

18/03/2019

Current account balance remains in surplus

Today, the Bank of Lithuania published the balance of payments data for January 2019, which shows that:

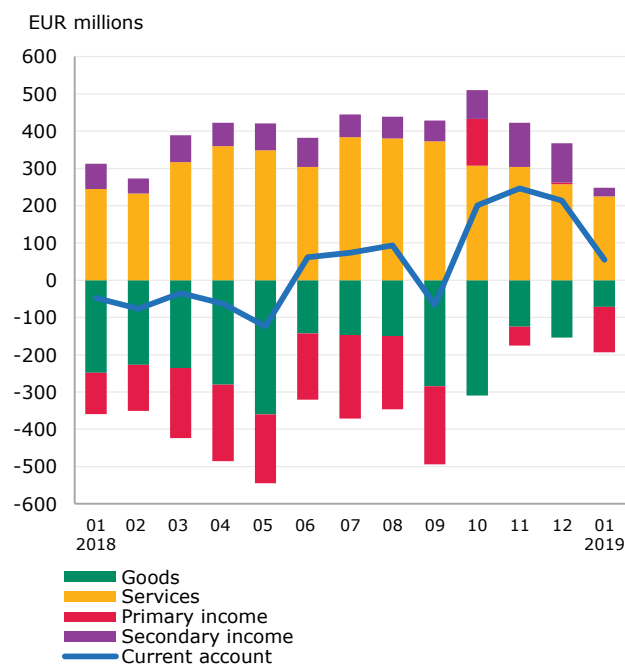
the €54.9 million surplus on the **current account balance** (CAB) resulted from the decreasing surplus balances of services and secondary income that were not offset by the negative balances of foreign trade and primary income (see Chart 1). The decline in imports of goods outpaced that of exports (4.8% and 1.4% respectively) and resulted in a decrease in trade balance deficit (2.1 times). The deficit on the primary income balance was driven by the reduced EU subsidies for agriculture;

exports and imports of services shrank (13.0% and 13.1% respectively) and surplus on the balance of services amounted to €224.7 million;

the surplus on the secondary income balance in January dropped 4.5 times as a result of decreased transfers from EU support funds (€16.1 million in January) and a pick up in Lithuania's calculated contributions to the EU budget (€46.2 million in January). Private individual remittances from abroad amounted to €85.0 million, narrowing by 9.0% on a month on month basis. Private individual remittances from Lithuania amounted to €34.2 million, decreasing by 5.2%;

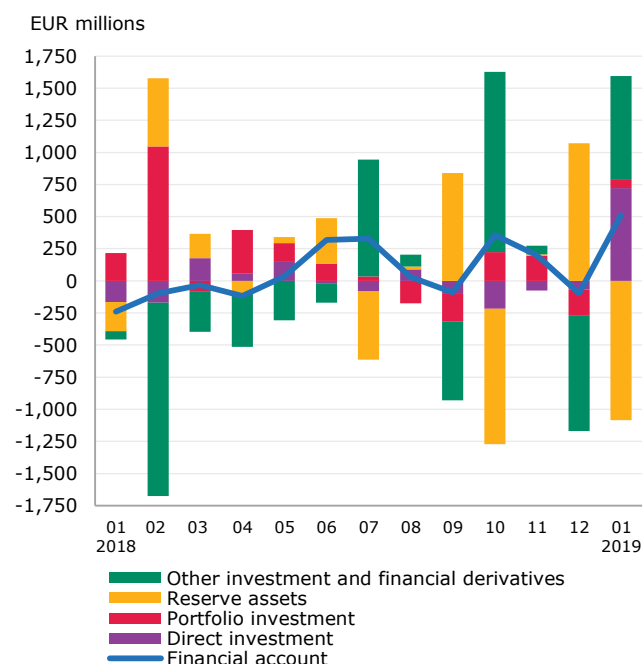
the positive net flow of **financial account** investment (€509.7 million) resulted from the positive net flows of other investment, direct and portfolio investment, which were not offset by the decrease in official reserve assets (see Chart 2).

Chart 1. CAB and its composite flows



Source: Bank of Lithuania.

Chart 2. Net financial account investment flows



Source: Bank of Lithuania.

Detailed data for January is available on the Bank of Lithuania website (under [External statistics](#)).