



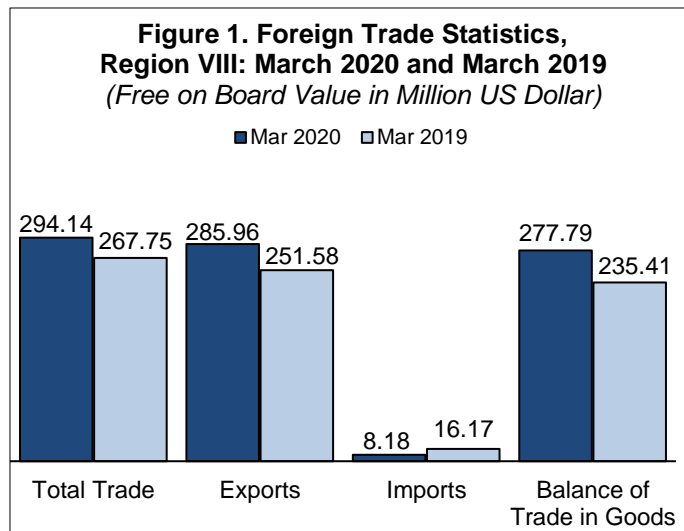
# SPECIAL RELEASE

## HIGHLIGHTS OF EASTERN VISAYAS' EXPORT AND IMPORT STATISTICS: MARCH 2020

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Eastern Visayas' total trade in goods grew by 9.86 percent in March 2020. It increased to \$294.14 million from \$267.75 million in the same period in 2019.

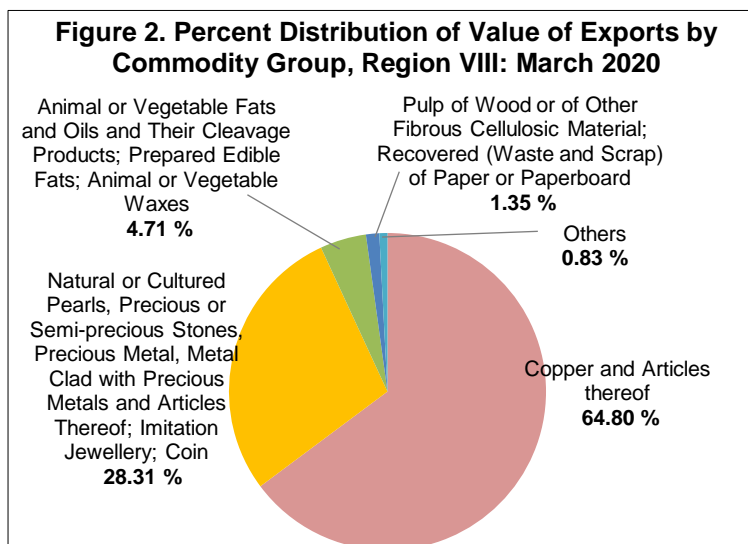
Total value of exports amounted to \$285.96 million. This figure is 13.67 percent higher compared with the \$251.58 million exports in March 2019. The total value of imports, meanwhile, decreased by almost half (49.44 percent). The \$16.17 million imports in March 2019 dropped to \$8.18 million in March 2020.



Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.  
 Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

The large increase in the total value of exports offset the big drop in the total value of imports. This resulted to an 18.00 percent increase in surplus in the total Balance of Trade in Goods (BoT-G) in March 2020. The \$235.41 million trade surplus in March 2019 rose to \$277.79 million trade surplus in March 2020 (Table 1).

### EXPORTS



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

The region's total volume of exports in March 2020 posted at 124.85 million kilograms was valued at \$285.96 million.

The major export during this month was the commodity group of copper and articles thereof. This accounted for almost two-thirds or 64.80 percent of the region's total export revenue. This generated \$185.32 million total revenue.

The second major export of the region in March 2020 was the commodity group of natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metal, metal clad with precious metals and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin. This shared 28.31 percent of the total export revenue amounting to \$80.95 million. Meanwhile, animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes commodity group recorded \$13.46 million export revenue. This contributed 4.71 percent to the total export revenue during the month in review (Table 2).

The People's Republic of China was the top export market destination with \$98.07 million total export revenue. This accounted more than one – third (34.29 percent) of the region's total exports in March 2020. Hong Kong ranked second with \$80.95 million export revenue. It shared 28.31 percent of the total export revenue of the region in March 2020. India followed with \$41.03 million export revenue, which accounted for 14.35 percent of the region's total exports during the month in review (Table 3).

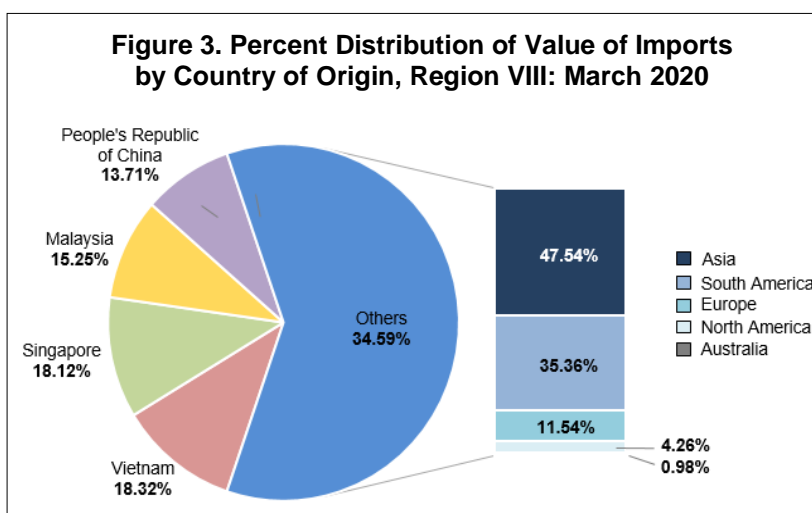
## IMPORTS

The region's total imports amounted to \$8.18 million in March 2020 with total gross weight of 60.64 million kilograms.

Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes commodity group was the major import during the reference month with a total revenue of \$3.78 million. This comprised 46.18 percent of the region's total imports in March 2020.

Cereals commodity group shared 13.24 percent of the region's total imports in March 2020 valued at \$1.08 million. While other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn and woven fabrics of paper yarn commodity group valued at \$1.00 million contributed 12.23 percent of the total imports of the region during the month in review (Table 4).

The top import supplier of the region in March 2020 was Vietnam. Its total import bill of \$1.50 million comprised 18.32 percent of the region's total imports. Singapore closely followed with \$1.48 million import bill which accounted for 18.12 percent of the total imports. Malaysia ranked third with total imports valued at \$1.25 million. This contributed 15.25 percent to the total regional imports during the reference month (Table 5).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 1. Foreign Trade Statistics,  
Region VIII: March 2020 and March 2019**  
(Free on Board Value in Million USD)

Trade Statistics	March 2020	March 2019	% Change
Total Trade	294.14	267.75	9.86
Exports	285.96	251.58	13.67
Imports	8.18	16.17	(49.44)
Balance of Trade in Goods	277.79	235.41	18.00

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 2. Value of Exports by Commodity Group,  
Region VIII: March 2020**  
(Free on Board Value in Million USD)

Commodity Group	Value	% Share
<b>Total</b>	<b>285.96</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Copper and Articles thereof	185.32	64.80
Natural or Cultured Pearls, Precious or Semi-Precious Stones, Precious Metal, Metal Clad with Precious Metals and Articles Thereof; Imitation Jewellery; Coin	80.95	28.31
Animal or Vegetable Fats and Oils and their Cleavage Products; Prepared Edible Fats; Animal or Vegetable Waxes	13.46	4.71
Pulp of Wood or of Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material; Recovered (Waste and Scrap) of Paper or Paperboard	3.87	1.35
Others	2.36	0.83

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 3. Value of Exports by Country of Destination,  
Region VIII: March 2020**  
(Free on Board Value in Million USD)

Country of Destination	Value	% Share
<b>Total</b>	<b>285.96</b>	<b>100.00</b>
People's Republic of China	98.07	34.29
Hong Kong	80.95	28.31
India	41.03	14.35
Thailand	32.72	11.44
Netherlands	11.04	3.86
Vietnam	6.31	2.21
Indonesia	5.86	2.05
Malaysia	1.81	0.63
Others	8.17	2.86

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 4. Value of Imports by Commodity Group,  
Region VIII: March 2020**  
(Free on Board Value in Million USD)

<b>Commodity Group</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>% Share</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.18</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Mineral Fuels, Mineral Oils and Products of their Distillation; Bituminous Substances; Mineral Waxes	3.78	46.18
Cereals	1.08	13.24
Other Vegetable Textile Fibres; Paper Yarn and Woven Fabrics of Paper Yarn	1.00	12.23
Inorganic Chemicals; Organic or Inorganic Compounds of Precious Metals, of Rare-Earth, of Radio-active Elements or of Isotopes	0.77	9.40
Others	1.55	18.95

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 5. Value of Imports by Country of Origin,  
Region VIII: March 2020**  
(Free on Board Value in Million USD)

<b>Country of Origin</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>% Share</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.18</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Vietnam	1.50	18.32
Singapore	1.48	18.12
Malaysia	1.25	15.25
People's Republic of China	1.12	13.71
Others	2.83	34.59

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

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### Technical Notes

Export and Import Trade Statistics are compiled by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) from copies of export and import documents submitted to the Bureau of Customs (BOC) by exporters and importers or their authorized representatives as required by law. PSA collects copies of the following accomplished forms:

1. Export Declaration (ED – DTI form)
2. Import Entry & Internal Revenue Declaration (BOC IEIRD Form 236)
3. Informal Import Declaration and Entry (BOC Form 177)
4. Single Administrative Documents (SAD)

The output of the Automated Export Documentation System (AEDS) of the BOC is being utilized to generate export statistics. AEDS is a paperless transaction in lieu of the manual filling-up of export documents.

Moreover, an electronic copy of the IEIRD, or SAD, is utilized to capture the monthly import figures. SAD-IEIRD is an on-line submission of import documents either by brokers or companies. These are transactions that pass through the Automated Cargo Operating System (ACOS), now called the e2m (electronic to mobile) customs system, a system implemented through the BOC e-Customs Project.

All documents (hard copies and e-files) received before the cut-off date which is every 25th day of the month, are compiled, processed and generated in monthly statistical tables for the preparation of Press Release. All documents received after the cut-off date, however, are processed and included in the generation of the revised monthly statistical tables.

The digitized copies of all documents are provided by BOC and PEZA to PSA on a monthly basis through email.

The 2015 Philippine Standard Commodity Classification (PSCC) is used to classify the commodities at the most detailed 10-digit code level for statistical purposes.

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