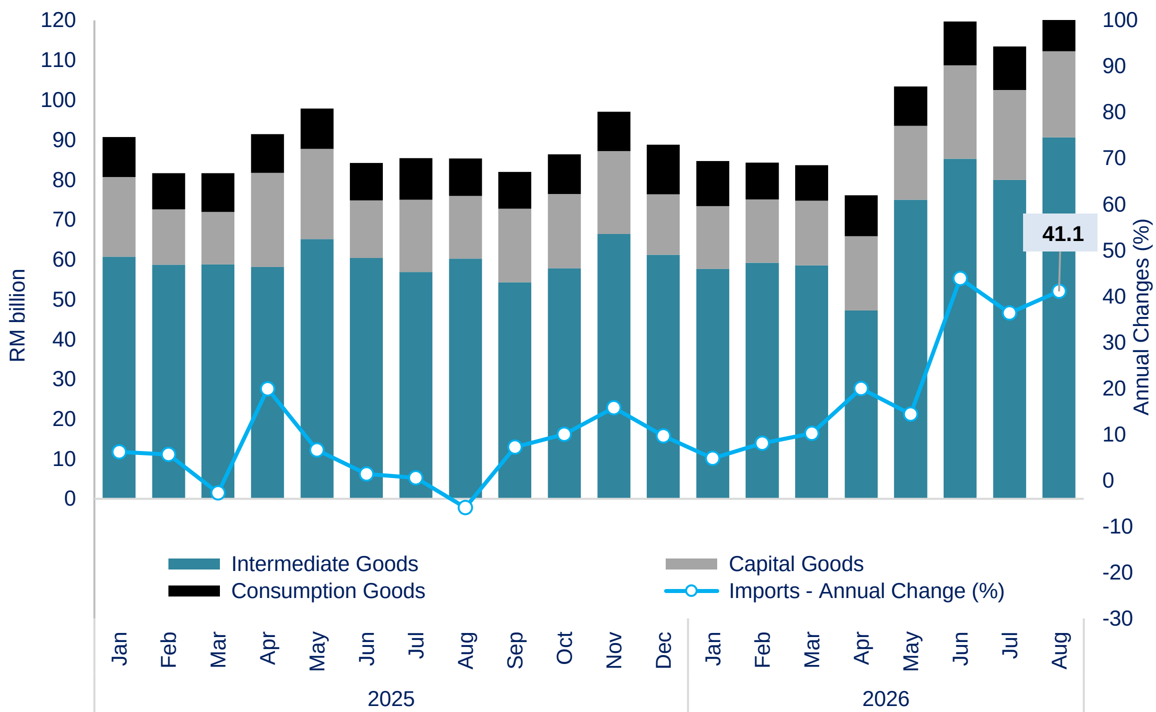

Table 1: Major Sub-sector Contributing to Export

COMMODITY DESCRIPTION	2025 AUG RM MIL.	2026 JULY RM MIL.	2026 AUG RM MIL.	SHARE TO TOTAL %	Y.O.Y VALUE RM MIL.	Y.O.Y %
Total	131,341	193,550	191,049	100	59,708	45.5
Electrical & Electronic Products (E&E)	55,534	95,653	92,483	48.4	36,948	66.5
Other Manufactures	5,378	15,354	19,088	10.0	13,710	254.9
Petroleum Products	9,096	10,309	11,067	5.8	1,970	21.7
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	6,754	9,645	8,629	4.5	1,876	27.8
Optical & Scientific Equipment	6,086	7,635	7,518	3.9	1,433	23.5
Manufacture of Metal	4,938	7,034	6,685	3.5	1,746	35.4

Table 2: Major Sub-sector Contributing to Import

COMMODITY DESCRIPTION	2025 AUG RM MIL.	2026 JULY RM MIL.	2026 AUG RM MIL.	SHARE TO TOTAL %	Y.O.Y VALUE RM MIL.	Y.O.Y %
Total	115,479	171,018	162,960	100	47,481	41.1
Electrical & Electronic Products (E&E)	42,904	76,828	81,229	49.8	38,325	89.3
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	9,887	14,312	12,058	7.4	2,171	22.0
Petroleum Products	8,276	13,445	10,481	6.4	2,205	26.6
Chemical & Chemical Products	8,223	9,337	7,914	4.9	(309.0)	(3.8)
Manufacture Of Metal	5,621	7,403	6,777	4.2	1,156	20.6
Crude Petroleum	3,589	3,126	6,712	4.1	3,123	87.0

Released by:

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