

Foreign trade in December and in the year 2025

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The lower December's foreign trade deficit contributed to a year-on-year improvement in the annual balance.

In the final month of the previous year, the Slovak Republic's foreign trade balance recorded a deficit of nearly EUR 163 million, despite a significantly higher year-on-year growth in exports and a slight drop in imports. For the entire last year, the trade balance recorded a surplus of EUR 2.7 billion according to preliminary results, which was almost EUR 64 million higher year on year.

According to preliminary results, goods worth¹⁾ EUR 8.2 billion were exported from Slovakia from Slovakia in December 2025, representing a year-on-year increase by 7%. Exports rose year on year in 11 months of the past year, with the December growth rate being the second highest after March. The value of imports in December declined by 0.5% to EUR 8.4 billion. Throughout 2025, imports were lower year on year in four months.

The trade balance ended December 2025 with a deficit of EUR 162.7 million, however, this represents an improvement of EUR 580.4 million compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. The more favorable result was attributed mainly to a year-on-year decrease in the negative balance of trade in miscellaneous manufactured goods and mineral fuels, as well as an increase in the surplus in trade in manufactured goods.

Within the export structure, 9 out of 10 traded sections showed year-on-year growth. The most significant impact on the overall development was an almost 5% increase in the value of exported goods in the Machinery and Transport Equipment section (SITC 7), which includes car exports. On the import side, 5 out of 10 categories declined year-on-year. The decrease was driven primarily by a drop of more than 28% in the Mineral Fuels section, which includes oil, electricity, and natural gas (SITC 3).

Development of foreign trade in 2025

Preliminary data indicated that Slovakia's foreign trade ended 2025 with a surplus of EUR 2.7 billion, marking an increase by EUR 63.7 million compared to the previous year. The modest year-on-year improvement was primarily driven by a significantly lower deficit in December, as the cumulative balance from January to November had shown weaker performance than in 2024. Since 2010, following the revision of the methodology, goods exports have generally exceeded imports, with the only exception being 2022, when imports exceeded exports by a record EUR 4.5 billion.

According to preliminary data, the export of goods from Slovakia for the entire past year increased by 3.7% to nearly EUR 111 billion. Imports into the SR rose by 3.8% to over EUR 108 billion. Both export and import values thus again exceeded the EUR

100 billion mark and simultaneously reached their highest level since 2010.

In 2025, the EU traditionally remains the main trading partner for the Slovak exporters, accounting more than 78% of export value directed there. Imports from EU member states represented over 63%. Exports to the EU increased year-on-year by more than 4%, while imports rose by over 2%. Exports to the non-EU countries were more than 1% higher compared to the previous year. Imports from these countries rose by approximately 7%.

With the EU member states, Slovakia recorded a surplus of over EUR 18 billion in 2025, representing an increase of more than EUR 2 billion compared to 2024. Conversely, trade with non-EU countries ended with a deficit of almost EUR 16 billion, which deepened by over EUR 2 billion compared to the previous year.

Machinery and transport equipment as the main driver of export and import growth

Out of ten sections in the export structure in 2025, eight recorded year-on-year growth. The most significant influence on this development was the most traded section in foreign trade – Machinery and Transport Equipment (SITC 7), which also includes car exports. The value of goods exported in this section was higher year-on-year for ten months in 2025, resulting in an overall annual increase of more than 3%. This segment represented over 61% of Slovak exports.

Growth was also observed in imports, which rose by 3.8% year-on-year in 2025. Increased imports were recorded in seven out of ten categories, with the most significant contribution to growth coming from the Machinery and Transport Equipment section (SITC 7), which includes imports of automotive components.

Adjusted detailed data for January to November 2025

In total for the 11 months of last year, exports increased by 3.5% compared to the corresponding period in 2024, reaching EUR 102.6 billion. Imports rose by 4.1% to EUR 99.7 billion. The foreign trade balance was positive at EUR 2.9 billion. For the corresponding period in 2024, the balance had a surplus of EUR 3.4 billion.

- ¹⁾ The data are at current prices in the FOB type values, i.e. they include a transactional value of goods and value of services (e.g. transport, insurance, transshipment, storage of goods, etc.) performed to deliver the goods to the border of the exporting country. All data of foreign trade were prepared by the Statistical Office of the SR on the basis of data from the Customs Section of the Financial Directorate of the SR obtained within the customs procedure and from the INTRASTAT-SK statistical surveys (declarations provided by EU importers and exporters of goods)

Data source: DATAcube.:

Preliminary data

- Foreign trade by months [\[zo0001ms\]](#)
- Seasonally adjusted foreign trade data [\[zo0005ms\]](#)
- Foreign trade by Sections of SITC Rev. 4 [\[zo0006ms\]](#)
- Foreign Trade by Broad Economic Categories (BEC) [\[zo0020ms\]](#)

Detailed data

- Foreign trade with selected countries by Sections of SITC Rev. 4 [\[zo0018ms\]](#)
- Foreign trade by countries, continents and economic groupings [\[zo0011ms\]](#)
- Foreign trade by Sections in Harmonized system [\[zo0012ms\]](#)
- Foreign trade by Chapters in Harmonised System [\[zo0010ms\]](#)
- Foreign trade by Statistical Classification of Products by Activity (CPA) [\[zo0009ms\]](#)

Another source of detailed data

Detailed data according to the classification of the Harmonized System (HS4) are published outside the DATAcube. database, as predefined tables - [Foreign trade by items of the harmonized system \(HS4\)](#).

Outputs on the topic of foreign trade

Classifications of foreign trade

Foreign trade statistics are compiled in four different classifications. The Combined Nomenclature (CN) is the primary nomenclature used by all EU member states to report foreign trade in goods when collecting data. It is based on the Harmonized System (HS) of description and numbering of goods and is subject to annual revisions that ensure their timeliness. It is divided into sections (indicated by Roman numerals), chapters (HS2), headings (HS4) and sub-headings (HS6) of the Harmonized System of which a sub-heading of the combined nomenclature (CN8) is created by adding two more digits.

Converters allow to transpose detailed data collected under the CN to other classifications, such as:

- Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), which correlates with sub-headings of the Harmonized System,
- Classification according to the Broad Economic Categories (BEC), which categorizes goods into economic categories with regard to their final use,
- Statistical Classification of Products by Activity (CPA), which allows linking products that have common characteristics with activities defined by NACE.

Preliminary data

They are published monthly no later than 6 weeks after the end of the reference month, according to the [First Release Calendar](#) in the SITC classification, Rev. 4. (at the level of 10 basic sections) and in the classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC Rev. 4).

Adjusted detailed data

They are published monthly with shifting the deadline by 1 month (about 70 days after the end of the reference month) according to the Harmonized System (in the HS4 structure - approximately 1,200 headings of goods) and according to partner countries.

Issued by:

Statistical Office of the SR
Lamačská cesta 3/C
P.O. Box 67
840 00 Bratislava 4
Slovak Republic

Spokesperson:

tel. +421 2 50 236 553
e-mail: hovorca@statistics.sk

Social media :



Information Services:

tel. +421 2 50 236 339
+421 2 50 236 335
e-mail: info@statistics.sk

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