

# Trade Statistics Report

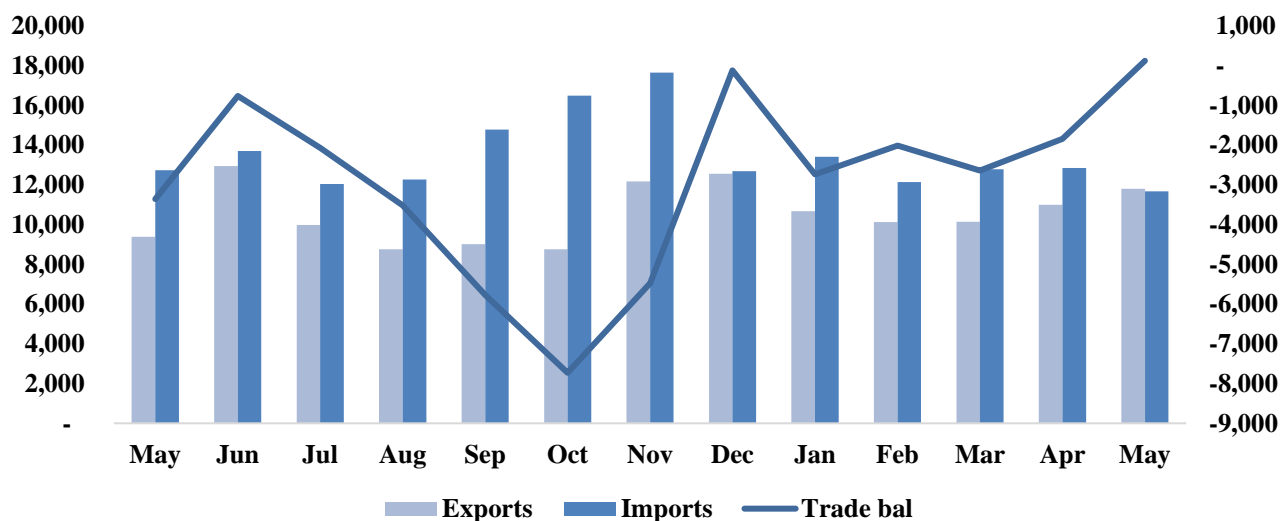
May 2025

## Overview

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

EXPORT		IMPORTS		TRADE BALANCE	
May 2024	May 2025	May 2024	May 2025	May 2024	May 2025
N\$9.4 billion	N\$11.8 billion	N\$12.8 billion	N\$11.7 billion	-N\$3 billion	N\$0.1 billion

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



Source: NSA & HEI Research

Namibia's external sector recorded a notable shift in May 2025, characterised by a strong upswing in exports and a contraction in imports, resulting in a marginal trade surplus. Total exports rose to N\$11.8 billion, up from N\$9.4 billion in May 2024 a 25.8% year-on-year increase driven by stronger global demand for key mineral exports.

Imports, on the other hand, declined to N\$11.7 billion, from N\$12.8 billion in the same period last year, reflecting a moderation in domestic import demand. As a result, the trade balance improved significantly, shifting from a deficit of -N\$3.0 billion in May 2024 to a slight surplus of N\$0.1 billion in May 2025.

On a monthly basis, exports grew by 7.3%, continuing the momentum observed in April 2025, while imports fell by 9.1%, reinforcing a narrowing trade gap.

TABLE 2: TOP 5 EXPORTED AND IMPORTED PRODUCTS

EXPORTED	IMPORTED
Uranium or thorium ores and concentrates	Petroleum oils
Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)	Nickel ores and concentrates
Fish, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen	Ores and concentrates of base metals
Precious stones (diamonds)	Other machinery and equipment specialized for particular industries
Copper and articles of copper	Civil engineering and contractors' equipment

- Namibia's export basket in May 2025 remained heavily mineral-dependent, with uranium maintaining its lead position, accounting for 29.3% of total export earnings. Non-monetary gold (14.3%), and diamonds (10.2%) also featured prominently, alongside fish (10.3%) and copper products (4.6%).
- On the import side, the top five imported commodities collectively accounted for 24.2% of Namibia's total imports. Petroleum products continued to dominate with 9.0%, followed by industrial inputs such as nickel (4.6%) and base metal ores (3.9%), machinery (3.5%), and civil engineering equipment (3.2%) underscoring Namibia's capital-intensive import needs.

TABLE 3: TOP 5 EXPORT DESTINATIONS FOR MAY 2025

Export Destination	Share
<b>China</b>	24.5%
<b>South Africa</b>	21.6%
<b>Botswana</b>	10.4%
<b>Zambia</b>	9.1%
<b>France</b>	6.6%

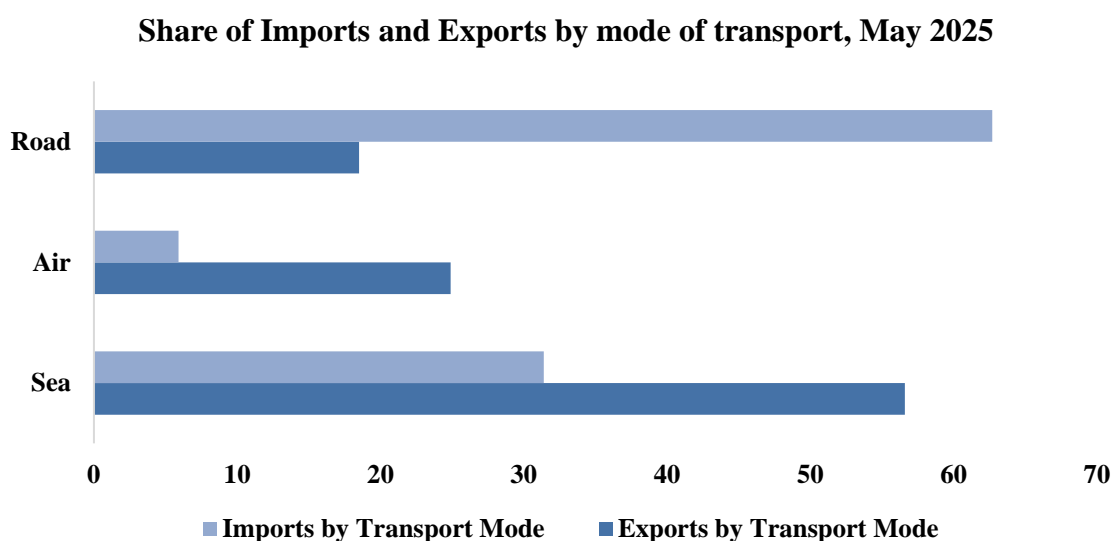
- China and South Africa remained Namibia's primary trade partners, together accounting for over 45% of total exports. Exports to Botswana accounted for 10.4% reflecting continued regional demand for Namibian mineral and fish products followed by Zambia with 9.1% of exports, supported by strong intra-regional flows in semi-processed goods and consumables. France accounted 6.6%, largely reflecting demand for high-value commodities such as non-monetary gold and diamonds.

TABLE 4: TOP 5 IMPORT COUNTRIES FOR MAY 2025

Import Source	Share
<b>South Africa</b>	38.7%
<b>China</b>	12.1%
<b>India</b>	5.4%
<b>Zambia</b>	5.0%
<b>Democratic Republic of Congo</b>	3.9%

- Imports remained heavily concentrated within the Southern African region, with South Africa alone accounting for 38.7% of total imports. China followed with 12.1%, reflecting its continued role as a key supplier of manufactured goods and equipment, while India, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo accounted for 5.4%, 5.0% and 3.9%, respectively.

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



Source: NSA

- In May 2025, sea transport remained the dominant mode for Namibia's exports, accounting for 56.6% of total export shipments. This was followed by air transport at 24.9%, while road transport contributed 18.5%.
- On the import side, road transport was the primary mode, handling 62.7% of total imports. Sea transport accounted for 31.4%, while air transport made up the remaining 5.9%. This highlights Namibia's continued reliance on maritime routes for exports and road networks for imports.

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

Border Post	Total Imports (N\$ million)
Walvis Bay	3,540
Ariamsvlei	2,677
Trans Kalahari	1,889

- Walvis Bay remained Namibia's primary entry point for imports, handling goods valued at N\$3.5 billion. This reflects the port's critical role in facilitating the importation of petroleum products, machinery, and other bulk commodities.
- Ariamsvlei was the second busiest border post, processing imports worth N\$2.7 billion, largely driven by overland trade from South Africa.
- Trans Kalahari ranked third, with imports valued at N\$1.9 billion

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

<b>Border Post</b>	<b>Total Exports (N\$ million)</b>
<b>Walvis Bay</b>	6,519
<b>Eros Airport</b>	2,576
<b>Katima Mulilo</b>	1,212

- Walvis Bay also maintained it's position as Namibia's leading export gateway, processing goods valued at N\$6.5 billion. Highlighting the port's strategic importance in facilitating bulk commodity shipments, particularly minerals and fish products.
- Eros Airport was the second most active export point, handling exports worth N\$2.6 billion, largely driven by high-value commodities such as precious stones and non-monetary gold, which are typically transported by air due to their sensitivity and value.
- Katima Mulilo ranked third, with exports amounting to N\$1.2 billion, reflecting robust trade flows with neighbouring regional markets.

Namibia's external trade dynamics in May 2025 reflected a modest but steady recovery, supported by favourable commodity prices and a more contained import bill. Export performance remained robust, with earnings driven by sustained external demand for key commodities particularly uranium, non-monetary gold, and fish. The narrowing trade deficit, coupled with increased export volumes, reflected a gradual improvement in the country's external trade balance, contributing positively to the external sector outlook.

On the import side, the overall decline in import values suggested subdued domestic demand for selected goods. However, essential imports such as petroleum oils and capital equipment remained relatively stable, indicating ongoing investment in productive sectors. The continued dominance of maritime routes for exports and road transport for imports underscores the importance of Namibia's core trade infrastructure.