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International trade in goods with slight increase in April 2022

imports +15.0 %, exports +9.3 %

Vienna, 2022-07-08 - In April 2022, according to preliminary results from Statistics Austria, the value of imports of goods was €17.39 bn, an increase of 15.0 % compared to April 2021. At the same time, exports of goods also increased, rising by 9.3 % to €15.25 bn. The trade balance showed a deficit of €2.15 bn.

"Austria's international trade of goods continued to grow in April 2022, with exports increasing by 9.3 % and imports by 15.0 %. The increase in imports of fuels and energy was particularly strong at 143.6 %. Especially in terms of gas imports, price rises were the driving force behind the development in the period from January to April 2022: Despite a 21.2 % lower volume compared to the same period of the previous year, the value of gas imports rose by 262.7 %," says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Austria imported goods worth €11.09 bn from European Union member states in April 2022, and goods worth €10.61 bn were exported to these countries. Compared to April 2021, intra-EU imports increased by 10.9 % and intra-EU exports by 12.4 %. This resulted in a negative trade balance with European Union member states of €0.48 bn. Imports from non-EU countries amounted to €6.31 bn in April 2022, up 23.2 % year-on-year; extra-EU exports increased by 2.8 % to €4.64 bn. The resulting deficit in the trade balance with non-EU countries amounted to €1.67 bn (see table 1).

The four most important product groups in Austrian international trade statistics on the export side - machinery and vehicles, processed goods, chemical products and other manufactured goods - showed growth of 5.7% to €12.55 bn. The largest absolute export growth in this group was achieved with processed goods (+23.1 %; +€0.69 bn), followed by manufactured goods (+8.9 %; +€0.12 bn). On the import side fuels and energy replaced the product group manufactured goods, the four most important product groups recorded an increase of 13.7 % to €12.46 bn. Within these, fuels and energy (+143.6 %; +€1.30 bn) recorded the strongest absolute increase in imports.

January to April 2022: Growth in imports (+22.5 %) and exports (+17.0 %)

The total value of imports of goods in the period January to April 2022 was nominally €68.67 bn, according to preliminary results from Statistics Austria, while exports of goods amounted to €62.18 bn. In the reporting period January to April 2022, imports increased by 22.5 % and exports by 17.0 %. The trade balance deficit showed a value of €6.48 bn, compared to €2.90 bn in the same period last year.

From January to April 2022, all of the ten most important import countries showed increases, with the exception of Switzerland (imports: -0.7 %). Apart from the increase with Germany, Austria's most important trading partner (+16.3 %), these were mainly increases with the Russian Federation (+215.5 %), China (+26.1 %) and Czechia (+29.2 %). On the export side, all of the ten most important export partners recorded increases. Germany (+12.2 %), Italy (+26.3 %), and Hungary (+45.1 %) are particularly noteworthy.

Austria imported goods worth €44.18 bn (+17.1 %) from European Union member states during the reporting period. The value of goods exported to EU countries also recorded an increase of +19.4 % compared to the same period of the previous year and amounted to €43.24 bn. The trade deficit with the European Union amounted to €0.94 bn, compared to €1.49 bn in the period January-April 2021.

International trade of goods with third countries showed an increase in both imports (+33.5 % to €24.49 bn) and exports (+11.9 % to €18.95 bn) compared to the same period last year. This resulted in a trade balance deficit with third countries of €5.54 bn (see table 2).

Imports from the Ukraine showed a slight increase in the period January to April 2022 compared to the same period of the previous year (+2.3 % to €0.39 bn). The most important import product group was metalliferous ores and metal scrap. On the export side, however, a decrease of 27.9 % to €0.15 bn was recorded, with medical and pharmaceutical products as the most important product group.

With regard to the period January to April 2022, within the product group fuels and energy, there was a volume reduction (-21.2 %) in the subgroup gas compared to the same period of the previous year. At the same time, the corresponding values recorded an increase of 262.7 %.

On the import side, trade with the Russian Federation showed a significant increase (+215.5 % to €3.10 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 (-2.3 % to €0.66 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 April 2022

2022 ¹⁾	Import	Export	Trade balance ²⁾	In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in percent)	
				Import	Export
Total	17 394 633	15 248 671	-2 145 962	+15.0	+9.3
EU-27 (Intra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	11 085 124	10 605 232	-479 892	+10.9	+12.4
Third states (Extra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	6 309 509	4 643 439	-1 666 070	+23.2	+2.8

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 April 2022

2022 ¹⁾	Import	Export	Trade balance ²⁾	In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in percent)	
				Import	Export
Total	68 668 973	62 184 739	-6 484 234	+22.5	+17.0
EU-27 (Intra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	44 182 561	43 237 928	-944 633	+17.1	+19.4
Third states (Extra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	24 486 412	18 946 811	-5 539 601	+33.5	+11.9

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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