

Selected Economic Indicators

Analysis on External Sector Developments

➤ Foreign Trade

According to preliminary data released by Iran's Customs Administration, the value of exports through Customs (excluding natural gas condensate) amounted to \$8.2 billion in the first two months of 1404 (April-May 2025), indicating a rise of 3.2 percent compared with April-May 2024. However, the value of imports through Customs decreased by 6.7 percent to \$8.5 billion. Meanwhile, the weight of exports through Customs (excluding natural gas condensate) increased by 5.1 percent to 24.6 million tons, and that of imports rose by 1.2 percent to 5.9 million tons in April-May 2025 compared with April-May 2024. The price of each ton of exported goods fell by 1.8 percent and that of each ton of imported goods declined by 7.8 percent in April-May 2025 as compared with April-May 2024.

➤ External Debt (Actual Obligations)

The balance of the external debt of the country amounted to \$4.9 billion in May 2025, up by 0.6 percent compared with end-Esfand 1403 (March 2025). Out of the total amount of debt, \$3.1 billion (62.8 percent) was in the form of short-term debt and \$1.8 billion (37.2 percent) was related to medium- and long-term debt. On this basis, the share of the short-term debt out of the total external debt decreased by 0.9 percentage point in May 2025 as compared with March 2025.

➤ Exchange Rate

In Ordibehesht 1404 (May 2025), each US dollar was exchanged in the unofficial market at an average rate of 826.7 thousand Iranian rials, indicating a decrease of 14.3 percent compared with Farvardin 1404 (April 2025). Meanwhile, both the telegraphic transfer (TT) selling rate of each US dollar exchanged in Iran Center for Exchange¹ and the rate of each US dollar against the Iranian rial exchanged via Iran Center for Exchange rose by 0.5 percent compared with April 2025, amounting to 693.2 thousand rials and 712.8 thousand rials in May 2025. The breaking of promising news regarding the country's external relations and the holding of several rounds of indirect talks with the US, which left a positive impact on inflation expectations, were some of the major factors behind the reduction in the exchange rate in the unofficial market in May 2025.

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¹ www.ice.ir