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# MONITORING EU AGRI-FOOD TRADE

DEVELOPMENTS in August 2023  
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## Note to the reader

The latest available consolidated trade data at EU level cover market developments in August 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).



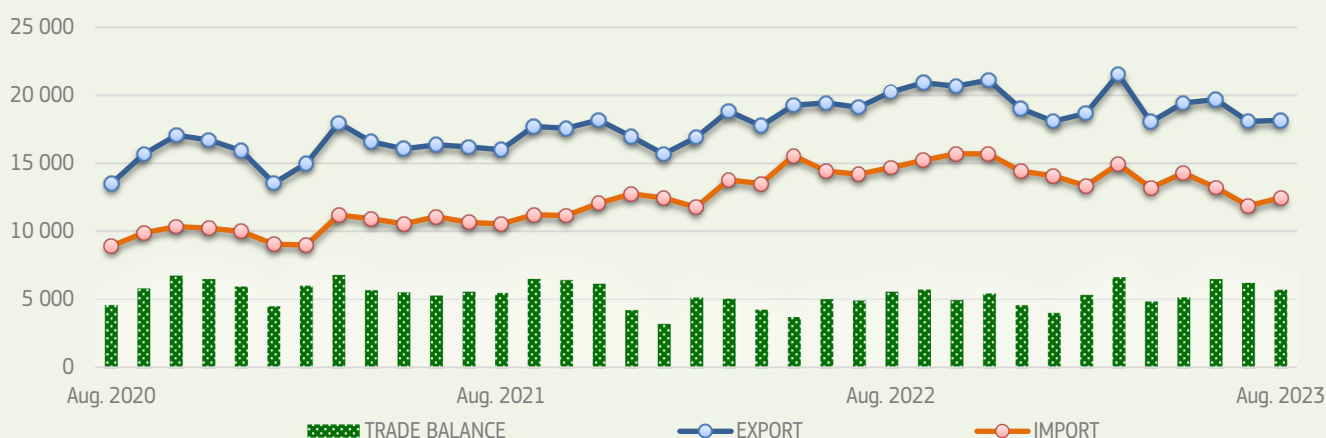
# HIGHLIGHTS: EU agri-food trade remained stable in August 2023

EU agri-food trade surplus reached +EUR 5.7 billion in August 2023, this is an 8% reduction month-on-month. It remains at a similar level than in August 2022. The cumulative trade balance (January to August 2023) reached EUR 44.3 billion. It is EUR 7.5 billion higher compared to the same period in 2022.

EU exports remained stable month-on-month at EUR 18.2 billion in August 2023. This is 10% lower than in August 2022. Cumulative exports since January reached EUR 151.7 billion and remained 3% higher compared to the same period in 2022. The main increases were for cereal preparations and preparations of fruit and nuts.

EU imports increased by 5% month-on-month to reach EUR 12.5 billion. However, they remain 15% below their level in August 2022. Cumulative imports (from January to August 2023) reached EUR 107.4 billion, 3% below their 2022 level, with reductions in imports of oilseeds and protein crops as well as vegetable oils.

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



Source: Comext



# EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS

## STABLE EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS IN AUGUST 2023

**EU agri-food exports** remained stable at **EUR 18.2 billion** in August 2023, and 10% below their level a year prior (August 2022).

Cumulative exports from January to August 2023 reached EUR 151.7 billion, still EUR 4.5 billion (+3%) higher than for the same period last year.

**UK** is the first destination of EU agri-food exports. Cumulated exports since January reached EUR 33.9 billion, continuing at high level, compared to last year, with a +EUR 3 billion increase (+10%).

The **US** is the second destination for EU exports with a value of EUR 17.7 billion since January, despite a 8% reduction compared to their level on this period in 2022 (-EUR 1.6 billion, mostly spirits and liqueurs).

**China** is the third destination of EU exports, with EUR 1 billion since January. This is a 4% increase (+EUR 418 million, mostly cereals) compared to 2022.

Among other significant evolutions, exports to **Türkiye** grew by 34% (+EUR 851 million, in particular for beef) compared to 2022. EU exports to **Egypt** decreased by 35% (-EUR 635 million), as well as to **Algeria** (-20%, -EUR 502 million), **Iran** (-EUR 397 million, -53%) and **Tunisia** (-EUR 336 million, -42%).

## HIGH PRICES COMPENSATED FOR LOWER EXPORT VOLUMES IN VARIOUS PRODUCTS

Across products, **export prices remained high** in 2023, with increases of export unit values in most categories compared to 2022.

Cumulative exports for **cereal preparations and milling products** since January remained high compared to 2022 (+EUR 1.4 billion, +10%), as well as those of **preparations of fruit and vegetables** (+EUR 1.3 billion, +20%) and **confectionary and chocolate** (+EUR 966 million, +16%). This is solely explained by high prices, while volumes exported declined.

**Cereals** represented the largest reduction in export value compared to 2022 (-EUR 1.7 billion, -14%). This is mostly explained by reduction in prices, in particular for wheat (unit value decreased by 21%), while volumes remained stable.

Export values also decreased for **pigmeat** (-EUR 701 million, -8%), **spirits and liqueurs** (-EUR 447 million, -7%), as volumes exported declined by 18% for pigmeat and 11% for spirits.

Reductions in exported volumes are also significant for **sugar and isoglucose** (-30%), **olives and olive oil** (-24%), **pet food and forage crops** (-20%), as well as **vegetables** (-15%). However, they are compensated by higher export prices.

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



# EU AGRI-FOOD IMPORTS

## EU IMPORTS INCREASED IN AUGUST 2023

EU **agri-food imports increased** by **5%** in August, to reach EUR 12.5 billion. This remains 15% below their level of August 2022. Cumulative imports from January to August 2023 reached EUR 107.4 billion. It remains stable compared to the same period in 2022 (-EUR 3 billion, -3%)

**Brazil** stands as the first source of EU agri-food imports, with a value of EUR 11.9 billion between January and August 2023. However, imports from Brazil decreased by 10% (-EUR 1.4 billion) compared to 2022, in particular for coffee, cereals, and oilseeds and protein crops (partly due to fewer imports).

**UK** is the second source of EU agri-food imports, with EUR 10.1 billion since January. This is a EUR 442 million increase (+5%) compared to 2022, mostly in cereals and cereal preparations.

**Ukraine** has been the third source of EU imports, with a value of EUR 8 billion since January. Cumulative imports between January and August remained 23% higher compared to 2022, with an increase of EUR 1.5 billion. However, monthly imports have slowed along the year and have been below their 2022 level since June.

Other significant increases of imports can be noted from **Turkiye** (+EUR 615 million, +17%) compared to 2022, as well as from **Egypt** (+EUR 477 million, +48%), mostly for fruit and vegetables in both cases.

On the other hand, imports were reduced from **Argentina** (-EUR 1.2 billion, -27%, mostly soya meals), **Australia** (-EUR 870 million, -30%, mostly rapeseed) and **Philippines** (-EUR 528 million, -47%, mostly coconut oil).

## CEREALS AND SUGAR IMPORTS ARE SLOWING DOWN

**Cereals** imports represent the largest increase between January and August 2023 compared to 2022, with an increase of EUR 1.2 billion, mostly in wheat. This is explained by an increase of import volumes of 28% compared to 2022. However, monthly imports volumes have been slowing down and were below their 2022 level in August.

**Sugar** imports were also especially high over the first half of the year and cumulative imports since January doubled compared to 2022 (+112%, +EUR 749 million). Sugar import prices remained high but import volumes have started to slow down since June and were below their 2022 level in August.

Import values decreased for **oilseeds and protein crops** compared to 2022 (-EUR 2 billion, -12%), as well as for **vegetable oils** (-1.9 billion, -27%), and **non-edible products for technical use** (-EUR 1 billion, -14%). These reductions are mostly explained by reduced import prices.

EU imports of agri-food products from extra-EU (million EUR)



TABLE 1

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

TRADING PARTNERS	yearly data			monthly data			
	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22-Aug22	Jan23-Aug23	Difference	
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>198 124</b>	<b>228 943</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>147 229</b>	<b>151 720</b>	<b>4 491</b>	<b>3%</b>
United Kingdom	41 949	47 747	21%	30 976	33 940	2 964	10%
Türkiye	3 569	4 159	2%	2 523	3 374	851	34%
China	17 147	15 788	7%	9 549	9 967	418	4%
Switzerland	9 858	11 178	5%	7 305	7 701	396	5%
Russian Federation	7 340	7 124	3%	4 195	4 582	386	9%
Tunisia	558	1 071	0%	843	487	- 356	-42%
Iran, Islamic Republic of	873	1 070	0%	743	346	- 397	-53%
Algeria	2 948	3 602	2%	2 548	2 045	- 502	-20%
Egypt	2 183	2 842	1%	1 813	1 178	- 635	-35%
United States	24 516	28 974	13%	19 283	17 722	-1 561	-8%
Other countries	87 183	105 389	46%	67 450	70 378	2 927	4%

TABLE 2

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

TRADING PARTNERS	yearly data			monthly data			
	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22-Aug22	Jan23-Aug23	Difference	
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>198 124</b>	<b>228 943</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>147 229</b>	<b>151 720</b>	<b>4 491</b>	<b>3%</b>
United Kingdom	41 949	47 747	21%	30 976	33 940	2 964	10%
United States	24 516	28 974	13%	19 283	17 722	- 1 561	-8%
China	17 147	15 788	7%	9 549	9 967	418	4%
Switzerland	9 858	11 178	5%	7 305	7 701	396	5%
Japan	7 377	8 287	4%	5 352	5 464	112	2%
Russian Federation	7 340	7 124	3%	4 195	4 582	386	9%
Norway	5 412	5 958	3%	3 884	3 974	90	2%
Türkiye	3 569	4 159	2%	2 523	3 374	851	34%
Korea, Republic of	3 939	4 605	2%	3 100	3 039	- 61	-2%
Saudi Arabia	3 631	4 815	2%	2 937	2 992	55	2%
Canada	4 049	4 721	2%	3 102	2 829	- 273	-9%
Morocco	2 368	4 008	2%	2 727	2 633	- 93	-3%
Australia	3 302	3 835	2%	2 505	2 523	18	1%
Ukraine	3 109	2 924	1%	1 839	2 223	385	21%
United Arab Emirates	2 346	3 254	1%	2 056	2 189	133	6%
Other countries	58 213	71 566	31%	45 896	46 567	671	1%



TABLE 3

EU AGRIFOOD EXPORTS – PRODUCT CATEGORIES WITH MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES (million EUR)

AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	yearly data			monthly data			
	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22-Aug22	Jan23-Aug23	Difference	
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>198 124</b>	<b>228 943</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>147 229</b>	<b>151 720</b>	<b>4 491</b>	<b>3%</b>
Cereal preparations and milling products	18 810	22 916	10%	14 466	15 885	1 419	10%
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	8 415	10 490	5%	6 478	7 752	1 273	20%
Confectionery and chocolate	8 884	10 245	4%	6 218	7 184	966	16%
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	5 504	6 153	3%	3 819	4 718	899	24%
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	6 180	7 351	3%	4 692	5 369	676	14%
Wine and wine based products	16 641	18 252	8%	11 712	11 611	- 101	-1%
Olives and olive oil	4 023	5 035	2%	3 293	3 166	- 128	-4%
Spirits and liqueurs	8 413	9 743	4%	6 439	5 992	- 447	-7%
Pigmeat	14 527	13 817	6%	8 828	8 127	- 701	-8%
Cereals	11 986	16 860	7%	11 496	9 842	-1 654	-14%
Other products	94 742	108 080	47%	69 787	72 075	2 288	3%

TABLE 4

EU AGRIFOOD EXPORTS - TOP 15 EXPORT PRODUCT CATEGORIES (million EUR)

AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	yearly data			monthly data			
	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22-Aug22	Jan23-Aug23	Difference	
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>198 124</b>	<b>228 943</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>147 229</b>	<b>151 720</b>	<b>4 491</b>	<b>3%</b>
Cereal preparations and milling products	18 810	22 916	10%	14 466	15 885	1 419	10%
Dairy products	16 990	20 361	9%	13 265	13 351	86	1%
Wine and wine based products	16 641	18 252	8%	11 712	11 611	- 101	-1%
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	12 262	14 872	6%	9 633	10 070	437	5%
Cereals	11 986	16 860	7%	11 496	9 842	- 1 654	-14%
Pigmeat	14 527	13 817	6%	8 828	8 127	- 701	-8%
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	8 415	10 490	5%	6 478	7 752	1 273	20%
Beer, cider and other beverages	10 002	10 887	5%	7 226	7 592	366	5%
Confectionery and chocolate	8 884	10 245	4%	6 218	7 184	966	16%
Spirits and liqueurs	8 413	9 743	4%	6 439	5 992	- 447	-7%
Vegetables	7 408	8 260	4%	5 047	5 612	566	11%
Other animal products	7 527	8 146	4%	5 149	5 583	434	8%
Pet food and forage crops	7 361	8 582	4%	5 617	5 536	- 80	-1%
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	6 180	7 351	3%	4 692	5 369	676	14%
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	5 504	6 153	3%	3 819	4 718	899	24%
Other products	37 215	42 006	18%	27 143	27 496	353	1%

TABLE 5

EU AGRIFOOD IMPORTS – COUNTRIES WITH MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES (million EUR)

TRADING PARTNERS	yearly data			monthly data			
	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22-Aug22	Jan23-Aug23	Difference	
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>130 149</b>	<b>171 420</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>110 375</b>	<b>107 402</b>	<b>- 2 973</b>	<b>-3%</b>
Ukraine	6 927	13 204	8%	6 475	7 963	1 487	23%
Türkiye	5 033	5 622	3%	3 544	4 159	615	17%
Egypt	1 181	1 371	1%	992	1 469	477	48%
United Kingdom	11 900	15 269	9%	9 694	10 137	442	5%
Côte d'Ivoire	3 259	3 509	2%	2 387	2 721	334	14%
China	6 110	9 776	6%	6 162	5 650	- 512	-8%
Philippines	1 019	1 513	1%	1 118	590	- 528	-47%
Australia	1 901	3 758	2%	2 907	2 037	- 870	-30%
Argentina	5 171	6 952	4%	4 375	3 204	-1 172	-27%
Brazil	13 548	20 173	12%	13 245	11 891	-1 354	-10%
Other countries	74 101	90 274	53%	59 474	57 582	-1 892	-3%

TABLE 6

EU AGRIFOOD IMPORTS - TOP 15 IMPORT COUNTRIES (million EUR)

TRADING PARTNERS	yearly data			monthly data			
	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22-Aug22	Jan23-Aug23	Difference	
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>130 149</b>	<b>171 420</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>110 375</b>	<b>107 402</b>	<b>- 2 973</b>	<b>-3%</b>
Brazil	13 548	20 173	12%	13 245	11 891	- 1 354	-10%
United Kingdom	11 900	15 269	9%	9 694	10 137	442	5%
Ukraine	6 927	13 204	8%	6 475	7 963	1 487	23%
United States	9 254	12 250	7%	7 928	7 747	- 182	-2%
China	6 110	9 776	6%	6 162	5 650	- 512	-8%
Türkiye	5 033	5 622	3%	3 544	4 159	615	17%
Indonesia	5 649	6 712	4%	4 071	3 837	- 234	-6%
Argentina	5 171	6 952	4%	4 375	3 204	- 1 172	-27%
Switzerland	4 523	4 848	3%	3 115	3 109	- 6	0%
Côte d'Ivoire	3 259	3 509	2%	2 387	2 721	334	14%
India	2 921	3 659	2%	2 494	2 310	- 184	-7%
Morocco	2 639	3 256	2%	2 399	2 267	- 132	-5%
Viet Nam	2 222	3 447	2%	2 258	2 223	- 35	-2%
Australia	1 901	3 758	2%	2 907	2 037	- 870	-30%
Peru	2 711	3 402	2%	2 001	1 971	- 30	-2%
Other countries	46 382	55 585	32%	37 319	36 178	- 1 140	-3%



TABLE 7

EU AGRIFOOD IMPORTS – PRODUCT CATEGORIES WITH MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES (million EUR)

AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	yearly data			monthly data			
	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22-Aug22	Jan23-Aug23	Difference	
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>130 149</b>	<b>171 420</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>110 375</b>	<b>107 402</b>	<b>- 2 973</b>	<b>-3%</b>
Cereals	6 189	12 735	7%	6 861	8 109	1 248	18%
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	2 306	3 707	2%	2 098	3 012	914	44%
Sugar and isoglucose	878	1 399	1%	671	1 421	749	112%
Vegetables	4 283	5 070	3%	3 421	4 048	626	18%
Spirits and liqueurs	3 301	4 415	3%	2 719	3 047	328	12%
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	16 946	21 966	13%	14 541	13 864	- 678	-5%
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	3 931	5 113	3%	3 529	2 670	- 859	-24%
Non-edible for technical use	7 489	11 519	7%	7 298	6 245	-1 053	-14%
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	8 239	11 027	6%	7 197	5 261	-1 936	-27%
Oilseeds and protein crops	18 251	25 708	15%	16 937	14 900	-2 037	-12%
Other products	58 335	68 761	40%	45 100	44 825	- 275	-1%

TABLE 8

EU AGRIFOOD IMPORTS - TOP 15 IMPORT PRODUCT CATEGORIES (million EUR)

AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	yearly data			monthly data			
	2021	2022	Share 2022	Jan22-Aug22	Jan23-Aug23	Difference	
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>130 149</b>	<b>171 420</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>110 375</b>	<b>107 402</b>	<b>- 2 973</b>	<b>-3%</b>
Fruit and nuts	20 721	22 224	13%	14 975	14 934	- 41	0%
Oilseeds and protein crops	18 251	25 708	15%	16 937	14 900	- 2 037	-12%
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	16 946	21 966	13%	14 541	13 864	- 678	-5%
Cereals	6 189	12 735	7%	6 861	8 109	1 248	18%
Non-edible for technical use	7 489	11 519	7%	7 298	6 245	- 1 053	-14%
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	8 239	11 027	6%	7 197	5 261	- 1 936	-27%
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	5 420	6 528	4%	4 169	4 257	89	2%
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	5 594	6 704	4%	4 535	4 056	- 479	-11%
Vegetables	4 283	5 070	3%	3 421	4 048	626	18%
Other animal products	4 669	6 094	4%	3 846	3 725	- 121	-3%
Cereal preparations and milling products	3 858	4 840	3%	3 111	3 174	63	2%
Spirits and liqueurs	3 301	4 415	3%	2 719	3 047	328	12%
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	2 306	3 707	2%	2 098	3 012	914	44%
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	3 931	5 113	3%	3 529	2 670	- 859	-24%
Pet food and forage crops	2 765	3 516	2%	2 305	2 113	- 191	-8%
Other products	16 185	20 254	12%	12 832	13 987	1 155	9%

TABLE 9

EU AGRIFOOD TRADE BALANCE (million EUR)

TRADE BALANCE			
PRODUCT/PERIOD	Exports Jan23- Aug23	Imports Jan23- Aug23	Trade balance Jan23-Aug23
	million EUR		
<b>TOTAL AGRIFOOD</b>	<b>151 720</b>	<b>107 402</b>	<b>44 318</b>
Cereal preparations and milling products	15 885	3 174	12 711
Dairy products	13 351	1 459	11 892
Wine and wine based products	11 611	1 005	10 607
Pigmeat	8 127	263	7 864
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	10 070	4 056	6 014
Beer, cider and other beverages	7 592	1 648	5 944
Confectionery and chocolate	7 184	1 938	5 246
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	7 752	4 257	3 494
Pet food and forage crops	5 536	2 113	3 423
Spirits and liqueurs	5 992	3 047	2 945
Olives and olive oil	3 166	702	2 464
Poultry and eggs	3 957	1 624	2 333
Other animal products	5 583	3 725	1 858
Cereals	9 842	8 109	1 733
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	4 718	3 012	1 706
Horticulture	3 043	1 398	1 644
Vegetables	5 612	4 048	1 565
Beef and veal	3 048	1 640	1 408
Unspecified	941	0	941
Sheep and goat	467	889	-422
Sugar and isoglucose	407	1 421	-1 014
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	1 444	2 670	-1 226
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	2 551	5 261	-2 710
Non-edible for technical use	3 003	6 245	-3 242
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	5 369	13 864	-8 495
Fruit and nuts	3 792	14 934	-11 142
Oilseeds and protein crops	1 678	14 900	-13 222
<i>For info: fish and fish products</i>	<i>4 853</i>	<i>19 935</i>	<i>-15 082</i>
<i>Total agrifood and fish</i>	<i>156 573</i>	<i>127 337</i>	<i>29 236</i>



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