

MONITORING EU AGRI-FOOD TRADE

DEVELOPMENTS in April 2024 Publication: July 2024

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EDITORIAL

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Data source: Eurostat COMEXT Extraction date for statistics: 11/07/2024 Next issue will be published on 30/08/2024.

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Note to the reader

The latest available consolidated trade data at EU level cover market developments in April 2024. 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 imports increased in April, leading to reduced EU trade surplus

EU agri-food trade surplus decreased to EUR 5 billion in April 2024, a reduction of 25% compared to the previous month but still 4% higher than in April 2023.

EU exports reached EUR 19.8 billion in April 2024, at a stable level compared to March (-1.5%) but still 10% higher than in April 2023. Export values increased significantly for olives and olive oil due to increased prices, but they decreased for vegetables oils and cereals. The EU exports a variety of products, with most product categories showing a positive trade balance.

EU imports increased by 10% month-on-month in April 2024 and reached EUR 14.8 billion, 12% higher than in April 2023. Imports of cocoa products, fruit and nuts and olives and olive oil increased, while those of oilseeds and cereals decreased. EU imports are mainly concentrated on a few product categories which represent 43% of EU imports: Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices, Fruit and nuts and Oilseeds and protein crops.

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





EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS

EU EXPORTS REMAIN AT A HIGH LEVEL IN APRIL

EU agri-food exports reached EUR 19.8 billion

in April 2024, just 1.5% below the previous month but still 10% higher than April 2023. Cumulative exports since January reached EUR 77.8 billion, a similar level as in 2023 (+2%, +EUR 1.5 billion).

The **US** was the destination with the largest increase in EU exports between January and April (+EUR 829 million, +9%). This is largely explained by an increase in prices of olives and olive oil's exports.

Exports to the **UK** followed, with an increase of EUR 679 million (+4%) compared to 2023, spread across many products. Exports to **Lebanon** have increased by 72% (+EUR 138 million), mainly in live animals and sugar.

On the other hand, EU cumulative exports to **China** had the largest reduction in value between January and April (-EUR 565 million, -11%). This is mainly explained by reduced export volumes and prices for the two first EU exports to China: cereal preparations (-EUR 306 million, -27%) and pigmeat (-EUR 314 million, -32%).

EU exports to **Russia** decreased by EUR 429 million (-17%) compared to 2023, due to reduced exported volumes across most categories, in particular spirit and liqueurs (-EUR 108 million, -48%).

THE EU EXPORTS A DIVERSITY OF PRODUCTS

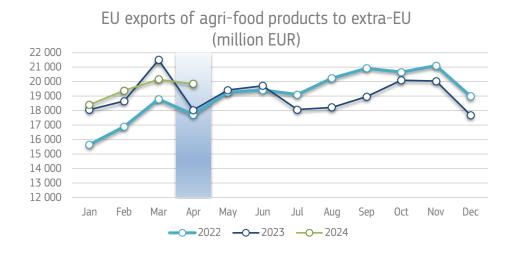
EU exports exceeded one billion euros in 21 products categories and most categories have a positive trade balance. The three top categories of EU exports represented 25% of total EU export value. They were: cereal preparations and milling products (10% of EU exports value, EUR 7.9 billion), dairy products (8%, EUR 6.3 billion) and wine and wine-based products (7%, EUR 5.4 billion).

EU exports of **olives and olive oil** increased the most compared to 2023 (+EUR 972 million, +62%), mainly due to high prices. Exports in the **coffee, tea, cocoa and spices** category also increased by EUR 467 million (+18%), mainly explained by higher prices of cocoa products. Exports of **mixed food preparations** increased by EUR 401 million (+8%), due to higher volumes and unit values.

Exports of **sugar and isoglucose** have increased by 137% (+EUR 265 million), as volumes exported have doubled, while prices decreased by 8%.

On the other hand, EU **cereals** exports decreased by EUR 553 million (-10%), however this is explained by a reduction of prices. Total volumes exported actually increased by 2.6 million tonnes (+17%, mainly in wheat).

Exports of **vegetable oils** also decreased by EUR 552 million (-39%), due to both reduced prices and volumes. EU exports of **dairy products** decreased by EUR 314 million (-5%), due to lower prices.



EU AGRI-FOOD IMPORTS

EU IMPORTS INCREASED IN APRIL 2023

The value of EU agri-food imports reached EUR 14.8 billion in April. It is a 10% increase compared to the previous month and 12% higher than in April 2023. Cumulative imports from January to April reached EUR 54.9 billion, at a stable level compared to 2023 (-EUR 810 million).

Imports originating from **Côte d'Ivoire** had the largest increase (+EUR 591 million, +42%). This is mainly explained by higher prices of cocoa products. Imports from **Nigeria** also increased significantly, by 82% (+EUR 214 million) for the same reason.

Imports from **Tunisia** had the second largest increase in value, as they more than doubled with an increase of EUR 310 million (+121%), mainly due to increased olive oil imports.

On the other hand, a steep reduction in imports could be observed from **Australia** (-EUR 797 million, -59%), due to a reduction in rapeseed imported volumes. Imports also decreased from **Indonesia** (-EUR 471 million, -23%, mainly due to reduced palm oil imports).

EU IMPORTS FOCUS ON THREE PRODUCT CATEGORIES

The top three categories of EU imports represented 43% of total EU imports: coffee, tea, cocoa and spices (16% of EU imports, EUR 8.6 billion), fruit and nuts (15%, EUR 8.1 billion) and oilseeds and protein crops (12%, EUR 6.7 billion). These three categories had a trade deficit larger than -EUR 5 billion, each.

Imports of **coffee, tea, cocoa and spices** had the largest increase (+EUR 1.4 billion, +16%) and is explained by increased prices of cocoa products.

Imports of **fruit and nuts** also grew by EUR 778 million (+11%), mainly due to increased volumes. Cumulative imports of **olives and olive oil** increased by EUR 473 million (+156%) compared to 2023, due to both increased volumes and prices.

Imports of **cereals** had the largest reduction, with a decrease of EUR 1.5 billion (-33%), due to reduction in imported volumes and prices. Imports of **oilseeds and protein crops** also decreased by EUR 1.3 billion (16%), due to reduced prices. Imports of **sugar and isoglucose** decreased by 39% in volume compared to 2023, leading to a reduction of EUR 260 million (-36%).

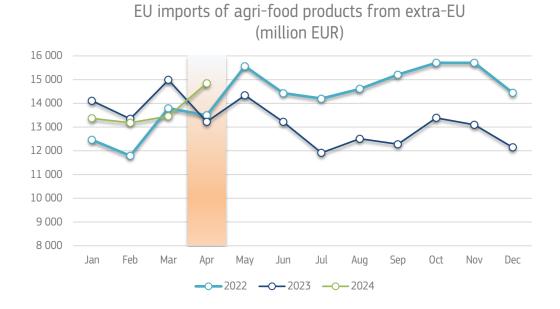


TABLE 1EU AGRI-FOOD EXPORTS – COUNTRIES WITH MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES (million EUR)

	yearly data			monthly data				
TRADING PARTNERS	2022	2023	Share 2023	Jan23- Apr23	Jan24- Apr24	Differe	nce	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	228 725	228 430	100%	76 249	77 764	1 515	2%	
United States	28 946	27 130	12%	8 739	9 568	829	9%	
United Kingdom	47 752	51 187	22%	16 683	17 362	679	4%	
Canada	4 715	4 460	2%	1 298	1 464	166	13%	
Brazil	2 351	2 573	1%	807	962	155	19%	
Lebanon	695	689	0%	193	332	138	72%	
Morocco	4 002	3 785	2%	1 376	1 257	- 119	-9%	
Singapore	2 210	2 383	1%	807	678	- 128	-16%	
Egypt	2 842	2 100	1%	682	533	- 148	-22%	
Russian Federation	7 114	6 797	3%	2 578	2 149	- 429	-17%	
China	15 790	14 579	6%	5 262	4 697	- 565	-11%	
Other countries	112 308	112 747	49%	37 824	38 762	938	2%	

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

			yearly data monthly data				ata	
TRADING F	PARTNERS	2022	2023	Share 2023	Jan23- Apr23	Jan24- Apr24	Differe	nce
	TOTAL AGRIFOOD	228 725	228 430	100%	76 249	77 764	1 515	2%
United Kingdom		47 752	51 187	22%	16 683	17 362	679	4%
United States		28 946	27 130	12%	8 739	9 568	829	9%
China		15 790	14 579	6%	5 262	4 697	- 565	-11%
Switzerland		11 168	11 508	5%	3 987	4 116	128	3%
Japan		8 278	7 857	3%	2 684	2 814	130	5%
Russian Federation		7 114	6 797	3%	2 578	2 149	- 429	-17%
Norway		5 958	5 973	3%	1 966	2 042	76	4%
Türkiye		4 152	4 844	2%	1 891	1 797	- 94	-5%
Saudi Arabia		4 800	4 625	2%	1 576	1 651	75	5%
Korea, Republic of		4 600	4 533	2%	1 507	1 485	- 22	-1%
Canada		4 715	4 460	2%	1 298	1 464	166	13%
Australia		3 834	3 766	2%	1 214	1 289	75	6%
Morocco		4 002	3 785	2%	1 376	1 257	- 119	-9%
Ukraine		2 922	3 454	2%	1 144	1 234	90	8%
United Arab Emirates		3 254	3 333	1%	1 101	1 106	5	0%
Other countries		71 439	70 598	31%	23 244	23 735	491	2%

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

	yearly data			monthly data				
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	2022	2023	Share 2023	Jan23- Apr23	Jan24- Apr24	Differe	ence	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	228 725	228 430	100%	76 249	77 764	1 515	2%	
Olives and olive oil	5 039	5 113	2%	1 562	2 534	972	62%	
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	7 349	8 123	4%	2 636	3 103	467	18%	
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	14 840	15 191	7%	4 971	5 372	401	8%	
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	6 150	7 105	3%	2 267	2 614	348	15%	
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	10 492	11 784	5%	3 900	4 168	268	7%	
Spirits and liqueurs	9 751	9 064	4%	2 770	2 626	- 144	-5%	
Pigmeat	13 832	12 223	5%	4 223	4 078	- 145	-3%	
Dairy products	20 363	19 541	9%	6 593	6 279	- 314	-5%	
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	4 003	3 474	2%	1 409	858	- 552	-39%	
Cereals	16 861	14 617	6%	5 346	4 793	- 553	-10%	
Other products	120 044	122 195	53%	40 571	41 338	767	2%	

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

	yearly data			monthly data				
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	2022	2023	Share 2023	Jan23- Apr23	Jan24- Apr24	Differe	nce	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	228 725	228 430	100%	76 249	77 764	1 515	2%	
Cereal preparations and milling products	22 917	24 129	11%	7 969	7 899	- 70	-1%	
Dairy products	20 363	19 541	9%	6 593	6 279	- 314	-5%	
Wine and wine based products	18 267	17 585	8 %	5 505	5 395	- 110	-2%	
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	14 840	15 191	7%	4 971	5 372	401	8%	
Cereals	16 861	14 617	6%	5 346	4 793	- 553	-10%	
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	10 492	11 784	5%	3 900	4 168	268	7%	
Pigmeat	13 832	12 223	5%	4 223	4 078	- 145	-3%	
Beer, cider and other beverages	10 872	10 812	5%	3 525	3 565	40	1%	
Confectionery and chocolate	10 200	11 406	5%	3 433	3 542	109	3%	
Vegetables	8 257	8 743	4%	3 154	3 312	158	5%	
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	7 349	8 123	4%	2 636	3 103	467	18%	
Pet food and forage crops	8 620	8 239	4%	2 825	2 830	4	0%	
Other animal products	8 148	8 289	4%	2 760	2 706	- 54	-2%	
Spirits and liqueurs	9 751	9 064	4%	2 770	2 626	- 144	-5%	
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	6 150	7 105	3%	2 267	2 614	348	15%	
Other products	41 806	41 578	18%	14 371	15 481	1 110	8%	

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

	yearly data			monthly data				
TRADING PARTNERS	2022	2023	Share 2023	Jan23- Apr23	Jan24- Apr24	Difference		
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	171 432	158 544	100%	55 666	54 855	- 810	-1%	
Côte d'Ivoire	3 481	4 039	3%	1 413	2 004	591	42%	
Tunisia	795	887	1%	257	567	310	121%	
Türkiye	5 627	6 621	4%	2 166	2 423	257	12%	
Egypt	1 371	1 936	1%	692	923	231	33%	
Nigeria	560	737	0%	261	475	214	82%	
United Kingdom	15 261	15 468	10%	5 108	4 885	- 222	-4%	
Brazil	20 177	17 231	11%	5 431	5 187	- 244	-4%	
Canada	2 974	2 832	2%	1 086	801	- 285	-26%	
Indonesia	6 724	5 469	3%	2 064	1 593	- 471	-23%	
Australia	3 776	2 549	2%	1 350	553	- 797	-59%	
Other countries	110 687	100 775	64%	35 838	35 445	- 394	-1%	

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

	yearly data			monthly data			
TRADING PARTNERS	2022	2023	Share 2023	Jan23- Apr23	Jan24- Apr24	Differe	ence
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	171 432	158 544	100%	55 666	54 855	- 810	-1%
Brazil	20 177	17 231	11%	5 431	5 187	- 244	-4%
United Kingdom	15 261	15 468	10%	5 108	4 885	- 222	-4%
Ukraine	13 214	11 822	7%	4 804	4 587	- 217	-5%
United States	12 261	11 665	7%	4 251	4 232	- 19	0%
China	9 788	8 340	5%	2 711	2 765	55	2%
Türkiye	5 627	6 621	4%	2 166	2 423	257	12%
Côte d'Ivoire	3 481	4 039	3%	1 413	2 004	591	42%
Switzerland	4 846	4 852	3%	1 539	1 597	58	4%
Indonesia	6 724	5 469	3%	2 064	1 593	- 471	-23%
Morocco	3 261	3 177	2%	1 433	1 559	125	9%
Argentina	6 944	4 648	3%	1 638	1 416	- 222	-14%
Viet Nam	3 445	3 211	2%	1 064	1 269	205	19%
India	3 655	3 297	2%	1 181	1 151	- 30	-3%
Peru	3 401	3 089	2%	967	1 029	63	7%
Egypt	1 371	1 936	1%	692	923	231	33%
Other countries	57 976	53 678	34%	19 205	18 234	- 971	-5%

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

	yearly data						
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	2022	2023	Share 2023	Jan23- Apr23	Jan24- Apr24	Differe	nce
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	171 432	158 544	100%	55 666	54 855	- 810	-1%
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	21 907	20 560	13%	7 148	8 570	1 423	20%
Fruit and nuts	22 237	22 161	14%	7 349	8 127	778	11%
Olives and olive oil	802	1 227	1%	272	745	473	174%
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	6 526	6 663	4%	2 131	2 382	250	12%
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	6 700	6 075	4%	2 017	2 182	165	8%
Sugar and isoglucose	1 397	2 069	1%	728	468	- 260	-36%
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	11 049	7 670	5%	2 712	2 449	- 263	-10%
Other animal products	6 098	5 411	3%	1 942	1 652	- 290	-15%
Oilseeds and protein crops	25 712	21 134	13%	7 987	6.708	-1 278	-16%
Cereals	12 755	11 667	7%	4 742	3 199	-1 543	-33%
Other products	56 248	53 908	34%	18 637	18 371	- 266	-1%

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

	yearly data			monthly data				
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES	2022	2023	Share 2023	Jan23- Apr23	Jan24- Apr24	Differe	nce	
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	171 432	158 544	100%	55 666	54 855	- 810	-1%	
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	21 907	20 560	13%	7 148	8 570	1 423	20%	
Fruit and nuts	22 237	22 161	14%	7 349	8 127	778	11%	
Oilseeds and protein crops	25 712	21 134	13%	7 987	6 708	- 1 278	-16%	
Cereals	12 755	11 667	7%	4 742	3 199	- 1 543	-33%	
Non-edible for technical use	11 516	9 392	6%	3 187	2 946	- 241	-8%	
Vegetables	5 069	5 861	4%	2 404	2 547	143	6%	
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	11 049	7 670	5%	2 712	2 449	- 263	-10%	
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	6 526	6 663	4%	2 131	2 382	250	12%	
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	6 700	6 075	4%	2 017	2 182	165	8%	
Cereal preparations and milling products	4 839	4 797	3%	1 628	1 660	32	2%	
Other animal products	6 098	5 411	3%	1 942	1 652	- 290	-15%	
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	3 713	4 719	3%	1 511	1 638	127	8%	
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	5 116	3 906	2%	1 470	1 283	- 187	-13%	
Spirits and liqueurs	4 417	4 502	3%	1 447	1 277	- 170	-12%	
Pet food and forage crops	3 513	3 140	2%	1 078	1 141	63	6%	
Other products	20 263	20 886	13%	6 913	7 092	179	3%	

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

TRADE BALANCE								
AGRI-FOOD CATEGORIES/PERIOD	Exports Jan24-Apr24	Imports Jan24-Apr24	Trade balance Jan24-Apr24					
		million EUR						
TOTAL AGRIFOOD	77 764	54 855	22 909					
Cereal preparations and milling products	7 899	1 660	6 240					
Dairy products	6 279	715	5 565					
Wine and wine based products	5 395	480	4 915					
Pigmeat	4 078	123	3 954					
Mixed food preparations and ingredients	5 372	2 182	3 190					
Beer, cider and other beverages	3 565	754	2 811					
Confectionery and chocolate	3 542	1 022	2 520					
Olives and olive oil	2 534	745	1 789					
Preparations of fruit, nuts and vegetables	4 168	2 382	1 786					
Pet food and forage crops	2 830	1 141	1 689					
Cereals	4 793	3 199	1 594					
Spirits and liqueurs	2 626	1 277	1 349					
Poultry and eggs	1 983	769	1 214					
Other animal products	2 706	1 652	1 054					
Horticulture	1 784	789	995					
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	2 614	1 638	976					
Beef and veal	1 650	802	849					
Vegetables	3 312	2 547	765					
Unspecified	517	0	517					
Sugar and isoglucose	459	468	- 10					
Sheep and goat	257	425	- 168					
Margarine and other oils and fats (vegetable)	722	1 283	- 561					
Non-edible for technical use	1 719	2 946	-1 227					
Vegetable oils (oilseeds and palm)	858	2 449	-1 592					
Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	3 103	8 570	-5 467					
Oilseeds and protein crops	853	6 708	-5 855					
Fruit and nuts	2 144	8 127	-5 983					
For info: fish and fish products	2 331	9 300	-6 969					
Total agrifood and fish	80 095	64 155	15 940					

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