



Brussels foreign trade balance sheet



First half of 2023

December 2023

Colophon

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Summary

Belgium showed a **services** trade deficit of almost EUR 1.1 billion in the first half of 2023. This negative balance can be explained by the poor performance of "Travel" and "Other business services".

At EUR 65 billion, exports nevertheless rose by 6% in the first half of the year, compared to the same period in 2022. This growth is not enough to offset the 9% rise in Belgium's imports of services from the rest of the world, but it is respectable compared with the trends seen in recent years.

The first half of 2022 was an exception, with a 15% rise in Belgian exports of services and a 19% rise in imports of services. At the time, the economy was recovering from the numerous restrictions imposed in the COVID-19 pandemic.

In terms of **goods**, Belgium can boast exports of EUR 188 billion to the rest of the world in the first half of 2023, which is nevertheless down 12% in comparison to 2022. This negative trend is, however, largely due to the rise in energy prices and the fall in sales of vaccines against coronavirus.

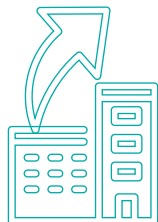
The **Brussels-Capital Region** exported goods worth EUR 6 billion in the first half of 2023, an impressive 37% increase in comparison to 2022. Despite a more moderate increase in goods imports (+22%), the Region's goods trade balance nevertheless remains negative (EUR -3.9 billion).

The two heavyweights of the Region's sales abroad, each accounting for EUR 2 billion, are motor vehicles for passenger transport and chemical and related products. This last category of goods covers in particular medicine, immunological products and vaccines, chemical compounds and perfumes, and eau de toilette. These two product groups posted growth rates of 17% and 116% respectively. We could also mention "mineral products" and "wood pulp or other fibrous cellulose material; paper or paperboard for recycling (...)", both among the products with the highest increases.

The Brussels Region's five main trading partners are Germany, the Netherlands, France, the United States and Luxembourg in terms of exports of goods, while the United Kingdom has replaced Luxembourg in the Top 5 for exports of services. In addition, sales of goods abroad rose by more than 100% in Turkey, Hungary, Finland and Germany in the first half of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022.

Key figures – first half of 2023

Belgium's trade in services



EUR 65 billion

Belgium's service exports
in the first half of 2023



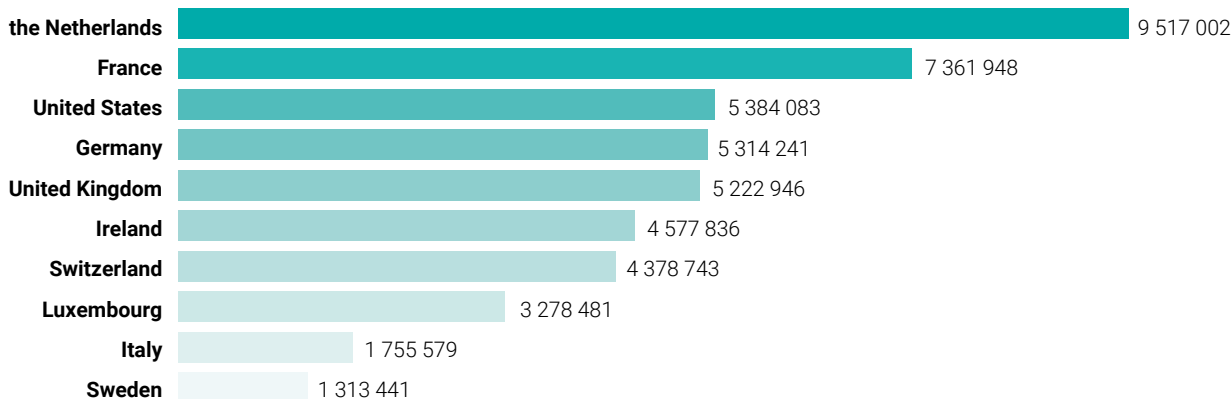
+ 6%

Growth in Belgium's services exports
compared to the first half of 2022 (+15% in the
same period in 2022 and +3% in 2019).

Main service import and export countries

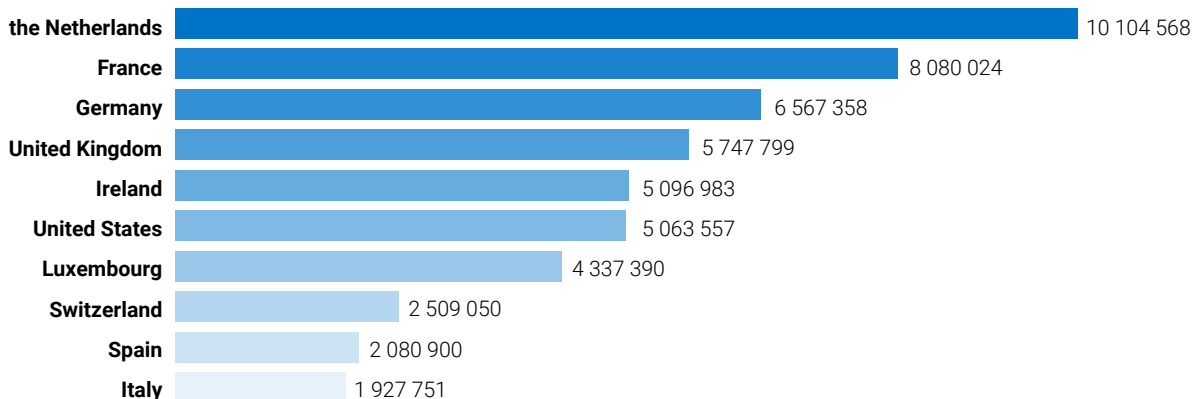
Main countries of export of services

Belgium- 1st half-year
Top-10-Value (Thousand €)

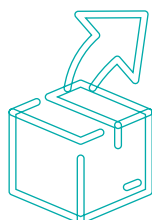


Main countries of import of services

Belgium- 1st half-year
Top-10-Value (Thousand €)

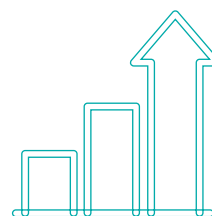


Trade in goods from the Brussels-Capital Region



EUR 6 billion

Exports of goods from the Brussels Region
in the first half of 2023



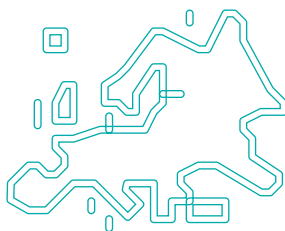
+ 37%

Growth in the Brussels-Capital Region's goods exports compared to the first half of 2022 (+7% in 2022 and -7.1% in 2019)

> 100%

Turkey, Hungary, Finland, Germany

Among the Brussels Region's largest trading partners (Top 25), the increase in exports between the first half of 2022 and the first half of 2023 was most prominent in Turkey (+229%), Hungary (+160%), Finland (+145%) and Germany (+114%).

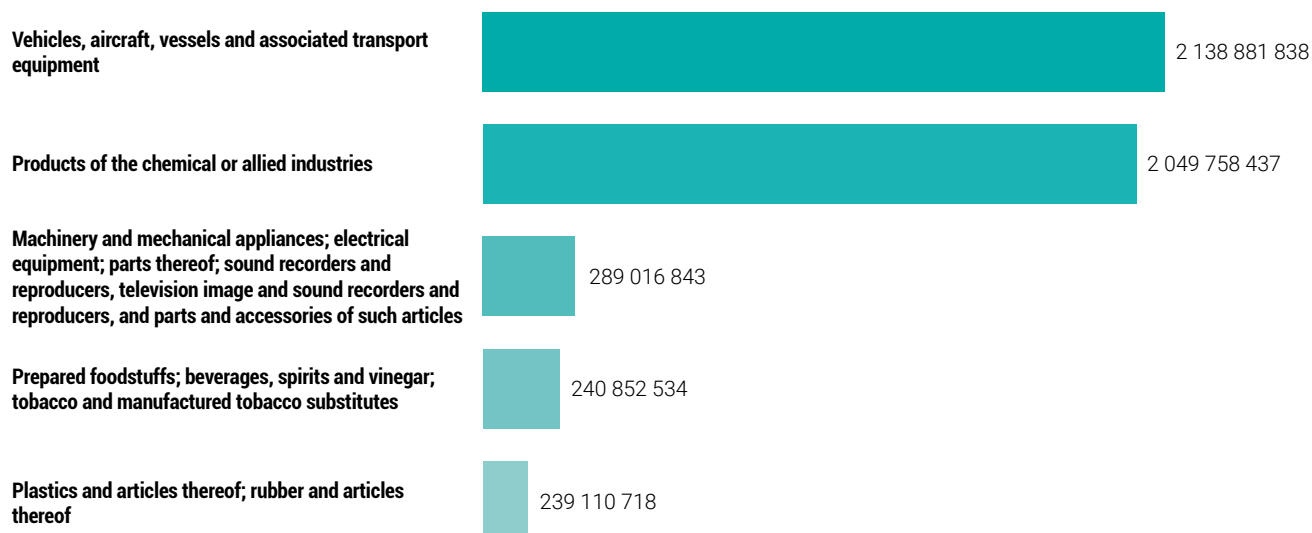


83%

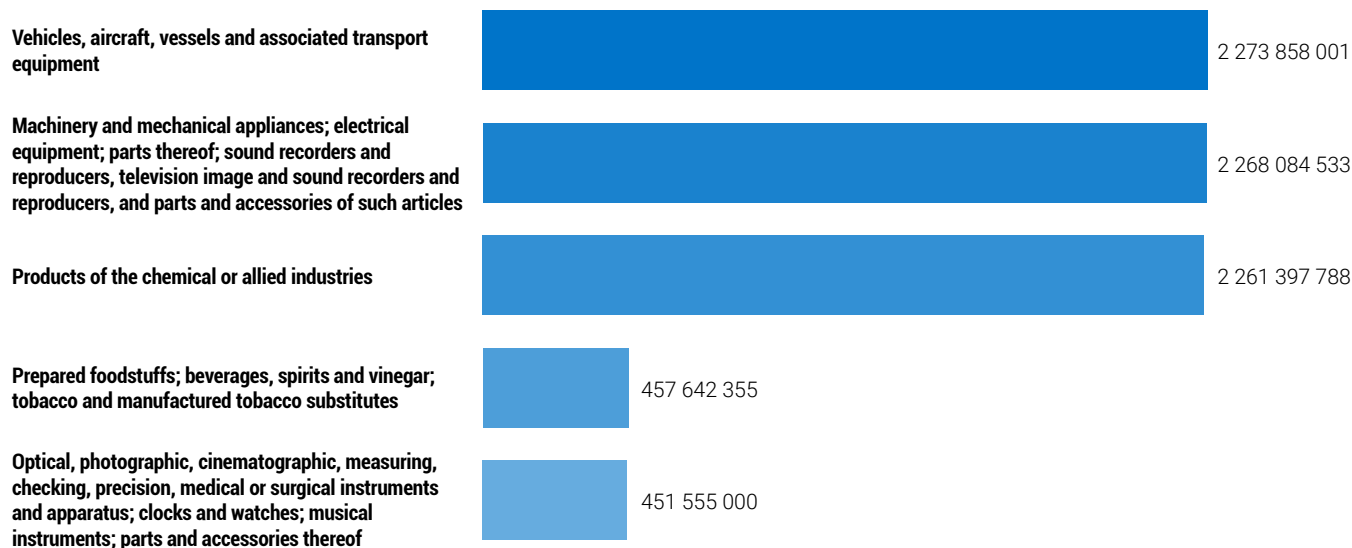
Europe is the major export market, accounting for 83% of total exports from Brussels.

Main goods imported and exported

Main exported goods
Brussels-Capital Region - 1st half-year
Top-5-Value (€)



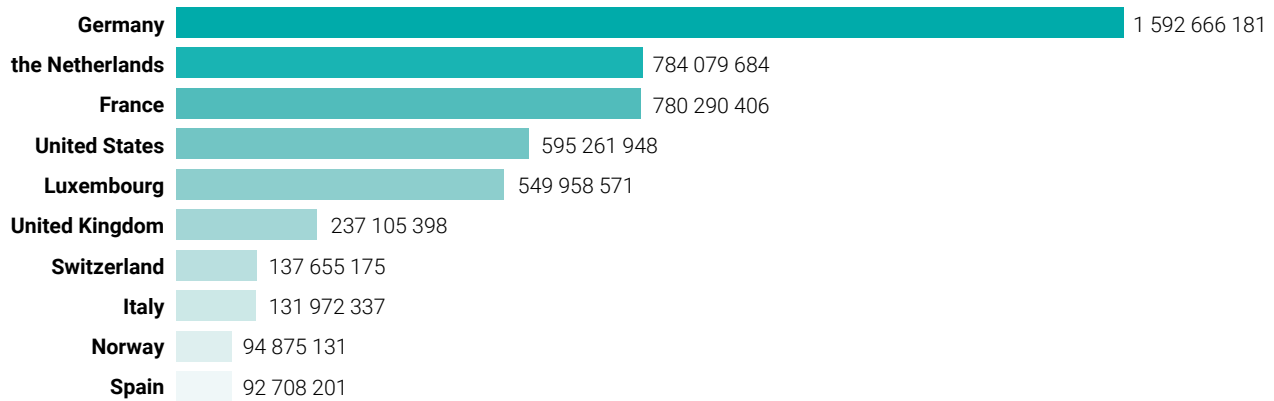
Main imported goods
Brussels-Capital Region - 1st half-year
Top-5-Value (€)



Main trading partners

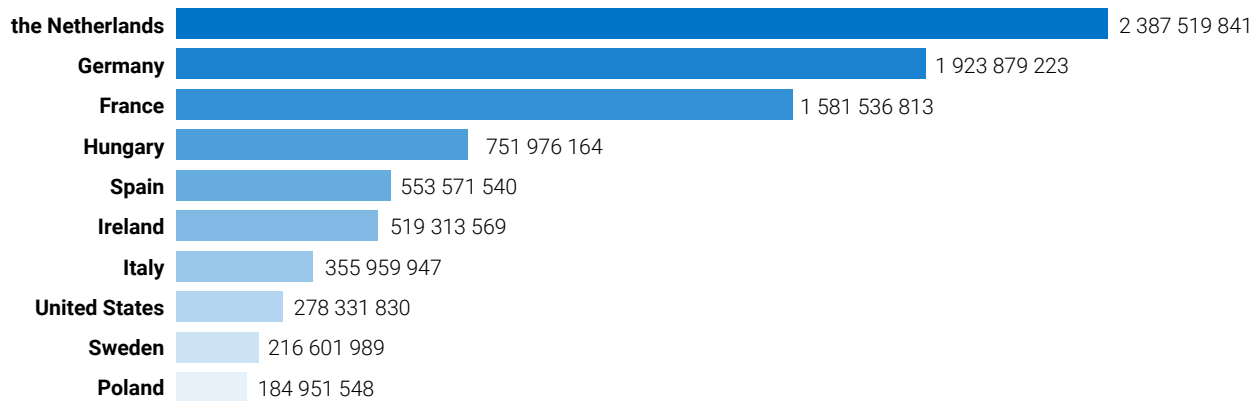
Main countries of export of goods

Brussels-Capital Region - 1st half-year
Top-10-Value (€)



Main countries of import of goods

Brussels-Capital Region - 1st half-year
Top-10-Value (€)



Methodological note

Recurrence

The Brussels External Trade Balance is published biennially: the report covering the annual export and import statistics for the Brussels-Capital Region is published in the first half of the year, while the publication covering the first half of the current year (H1) is published at the end of the year.

These analyses were first published around ten years ago, in support of the departments of hub.brussels that aim to promote, support and develop the international activities of Brussels companies and in support of the Secretary of State for the Brussels-Capital Region in charge of foreign trade.

Data source

The quarterly data on foreign **goods** trade is taken from the online database of the National Bank of Belgium (NBB) NBB. Stat, under the heading "External statistics - Foreign trade - National concept". The NBB publishes this data by type of goods and by country, for Belgium as a whole and the different regions. The data presented in this study was taken on 30/10/2023.

With regard to international trade in **services**, the quarterly data by country for Belgium is sent to us directly by the NBB, as only the monthly data by type of activity is published on the NBB website under the heading "External statistics - Balance of payments".

External goods trade National concept

In this publication, statistics on international trade in **goods** are based on data drawn up according to the national concept and not the European concept. According to the national concept, the destination and origin of the goods are requested both in customs declarations and in Intrastat declarations¹. By means of the collection of this data, the NBB is able to compile statistics on imports and exports by region according to the national concept.

This method avoids the headquarters effect and the gateway effect. **The headquarters effect** can occur in the

case of companies with several headquarters which file their returns from their administrative headquarters and not from the place where they produce goods. **The gateway effect** describes cases in which returns are prepared by tax representatives or by subsidiaries that focus on the locations from which goods depart and where they arrive, such as ports and airports. Since administrative headquarters, ports and airports are not evenly distributed over the three regions in Belgium, these two effects could bias the regional distribution of trade figures in Belgium.

¹ The Intrastat declaration allows the National Bank of Belgium to collect statistical data on the movement of goods between EU Member States. All persons liable to VAT in these Member States have to declare their intra-Community trade as soon as it exceeds a certain threshold. In Belgium, the declaration therefore concerns the arrival and/or dispatch of goods from or to another EU Member State. (https://www.nbb.be/doc/dd/onegate/data/intrastat-quick-guide_en.pdf)

The focus is therefore not on the identity of the exporter or the owner of the goods, but on the physical location where the economic processes took place. This makes it possible to almost completely exclude the "headquarters effect" and to partially exclude the "gateway effect". The latter is largely mitigated by the application of the national concept. Most of the gateway effect is in fact attributable to non-residents. Most non-residents have their place of business close to the country's ports and airports (Antwerp, Zaventem) or in the

capital (Brussels). By excluding these non-residents from the national concept, we therefore largely avoid the gateway effect.

In contrast, according to the Community concept, all transactions involving the import and export of goods are taken into account, including purchases (imports) and sales (re-exports) in Belgium between non-resident companies.

Foreign trade in services Regional concept

According to this concept, Belgian imports and exports of services are divided up regionally according to the district in which the importer or exporter owning the service is located, and attributed to the industry to which the importer or exporter belongs. If a declarant has establishments in more than one district, its imports or exports are divided among the different districts on the basis of the number of jobs per establishment according to the NSSO.

Only data on foreign trade in services by country and by type of activity is available on a quarterly basis. Data by business sector is published approximately two years after the year ended and is annual.

Foreign trade in goods and services Comparison of different methodologies

The table below shows the values obtained for the accounting of exports of goods and services for 2021, according to the type of methodology used. 2021 is the most recent year

available for all the headings presented below, at the time of extraction of this data (01/12/2023).

Category	Methodology	Belgium	BCR
Goods	NBB.Stat - External statistics - External trade - Community concept	465 billion	/
	NBB.Stat - Regional accounts - Regional breakdown of imports and exports	EUR 319.9 billion (P)	EUR 26.350 billion (P)
	NBB.Stat - External statistics - External trade - National concept	EUR 326.4 billion	EUR 7.980 billion
Services	NBB.Stat - Regional accounts - Regional breakdown of imports and exports	EUR 116.4 billion (P)	EUR 30.321 billion (P)
	NBB.Stat - External statistics - International trade in services	EUR 116.4 billion	/
	File transmitted - External statistics - Belgian imports and exports of services	EUR 116.4 billion	/

Data extracted on 01/12/2023; (P) = Provisional



Belgian external trade in services

BELGIAN EXTERNAL TRADE IN SERVICES

A. BELGIAN TRADE IN SERVICES

In the first half of 2023, **Belgium** exported **EUR 65.2 billion** worth of services to the world, an increase of **6%** in comparison to the same period in 2022. This is a more moderate increase than the 15% recorded in the first half of 2022. Nevertheless, the first half of 2022 was characterised by the continuation of the post-COVID-19 catch-up trend². Due to soaring energy and other commodity prices in Europe, which were already under pressure before the war in Ukraine, Belgian economic growth then ran out of steam in the second half of 2022.

Generally in surplus in the first half of the year, the balance of trade in services showed a deficit of EUR 1.1 billion in the first half of 2023. Spending by Belgians travelling abroad largely exceeded spending by foreigners in Belgium (a negative balance of EUR -4.6 billion), while other business services fell from a surplus of EUR 2.1 billion in 2022H1 to 16 million in 2023H1).

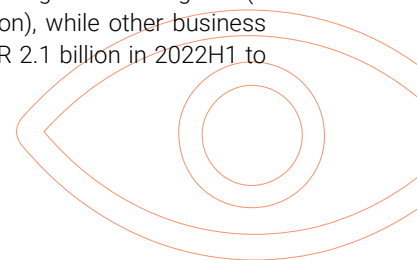


Figure 1. Trade in services, Belgium, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



² Regional Economic Outlook 2023-2028, July 2023, Federal Planning Bureau, bisa.brussels, Statistiek Vlaanderen, Iweps

B. EXPORT OF SERVICES FROM BELGIUM BY TRADE PARTNER

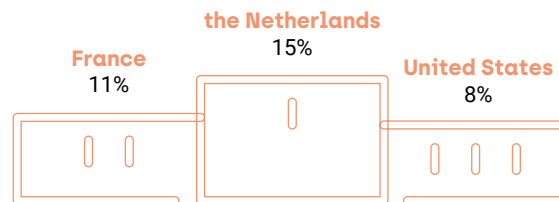
At the top of the list of countries to which Belgian services are exported are mainly neighbouring countries or those that are geographically close-by, such as the **Netherlands** (EUR 9.5 billion, up 11%), **France** (EUR 7.4 billion, up 0.5%), **Germany** (EUR 5.3 billion, up 5.2%) and the **United Kingdom** (EUR 5.2 billion, up 15.8%), and also the **United States** in third place (EUR 5.4 billion, down 11.2%). These five countries account for half of Belgium's services exports in the first half of 2023.

Ireland, Switzerland and **Luxembourg**, with shares of around 5% to 7%, are also key trading partners for Belgium.

Outside Europe, we should note in particular the fine progress made by **Japan**, which moved up five places in the ranking of countries services were exported to in the first half of 2023, compared to its position at the start of 2022 (almost EUR 1 billion in exports to Japan, up 60% in one year and 93% in three years).

In the Top 25, in addition to the United States, **Austria, China, Singapore**, the **Czech Republic** and **Finland** all reported lower figures than for the same period in 2022.

Figure 2. Top 25 destination countries for Belgian services exports, and their evolution and distribution, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



Exports of services

Belgium - 1st half-year

Top-25

Value (Thousands €)

	2023	Evolution 1 year (%)		Evolution 3 years (%)		Shares (%)		Cumulative shares (%)		Ranks	Evolution 1 year		Evolution 3 years	
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023		2023	2023	2023	2023
the Netherlands	NL 9 517 002	NL 10,97%	NL 26,3%	NL 13,9%	NL 14,6%	NL 13,9%	NL 14,6%	NL 1	NL 0	NL 0	NL 0	NL 0	NL 0	
France	FR 7 361 948	FR 0,52%	FR 31,7%	FR 11,9%	FR 11,3%	FR 25,8%	FR 25,9%	FR 2	FR 0	FR 0	FR 0	FR 0	FR 0	
United States	US 5 384 083	US -11,19%	US 5,6%	US 9,8%	US 8,3%	US 35,6%	US 34,1%	US 3	US 0	US 0	US 0	US 0	US 0	
Germany	DE 5 314 241	DE 5,18%	DE 18,5%	DE 8,2%	DE 8,1%	DE 43,8%	DE 42,3%	DE 4	DE 0	DE 0	DE 0	DE 0	DE -1	
United Kingdom	GB 5 222 946	GB 15,81%	GB 11,2%	GB 7,3%	GB 8,0%	GB 51,1%	GB 50,3%	GB 5	GB 0	GB 0	GB 0	GB 0	GB -1	
Ireland	IE 4 577 836	IE 21,32%	IE 99,7%	IE 6,1%	IE 7,0%	IE 57,2%	IE 57,3%	IE 6	IE 0	IE 0	IE 0	IE 0	IE -2	
Switzerland	CH 4 378 743	CH 16,62%	CH 30,5%	CH 6,1%	CH 6,7%	CH 63,3%	CH 64,0%	CH 7	CH 0	CH 0	CH 0	CH 0	CH 1	
Luxembourg	LU 3 278 481	LU 5,76%	LU 26,5%	LU 5,0%	LU 5,0%	LU 68,4%	LU 69,0%	LU 8	LU 0	LU 0	LU 0	LU 0	LU 1	
Italy	IT 1 755 579	IT 14,85%	IT 37,2%	IT 2,5%	IT 2,7%	IT 70,8%	IT 71,7%	IT 9	IT 0	IT 0	IT 0	IT 0	IT 0	
Sweden	SE 1 313 441	SE 9,59%	SE 42,9%	SE 1,9%	SE 2,0%	SE 72,8%	SE 73,7%	SE 10	SE 0	SE 0	SE 0	SE 0	SE 0	
Spain	ES 1 079 927	ES 4,31%	ES 23,5%	ES 1,7%	ES 1,7%	ES 74,5%	ES 75,4%	ES 11	ES 0	ES 0	ES 0	ES 0	ES 0	
Japan	JP 992 868	JP 60,29%	JP 92,5%	JP 1,0%	JP 1,5%	JP 75,5%	JP 76,9%	JP 12	JP -5	JP -4	JP -4	JP -4	JP -4	
Denmark	DK 923 872	DK 36,96%	DK 91,9%	DK 1,1%	DK 1,4%	DK 76,6%	DK 78,3%	DK 13	DK -2	DK -4	DK -4	DK -4	DK -4	
Poland	PL 785 757	PL 6,40%	PL 44,9%	PL 1,2%	PL 1,2%	PL 77,8%	PL 79,5%	PL 14	PL 0	PL 0	PL 0	PL 0	PL 0	
Austria	AT 653 205	AT -6,96%	AT 21,0%	AT 1,1%	AT 1,0%	AT 78,9%	AT 80,5%	AT 15	AT 1	AT 0	AT 0	AT 0	AT 0	
China, People's Republ..	CN 627 879	CN -29,54%	CN 9,9%	CN 1,4%	CN 1,0%	CN 80,3%	CN 81,5%	CN 16	CN 4	CN 3	CN 3	CN 3	CN 3	
Singapore	SG 542 186	SG -17,00%	SG -14,3%	SG 1,1%	SG 0,8%	SG 81,4%	SG 82,3%	SG 17	SG 1	SG 5	SG 5	SG 5	SG 5	
Norway	NO 430 782	NO 40,99%	NO 89,5%	NO 0,5%	NO 0,7%	NO 81,9%	NO 83,0%	NO 18	NO -7	NO -8	NO -8	NO -8	NO -8	
Czech Republic	CZ 423 466	CZ -8,17%	CZ 45,0%	CZ 0,7%	CZ 0,6%	CZ 82,6%	CZ 83,6%	CZ 19	CZ 1	CZ -2	CZ -2	CZ -2	CZ -2	
Finland	FI 402 742	FI -4,91%	FI 25,5%	FI 0,7%	FI 0,6%	FI 83,3%	FI 84,3%	FI 20	FI 1	FI 1	FI 1	FI 1	FI 1	
Türkiye	TR 392 267	TR 2,14%	TR 53,7%	TR 0,6%	TR 0,6%	TR 84,0%	TR 84,9%	TR 21	TR 1	TR -2	TR -2	TR -2	TR -2	
Portugal	PT 370 595	PT 15,14%	PT 45,1%	PT 0,5%	PT 0,6%	PT 84,5%	PT 85,4%	PT 22	PT -2	PT 0	PT 0	PT 0	PT 0	
Canada	CA 366 948	CA 3,81%	CA 72,0%	CA 0,6%	CA 0,6%	CA 85,0%	CA 86,0%	CA 23	CA 2	CA -4	CA -4	CA -4	CA -4	
Romania	RO 365 059	RO 13,08%	RO 49,7%	RO 0,5%	RO 0,6%	RO 85,6%	RO 86,5%	RO 24	RO 2	RO 0	RO 0	RO 0	RO 0	
Hong Kong	HK 344 622	HK 12,57%	HK 13,6%	HK 0,5%	HK 0,5%	HK 86,0%	HK 87,1%	HK 25	HK -1	HK 5	HK 5	HK 5	HK 5	

Source: NBB, External statistics



Belgian external trade in goods

BELGIAN EXTERNAL TRADE IN GOODS

A. BELGIAN TRADE IN GOODS

At the **national** level, exports (EUR **188 billion**) and imports of goods (EUR 202 billion) fell by 11.7% and 5.2% respectively in the first half of 2023, compared to the same period in 2022. Consequently, the trade deficit is widening, reaching EUR -13.6 billion in the first half of 2023. However, these falls follow significant increases in imports and exports of around 20% in 2021H1 and 40% in 2022H1.

As explained in the press release dated 14 August 2023, published by the Institute for National Accounts (INA), in collaboration with the National Bank of Belgium (NBB):

In the first quarter of 2023, the slowdown in the growth of international trade in value terms was due to price effects induced by changes in commodity prices on the world market. In the second quarter, as prices fell, the decline in quantities traded intensified, and became the main cause of the further slowdown in the value of exports.³

B. BELGIAN TRADE IN GOODS BY CATEGORY

The decline in **Belgian exports** of goods is due in particular to the fall in exports of **Mineral products (V)** (EUR -13.3 billion, or -34%) and the poor performance of **Products of the chemical or allied industries (VI)**, the largest category of goods exported (24.6%). This is evident in the fall of EUR 11 billion (-20%) compared to the first half of 2022.

Within the **mineral products** sector, exports of the two main categories, Petroleum oils (...) and Petroleum gas and other gaseous hydrocarbons, accounting for EUR 21.6 billion of Belgian exports of goods in the first half of 2023, had more than tripled in value during the first half of 2022. This vertiginous rise was largely attributable to the increase in energy prices in this period; the increase in volume was 53% for these products.

In the first half of 2023, these two product categories stabilised in volume terms (+0.4%) and fell in value terms (-36%) compared to the same period in 2022.

Within **Products of the chemical or allied industries**, sales of coronavirus vaccines fell in the first half of 2023, to EUR 2.8 billion at the start of the year, compared to 12.4 billion in the same period the previous year (-77% in value).

Among the largest categories of goods, there were significant falls in

- **Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coins** (EUR 8.3 billion, a share of 4.4%, down 26%), and in particular exports of **diamonds** (EUR 5.1 billion, down 26%) and foreign sales of **platinum** (EUR 1.8 billion, down 27%);
- **Base metals and articles of base metal** (8.1%, down 14%), mainly cast iron and steel (EUR 7.97 billion, down 17.5%, after a 54% rise in 2022H1);
- **Plastics and articles thereof** (6.5%, down 16%).

³ <https://www.nbb.be/doc/dq/f/dq3/histo/efp2305.pdf>

The main categories of goods gaining in importance are **Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment** (11.3% share, up 23%), **Machinery and mechanical appliances** (...) (10.3%, up 13%), and **Prepared foodstuffs** (...) (6.7%, up 20%).

import share, down 29.7% compared to 2022H1), combined with the resilience of imports of **Products of the chemical or allied industries** (23.1% import share and the largest item, up 6%).

Belgian imports declined to a lesser extent (-5.2%), due in particular to the fall in imports of **Mineral products** (18.4%

C. THE GOODS TRADE BY REGION

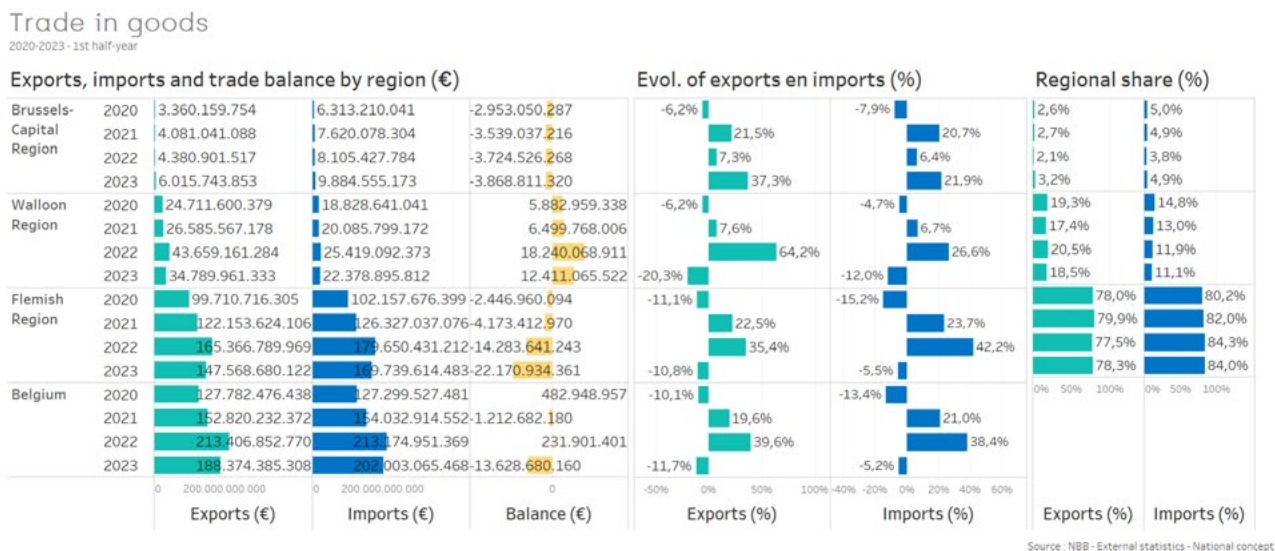
While Belgian exports of goods fell by 11.7% in the first half of 2023 compared to the same period the previous year, **exports** from **Brussels** rose by **37%**, from EUR 4.4 billion to 6.0 billion. The Brussels Region's share of Belgian exports therefore rose from 2.1% to 3.2% in 2023H1. Imports into Brussels followed the same trend, rising by 22% compared to a fall of 5.2% for Belgium as a whole.

As for the other regions, **Flanders**, which accounts for some 78.3% of the country's exports of goods (compared to 77.5% in 2022H1), increased its trade deficit still further (EUR -22.2 billion compared to -14.3 billion in 2022H1), due to a fall of 10.8% in the overall exports of goods.

The **trade balance** therefore remained in deficit (-3.9 billion), as it has been for several years. It is, however, stable in comparison to 2022H1.

Wallonia, which now accounts for 18.5% of Belgian exports (compared to 20.5% in 2022H1), saw its exports fall by 20.3% compared to 2022H1, while its imports fell by 12%. Consequently, its trade surplus shrank from EUR 18.2 billion to 12.4 billion in the first half of 2023.

Figure 3. Trade in goods, Belgium and regions, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



D. TRADE IN THE GOODS CATEGORY BY REGION

In Brussels

Growth in Brussels exports was much stronger than in 2022H1, thanks in particular to the performance of **Products of the chemical or allied industries** (+116.2%) and, to a lesser extent, **Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment** (+17.2%). In three years, exports in these two categories of goods have grown by 111% and 68% respectively.

These two categories of goods account for 70% of Brussels exports of goods: 35.6% for Transport equipment, or EUR 2.1 billion, and 34.1% for Chemical and related products, or EUR 2.0 billion.

The share of other types of goods does not exceed 5% of total foreign sales of the BCR, in particular :

- **Machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical equipment (...)** (4.8% of exports, or EUR 289 million, up 2%, 0% over three years)
- **Prepared foodstuffs (...)** (4.0% of exports, or EUR 240.9 million, up 33.4%, +54% in three years)
- **Plastics and articles thereof (...)** (4% of exports, or EUR 239.1 million, up 8.6%, +103% in three years).

Flanders and Wallonia

In Flanders, exports of **Products of the chemical or allied industries** (more specifically Pharmaceutical products) fell overall by 27% (EUR 32.9 billion compared to 44.8 billion in 2022H1), even though this is the largest category of goods exported (a share of 22.3%). Similarly, **Mineral products** (12.1% of exports) were down 27% (in particular Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products from distillation; bituminous materials; mineral waxes). **Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment** (+29%), **Machinery and equipment** (+14%) and **Prepared foodstuffs (...)** (+19%) followed the opposite trend.

In terms of imports, down by 5.5%, the picture is the same as at the national level, with a significant fall in imports of **Mineral products** (-28.3%), and a slight increase in **Products of the chemical or allied industries** (+4.1%).

As far as Wallonia is concerned, the situation is similar to that in Flanders as regards the category of goods that suffered the most in 2023H1 : **Mineral products** fell by 47% on the export side (together with Fuels...) compared to 2022H1, and by 47.5% on the import side.



**Brussels' external
trade in goods**

BRUSSELS' EXTERNAL TRADE IN GOODS

A. BRUSSELS' TRADE BY GOODS TYPE

Exports

With a share of 35.6%, compared to 41.7% in 2022, and an export volume of more than EUR 2.1 billion, **Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment** narrowly retained the **top** position in the categories of goods most exported by the Brussels Region (Figure 4). Exports of this type of goods rose by 17% from 2022H1 to 2023H1. This is mainly **Motor cars and other motor vehicles mainly designed for transporting people** (EUR 2 billion, up 17%).

Products of the chemical or allied industries (34.1%) remained the **second** most exported category of goods in 2023H1 (EUR 2 billion), behind Transport equipment following an increase of 116% compared to 2022H1.

This is mainly :

- Medicaments consisting of products mixed together, prepared for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes but not put up in measured doses or in forms or packings for retail sale (EUR 472.6 million, an exponential increase from EUR 2.2 million in 2022H1) ;
- Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products, prepared for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, presented in measured doses (EUR 369.6 million) ;
- Oxygen-function amino compounds (EUR 233.2 million, an exponential increase) ;
- Human or animal blood for therapeutic uses, ... (EUR 187.9 million), including mainly Immunological products, presented in doses or packaged for retail sale (EUR 118 million) and Vaccines for human medicine (excluding SARS coronavirus vaccines) (EUR 52.5 million) ;
- Heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen heteroatom(s) only (EUR 140.4 million)

- Sulphonamides (EUR 131.2 million, an exponential increase, EUR 1.4 million in 2022H1) ;
- Perfumes and toilet waters (EUR 94.3 million) ;
- Acyclic alcohols and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives (EUR 80.7 million).

After these two heavyweights in Brussels exports, the **third** category of goods exported in 2023H1 (4.8%) was **Machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical equipment (...)**. Foreign sales of these goods remained stable compared to 2022H1 (+2%), rising from EUR 283.4 to 289 million, although their overall share fell (4.8% compared to 6.5% in 2022H1). The main goods exported in this category were Centrifuges, filtering or purifying machinery for gases or liquids (EUR 63.9 million, -3%); Automatic data-processing machines and units (...) (EUR 58.7 million, +60%), and Consumer telephone sets (EUR 21.7 million, +30%).

Prepared foodstuffs (...) rose by 33% to become the **fourth** most exported category of Brussels goods, with an overall share of 4%, and a total value of 240.9 million (compared to 180.6 in 2022H1).

Among the products in question, we could highlight :

- Chocolate and other prepared foods containing cocoa (EUR 44.1 million, +16%) ;
- Malt beers (EUR 34.6 million, + 700%) ;
- Bakery products, pastries, cakes (EUR 25.8 million, -1%) ;
- Cereal products obtained by puffing or roasting (e.g. corn flakes); cereals (other than corn) in grain form or in the form of flakes or other prepared grains (excluding flour, groats and meal) (EUR 23.8 million, up 15%).

Following food products, **Plastics and articles, Rubber and articles thereof** rank fifth in Brussels' most exported goods categories, with an overall share of 4% and sales of EUR 239.1 million (up 9%).

Most of this was generated by Rubber and rubber products (EUR 192 million, up 29%), including

- Natural rubber, balata, gutta-percha, guayule, chicle and similar natural gums, in primary forms or in plates, sheets or strip (EUR 117.8 million, +24%)
- Synthetic and factice rubber for rubber derived from oils, in primary forms or in plates, sheets or strip (EUR 28.2 million, -8%)
- New rubber tyres (EUR 30.1 million, +66%)

Finally, the performance of **Mineral Products** cannot be overlooked, since in the first half of 2023, this category of goods saw its exports increase almost fivefold (+463%),

reaching EUR 170.6 million, and an overall share of 2.8% (compared to 0.7% in 2022H1).

Among the top products in this category:

- Slag, ash and residues (other than from the manufacture of iron or steel) containing metals, arsenic or compounds (EUR 88.3 million, an exponential increase) ;
- Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, other than crude; preparations not elsewhere specified or included, containing by weight 70% or more petroleum oils or oils obtained from bituminous minerals, such oils being the basic constituents of the preparations (EUR 53.1 million, +85%).

In addition,

pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulose material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard ; paper and paperboard and articles thereof recorded a 177% increase in foreign sales in the period under review, the second highest growth rate after mineral products.


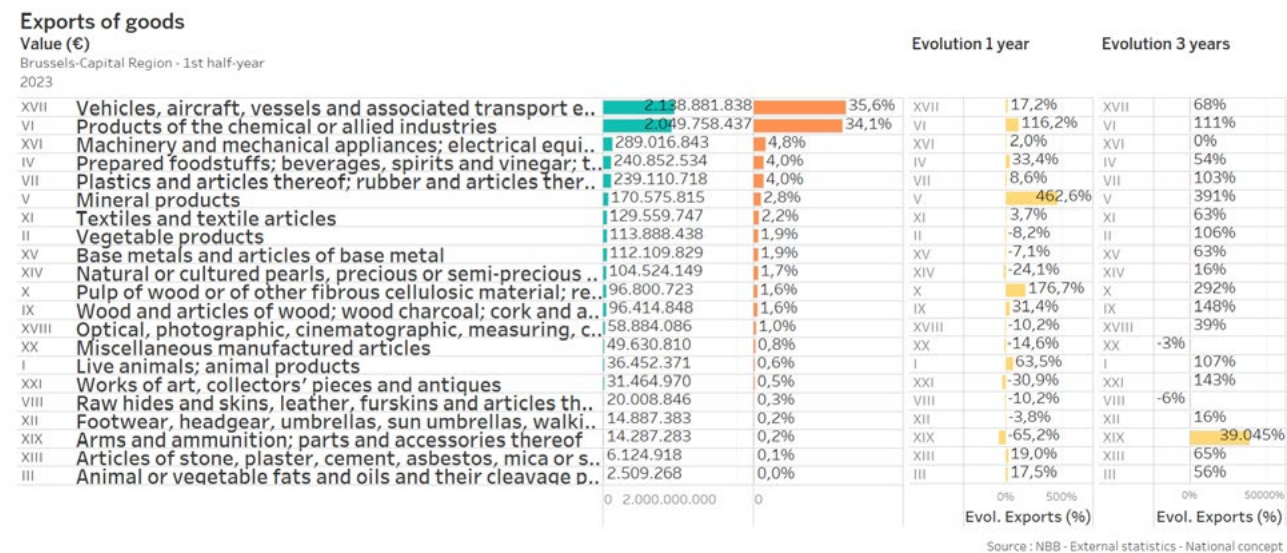
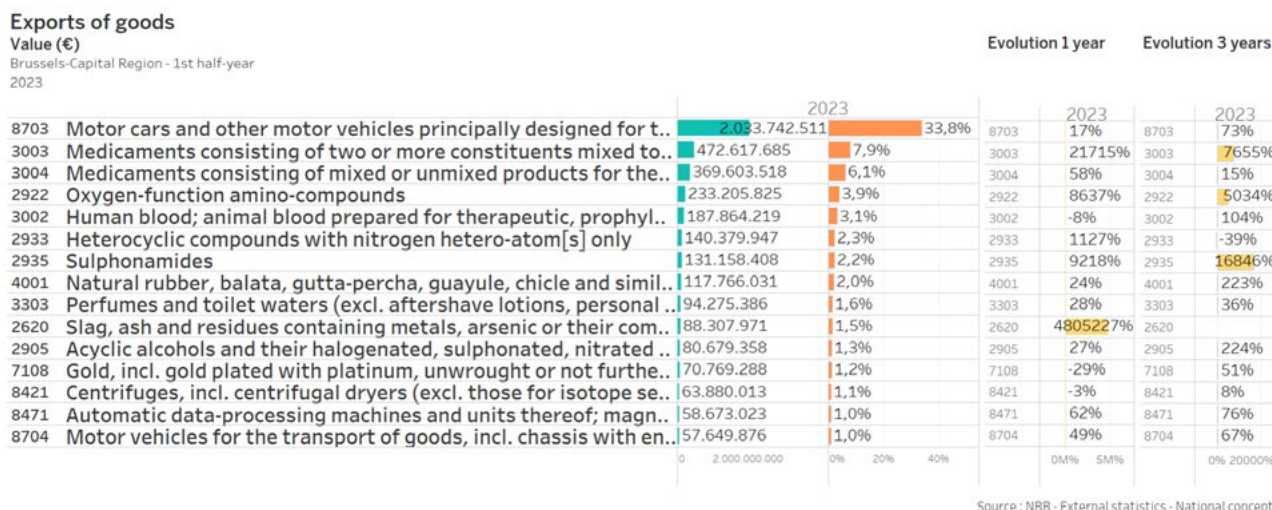


Figure 4. Evolution of goods exported from Brussels by category, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



More specifically, these are the fifteen main goods exported by the Brussels Region in 2023H1, together with their evolution.

Figure 5. Top 15 goods exported by the Brussels-Capital Region, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



Imports

Three categories of goods stand out in terms of Brussels imports, each accounting for a share of 23% in the Brussels-Capital Region's total purchases of goods abroad and an amount of imports of around EUR 2.3 billion in the first half of 2023. These are **Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment**, **Machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical equipment (...)** and **Products of the chemical or allied industries**.

Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment, up by 18% compared to the same period in 2022, mainly comprises motor cars and other motor vehicles (...) for transporting people (EUR 1.184 billion, +17%), parts and accessories (...) (EUR 624 million, +17%), and motor vehicles for the transport of goods (EUR 299 million, +87%). The trade deficit for this category of goods was EUR 135 million.

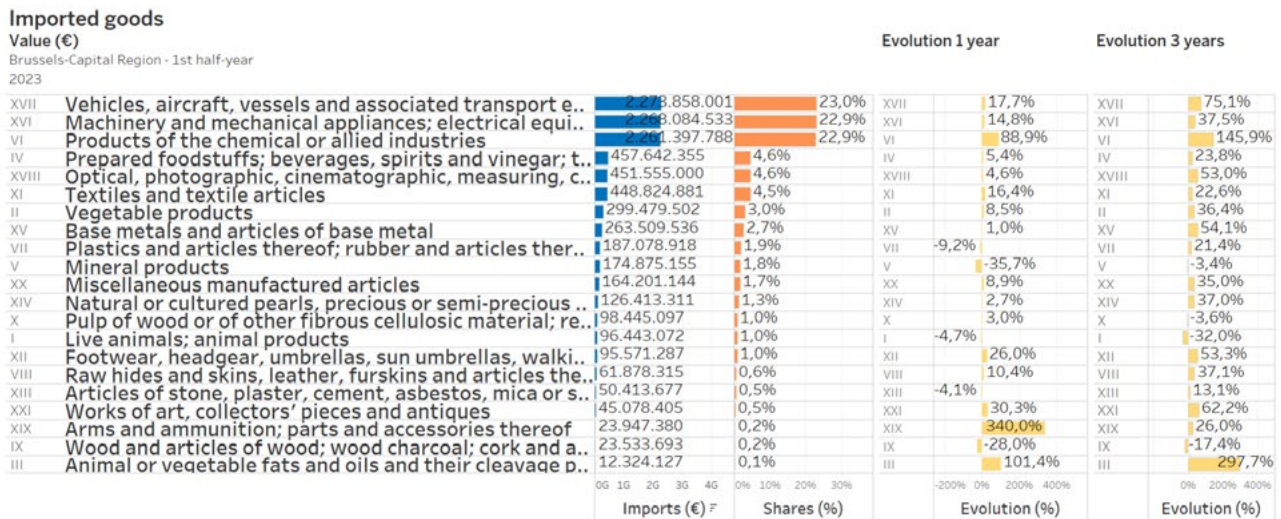
Among the main goods imported in the "**Machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical equipment (...)**" category, up 15%, we could highlight:

- Electric accumulators (...) (EUR 583.5 million, +89%);
- Telephone sets (...); Other apparatus for the emission, transmission or reception of voice, images or other data (EUR 150.4 million, +20%);
- Electric motors and generators, excluding generating sets (EUR 130.4 million, +11%);
- Automatic data-processing machines and units thereof; magnetic and optical readers, (...) (EUR 126.9 million, -28%);
- Machines for assembling electric or electronic lamps, tubes or valves, or flashbulbs, incorporating a glass casing; machinery for manufacturing or hot working glass (EUR 118.1 million, -38%).

Within the category of **Products of the chemical or allied industries**, imports were largely accounted for by Pharmaceutical products (EUR 1.4 billion, +108%), Organic

chemical products (EUR 402 million, +265%), Essential oils and resinoids ; perfumes or toilette products and cosmetic preparations (EUR 212 million, +28%).

Figure 6. Ranking in descending order of categories of goods imported into Brussels and import percentages, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



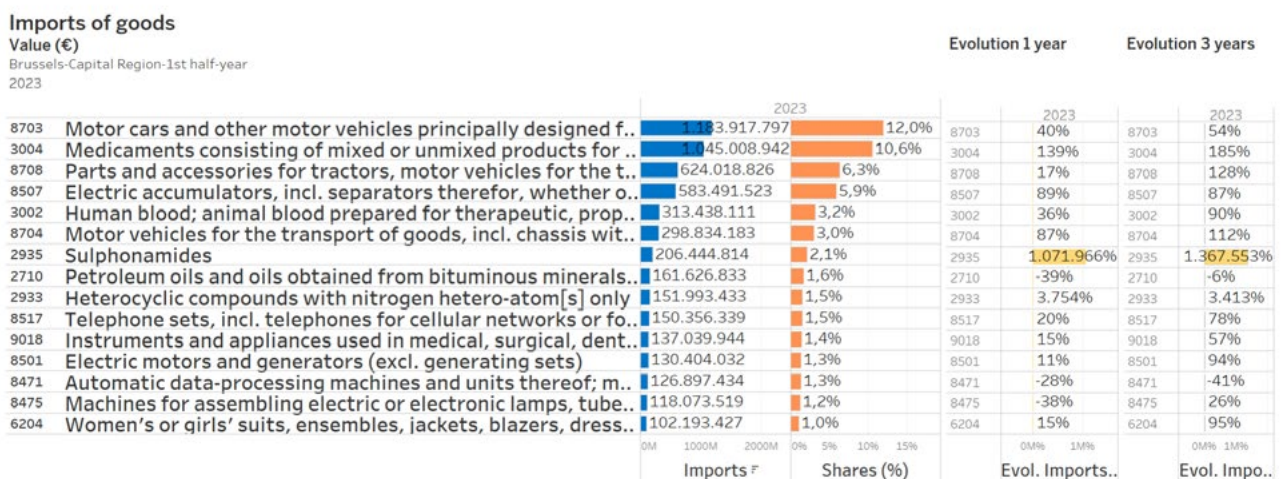
Source : NBB - External statistics - National concept

The fifteen main goods imported by the Brussels Region in the first half of 2023 are shown in Figure 7.

EUR 206.4 million. Exponential growth in imports of this product had already been observed in the second half of 2022.

Sulphonamides stand out in particular thanks to the spectacular rise in Brussels imports, from EUR 19,257 to

Figure 7. Top 15 goods imported by the Brussels-Capital Region, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



Source : NBB - External statistics - National concept

B. OVERVIEW OF TRADE IN GOODS IN BRUSSELS BY CONTINENT

Contrary to the trend observed in 2022, in the first half of 2023 **Europe** reinforced its position as the Brussels Region's main customer and supplier (Figure 8). Indeed, the share of exports destined for this sector rose from 77.7% in 2022H1 to 82.9% in 2023H1, although it did not return to the level seen in 2019 (86.4%). Overall, exports of goods from Brussels to Europe rose by 46.5% compared to the same period in 2022. Imports from Europe rose by 23.2%, and their overall share reached 93.5%, up on the last three years (92.6% in 2022H1). The Brussels-Capital Region therefore exports proportionately less to Europe than it imports from the same continent.

It should be noted that this increase in the share of exports to Europe is even more noticeable when it comes to the BCR's largest customer, **the European Union**: in 2023H1, 73.8% of Brussels goods were destined for the EU (compared to 64.6% in 2022H1 and 69.4% in 2019H1), while these exports increased by 56.8% over the same period.

The trade balance with Europe nevertheless remained negative for the Brussels-Capital Region, with a deficit of EUR 4.3 billion (compared to 4.1 in 2022H1).

This refocusing of Brussels' trade in goods on Europe took place at the expense of other continents, whose share is shrinking.

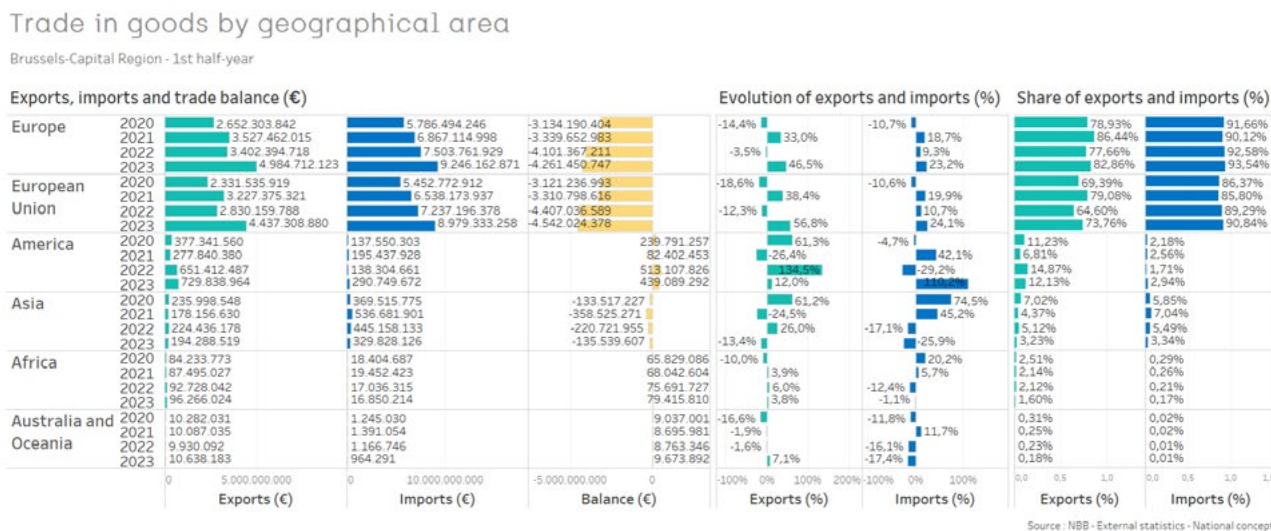
The first was **America**, whose share of exports fell from 14.9% in 2022H1 to 12.1% in 2023H1, despite an overall increase of 12%. Conversely, imports from this continent more than doubled over this period (+110.2%); the share also rose from 1.7% to 2.9%. The trade balance with this continent remained fairly stable, with a surplus of EUR 439 million.

Asia is the third largest importer of goods from Brussels. This continent accounted for 3.2% of our exports (compared to 5.1% in 2022H1), which implies a significant fall in monetary terms (-13.4% compared to 2022H1). Imports from Asia were down 25.9% compared to 2022H1, to an overall percentage of 3.3% (compared to 5.5% in 2022H1). As a result, the Brussels trade deficit with Asia has gradually diminished, from EUR -220.7 to -135.5 million.

Africa remains our fourth partner, with a share of exports that is also falling (from 2.1% to 1.6% in 2023H1). To a lesser extent, the same applies to imports (up from 0.21% to 0.17%).

Oceania comes in last in the continents to which the Brussels-Capital Region exports goods (EUR 10.6 million in 2023H1, a share of 0.2%).

Figure 8. Trade in goods by the Brussels-Capital Region by geographical area, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



C. OVERVIEW OF TRADE IN GOODS IN BRUSSELS BY TRADE PARTNER

In terms of the distribution of Brussels goods exports, the main lesson to be learned from the first half of 2023 is the **ongoing dominant position of Germany**, to which exports have more than doubled compared to 2022H1 (Figure 9). At almost EUR 1.6 billion (compared to EUR 745 million previously), Germany is strengthening its "pole position", with an overall share of 26.5%, up on 2022H1 but not yet equal to the level posted in 2019H1 (17% in 2022H1 and 28% in 2019H1). As a result, most of its main "competitors" (with the exception of France) are seeing their share fall.

Unsurprisingly, the main destinations for BCR goods are its closest neighbours, with the exception of the United States, which ranks fourth. Other notable changes in the "Top 25" compared to 2022H1 :

The **Netherlands** kept the second place with EUR 784.1 million and an increase of 28%, but is now being followed by **France** which, after an increase of 58% and a total of EUR 780.3 million, has moved up one place to join the Top 3.

With limited growth (+13% and a value of EUR 529.1 million), the **United States** has moved down one place and is now fourth, but still the largest customer outside Europe.

Luxembourg (fifth) and the **United Kingdom** (sixth) kept their ranking, showing respective growth rates of 21% and 8.5%. It should be noted that over three years, exports to the UK have grown by 33%, despite Brexit. Conversely, imports from the UK have fallen by 26% in three years.

In the south of Europe, Italy posted a solid increase (+57%) and moved up one place (8th), while **Spain** remained 10th with a growth rate of 17%.

Further east, **Hungary** (+160%, 14th) and the **Czech Republic** (+93%, 19th) performed particularly well, moving up eight and six places respectively. **Poland** (+24%, 11th) and **Austria** (+41%, 15th) stayed in the same positions despite solid growth rates.

Turkey stands out with a rise of 13 places (20th), and an increase of 229%.

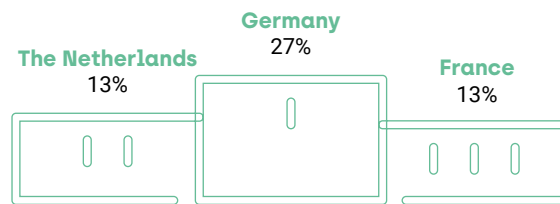
The same is true of **Finland**, which has moved up eight places (to 22nd), thanks to a 145% rise in Brussels exports, while **Denmark** has slipped one place (to 18th), despite a modest growth rate of 9.6%.

In the "major exports" category, in addition to the United States, **Canada** recorded a sustained rise of 47%, moving up one place to 13th. **China** also moved up one place (to 17th)

thanks to a growth rate of 22%, while **Japan** fell three places (to 16th) despite growth of 6.3%.

In terms of poor performance of Brussels goods exports, we should mention the fall in exports to **Switzerland** (-21%, 7th), **Norway** (-12%, 9th), **Brazil** (-7.8%, 21st), and above all **Russia** (-41%, 23rd), which dropped seven places.

Figure 9. Top 25 destination countries for Brussels goods, value, evolution and ranking, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



Exports of goods

Brussels-Capital Region- 1st half-year

Top-25
Value (€)

	2022		2023		Evolution 1 year (%)		Evolution 3 years (%)		Shares (%)		Cumulative shares (%)		Ranks		Evol. 1 year		Evol. 3 years	
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	
Germany	748,083,010	1	1,592,666,181	1	113.8%	116.3%	17.0%	26.5%	17.0%	26.5%	17.0%	26.5%	1	1	0	0		
the Netherlands	611,980,064	2	784,079,684	2	28.1%	71.8%	14.0%	13.0%	14.0%	13.0%	31.0%	39.5%	2	2	0	0		
France	494,569,284	3	780,290,406	3	57.8%	76.6%	11.3%	13.0%	11.3%	13.0%	42.3%	52.5%	4	3	-1	FR		
United States	329,146,339	4	595,261,948	4	12.5%	77.3%	12.1%	9.9%	12.1%	9.9%	54.3%	62.4%	3	4	US	1		
Luxembourg	454,494,271	5	549,958,571	5	21.0%	55.9%	10.4%	9.1%	10.4%	9.1%	64.7%	71.5%	5	5	LU	0		
United Kingd..	218,564,644	6	237,105,398	6	8.5%	33.1%	5.0%	3.9%	5.0%	3.9%	69.7%	75.5%	6	6	GB	0		
Switzerland	174,789,844	7	137,655,175	7	-21.2%	43.5%	4.0%	2.3%	4.0%	2.3%	73.7%	77.7%	7	7	CH	0		
Italy	84,194,535	8	131,972,337	8	56.7%	80.8%	1.9%	2.2%	1.9%	2.2%	75.6%	79.9%	9	8	IT	-1		
Norway	108,227,526	9	94,875,131	9	-12.3%	5285.3%	2.5%	1.6%	2.5%	1.6%	78.1%	81.5%	8	9	NO	1		
Spain	79,003,474	10	92,708,201	10	17.3%	77.4%	1.8%	1.5%	1.8%	1.5%	79.9%	83.1%	10	10	ES	0		
Poland	71,359,096	11	88,247,985	11	23.7%	279.2%	1.6%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%	81.5%	84.5%	11	11	PL	0		
Sweden	70,628,345	12	86,447,383	12	22.4%	38.6%	1.6%	1.4%	1.6%	1.4%	83.1%	86.0%	12	12	SE	0		
Canada	45,614,040	13	67,011,080	13	46.9%	2130.6%	1.0%	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%	84.2%	87.1%	14	13	CA	-1		
Hungary	23,931,395	14	62,276,542	14	160.2%	545.2%	0.5%	1.0%	0.5%	1.0%	84.7%	88.1%	22	14	HU	-8		
Austria	44,053,220	15	61,885,603	15	40.5%	106.6%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	85.7%	89.1%	15	15	AT	0		
Japan	47,345,480	16	50,306,178	16	6.3%	-59.5%	1.1%	0.8%	1.1%	0.8%	86.8%	90.0%	13	16	JP	3		
China, People..	35,639,654	17	43,639,428	17	22.4%	52.0%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	0.7%	87.6%	90.7%	18	17	CN	-1		
Denmark	38,767,899	18	42,477,850	18	9.6%	161.1%	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%	0.7%	88.5%	91.4%	17	18	DK	-1		
Czech Republic	17,409,577	19	33,652,664	19	93.3%	230.1%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%	88.9%	92.0%	25	19	CZ	-6		
Türkiye	9,910,615	20	32,612,740	20	229.1%	96.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%	89.1%	92.5%	33	20	TR	-13		
Brazil	33,689,825	21	31,071,900	21	-7.8%	10.2%	0.8%	0.5%	0.8%	0.5%	89.9%	93.0%	19	21	BR	2		
Finland	11,104,313	22	27,159,780	22	144.6%	161.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	90.2%	93.5%	30	22	FI	-8		
Russia	41,642,727	23	24,644,977	23	-40.8%	57.7%	1.0%	0.4%	1.0%	0.4%	91.1%	93.9%	16	23	RU	7		
Ireland	22,462,555	24	22,772,571	24	1.4%	59.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	91.6%	94.3%	23	24	IE	1		
Conqo. Demo..	21,227,249	25	21,378,196	25	0.7%	9.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	92.1%	94.6%	24	25	CD	1		

Source : NBB - External statistics - National concept

D. POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EXPORT PERFORMANCES (2022H1-2023H1) - EXPLANATORY FACTORS

Analysis of positive export performance

While "**Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment**" and "**Products of the chemical or allied industries**", which account for 70% of Brussels exports, are generally decisive in the upward or downward trend in exports from the Brussels-Capital Region to its various trading partners, significant changes in exports of other products were also noted in the first half of 2023 in certain markets.

A significant increase in exports of "**Products of the chemical or allied industries**" (+116%, i.e. EUR 2 billion compared to EUR 948.2 million in 2022H1) can be seen in the largest customers of the BCR: Germany, France, Luxembourg, Italy, Spain, Hungary and China.

The same applies to "**Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment**": most of the BCR's trading partners (France, United States, Luxembourg, United

Kingdom, Italy, etc.) were affected by the growth in exports of this type of goods. The overall increase, however, was more modest: +17%, or EUR 2.1 billion compared to EUR 1.8 billion in 2022H1.

"**Mineral products**" saw an exponential increase (+463%, i.e. EUR 170.6 compared to 30.3 million) as a result of the energy crisis, which mainly affected exports to the Netherlands, and to a lesser extent to France and Spain.

As regards the other categories of goods, positive trends can be seen in "**Base metals and articles of base metal**" (France), "**Plastic and articles thereof**" (Luxembourg, Czech Republic), "**Textiles and textile articles**" (Poland, Japan) and "**Prepared foodstuffs (...)**" (United States).

Analysis of negative export performance

While exports of goods from Brussels made good progress in most of the BCR's Top 25 customers, some markets have fallen back compared to the first half of 2022. The "**Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment**" category was responsible for poor results in Norway, Brazil and Russia, while "**Products of the chemical**

or allied industries" saw foreign sales fall in Switzerland and Russia. Lastly, exports of "**Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals (...)**" to Switzerland fell in the first half of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022.

E. TRADE IN GOODS BY CONTINENT AND TRADE PARTNER

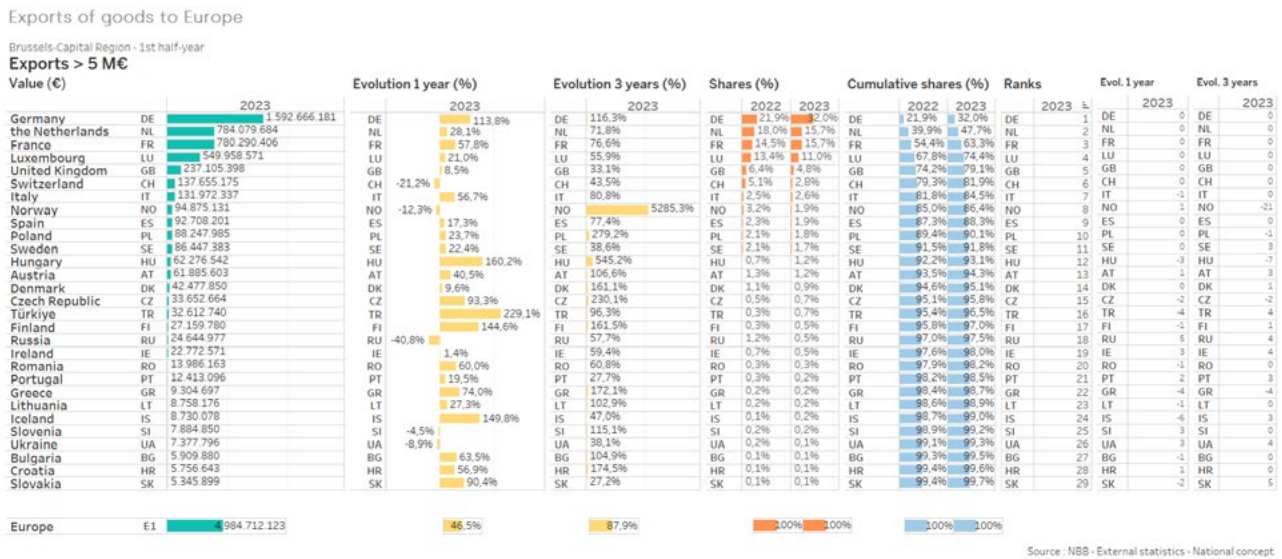
Exports from Brussels by continent

Europe

Exports of products from the Brussels-Capital Region to Europe accounted for 82.9% of total exports in 2023H1, compared to 77.7% in 2022H1. This refocusing of Brussels

goods exports on Europe took place at the expense of other continents, mainly America.

Figure 10. Ranking, evolution and distribution of the main European destination countries for goods from Brussels (> EUR 5 million), 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



4 The percentage for a given country corresponds to that country's share of exports from Brussels.

Significant positive evolution :

- **Germany** (26.5%⁴). 114% growth in exports, due in particular to the exponential rise in " Products of the chemical or allied industries " (+609%, i.e. almost EUR 1 billion compared to EUR 135.3 million in 2022H1).
- **The Netherlands** (13%). A growth rate of 28%, due to the "explosion" in exports of "Mineral products", i.e. mineral fuels, mineral oils and products from distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes (EUR 113.4 million compared to EUR 673,734).
- **France** (13%). A growth rate of 58%, attributable to exports of :
 - " Products of the chemical or allied industries ", which rose from EUR 69.2 million to EUR 241.4 million (+249%);
 - " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment ", which rose from EUR 85.4 million to EUR 119.1 million (+39%);
 - to a lesser extent, " Base metals and articles of base metal " (from EUR 29.7 million to EUR 48.3 million) and "Mineral products" (from EUR 1 million to EUR 14.2 million).
- **Luxembourg** (9.1%). A growth rate of 21% due to exports of :
 - " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+41%, i.e. EUR 260.1 million compared to 184.8 million);
 - " Products of the chemical or allied industries " (+43%, i.e. EUR 73.4 million compared to 51.2 million);
 - "Plastics and articles thereof" (+8%, i.e. EUR 98.5 million compared to 91.1 million).
- **United Kingdom** (3.9%), + 8.5%, attributable to exports of " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+13%, i.e. EUR 176.1 million compared to 155.7 million).
- **Italy** (2.2%). +57%, growth attributable to exports of :
 - " Products of the chemical or allied industries " (+329%);
 - " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+56%).
- **Spain** (1.5%), + 17%, overall growth due to increase in exports of :
 - "Mineral products" (EUR 13.8 million compared to EUR 1,503);
 - " Products of the chemical or allied industries " (+50%, i.e. EUR 20 million compared to 13.3 million);
 - " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+26%, i.e. EUR 16 million compared to 12.7 million).
- **Poland** (1.5%), + 24%, growth due in particular to good performance in :
 - " Products of the chemical or allied industries " (+117%, i.e. EUR 16.4 million compared to 7.5 million);
 - "Textiles and textile articles" (+23%, i.e. EUR 20.2 million compared to 14.4 million).
- **Sweden** (1.4%), +22.4%, increase due to " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+77%, i.e. EUR 66.7 million compared to 52.9 million).
- **Hungary** (1%), +160%, growth attributable to exports of " Products of the chemical or allied industries " (+61%, i.e. EUR 37.8 million compared to 4 million).
- **Austria** (1%), +41%, increase due to " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+89%, i.e. EUR 46.4 million compared to 24.5 million).
- **Denmark** (0.7%), +9.6%, increase due to " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+21%, i.e. EUR 23.2 million compared to 19.2 million).
- **Czech Republic** (0.6%), +93%, growth mainly due to " Plastics and articles thereof " (+210%, or EUR 10 million compared to 3.2 million).
- **Turkey** (0.5%), +229%, due to an explosion in exports of " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (EUR 20.2 million compared to EUR 16,620).
- **Finland** (0.5%), +145%, increase attributable to " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+387%, i.e. EUR 21.3 million compared to 4.4 million).

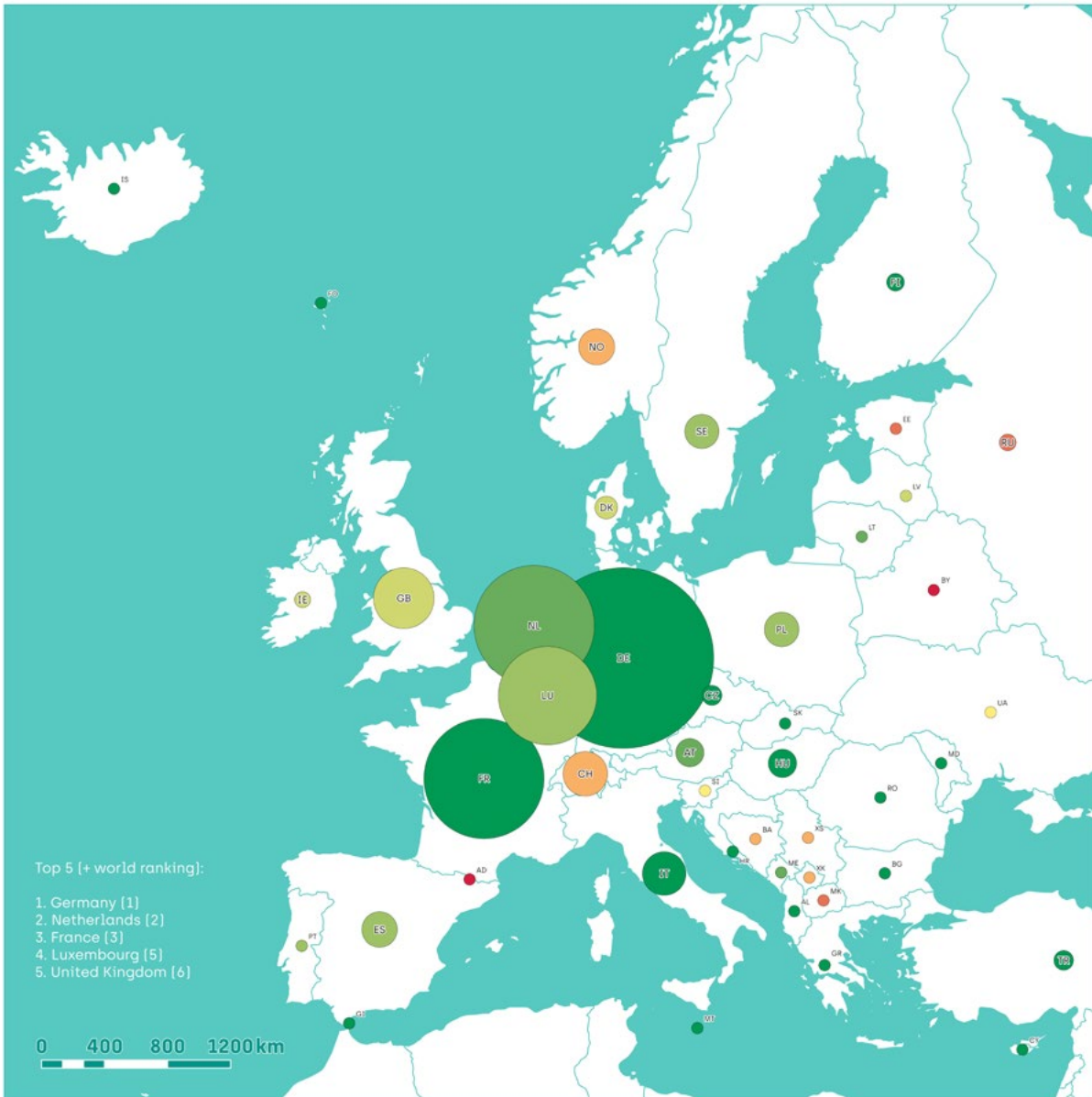
Significant negative evolution:

- **Switzerland** (2.3% export share) was down 21%, attributable to two categories of goods :
 - " Products of the chemical or allied industries ": -77%, i.e. EUR 5.7 million compared to 24.6 million ;
 - " Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals (...)": -28%, i.e. EUR 72.2 million compared to 101 million.

At the same time, the " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " segment performed well (up 69%, from EUR 27.3 million to 46.1 million).

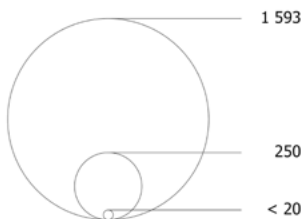
- **Norway** (1.2%), down 12%, mainly due to " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (-12%, i.e. EUR 93.1 compared to 103.5 million). This under-performance should be put into perspective in view of the exponential growth seen over three years (+5,285.3%).
- **Russia** (0.4%), down 41%, where the " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment" (-100%, or EUR 49,502 compared to 10.1 million) and " Products of the chemical or allied industries" (-21%, or EUR 23.6 million compared to 29.9 million) sectors both suffered.

Figure 11. Cartographic representation of goods exports in Europe, value and evolution, 2022H1-2023H1, NBB



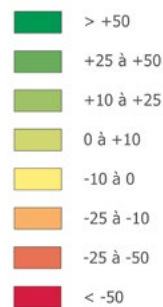
Volume of exports from the Brussels-Capital Region (€ million)

Total exports: 4 985 € millions



Change in export volume between 2022 and 2023 (%)

Total exports: + 46.5 % compared to 2022



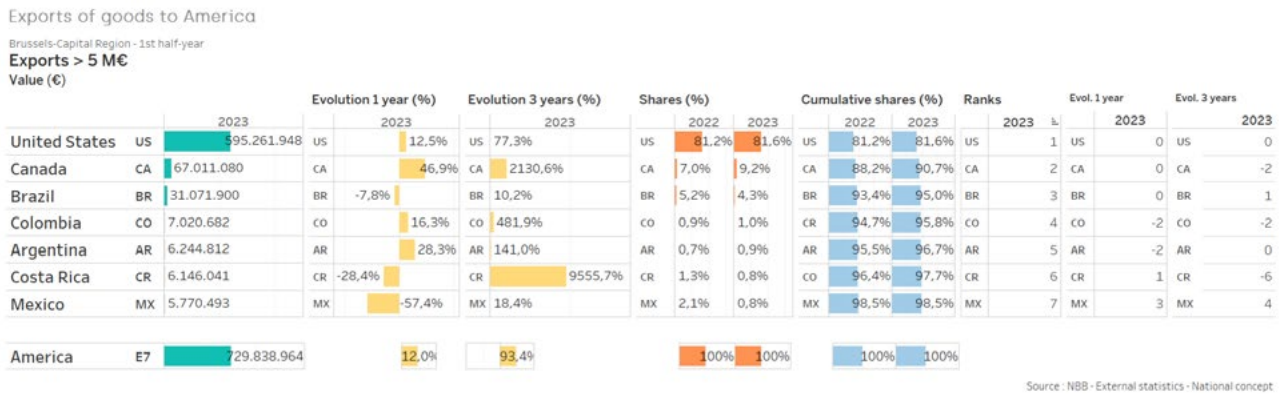
Source: National Bank of Belgium, 2023

America

Exports of products from the Brussels-Capital Region to **America** accounted for 12.1% of total exports in 2023H1, compared to 14.9% in 2022H1. While the United States

remains the dominant market, accounting for 82% of Brussels exports to America, sales to Canada rose by 47%.

Figure 12. Ranking, evolution and distribution of the main American destination countries for goods from Brussels (> EUR 5 million), 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



Significant positive evolution :

- United States (9.9%). A growth rate of 12.5% due to exports of :
 - " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+24%, i.e. EUR 447.3 million compared to 359.8 million).
 - " Prepared foodstuffs " (+840%, i.e. EUR 8.8 million compared to EUR 939,699).
- Canada (1.1%), +47%, growth mainly of " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+37%, i.e. EUR 57.5 million compared to 41.9 million).

Significant negative evolution :

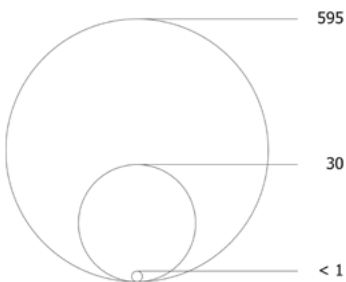
- Brazil (0.5%), down 7.8%, attributable to " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (down 67%, from EUR 17.8 million to EUR 5.9 million), while " Products of the chemical or allied industries " rose by 54% (from EUR 15.6 million to 24.1 million).

Figure 13. Cartographic representation of goods exports in America, value and evolution, 2022H1-2023H1, NBB



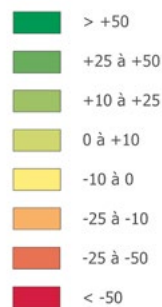
Volume of exports from the Brussels-Capital Region (€ million)

Total exports: 730 € millions



Change in export volume between 2022 and 2023 (%)

Total exports: + 12.0 % compared to 2022



Source: National Bank of Belgium, 2023

Asia and Oceania

The share of exports of goods from the Brussels-Capital Region to Asia has fallen compared to 2022H1 (3.2% compared to 5.1%), despite rising values for Japan (+6.3%) and China (+22.4%), in particular. Exports to Australia and Oceania accounted for 0.18% of total exports in 2023H1,

compared to 0.23% in 2022h1. Exports of goods from Brussels to Australia were down by 34%, and those to New Zealand by 59%.

Figure 14. Ranking, evolution and distribution of the main Asian and Oceania destination countries for goods from Brussels (> EUR 5 million), 2020H1-2023H1, NBB

Exports to Asia and Oceania

Brussels-Capital Region - 1st half-year

Exports > 5 M€

Value (€)

	2023	Evolution 1 year (%)		Evolution 3 years (%)		Shares (%)		Cumulative shares (%)		Ranks		Evol. 1 year		Evol. 3 years	
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	
Japan	JP	50.306.178	6,3%	-59,5%	21,1%	25,9%	21,1%	25,9%	1	0	0	0			
China, People's Re..	CN	43.639.428	22,4%	52,0%	15,9%	22,5%	37,0%	48,4%	2	0	-1	-1			
Israel	IL	19.231.684	72,6%	91,7%	5,0%	9,9%	41,9%	58,3%	3	-4	-1	-1			
India	IN	11.752.061	36,8%	354,5%	3,8%	6,0%	45,8%	64,3%	4	-5	-5	-5			
Hong Kong	HK	10.598.311	-3,1%	26,1%	4,9%	5,5%	50,6%	69,8%	5	-3	-1	-1			
United Arab Emira..	AE	8.431.295	46,6%	184,1%	2,6%	4,3%	53,2%	74,1%	6	-4	-2	-2			
Malaysia	MY	6.161.721	4672,2%	1693,8%	0,1%	3,2%	53,3%	77,3%	7	-24	-14	-14			
Taiwan	TW	6.148.425	-51,4%	380,9%	5,6%	3,2%	58,9%	80,4%	8	2	-2	-2			
South Korea	KR	5.928.326	-79,6%	-84,1%	3,0%	3,1%	71,9%	83,5%	9	6	7	7			
Asia	F2	194.288.519	-13,4%	-17,7%	100%	100%	100%	100%							
Australia	AU	8.673.418	73,4%	-11,8%	50,4%	81,5%	50,4%	81,5%	1	0	0	0			
Australia and Oceania	F7	10.638.183	7,1%	3,5%	100%	100%	100%	100%							

Source: NBB - External statistics - National concept

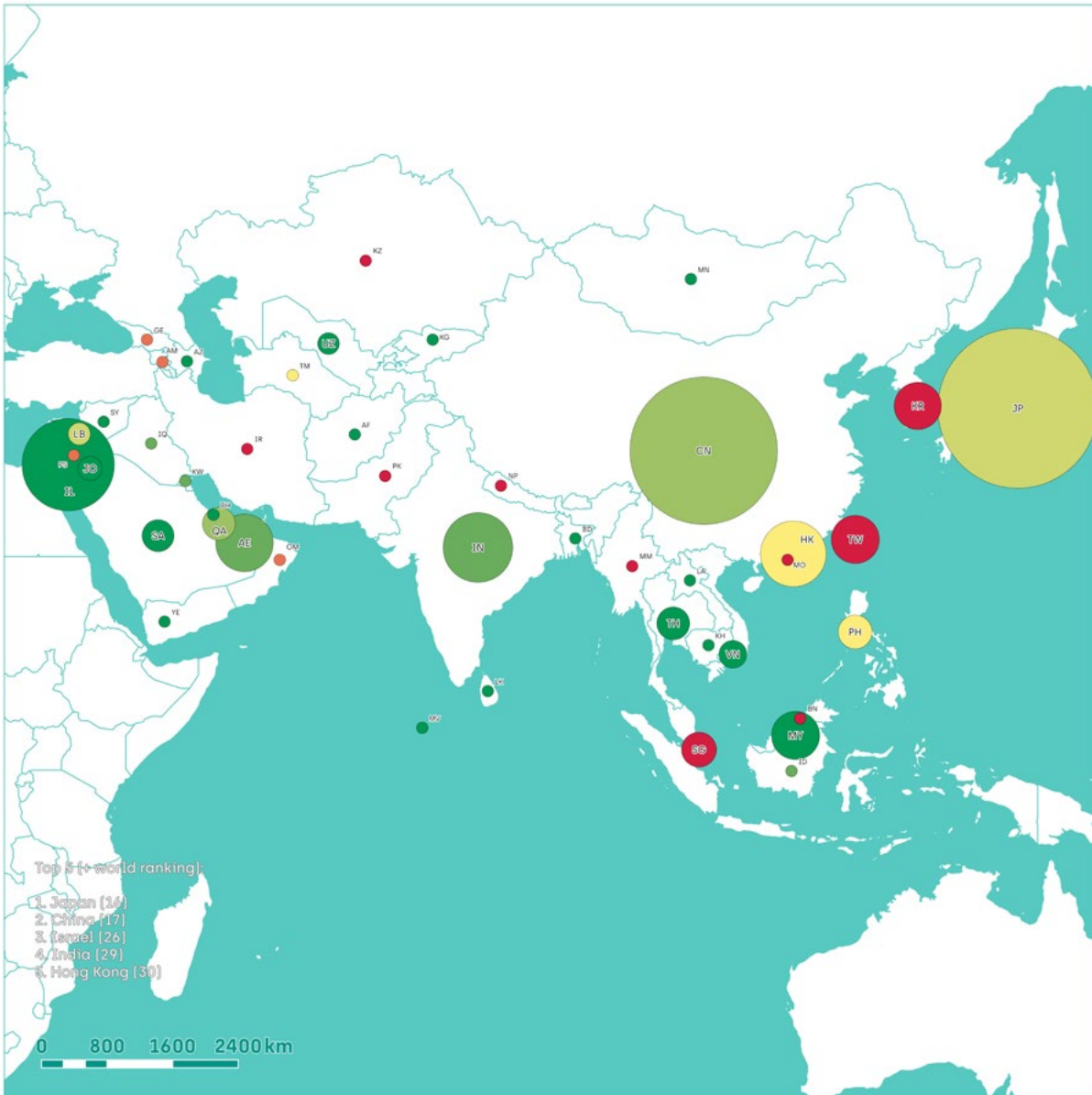
Significant evolution:

- Japan (0.8%), + 6.3%, growth due in particular to :

- " Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment " (+33%, i.e. EUR 16.6 million compared to 7.2 million) ;
- " Textiles and textile articles " (+33%, i.e. EUR 7.5 million compared to 5.6 million) ;

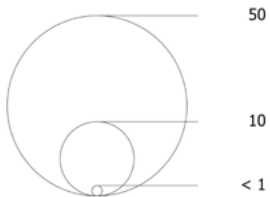
- China (0.7%), +22%, due to the " Products of the chemical or allied industries " sector (+29%, i.e. EUR 41.8 million compared to 32.4 million).

Figure 15. Cartographic representation of goods exports in Asia, value and evolution, 2022H1-2023H1, NBB



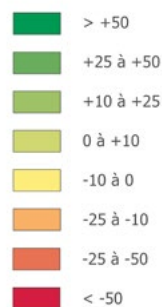
Volume of exports from the Brussels-Capital Region (€ million)

Total exports: 194 € millions



Change in export volume between 2022 and 2023 (%)

Total exports: - 13.4 % compared to 2022



Source: National Bank of Belgium, 2023

Figure 16. Cartographic representation of goods exports in Oceania, value and evolution, 2022H1-2023H1, NBB



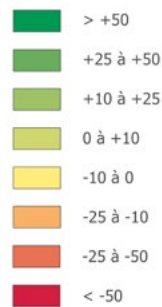
Volume of exports from the Brussels-Capital Region (€ million)

Total exports: 11 € millions



Change in export volume between 2022 and 2023 (%)

Total exports: + 7.1 % compared to 2022



Source: National Bank of Belgium, 2023

Africa

Exports of goods from the Brussels-Capital Region to **Africa** accounted for 1.6% of total exports in 2023H1, compared to 2.1% in 2022H1. The **Democratic Republic of Congo** is

still the BCR's main African partner, accounting for 22% of exports to Africa in 2023H1.

Figure 17. Ranking, evolution and distribution of the main African destination countries for goods from Brussels (> EUR 5 million), 2020H1-2023H1, NBB

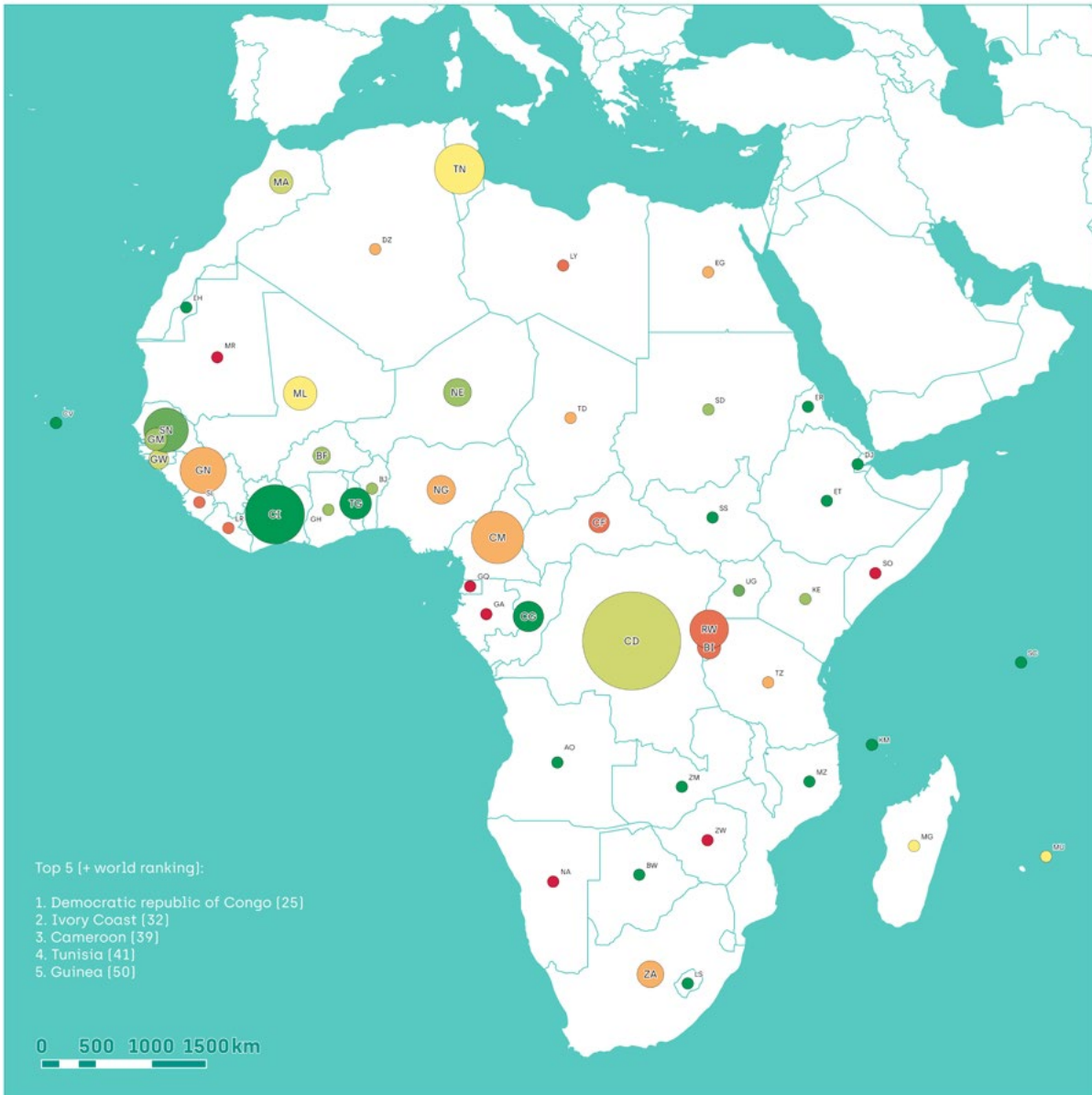
Exports of goods to Africa

Brussels-Capital Region - 1st half-year
Exports > 5 M€
Value (€)

		2023	Evolution 1 year (%)		Evolution 3 years (%)		Shares (%)		Cumulative shares (%)		Ranks		
			2023	2023	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2023	Evol. 1 year	Evol. 3 years	
Congo, Dem..	CD	21.378.196	0,7%	9,6%	22,9%	22,2%	1	0	0				
Ivory Coast	CI	8.839.231	111,4%	243,3%	4,5%	9,2%	2	-4	-7				
Cameroon	CM	7.123.391	-24,6%	-6,1%	10,2%	7,4%	3	1	-1				
Tunisia	TN	6.608.156	-1,9%	29,0%	7,3%	6,9%	4	0	-2				
Guinea	GN	5.721.570	-23,8%	-18,8%	8,1%	5,9%	5	2	0				
Senegal	SN	5.331.037	30,6%	-31,1%	4,4%	5,5%	6	-1	3				
Africa	E4	96.266.024	3,8%	14,3%	100%	100%							

Source : NBB - External statistics - National concept

Figure 18. Cartographic representation of goods exports in Africa, value and evolution, 2022H1-2023H1, NBB



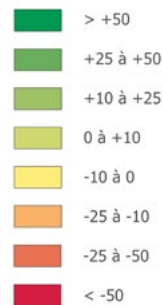
Volume of exports from the Brussels-Capital Region (€ million)

Total exports: 96 € millions



Change in export volume between 2022 and 2023 (%)

Total exports: + 3.8 % compared to 2022



Source: National Bank of Belgium, 2023

Imports into Brussels by continent

The Brussels-Capital Region imported EUR 9.9 billion in 2023H1, an increase of 2% compared to 2022H1. These imports come mainly from **European countries** (93.5% of imports come from Europe, compared to 92.6% in 2022H1) and mainly from neighbouring countries: **Netherlands** (24.2% of imports); **Germany** (19.5% of imports) and **France** (16% of imports).

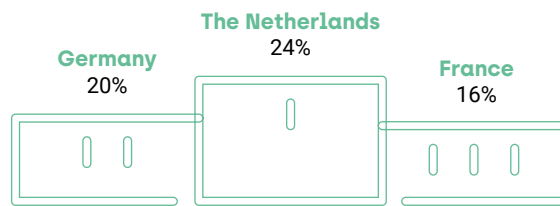
We could highlight some figures in Europe :

- Fourth place for **Hungary**, with imports up 60% on 2022H1 ; sixth place for **Ireland** (up 12 places), with imports up 730%; ninth place for **Sweden** (up one place, with imports up 62%); 15th place for the **Czech Republic** (up from 19th, with imports up 27%); 20th place for **Turkey** (up three places, with imports up 62%) ;
- the decline of **Spain** (fifth supplier instead of fourth in 2022H1), **Italy** (seventh supplier instead of sixth in 2022H1) and **Poland** (tenth instead of eighth), despite

slightly higher Brussels imports from these countries. Further down the list of BCR suppliers are the **United Kingdom** (11th instead of 9th, -18%), **Romania** (18th instead of 15th, -16%), **Luxembourg** (19th instead of 17th, despite a slight increase of 7%), **Austria** (22nd instead of 20th, -24%), **Slovakia** (24th instead of 22nd, -28%).

Outside Europe, the main regions from which the BCR imports the most are **Asia** (3.3% of imports) and **America** (2.9% of imports). The **United States** is the BCR's leading supplier outside Europe (eighth, up 118% and up four places on 2022H1), ahead of **Singapore** (12th, down 36% and down five places) and **China** (16th, down 42% in imports and down five places). **Japan** fell one place (17th) despite stable imports. Finally, we should highlight the performance of imports from **South Korea** (+220%), which moved up eight places to 25th place.

Figure 19. Top 25 countries the Brussels-Capital Region imported goods from, 2020H1-2023H1, NBB



Import of goods

Top-25

Value (€)

Brussels-Capital Region - 1st half-year

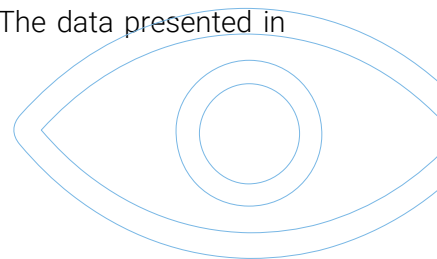
	2023	Evolution 1 year (%)		Evolution 3 years (%)		Shares (%)		Cumulative shares (%)		Ranks		Evol. 1 year		Evol. 3 years			
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023			
the Netherlands	NL	2 387 519 841	16,3%	NL	70,7%	NL	25,3%	24,2%	NL	25,3%	24,2%	NL	1	NL	0	NL	-1
Germany	DE	1 923 879 223	15,5%	DE	36,3%	DE	20,5%	19,5%	DE	45,9%	43,6%	DE	2	DE	0	DE	1
France	FR	1 581 536 813	14,8%	FR	68,4%	FR	17,0%	16,0%	FR	62,9%	59,6%	FR	3	FR	0	FR	0
Hungary	HU	751 976 164	59,7%	HU	161,8%	HU	5,8%	7,6%	HU	68,7%	67,2%	HU	4	HU	-1	HU	-2
Spain	ES	553 571 540	17,3%	ES	87,7%	ES	5,8%	5,6%	ES	74,5%	72,8%	ES	5	ES	1	ES	0
Ireland	IE	519 313 569	730,0%	IE	645,7%	IE	0,8%	5,3%	IE	75,3%	78,1%	IE	6	IE	-12	IE	-9
Italy	IT	355 959 947	13,7%	IT	0,3%	IT	3,9%	3,6%	IT	79,1%	81,7%	IT	7	IT	1	IT	3
United States	US	276 331 830	118,0%	US	112,6%	US	1,6%	2,8%	US	80,7%	84,5%	US	8	US	-4	US	-2
Sweden	SE	216 601 989	62,0%	SE	189,1%	SE	1,6%	2,2%	SE	82,4%	86,7%	SE	9	SE	-1	SE	-5
Poland	PL	184 951 548	10,0%	PL	-25,6%	PL	2,1%	1,9%	PL	84,4%	88,6%	PL	10	PL	2	PL	3
United Kingdom	GB	118 975 251	-17,9%	GB	-25,8%	GB	1,8%	1,2%	GB	86,2%	89,8%	GB	11	GB	2	GB	2
Singapore	SG	116 802 829	-36,3%	SG	37,3%	SG	2,3%	1,2%	SG	88,5%	90,9%	SG	12	SG	5	SG	-1
Denmark	DK	101 475 812	-11,1%	DK	89,5%	DK	1,4%	1,0%	DK	89,9%	92,0%	DK	13	DK	0	DK	-4
Switzerland	CH	94 553 486	12,3%	CH	-17,9%	CH	1,0%	1,0%	CH	90,9%	92,9%	CH	14	CH	0	CH	3
Czech Republic	CZ	77 481 035	27,3%	CZ	99,3%	CZ	0,8%	0,8%	CZ	91,7%	93,7%	CZ	15	CZ	-4	CZ	-5
China, People's ..	CN	74 917 352	-42,2%	CN	-55,2%	CN	1,6%	0,8%	CN	93,3%	94,5%	CN	16	CN	5	CN	8
Japan	JP	72 449 457	3,2%	JP	10,6%	JP	0,9%	0,7%	JP	94,1%	95,2%	JP	17	JP	1	JP	1
Romania	RO	70 523 843	-16,2%	RO	91,8%	RO	1,0%	0,7%	RO	95,2%	95,9%	RO	18	RO	3	RO	-3
Luxembourg	LU	70 085 768	7,1%	LU	-18,6%	LU	0,8%	0,7%	LU	96,0%	96,6%	LU	19	LU	2	LU	7
Türkiye	TR	48 448 594	62,0%	TR	-2,9%	TR	0,4%	0,5%	TR	96,4%	97,1%	TR	20	TR	-3	TR	-2
Portugal	PT	47 313 360	12,8%	PT	93,5%	PT	0,5%	0,5%	PT	96,9%	97,6%	PT	21	PT	0	PT	2
Austria	AT	39 185 639	-24,1%	AT	10,7%	AT	0,6%	0,4%	AT	97,5%	98,0%	AT	22	AT	2	AT	0
Finland	FI	31 023 688	58,1%	FI	73,5%	FI	0,2%	0,3%	FI	97,8%	98,3%	FI	23	FI	-1	FI	-1
Slovakia	SK	24 437 083	-27,6%	SK	-39,3%	SK	0,4%	0,2%	SK	98,2%	98,6%	SK	24	SK	2	SK	5
South Korea	KR	15 659 149	220,3%	KR	163,5%	KR	0,1%	0,2%	KR	98,2%	98,7%	KR	25	KR	-8	KR	-6

Source : NBB - External statistics - National concept

Go to analytics.brussels

For further information on Brussels' external trade, please visit analytics.brussels. On this economic data display platform, you will find publications about external trade in the Brussels-Capital Region.

The first, "[Brussels and the world - General statistics](#)", presents the Brussels-Capital Region's trade at world level and by continent, while the second, "[Brussels and the world - Statistics by country](#)" provides detailed statistics on the Brussels-Capital Region's trade with each country in the world, as well as various socio-economic and strategic indicators relating to these countries. The data presented in these publications is updated every year.



Annexes

Annex 1 - Categories of goods - Listed in English, French and Dutch, in ascending order of category

	Category of goods	Catégorie de biens	Categorië van goederen
I	Live animals; animal products	Animaux vivants et produits du règne animal	Levende dieren en producten van het dierenrijk
II	Vegetable products	Produits du règne végétal	Producten van het plantenrijk
III	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	Graisses et huiles animales ou végétales; produits de leur dissociation; graisses alimentaires élaborées; cires d'origine animale ou végétale	Vetten en oliën (dierlijke en plantaardige) en dissociatieproducten daarvan; bewerkt spijsvet; was van dierlijke of van plantaardige oorsprong
IV	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	Produits des industries alimentaires; boissons, liquides alcooliques et vinaigres; tabacs et succédanés de tabac fabriqués	Producten van de voedselindustrie; dranken, alcoholhoudende vloeistoffen en azijn; tabak en tot verbruik bereide tabakssurrogaten
V	Mineral products	Produits minéraux	Minerale producten
VI	Products of the chemical or allied industries	Produits des industries chimiques ou des industries connexes	Producten van de chemische en van de aanverwante industrieën
VII	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	Matières plastiques et ouvrages en ces matières; caoutchouc et ouvrages en caoutchouc	Kunststof en werken daarvan; rubber en werken daarvan
VIII	Raw hides and skins, leather, furskins and articles thereof; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silkworm gut)	Peaux, cuirs, pelleteries et ouvrages en ces matières; articles de bourrellerie ou de sellerie; articles de voyage, sacs à main et contenants similaires; ouvrages en boyaux	Huiden, vellen, leder en peltierijen, lederwaren en bontwerk; zadel- en tuigmakerswerk; reisartikelen, handtassen e.d. bergingsmiddelen; werken van darmen
IX	Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork and articles of cork; manufactures of straw, of esparto or of other plaiting materials; basketware and wickerwork	Bois, charbon de bois et ouvrages en bois; liège et ouvrages en liège; ouvrages de sparterie ou de vannerie	Hout, houtskool en houtwaren; kurk en kurkwaren; vlechtwerk en mandenmakerswerk
X	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof	Pâtes de bois ou d'autres matières fibreuses cellulosiques; papier ou carton à recycler (déchets et rebuts); papier et ses applications	Houtpulp en pulp van andere cellulosehoudende vezelstoffen; papier en karton voor het terugwinnen (resten en afval); papier en karton, alsmede artikelen daarvan

XI	Textiles and textile articles	Matières textiles et ouvrages en ces matières	Textielstoffen en textielwaren
XII	Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking-sticks, seat-sticks, whips, riding-crops and parts thereof; prepared feathers and articles made therewith; artificial flowers; articles of human hair	Chaussures, coiffures, parapluies, parasols, cannes, fouets, cravaches et leurs parties; plumes apprêtées et articles en plumes; fleurs artificielles; ouvrages en cheveux	Schoeisel, hoofddeksels, paraplu's, parasols, wandelstokken, zitstokken, zweepen, rijzweepen, alsmede delen daarvan; geprepareerde veren en artikelen van veren; kunstbloemen; werken van mensenhaar
XIII	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware	Ouvrages en pierres, plâtre, ciment, amiante, mica ou matières analogues; produits céramiques; verre et ouvrages en verre	Werken van steen, van gips, van cement, van asbest, van mica en van dergelijke stoffen; keramische producten; glas en glaswerk
XIV	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin	Perles fines ou de culture, pierres gemmes ou similaires, métaux précieux, plaqués ou doublés de métaux précieux et ouvrages en ces matières; bijouterie de fantaisie; monnaies	Echte en gekweekte parels, edelstenen en halfedelstenen, edele metalen en metalen geplateerd met edele metalen, alsmede werken daarvan; fancybijouterieën; munten
XV	Base metals and articles of base metal	Métaux communs et ouvrages en ces métaux	Onedele metalen en werken daarvan
XVI	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	Machines et appareils, matériel électrique et leurs parties; appareils d'enregistrement ou de reproduction du son, appareils d'enregistrement ou de reproduction des images et du son en télévision, et parties et accessoires de ces appareils	Machines, toestellen en elektrotechnisch materieel, alsmede delen daarvan; toestellen voor het opnemen of het weergeven van geluid, voor het opnemen of het weergeven van beelden en geluid voor televisie, alsmede delen en toebehoren van deze toestellen
XVII	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	Matériel de transport	Vervoermaterieel
XVIII	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; clocks and watches; musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof	Instruments et appareils d'optique, de photographie ou de cinématographie, de mesure, de contrôle ou de précision; instruments et appareils médico-chirurgicaux; horlogerie; instruments de musique; parties et accessoires de ces instruments ou appareils	Optische instrumenten, apparaten en toestellen; instrumenten, apparaten en toestellen, voor de fotografie en de cinematografie; meet-, verificatie-, controle- en precisie-instrumenten, -apparaten en -toestellen; medische en chirurgische instrumenten, appa
XIX	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	Armes, munitions et leurs parties et accessoires	Wapens en munitie; delen en toebehoren daarvan
XX	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	Marchandises et produits divers	Diverse goederen en producten
XXI	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	Objets d'art, de collection ou d'antiquité	Kunstvoorwerpen, voorwerpen voor verzamelingen en antiquiteiten

Annex 2 - Top-15 exported goods - Listed in English, French and Dutch, in descending order of export values

	Top 15-Goods	Top 15-Biens	Top 15-Goederen
8703	Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, incl. station wagons and racing cars (excl. motor vehicles of heading 8702)	Voitures de tourisme et autres véhicules automobiles principalement conçus pour le transport de personnes (autres que ceux du no 8702), y compris les voitures du type 'break' et les voitures de course	Automobielen en andere motorvoertuigen, hoofdzakelijk ontworpen voor personenvervoer, incl. motorvoertuigen van het type 'station-wagon' of 'break' en racewagens (m.u.v. bussen bedoeld bij post 8702)
3003	Medicaments consisting of two or more constituents mixed together for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, not in measured doses or put up for retail sale (excl. goods of heading 3002, 3005 or 3006)	Médicaments (à l'exclusion des produits des nos 3002, 3005 ou 3006) constitués par des produits mélangés entre eux, préparés à des fins thérapeutiques ou prophylactiques, mais ni présentés sous forme de doses, ni conditionnés pour la vente au détail	Geneesmiddelen, bestaande uit voor therapeutisch of profylactisch gebruik vermengde zelfstandigheden (m.u.v. producten bij de posten 3002, 3005 en 3006 en m.u.v. geneesmiddelen in afgemeten hoeveelheden of opgemaakt voor de verkoop in het klein)
3004	Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, put up in measured doses 'incl. those in the form of transdermal administration' or in forms or packings for retail sale (excl. goods of heading 3002, 3005 or 3006)	Médicaments (à l'exclusion des produits des nos 3002, 3005 ou 3006) constitués par des produits mélangés ou non mélangés, préparés à des fins thérapeutiques ou prophylactiques, présentés sous forme de doses (...)	Geneesmiddelen bestaande uit producten, ook indien vermengd, voor therapeutisch of profylactisch gebruik, in afgemeten hoeveelheden 'ook die in de vorm van systemen voor gereguleerde toediening door de huid', dan wel opgemaakt voor de verkoop in het klein
2922	Oxygen-function amino-compounds	Composés aminés à fonctions oxygénées	Aminoverbindingen met zuurstofhoudende groepen
3002	Human blood; animal blood prepared for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic uses; antisera and other blood fractions and immunological products, whether or not modified or obtained by means of biotechnological processes; vaccines, toxins, cultures of micro-organisms (excluding yeasts) and similar products	Sang humain; sang animal préparé en vue d'usages thérapeutiques, prophylactiques ou de diagnostic; antisérums, autres fractions du sang et produits immunologiques, même modifiés ou obtenus par voie biotechnologique; vaccins, toxines, cultures de micro-organismes (à l'exclusion des levures) et produits similaires	Menselijk bloed; dierlijk bloed bereid voor therapeutisch of profylactisch gebruik of voor het stellen van diagnoses; sera van geïmmuniseerde dieren of personen, alsmede andere bloedfracties en immunologische producten, ook indien gewijzigd, al dan niet verkregen door middel van biotechnologische processen; vaccins, toxinen, culturen van micro-organismen (andere dan gist) en dergelijke producten
2933	Heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen hetero-atom[s] only	Composés hétérocycliques à hétéroatome(s) d'azote exclusivement	Heterocyclische verbindingen met uitsluitend één of meer stikstofatomen als hetero-atoom
2935	Sulphonamides	Sulfonamides	Sulfonamidoverbindingen

4001	Natural rubber, balata, gutta-percha, guayule, chicle and similar natural gums, in primary forms or in plates, sheets or strip	Caoutchouc naturel, balata, gutta-percha, guayule, chicle et gommes naturelles analogues, sous formes primaires ou en plaques, feuilles ou bandes	Natuurlijke rubber, balata, gutta-percha, guayule, chicle e.d. natuurlijke gommen, in primaire vormen of in platen, vellen of strippen
3303	Perfumes and toilet waters (excl. aftershave lotions, personal deodorants and hair lotions)	Parfums et eaux de toilette (à l'excl. des préparations pour l'après-rasage [lotions after-shave] et des désodorisants corporels)	Parfums, reuk- en toiletwaters (m.u.v. scheerlotions 'after shave lotions', deodorantia voor lichaamsverzorging en haarlotions)
2620	Slag, ash and residues containing metals, arsenic or their compounds (excl. those from the manufacture of iron or steel)	Scories, cendres et résidus (autres que ceux provenant de la fabrication de la fonte, du fer ou de l'acier) contenant des métaux, de l'arsenic, ou leurs composés	Slakken, assen en residuen die arseen, metaal of metaalverbindingen bevatten (m.u.v. die verkregen bij de vervaardiging van ijzer en staal)
2905	Acyclic alcohols and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives	Alcools acycliques et leurs dérivés halogénés, sulfonés, nitrés ou nitrosés	Alcoholen, acyclisch, alsmede halogeen-, sulfo-, nitro- en nitrosoderivaten daarvan
7108	Gold, incl. gold plated with platinum, unwrought or not further worked than semi-manufactured or in powder form	Or (y compris l'or platiné), sous formes brutes ou mi-ouvrées, ou en poudre	Goud, incl. geplatineerd goud, onbewerkt, halfbewerkt of in poedervorm
8421	Centrifuges, incl. centrifugal dryers (excl. those for isotope separation); filtering or purifying machinery and apparatus, for liquids or gases; parts thereof (excl. artificial kidneys)	Centrifugeuses, y compris lesessoreuses centrifuges; appareils pour la filtration ou l'épuration des liquides ou des gaz	Centrifuges, incl. centrifugaaldrogers (m.u.v. die voor isotopenscheiding); toestellen voor het filtreren of zuiveren van vloeistoffen of van gasen (m.u.v. kunstnieren)
8471	Automatic data-processing machines and units thereof; magnetic or optical readers, machines for transcribing data onto data media in coded form and machines for processing such data, n.e.s.	Machines automatiques de traitement de l'information et leurs unités; lecteurs magnétiques ou optiques, machines de mise d'informations sur support sous forme codée et machines de traitement de ces informations, non dénommés ni compris ailleurs	Automatische gegevens verwerkende machines en eenheden daarvoor; magnetische en optische lezers, machines voor het in gecodeerde vorm op dragers overzetten van gegevens en machines voor het verwerken van die gegevens, n.e.g.
8704	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods, incl. chassis with engine and cab	Véhicules automobiles pour le transport de marchandises	Automobielen voor goederenvervoer, incl. chassis met motor en cabine

Annex 3 - Top-15 imported goods - Listed in English, French and Dutch, in descending order of import value

	Top 15-Goods	Top 15-Biens	Top 15-Goederen
8703	Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, incl. station wagons and racing cars (excl. motor vehicles of heading 8702)	Voitures de tourisme et autres véhicules automobiles principalement conçus pour le transport de personnes (autres que ceux du no 8702), y compris les voitures du type 'break' et les voitures de course	Automobielen en andere motorvoertuigen, hoofdzakelijk ontworpen voor personenvervoer, incl. motorvoertuigen van het type 'station-wagon' of 'break' en racewagens (m.u.v. bussen bedoeld bij post 8702)
3004	Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, put up in measured doses 'incl. those in the form of transdermal administration' or in forms or packings for retail sale (excl. goods of heading 3002, 3005 or 3006)	Médicaments (à l'exclusion des produits des nos 3002, 3005 ou 3006) constitués par des produits mélangés ou non mélangés, préparés à des fins thérapeutiques ou prophylactiques, présentés sous forme de doses (y compris ceux destinés à être administrés par voie percutanée) ou conditionnés pour la vente au détail	Geneesmiddelen bestaande uit producten, ook indien vermengd, voor therapeutisch of profylactisch gebruik, in afgemeten hoeveelheden 'ook die in de vorm van systemen voor gereguleerde toediening door de huid', dan wel opgemaakt voor de verkoop in het klein
8708	Parts and accessories for tractors, motor vehicles for the transport of ten or more persons, motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, motor vehicles for the transport of goods and special purpose motor vehicle	Parties et accessoires des véhicules automobiles des nos 8701 à 8705	Delen en toebehoren van tractors, bussen, automobielen voor personenvervoer en voor goederenvervoer en van automobielen voor bijzondere doeleinden bedoeld bij de posten 8701 tot en met 8705, n.e.g.
8507	Electric accumulators, incl. separators therefor, whether or not square or rectangular; parts thereof (excl. spent and those of unhardened rubber or textiles)	Accumulateurs électriques, y compris leurs séparateurs, même de forme carrée ou rectangulaire	Elektrische accumulators, alsmede scheiplaten daarvoor, ook indien in vierkante of rechthoekige vorm (niet gebruikt en m.u.v. die van niet-geharde gevulkaniseerde rubber of van textiel), alsmede delen daarvan

3002	Human blood; animal blood prepared for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic uses; antisera and other blood fractions and immunological products, whether or not modified or obtained by means of biotechnological processes; vaccines, toxins, cultures of micro-organisms (excluding yeasts) and similar products	Sang humain; sang animal préparé en vue d'usages thérapeutiques, prophylactiques ou de diagnostic; antisérums, autres fractions du sang et produits immunologiques, même modifiés ou obtenus par voie biotechnologique; vaccins, toxines, cultures de micro-organismes (à l'exclusion des levures) et produits similaires	Menselijk bloed; dierlijk bloed bereid voor therapeutisch of profylactisch gebruik of voor het stellen van diagnosen; sera van geïmmuniseerde dieren of personen, alsmede andere bloedfracties en immunologische producten, ook indien gewijzigd, al dan niet verkregen door middel van biotechnologische processen; vaccins, toxinen, culturen van micro-organismen (andere dan gist) en dergelijke producten
8704	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods, incl. chassis with engine and cab	Véhicules automobiles pour le transport de marchandises	Automobielen voor goederenvervoer, incl. chassis met motor en cabine
2935	Sulphonamides	Sulfonamides	Sulfonamidoverbindingen
2710	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (excl. crude); preparations containing >= 70% by weight of petroleum oils or of oils obtained from bituminous minerals, these oils being the basic constituents of the preparations, n.e.s.; waste oi	Huiles de pétrole ou de minéraux bitumineux, autres que les huiles brutes; préparations non dénommées ni comprises ailleurs, contenant en poids 70 % ou plus d'huiles de pétrole ou de minéraux bitumineux et dont ces huiles constituent l'élément de base; dé	Aardolie en olie uit bitumineuze mineralen (m.u.v. ruwe olie); preparaten die >= 70 gewichtspereenten aardolie of olie uit bitumineuze mineralen bevatten en waarvan het karakter door deze olie wordt bepaald, n.e.g.; afvalolie die hoofdzakelijk aardolie en
2933	Heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen hetero-atom[s] only	Composés hétérocycliques à hétéroatome(s) d'azote exclusivement	Heterocyclische verbindingen met uitsluitend één of meer stikstofatomen als hetero-atoom
8517	Telephone sets, incl. telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks; other apparatus for the transmission or reception of voice, images or other data, incl. apparatus for communication in a wired or wireless network [such as a local or w	Postes téléphoniques d'utilisateurs, y compris les téléphones pour réseaux cellulaires et pour autres réseaux sans fil; autres appareils pour l'émission, la transmission ou la réception de la voix, d'images ou d'autres données, y compris les appareils pour la	Telefoontoestellen, daaronder begrepen telefoontoestellen voor cellulair netwerken of voor andere draadloze netwerken; andere toestellen voor het zenden of ontvangen van spraak, van beelden of van andere gegevens, daaronder begrepen toestellen voor de ov
9018	Instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences, incl. scintigraphic apparatus, other electro-medical apparatus and sight-testing instruments, n.e.s.	Instruments et appareils pour la médecine, la chirurgie, l'art dentaire ou l'art vétérinaire, y compris les appareils de scintigraphie et autres appareils électromédicaux ainsi que les appareils pour tests visuels	Instrumenten, apparaten en toestellen voor de geneeskunde, voor de chirurgie, voor de tandheelkunde of voor de veeartsnijkunde, incl. scintigrafische en ander elektromedische apparaten en toestellen, alsmede apparaten en toestellen voor onderzoek van het
8501	Electric motors and generators (excl. generating sets)	Moteurs et machines génératrices, électriques, à l'exclusion des groupes électrogènes	Elektromotoren en elektrische generatoren (m.u.v. generatoraggregaten)

8471	Automatic data-processing machines and units thereof; magnetic or optical readers, machines for transcribing data onto data media in coded form and machines for processing such data, n.e.s.	Machines automatiques de traitement de l'information et leurs unités; lecteurs magnétiques ou optiques, machines de mise d'informations sur support sous forme codée et machines de traitement de ces informations, non dénomés ni compris ailleurs	Automatische gegevens verwerkende machines en eenheden daarvoor; magnetische en optische lezers, machines voor het in gecodeerde vorm op dragers overzetten van gegevens en machines voor het verwerken van die gegevens, n.e.g.
8475	Machines for assembling electric or electronic lamps, tubes or valves or flashbulbs, in glass envelopes; machines for manufacturing or hot working glass or glassware (excl. furnaces and heating apparatus for manufacturing toughened glass); parts thereof	Machines pour l'assemblage des lampes, tubes ou valves électriques ou électroniques ou des lampes pour la production de la lumière-éclair, qui comportent une enveloppe en verre; machines pour la fabrication ou le travail à chaud du verre ou des ouvrages e	Machines voor het samenstellen van elektrische of elektronische lampen of buizen of van flitslampen, met een omhulling van glas; machines voor het vervaardigen van of voor het warm bewerken van glas of van glaswerk (m.u.v. ovens en m.u.v. verwarmingstoest
6204	Women's or girls' suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts (excl. knitted or crocheted, wind-jackets and similar articles, slips, petticoats and panties, tracksuits, ski sui	Costumes tailleurs, ensembles, vestes, robes, jupes, jupes-culottes, pantalons, salopettes à bretelles, culottes et shorts (autres que pour le bain), pour femmes ou fillettes	Mantelpakken, broekpakken, ensembles, blazers en andere jasjes, japonnen, rokken, broekrokken, lange en korte broeken en zgn. Amerikaanse overalls, voor dames of voor meisjes (m.u.v. die van brei- of haakwerk en m.u.v. anoraks, blousons e.d. artikelen, on

Annex 4 - Codes ISO-alpha2 Ranking by country

Country	Code	Country	Code	Country	Code	Country	Code
Afghanistan	AF	British Virgin Islands	VG	Dominican Republic	DO	Heard Island and Mcdonald Islands	HM
Albania	AL	Brunei Darussalam	BN	East Timor	TL	Honduras	HN
Algeria	DZ	Bulgaria	BG	Ecuador	EC	Hong Kong	HK
American Samoa	AS	Burkina Faso	BF	Egypt	EG	Hungary	HU
Andorra	AD	Burundi	BI	El Salvador	SV	Iceland	IS
Angola	AO	Cambodia	KH	Equatorial Guinea	GQ	India	IN
Anguilla	AI	Cameroon	CM	Eritrea	ER	Indonesia	ID
Antarctica	AQ	Canada	CA	Estonia	EE	Iran	IR
Antigua and Barbuda	AG	Cape Verde	CV	Ethiopia	AND	Iraq	IQ
Argentina	AR	Cayman Islands	KY	Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	FK	Ireland	IE
Armenia	AM	Central Africa	CF	Faroe Islands	FO	Israel	IL
Aruba	AW	Ceuta	XC	Fiji	FJ	Italy	IT
Australia	AU	Chad	TD	Finland	FI	Ivory Coast	CI
Austria	AT	Chile	CL	France	FR	Jamaica	JM
Azerbaijan	AZ	China, People's Republic of	CN	French Polynesia	PF	Japan	JP
Bahamas	BS	Christmas Island	CX	French Southern Territories	TF	Jordan	JO
Bahrain	BH	Cocos (Keeling) Islands	CC	Gabon	GA	Kazakhstan	KZ
Bangladesh	BD	Colombia	CO	Gambia	GM	Kenya	KE
Barbados	BB	Comoros	KM	Georgia	GE	Kiribati	KI
Belarus	BY	Congo, Democratic Republic of	CD	Germany	DE	Kosovo	XK
Belize	BZ	Congo, Republic of the	CG	Ghana	GH	Kuwait	KW
Benin	BJ	Cook Islands	CK	Gibraltar	GI	Kyrgyzstan	KG
Bermuda	BM	Costa Rica	CR	Greece	GR	Laos	LA
Bhutan	BT	Croatia	HR	Greenland	GL	Latvia	LV
Bolivia	BO	Cuba	CU	Grenada	GD	Lebanon	LB
Bonaire, Saint Eustatius and Saba	BQ	Curaçao	CW	Guam	GU	Lesotho	LS
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BA	Cyprus	CY	Guatemala	GT	Liberia	LR
Botswana	BW	Czech Republic	CZ	Guinea	GN	Libya	LY
Bouvet Island	BV	Denmark	DK	Guinea-Bissau	GW	Liechtenstein	LI
Brazil	BR	Djibouti	DJ	Guyana	GY	Lithuania	LT
British Indian Ocean Territory	IO	Dominica	DM	Haiti	HT	Luxembourg	LU

Country	Code	Country	Code	Country	Code	Country	Code
Macao	MO	North Korea	KP	Senegal	SN	Trinidad and Tobago	TT
Madagascar	MG	North Macedonia, Republic of	MK	Serbia	XS	Tunisia	TN
Malawi	MW	Northern Mariana Islands	MP	Seychelles	SC	Turkey	TR
Malaysia	MY	Norway	NO	Sierra Leone	SL	Turkmenistan	TM
Maldives	MV	Oman	OM	Singapore	SG	Turks and Caicos Islands	TC
Mali	ML	Pakistan	PK	Sint Maarten (Dutch Part)	SX	Tuvalu	TV
Malta	MT	Palau	PW	Slovakia	SK	Uganda	UG
Marshall Islands	MH	Palestinian Territory, Occupied	PS	Slovenia	SI	Ukraine	UA
Mauritania	MR	Panama	PA	Solomon Islands	SB	United Arab Emirates	AE
Mauritius	MU	Papua New Guinea	PG	Somalia	SO	United Kingdom	GB
Melilla	XL	Paraguay	PY	South Africa	ZA	United States	US
Mexico	MX	Peru	PE	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands	GS	United States Minor Outlying Islands	UM
Micronesia	FM	Philippines	PH	South Korea	KR	Uruguay	UY
Moldova, Republic of	MD	Pitcairn	PN	South Sudan	SS	Uzbekistan	UZ
Mongolia	MN	Poland	PL	Spain	ES	Vanuatu	VU
Montenegro	ME	Portugal	PT	Sri Lanka	LK	Vatican City	VA
Montserrat	MS	Qatar	QA	Sudan	SD	Venezuela	VE
Morocco	MA	Romania	RO	Suriname	SR	Vietnam	VN
Mozambique	MZ	Russia	RU	Swaziland	SZ	Virgin Islands of the United States	VI
Myanmar	MM	Rwanda	RW	Sweden	SE	Wallis and Futuna	WF
Namibia	NA	Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha	SH	Sudan	SD	Western Sahara	EH
Nauru	NR	Saint Kitts and Nevis	KN	Suriname	SR	Yemen	YE
Nepal	NP	Saint Lucia	LC	Swaziland	SZ	Zambia	ZM
New Caledonia	NC	Saint Pierre and Miquelon	PM	Sweden	SE	Zimbabwe	ZW
New Zealand	NZ	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	VC	Tanzania	TZ		
Nicaragua	NI	Saint-Barthélemy	BL	Thailand	TH		
Niger	NE	Samoa	WS	The Netherlands	NL		
Nigeria	NG	San Marino	SM	Togo	TG		
Niue	NU	Sao Tome and Principe	ST	Tokelau	TK		
Norfolk Island	NF	Saudi Arabia	SA	Tonga	TO		

Ranking by code

Code	Country	Code	Country	Code	Country	Code	Country
AD	Andorra	BW	Botswana	ER	Eritrea	IE	Ireland
AE	United Arab Emirates	BY	Belarus	ES	Spain	IL	Israel
AF	Afghanistan	BZ	Belize	AND	Ethiopia	IN	India
AG	Antigua and Barbuda	CA	Canada	FI	Finland	IO	British Indian Ocean Territory
AI	Anguilla	CC	Cocos (Keeling) Islands	FJ	Fiji	IQ	Iraq
AL	Albania	CD	Congo, Democratic Republic of	FK	Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	IR	Iran
AM	Armenia	CF	Central Africa	FM	Micronesia	IS	Iceland
AO	Angola	CG	Congo, Republic of the	FO	Faroe Islands	IT	Italy
AQ	Antarctica	CH	Switzerland	FR	France	JM	Jamaica
AR	Argentina	CI	Ivory Coast	GA	Gabon	JO	Jordan
AS	American Samoa	CK	Cook Islands	GB	United Kingdom	JP	Japan
AT	Austria	CL	Chile	GD	Grenada	KE	Kenya
AU	Australia	CM	Cameroon	GE	Georgia	KG	Kyrgyzstan
AW	Aruba	CN	China, People's Republic of	GH	Ghana	KH	Cambodia
AZ	Azerbaijan	CO	Colombia	GI	Gibraltar	KI	Kiribati
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	CR	Costa Rica	GL	Greenland	KM	Comoros
BB	Barbados	CU	Cuba	GM	Gambia	KN	Saint Kitts and Nevis
BD	Bangladesh	CV	Cape Verde	GN	Guinea	KP	North Korea
BF	Burkina Faso	CW	Curaçao	GQ	Equatorial Guinea	KR	South Korea
BG	Bulgaria	CX	Christmas Island	GR	Greece	KW	Kuwait
BH	Bahrain	CY	Cyprus	GS	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands	KY	Cayman Islands
BI	Burundi	CZ	Czech Republic	GT	Guatemala	KZ	Kazakhstan
BJ	Benin	DE	Germany	GU	Guam	LA	Laos
BL	Saint-Barthélemy	DJ	Djibouti	GW	Guinea-Bissau	LB	Lebanon
BM	Bermuda	DK	Denmark	GY	Guyana	LC	Saint Lucia
BN	Brunei Darussalam	DM	Dominica	HK	Hong Kong	LI	Liechtenstein
BO	Bolivia	DO	Dominican Republic	HM	Heard Island and McDonald Islands	LK	Sri Lanka
BQ	Bonaire, Saint Eustatius and Saba	DZ	Algeria	HN	Honduras	LR	Liberia
BR	Brazil	EC	Ecuador	HR	Croatia	LS	Lesotho
BS	Bahamas	EE	Estonia	HT	Haiti	LT	Lithuania
BT	Bhutan	EG	Egypt	HU	Hungary	LU	Luxembourg
BV	Bouvet Island	EH	Western Sahara	ID	Indonesia	LV	Latvia

Code	Country	Code	Country	Code	Country	Code	Country
LY	Libya	NP	Nepal	SI	Slovenia	TZ	Tanzania
MA	Morocco	NR	Nauru	SK	Slovakia	UA	Ukraine
MD	Moldova, Republic of	NU	Niue	SL	Sierra Leone	UG	Uganda
ME	Montenegro	NZ	New Zealand	SM	San Marino	UM	United States Minor Outlying Islands
MG	Madagascar	OM	Oman	SN	Senegal	US	United States
MH	Marshall Islands	PA	Panama	SO	Somalia	UY	Uruguay
MK	North Macedonia, Republic of	PE	Peru	SR	Suriname	UZ	Uzbekistan
ML	Mali	PF	French Polynesia	SS	South Sudan	VA	Vatican City
MM	Myanmar	PG	Papua New Guinea	ST	Sao Tome and Principe	VC	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
MN	Mongolia	PH	Philippines	SV	El Salvador	VE	Venezuela
MO	Macao	PK	Pakistan	SX	Sint Maarten (Dutch Part)	VG	British Virgin Islands
MP	Northern Mariana Islands	PL	Poland	SY	Syria	VI	Virgin Islands of the United States
MR	Mauritania	PM	Saint Pierre and Miquelon	SZ	Swaziland	VN	Vietnam
MS	Montserrat	PN	Pitcairn	TC	Turks and Caicos Islands	VU	Vanuatu
MT	Malta	PS	Palestinian Territory, Occupied	TD	Chad	WF	Wallis and Futuna
MU	Mauritius	PT	Portugal	TF	French Southern Territories	WS	Samoa
MV	Maldives	PW	Palau	TG	Togo	XC	Ceuta
MW	Malawi	PY	Paraguay	TH	Thailand	XK	Kosovo
MX	Mexico	QA	Qatar	TJ	Tajikistan	XL	Melilla
MY	Malaysia	RO	Romania	TK	Tokelau	XS	Serbia
MZ	Mozambique	RU	Russia	TL	East Timor	YE	Yemen
NA	Namibia	RW	Rwanda	SX	Sint Maarten (Dutch Part)	ZA	South Africa
NC	New Caledonia	SA	Saudi Arabia	TM	Turkmenistan	ZM	Zambia
NE	Niger	SB	Solomon Islands	TN	Tunisia	ZW	Zimbabwe
NF	Norfolk Island	SC	Seychelles	TO	Tonga		
NG	Nigeria	SD	Sudan	TR	Turkey		
NI	Nicaragua	SE	Sweden	TT	Trinidad and Tobago		
NL	The Netherlands	SG	Singapore	TV	Tuvalu		
NO	Norway	SH	Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha	TW	Taiwan		

