External trade

Current definitions

Arrivals
Commercial transactions performed within the European Union, indicated as imports before the creation of the single Market.

Assimilation thresholds for Intrastat survey
Thresholds established each year by ministerial decree of the Ministry of Economy and Finance to define which operators are required to fill out the monthly Intrastat form (compare "Operators subject to Intrastat declaration").

Average unit value
Ratio between the value of the goods exchanged and their quantity.

Bonded warehouses
Secured warehouses guarded by the *Guardia di Finanza* (Italian Tax Police), not belonging to customs territory, used for storing goods from abroad that have not undergone any form of customs control or payment of duty or goods from the national territory, provided with customs exit documents, temporarily waiting to pass the border and therefore *de facto* considered as definitively exported.

Cif (*cost insurance freight*)
Traditional clause in shipping contracts, mainly for sea transport, used in national and international external trade statistics to indicate the value of goods (including transport and insurance costs from the place of production or sale abroad to the purchaser's national border).

Country of consignment
The country from which the goods are shipped.

Country of destination
The last known country, at the time of the transaction, to which the goods will be delivered.

Country of origin
The country in which the entire amount of goods were obtained. In the case of goods produced in two or more countries, these are considered to originate in the country in which the final processing or substantial transformation that resulted in the new product or in an important phase of processing occurred. Italy may also be the country of origin for goods produced, shipped abroad and subsequently reintroduced into the Italian statistical territory.

Coverage rate
The percentage ratio between exports and imports, generally at constant prices.

Delivery terms
Clauses in international trade contracts relating to the terms indicating the place of delivery for goods with the associated risks and responsibilities. The good selling price is therefore influenced by the terms of delivery agreed. These clauses include Cif and Fob, which form the basis for estimating the value of imports and exports respectively.

Dispatches
Commercial transactions performed within the European Union, indicated as exports before the creation of the single Market.

Economic operator register for external trade
A list of economic operators who have performed external trade transactions in the period considered.

Economic operator subject to Intrastat declaration
An economic operator who is obliged to present *Intrastat listings.*

Exemption thresholds for Extrastat survey
Ec Regulation no. 471/2009 provides that – "As for extra-Eu exchanges, transactions regarding oral declarations of goods both of commercial nature, when not exceeding the statistical threshold of 1000 Euros in value or of 1000 in net mass, and of non-commercial nature are excluded from the external trade statistics".

Exports
Transfers of goods by resident to non-resident operators (the rest of the world). Exports of goods include all goods (national or nationalised, new or used) which, either against payment or free of charge, leave from the economic area of the country to the rest of the world. These are valued at Fob value (*Free on board*), fixed as the market price at the border of the exporting country. This price includes: the ex-factory price, trading profit, international shipping costs and all export duties.

External trade operator
Economic subject identified by a Vat code that has performed at least one external trade transaction in the period considered.

Fob (*Free on board*)
Traditional clause in shipping contracts, mainly for sea transport, indicating in the quotation of good prices that shipping costs and risks are at the expense of the seller until the goods are loaded on the shipping vehicle. This clause is used in national and international external trade statistics to indicate the value of goods including shipping and insurance costs from the place of production or sale to the seller's national border.

Free zones
Areas out of customs territory in which goods from abroad are not subject to any customs checks or duties; goods of national origin are considered as definitively exported.

Goods
Movable property, i.e. all material and tangible products that are the object of commercial transactions. Electricity, although not a movable property, is considered a good for statistical purposes. External trade statistics include all goods that are the object of international trading, with the exception of those that, due to their particular nature or following international agreements, are excluded from the survey.

Imports
Purchase abroad (in the rest of the world) of goods, introduced into the national territory. Imports of goods include all goods (new or used) that, either against payment or free of charge, enter the economic area of a country from the rest of the world. These may be valued at either Fob or Cif (cost, insurance, freight) value, which includes: the Fob value of goods, shipping and insurance costs between the border of the exporter's country and that of the importer.

Intrastat
Survey system related to statistics on trading of goods between Eu Member States, in which time thresholds are established for declarations by trading operators (compare "Economic operator subject to Intrastat declaration").

Intrastat listings
Statements provided by natural and/or legal persons who have supplied goods to other Member States or purchased goods from other Member States in the reference period (month, quarter or year). These reports are submitted using forms set by the Ministry of Finance according to the requests made by the Italian National Statistical Institute. Forms are different for dispatches (INTRA-1) and for arrivals (INTRA-2) and consist of a cover and two sections, one (INTRA a) for intra-Community transactions during the reference period and the other (INTRA ter) for corrections
to operations in previous recapitulative statements.

Invoice currency
National or foreign currency used as a means of payment for commercial transactions. It is recorded only for transactions with extra-Eu-countries.

Invoiced amount
The amount of transactions recorded by operators on the Intrastat form or SAD (Single administrative document, used for trading of goods with extra-Eu countries).

Other unspecified provinces (or regions)
An item in territorial statistics that groups commercial transactions, for which the province cannot be precisely identified. This is the case, for example, of purchases of goods to meet non immediate internal demand and which, for that reason, are destined to reach the place of actual use at a later date; or for sales abroad performed in *groupage*, for which it is not easy to indicate the place of production; or for transactions made by operators that present quarterly or annual lists.

Province of consignment
A province within the country where goods are produced, assembled, transformed, repaired or maintained; the province of origin on the other hand refers to the province from which the goods were shipped, or in which they were sold. Temporary flows for reparation are excluded from external trade statistics.

Quantity
Normally expressed in kilograms, quantity represents the net weight (net mass) of goods, as shown by weighing goods without packaging, except in the case of packaging that is inseparable from the goods at retail.

Re-exportations
Goods, previously shipped from a foreign country, that are shipped abroad following a temporary introduction into the national territory for finishing (processing, transformation or reparation). Re-exportations for reparation are excluded from external trade statistics.

Re-importations
Italian goods re-introduced into the national territory following temporary shipping to another country for finishing (processing, transformation or reparation). Re-importations for reparation are excluded
from external trade statistics.

Province of destination
A province within the country in which the goods are consumed or assembled, transformed, repaired or maintained; the destination province is the province to which goods are sent, or that in which they are sold. Temporary flows for reparation are excluded from external trade statistics.

Release for free circulation (for goods)
Within the Eu market, goods from extra-Eu countries which have undergone import formalities within a Eu country and for which customs duties have been paid and not recovered are considered
released for free circulation.

Single market (Eu internal market)
Formally established on 1st January 1993 following the progressive elimination of physical barriers to the free circulation for goods, people, services and capital within the European Union.

Special trade
Divided into special imports or exports. These exclude goods in transit and those introduced in bonded and public warehouses, not available for consumption or withdrawn and sent abroad.

Statistical value
Conventional evaluation base, defined on an international level, including beside the ex-factory value of goods the shipping costs sustained from the manufacturer to the national border of the importing (Cif value) or exporting (Fob value) country. Expenses for transport, insurance, loading and unloading, commission, brokerage, packaging and treatment are considered shipping costs.

Supplementary unit
Physical unit of measurement for goods, other than that expressed in kilograms (number, pair, etc.).

Temporary exports
Italian goods temporarily sent to a foreign country for finishing (processing, transformation or reparation). Temporary exports for reparations are excluded from external trade statistics.

Temporary imports
Goods coming from a foreign coutnry, temporarily introduced into national territory for finishing (processing, transformation or reparation). Temporary imports for reparations are excluded from external trade statistics.