



National Statistics Office of Georgia

EXTERNAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN GEORGIA

2017

.....
JANUARY-FEBRUARY

(PRELIMINARY RESULTS)

20.03.2017

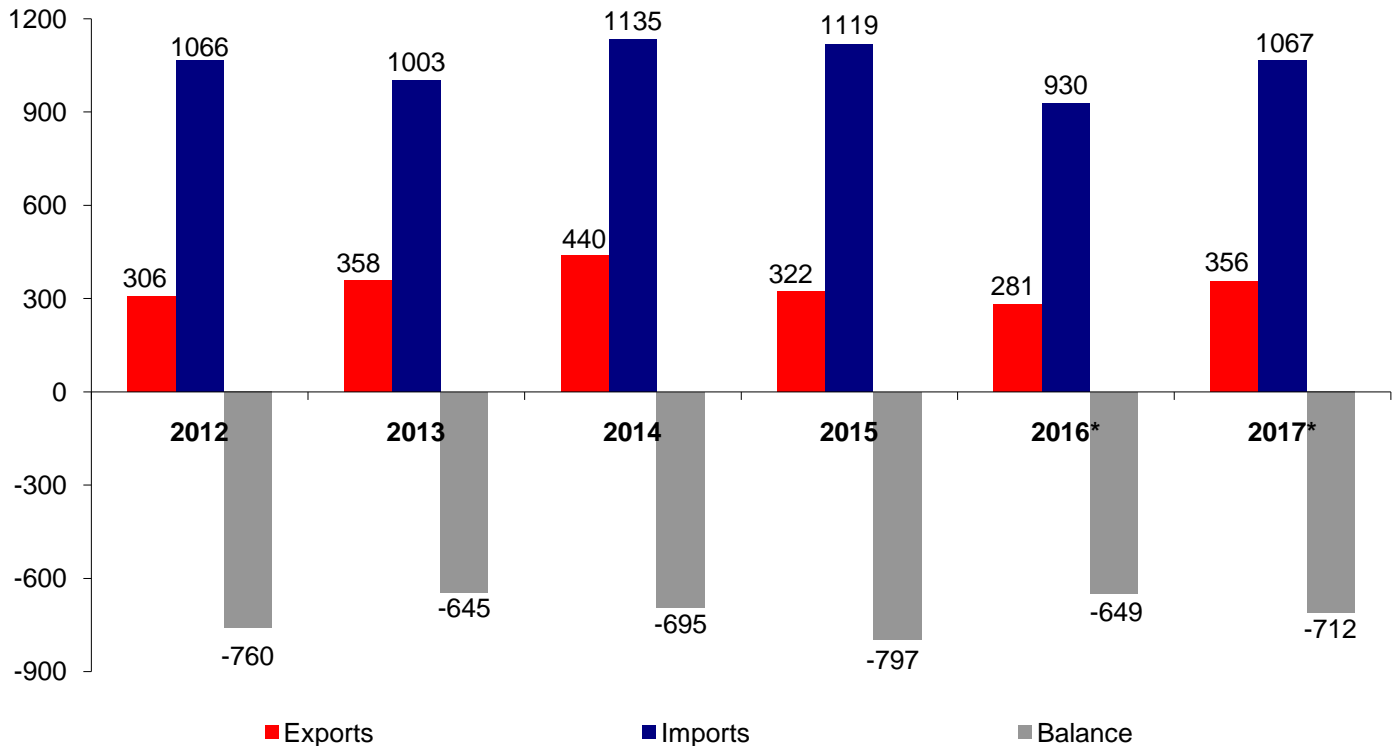
20.03.2017

External Trade of Georgia in January-February 2017 (Preliminary)

In January-February 2017 external merchandise trade (excluding non-declared trade) in Georgia amounted to USD 1423 million, 18 percent higher year-on-year. The exports equaled USD 356 million (27 percent higher), while the imports stood at USD 1067 million (15 percent higher). The negative trade balance was USD 712 million in January-February 2017 and its share in external trade turnover constituted 50 percent. Export excluding re-export amounted to USD 289 million, 28 percent higher year-on-year.

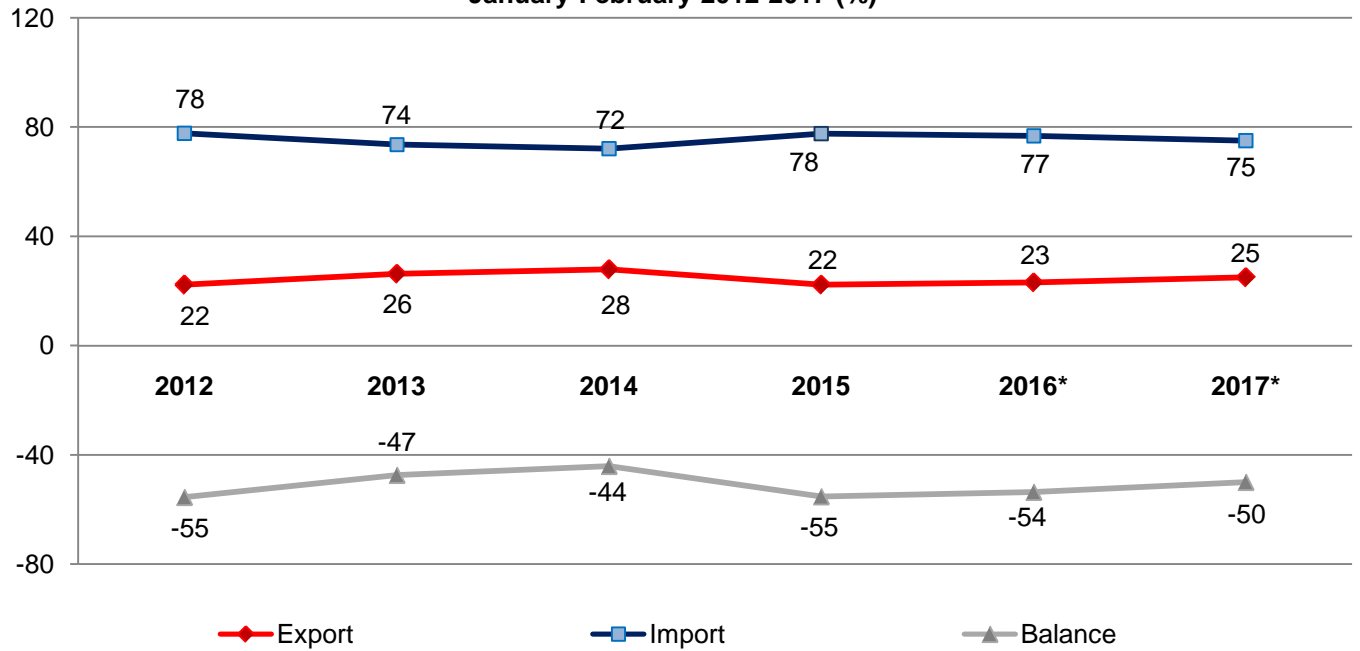
The charts below reflect basic trends of the external trade of Georgia for 2012-2017:

**General data on external trade of Georgia in
January-February 2012-2017
(Million US Dollars)**



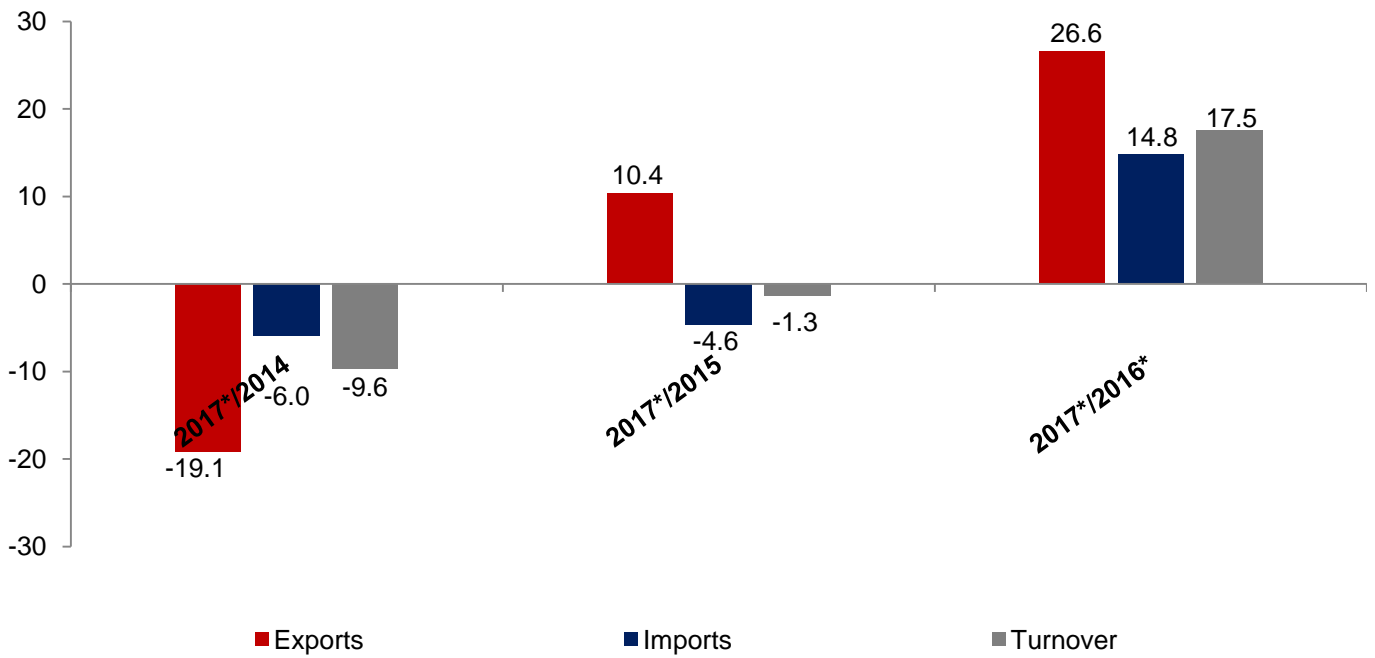
*Preliminary data.

Share of external trade indicators in turnover
January-February 2012-2017 (%)



*Preliminary data.

Percentage changes in January-February 2017 compared to the same period of the previous years (%)



*Preliminary data.

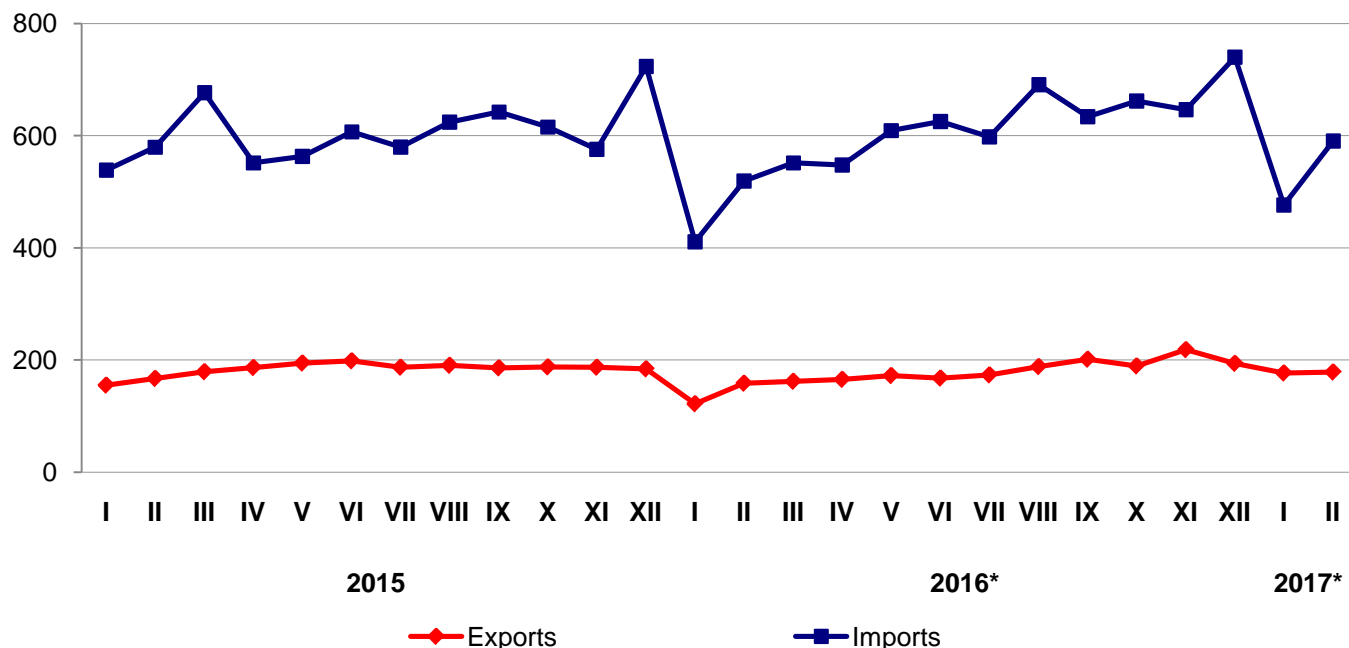
The table below shows monthly data for 2016-2017 exports and imports in absolute indicators and their change (in percentage) compared to the corresponding month of the previous year.

Exports and imports of Georgia

		Exports		Imports	
		Thsd. US Dollars	Changes m-o-m (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Changes m-o-m (%)
2016*	January	122 161.0	-21.2	410 772.7	-23.8
	February	158 749.4	-5.1	519 251.6	-10.5
	March	161 900.1	-9.6	552 107.0	-18.4
	April	165 302.9	-11.4	547 894.9	-0.8
	May	172 239.0	-11.5	609 712.6	8.2
	June	167 884.9	-15.5	625 481.3	3.0
	July	173 588.3	-7.2	598 068.1	3.1
	August	188 142.5	-1.2	690 996.7	10.7
	September	201 744.0	8.3	634 056.9	-1.4
	October	189 333.8	0.8	661 956.2	7.4
	November	218 689.7	16.8	646 662.8	12.3
	December	194 004.0	5.1	740 091.5	2.3
2017*	January	176 770.5	44.7	476 633.6	16.0
	February	178 910.1	12.7	590 689.3	13.8

*Preliminary data.

Exports and imports dynamics by months, 2015-2017
(Million US Dollars)



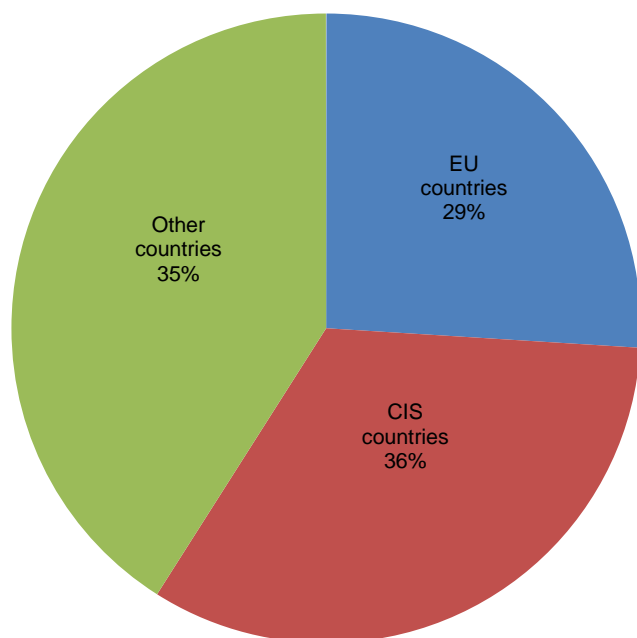
*Preliminary data.

In January-February 2017 the external trade turnover of Georgia with the EU countries amounted to USD 375 million, grew by 15 percent compared to the corresponding indicator of the previous year. Exports amounted to USD 102 million (31 percent higher), while imports amounted to USD 274 million (10 percent higher). The share of these countries in the external trade turnover of Georgia amounted to 26 percent, 29 percent in exports and 26 percent in imports (in January-February 2016 27, 28 and 27 percent correspondingly). 24 percent of the trade deficit came to the EU countries (26 percent in January-February 2016).

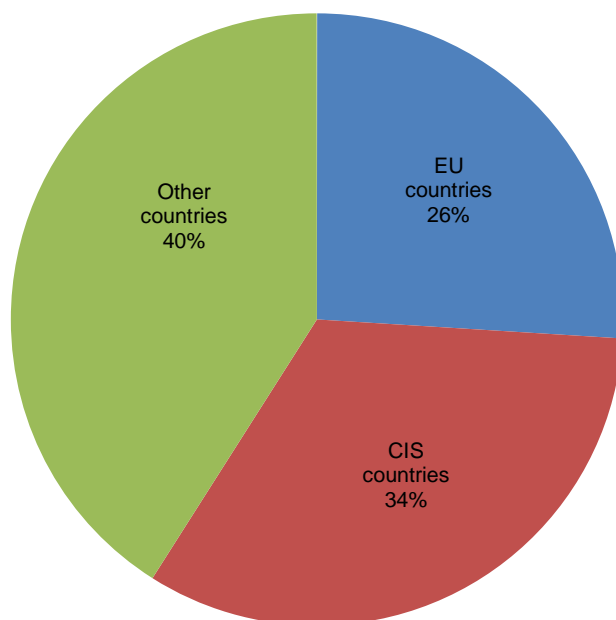
In January-February 2017 the external trade turnover of Georgia with the CIS countries totaled USD 497 million (higher by 40 percent compared to January-February 2016). Exports stood at USD 129 million (75 percent higher), while imports equaled USD 367 million (31 percent higher). The share of the CIS countries in the external trade turnover of Georgia constituted 35 percent, 36 percent in exports and 34 percent in imports (In January-February 2016 29, 26 and 30 percent, respectively). In January-February 2017 compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, CIS countries accounted for 33 percent of the overall trade deficit (32 percent in January-February 2016).

The diagrams below show the share of the exports and imports of Georgia by country groups.

**Georgian exports by country groups
January-February 2017***



**Georgian import by country groups
January-February 2017***



*Preliminary data.

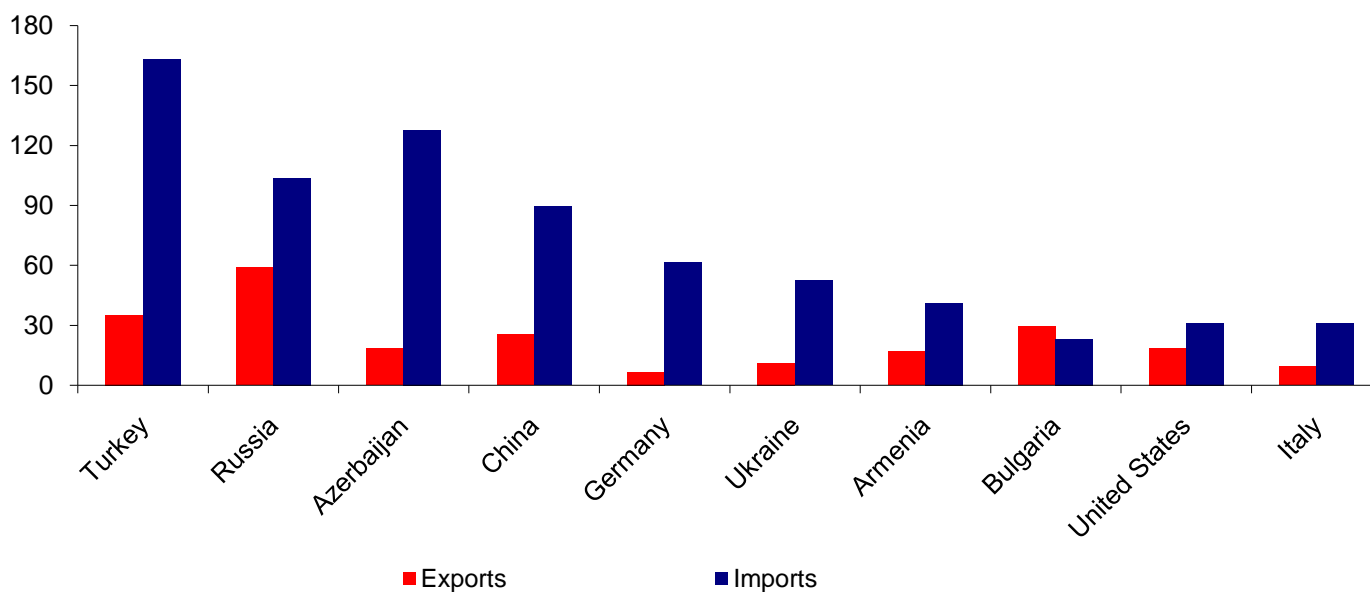
In January-February 2017 share of the top ten trading partners in the total external trade turnover of Georgia amounted to 67 percent. The top trading partners were Turkey (USD 198 million), Russia (USD 163 million) and Azerbaijan (USD 146 million).

Top trading partners by turnover in January-February 2017*

	Exports		Imports		Turnover	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
Total	355 680.6	100.0	1 067 322.9	100.0	1 423 003.5	100.0
of which:						
Turkey	35 040.3	9.9	163 350.1	15.3	198 390.4	13.9
Russia	58 891.8	16.6	103 629.3	9.7	162 521.1	11.4
Azerbaijan	18 494.1	5.2	127 550.8	12.0	146 044.9	10.3
China	25 277.9	7.1	89 527.0	8.4	114 804.9	8.1
Germany	6 557.3	1.8	61 415.9	5.8	67 973.1	4.8
Ukraine	11 178.7	3.1	52 373.6	4.9	63 552.3	4.5
Armenia	16 837.9	4.7	41 198.6	3.9	58 036.5	4.1
Bulgaria	29 446.1	8.3	23 068.9	2.2	52 515.1	3.7
United States	18 789.6	5.3	31 067.5	2.9	49 857.2	3.5
Italy	9 487.7	2.7	30 972.1	2.9	40 459.8	2.8
Other countries	125 679.0	35.3	343 169.1	32.2	468 848.1	32.9

*Preliminary data.

Top trading partners by turnover in January-February 2017*
(Million US Dollars)



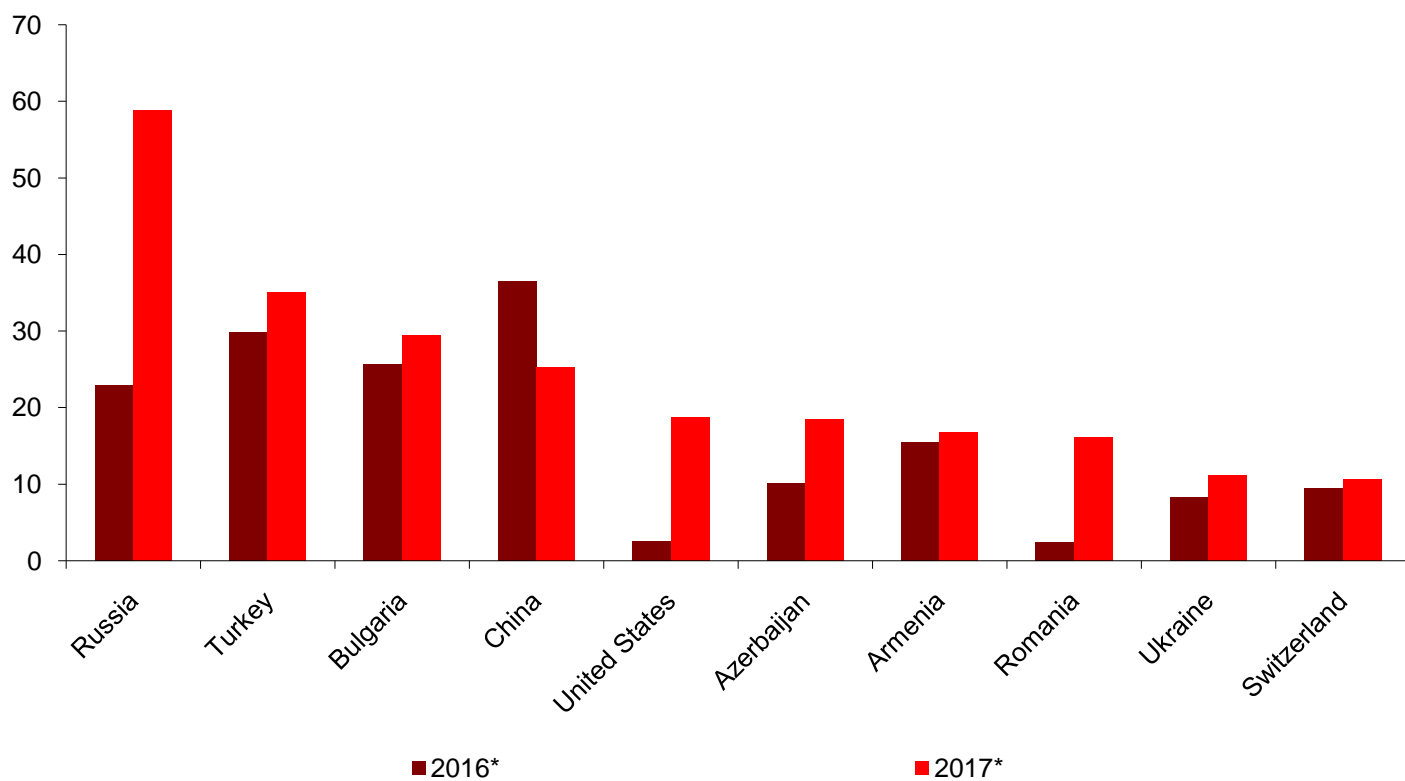
*Preliminary data.

Top trading partners by exports in January-February 2017

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
Total Exports	280 910.4	100.0	355 680.6	100.0
Of which:				
Russia	22 866.2	8.1	58 891.8	16.6
Turkey	29 863.5	10.6	35 040.3	9.9
Bulgaria	25 645.5	9.1	29 446.1	8.3
China	36 447.6	13.0	25 277.9	7.1
United States	2 561.8	0.9	18 789.6	5.3
Azerbaijan	10 102.9	3.6	18 494.1	5.2
Armenia	15 459.3	5.5	16 837.9	4.7
Romania	2 403.7	0.9	16 058.8	4.5
Ukraine	8 229.6	2.9	11 178.7	3.1
Switzerland	9 522.4	3.4	10 689.5	3.0
Other countries	117 807.8	41.9	114 975.7	32.3

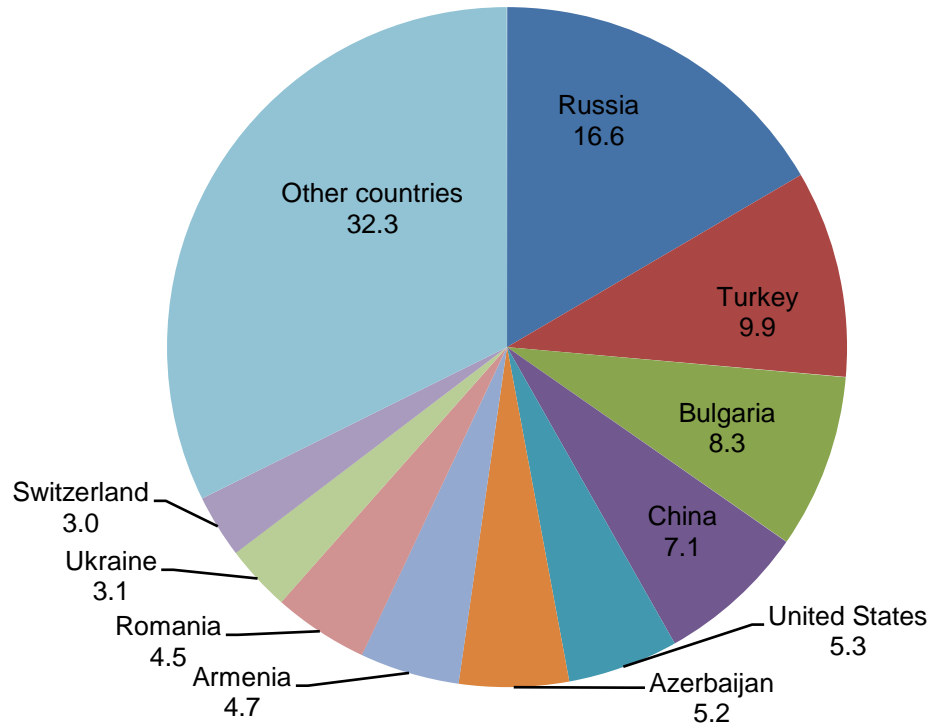
*Preliminary data.

Top trading partners by exports in January-February 2016-2017 (Million US Dollars)



*Preliminary data.

Share of the top trading partners in total exports in January-February 2016-2017* (%)



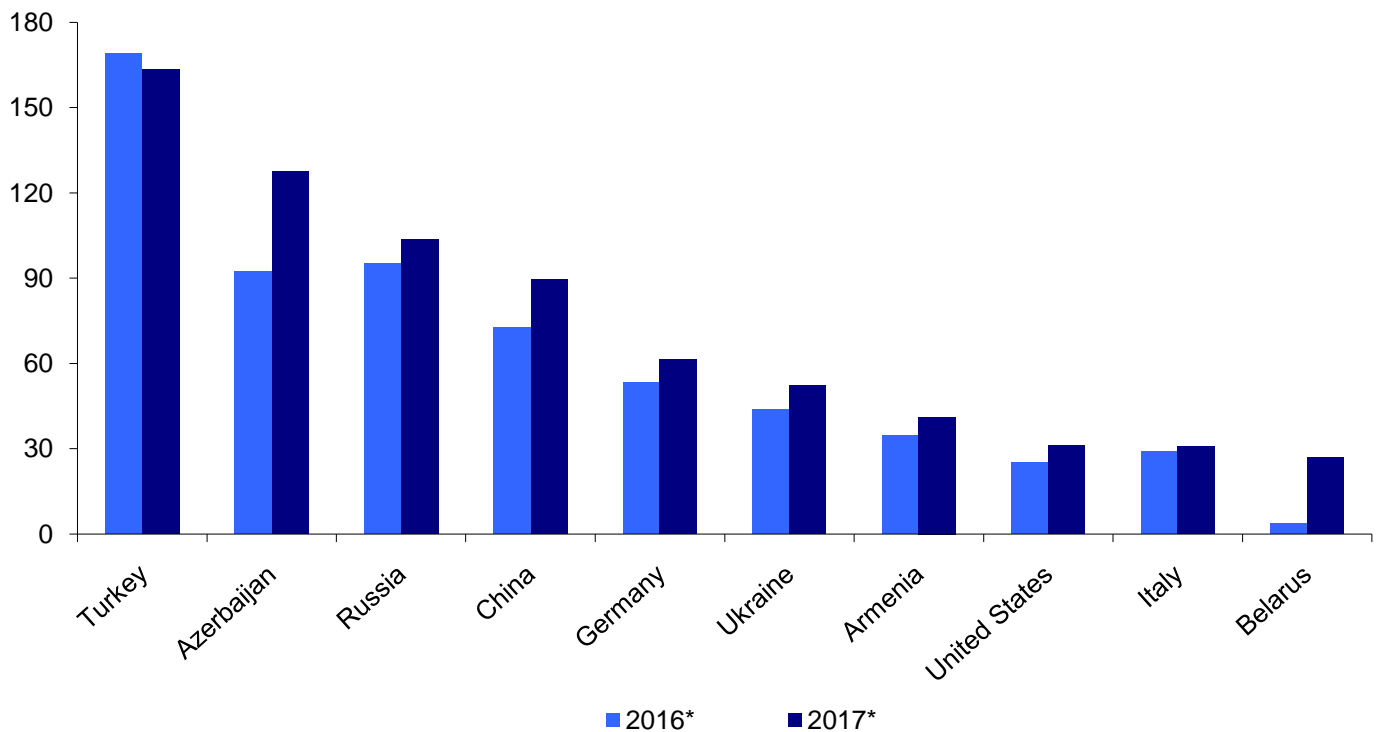
*Preliminary data.

Top trading partners by imports in January-February 2017

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
Total Imports	930 024.3	100.0	1 067 322.9	100.0
Of which:				
Turkey	169 185.8	18.2	163 350.1	15.3
Azerbaijan	92 424.3	9.9	127 550.8	12.0
Russia	95 222.4	10.2	103 629.3	9.7
China	72 683.7	7.8	89 527.0	8.4
Germany	53 496.2	5.8	61 415.9	5.8
Ukraine	43 780.2	4.7	52 373.6	4.9
Armenia	34 527.8	3.7	41 198.6	3.9
United States	25 068.6	2.7	31 067.5	2.9
Italy	29 069.1	3.1	30 972.1	2.9
Belarus	3 648.3	0.4	27 058.3	2.5
Other countries	310 917.9	33.4	339 179.7	31.8

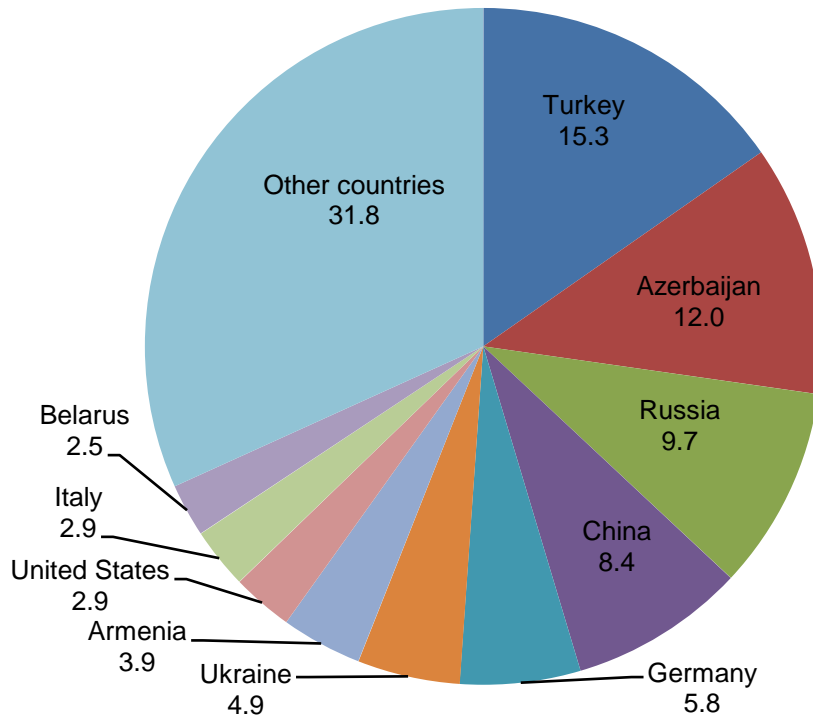
*Preliminary data.

**Top trading partners by imports in January-February 2016-2017
(Million US Dollars)**



*Preliminary data.

Share of the top trading partners in total imports in January-February 2017* (%)



*Preliminary data.

Major commodity groups by exports and imports

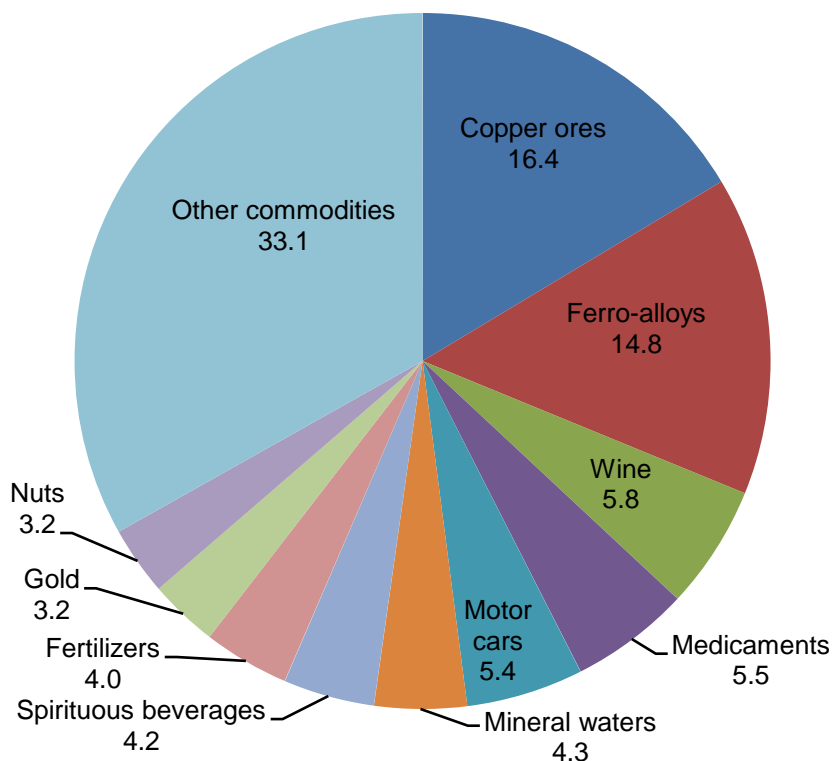
In January-February 2017 Copper ores and concentrates reclaimed the first place in the list of top export items, equaling USD 58 million, or 16 percent of total exports. Exports Ferro-alloys of totaled USD 53 million and its share in the total exports amounted to 15 percent. Wine of fresh grapes occupied the third place. Exports of this commodity group stood at USD 20 million and 6 percent of the total exports.

Major commodity groups by exports

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
Total Exports	280 910.4	100.0	355 680.6	100.0
Of which:				
Copper ores and concentrates	57 444.0	20.4	58 353.6	16.4
Ferro-alloys	9 946.5	3.5	52 589.1	14.8
Wine of fresh grapes	12 771.1	4.5	20 488.4	5.8
Medicaments	10 461.1	3.7	19 737.8	5.5
Motor cars	22 998.4	8.2	19 321.6	5.4
Waters, natural or artificial mineral and aerated waters	12 028.3	4.3	15 322.1	4.3
Undenatured ethyl alcohol, spirits, liqueurs and other spirituous beverages	11 199.7	4.0	15 054.6	4.2
Mineral or chemical fertilizers	16 554.8	5.9	14 182.3	4.0
Gold unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms	11 849.8	4.2	11 402.1	3.2
Other nuts, fresh or dried	20 730.1	7.4	11 343.7	3.2
Other commodities	94 926.7	33.8	117 885.2	33.1

*Preliminary data.

Share of major commodity groups by exports in January-February 2017* (%)



*Preliminary data.

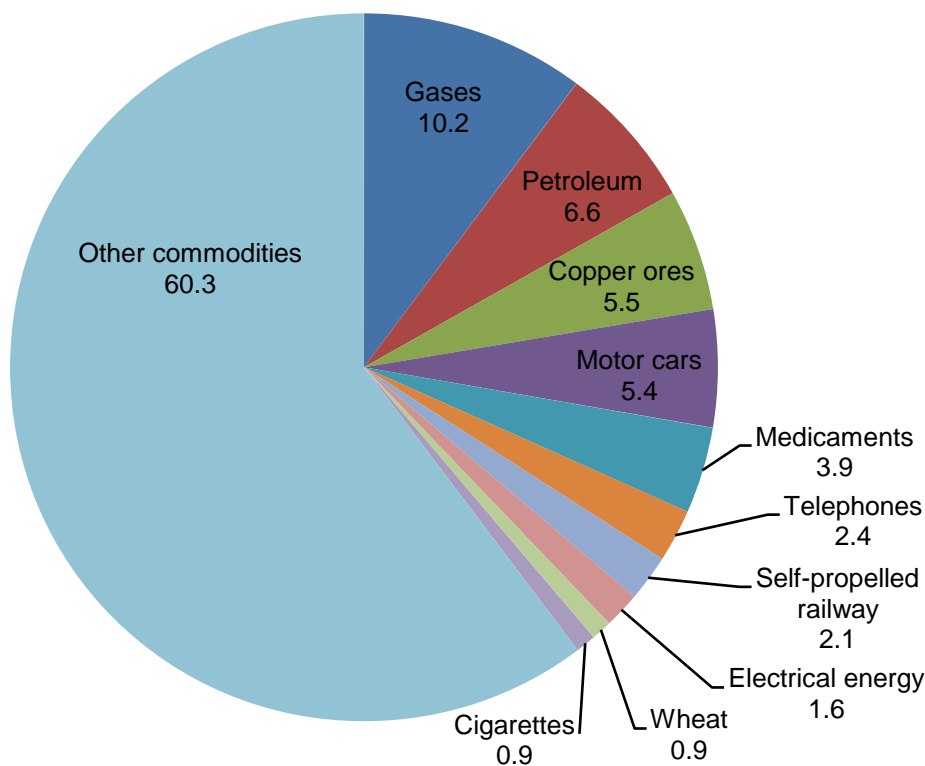
The top import commodity In January-February 2017 were Petroleum gases and other gaseous, imports of which amounted to USD 109 million and 10 percent of the total imports. Petroleum and petroleum oils commodity group followed in the list with USD 70 million, or 7 percent of imports. Copper ores and concentrates came third with USD 59 million (6 percent of imports).

Major commodity groups by imports

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
Total Imports	930 024.3	100.0	1 067 322.9	100.0
Of which:				
Petroleum gases and other gaseous	87 133.8	9.4	109 281.3	10.2
Petroleum and petroleum oils	62 844.0	6.8	70 329.1	6.6
Copper ores and concentrates	45 859.0	4.9	59 103.7	5.5
Motor cars	65 906.7	7.1	57 383.8	5.4
Medicaments	26 635.7	2.9	41 977.1	3.9
Telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks	16 044.1	1.7	25 703.9	2.4
Self-propelled railway	-	-	22 594.5	2.1
Electrical energy	10 979.1	1.2	17 540.8	1.6
Wheat	7 750.5	0.8	9 980.8	0.9
Cigarettes	11 859.2	1.3	9 808.4	0.9
Other commodities	595 012.2	64.0	643 619.7	60.3

*Preliminary data.

Share of major commodity groups by imports in January-February 2017* (%)



*Preliminary data.

Top trading partners by turnover

TURKEY

Exports of major commodity groups to Turkey

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
Total Exports	29 863.5		35 040.3	
Of which:				
T-shirts knitted	6 733.5	236.5	6 074.8	251.3
Ferro-alloys	977.9	1 478.9	5 371.7	4 797.6
Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel	580.9	2 639.6	4 678.6	12 955.4
Flours, meals and pellets, unfit for human consumption	4 660.7	3 258.7	2 327.0	1 669.1
Other articles of plastics and articles of other materials	1.1	0.2	2 153.9	4.9
Other commodities	16 909.5		14 434.3	

*Preliminary data.

Imports of major commodity groups from Turkey

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
Total Imports	169 185.8		163 350.1	
Of which:				
Medicaments	4 703.1	72.4	8 876.7	112.8
Other made up articles, including dress patterns	5 503.0	193.1	6 585.7	242.2
Structures and parts of structures of iron or steel	8 376.5	4 499.0	6 068.3	3 020.7
Sanitary commodities	6 471.8	1 781.3	5 488.8	1 819.6
Special purpose motor vehicles (units)	311.9	3	4 666.3	70
Other commodities	143 819.4		131 664.3	

*Preliminary data.

RUSSIA

Exports of major commodity groups to Russia

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
Total Exports	22 866.2		58 891.8	
Of which:				
Ferro-alloys	2 493.9	3 651.1	25 395.5	20 909.3
Wine of fresh grapes	7 024.0	2 384.8	13 196.1	4 791.5
Waters, natural or artificial mineral and aerated waters	6 742.5	9 664.5	8 101.3	11 883.0
Undenatured ethyl alcohol, spirits, liqueurs and other spirituous beverages	1 860.4	344.6	3 125.7	678.4
Other nuts, fresh or dried	522.5	106.6	2 237.7	388.1
Other commodities	4 223.0		6 835.6	

*Preliminary data.

Imports of major commodity groups from Russia

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
Total imports	95 222.4		103 629.3	
Of which:				
Petroleum gases and other gaseous	11 713.5	31 288.5	20 223.5	67 457.9
Petroleum and petroleum oils	16 684.9	43 504.1	15 377.8	27 446.5
Wheat	7 750.5	39 965.8	9 980.6	52 846.5
Sunflower oil	2 528.8	2 717.9	3 435.7	3 690.0
Crude petroleum	-	-	3 391.2	10 601.6
Other commodities	56 544.7		51 220.5	

*Preliminary data.

AZERBAIJAN

Exports of major commodity groups to Azerbaijan

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
Total Exports	10 102.9		18 494.1	
Of which:				
Motor cars (units)	2 393.9	74	3 152.9	122
Medicaments	817.1	25.3	2 096.3	229.3
Potatoes	-	-	1 799.8	13 146.0
Ferro-alloys	683.0	776.6	1 178.2	1 093.0
Oil-cake and other solid residues, resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil	-	-	645.0	1 925.4
Other commodities	6 208.9		9 621.8	

*Preliminary data.

Imports of major commodity groups from Azerbaijan

	January-February 2016*		January-February 2017*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
Total Imports	92 424.3		127 550.8	
Of which:				
Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons	72 692.0	363 225.6	89 056.0	409 811.8
Electrical energy	747.6	...	14 464.2	...
Petroleum and petroleum oils	8 325.2	28 980.7	11 217.7	22 449.9
Self-propelled bulldozers, graders, levellers, scrapers, tamping machines (units)	656.0	6	1 861.0	43
Copper ores and concentrates	1 652.6	898.1	1 438.8	710.3
Other commodities	8 350.9		9 513.1	

*Preliminary data.

External trade balance

	Number of countries	External trade balance Mil. US Dollars
Negative trade balance		
Januarv-Februarv 2016*	79	707,2
January-February 2017*	80	749,7
Positive trade balance		
Januarv-Februarv 2016*	31	58,1
January-February 2017*	30	38,1
Total		
Januarv-Februarv 2016*	110	649,1
January-February 2017*	110	711,6

*Preliminary data.

Georgian external trade by countries In January-February 2017*

(Thsd. US Dollars)

	Exports (FOB)	Imports (CIF)	Balance
External trade – Total	355 680.6	1 067 322.9	-711 642.3
Of which:			
EU countries	101 563.0	273 815.4	-172 252.4
Austria	1 066.8	6 024.1	-4 957.3
Belgium	2 270.6	14 179.3	-11 908.7
Bulgaria	29 446.1	23 068.9	6 377.2
Croatia	-	196.8	-196.8
Cyprus	117.0	1 829.1	-1 712.2
Czech Republic	704.6	9 837.1	-9 132.4
Denmark	10.1	2 388.5	-2 378.4
Estonia	208.8	410.3	-201.4
Finland	18.6	1 985.5	-1 966.9
France	4 139.4	16 563.7	-12 424.3
Germany	6 557.3	61 415.9	-54 858.6
Greece	2 142.1	5 289.6	-3 147.5
Hungary	76.1	5 074.8	-4 998.6
Ireland	26.8	525.1	-498.3
Italy	9 487.7	30 972.1	-21 484.4
Latvia	991.8	2 206.5	-1 214.7
Lithuania	6 613.5	5 233.7	1 379.8
Luxembourg	1 093.5	689.6	403.9
Malta	0.1	305.3	-305.2
Netherlands	5 894.9	22 725.3	-16 830.4
Poland	4 681.1	14 700.1	-10 019.0
Portugal	-	1 215.8	-1 215.8
Romania	16 058.8	14 339.6	1 719.2
Slovakia	578.0	1 746.0	-1 168.0
Slovenia	301.6	1 929.0	-1 627.5
Spain	6 731.1	14 066.8	-7 335.7
Sweden	176.4	1 577.2	-1 400.8
United Kingdom	2 170.1	13 319.5	-11 149.3
CIS countries	129 476.5	367 106.1	-237 629.6
Armenia	16 837.9	41 198.6	-24 360.7
Azerbaijan	18 494.1	127 550.8	-109 056.7

	Exports (FOB)	Imports (CIF)	Balance
Belarus	3 721.2	27 058.3	-23 337.1
Kazakhstan	5 732.0	2 328.6	3 403.4
Kyrgyzstan	1 138.5	259.3	879.3
Moldova	387.2	2 415.7	-2 028.5
Russia	58 891.8	103 629.3	-44 737.5
Tajikistan	412.6	-	412.6
Turkmenistan	2 542.2	9 555.8	-7 013.6
Ukraine	11 178.7	52 373.6	-41 194.9
Uzbekistan	10 140.1	736.0	9 404.0
Other countries	124 641.1	426 401.4	-301 760.3
Afghanistan	3.6	-	3.6
Albania	-	38.3	-38.3
Angola	739.2	-	739.2
Argentina	-	262.4	-262.4
Australia	138.5	72.0	66.4
Bangladesh	-	106.8	-106.8
Bhutan	19.8	-	19.8
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	7.6	-7.6
Brazil	-	9 076.4	-9 076.4
Canada	166.6	1 976.1	-1 809.5
Chile	455.6	17 901.6	-17 446.0
China	25 277.9	89 527.0	-64 249.1
Colombia	591.6	-	591.6
Costa Rica	-	157.9	-157.9
Cuba	-	36.5	-36.5
Djibouti	-	27.0	-27.0
Dominican Republic	-	5.8	-5.8
Ecuador	-	2 781.6	-2 781.6
Egypt	829.1	795.6	33.5
French Polynesia	-	2.7	-2.7
Gibraltar	342.2	-	342.2
Guatemala	91.8	-	91.8
Hong Kong, SAR of China	1 019.0	14 075.5	-13 056.5
Iceland	10.6	580.4	-569.8
India	459.7	5 453.7	-4 994.1
Indonesia	-	1 896.2	-1 896.2
Iran	10 301.7	10 100.5	201.2
Iraq	6 263.3	207.0	6 056.3
Israel	997.6	1 308.8	-311.1
Japan	845.7	19 285.2	-18 439.5
Jordan	50.0	51.2	-1.2
Kenya	36.5	181.6	-145.1
Korea, Republic of	1 908.5	15 234.8	-13 326.3
Kuwait	83.5	14.0	69.6
Lebanon	13.7	287.9	-274.2
Libya	38.9	4.1	34.8
Liechtenstein	-	58.2	-58.2
Macedonia (FYR)	18.7	167.1	-148.4
Malaysia	-	1 073.7	-1 073.7
Marshall Islands	-	20.5	-20.5

	Exports (FOB)	Imports (CIF)	Balance
Mexico	-	370.3	-370.3
Mongolia	82.3	-	82.3
Morocco	-	588.7	-588.7
New Zealand	-	110.5	-110.5
Nigeria	12.9	-	12.9
Norway	-	1 799.5	-1 799.5
Oman	-	9.7	-9.6
Pakistan	8.4	519.1	-510.7
Panama	195.2	34.1	161.1
Peru	725.3	-	725.3
Philippines	-	26.6	-26.6
Qatar	-	70.9	-70.9
San Marino	-	26.1	-26.1
Saudi Arabia	1 263.4	613.5	649.8
Serbia	-	545.7	-545.7
Singapore	2 372.7	3 068.9	-696.3
South Africa	-	116.6	-116.6
Sri Lanka	-	250.2	-250.2
Sudan	1.9	-	1.9
Switzerland	10 689.5	6 906.2	3 783.2
Syrian	65.0	61.2	3.8
Taiwan, Province of China	-	1 100.9	-1 100.9
Thailand	47.8	2 435.9	-2 388.1
Tunisia	459.2	38.5	420.7
Turkey	35 040.3	163 350.1	-128 309.7
Uganda	18.4	-	18.4
United Arab Emirates	4 120.1	19 274.2	-15 154.1
United States	18 789.6	31 067.5	-12 277.9
Uruguay	45.7	196.5	-150.8
Viet Nam	-	1 035.3	-1 035.3
Virgin Islands, British	-	8.7	-8.7

*Preliminary data.

Sources: LEPL Revenue Service of Ministry of Finance of Georgia;
LEPL Service Agency of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia;
Georgian State Electric System, LTD;
Georgian Gas Transportation Company, LTD.

Explanation of symbols:

- Not applicable;
- 0.0 Negligible magnitude;
- * Data are preliminary and subject to revisions;
- ... Data are confidential.

Notice:

1. The discrepancy between the totals and the sum in some cases can be explained by using rounded data;
2. Data for 2011-2014 are updated by the data of Special Customs Declarations;
3. Information does not cover the data of Simplified Customs Declarations (Form №4);
4. According to the international methodology, there are some difference in coverage of trade flows between external merchandise trade statistics and customs statistics. Diplomatic, temporary, transit and analogous goods are excluded from the database of external merchandise trade statistics.

The preliminary data will be revised according to the Geostat's revision policy (based on the regular revision principle) as a result of adjusting data by respondents/administrative sources.

Adjusted data for 2016 will be published on 15 July, 2017.

Information Note

The electronic Database of Customs Declarations (DBCD) is the main administrative information source of external merchandise trade transactions. National Statistics office of Georgia (Geostat) receives DBCD from the Revenue Service of Ministry of Finance of Georgia on a monthly basis. Geostat produces External Merchandise Trade Statistics in line with the international methodology /standards.

It is well-known fact that Georgia launches hepatitis C elimination program since 2015. Program recipients are granted by the medicaments free of charge. Customs value of those medicaments are based on expertise valuation.

IMF technical assistance (TA) mission on external sector statistics (ESS) was conducted in Georgia at the end of 2016. The purpose of the mission was to Geostat and the National Bank of Georgia (NBG) in strengthening the and dissemination of ESS.

One of the priority actions recommended by the mission was to adjust data on value of imported hepatitis C medicines based on information received from counterparts. This will ensure consistency between External Merchandise Trade Statistics and Balance of Payments data.

According to the provided recommendations Geostat adjusted value of import of C hepatitis medicaments on the basis of invoice price received from the Revenue Service. Adjustments covered 2015-2016 years period since starting hepatitis C elimination program. Recalculation of the total import, merchandise trade turnover and trade balance was made accordingly.

Adjustment of data will ensure comparability of statistical data at the international level. Adjustments were implemented according to the Statistical Data Revision Policy of Geostat.