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International trade continues with stable increases

Value of gas imports in November 2022 +42.8 % above prior-year month due price factors

Vienna, 2023-02-07 – According to preliminary results from Statistics Austria, the value of imports of goods was €19.71 bn in November 2022, an increase of 17.8 % compared to November 2021. At the same time, exports of goods also increased, rising by 14.7 % to €18.13 bn. The trade balance showed a deficit of €1.58 bn.

“In November 2022, Austria’s foreign trade again recorded double-digit growth compared with November of the previous year, rising by 17.8 % on the import side and by 14.7 % on the export side. On the import side, one of the contributing factors was a 40.4 % increase in the value of fuels and energy, which in turn was mainly attributable to price increases. The value of gas imports, for example, increased by 42.8 %, while the volume of imports decreased by 18.6 %. The largest share of imports in November 2022 was accounted for by medical and pharmaceutical products, which showed an increase in value of 83.5 % in this month alone,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Austria imported goods worth €12.24 bn from **European Union member states** in **November 2022**, and goods worth €12.47 bn were exported to these countries. Compared to November 2021, intra-EU imports increased by 8.3 % and intra-EU exports by 16.4 %. This resulted in a positive trade balance with European Union member states of €0.23 bn.

Imports from **non-EU countries** amounted to €7.47 bn in November 2022, up 37.4 % year-on-year; extra-EU exports increased by 11.1 % to €5.66 bn. The resulting deficit in the trade balance with non-EU countries amounted to €1.81 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 13.4 % to €15.25 bn on the export side. The largest absolute export growth in this group was achieved with machinery and vehicles (+16.7 %; +€0.96 bn), the subgroup road vehicles took the largest share here (+21.8 %; +€0.32 bn). On the import side, the four most important product groups together showed an increase of 16.3 % to €15.00 bn. Within this group, machinery and vehicles (+17.1 %; +€0.92 bn) recorded the strongest absolute increase in imports, followed by chemical products (+40.2 %, +€0.92 bn). Within this product group, the largest import growth in absolute terms was achieved by the medical and pharmaceutical products subgroup (+83.5 %; +€0.80 bn).

Outside the four most important product groups, fuels and energy also continued to record high increases (+40.4 %; +€0.66 bn) in imports. Here, the gas subgroup recorded an increase of 42.8 % in value, while at the same time volumes declined by 18.6 %.

January to November 2022: imports up 21.1 %, exports up 18.1 %

The total value of imports of goods in the period **January to November 2022** was nominally €197.02 bn, according to preliminary results from Statistics Austria, while exports of goods amounted to €179.12 bn. In the period January to November 2022, imports increased by 21.1 % and exports by 18.1 %. The trade balance deficit showed a value of €17.90 bn, compared to €11.02 bn in the same period the year before.

From January to November 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 (+17.0 %), these were mainly increases with China (+33.5 %), the Russian Federation (+91.4 %) and Czechia

(+27.6 %). On the export side, trade with all of the ten most important export partners recorded increases, in particular Germany (+16.8 %), Italy (+18.5 %) and the United States (+16.8 %).

In the period January to November 2022, within the product group fuels and energy, there was a volume reduction (-38.0 %) in the subgroup **gas** compared to the same period of the previous year. At the same time, the value of gas imports increased by 118.8 %.

Austria imported goods worth €128.34 bn (+17.9 %) from **European Union member states** in the first eleven months of 2022. The value of goods exported to EU countries also recorded an increase of +19.1 % compared to the same period of the previous year and amounted to €123.19 bn. The trade deficit with the European Union amounted to €5.16 bn, compared to €5.41 bn in the period January to November 2021.

International trade of goods with **third countries** showed an increase in both imports (+27.4 % to €68.68 bn) and exports (+15.8 % to €55.94 bn) compared to the same period last year. This resulted in a trade balance deficit with third countries of €12.74 bn (see table 2).

Imports from the **Ukraine** showed an increase in the period January to November 2022 compared to the same period of the previous year (+13.9 % to €1.10 bn). The most important import product group was metalliferous ores and metal scrap. On the export side, however, a decrease of 18.7 % to €0.46 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 (+91.4 % to €7.67 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 (-8.2 % to €1.70 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 November 2022

2022 ¹	Import	Export	Trade balance ²	In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in percent)	
				Import	Export
Total	19 708 208	18 129 269	-1 578 940	+17.8	+14.7
EU-27 (Intra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	12 241 475	12 468 552	227 078	+8.3	+16.4
Third states (Extra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	7 466 734	5 660 717	-1 806 017	+37.4	+11.1

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 November 2022

2022 ¹	Import	Export	Trade balance ²	In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in percent)	
				Import	Export
Total	197 020 468	179 124 947	-17 895 522	+21.1	+18.1
EU-27 (Intra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	128 344 930	123 189 445	-5 155 485	+17.9	+19.1
Third states (Extra-EU-Imports/-Exports)	68 675 538	55 935 502	-12 740 037	+27.4	+15.8

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).

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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