9 January 2019

A Higher Exports of Motor Vehicles Influenced the Trade Balance

## External Trade – November 2018

**According to preliminary data in current prices, in November 2018 the external trade balance in goods ended in a surplus of CZK 20.2 bn, which was by CZK 8.9 bn higher, year−on−year (y−o−y).**

The total balance **in the national concept**1), y-o-y, was favourably influenced mainly by a growth of a surplus in 'motor vehicles' by CZK 9.8 bn (exports up by CZK 11.8 bn) and a smaller deficit in 'computer, electronic and optical products' by CZK 3.6 bn.

The total balance was affected in an adverse manner mainly by a deeper deficit of trade in 'crude petroleum and natural gas' (by CZK 4.6 bn) and 'chemicals and chemical products' (by CZK 1.0 bn).

In November 2018 the trade balance with the EU28 Member States ended in a surplus of CZK 75.7 bn, and thus it was by CZK 17.1 bn higher, y−o−y. The trade deficit with the non-EU countries increased by CZK 8.5 bn to reach the amount of CZK 53.9 bn.

Compared to October 2018 the seasonally adjusted exports in the national concept increased by 1.7% while imports dropped by 1.9%. The development trend shows increasing exports (+0.9%) and decreasing imports (−0.2%).

Compared to the same month of 2017, exports and imports rose by 9.7% (to CZK 347.7 bn) and 7.1% (to CZK 327.5 bn) respectively. November 2018 had one working day more than November 2017.

In the period from **January to November 2018** the trade balance surplus in the national concept reached CZK 135.4 bn which represented a decrease by CZK 31.7 bn, y−o−y. From the beginning of the year exports and imports increased by 3.7% and 4.9% respectively, y−o−y.

Detailed information on external trade in the national concept:

[https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/external\_trade\_in\_goods\_according\_to\_the\_change\_of\_ownership\_-national\_concept-](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/external_trade_in_goods_according_to_the_change_of_ownership_-national_concept-_).

**Information on the cross-border movement of goods**

According to preliminary data in current prices of **the cross-border concept2)** in November 2018 exports and imports increased by 11.0% and 9.5% respectively. Total exports and imports of goods amounted to a value of CZK 429.9 bn and CZK 379.5 bn, respectively.

According to the Eurostat statistics, in October 2018 the Czech Republic shares in the total exports and imports of the European Union were 3.4% and 3.0%, respectively.

Detailed information on external trade in the cross-border concept:

[https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/external\_trade\_in\_goods\_according\_to\_the\_movement\_-cross\_border\_concept-](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/external_trade_in_goods_according_to_the_movement_-cross_border_concept-_).

Notes:

*1) The* ***national concept of external trade*** *reflects export and import performance of the Czech economy, i.e. the external trade balance of the Czech Republic as well. It measures real trade in goods carried out between Czech and foreign entities, i.e. a change of ownership between residents and non-residents.*

*2) The* ***cross-border concept of external trade*** *reflects only physical movements of goods across the border regardless of whether the trade between Czech and foreign entities occurs. These data are internationally comparable and can be used as indicators of development in the value of trade.*

*Data for companies, that failed to report data (non-response), have been imputed according to dispatches and receptions these companies reported in the previous period. Data for companies exempted from the reporting duty were estimated on the basis of the data given in the VAT return forms. The data, which were not available from the VAT return forms, are estimated on the basis of the values for previous periods.*

***Data for 2016 and 2017 are final and data for 2018 are preliminary.***

*Responsible head at the CZSO: Karel Král, Director of External Trade Statistics Department, phone* *number (+420) 274 054 253*

 *e-mail:* *karel.kral@czso.cz*

*Contact person: Marcela Sládková, Head of External Trade Statistics Outputs Unit, phone number (+420) 274 054 059*

 *e-mail:* *marcela.sladkova@czso.cz*

*Method of data collection: Intrastat forms and single administrative documents; and*

 *value added tax return forms*

*End of data collection: 20th working day after the end of the reference month*

*Following data set: w-241013-18 External Trade of the Czech Republic –detailed breakdown (monthly):* [*https://www.czso.cz/current-product/41320*](https://www.czso.cz/current-product/41320)

*External Trade Database is available on:* [*http://apl.czso.cz/pll/stazo/STAZO.STAZO?jazyk=EN*](http://apl.czso.cz/pll/stazo/STAZO.STAZO?jazyk=EN)

*Next News Release will be published on: 6 February 2019*

Annex:

Chart 1 Balance of the external trade in goods in the national concept (total trade balance, trade balances with the EU Member States and non-EU countries)