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Foreign trade values also rose in September 2022, with volumes falling in many cases

Value of gas imports in the first three quarters 132.7 % higher than in the same period of the previous year

Vienna, 2022-12-07 – In **September 2022**, the **import** value of goods increased by 20.5 % compared to September 2021 to €19.03 bn, according to preliminary results from Statistics Austria. At the same time, the value of **exports** increased by 19.6 % to €17.65 bn. The **trade balance** showed a deficit of €1.38 bn.

“In September 2022, Austria’s foreign trade again grew at a double-digit rate: Compared to September of the previous year, imports increased by 20.5% and the value of exports rose by 19.6 %. However, the increase in international trade values is largely due to the rise in import and export prices, while the volumes were often declining. The value of gas imports, for example, increased by a whopping 132.7% in the period from January to September compared to the first three quarters of the previous year, although the volume of imports declined by more than 41.4 % in the same period,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Austria imported goods worth €12.58 bn from **European Union member states** in **September 2022**, and goods worth €12.10 bn were exported to these countries. Compared to September 2021, intra-EU imports increased by 20.7 % and intra-EU exports by 19.1 %. This resulted in a negative trade balance with European Union member states of €0.48 bn.

Imports from **non-EU countries** amounted to €6.45 bn in September 2022, up 20.2 % year-on-year; extra-EU exports increased by 20.6 % to €5.54 bn. The resulting deficit in the trade balance with non-EU countries amounted to €0.91 bn (see table 1).

The four most important product groups in Austria’s international trade – machinery and vehicles, processed goods, chemical products and other manufactured goods – showed growth of 18.5 % to €14.77 bn on the export side. The largest absolute export growth in this group was achieved with machinery and vehicles (+18.4 %; +€1.00 bn), followed by processed goods (+17.9 %; +€0.58 bn). On the import side the four most important product groups recorded an increase of 15.1 % to €14.07 bn. Within this group, machinery and vehicles (+18.6 %; +€0.95 bn) also recorded the strongest absolute increase in imports.

January to September 2022: imports up 21.4 %, exports up 18.7 %

The total value of imports of goods in the period **January to September 2022** was nominally €158.18 bn, according to preliminary results from Statistics Austria, while exports of goods amounted to €144.34 bn. In the period January to September 2022, imports increased by 21.4 % and exports by 18.7 %. The trade balance deficit showed a value of €13.84 bn, compared to €8.61 bn in the same period the year before.

From January to September 2022, trade with all of the ten most important import partners showed increases on the import side. Apart from the increase with Germany, Austria’s most important trading partner (+18.0 %), these were mainly increases with China (+32.5 %), the Russian Federation (+102.3 %) and Czechia (+33.9 %). On the export side, trade with all of the ten most important export partners recorded increases, in particular Germany (+16.8 %), Italy (+21.7 %) and the United States (+17.6 %).

In the period January to September 2022, within the product group fuels and energy, there was a volume reduction (-41.4 %) in the subgroup **gas** compared to the same period of the previous year. At the same time, the value of gas imports increased by 132.7 %.

Austria imported goods worth €104.03 bn (+19.3 %) from **European Union member states** during the reporting period. The value of goods exported to EU countries also recorded an increase of +19.7 % compared to the same period of the previous year and amounted to €99.31 bn. The trade deficit with the European Union amounted to €4.73 bn, compared to €4.21 bn in the period January to September 2021.

International trade of goods with **third countries** showed an increase in both imports (+25.8 % to €54.15 bn) and exports (+16.5 % to €45.03 bn) compared to the same period last year. This resulted in a trade balance deficit with third countries of €9.12 bn (see table 2).

Imports from the **Ukraine** showed an increase in the period January to September 2022 compared to the same period of the previous year (+12.2 % to €0.91 bn). The most important import product group was metalliferous ores and metal scrap. On the export side, however, a decrease of 18.6 % to €0.36 bn was recorded, with medical and pharmaceutical products as the most important product group.

On the import side, trade with the **Russian Federation** showed a significant increase (+102.3 % to €5.80 bn) compared to the same period in 2021, with gas being the most important import commodity. On the export side, there was a slight decrease (-3.5 % to €1.40 bn), the most important product group being medical and pharmaceutical products.

For detailed results and further information, please refer to our [website](#). Visualisations of the foreign trade data for 2021 are available in the [ITGS-Atlas](#).

Table 1: International trade in goods in September 2022

2022 ¹	Import	Export	Trade balance ²	In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in percent)	
				Import	Export
Total	19 032 122	17 648 372	-1 383 749	+20.5	+19.6
EU-27 (Intra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	12 579 950	12 103 528	-476 421	+20.7	+19.1
Third states (Extra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	6 452 172	5 544 844	-907 328	+20.2	+20.6

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, monthly international trade in goods statistics. Values in 1 000 euros (unless otherwise indicated) – 1) preliminary results – 2) trade balance = exports minus imports (import or export surplus).

Table 2: International trade in goods from January to September 2022

2022 ¹	Import	Export	Trade balance ²	In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in percent)	
				Import	Export
Total	158 179 880	144 335 345	-13 844 535	+21.4	+18.7
EU-27 (Intra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	104 032 578	99 305 570	-4 727 008	+19.3	+19.7
Third states (Extra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	54 147 302	45 029 775	-9 117 527	+25.8	+16.5

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, monthly international trade in goods statistics. Values in 1 000 euros (unless otherwise indicated) – 1) preliminary results – 2) trade balance = exports minus imports (import or export surplus).

Information on methodology, definitions: The available result of the foreign trade statistics (ITGS: International Trade in Goods Statistics) contains data of the statistics of the trade in goods with third countries (EXTRASTAT) associated with the customs declaration and the primary statistics of the trade in goods with the EU member states (INTRASTAT) as well as additional estimates on the INTRASTAT data collected, which cover the non-response to the survey and values not collected due to thresholds. Foreign trade statistics usually take into account the physical movement of goods that cross the Austrian border.

If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

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