

MEDIA STATEMENT



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MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS APRIL 2025

Malaysia's trade rose by 18.2 per cent to RM261.9 billion, driven by growth in export (+16.4%) and import (+20.0%)

PUTRAJAYA, 20 MAY 2025 – A consistent increase in the global economy, along with the shifts in international demand for Malaysia's goods, resulted in improved trade performance. Total trade showing a double-digit 18.2 per cent uptick from RM221.6 billion in the previous year to RM261.9 billion mainly attributable from the growth in imports of 20.0 per cent, reaching RM128.4 billion and exports 16.4 per cent, reaching RM133.6 billion. On the contrary, trade balance fell by 33.0 per cent to RM5.2 billion in April 2025 as reported today in **MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS BULLETIN, APRIL 2025**. This bulletin also presents the performance of export and import products with its trading partners.

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin emphasised that Malaysia's export growth was driven by an increase in both domestic exports and re-exports in April 2025. Domestic exports, which accounted for 74.9 per cent of total exports, rose by 9.1 per cent to RM100.0 billion, while re-exports, making up 25.1 per cent of total exports, expanded by 46.0 per cent to RM33.5 billion as compared to April 2024. Additionally, imports amounted to RM128.4 billion, an increase of 20.0 per cent or RM21.4 billion. The trade surplus decreased

33.0 per cent to RM5.2 billion, the 60th consecutive month of surplus since May 2020. Comparing with March 2025, imports and total trade recorded an increase of 14.1 per cent and 4.8 per cent, respectively. While, exports and trade balance showed a decrease of 2.7 per cent and 79.1 per cent, respectively.

From the perspective of the commodity group, 136 out of 258 export groups and 136 out of 260 import groups showed an increase as compared to the same month of the previous year.

Chief Statistician Malaysia further explained higher exports was attributable mainly to the United States (+RM6.0 billion), followed by Singapore (+RM4.8 billion), Mexico (+RM2.5 billion), Taiwan (+RM2.2 billion), Thailand (+RM959.3 million), Australia (+RM634.5 million) and Indonesia (+RM621.5 million). Moreover, higher imports were mainly contributed from the United States (+RM9.7 billion), followed by Taiwan (+RM6.8 billion), China (+RM5.1 billion), Mexico (+RM827.8 million), Ecuador (+RM415.3 million), Viet Nam (+RM388.8 million) and Kuwait (+RM300.6 million).

Commenting further on exports, the increase was reflecting the rise in electrical & electronic products (+RM15.8 billion); machinery, equipment & parts (+RM1.5 billion); other manufactures (+RM826.9 million); processed food (+RM771.0 million); palm oil-based manufactured products (+RM627.7 million); and optical & scientific equipment (+RM621.9 million). Furthermore, the increase in imports was logged for electrical & electronic products (+RM21.5 billion); machinery, equipment & parts (+RM1.6 billion); transport equipment (+RM1.0 billion); other agriculture (+RM361.3 million); palm oil & palm-based agriculture products (+RM314.6 million); and processed food (+RM268.3 million).

Adding to this, the Chief Statistician Malaysia also underscored the upsurge in imports by End Use which was in accordance with higher demand for capital goods. Imports of capital goods (18.4% of total imports), surged by 114.1 per cent or RM12.6 billion to post a value of RM23.6 billion. However, imports of intermediate goods (45.3% of total imports), was down by 1.7 per cent or RM993.2 million valued at RM58.2 billion and imports of consumption goods (7.5% of total imports), registered a marginal decrease of 0.7 per cent or RM70.4 million to reach RM9.7 billion as compared to April 2024.

Total trade, exports, imports and trade surplus for the period of January to April 2025 registered an improvement. Total trade grew by 7.2 per cent, from RM912.2 billion to RM977.6 billion, in line with the rise in exports (+7.3%) as well as imports (+7.0%). Moreover, trade surplus increased by 10.4 per cent to post a value of RM46.2 billion 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 198 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 – Apr 2025 (Value)

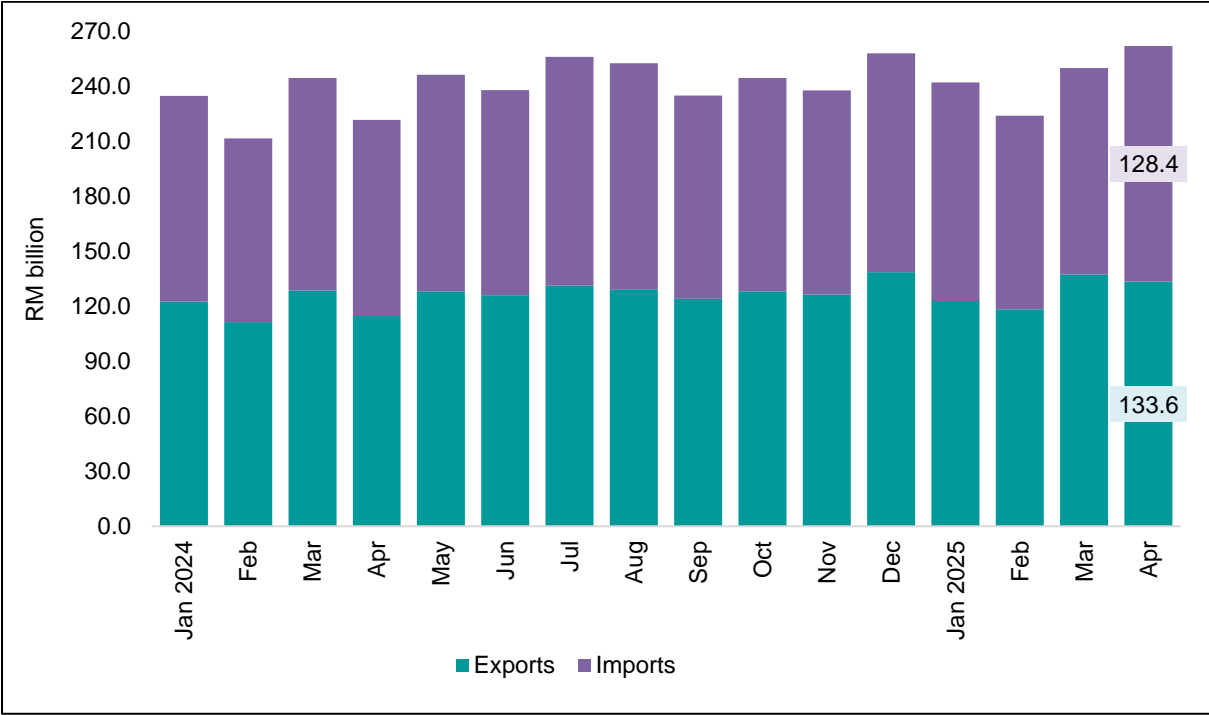


Chart 2: External Trade Statistics, Jan 2024 – Apr 2025
(Annual Percentage Change)

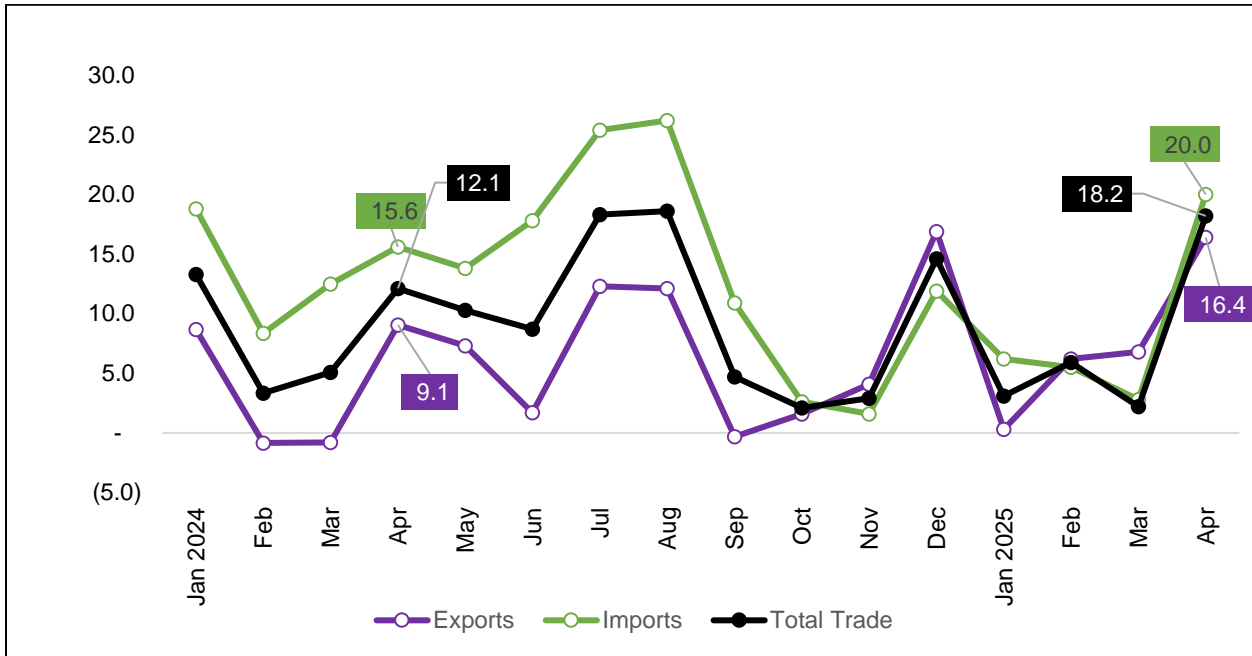


Chart 3: External Trade Statistics, 2020 – 2025 (Jan – Apr)

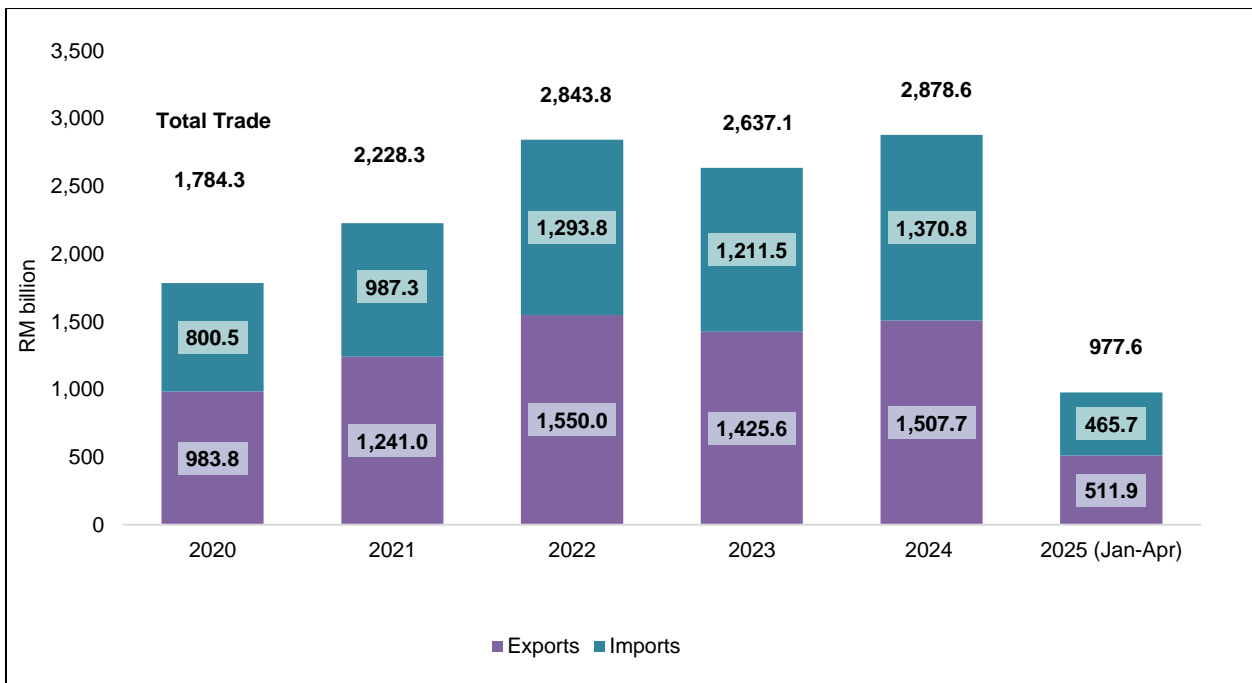


Chart 4: Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification, Jan 2024 – Apr 2025 (Value and Annual Percentage Change)

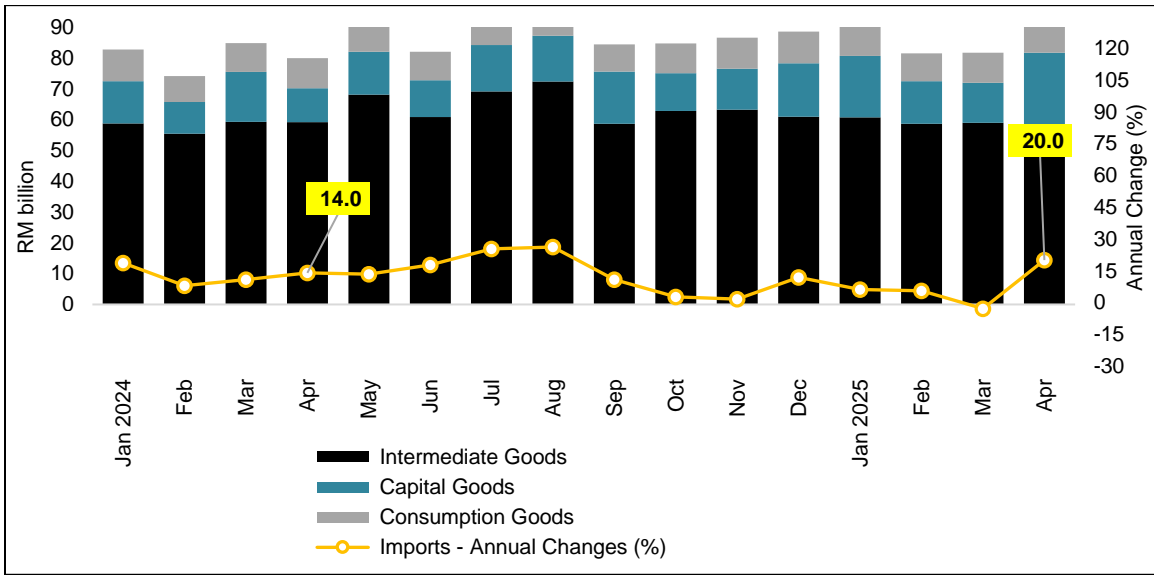


Chart 5: Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification, 2020 – 2025 (Jan – Apr)

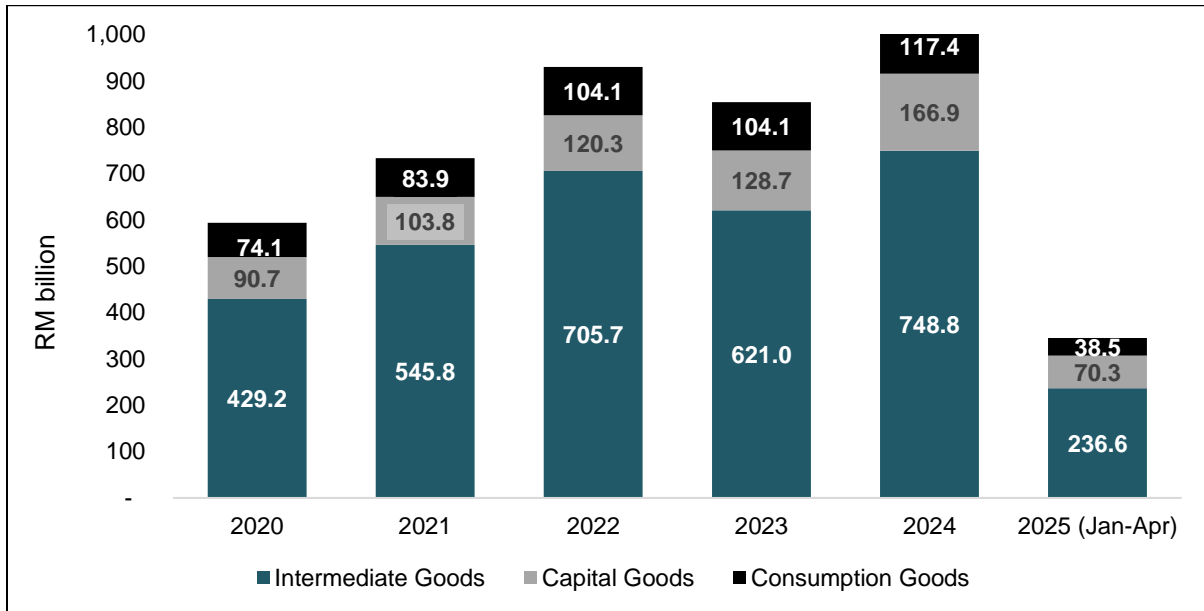


Table 1: Major Sub-sector Contributing to Export

COMMODITY DESC	2024	2025	2025	SHARE TO TOTAL %	Y.O.Y	
	APR	MAR	APR		VAL.	%
	RM MIL.	RM MIL.	RM MIL.		RM MIL.	
Total	114,695	137,304	133,561	100.0	18,866	16.4
Electrical & Electronic Products (E&E)	44,484	62,297	60,235	45.1	15,751	35.4
Petroleum Products	9,372	7,495	8,503	6.4	(868.8)	(9.3)
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	4,966	7,055	6,503	4.9	1,537	31.0
Palm Oil & Palm-Based Agriculture Products	6,193	5,805	6,306	4.7	113.1	1.8
Chemical & Chemical Products	5,894	5,988	5,230	3.9	(664.7)	(11.3)

Table 2: Major Sub-sector Contributing to Import

COMMODITY DESC	2024	2025	2025	SHARE TO TOTAL %	Y.O.Y	
	APR	MAR	APR		VAL.	%
	RM MIL.	RM MIL.	RM MIL.		RM MIL.	
Total	106,954	112,535	128,374	100.0	21,421	20.0
Electrical & Electronic Products (E&E)	44,484	62,297	60,235	45.1	15,751	35.4
Machinery, Equipment & Parts	4,966	7,055	6,503	4.9	1,537	31.0
Chemical & Chemical Products	5,894	5,988	5,230	3.9	(664.7)	(11.3)
Petroleum Products	9,372	7,495	8,503	6.4	(868.8)	(9.3)
Manufacture of Metal	4,960	5,581	5,087	3.8	126.6	2.6

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
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