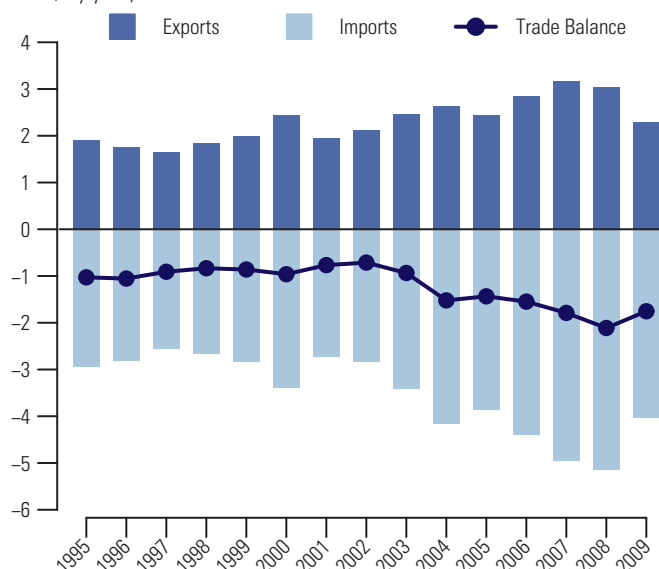


**Overview:**

After two years of continuous growth marked by a peak of 3.2 bln US\$ in 2007, the value of Malta's exports dropped by 24.7 percent in 2009 and amounted to 2.3 bln US\$, well below its 2003 level (see table 1 and graph 1). Imports showed a less pronounced development with an overall increase over the last five years (an average annual growth rate of 1.1 percent) (see table 2 and graph 1). In 2009, it declined by 21.5 percent to 4.0 bln US\$ (see table 2 and graph 1). This resulted in a trade deficit of 1.8 bln US\$ in 2009, compared to 2.1 bln US\$ in 2008 (see graph 1). Trade balance of Developed Europe, nearly -2.0 bln US\$, accounted for a large part of this deficit (see graph 2). Surpluses were recorded with South-eastern Asia (+132.1 mln US\$) and Northern Africa (+80.0 mln US\$). By partners, Malta's trade was relatively diversified: 14 (respectively 12) major partners accounted for 80 percent of exports (respectively imports) (see graph 3).

**Graph 1: Total imports, exports and trade balance**

(Bln US\$ by year)

**Exports Profile:**

Machinery and transport equipment (SITC section 7) was the largest commodity group for exports in 2009: it accounted for the majority (57.4 percent) of exported goods (see table 1). Its exports dropped by 23.9 percent in 2009. Other major commodity groups included miscellaneous manufactured articles (SITC section 8) and chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (SITC section 5) respectively with 17.2 and 11.9 percent of exported goods. Top partners for exports were Germany, Singapore and France (see table 4). Exports to Singapore and France were largely machinery and transport equipment (SITC section 7). From 2007 to 2009, diodes, transistors and similar semiconductor devices (HS code 8541) was the top commodity group and accounted for 39.7 percent of exports in 2009 (see table 3). Other major exported products included medicaments (excluding goods of heading 30.02, 30.05 or 30.06) (HS code 3004) and electrical apparatus for switching or protecting electrical circuits (HS code 8536).

**Table 1: Exports by SITC sections**

(Value in million US\$, growth and shares in percentage)

SITC	2009	Avg. Growth rates (%)		2009 share
		2005-2009	2008-2009	
Total	2280.3	-1.6	-24.7	100.0
0+1	106.7	-8.1	-56.4	4.7
2+4	13.5	14.3	-29.8	0.6
3	35.1	7.5	-45.6	1.5
5	271.7	23.0	-16.4	11.9
6	124.1	-5.6	-24.8	5.4
7	1309.5	-3.1	-23.9	57.4
8	391.6	-4.2	-14.7	17.2
9	28.3	7.7	-5.2	1.2

**Table 2: Imports by SITC sections**

(Value in million US\$, growth and shares in percentage)

SITC	2009	Avg. Growth rates (%)		2009 share
		2005-2009	2008-2009	
Total	4034.1	1.1	-21.5	100.0
0+1	613.1	8.7	-17.1	15.2
2+4	50.6	1.0	0.1	1.3
3	425.0	1.2	-44.2	10.5
5	429.7	6.7	-14.4	10.7
6	396.5	-1.6	-23.5	9.8
7	1603.0	-1.6	-16.0	39.7
8	480.1	0.4	-21.3	11.9
9	36.3	3.2	-27.2	0.9

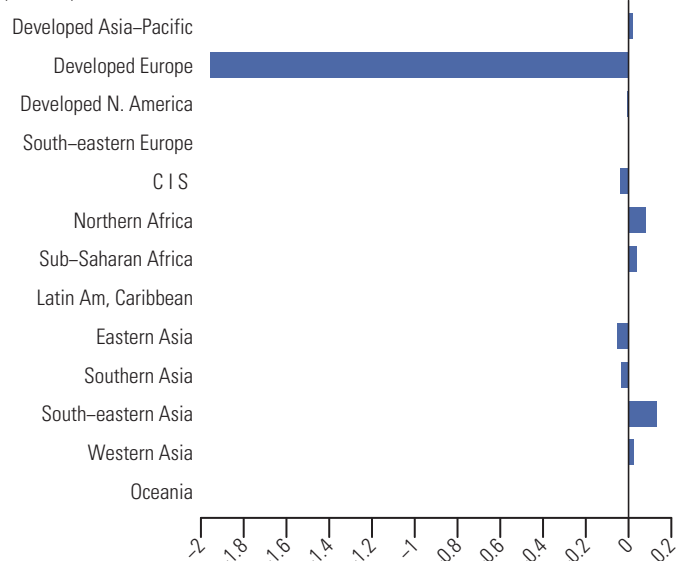
**Table 3: Top 10 export commodities 2007 to 2009**

(Value in million US\$)

HS code	4-digit heading of Harmonized System 2007	Value (million US\$)			Unit value			SITC code
		2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	
All Commodities.....		3158.3	3028.5	2280.3				
8541 Diodes, transistors and similar semiconductor devices.....		1378.5	1224.0	905.9				776
3004 Medicaments (excluding goods of heading 30.02, 30.05 or 30.06).....		206.2	248.7	208.0	150.6	126.8	95.2	542
8536 Electrical apparatus for switching or protecting electrical circuits.....		148.6	143.5	114.5	68.4	72.3	70.0	772
4907 Unused postage, revenue or similar stamps of current or new issue.....		114.8	128.4	118.7	40.5	48.8	42.1	892
9503 Tricycles, scooters, wheeled toys; dolls' carriages; dolls; other toys.....		95.4	97.0	92.2	27.6	33.4	31.9	894
2710 Petroleum oils, other than crude.....		71.5	64.4	35.0	0.7	1.1	0.7	334
0303 Fish, frozen, excluding fish fillets and other fish meat of heading 03.04.....		108.1	59.0	0.3				034
6005 Warp knit fabrics (including those made on galloon knitting machines).....		50.6	54.5	49.2	8.8	9.1	8.5	655
4016 Other articles of vulcanised rubber other than hard rubber.....		56.4	53.4	31.7	95.2	94.1	104.1	629
9018 Instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary.....		53.8	46.7	35.7				872

Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG Regions in 2009

(Bln US\$)



Graph 3: Partner concentration of trade in 2009

(Cumulative share by ranked partners)

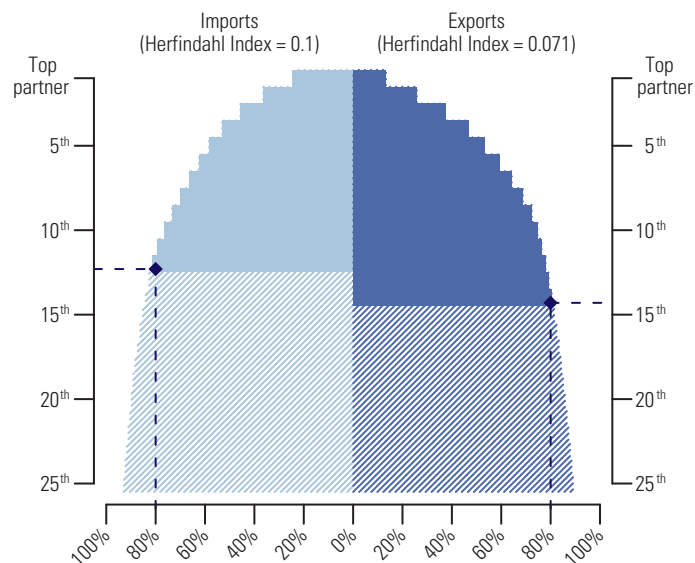


Table 4: Exports by principal countries and SITC sections in 2009

(Value in million US\$, percentages of country total)

Country	Total	Shares by SITC sections (%)									Total
		0 + 1	2 + 4	3	5	6	7	8	9		
World.....	2280.3	4.7	0.6	1.5	11.9	5.4	57.4	17.2	1.2	100	
Germany.....	304.2	0.1	0.1	...	17.5	16.2	27.9	38.3	...	100	
Singapore.....	285.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	97.0	2.6	0.1	100	
France.....	260.5	0.1	0.4	...	10.1	0.8	79.6	9.1	...	100	
USA.....	212.9	0.4	0.3	0.0	15.4	6.0	73.3	4.5	0.0	100	
China, Hong Kong SAR....	147.7	0.0	0.5	...	1.1	0.0	97.2	1.2	...	100	
United Kingdom.....	138.3	2.2	0.6	0.5	13.2	13.3	29.2	41.0	...	100	
Libya.....	117.2	7.0	0.2	0.1	9.0	6.3	61.2	15.9	0.3	100	
Italy.....	103.2	9.4	3.0	4.5	10.3	6.6	46.5	17.5	2.1	100	
Japan.....	81.4	12.1	0.3	...	0.2	10.5	74.2	2.7	...	100	
Bunkers.....	53.2	0.7	0.0	48.2	0.1	0.0	5.3	0.0	45.7	100	

**Imports Profile:**

Imports of machinery and transport equipment (SITC section 7) dropped by 16.0 percent in 2009 and accounted for 39.7 percent of imported goods (see table 2). Imports of food, live animals, beverages and tobacco (SITC sections 0+1) and miscellaneous manufactured articles (SITC section 8) decreased respectively by 17.1 percent and 21.3 percent, representing respectively 15.2 percent and 11.9 percent of total imports. From 2007 to 2009, top imported goods included electronic integrated circuits (HS code 8542), petroleum oils, other than crude (HS code 2710) and other aircraft (for example, helicopters, aeroplanes); spacecraft (HS code 8802) (see table 5).

Table 5: Top 10 import commodities 2007 to 2009

(Value in million US\$)

HS code	4-digit heading of Harmonized System 2007	Value (million US\$)			Unit value			SITC code
		2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	
All Commodities.....		4947.0	5140.8	4034.1				
8542 Electronic integrated circuits.....		942.8	770.2	433.6				776
2710 Petroleum oils, other than crude.....		562.1	721.7	412.4	0.5	0.7	0.5	334
8802 Other aircraft (for example, helicopters, aeroplanes); spacecraft.....		112.1	51.3	266.0	56.1	2.3	20.5 mln US\$/unit	792
8703 Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport.....		188.1	134.5	95.8	13.4	11.4	7.7 thsd US\$/unit	781
8903 Yachts and other vessels for pleasure or sports; rowing boats and canoes.....		83.2	126.5	116.3	94.4	149.5	125.9 thsd US\$/unit	793
3004 Medicaments (excluding goods of heading 30.02, 30.05 or 30.06).....		87.5	119.4	94.8	60.7	57.4	60.9	542
8803 Parts of goods of heading 88.01 or 88.02.....		63.5	62.7	103.9	529.2	28.2	283.0	792
4802 Uncoated paper and paperboard, of a kind used for writing.....		45.4	55.3	51.3	1.0	5.7	6.7	641
9403 Other furniture and parts thereof.....		50.6	48.9	45.4				821
3926 Other articles of plastics.....		46.6	55.9	39.1	11.5	8.8	6.7	893