

Trade Statistics Report

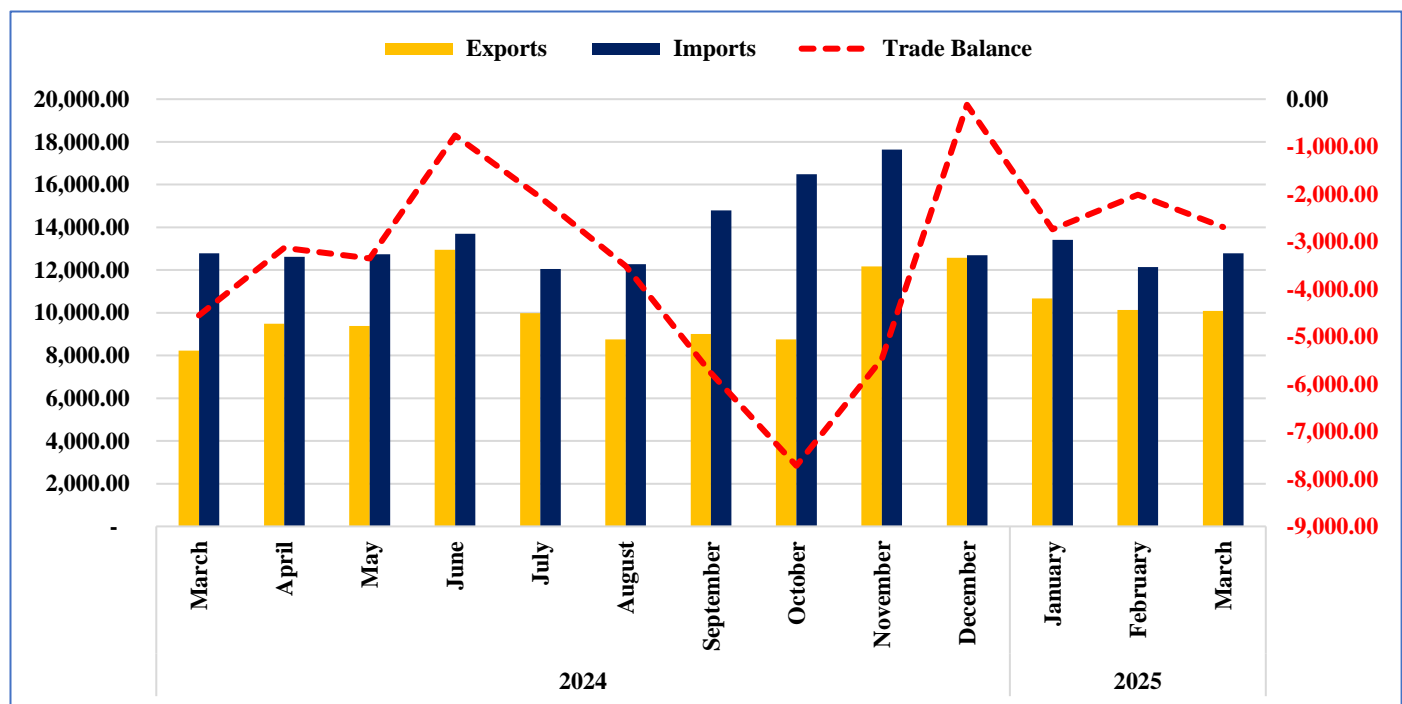
March 2025

Overview

TABLE 1: EXPORT AND IMPORT VALUE MARCH 2024 VS MARCH 2025

EXPORT		IMPORTS		TRADE BALANCE	
March 2024	March 2025	March 2024	March 2025	March 2024	March 2025
N\$ 8.23 billion	N\$ 10.09 billion	N\$ 12.78 billion	N\$ 12.78 billion	-N\$ 4.55 billion	-N\$ 2.69 billion

FIGURE 1: EXPORT AND IMPORT VALUE (N\$ MILLIONS) VS TRADE BALANCE, MARCH 2024 – MARCH 2025



Source: NSA & HEI Research

In March 2025, Namibia’s exports increased to N\$10.09 billion from N\$8.23 billion in March 2024, reflecting stronger external demand and potentially boosted by the record performance of gold. Imports held steady at N\$12.78 billion year-on-year. Consequently, the trade deficit narrowed from -N\$4.55 billion to -N\$2.69 billion, marking a notable improvement in the country’s trade position.

On a monthly basis, Namibia’s exports saw a slight decline from N\$10.13 billion in February 2025 to N\$10.09 billion in March 2025, while imports rose from N\$12.14 billion to N\$12.78 billion over the same period. This increase in imports, combined with the marginal drop in exports, widened the trade deficit from -N\$2.01 billion in February to -N\$2.69 billion in March, signalling increased pressure on the country’s trade balance.

TABLE 2: TOP 5 EXPORTED AND IMPORTED PRODUCTS

EXPORTED	IMPORTED
Pearls and precious or semiprecious stones, unworked or worked	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (other than crude)
Fish, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods and special-purpose motor vehicles
Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)	Inorganic chemical elements, oxides and halogen salts
Uranium or thorium ores and concentrates	Nickel ores and concentrates
Other Crude Minerals	Civil engineering and contractors' plant and equipment; parts thereof

- Namibia's top exports (*excluding Re-exports¹*) included Pearls and unprocessed precious stones (15.8%), fish (13.6%), gold (12.4%), uranium ores (11.0%), and Other Crude Minerals (2.7%) underscoring the country's reliance on mineral and marine resource trade.
- Top imports were refined petroleum products (20%), motor vehicles (4.3%), industrial chemicals (3.8%), nickel-related materials (3.1%), and Engineering parts & equipment (2.7%), reflecting ongoing infrastructure needs and fuel dependency.

TABLE 3: TOP 5 EXPORT DESTINATIONS FOR MARCH 2025

Export Destination	Share
Botswana	19.75
South Africa	18.9%
Zambia	12.5%
China	11.5%
Belgium	5.0%

- Namibia's top export destinations were led by Botswana, which accounted for 19.75% of total exports, followed closely by South Africa at 18.9%. Zambia (12.5%) and China (11.5%) also featured prominently, reflecting strong regional and Asian demand for Namibian goods. Belgium rounded out the top five with a 5.0% share, indicating continued engagement with European markets. Nearly all of Namibia's exports of precious stones and gold were directed to Botswana and South Africa, making them the dominant destinations for these high-value commodities. With Zambia mostly consuming Namibian fish and China mainly importing Namibian Uranium. Belgium mostly received Copper and Diamonds.

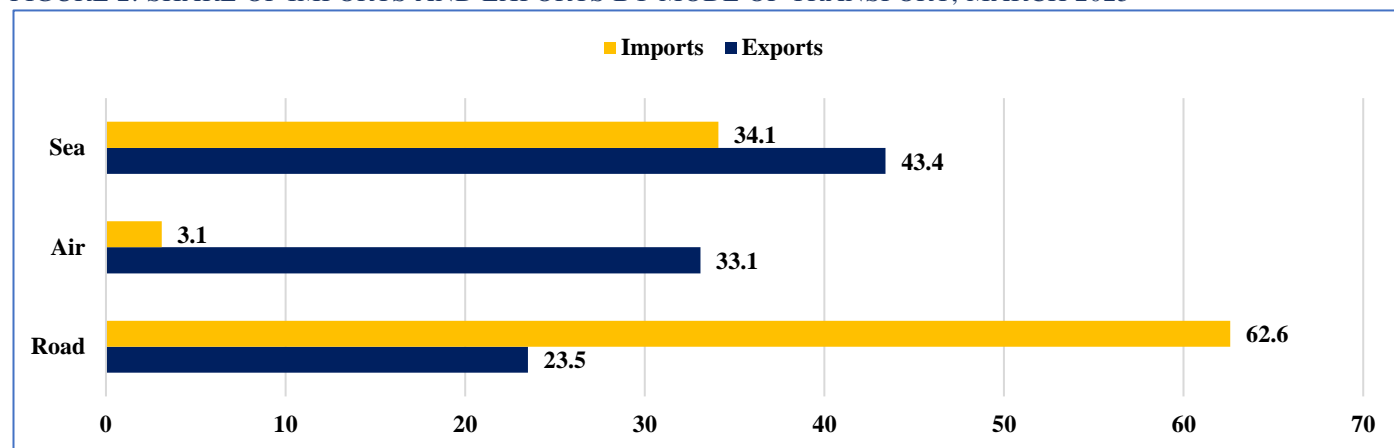
TABLE 4: TOP 5 IMPORT COUNTRIES FOR MARCH 2025

Import Source	Share
South Africa	39.4%
India	9.3%
China	8.6%
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	4.8%
Oman	4.6%

- South Africa remained Namibia's dominant source of imports, accounting for 39.4% of total goods. India and China followed with shares of 9.3% and 8.6% respectively, reflecting Namibia's growing engagement with Asian markets. The Democratic Republic of Congo (4.8%) and Oman (4.6%) also featured among the top five, largely due to imports of raw materials and petroleum products. The majority of motor vehicles, approximately 55%, were imported from South Africa. Petroleum oils were primarily sourced from India and Oman, while the DR Congo supplied most of the inorganic elements. China contributed a diverse range of imported products.

¹ Re-Exports refer to goods that are imported into Namibia without undergoing significant processing and are then exported to another destination. These often include transit goods moved through ports or border posts such as Walvis Bay, either for delivery to neighbouring countries or for onward shipment to markets further away, for example Canada or the Netherlands.

FIGURE 2: SHARE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY MODE OF TRANSPORT, MARCH 2025



Source: NSA

- The majority of Namibia's exports were transported by sea, accounting for 43.4%, followed by air at 33.1% and road at 23.5%. Sea and Air dominance is evident seeing that Uranium was mainly exported via maritime trade and Pearls by Air.
- In contrast, imports were predominantly delivered by road, which made up 62.6% of total imports. Sea transport handled 34.1% of imports, while air transport contributed only 3.1%. Road Imports were well diversified, with the top commodity transported only accounting for 6% of Road Imports.

TABLE 5: TOP 3 BORDER POSTS FOR IMPORTS (N\$ M) FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2025

Border Post	Total Imports (N\$ million)
Walvis Bay	4,198
Ariamsvlei	3,352
Trans Kalahari	1,884

TABLE 6: TOP 3 BORDER POSTS FOR EXPORTS (N\$ M) FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2025

Border Post	Total Exports (N\$ million)
Walvis Bay	3,874
Eros Airport	2,805
Katima Mulilo	1,403

In March 2025, Walvis Bay continued as the dominant border post for both imports and exports, handling N\$4.2 billion in imports and N\$3.9 billion in exports, reflecting its central role in Namibia's trade operations. Ariamsvlei followed as a major import hub with N\$3.4 billion, while Trans Kalahari contributed N\$1.9 billion. For exports, Eros Airport and Katima Mulilo also played key roles, with N\$2.8 billion and N\$1.4 billion in exports respectively, serving as important points for regional and international trade.

Sentiment

Global trade policy shifts taking effect from April may lead to increased volatility in Namibia's trade dynamics, with uncertain impacts on both exports and imports. The annual rise in exports seen in March 2025 is a positive development, and if this momentum is sustained, it could further strengthen the country's trade position. Continued growth would be especially beneficial if supported by a shift toward beneficiation and export diversification, which could help secure longer-term gains and reduce vulnerability to commodity price fluctuations.