



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS BULLETIN MAY 2025

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DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA



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MALAYSIA'S EXTERNAL TRADE PERFORMANCE, MAY 2025

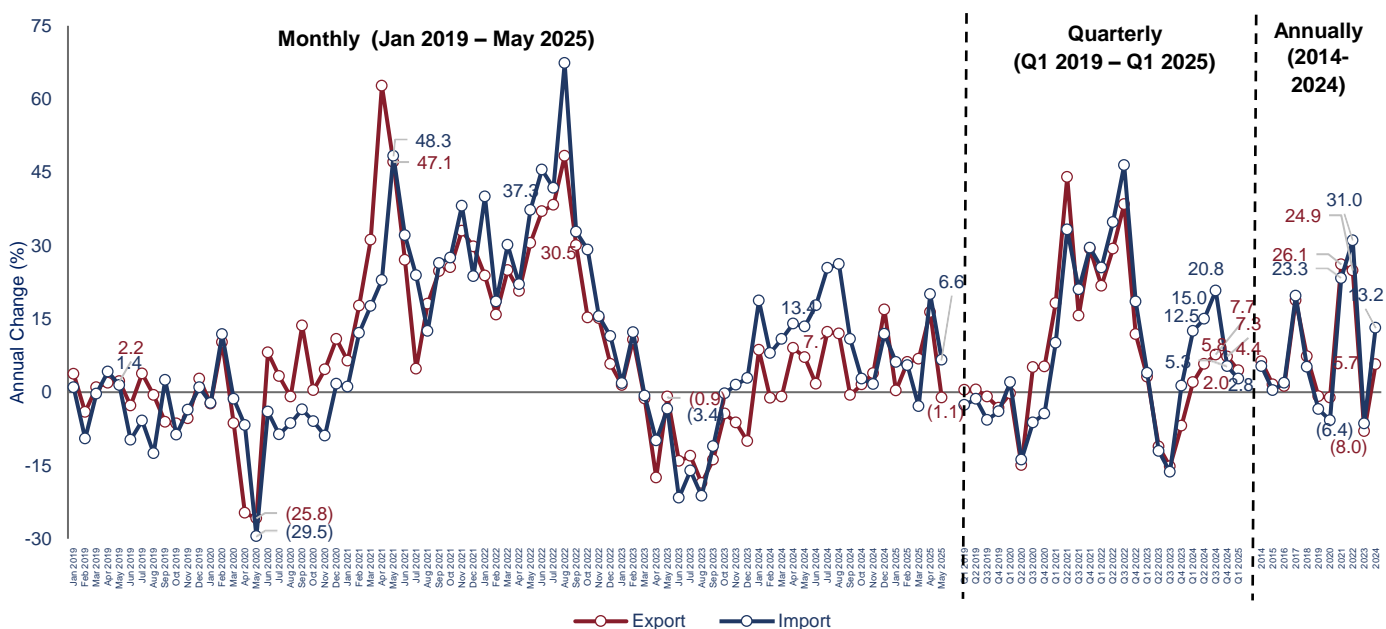
Malaysia's trade performance sustained a positive trend in May 2025, consistent with the rise in imports (+6.6%), year-on-year (y-o-y). Total trade increased by RM6.4 billion or 2.6 per cent, y-o-y, reached RM252.5 billion.

Nevertheless, exports and trade balance experienced a decline of RM1.4 billion (-1.1%) and RM9.2 billion (-92.3%), respectively as compared to the same period in the previous year.

The monthly comparison shows that exports, imports, total trade and trade surplus declined by 5.2 per cent, 2.0 per cent, 3.6 per cent and 85.1 per cent, respectively.

Total trade, exports and imports all showed positive trend from January to May 2025, compared to the corresponding period in the previous year. Total trade climbed by 6.2 per cent, driven by increases in exports (+5.5%) and imports (+6.9%). While, trade surplus recorded a declined by 9.4 per cent to reach RM46.9 billion.

Chart 1: Trade Performance: Monthly, Quarterly & Annually



EXPORTS

Malaysia's export performance in May 2025 experience a decline to reach RM126.6 billion reduced by 1.1 per cent

Performance of Exports

Malaysia's exports decreased by 1.1 per cent in May 2025, down from RM128.0 billion in April 2024 to RM126.6 billion.

This negative growth is aligned with the 4.7 per cent decrease in domestic exports to RM100.8 billion from RM105.8 billion, accounting for 79.6 per cent of overall exports. However, re-exports accounted for

20.4 per cent of total exports, up 16.1 per cent to RM25.8 billion.

Moreover, a monthly comparison showed that exports decreased by 5.2 per cent or RM6.9 billion. With regards to analysis of the seasonally adjusted terms month-on-month (m-o-m), exports decreased by 4.8 per cent to RM130.4 billion.

Chart 2: Domestic Exports, Re-Exports (RM billion) and Annual Change (%)

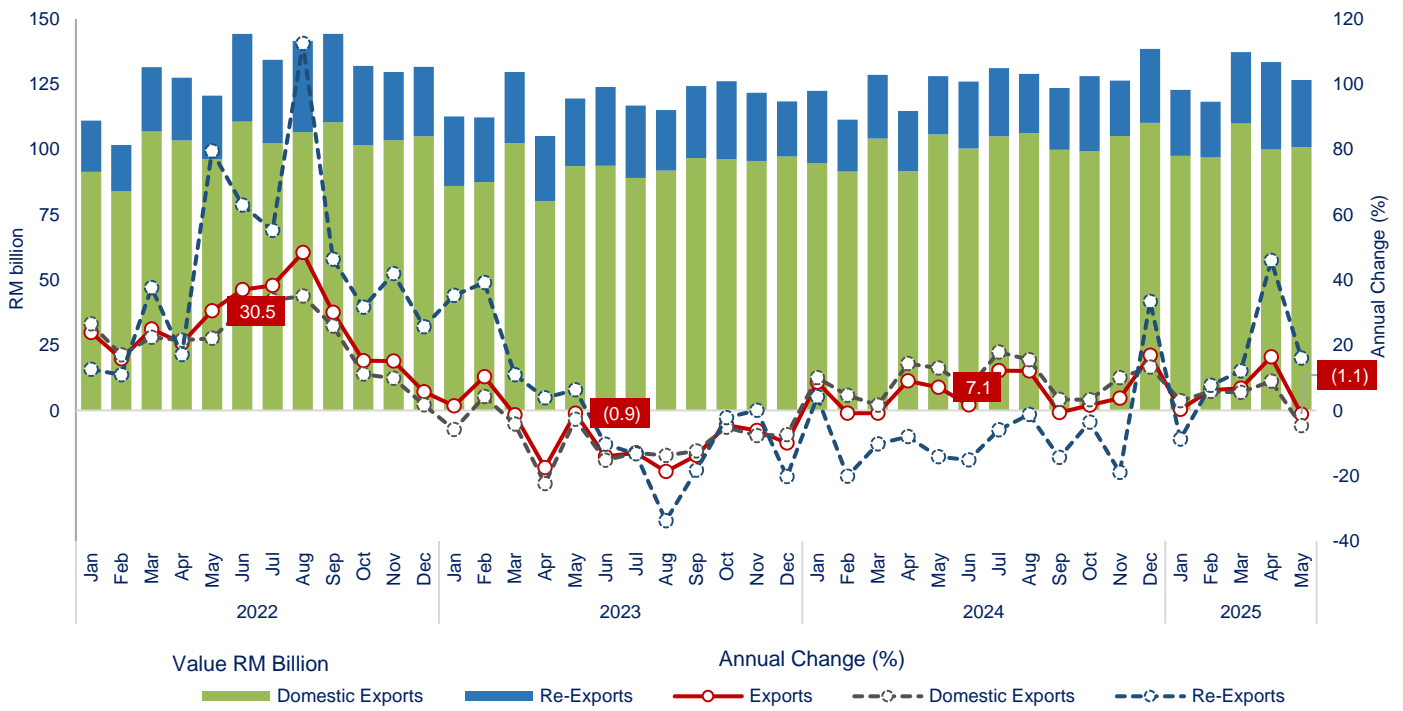
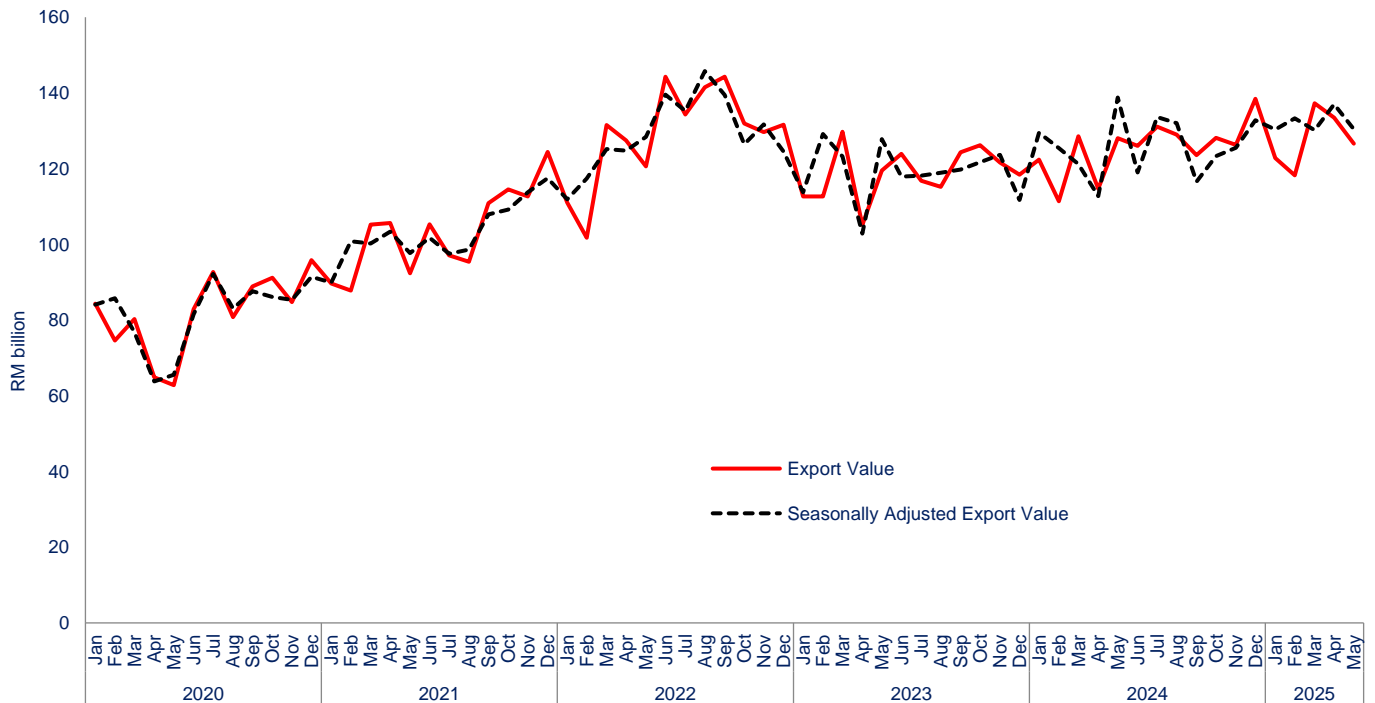


Chart 3: Actual Export Value and Seasonally Adjusted Export Value, RM billion



Export Performance for Major Country of Destination

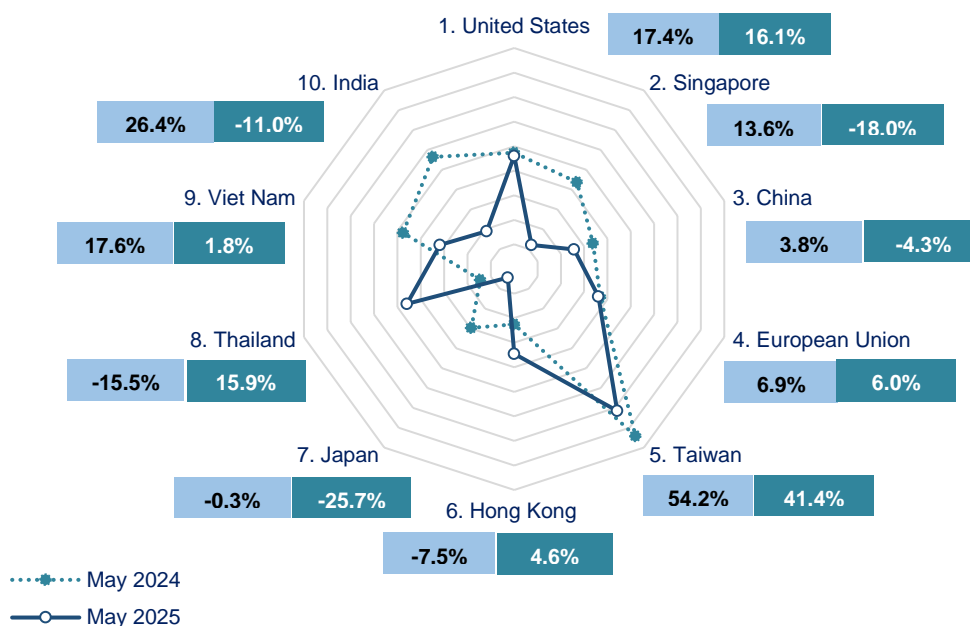
The United States and Singapore were the main destination countries with a contribution of 29.2 per cent to Malaysia's total exports in May 2025.

The United States dominated the main destination country with a contribution of 14.8 per cent to total exports. Exports to the United States was valued at RM18.7 billion, rose by 16.1 per cent or RM2.6 billion, y-o-y. The increase was attributable from higher exports of electrical & electronic (E&E) products (+RM1.8 billion, +19.2%) and processed food (+RM262.9 million, +153.1%).

Meanwhile, the value of exports to Singapore which constituted 14.4 per cent of total exports worth RM18.3 billion, decreased by RM4.0 billion or 18.0 per cent. The decrease was supported by slower exports of E&E products (-RM2.8 billion, -23.5%) and petroleum products (-RM939.4 million, -34.3%).

Out of ten major countries of destination, exports grew negatively to Singapore, China, Japan and India. While, the United States, the European Union, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Thailand and Viet Nam grew positively in May 2025.

Chart 4: Annual Change of Exports for Major Country of Destination, May 2024 and May 2025



Exports to ASEAN Countries

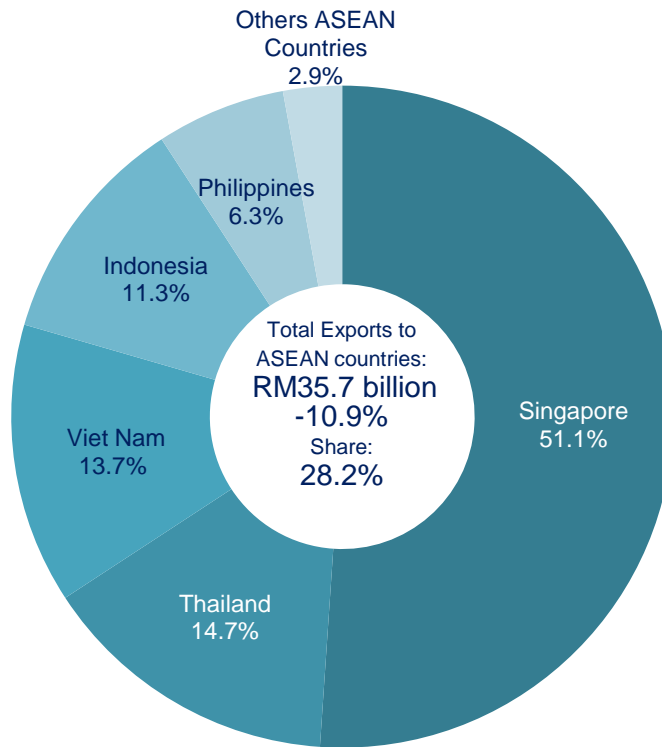
Malaysia's exports to ASEAN countries accounted for 28.2 per cent of overall exports, amounting RM35.7 billion, declined by 10.9 per cent.

The decrease was mainly impacted by the slower exports of petroleum products (-RM2.6 billion, -37.0%), followed by E&E

products (-RM1.5 billion, -9.4%) and crude petroleum (-RM581.6 million, -58.9%).

Singapore led the ASEAN member states in overall exports, accounting 51.1 per cent, with a value of RM18.3 billion, a 18.0 per cent decrease from the previous year.

Chart 5: Percentage Share of Exports to ASEAN Countries, May 2025



Export Performance for Economic Sectors

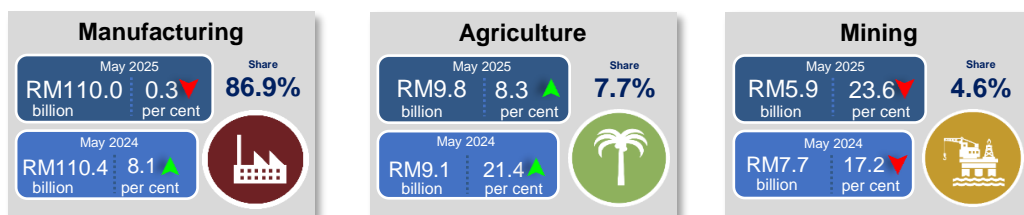
Manufactured goods exports registered a marginal decrease by 0.3 per cent (-RM371.5 million), accounting for 86.9 per cent of overall exports. The primary causes of negative growth were petroleum products (-RM3.3 billion, -28.9%), chemical & chemical products (-RM952.5 million, -15.1%), and iron and steel products (-RM377.3 million, -13.2%).

Exports of mining products, which accounted for 4.6 per cent of total exports, fell by 23.6 per cent to RM5.9 billion, caused by lower

exports of liquefied natural gas (-RM1.7 billion, -42.2%), crude petroleum (-RM730.5 million, -28.9%), and tin (-RM41.7 million, -22.1%).

Exports of agricultural products increased by 8.3 per cent to RM9.8 billion, accounting for 7.7 per cent of overall exports. The increase was consistent with the growth in exports of Palm Oil and Palm-Based Products (+RM565.1 million, +8.3%), other vegetables oil (+RM107.8 million, +36.9%), and other agriculture (+RM98.5 million, +9.7%).

Exhibit 1: Exports by Sector, May 2024 and May 2025



Exports of Selected Major Products

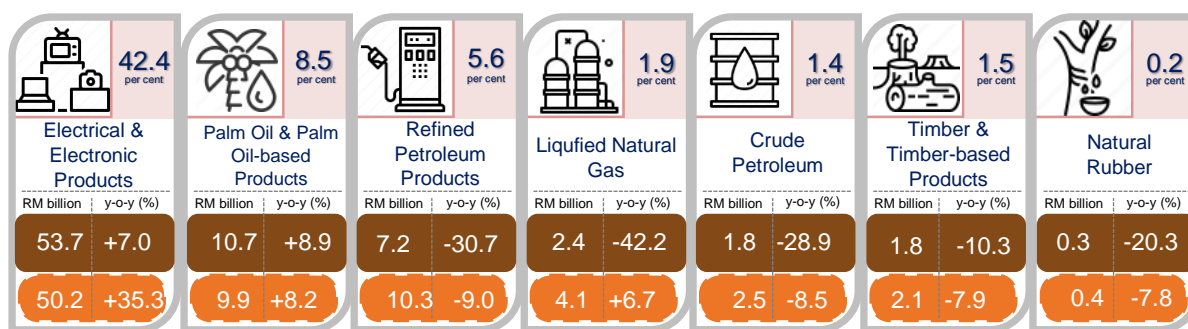
The export performance declined in May 2025 due to decreases in the following products:

- Refined petroleum products, which accounted for 5.6 per cent of total exports, fell by 30.7 per cent or RM3.2 billion to RM7.2 billion;
- Liquefied natural gas accounted for 1.9 per cent of total exports, decline by RM1.7 billion or 42.2 per cent to RM2.4 billion. Export volume decreased by 36.5 per cent, while average value per unit decreased by 8.9 per cent;
- Crude petroleum, which accounted for 1.4 per cent of total exports, fell by RM730.5 million or 28.9 per cent, to RM1.8 billion despite a decrease in export volume (-1.3%) in line with the decline in Brent oil price to RM273.7 per barrel, resulting in a 28.0 per cent decrease in average unit value;
- Timber & timber-based products decreased by 10.3 per cent (-RM212.5 million) to RM1.8 billion, accounting for 1.5 per cent of total exports; and
- Natural rubber, which accounted for 0.2 per cent of total exports, decreased by 20.3 per cent (-RM79.6 million) to RM312.6 million. This was consistent with the decrease in export volume (-29.3%) meanwhile decrease in SMR20 rubber price (-5.7%).

However, improvements were noted in the following products:

- Palm oil and palm oil-based products accounted for 8.5 per cent of total exports, increasing by 8.9 per cent or RM877.3 million. However, palm oil exports, the principal commodity in this product group, rose by RM299.1 million, or 5.4 per cent, in accordance with the rise in export volume (+2.5%). Subsequently, the price of local palm oil declined by 0.6 per cent to RM3,880.5 per metric tonnes; and
- E&E products, accounting for 42.4 per cent of total exports, increased by 7.0 per cent, from RM50.2 billion to RM53.7 billion.

Exhibit 2: Exports of Selected Major Product, May 2024 and May 2025



Note: Share

May 2025

May 2024

IMPORTS

Imports increased by 6.6 per cent to RM125.9 billion, outpacing export growth

Performance of Imports

Malaysia's import value increased by 6.6 per cent, or RM7.8 billion to RM125.9 billion in May 2025. On a m-o-m basis, imports downed by 2.0 per cent or RM2.5 billion. According to the m-o-m seasonally adjusted terms analysis, imports decline 3.6 per cent to RM126.8 billion.

Imports by End Use increased, y-o-y, with an increase in capital goods (+63.7%), whereas intermediate goods and consumption goods decreased 4.4 per cent and 1.1 per cent, respectively.

Chart 6: Imports Value (RM billion) and Annual Change (%)

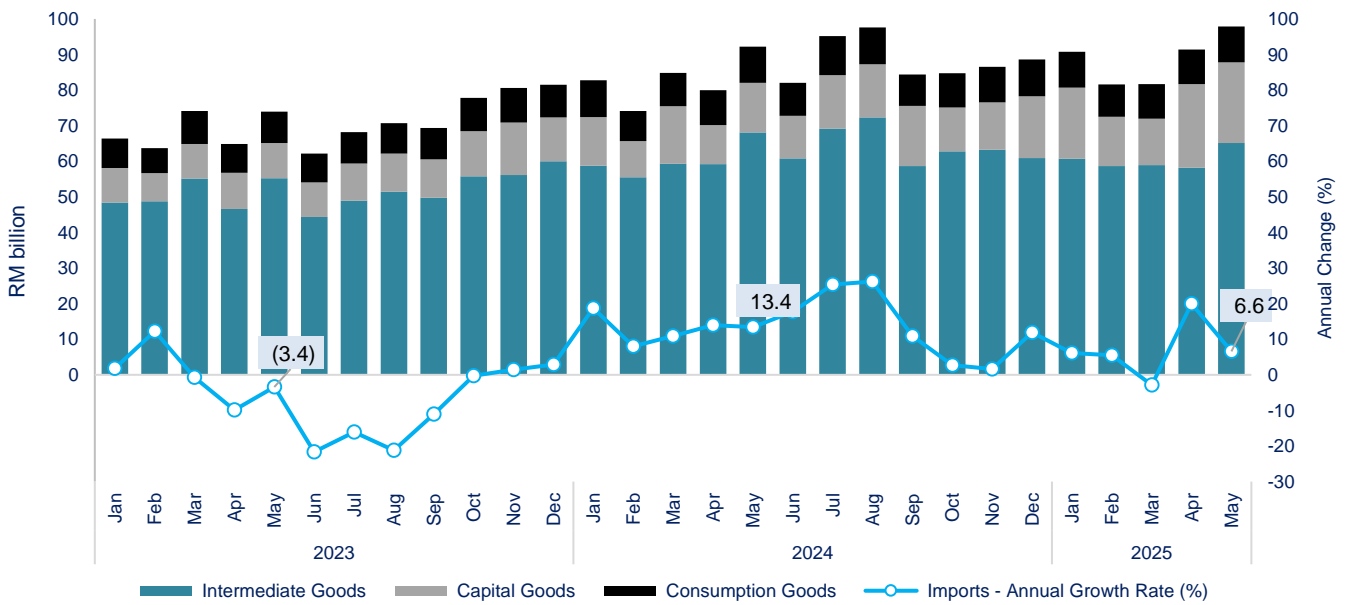
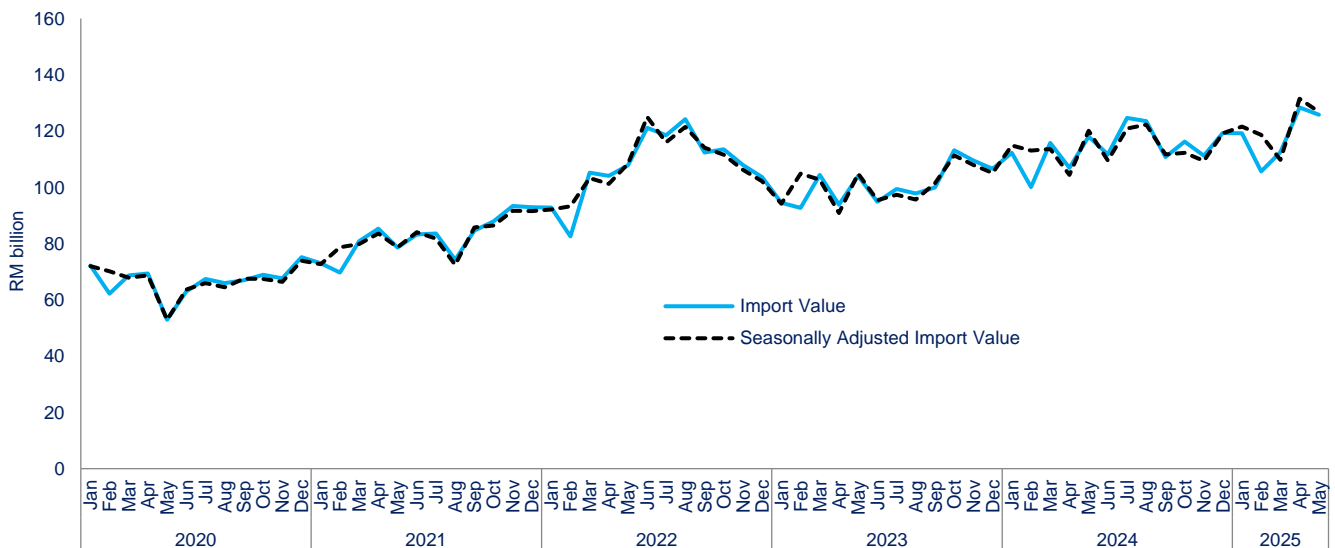


Chart 7: Actual Import Value and Seasonally Adjusted Imports Value, RM billion



Import Performance for Major Country of Origin

China and the United States were Malaysia's two major country of origin in May 2025, accounting for 35.9 per cent of total imports.

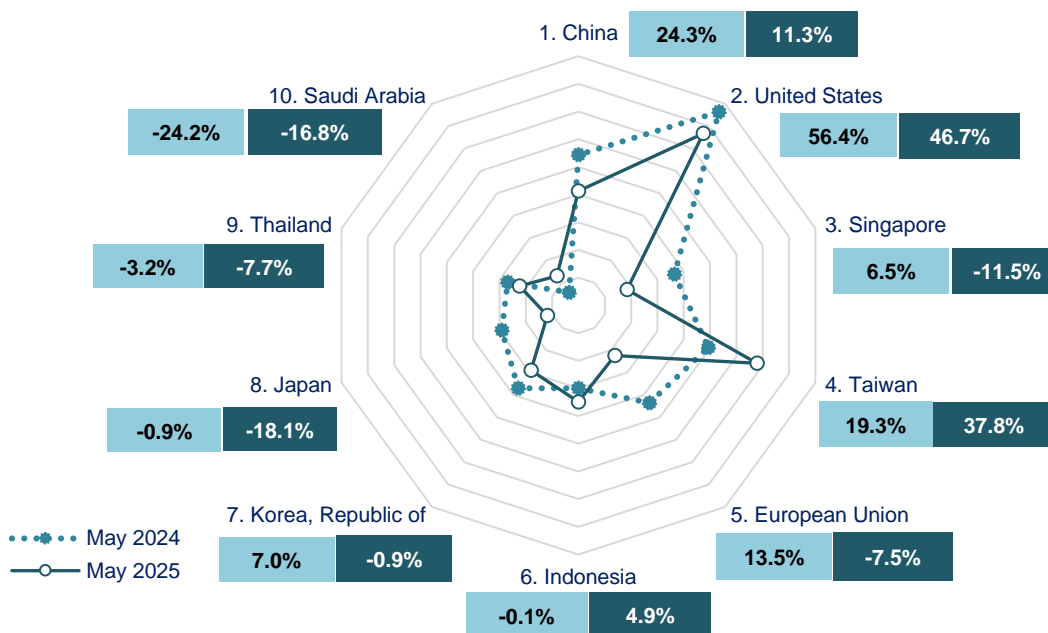
Malaysia's imports from China climbed by 11.3 per cent to RM29.2 billion, accounting for 23.2 per cent of total imports. This growth is driven by E&E products which gained a 24.1 per cent increase (+RM2.4 billion), followed by transport equipment (+RM651.4 million, +61.2%) and iron & steel products (+RM363.6 million, +47.2%).

Imports from the United States were worth RM16.0 billion, accounting for 12.7 per cent of

Malaysia's imports, increased by 46.7 per cent, or RM5.1 billion, y-o-y. This expansion was primarily driven by increased imports of E&E products (+RM7.0 billion, +216.9%), machinery, equipment and parts (+RM517.2 million, +34.8%) and other manufactures (+RM129.7 million, +107.2%).

Imports from the top 10 countries of origin decreased, y-o-y, with the exception of China, United States, Taiwan and Indonesia as compared to the same period last year.

Chart 8: Annual Change for Imports for Major Country of Origin, May 2024 and May 2025



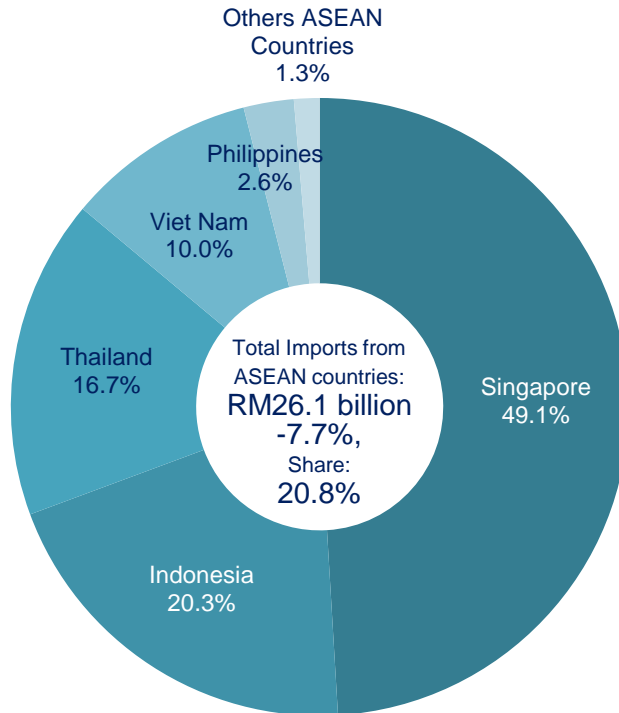
Imports from ASEAN Countries

Imports from ASEAN countries downed by 7.7 per cent in May 2025, reaching RM26.1 billion. It accounted for 20.8 per cent of Malaysia's overall imports. This is driven from slower imports of petroleum products (-RM991.5 million, -22.4%), chemical & chemical products (-RM505.8 million, -23.8%)

and transport equipment (-RM300.8 million, -28.0%).

Malaysia's imports from Singapore decreased by 11.5 per cent (-RM1.7 billion) compared to the previous year, accounting for 49.1 per cent of total ASEAN imports.

Chart 9: Percentage Share of Imports from ASEAN Countries, May 2025



Import Performance for Economic Sectors

Manufactured goods, accounting for 84.4 per cent of overall imports, grew by 8.5 per cent from RM97.9 billion to RM106.2 billion, y-o-y. This performance was driven by increased imports of E&E products (+RM14.3 billion, +39.4%); other manufactures (+RM321.7 million, +14.2%); and jewellery (+RM228.6 million, +28.2%).

Mining imports amounted to RM9.5 billion, down 16.1 per cent from the previous year and accounting for 7.6 per cent of Malaysia's overall imports. The decrease was attributed to lower

imports of crude petroleum (-RM2.8 billion, -37.4%) and other mining (-RM305.7 million, -15.6%).

Imports of agricultural products (5.4% of total imports) increased 7.2 per cent (+RM454.3 million), y-o-y, to RM6.8 billion, boosted by higher imports of other agriculture (+RM366.4 million, +8.4%), palm oil & palm-based agriculture products (+RM129.2 million, +26.9%), and seafood, fresh, chilled, or frozen (+RM69.1 million, +18.8%).

Exhibit 3: Imports by Sector, May 2024 and May 2025



Imports of Selected Major Products

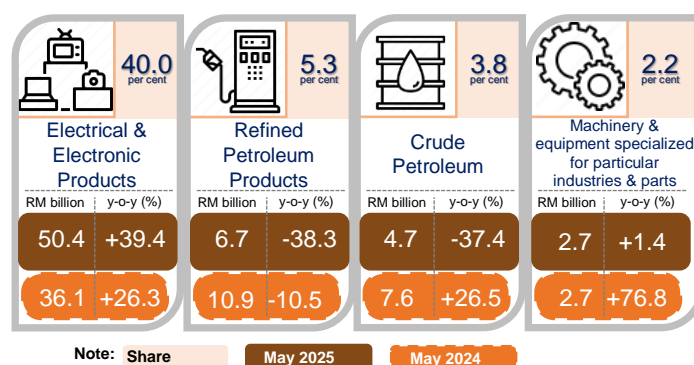
Imports performed well in May 2025, with positive growth in the following products:

- E&E products accounted for 40.0 per cent of total imports and grew by RM14.3 billion, or 39.4 per cent to RM50.4 billion; and
- Machinery & equipment specific to certain industries & spare parts climbed by 1.4 per cent (+RM37.2 million) to RM2.7 billion, accounting for 2.2 per cent of total imports.

Meanwhile, negative growth was noted for the following products:

- Refined petroleum products accounted for 5.3 per cent of total imports, cause by RM4.2 billion or 38.3 per cent to RM6.7 billion. Import volume and average unit value decreased by 18.8 per cent and 24.0 per cent, respectively; and
- Crude petroleum imports, accounting for 3.8 per cent of total imports, dropped by RM2.8 billion or 37.4 per cent to RM4.7 billion. This was in line with a decrease in average unit value (-27.6%), import volume (-13.6%), and a fall in Brent oil price by 29.2 per cent to RM273.7 per barrel.

Exhibit 4: Imports of Selected Major Product, May 2024 and May 2025



Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification

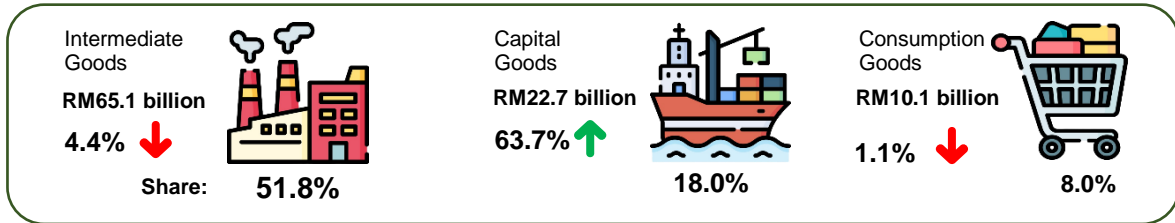
Total imports in May 2025 were valued at RM125.9 billion, up 6.6 per cent, y-o-y. The three major categories of imports by End-use, accounting for 77.8 per cent of total imports, were:

Intermediate goods, accounting for RM65.1 billion or 51.8 per cent of total imports, decreased by 4.4 per cent. This was due to decrease in imports of fuel & lubricants, primary (-RM2.9 billion, -32.3%), industrial supplies, n.e.s. processed (-RM1.9 billion, -7.9%), and fuel & lubricants, processed, other (-RM1.6 billion, -46.8%).

Capital goods, surged by 63.7 per cent to RM22.7 billion (18.0 per cent of total imports), with higher imports of capital goods (except transport equipment) by 70.5 per cent reaching RM22.3 billion.

Consumption goods, fell by 1.1 per cent to RM10.1 billion (8.0 per cent of total imports), due to lower imports of food & beverages, primary, mainly for household consumption (-RM96.3 million, -7.4 %).

Exhibit 5: Imports for End Use & Broad Economic Categories (BEC) Classification, May 2025



STATISTICAL TABLE