



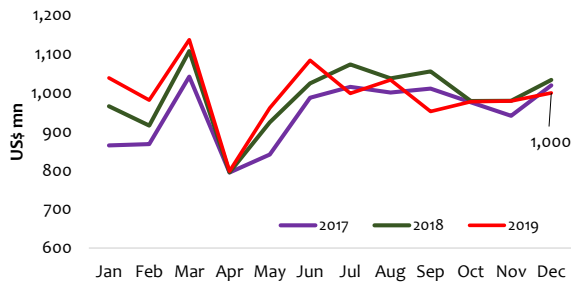
MONTHLY TRADE BULLETIN

ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

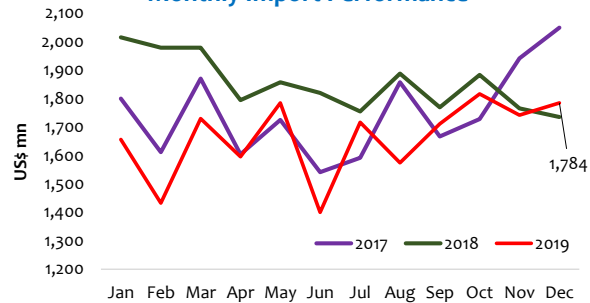
December 2019
VOLUME 01 ISSUE 08

Highlights

Monthly Export Performance



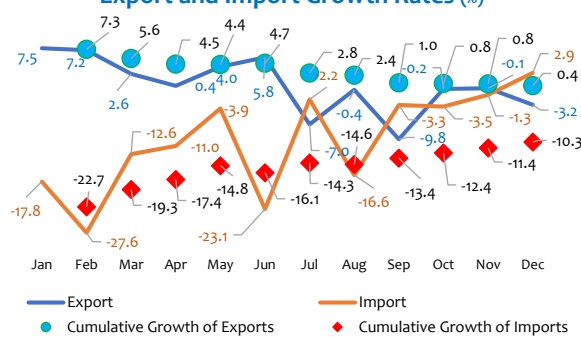
Monthly Import Performance



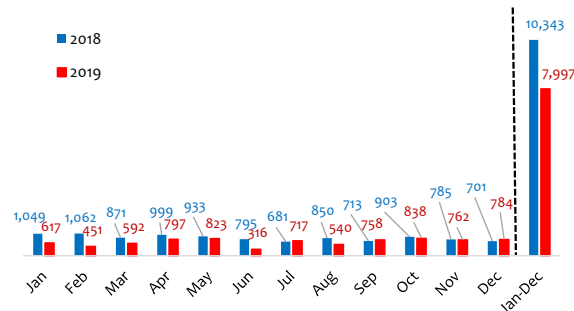
Earnings from merchandise exports decreased by 3.2 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,000 million in December 2019.

Expenditure on merchandise imports increased by 2.9 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,784 million in December 2019.

Export and Import Growth Rates (%)



Trade Deficit (US\$ Mn)



Export earnings increased by 0.4 per cent (year-on-year) during the year 2019 while import expenditure declined by 10.3 per cent.

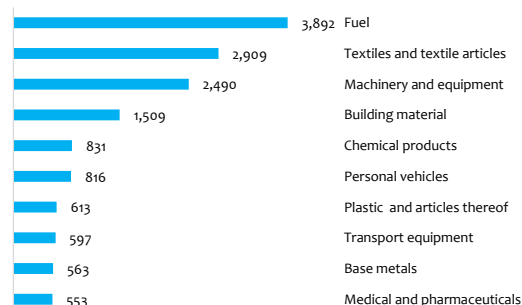
The deficit in the trade account expanded in December 2019 in comparison to December 2018. However, trade deficit during the year 2019 contracted significantly by US dollars 2,346 million in comparison to 2018.

Major Export and Import Categories - 2019

Exports (US\$ mn)

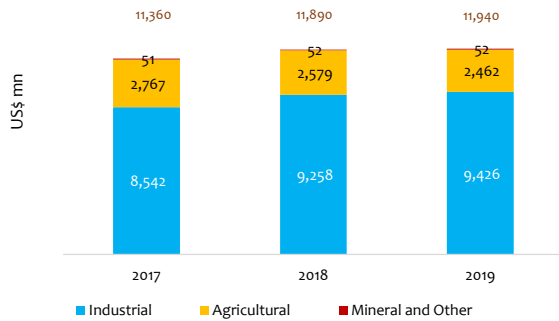


Imports (US\$ mn)

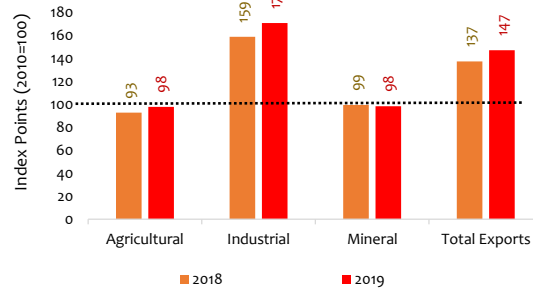


Export Performance

Export Performance (Jan-Dec)



Export Volume Index (Jan-Dec)

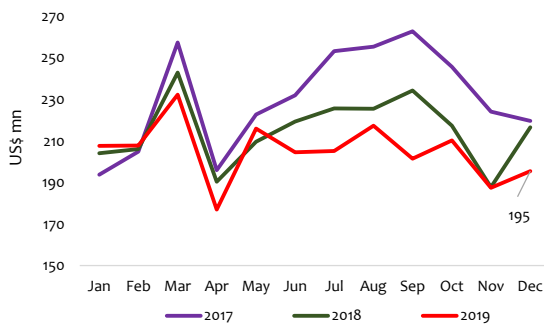


Earnings from exports increased during the year 2019 driven by higher industrial exports despite the decline in earnings from agriculture and mineral exports.

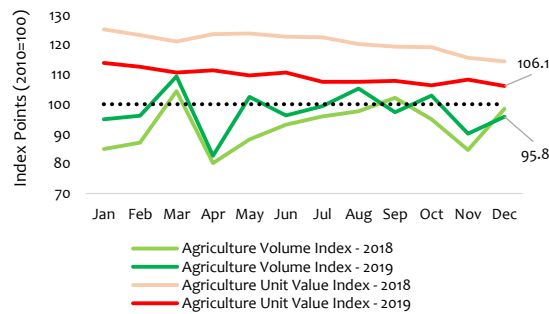
Export volume index improved during 2019 due to the increase in industrial and agricultural export volumes.

Agricultural Exports

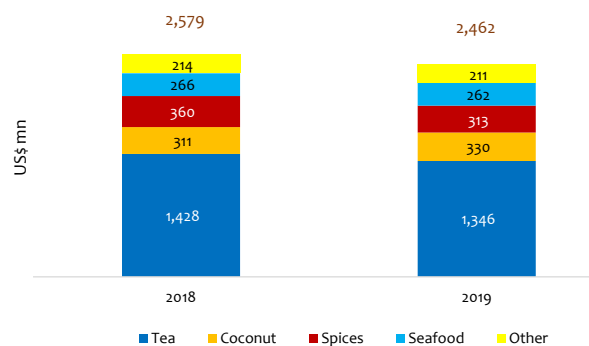
Agricultural Exports



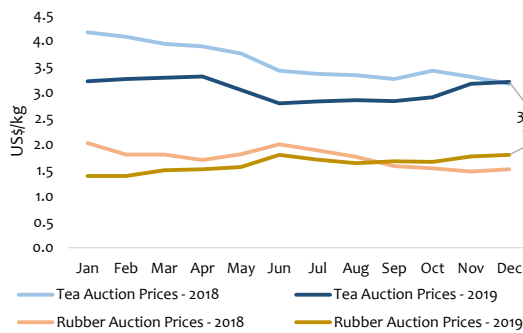
Agriculture Volume and Unit Value Indices



Performance of Agricultural Exports (Jan-Dec)



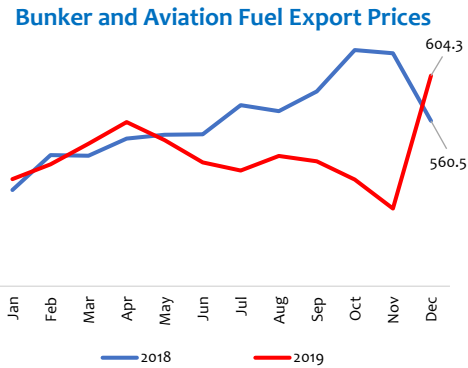
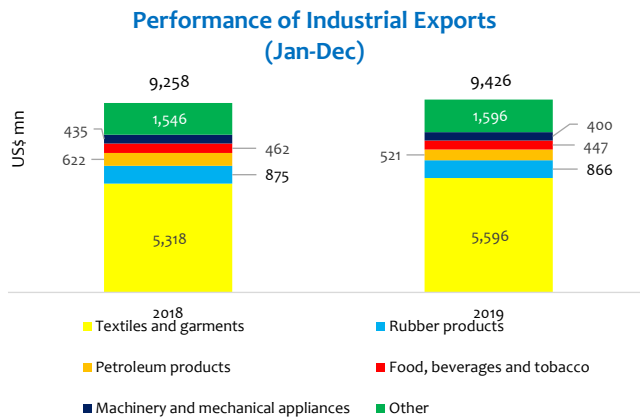
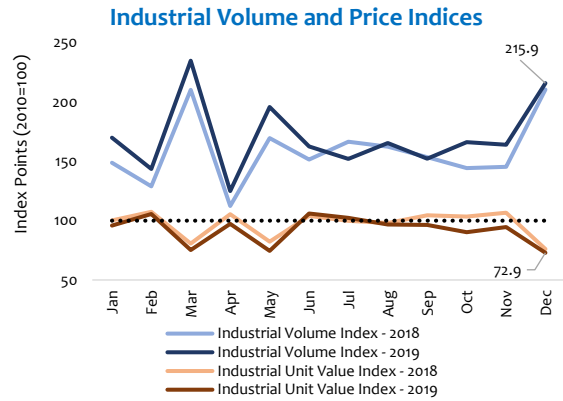
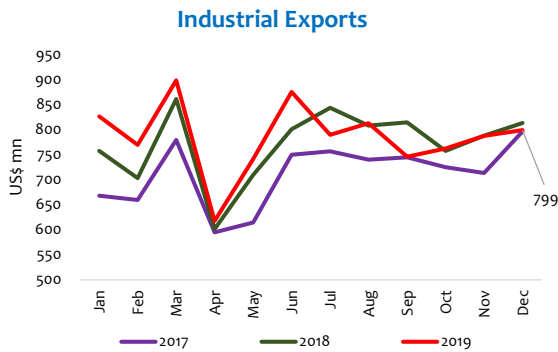
Tea and Rubber Prices *



*Based on Colombo auction prices

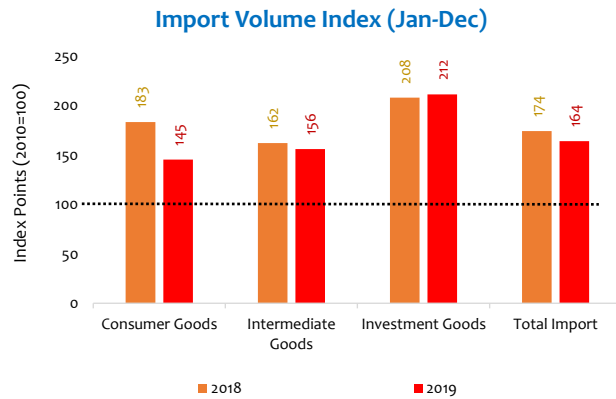
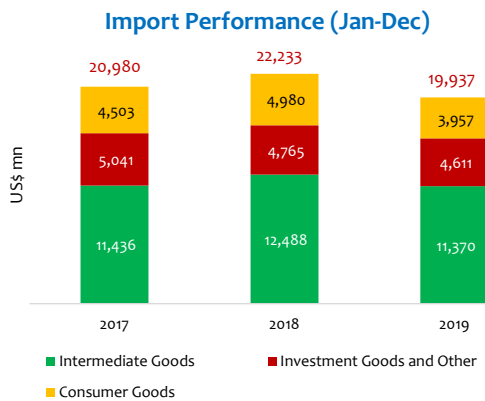
Export earnings from agricultural exports declined during the year 2019 due to lower earnings from tea, spices, rubber, seafood and unmanufactured tobacco exports. However, export earnings from coconut, vegetables and minor agricultural products increased during this period.

Industrial Exports



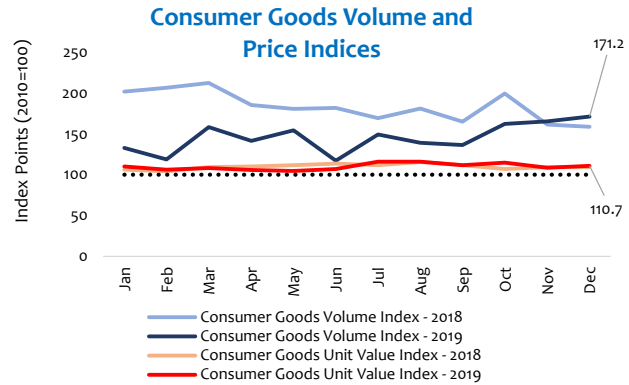
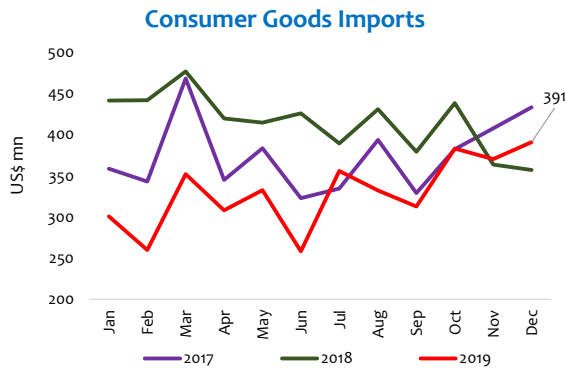
Earnings from industrial exports increased during the year 2019 due to improved performance in textiles and garments, gems, diamonds and jewellery and transport equipment exports. However, export earnings from petroleum products decreased during this period driven by both lower volume and price of bunker fuel. Volumes of industrial exports increased during 2019 compared to 2018.

Import Performance

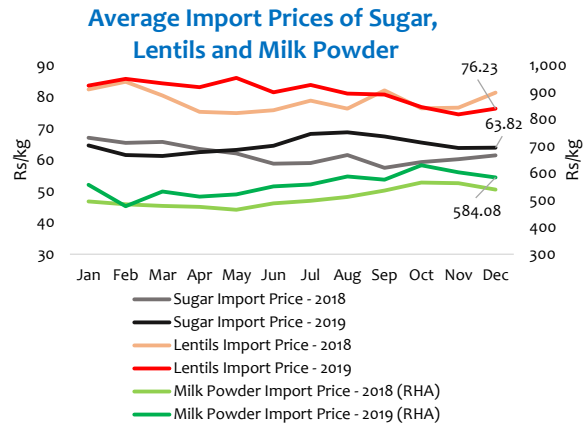
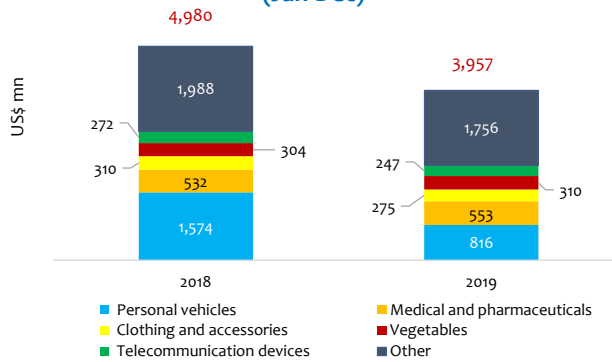


Expenditure on imports declined during the year of 2019 due to lower expenses incurred on all major categories of imports.

Consumer Goods Imports

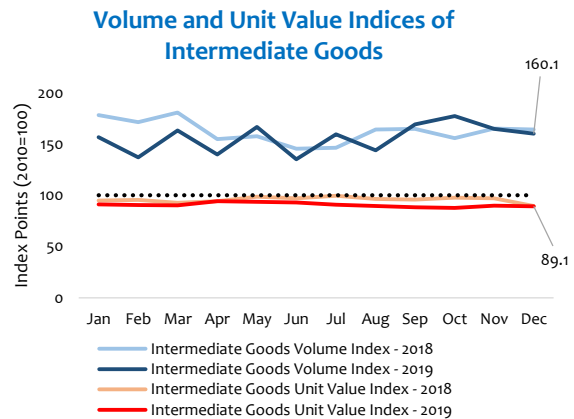
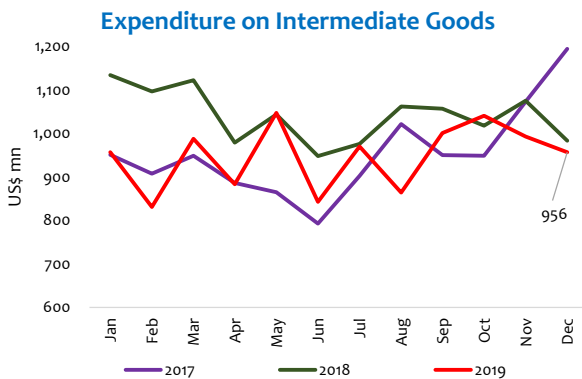


Performance of Consumer Goods Imports (Jan-Dec)

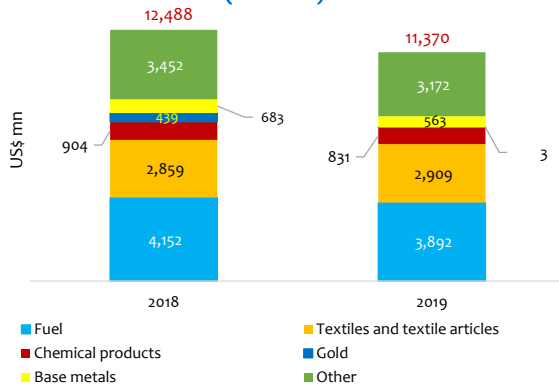


Import expenditure on consumer goods declined during the year 2019 due to lower imports of most categories, particularly personal vehicles and food items such as rice, sugar, dairy products, fruits and oils and fats and beverages. In addition, non-food consumer goods such as telecommunication devices, rubber products, clothing and accessories and home appliances also declined during this period.

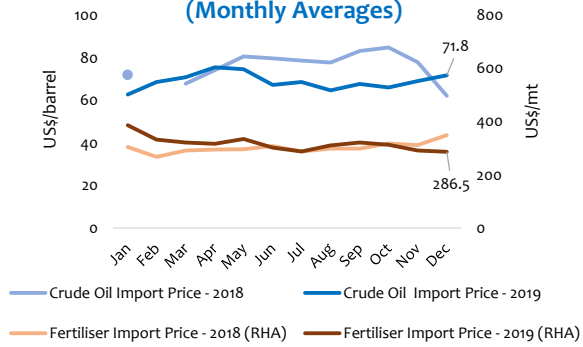
Intermediate Goods Imports



Performance of Intermediate Goods Imports (Jan-Dec)



Crude Oil and Fertiliser Import Prices (Monthly Averages)

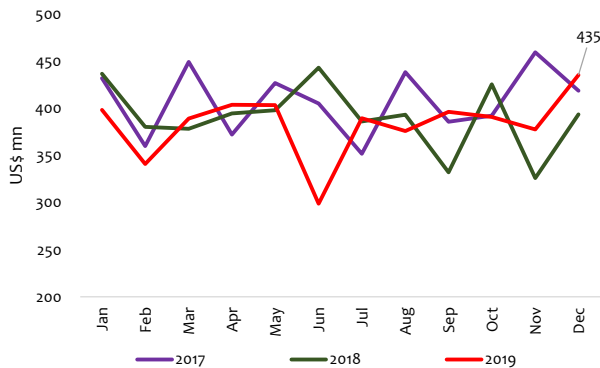


*Crude oil was not imported in February 2018.

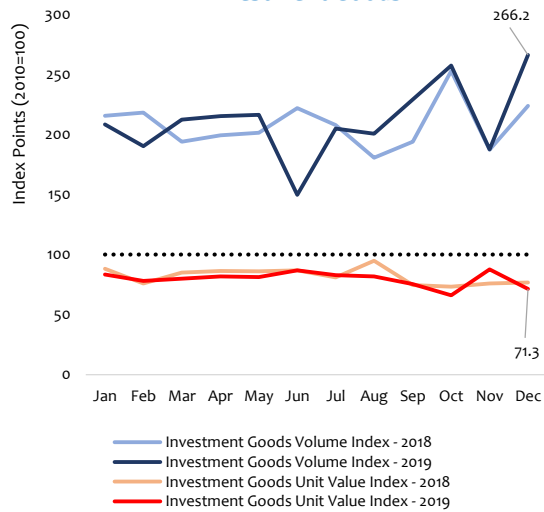
Import expenditure on intermediate goods declined during the year 2019 mainly due to the lower imports of gold, fuel and base metals. However, expenditure on textiles and textile article imports increased in line with higher garments exports while expenditure on mineral products increased, led by higher cement clinker imports.

Investment Goods Imports

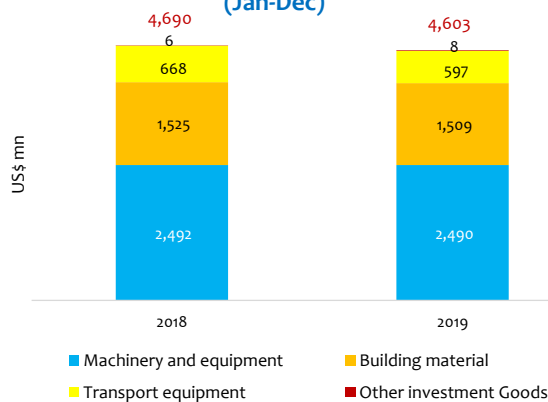
Expenditure on Investment Goods Imports



Volume and Unit Value Indices of Investment Goods



Performance of Investment Goods Imports (Jan-Dec)



Import expenditure on investment goods declined during the year 2019 mainly due to lower imports of transport equipment and building material.

Summary of External Trade Statistics

Export Performance (US\$ mn)

Item	Dec-18	Dec-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Agricultural Exports	216.6	195.4	-9.8	2,579.3	2,461.9	-4.6
o/w Tea	117.1	105.8	-9.6	1,428.5	1,346.4	-5.7
Coconut	23.9	21.8	-8.5	311.0	329.5	6.0
Spices	30.0	21.1	-29.6	360.2	312.5	-13.2
Seafood	29.2	23.9	-18.3	265.8	262.5	-1.3
Industrial Exports	813.2	798.9	-1.8	9,258.2	9,426.3	1.8
o/w Textiles and garments	493.4	483.2	-2.1	5,317.7	5,596.5	5.2
Rubber products	76.4	73.0	-4.4	875.3	866.1	-1.1
Petroleum products	52.9	55.3	4.5	622.1	521.1	-16.2
Food, beverages and tobacco	38.5	36.1	-6.2	462.3	447.0	-3.3
Machinery and mechanical appliances	33.1	29.7	-10.5	434.8	400.0	-8.0
Gems, diamonds and jewellery	18.9	24.3	28.8	278.0	305.7	10.0
Leather, travel goods and footwear	8.7	7.5	-14.1	147.7	102.9	-30.3
Mineral and Other Exports	3.6	5.7	57.7	52.2	51.8	-0.7
Total Exports	1,033.4	999.9	-3.2	11,889.6	11,940.0	0.4

Import Performance (US\$ mn)

Item	Dec-18	Dec-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Consumer goods	357.0	390.9	9.5	4,979.7	3,956.5	-20.5
Food and beverages	134.6	148.0	10.0	1,606.1	1,426.9	-11.2
o/w Rice	2.9	1.8	-36.3	106.8	12.8	-88.0
Non-food consumer goods	222.4	242.8	9.2	3,373.6	2,529.6	-25.0
o/w Personal vehicles	77.3	83.9	8.6	1,573.5	815.7	-48.2
Intermediate goods	983.1	956.4	-2.7	12,488.0	11,369.6	-9.0
o/w Fuel	317.3	333.2	5.0	4,151.9	3,891.6	-6.3
Gold	...	0.1	4,217.7	438.7	2.6	-99.4
Textiles and textile articles	241.5	248.3	2.8	2,858.5	2,909.4	1.8
Fertiliser	26.0	17.4	-33.2	261.6	221.4	-15.4
Wheat and maize	24.9	20.1	-19.4	373.5	346.4	-7.3
Investment goods and other	394.4	436.9	10.8	4,765.0	4,610.9	-3.2
o/w Machinery and equipment	200.0	238.5	19.3	2,491.6	2,489.7	-0.1
Total Imports	1,734.6	1,784.2	2.9	22,232.7	19,937.1	-10.3

Trade Balance (US\$ mn)

Item	Dec-18	Dec-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Trade Balance	-701.2	-784.2	-	-10,343.1	-7,997.1	-

Trade Indices and Terms of Trade (2010 = 100) (a)

Item	Dec-18	Dec-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Export						
Value index	143.8	139.2	-3.2	137.9	138.5	0.4
Volume index	175.5	178.6	1.8	137.3	147.1	7.1
Unit value index	82.0	77.9	-4.9	100.4	94.1	-6.3
Import						
Value index	155.2	159.7	2.9	165.8	148.7	-10.3
Volume index	173.6	182.4	5.0	174.3	164.2	-5.8
Unit value index	89.4	87.6	-2.1	95.1	90.5	-4.8
Terms of Trade	91.7	89.0	-2.9	105.6	104.0	-1.5

(a) In US\$ terms

... Negligible