

MONITORING EU AGRI-FOOD TRADE

DEVELOPMENTS in November 2023 Publication: February 2024

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Note to the reader

The latest available consolidated trade data at EU level cover market developments in November 2023. Monthly figures can be compared with the previous month. Year-on-year change compares the cumulative trade since the beginning of the year with the same period in the previous year.

The trade figures are expressed in values, except when specifically mentioned. The unit value is the average price of products traded in the period concerned (trade value at the border divided by quantity registered).

HIGHLIGHTS: EU agri-food trade continued to perform in November 2023

EU agri-food trade surplus continued to grow in November 2023. It reached +EUR 6.9 billion, 3% higher than the previous month and 27% higher compared to November 2022. The cumulative trade balance (January to November 2023) reached EUR 64.8 billion. It is EUR 12 billion higher compared to the same period in 2022.

EU exports are stable month on month at EUR 20 billion in November 2023. They remain 5% lower than in November 2022. Cumulative exports since January reached EUR 210.8 billion, at the same level than in 2022. Main increases were for processed products, including cereal preparations and preparations of fruit and nuts.

EU imports remained stable as well in November. They reached EUR 13.1 billion, still 16% below their level of November 2022. Cumulative imports (from January to November 2023) reached EUR 146.1 billion, 7% below their 2022 level, with increases in tobacco products and sugar imports and reductions in imports of oilseeds and protein crops as well as vegetable oils, led by declining world prices.

EU27: Trade of agri-food products (million EUR)





EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS

EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS WERE STABLE IN NOVEMBER 2023

EU agri-food exports reached EUR 20 billion in November 2023, a slight increase of +0.6% monthon-month. Still, they remain 5% below their November 2022 level. Cumulative exports from January to November 2023 reached EUR 210.8 billion, EUR 981 million higher than for the same period last year.

The **UK** remains the first destination of EU exports, representing 22% of cumulative exports from January to November 2023. EU exports to the UK grew by EUR 3.4 billion (+8%) compared to 2022, mostly due to higher export prices for cereal preparations and milling products, preparations of fruit and nuts, confectionery and chocolate, and pigmeat.

The **US** are the second destination of EU exports, with 12% of their cumulative value. However, exports decreased by EUR 2 billion compared to 2022 (-7%), mostly due to reduced exports of spirits and liqueurs.

China is the third destination of EU exports (6%), despite a decrease in cumulative value of -EUR 723 million (-5%) compared to 2022, mainly due to a decrease in exports of pigmeat (-25%).

Among other significant evolutions, cumulative exports to **Türkiye** increased by +EUR 781 million, (+21%, mostly due to an increase in beef).

Exports to **Ukraine** also increased by EUR 494 million (+19%), across most product categories.

On the other hand, EU exports to Algeria continued to decrease (-EU 859 million, -25%). They are also reduced in direction of **Egypt** (-765 million, -28%) and **Iran** (-EUR 508 million, -50%).

Cumulative exports of **cereal preparations and milling products** remained high with an increase of +EUR 1.4 billion (+7%) compared to 2022, followed by exports of **preparations of fruit and vegetables** (+EUR 1.3 billion, +14%) and **confectionary and chocolate** (+EUR 1.1 billion, +12%). These evolutions are explained by increased export prices, while volumes declined.

On the other hand, cumulative exports of **cereals** decreased by EUR 2.3 billion (-14%) compared to 2022. However, this is explained by reduced export prices whiles volumes exported increased by 7%. Exports to the Middle East and North Africa decreased from 22.5 million tonnes in 2022 (January-November) to 16.3 million tonnes on the same period in 2023. On the other hand, exports to Sub-Saharan Africa rose from 8.6 million tonnes on this period in 2022 to 11.5 million tonnes in 2023.

Exports of **pigmeat** remain at a low level, with a reduction of EUR 1.4 billion (-11% in value, -19% in volume), as exports to Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa decreased. Cumulated exports of **spirits and liqueurs** decreased by EUR 706 million (-8%), and **wine and wine-based products** by EUR 597 million (-4%), due to reduced volumes exported.

EU exports of agri-food products to extra-EU (million EUR)



EU AGRI-FOOD IMPORTS

EU IMPORTS REMAINED STABLE IN NOVEMBER 2023

The value of EU **agri-food imports was stable at EUR 13.1 billion** in November, just 0.7% below the previous month, but still 16% below their level in November 2022. Cumulative imports from January to November 2023 reached EUR 146.1 billion, a 7% reduction compared to the same period in 2022 (-EUR 11 billion).

Brazil remains the first source of agri-food imports for the EU, representing 11% of total EU imports between January and November 2023. However, imports from Brazil have decreased by EUR 2.5 billion (-13%) compared to 2022, mostly due to significant reduction in imported volumes of soya beans (-23%), coffee (-13%) and maize (-48%).

The **UK** is the second source of EU imports (10%). Imports from the UK remained mostly stable, with a slight increase of EUR 290 million (+2%).

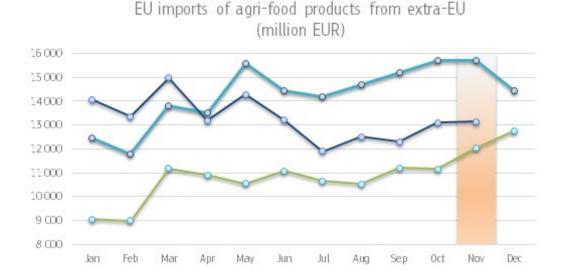
Ukraine remained the third source of EU imports (7%). However, cumulative imports in 2023 (January-November) decreased by EUR 719 million (-6%) compared to the same period in 2022. The situation is contrasted across products, with increasing imports of cereals, sugar and isoglucose and poultry meat, but reductions in oilseeds and protein crops and vegetable oils (mostly due to reduced import prices).

Imports had the largest increase from **Türkiye** (+EUR 943 million, +19%, mostly in cereals, fruit and nuts, vegetables and olives and olive oil). Imports from **Egypt** also grew by EUR 534 million (+42%, mostly in fruit and nuts and vegetables).

On the other hand, other reductions in imports could be observed from **Argentina** (-EUR 2 billion, -32%, mainly from reduced soya meals), **China** (-EUR 1.4 billion, -15%, mainly non-edible products), **Indonesia** (-EUR 1.1 billion, 18%, mainly from organic chemicals) and Australia (-EUR 1.1 billion, -31%, mostly from rapeseed).

The largest increases in cumulative import value were for **tobacco** products (+EUR 1 billion, +31%), as well as for **sugar and isoglucose** (+EUR 829 million, +76%). Imports also increased in **vegetables** (+EUR 674 million, +15%) and **olives and olive oil** (+EUR 408 million, +63%, mainly due to higher prices).

On the other hand, significant reductions in import value could be observed for **oilseeds and protein crops** (-EUR 3.9 billion, -17%) and **vegetable oils** (-EUR 3 billion, -30%), due to reductions of both prices and volumes. Similar reductions in import values were observed for **non-edible products** (-EUR 2 billion, -19%), **coffee, tea, cocoa and spices** (-EUR 1.4 billion, -7%) and **margarine and other oils and fats** (-EUR 1.2 billion, -25%).



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──2021 ───2022 ───2023

TABLE 1
EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS – COUNTRIES WITH MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES (million EUR)

	yearly data			monthly data				
TRADING PARTNERS	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22- Nov22	Jan23- Nov23	Differe	ence	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	198 124	228 846	100%	209 844	210 825	981	0%	
United Kingdom	41 949	47 789	21%	43 982	47 402	3 420	8%	
Türkiye	3 569	4 156	2%	3 692	4 474	781	21%	
Ukraine	3 109	2 923	1%	2 659	3 153	494	19%	
Switzerland	9 858	11 170	5%	10 250	10 622	372	4%	
Thailand	1 223	1 233	1%	1 133	1 367	233	21%	
Iran, Islamic Republic of	873	1 069	0%	1 015	507	- 508	-50%	
China	17 147	15 800	7%	14 262	13 540	- 723	-5%	
Egypt	2 183	2 842	1%	2 700	1 935	- 765	-28%	
Algeria	2 948	3 576	2%	3 389	2 530	- 859	-25%	
United States	24 516	28 962	13%	26 823	24 870	-1 953	-7%	
Other countries	90 750	109 326	48%	99 937	100 427	490	0%	

TABLE 2
EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS - TOP 15 EXPORT COUNTRIES (million EUR)

		yearly data			monthly data				
TRADING F	PARTNERS	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22- Nov22	Jan23- Nov23	Differe	nce	
	TOTAL AGRIFOOD	198 124	228 846	100%	209 844	210 825	981	0%	
United Kingdom		41 949	47 789	21%	43 982	47 402	3 420	8%	
United States		24 516	28 962	13%	26 823	24 870	- 1 953	-7%	
China		17 147	15 800	7%	14 262	13 540	- 723	-5%	
Switzerland		9 858	11 170	5%	10 250	10 622	372	4%	
Japan		7 377	8 279	4%	7 522	7 307	- 215	-3%	
Russian Federation		7 340	7 119	3%	6 464	6 352	- 112	-2%	
Norway		5 412	5 961	3%	5 481	5 535	54	1%	
Türkiye		3 569	4 156	2%	3 692	4 474	781	21%	
Saudi Arabia		3 631	4 805	2%	4 368	4 276	- 92	-2%	
Canada		4 049	4 720	2%	4 400	4 143	- 257	-6%	
Korea, Republic of		3 939	4 601	2%	4 237	4 136	- 101	-2%	
Morocco		2 368	4 003	2%	3 661	3 491	- 169	-5%	
Australia		3 302	3 836	2%	3 530	3 478	- 51	-1%	
Ukraine		3 109	2 923	1%	2 659	3 153	494	19%	
United Arab Emirates		2 346	3 255	1%	2 978	3 046	68	2%	
Other countries		58 213	71 467	31%	65 533	65 001	- 532	-1%	

TABLE 3
EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS – PRODUCT CATEGORIES WITH MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES (million EUR)

	yearly data			monthly data				
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22- Nov22	Jan23- Nov23	Difference		
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	198 124	228 846	100%	209 844	210 825	981	0%	
Cereal preparations and milling products	18 810	22 918	10%	20 890	22 337	1 446	7%	
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	8 415	10 493	5%	9 539	10 858	1 319	14%	
Confectionery and chocolate	8 884	10 251	4%	9 373	10 518	1 145	12%	
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	5 504	6 153	3%	5 603	6 655	1 052	19%	
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	6 180	7 353	3%	6 726	7 442	716	11%	
Dairy products	16 990	20 363	9%	18 731	18 138	- 593	-3%	
Wine and wine based products	16 641	18 268	8 %	16 897	16 300	- 597	-4%	
Spirits and liqueurs	8 413	9 751	4%	9 142	8 436	- 706	-8 %	
Pigmeat	14 527	13 832	6%	12 679	11 316	-1 363	-11%	
Cereals	11 986	16 861	7%	15 610	13 354	-2 255	-14%	
Other products	81 775	92 604	40%	84 653	85 471	818	1%	

TABLE 4
EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS - TOP 15 EXPORT PRODUCT CATEGORIES (million EUR)

	yearly data monthly data				monthly data		
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22- Nov22	Jan23- Nov23	Differe	nce
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	198 124	228 846	100%	209 844	210 825	981	0%
Cereal preparations and milling products	18 810	22 918	10%	20 890	22 337	1 446	7%
Dairy products	16 990	20 363	9%	18 731	18 138	- 593	-3%
Wine and wine based products	16 641	18 268	8%	16 897	16 300	- 597	-4%
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	12 262	14 873	6%	13 596	13 979	384	3%
Cereals	11 986	16 861	7%	15 610	13 354	- 2 255	-14%
Pigmeat	14 527	13 832	6%	12 679	11 316	- 1 363	-11%
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	8 415	10 493	5%	9 539	10 858	1 319	14%
Confectionery and chocolate	8 884	10 251	4%	9 373	10 518	1 145	12%
Beer, cider and other beverages	10 002	10 891	5%	10 058	10 161	103	1%
Spirits and liqueurs	8 413	9 751	4%	9 142	8 436	- 706	-8%
Vegetables	7 408	8 257	4%	7 385	7 837	453	6%
Other animal products	7 527	8 149	4%	7 472	7 698	226	3%
Pet food and forage crops	7 361	8 620	4%	7 923	7 627	- 296	-4%
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	6 180	7 353	3%	6 726	7 442	716	11%
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	5 504	6 153	3%	5 603	6 655	1 052	19%
Other products	37 215	41 813	18%	38 220	38 168	- 52	0%

TABLE 5
EU AGRI-FOOD IMPORTS – COUNTRIES WITH MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES (million EUR)

	yearly data			monthly data				
TRADING PARTNERS	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22- Nov22	Jan23- Nov23	Differe	ence	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	130 149	171 487	100%	157 040	146 05 1	- 10 989	-7%	
Türkiye	5 033	5 622	3%	5 090	6 033	943	19%	
Egypt	1 181	1 371	1%	1 266	1 800	534	42%	
Côte d'Ivoire	3 259	3 510	2%	3 265	3 728	463	14%	
United Kingdom	11 900	15 272	9%	13 923	14 213	290	2%	
Ecuador	1 623	1 820	1%	1 664	1 938	274	16%	
Australia	1 901	3 774	2%	3 444	2 380	-1 063	-31%	
Indonesia	5 649	6 736	4%	6 217	5 092	-1 125	-18%	
China	6 110	9 787	6%	9 029	7 651	-1 377	-15%	
Argentina	5 171	6 943	4%	6 333	4 332	-2 001	-32%	
Brazil	13 548	20 173	12%	18 641	16 123	-2 519	-14%	
Other countries	74 776	96 479	56%	88 168	82 760	-5 408	-6%	

TABLE 6
EU AGRI-FOOD IMPORTS - TOP 15 IMPORT COUNTRIES (million EUR)

	yearly data			monthly data				
TRADING PARTNERS	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22- Nov22	Jan23- Nov23	Differe	ence	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	130 149	171 487	100%	157 040	146 051	- 10 989	-7%	
Brazil	13 548	20 173	12%	18 641	16 123	- 2 519	-14%	
United Kingdom	11 900	15 272	9%	13 923	14 213	290	2%	
Ukraine	6 927	13 214	8%	11 509	10 790	- 719	-6%	
United States	9 254	12 251	7%	11 172	10 657	- 515	-5%	
China	6 110	9 787	6%	9 029	7 651	- 1 377	-15%	
Türkiye	5 033	5 622	3%	5 090	6 033	943	19%	
Indonesia	5 649	6 736	4%	6 217	5 092	- 1 125	-18%	
Switzerland	4 523	4 848	3%	4 432	4 448	17	0%	
Argentina	5 171	6 943	4%	6 333	4 332	- 2 001	-32%	
Côte d'Ivoire	3 259	3 510	2%	3 265	3 728	463	14%	
India	2 921	3 655	2%	3 426	3 084	- 342	-10%	
Viet Nam	2 222	3 445	2%	3 204	2 988	- 215	-7%	
Morocco	2 639	3 261	2%	2 987	2 838	- 149	-5%	
Peru	2 711	3 402	2%	3 091	2 802	- 289	-9%	
Malaysia	2 657	3 409	2%	3 120	2 712	- 408	-13%	
Other countries	45 626	55 957	33%	51 601	48 560	- 3 042	-6%	

TABLE 7
EU AGRI-FOOD IMPORTS – PRODUCT CATEGORIES WITH MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES (million EUR)

	yearly data			monthly data				
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22- Nov22	Jan23- Nov23	Differe	ence	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	130 149	171 487	100%	157 040	146 051	- 10 989	-7%	
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	2 306	3 713	2%	3 313	4 333	1 021	31%	
Sugar and isoglucose	878	1 400	1%	1 087	1 916	829	76%	
Vegetables	4 283	5 069	3%	4 611	5 285	674	15%	
Olives and olive oil	636	802	0%	651	1 058	408	63%	
Confectionery and chocolate	2 302	2 750	2%	2 511	2 794	282	11%	
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	3 931	5 116	3%	4 797	3 604	-1 193	-25%	
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	16 946	21 970	13%	20 381	18 954	-1 428	-7%	
Non-edible for technical use	7 489	11 523	7%	10 667	8 667	-2 000	-19%	
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	8 239	11 048	6%	10 158	7 129	-3 029	-30%	
Oilseeds and protein crops	18 251	25 712	15%	23 416	19 525	-3 891	-17%	
Other products	64 888	82 383	48%	75 448	72 786	-2 662	-4%	

TABLE 8
EU AGRI-FOOD IMPORTS - TOP 15 IMPORT PRODUCT CATEGORIES (million EUR)

	yearly data			monthly data				
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22- Nov22	Jan23- Nov23	Differe	ence	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	130 149	171 487	100%	157 040	146 051	- 10 989	-7%	
Fruit and nuts	20 721	22 233	13%	20 571	20 355	- 216	-1%	
Oilseeds and protein crops	18 251	25 712	15%	23 416	19 525	- 3 891	-17%	
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	16 946	21 970	13%	20 381	18 954	- 1 428	-7%	
Cereals	6 189	12 755	7%	11 253	10 824	- 429	-4%	
Non-edible for technical use	7 489	11 523	7%	10 667	8 667	- 2 000	-19%	
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	8 239	11 048	6%	10 158	7 129	- 3 029	-30%	
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	5 420	6 526	4%	5 966	6 052	86	1%	
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	5 594	6 700	4%	6 223	5 586	- 637	-10%	
Vegetables	4 283	5 069	3%	4 611	5 285	674	15%	
Other animal products	4 669	6 098	4%	5 587	5 008	- 579	-10%	
Cereal preparations and milling products	3 858	4 839	3%	4 454	4 412	- 42	-1%	
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	2 306	3 713	2%	3 313	4 333	1 021	31%	
Spirits and liqueurs	3 301	4 417	3%	4 042	4 224	181	4%	
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	3 931	5 116	3%	4 797	3 604	- 1 193	-25%	
Pet food and forage crops	2 765	3 513	2%	3 242	2 896	- 346	-11%	
Other products	16 185	20 253	12%	18 359	19 197	839	5%	

TABLE 9
EU AGRI-FOOD TRADE BALANCE (million EUR)

TRADE BALANCE									
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES/PERIOD	Exports Jan23- Nov23	Imports Jan23- Nov23	Trade balance Jan23-Nov23						
		million EUR							
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	210 825	146 051	64 775						
Cereal preparations and milling products	22 337	4 412	17 925						
Dairy products	18 138	1 984	16 154						
Wine and wine based products	16 300	1 482	14 818						
Pigmeat	11 316	372	10 944						
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	13 979	5 586	8 393						
Beer, cider and other beverages	10 161	2 204	7 957						
Confectionery and chocolate	10 518	2 794	7 724						
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	10 858	6 052	4 806						
Pet food and forage crops	7 627	2 896	4 730						
Spirits and liqueurs	8 436	4 224	4 213						
Olives and olive oil	4 623	1 058	3 564						
Poultry and eggs	5 482	2 143	3 339						
Other animal products	7 698	5 008	2 691						
Vegetables	7 837	5 285	2 552						
Cereals	13 354	10 824	2 531						
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	6 655	4 333	2 322						
Horticulture	4 089	1 859	2 230						
Beef and veal	4 249	2 247	2 003						
Unspecified	1 392	0	1 391						
Sheep and goat	617	1 140	- 523						
Sugar and isoglucose	651	1 916	-1 265						
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	2 010	3 604	-1 594						
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	3 267	7 129	-3 862						
Non-edible for technical use	4 062	8 667	-4 605						
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	7 442	18 954	-11 512						
Fruit and nuts	5 444	20 355	-14 911						
Oilseeds and protein crops	2 282	19 525	-17 242						
For info: fish and fish products	6 998	27 658	-20 660						
Total agrifood and fish	217 824	173 709	44 115						

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