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Austria's international trade down in January 2026

Fuel and energy imports fell by a third

Vienna, 2026-04-09 – According to preliminary calculations by Statistics Austria, the value of exported goods fell by 2.2% to €15.06 bn in January 2026 compared to January of the previous year. The value of imports fell by 3.0% to €15.13 bn. This resulted in a trade deficit of €0.07 bn.

"At the start of 2026, both Austria's exports and imports declined by single-digit percentages. Compared with January of the previous year, fuel and energy imports in particular collapsed by almost a third, while the sharpest decline in exports was seen in chemical products, down by 7.1%," says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

Austria imported goods worth €9.67 bn from **European Union** member states in January 2026, and goods worth €10.32 bn were exported to these countries. Compared to January 2025, intra-EU imports decreased by 4.2% and intra-EU exports by 1.1%. There was a positive trade balance with European Union member states of €0.65 bn.

Imports from **non-EU countries** amounted to €5.46 bn in January 2026, showing a decrease of 0.7% year-on-year; extra-EU exports decreased by 4.4% to €4.74 bn. The resulting negative trade balance with non-EU-countries amounted to €0.71 bn (see table 1).

The main factor behind this negative trade balance with third countries was trade with China (trade balance: −€1.10 bn). Particularly machinery and vehicles showed imports from China that were more than three times higher (+3.6% to €0.79 bn) than exports (+25.7% to €0.23 bn).The largest trade surplus with a partner country this month was recorded with the United Kingdom (trade balance: +€0.31 bn). Trade in the other goods product group (imports: +5.7% to €0.002 bn; exports: +72.2% to €0.14 bn) was particularly significant in this regard.

More machinery and vehicles imported, fewer exported

Overall, 8 of the 10 product groups showed declining export values this month. The 4 **most important product groups** in Austria's international trade – machinery and vehicles, processed goods, chemical products and other manufactured goods – together showed a decrease of 2.4% to €12.41 bn on the export side. The highest absolute declines in exports were observed for chemical products (−7.1%; −€0.19 bn), followed by processed goods (−4.8%; −€0.15 bn). The highest and only absolute increases in exports across all groups were recorded for other goods (+44.9%; +€0.17 bn) and other manufactured goods (+6.4%; +€0.10 bn).

In terms of imports, only one of the 4 most important product groups saw a decline, namely processed goods (−4.8%; −€0.11 bn). Increases on the other hand were recorded for machinery and vehicles (+3.6%; +€0.18 bn), chemical products (+3.7%; +€0.09 bn) and other manufactured goods (+0.6%; +€0.01 bn). The 4 most important product groups in imports together showed an increase of 1.4% to €11.97 bn. Apart from the 4 most important product groups, fuels and energy recorded the highest absolute decreases in imports (−30.7%; −€0.41 bn). This was mainly due to crude oil and petroleum products, where the import value fell by 35.4%, while the imported volume declined too (−21.7%). Imports of gas fell by 44.2% in value while volume declined by 28.6%.

Austria's trade with Bulgaria: exports rose in January, imports declined

Bulgaria joined the eurozone in January. Compared with January 2025, exports to Bulgaria rose by 3.6% to €0.09 bn at the start of 2026. The largest increase was seen in machinery and vehicles (+6.9%; +€0.002 bn). In terms of exports, this trading partner ranked 27th; in terms of imports, it ranked 34th. Austria's imports from Bulgaria fell by 4.5% compared to the same period last year, to €0.05 bn. This resulted in a trade surplus of €0.04 bn. This was primarily due to trade in road vehicles (balance: +€0.01 bn).

Austria's trade with India: imports down, exports up

For some time now, the European Union has been stepping up its efforts to further expand trade with India. With a share of imports of 0.8% (€0.12 bn), India ranked 21st among Austria's trading partners in January 2026. The product group other manufactured goods (down 3.5% to €0.04 bn) dominated imports (share: 30.7%). Trade in clothing (−3.1%; to €0.02 bn) was particularly significant here. As a result, imports from this country declined by 6.9% compared to January 2025; export values, however, increased (+4.4%).

The export share was lower than the import share in the first month of 2026, standing at 0.7% with a value of €0.10 bn. The majority of Austrian exports to India (share: 45.1%) during this period consisted of machinery and vehicles (+30.3% to €0.05 bn), followed by chemical products (+49.2% to €0.02 bn).

Table 1 International trade in goods, January 2026

2026[1]	Import	Export	Trade balance[2]	In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in%)	
				Import	Export
Total	**15 128 593**	**15 061 917**	**−66 676**	**−3.0**	**−2.2**
EU-27 (Intra-EU imports/exports)	9 671 382	10 317 740	646 358	−4.2	−1.1
Third states (Extra-EU imports/exports)	5 457 211	4 744 177	−713 034	−0.7	−4.4

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, monthly international trade in goods statistics. – Values in 1 000 euro. – Rounding differences not balanced. – 1) Preliminary results – 2) Trade balance = exports minus imports (import or export surplus).

For detailed results and further information, please refer to our website. Visualisations of the international trade data are available in the ITGS-Atlas.

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.

Statistics Austria is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment. As a national statistical institute, it is committed to the statutory principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is headed by Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

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