

MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS AUGUST 2012[#]

KEY FACTS

- On a month-on-month (m-o-m) basis, exports decreased 3.7%. In seasonally adjusted terms, exports rose 0.4%.
- On a m-o-m basis, imports dropped 10.3%. In seasonally adjusted terms, imports declined 6.9%.
- On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, exports declined 4.5% or RM2.7 billion to RM56.0 billion.
- On a y-o-y basis, imports grew 2.8% or RM1.3 billion to RM48.9 billion.
- On a m-o-m basis, decrease in exports was contributed by lower exports to the Republic of Singapore (-RM1.5 billion), the Republic of Indonesia (-RM1.1 billion) and Thailand (-RM461.7 million).
- On a m-o-m basis, lower imports were mainly from the European Union (EU) (-RM1.4 billion), the Republic of Singapore (-RM862.8 million) and the People's Republic of China (-RM654.3 million).

TRADE

Total trade in August 2012, which valued at RM104.8 billion, dropped 6.9% or RM7.8 billion, month-on-month. It posted a decrease of 1.3% from a year before. During the period under study, Malaysia experienced a trade surplus of RM7.1 billion. The surplus increased significantly 96.2% from RM3.6 billion registered a month ago. However, as compared with the previous year, it dropped 36.0%.

EXPORTS

On a m-o-m basis, exports decreased 3.7% or RM2.2 billion from RM58.1 billion.

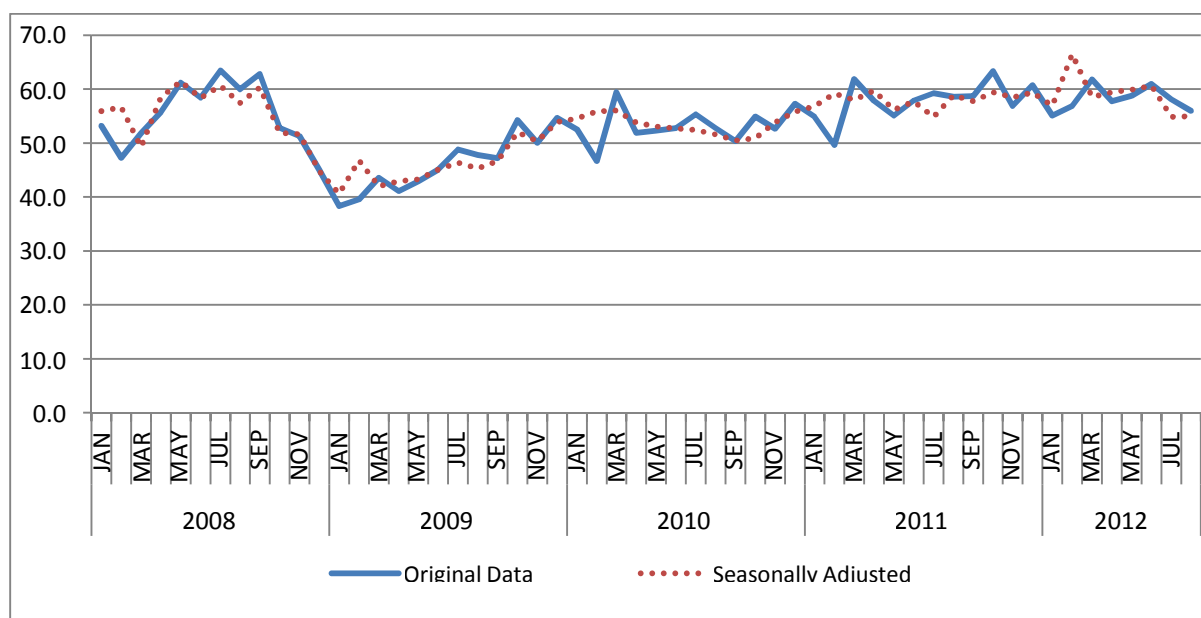
The main commodities contributed to the drop:

- Petroleum products (5.6% of total exports), dropped 37.7% (RM1.9 billion) to RM3.1 billion;
- Electrical & electronics (E&E) products, which contributed 34.2% of total exports, fell 2.6% or RM501.7 million to RM19.1 billion;

Note: [#] The August 2012 data is provisional and subject to revision in later issues

- *Timber & timber-based products (2.8% of total exports), decreased 11.1% (RM194.8 million) from RM1.8 billion;*
- *Natural rubber (1.1% of total exports), declined 6.7% (RM42.8 million) to RM593.4 million; and*
- *Palm oil & palm oil-based products (10.3% of total exports), declined marginally 0.2% (RM8.7 million) to RM5.7 billion which was due to fall in average unit value (-3.8%) even though exports volume rose 3.8%. Exports of palm oil - the major commodity in this group of products - dropped 1.9% which was contributed by decline in average unit value (-3.5%). Meanwhile, exports volume increased 1.7%.*

Exports, 2008-2012



Nevertheless, the following products increase in exports:

- *Liquefied natural gas (LNG), which contributed 9.4% of total exports, expanded 68.8% or RM2.2 billion from RM3.1 billion due to rise in export volume (+92.1%); and*
- *Crude petroleum (3.6% of total exports), increased 8.8% (RM160.7 million) to RM2.0 billion. The rise was mainly attributed to higher exports volume (+11.8%); however, average unit value dropped 2.7%.*

On a y-o-y basis, exports decreased 4.5% or RM2.7 billion due to:

- Palm oil & palm oil-based products, dropped 25.3% (RM1.9 billion) from RM7.7 billion. Exports of palm oil, fell 27.7% due to decrease in both exports volume (-24.0%) and average unit value (-4.8%);
- E&E products, decreased 5.2% (RM1.0 billion) from RM20.2 billion.
- Crude petroleum dropped 29.8% (RM846.2 million) from RM2.8 billion. The decline was mainly attributed to lower exports volume (-25.1%) and average unit value (-6.4%);
- Natural rubber, dropped 45.9% (RM503.6 million) due to decline in both average unit value (-30.3%) and exports volume (-22.4%); and
- Timber & timber-based products, fell 14.3% (RM261.3 million) from RM1.8 billion.

However, the following products rise in exports:

- LNG rose 38.3% or RM1.5 billion from RM3.8 billion. This was due to rise in both exports volume (+22.4%) and average unit value (+13.0%); and
- Petroleum products, grew 39.9% (RM890.3 million) from RM2.2 billion.

Seasonally Adjusted Figure

On a m-o-m seasonally adjusted terms, exports increased marginally 0.4% (RM194.2 million) to RM55.0 billion.

IMPORTS

On a m-o-m basis, intermediate goods was the major contributor to the lower imports, followed by capital and consumption goods.

- **Intermediate Goods**

Imports of intermediate goods, which constituted 62.1% of total imports, declined 8.6% or RM2.8 billion to RM30.3 billion. The fall was mainly contributed by primary fuel and lubricants (-42.7%, -RM1.2 billion) and processed industrial supplies (-8.9%, -RM1.1 billion).

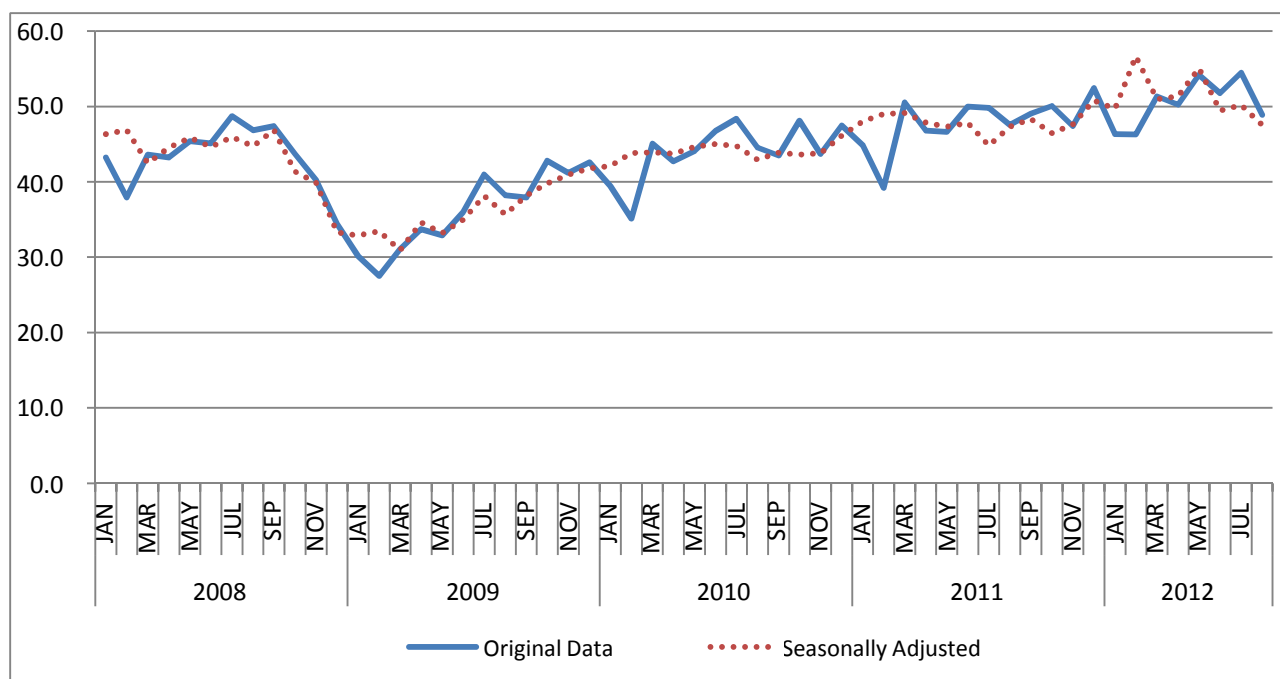
- **Capital Goods**

Imports of capital goods, which accounted for 15.8% of total imports, dropped 6.5% (RM537.1 million) to RM7.7 billion due to decline in capital goods mainly machineries (-4.9%, -RM327.8 million).

- **Consumption Goods**

These goods, which constituted 7.9% of total imports, declined 7.8% (RM326.2 million) to RM3.9 billion. The main components contributing to the drop were non-durables goods (-12.1%, -RM136.9 million) and durables goods (-14.4%, -RM83.4 million).

Imports, 2008-2012



On a y-o-y basis, imports increased 2.8% or RM1.3 billion from RM47.5 billion. The expansion was attributed by capital goods and consumption goods.

- **Capital Goods**

These goods grew 12.5% or RM856.9 million from RM6.9 billion, which was due to rise in capital goods mainly machineries (+11.6%, +RM656.9 million).

- **Consumption Goods**

Imports of consumption goods increased 6.9% (RM249.6 million) from RM3.6 billion. The main components attributed to the expansion were semi-durables of consumer goods (+19.7%, +RM119.9 million) and non-durables of consumer goods (+12.6%, +RM111.4 million).

- **Intermediate Goods**

Imports of intermediate goods reduced 4.1% (RM1.3 billion) from RM31.6 billion. The main components contributed to the decline were primary fuel and lubricants (-37.2%, -RM974.4 million), and parts and accessories of capital goods mainly for machinery (-4.1%, -RM478.4 million).

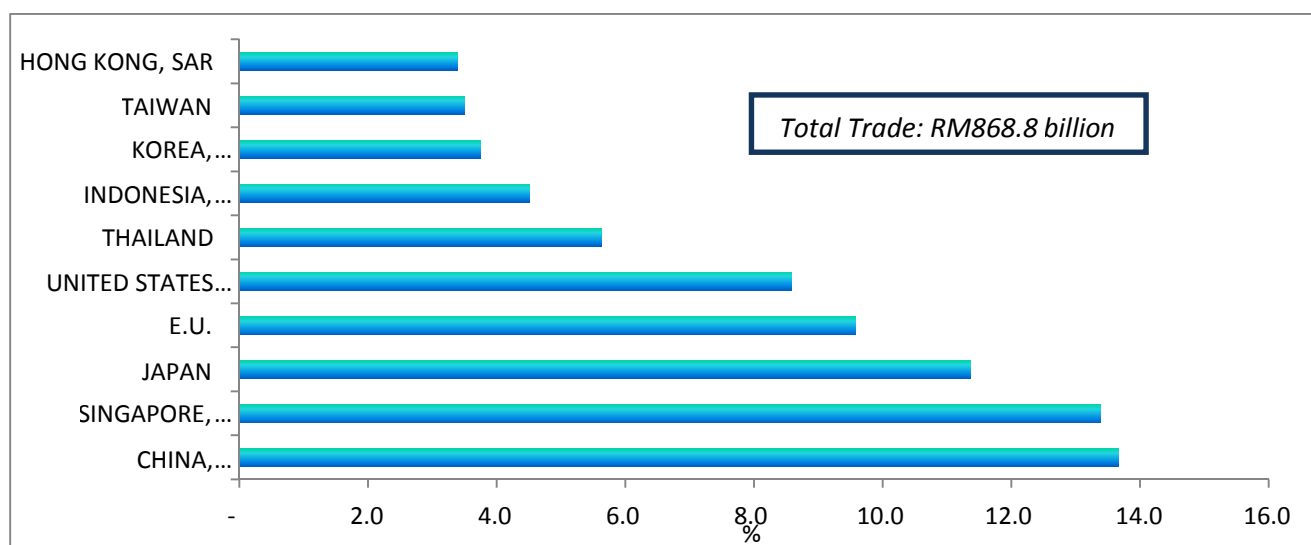
Seasonally Adjusted Figure

On a m-o-m seasonally adjusted terms, imports dropped 6.9% (RM3.5 billion) to RM47.1 billion.

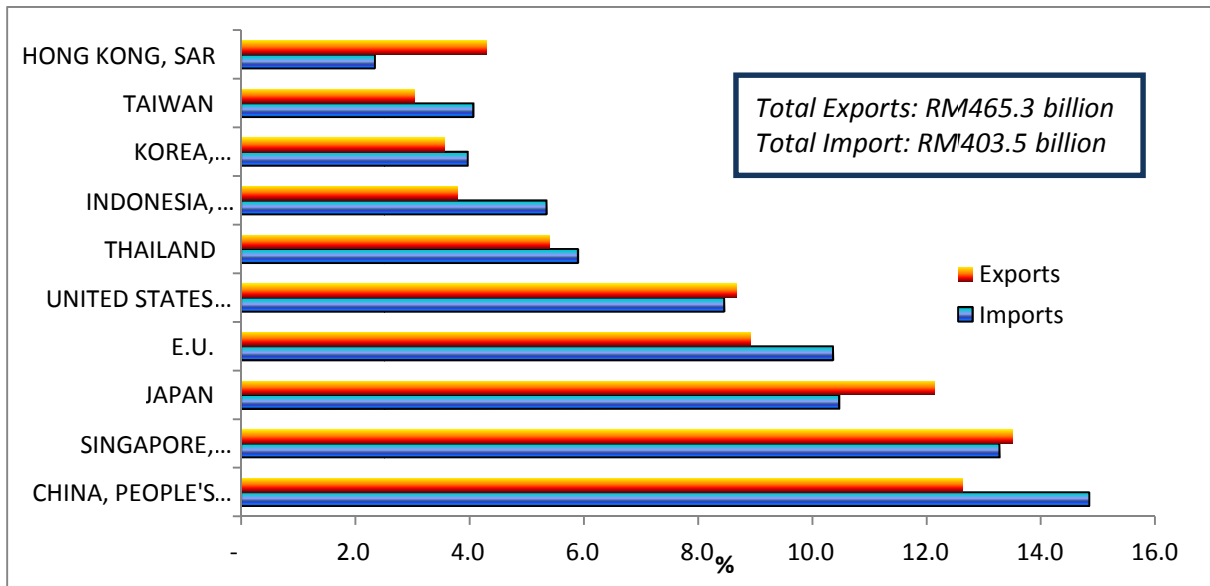
MARKET SHARE

The following charts show Malaysia's major trading partners for January – August 2012.

Total Trade by Major Countries, Jan – Aug 2012 (percentage share)

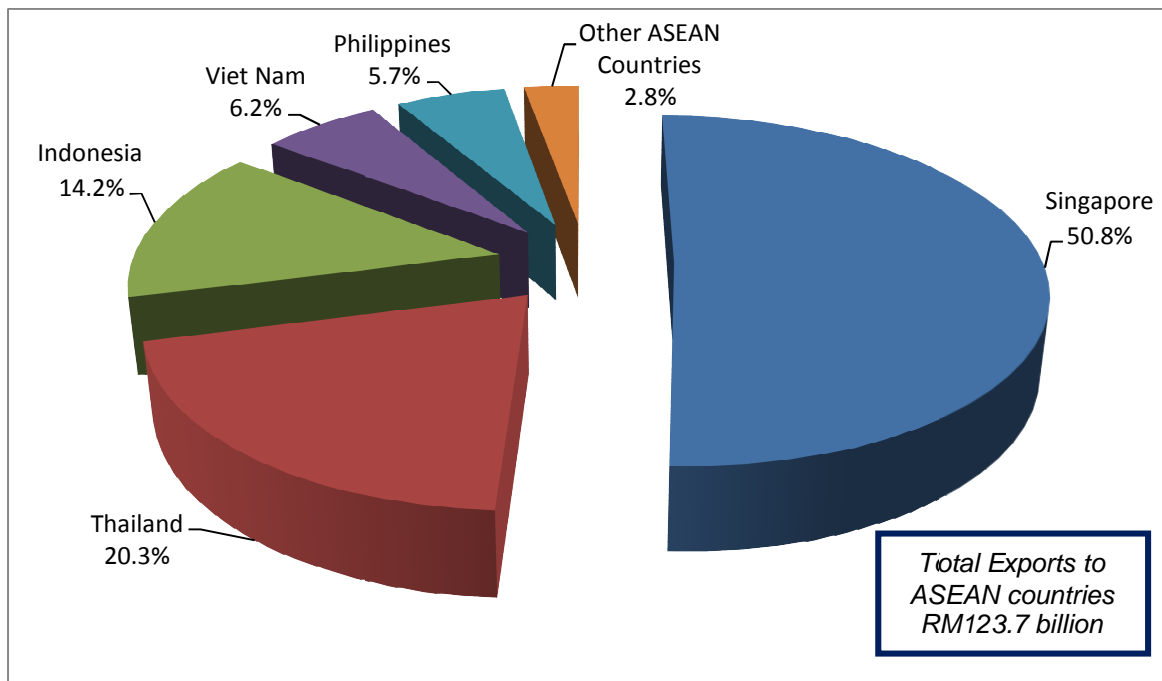


Exports and Imports by Major Countries, Jan – Aug 2012 (percentage share)



The following charts show Malaysia's trade with ASEAN countries for January – August 2012.

Exports, Jan – Aug 2012 (percentage share)



Imports, Jan - Aug 2012 (percentage share)

