

# Trade Statistics Report

July 2025

## 1. Executive Summary

Namibia recorded a marginal trade deficit of N\$58 million in July 2025, with exports of N\$12.56 billion nearly balancing with imports of N\$12.62 billion. This represents a significant improvement from the N\$2.00 billion deficit in July 2024, underscoring strong growth in exports that has offset rising import activity. The results follow consecutive surpluses in May and June 2025, maintaining resilience in external trade.

Mineral commodities continue to dominate the export composition, with uranium (N\$3.26 billion, 26%), gold (N\$1.50 billion, 12%), and fish (N\$1.49 billion, 12%) leading. Pearls and precious stones contributed N\$1.76 billion (14%), while copper exports (N\$1.04 billion, largely re-exports) underscore Namibia’s role as a regional trading hub.

Imports were driven by energy and industrial requirements, notably petroleum products (N\$1.70 billion, 13%), motor vehicles for goods (N\$537 million, 4.3%) and passengers (N\$367 million, 2.9%), as well as mechanical handling (N\$426 million, 3.4%) and civil engineering equipment (N\$359 million, 2.8%).

South Africa (18% of exports, 41% of imports) and China (14% of exports, 10% of imports) remained Namibia’s largest trade partners. Road transport dominated import flows (61%), while maritime and air channels facilitated bulk and high-value exports. Walvis Bay, Eros Airport, and strategic land border posts (Ariamsvlei, and Trans Kalahari) remain pivotal in trade flows.

While uranium remains exempt from U.S. tariffs, certain other commodities may face trade policy risks, warranting ongoing monitoring.

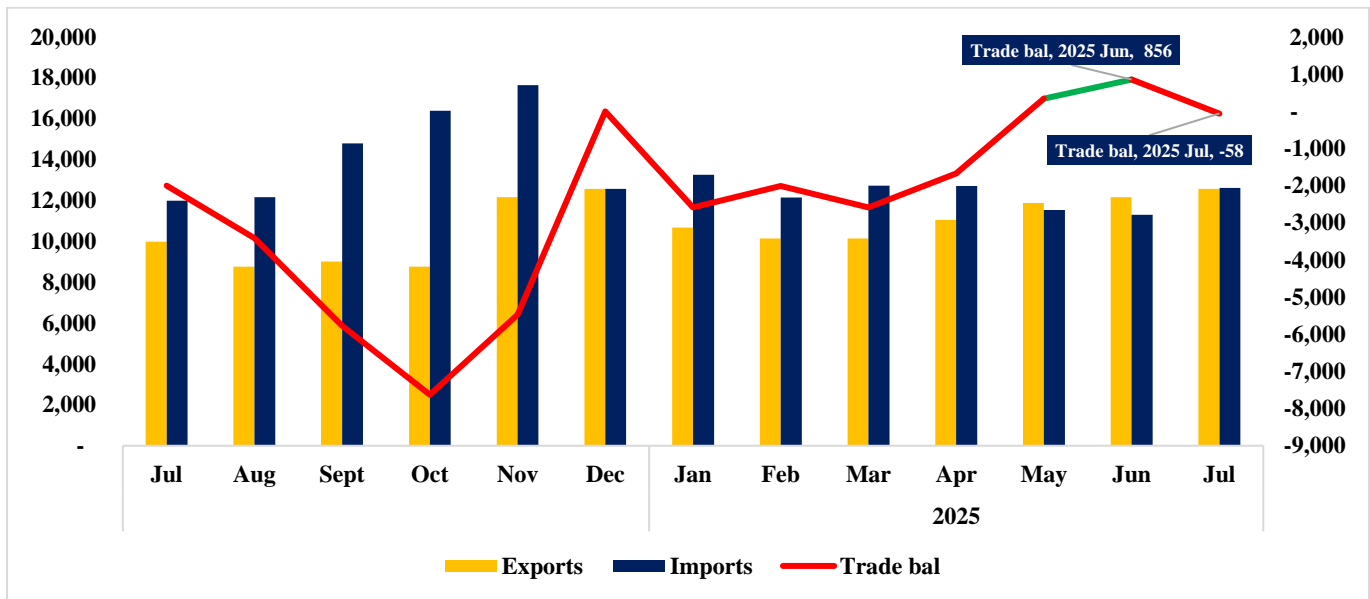
## 2. Overview

Table 1: Trade Statistics July 2024 Vs July 2025

EXPORTS		IMPORTS		TRADE BALANCE	
July 2024	July 2025	July 2024	July 2025	July 2024	July 2025
N\$9.98 billion	N\$12.56 billion	N\$11.98 billion	N\$12.62 billion	-N\$2.00 Billion	-N\$58 Million

Source: NSA

**Figure 1: Export And Import Value (N\$ Millions) Vs Trade Balance, July 2024 – July 2025**



Source: NSA

Exports in July 2025 increased by over 25% year-on-year, while imports rose moderately by 5%, narrowing the trade deficit significantly. The composition of trade highlights Namibia’s dependence on mineral resource exports and industrial imports. This reinforces the economy’s resilience to external shocks and commodity price volatility.

**Table 2: Top 5 Imported and Exported Products**

Exported	Imported
Uranium or thorium ores and concentrates	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (other than crude)
Pearls and precious or semiprecious stones	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods and special-purpose motor vehicles
Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)	Mechanical handling equipment.
Fish, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen	Motor vehicles for the transport of persons
Copper and articles of copper	Civil engineering and contractors' plant and equipment

Source: NSA

Exports were led by uranium (26%), gold (12%), fish (12%), and pearls and precious stones (14%). Copper exports, mostly re-exports, accounted for nearly 8%, underlining Namibia’s role as a regional re-export hub.

Imports remained dominated by petroleum products (13%), with motor vehicles and industrial equipment collectively making up over 13% of total imports. Namibia’s trade structure continues to be resource-export intensive, while relying on energy, vehicles, and machinery imports to meet domestic demand.

**Table 3: Top 5 Export Destinations and Share July 2025**

Export Destination	Share
South Africa	18.3%
China	13.6%
Botswana	10.7%
India	8.4%
France	7.8%

Source: NSA

Exports in July 2025 were concentrated in five countries absorbing nearly 60% of shipments. South Africa (18%) led, driven by gold and smaller volumes of fish and stones. China (14%) followed, supported by uranium exports. Botswana (11%) was almost entirely precious stones, while India (8%) leaned on copper shipments. France (8%) imported uranium and fish.

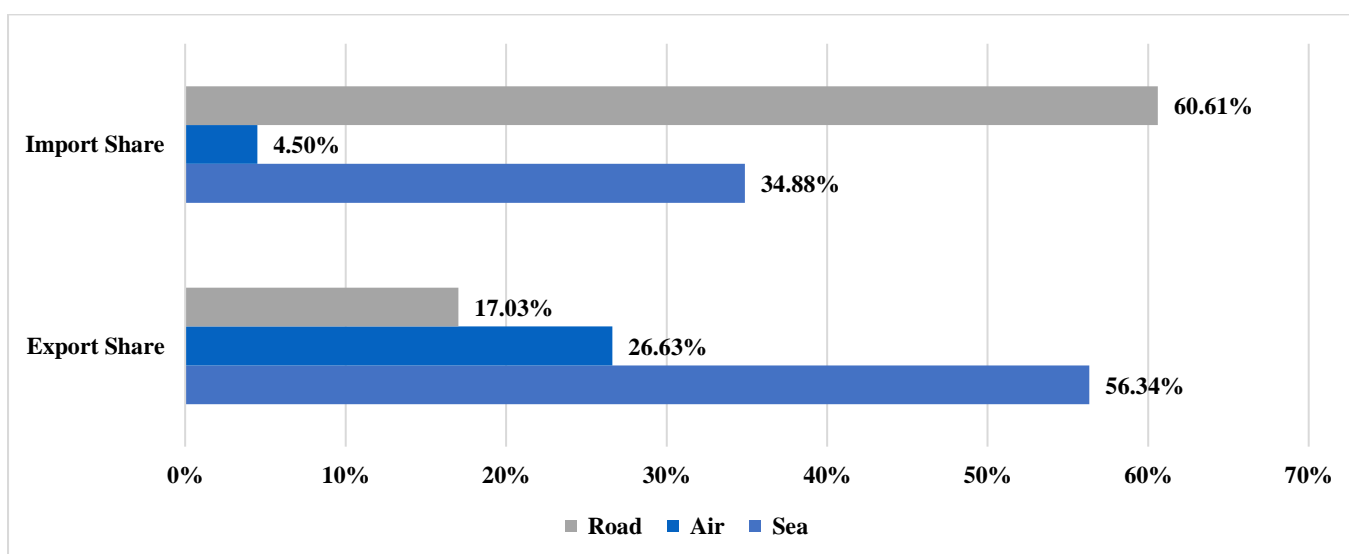
**Table 4: Top 5 Import Countries and Share July 2025**

Import Source	Share
South Africa	40.8%
China	10.2%
Germany	5.1%
Various Undefined Countries	4.5%
United States of America	4.2%

Source: NSA

South Africa (41%) remained Namibia's leading import partner, supplying vehicles, equipment, and industrial inputs. China (10%) provided petroleum and machinery, while Germany (5%) contributed industrial equipment. The U.S. and "various undefined" partners added a combined 9% of imports, further underscoring Namibia's reliance on a limited number of countries for essential industrial and energy inputs.

**Figure 2: Trade by Modes of Transport**



Source: NSA

Sea transport carried 56% of exports, primarily uranium, fish, and copper. Air accounted for 27%, led by gold and precious stones, while road made up 17%, facilitating regional flows. Imports, by contrast, relied on road transport

(61%), moving vehicles and machinery from South Africa and neighbours, while sea (35%) and air (5%) handled bulk and high-value shipments.

Rail and inland waterways remain negligible in both exports and imports, highlighting the continued reliance on maritime, air, and road networks for Namibia's trade flows.

**Table 5: Top 3 Border Posts Exports July 2025**

Border Post	Total Exports (N\$ m)
Walvis Bay	6,939
Eros Airport	2,462
Katima Mulilo	924

Source: NSA

**Table 6: Top 3 Border Posts Imports July 2025**

Border Post	Total Imports (N\$ m)
Walvis Bay	4,162
Ariamsvlei	3,109
Trans Kalahari	2,140

Source: NSA

Walvis Bay remains Namibia's trade gateway, handling N\$6.94 billion in exports and N\$4.2 billion in imports for bulk and high-value commodities. Eros Airport follows with N\$2.46 billion, largely handling high-value or time-sensitive exports such as gold, precious stones, and aircraft. Katima Mulilo accounts for N\$924 million, mainly supporting regional exports via road transport.

On the import side, Walvis Bay remains the principal entry point with N\$4.16 billion in bulk and maritime shipments, while Ariamsvlei (N\$3.11 billion) and Trans Kalahari (N\$2.14 billion) are key land border posts for road imports, primarily from regional partners.

### 3. Sentiment

Namibia's trade performance in July 2025 reflects continued external resilience. The marginal deficit, following consecutive surpluses, reflects sustained export performance in minerals and fisheries that have offset increased import demand. The exemption of uranium from recent U.S. tariffs mitigates risks, but other commodities could face policy headwinds. Structural reliance on a few markets (notably South Africa and China) and import dependence on petroleum, vehicles, and machinery continue to underscore vulnerabilities.

Structural concentration in exports (both product and market) and dependence on a limited set of import sources remain potential vulnerabilities. Policy attention on market diversification, domestic value addition, and infrastructure development especially at strategic border posts could enhance trade resilience.

Overall, the July trade performance signals that Namibia is maintaining external stability, with opportunities to enhance structural resilience through broader market participation, export diversification, and targeted industrial policy interventions. Sustaining export growth while moderating import reliance will be central to strengthening trade resilience, and continued investment in transport infrastructure and the expansion of markets will be key to supporting robust external balances going forward.