

Brazil's Surplus Reaches US\$ 17 billion, 3% Less than in 2005

Contributed by Stênio Ribeiro
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Last week's Brazilian trade balance performance (exports and imports) was inferior to that of the previous week, which had five business days instead of four.

During the period June 12-18, the daily average of exports and imports dropped 13.87% and 20.78%, respectively, according to data released today, June 19, by the Ministry of Development, Industry, and Foreign Trade.

During last week's four business days (Thursday was the Corpus Cristi holiday), the country's exports totaled US\$ 1.910 billion, while imports amounted to US\$ 1.256 billion, resulting in a US\$ 654 million trade surplus for the week and raising the trade surplus for the month to US\$ 1.965 billion.

The memorandum from the Department of Foreign Trade shows that the cumulative surplus for the year stands at US\$ 17.429 billion, 2.6% less than in 2005. Exports, which total US\$ 55.256 billion, are up 11.5% this year in comparison with the same period last year.

At the same time the volume of imports, while it is still lower, at US\$ 37.827 billion, has grown at a faster pace, 19.5%.

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