

EV records \$57.4 million trade surplus in March

The region reflected a surplus in the total balance of trade in goods (BoT-G) amounting to \$57.4 million in March 2018. This figure, however, is 28.0 percent lower compared with the \$79.7 million surplus recorded in the same period a year ago.

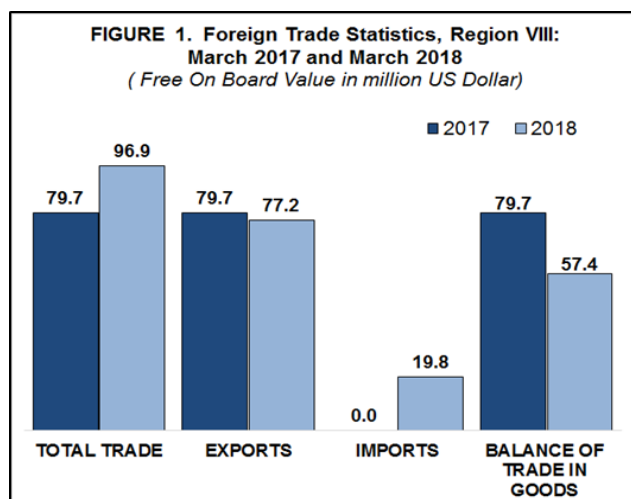
The region's total external trade in goods in March 2018 amounted to \$96.9 million, an increase of 21.6 percent over the value of \$79.7 million registered in the same month last year. Total exports amounted to \$77.2 million, which was 3.2 percent lower compared with the \$79.7 million in March 2017. Total value of imports, meanwhile, was recorded at \$19.8 million from zero imports posted in the same period last year.

The region's total volume of exports in March 2018 was at 73.8 million kilograms.

Copper and Articles thereof was the major commodity group exported during the month with total receipts of \$66.2 million, accounting for more than four-fifths or 85.8 percent of the region's total exports revenue in March.

People's Republic of China was the top export market destination with recorded total exports revenue of \$69.4 million or 89.9 percent of the region's total exports.

Meanwhile, the region's total imports in March 2018 had a total gross weight of 136.4 million kilograms.



Note: Details may not add up due to roundings
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Inorganic Chemicals; Organic or Inorganic Compounds of Precious Metals, of Rare-Earth, of Radio-Active Elements or of Isotopes commodity group and Mineral Fuels, Mineral Oils and Products of their Distillation; Bituminous Substances; Mineral Waxes commodity group were the major imports during the month both with total receipts of \$5.7 million, each accounting for 28.7 percent of the region's total imports in March 2018.

The top import supplier of the region was Vietnam, which recorded a total imports bill of \$7.8 million or almost two-fifths (39.7 percent) of the region's total imports.

TABLE 1. Value of Exports by Commodity Group, Region VIII: March 2018
(Free on Board Value in million USD)

Commodity Group	Value	% Share
Total	77.2	100.0
Copper and Articles thereof	66.2	85.8
Animal or Vegetable Fats and Oils and their Cleavage Products; Prepared Edible Fats; Animal or Vegetable Waxes	4.0	5.2
Fertilizers	3.3	4.2
Ores, Slag and Ash	2.9	3.7
Inorganic Chemicals; Organic or Inorganic Compounds of Precious Metals, of Rare-Earth, of Radio-Active Elements or of Isotopes	0.8	1.1

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

TABLE 2. Value of Imports by Commodity Group, Region VIII: March 2018
(Free on Board Value in million USD)

Commodity Group	Value	% Share
Total	19.8	100.1
Inorganic Chemicals; Organic or Inorganic Compounds of Precious Metals, of Rare-Earth, of Radio-Active Elements or of Isotopes	5.7	28.7
Mineral Fuels, Mineral Oils and Products of their Distillation; Bituminous Substances; Mineral Waxes	5.7	28.7
Salt, Sulphur, Earths and Stone; Plastering Materials, Lime and Cement	4.3	21.8
Miscellaneous Chemical Products	2.6	13.2
Fertilizers	1.4	7.3
Ores, Slag and Ash	0.1	0.4

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



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