



SHIHO SUGIMOTO - APRIL 2025

TRADE OF GOODS AND SERVICES BETWEEN THE EU MEMBER STATES AND JAPAN 2024



EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation
一般財団法人 日欧産業協力センター



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ABOUT EUBIJ MARKET REPORTS

The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation is a joint venture established in 1987 by the European Commission and the Japanese Government for promoting all forms of industrial, trade and investment cooperation between the EU and Japan.

The “**EU Business in Japan**” support provides practical information for European Union businesses and organizations in need of guidelines to trade with or invest in Japan, or cooperate with Japanese partners.

Over 500 reports and webinars are available, spanning from presentations of Japanese business and industrial sectors, regulations, and insights of Japanese business culture to help EU companies succeed in Japan.

EU Business in JAPAN

Report by

Shiho Sugimoto

Ruhr University Bochum

Master's programme in European Culture and Economy

[linkedin.com/in/shiho-sugimoto-731597255](https://www.linkedin.com/in/shiho-sugimoto-731597255)

Contact us

EU-JAPAN CENTRE FOR INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION – Office in the EU

Rue Marie de Bourgogne, 52
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 282 0040

Email: office@eu-japan.eu

Website: <https://www.eu-japan.eu>

EU-JAPAN CENTRE FOR INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION – Head office in Japan

Shirokane-Takanawa Station bldg 4F
1-27-6 Shirokane, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 108-0072, Japan

Tel: +81 (0)3 6408 0281

Fax: +81 (0)3 6408 0283

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Based on statistics from the Japanese Ministry of Finance, this report provides an overview of trade relations between the EU and Japan in 2024. Alongside various agreements and cooperation efforts, the EU and Japan have maintained a strong bilateral trade relationship, with Japan ranking as the EU's second-largest trading partner in Asia, after China¹.

One of the most significant agreements shaping EU-Japan relations is the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)². That entered into force on 1 February 2019, marking a major step in facilitating trade between the two economies. In the past, EU firms faced trade barriers when exporting to Japan, which made it difficult for them to compete. The EPA has addressed these challenges by removing tariffs and other trade barriers, creating a platform for cooperation to prevent obstacles to trade, and helping to shape global trade rules in line with high standards and shared values. 2024 marked the 5th anniversary of the agreement.

The report covers key aspects such as the trade balance between the two economies, for both goods and services; the ratio of EU-Japan EPA usage; and the identification of main EU Member States trading partners of Japan. It then provides a country-by-country examination of trade between Japan and each Member States, along with a detailed breakdown of traded goods by category. Additionally, the report highlights key bilateral agreements and commemorative events achieved in 2024, reflecting broader economic and diplomatic engagements between Japan and the EU Member States.

As the report is based on Japanese statistics, all values will be expressed in Japanese yen. The average exchange rate between the euro and the Japanese yen was:

In 2023: EUR 1 = JPY 161.45

In 2024: EUR 1 = JPY 163.85

The European Commission annually releases a report titled “European Union, Trade in goods with Japan”, expressed in Euro and covering the past decade providing the EU point of view of trade between the two economies.

The pdf version of the 2023 report is available here:

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/isdb_results/factsheets/country/details_japan_en.pdf

¹ European Commission. *Trade and Economic Security: Japan*.

https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/japan_en

² European Commission. *EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement*.

https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/japan/eu-japan-agreement_en



EUROPEAN UNION AND JAPAN

European Union

Population 1st Jan. 24: 448,387,872 (-0,1%)

Nominal GDP: 17,935,522 million € (+4,3%)

Real GDP growth rate: +1%

Japan

Population 1st Jan. 24: 124,143,000 (-0,5%)

Nominal GDP: 609,4 trillion yen (+3%)

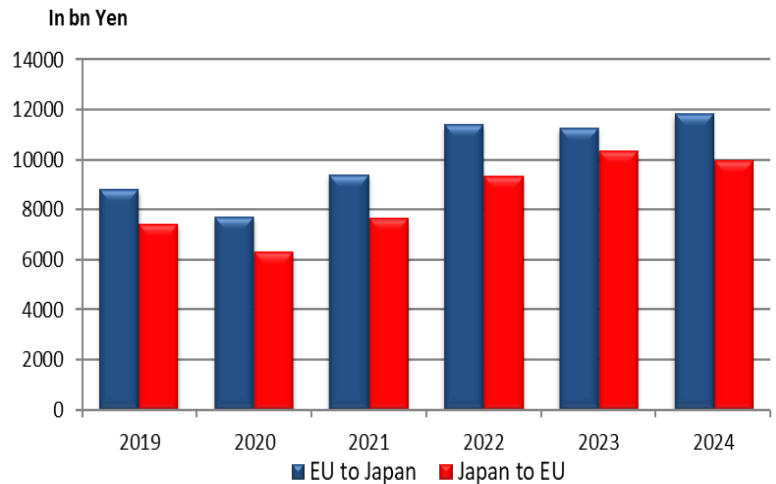
Real GDP growth rate: +0,1%

In 2024, the EU exports to Japan experienced a rise by 5% to 11,862 billion yen, following a 1% decline in 2023. Meanwhile, Japan's exports to the EU fell by 4%, reaching a total of 9,966 billion yen.

EU's main exports consisted of machinery & transport equipment (33,1%), which grew by 4%, chemicals (29,6%), which saw a 5% rise, and miscellaneous articles (16,1%), which experienced a significant 14% increase compared to the previous year.

Japan mostly exported machinery & transport equipment (62%), which declined by 9%, chemicals (11,9%), which increased by 8%, and miscellaneous articles (7,9%), which fell by 8%.

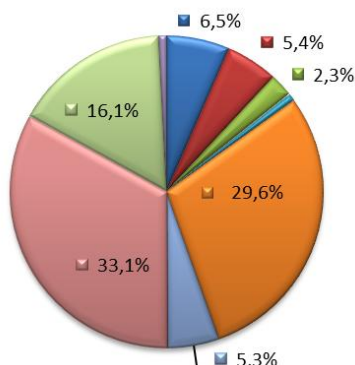
Trade between the EU-27 and Japan



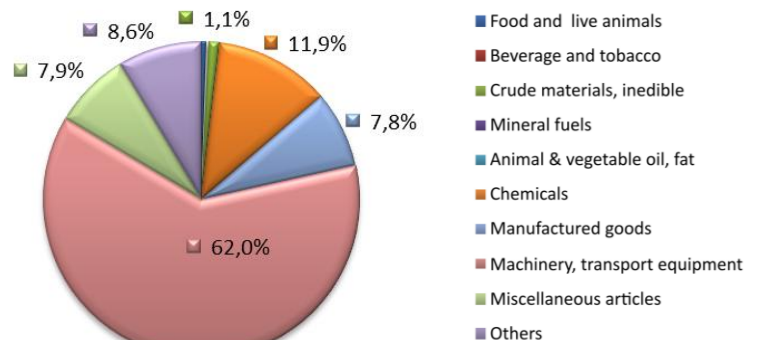
The EU-Japan relationship in 2024 was highlighted by significant milestones:

- The 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities in Tokyo³.
- In April, the signature of a Memorandum of Cooperation on digital identities and trust services⁴.
- In July, a deal on data flows entered into force⁵.
- In November, the Japan-EU Security and Defence Partnership was released⁶.

EU exports to Japan



Japan exports to EU



³ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan/50th-anniversary-eu-japan-relationship-explained_en?s=169

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_2371

⁵ https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-japan-deal-data-flows-enters-force-2024-07-01_en

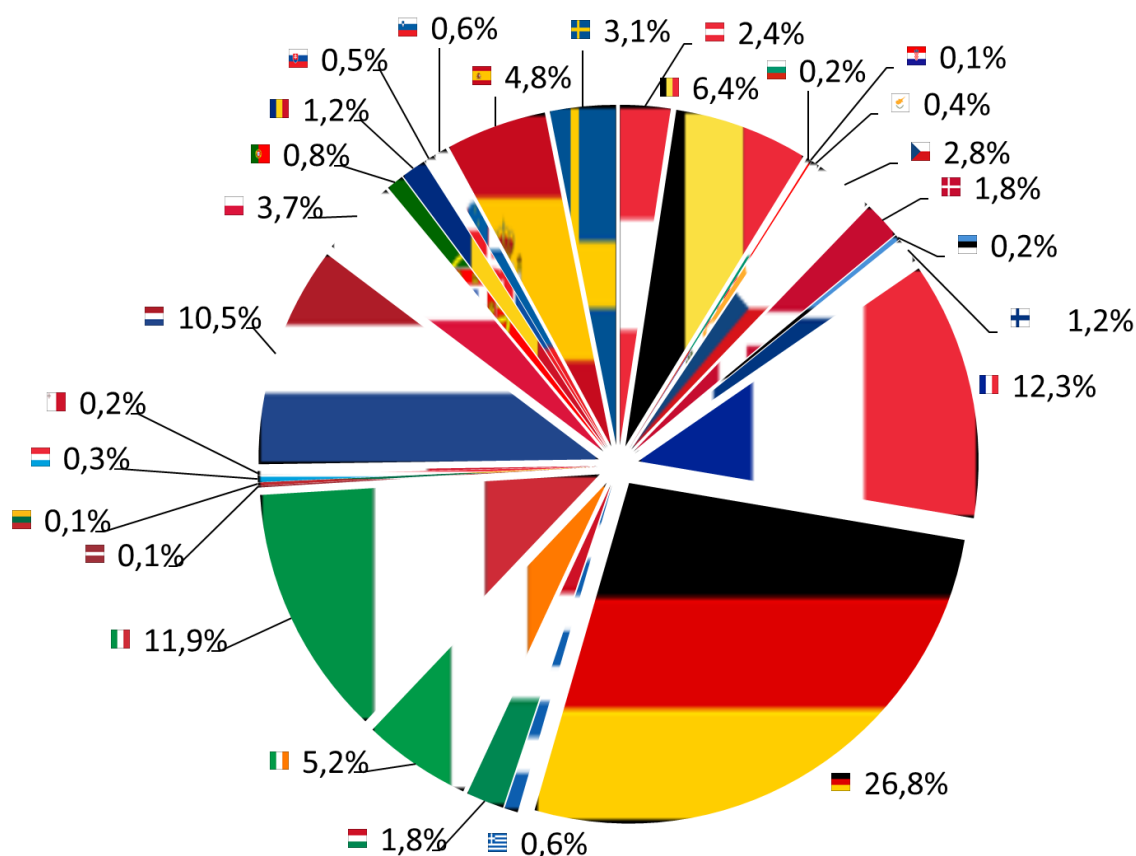
⁶ https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00703.html

EU MEMBERS STATES AND JAPAN

Main EU partners (2024)

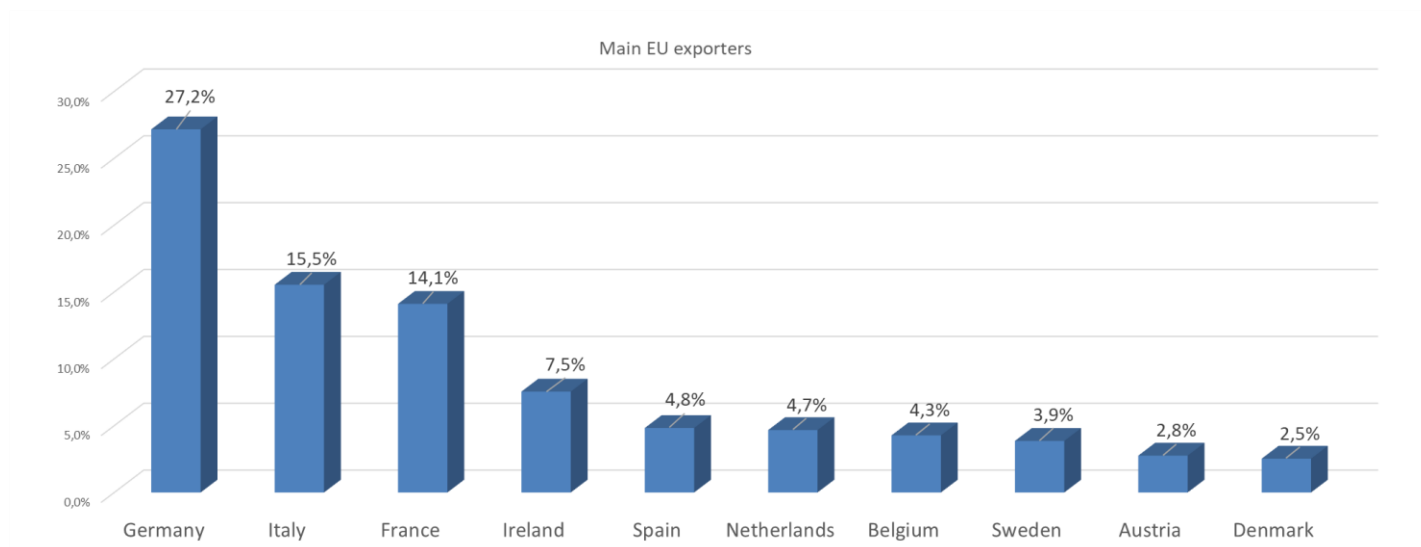
(In % of the total EU trade with Japan)

1. Germany (26,8%) same ranking as 2023	6. Ireland (5,2%) up one place from 2023
2. France (12,3%) up one place from 2023	7. Spain (4,8%) down one place from 2023
3. Italy (11,9%) down one place from 2023	8. Poland (3,7%) same ranking as 2023
4. The Netherlands (10,5%) same ranking as 2023	9. Sweden (3,1%) same ranking as 2023
5. Belgium (6,4%) same ranking as 2023	10. Czechia (2,8%) up one place from 2023



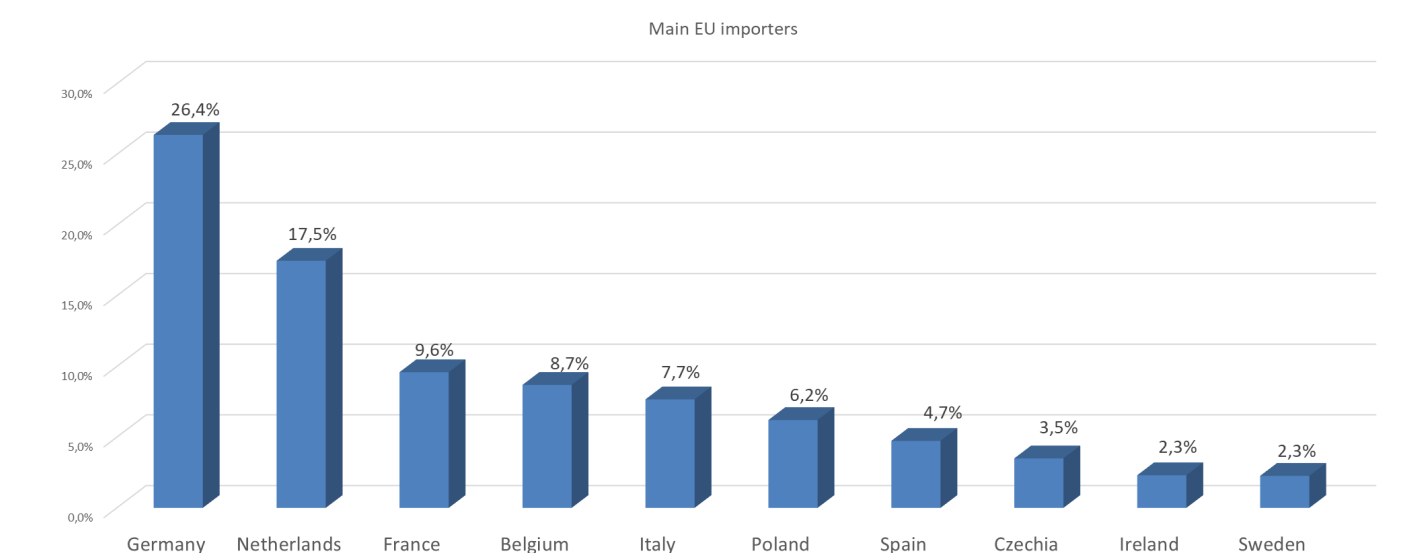
Main EU exporters (2024)

(In % of the total EU export to Japan)



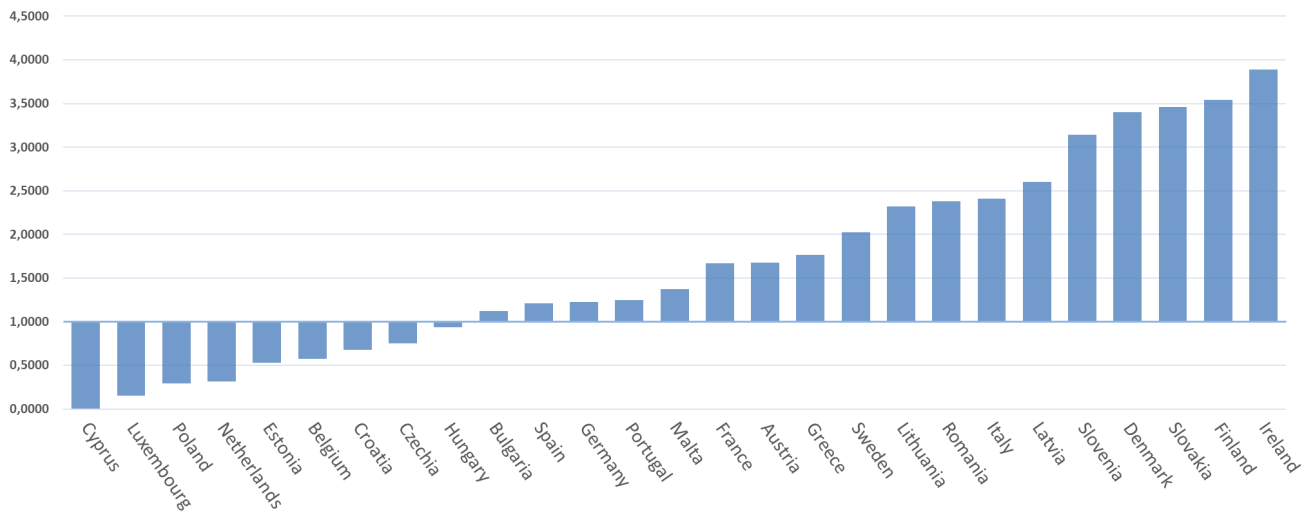
Main EU importers (2024)

(In % of the total EU imports from Japan)



Balance of trade Member States – Japan: export to import ratio (2024)

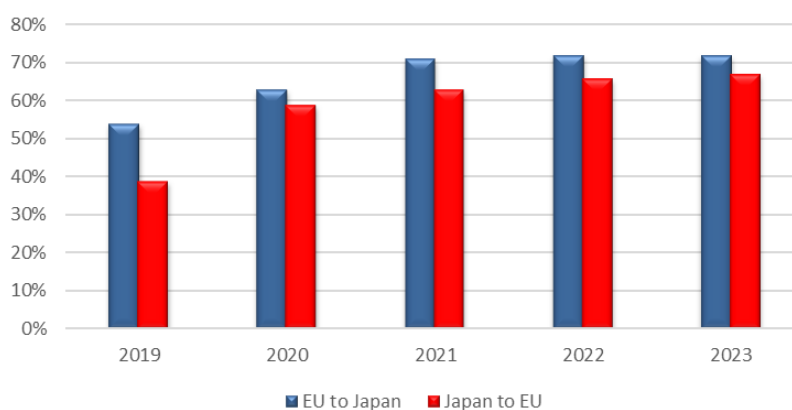
This graph represents the export to import ratio between the EU Member States and Japan in 2024.



Values higher than 1 indicate a positive trade balance whereas values smaller than 1 indicate a negative trade balance.

According to the data, more than half of the EU countries recorded a positive trade balance with Japan in 2024. Several nations that had a negative trade balance in 2023, including Bulgaria and Portugal, shifted to a positive trade balance. Cyprus remained the EU country with the lowest exports to Japan. Ireland recorded a highly positive trade balance, moving up from its third position of 2023, while Finland, Slovakia, and Denmark also reflected a strong trade surplus.

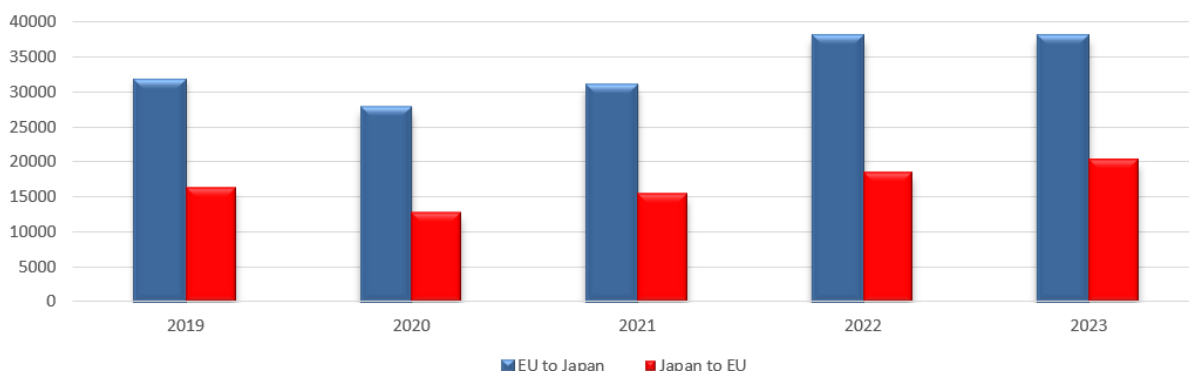
Ratio of EU-Japan EPA usage (2019-2023)



On 17 July 2018, the EU and Japan signed an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the biggest trade agreement ever negotiated by the EU. The agreement entered into force in 2019 and is expected to eliminate trade duties on 99% of goods exported between the two areas within 15 years from its entry into force. This graph shows yearly ratio of EPA usage between 2019 and 2023. As shown above, the utilization of the EPA in both the EU's exports to Japan and Japan's exports to the EU has been increasing steadily since 2019.

Trade in services between the EU and Japan (2019-2023)

in million euro

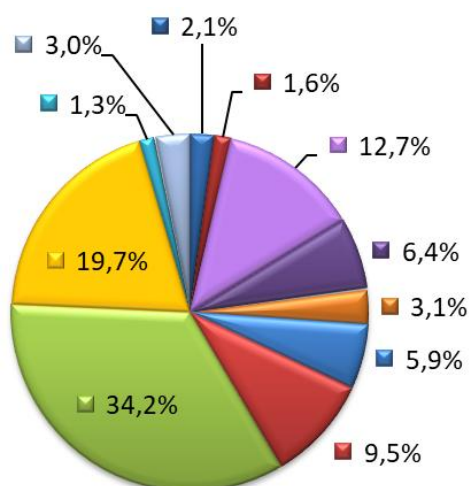


This graph illustrates the trade in services between the EU and Japan between 2019 and 2023⁷, measured in millions of euros. Since 2020, the exchange of services between the two economies showed a positive trend. In 2023, the EU's exports to Japan remained stable at 37,974 million euros. In contrast, Japan's exports to the EU totalled 20,346 million euros, marking a 10% growth.

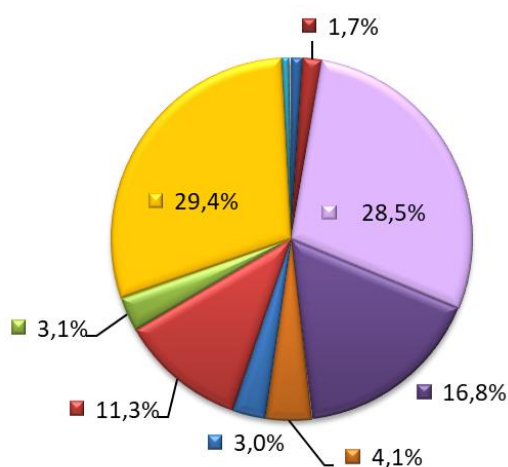
In 2023, EU's main service exports to Japan included telecommunications, computer, and IT services (34,2%) with an increase of 8,1% compared to 2022, other business services (19,7%) which decreased by 16,8%, and transport services (12,7%), which saw a 21,6% decline.

Japan's service exports to the EU were led by other business services (29,4%), transport services (28,5%), which dropped by 17,9%, and travel services (16,8%), which experienced a significant rise of 398,7% recovering from the Covid period turbulences.

EU exports to Japan



Japan exports to EU



- Services: Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others
- Services: Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.
- Services: Transport
- Services: Travel
- Services: Construction
- Services: Insurance and pension services
- Services: Financial services
- Services: Charges for the use of intellectual property
- Services: Telecommunications, computer, and IT
- Services: Other business services
- Services: Personal, cultural, and recreational services
- Services: Government goods and services
- Services: Services not allocated

⁷ At the time of release, data for 2024 were not available



AUSTRIA

Area: 83,870 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 9,158,750 (+0,6%)
Capital: Vienna

Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 481,940 million € (+1,3%)
GDP per capita: 52,490 € (+1,3%)
Real GDP growth rate: -1,2%

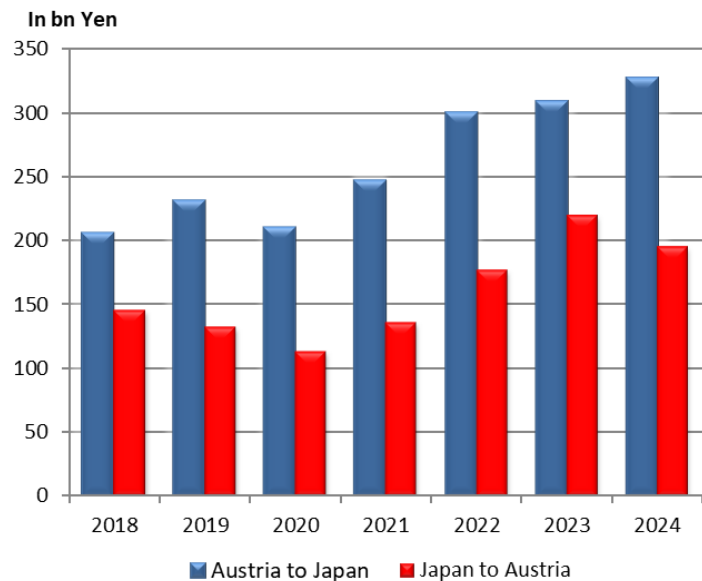
In 2024, Austrian exports grew to 327,2 billion yen, marking a 5,8% increase compared to 2023. In contrast, Japan's exports, which had been rising from 2020 to 2023, saw a significant decline of 11,2%, falling to 195,6 billion yen.

Austria's key exports included machinery & transport equipment (62,7%), which rose by 11,6%, chemicals (11,3%), which increased by 6,1%, and manufactured goods (10%), which experienced a decline of 2,6%.

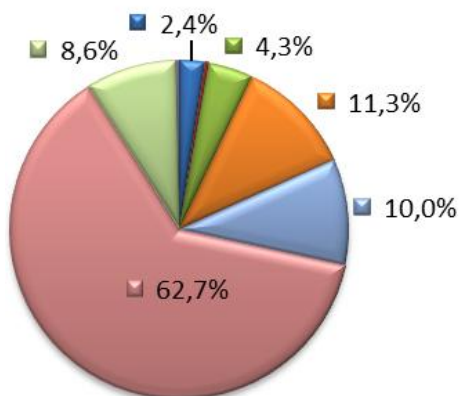
Japan's primary exports remained machinery & transport equipment (62,8%), which dropped by 16,2%, chemicals (22,8%), which saw a notable rise of 23,8%, and manufactured goods (6,6%), which declined significantly by 43,9%.

In January, the Agreement between Japan and Austria on Social Security was signed in Tokyo⁸.

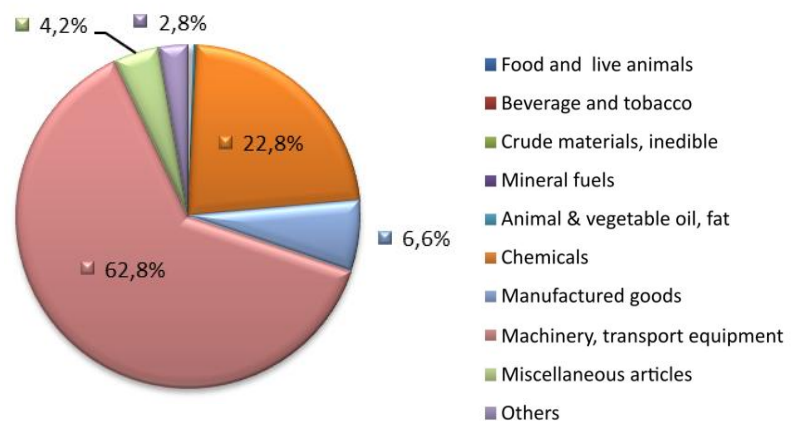
Trade between Austria and Japan



Austria exports to Japan



Japan exports to Austria



⁸ https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00104.html



BELGIUM

Area: 30,528km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 11,832,049 (+0,8%)
Capital: Brussels

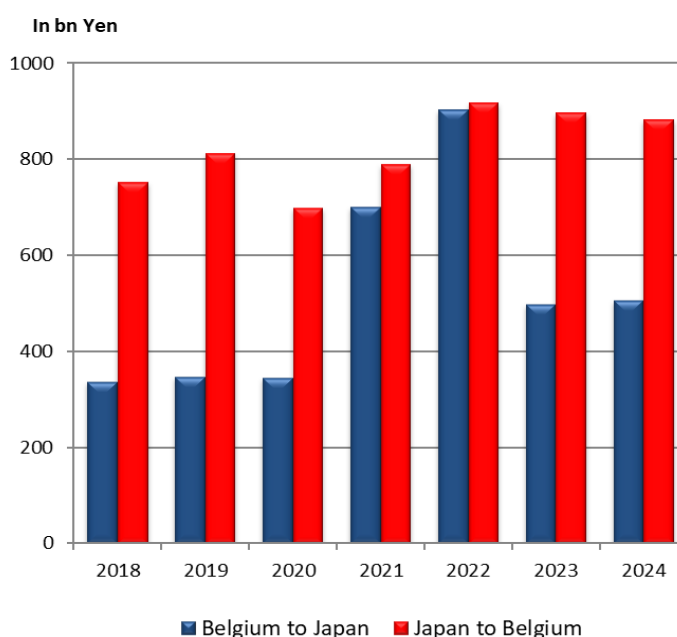
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 614,538 million € (+3,1%)
GDP per capita: 51,860 € (+2,4%)
Real GDP growth rate: +1%

In 2024, the value of Japan's exports to Belgium decreased by 1,7% compared to 2023, amounting to 883 billion yen, alongside Belgium's exports, which increased slightly by 1,5%, reaching 506,8 billion yen.

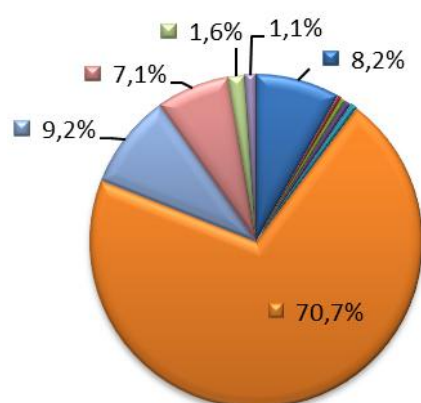
Belgium's main exports remained chemicals (70,7%) with a rise of 10,8%, and manufactured goods (9,2%), which declined by 16,4%. Machinery & transport equipment had seen high export numbers in 2023, but it dropped by 36,1%. Instead, the food and live animals sector accounted for 8,2% of total exports, despite a decrease of 3,4% compared to 2023.

Japan's main export sectors included machinery & transport equipment (57,5%) with a decrease of 8,5%, chemicals (15,7%), and manufactured goods (8,9%).

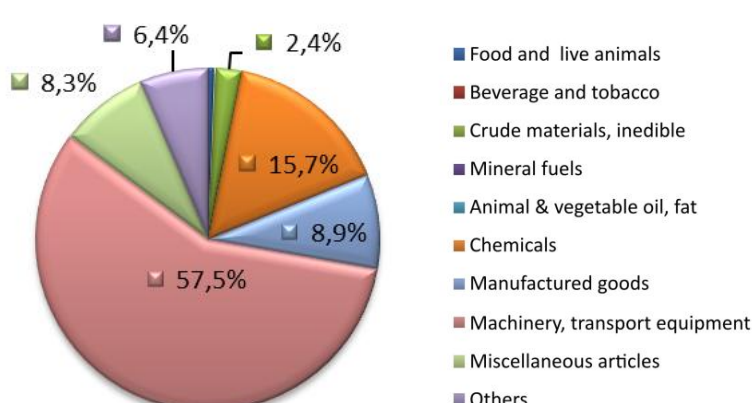
Trade between Belgium and Japan



Belgium exports to Japan



Japan exports to Belgium





BULGARIA

Area: 111,910 km²

Population 1st Jan. 24: 6,445,481 (-0,03%)

Capital: Sofia

Monetary unit: Lev (лв)

Nominal GDP: 103,723 million € (+9,5%)

GDP per capita: 16,110 € (+9,7%)

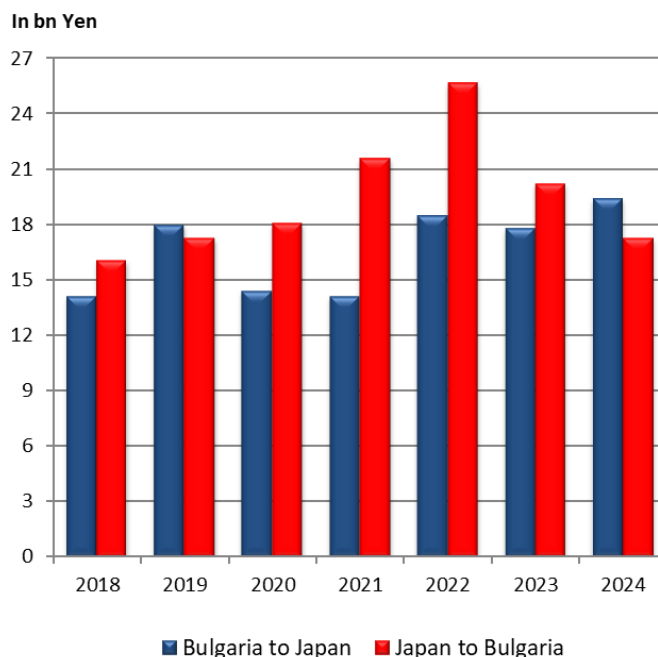
Real GDP growth rate: +2,8%

In 2024, the trade dynamic between Bulgaria and Japan shifted. Since 2020, Japan's exports had consistently surpassed Bulgaria's, but this trend reversed this year. Bulgarian exports totalled 19,4 billion yen, marking a 9% increase compared to 2023, whereas Japanese exports declined by 14,4%, reaching 17,3 billion yen.

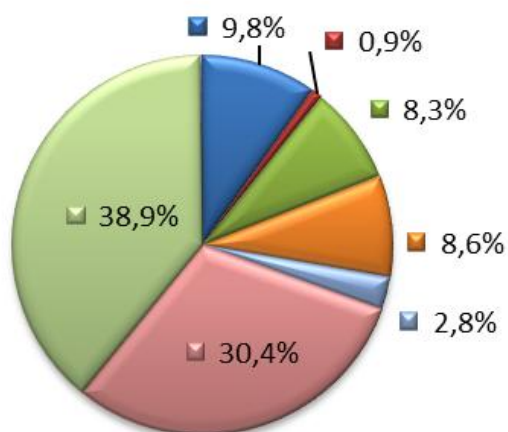
Bulgaria's main exports were miscellaneous articles, accounting for 38,9% of total exports and rising by 2,2%, followed by machinery & transport equipment at 30,4%, which saw a 12,1% increase. In contrast, food and live animals made up 9,8% of exports but experienced a 13% decline.

More than half of Japan's exports consisted of machinery & transport equipment (53%), which fell by 20,8% compared to the previous year. Other key exports, such as miscellaneous articles (15%), manufactured goods (10,7%), and chemicals (10%), saw an increase from 2023.

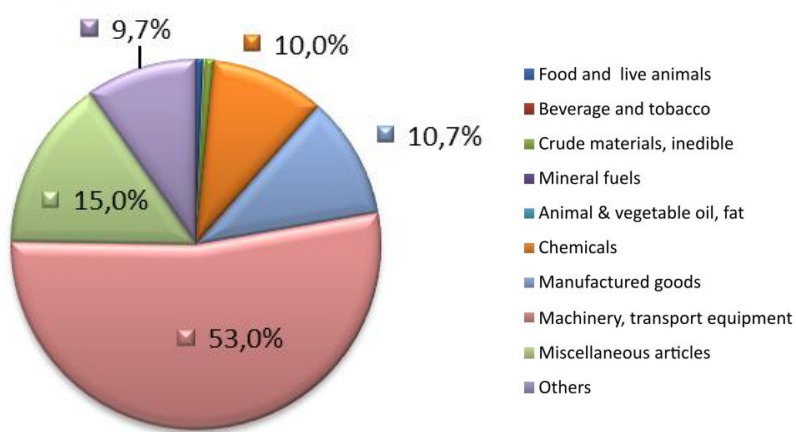
Trade between Bulgaria and Japan



Bulgaria exports to Japan



Japan exports to Bulgaria





CROATIA

Area: 56,594 km²

Population 1st Jan. 24: 3,861,967 (+0,3%)

Capital: Zagreb

Monetary unit: Euro (€)

Nominal GDP: 85,482 million € (+9,5%)

GDP per capita: 21,710 € (+9,6%)

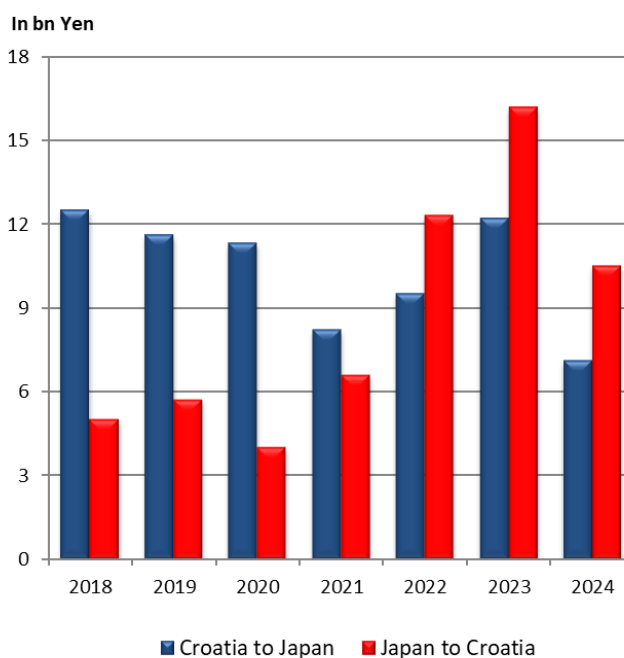
Real GDP growth rate: +3,8%

In 2024, Croatian exports declined by 41,8%, reaching 7 billion yen, while Japanese exports dropped by 35,2%, amounting to 10,5 billion yen. In recent years, both countries had seen rising export trends, but this year marked a significant downturn.

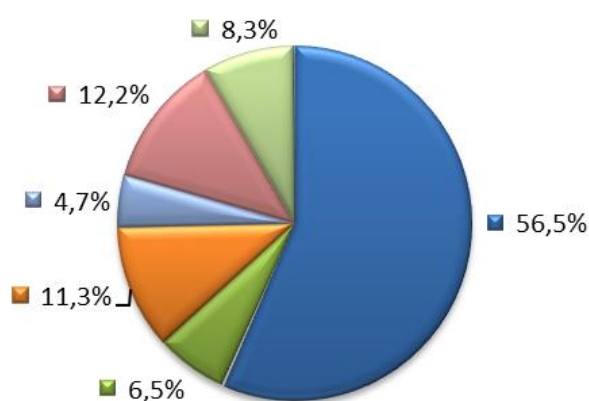
More than half of Croatia's exports to Japan consisted of food and live animals, accounting for 56,5% of total exports. While chemicals had ranked as the second-largest export sector in 2023, it fell to third place in 2024 as the export of machinery & transport equipment (12,2%) saw a significant increase by 28,5%.

Japan's exports were primarily composed of machinery & transport equipment (54,2%) and manufactured goods (31,8%), both of which experienced notable declines of 44,6% and 18,3% respectively.

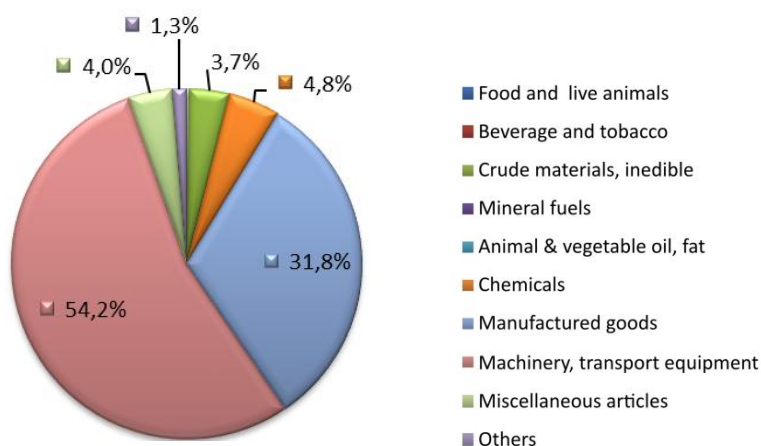
Trade between Croatia and Japan



Croatia exports to Japan



Japan exports to Croatia





CYPRUS

Area: 9,016 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 933,505 (+1,4%)
Capital: Nicosia

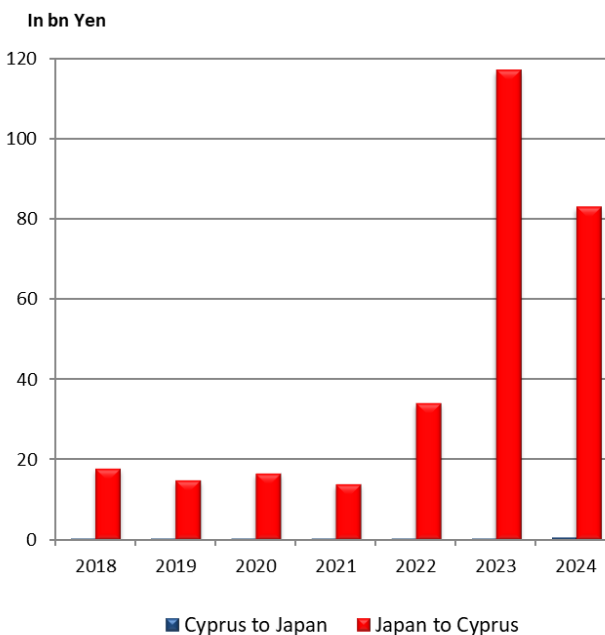
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 33,414 million € (+6,6%)
GDP per capita: 34,340 € (+5%)
Real GDP growth rate: +3,4%

In 2024, Cyprus's exports to Japan nearly doubled, reaching 0,4 billion yen, while Japan's exports declined by 29%, reaching 83 billion yen.

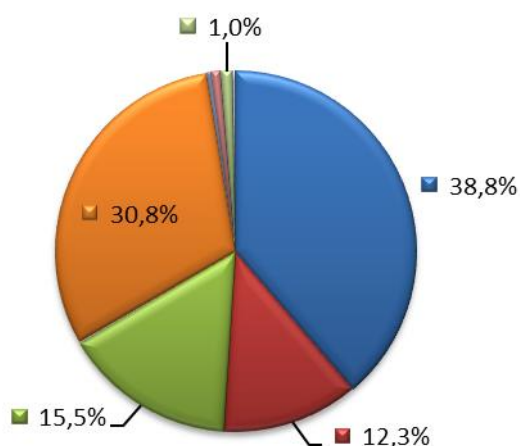
Cyprus's main exports included food and live animals, which accounted for 38,8% of total exports, and chemicals (30,8%), which saw a significant rise of 78,6%. Additionally, crude materials and inedible items experienced a notable increase compared to 2023, making up 15,5% of total exports.

71% of Japan's exports to Cyprus consisted of machinery & transport equipment, which fell by 41,7% in value, while other goods (27,6%) continued their steady growth in recent years.

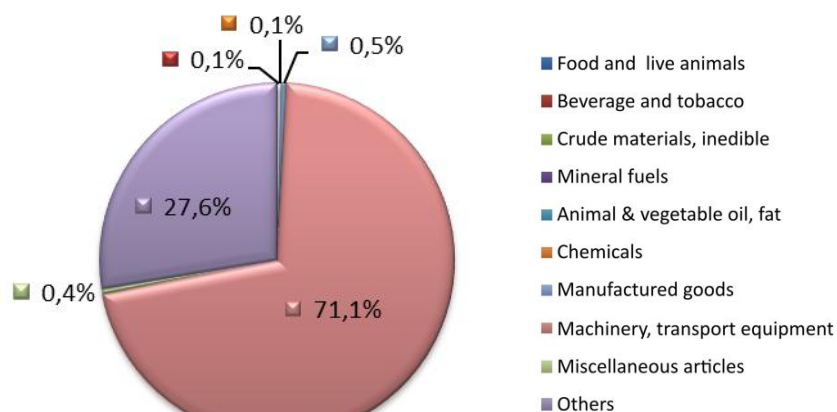
Trade between Cyprus and Japan



Cyprus exports to Japan



Japan exports to Cyprus





CZECHIA

Area: 78,886 km²

Population 1st Jan. 24: 10,900,555 (+0,7%)

Capital: Prague

Monetary unit: Czech koruna (Kč)

Nominal GDP: 318,853 million € (+0,5%)

GDP per capita: 29,280 € (+0,3%)

Real GDP growth rate: +1,1%

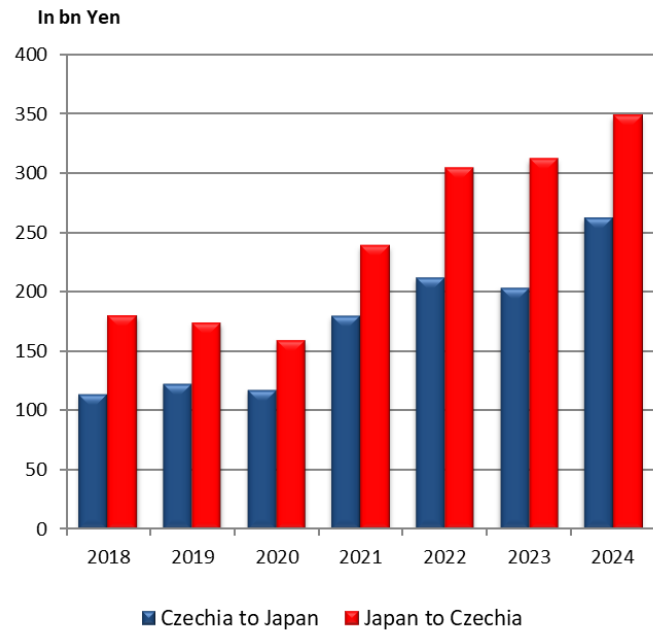
In 2024, Japan recorded a substantial increase of its exports by 11,9%, reaching 349 billion yen. In the same way, the Czechia's exports saw a significant rise by 28,8%, which accounted for 262,7 billion yen.

Czechia's main exports were machinery & transport equipment (62,4%), which experienced a significant increase by 75,8%, followed by crude materials, inedible items (13,9%) which decreased by 35,8% and miscellaneous articles (9,3%) with a 11,8% increase.

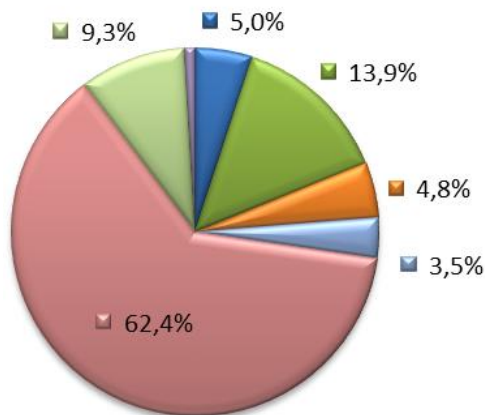
Japan mainly exported machinery & transport equipment (67%) which increased by 7,7%, other goods (9,9%) and chemicals (8,6%).

In February, an Agreement between Japan and the Czech Republic for Air Services was signed in Tokyo⁹.

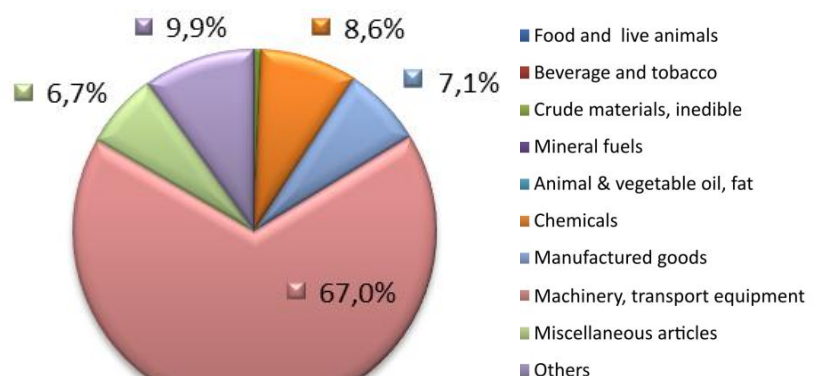
Trade between Czechia and Japan



Czechia exports to Japan



Japan exports to Czechia



⁹ https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00180.html



DENMARK

Area: 43,094 km²

Population 1st Jan. 24: 5,961,249 (+0,5%)

Capital: Copenhagen

Monetary unit: Danish krone (kr.)

Nominal GDP: 395,789 million € (+5,1%)

GDP per capita: 66,230 € (+4,6%)

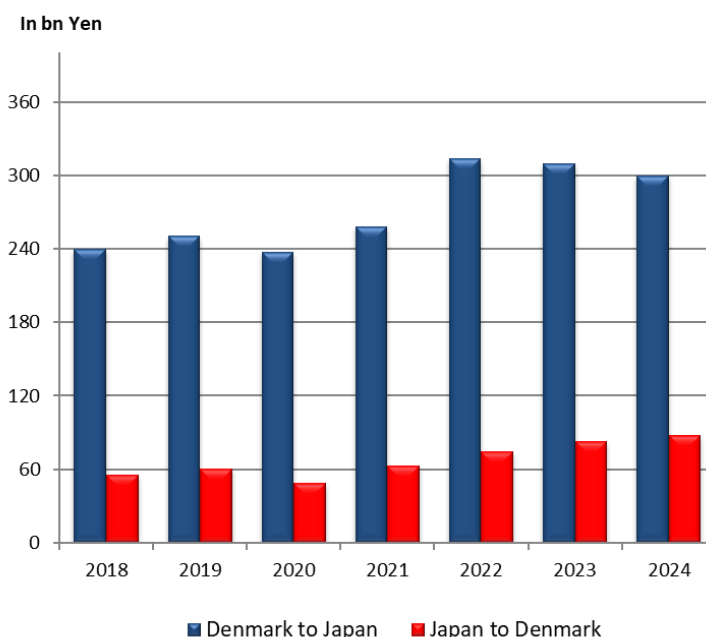
Real GDP growth rate: +3,6%

Overall, the trade between Denmark and Japan in 2024 experienced modest changes. Denmark's exports declined by 3%, reaching 300 billion yen, while Japan's exports increased by 6% to 88,2 billion yen.

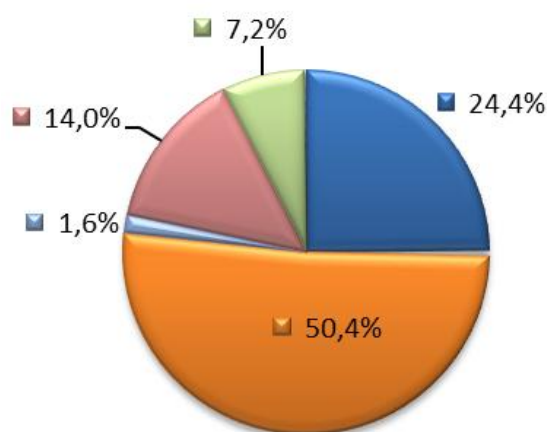
Denmark's main exports included chemicals (50,4%), which fell by 4% compared to 2023, food and live animals (24,4%), which grew by 5,4%, and machinery & transport equipment (14%), which saw a decline of 11,9%.

Japan's primary exports consisted of machinery & transport equipment (60,1%), which dropped by 2,7%, chemicals (13,8%), which recorded a substantial growth of 53,3%, and manufactured goods (8,4%), which increased by 42,7%.

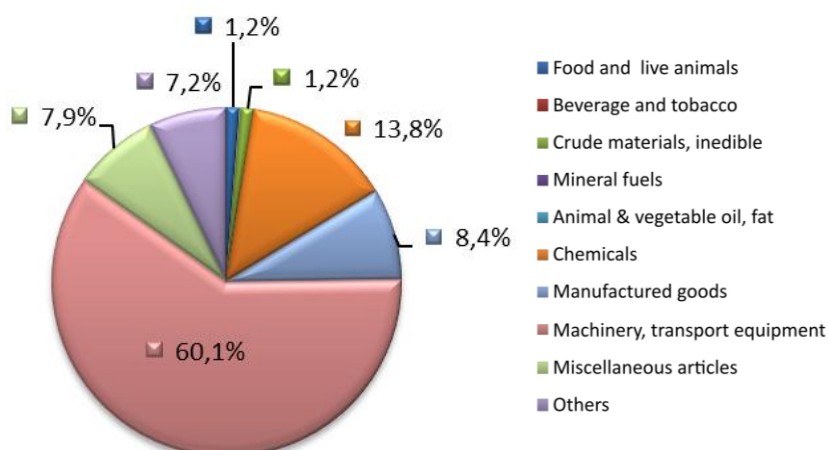
Trade between Denmark and Japan



Denmark exports to Japan



Japan exports to Denmark





ESTONIA

Area: 45,000 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 1,374,687 (+0,6%)
Capital: Tallinn

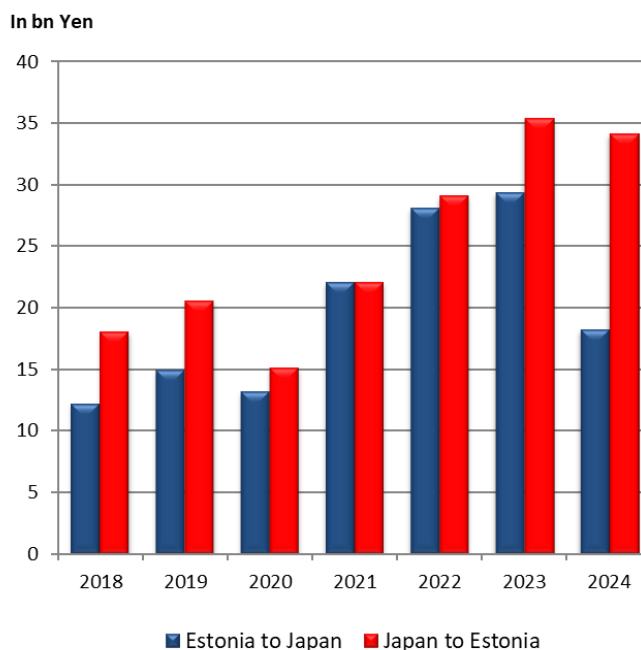
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 39,510 million € (+3,5%)
GDP per capita: 28,740 € (+2,8%)
Real GDP growth rate: -0,3%

Overall, trade between Estonia and Japan in 2024 saw significant shifts. Japan's exports totalled 34,2 billion yen, marking a 3,4% decline from 2023, while Estonia's exports fell sharply by 38%, reaching 18,2 billion yen.

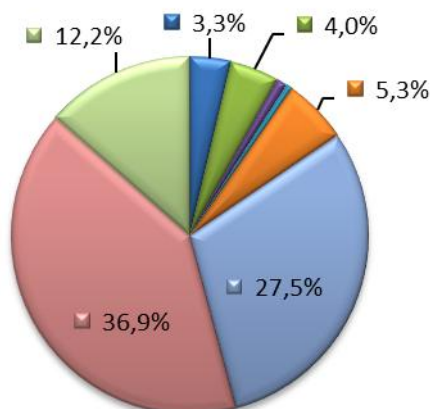
Estonia's main exports to Japan included machinery & transport equipment (36,9%), though its value dropped significantly by 54,9%, and manufactured goods (27,5%). Similarly, Estonia's chemical exports (5,3%) experienced a steep decline of 68,3%.

Japan's exports were primarily composed of machinery & transport equipment (84,8%), which decreased by 10,4%, followed by other goods (8,7%), which surged by 172,6%, and manufactured goods (4,2%), which increased by 13,4%.

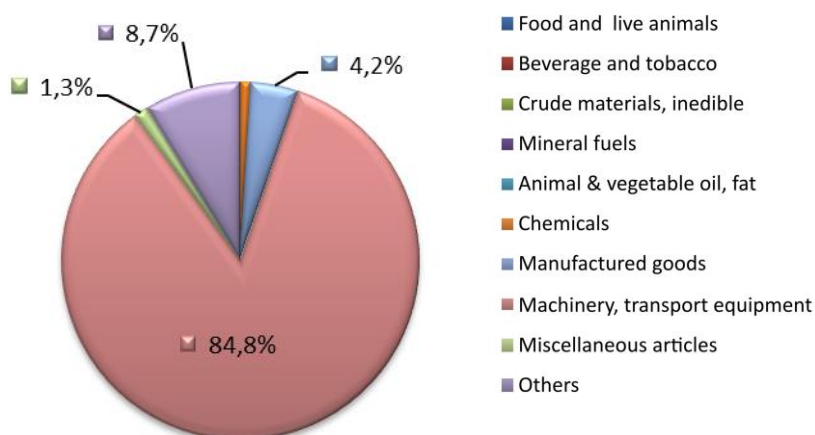
Trade between Estonia and Japan



Estonia exports to Japan



Japan exports to Estonia





FINLAND

Area: 338,000 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 5,603,851 (+0,7%)
Capital: Helsinki

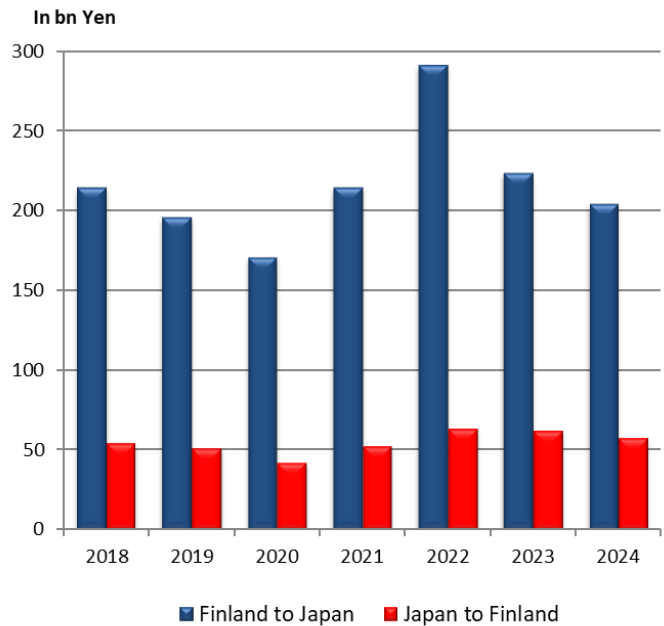
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 277,015 million € (+1,6%)
GDP per capita: 49,320 € (+0,8%)
Real GDP growth rate: -0,1%

Recent trade between Finland and Japan has shown a decline trend. In 2024, Japan's exports decreased slightly, totalling 57,6 billion yen, while Finland's exports to Japan fell by 8,5%, reaching 204 billion yen.

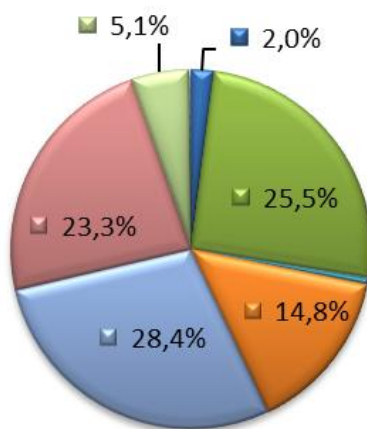
Finland's main exports to Japan included manufactured goods (28,4%), which declined by 11,2%, crude materials and inedible items (25,5%), which dropped by 11,1%, and machinery & transport equipment (23,3%), which saw a decrease of 13,9%.

Japan's key export sectors remained machinery & transport equipment (69,8%), which declined by 14,5%. As in the previous year, manufactured goods (13,2%) were Japan's second-largest export to Finland, increasing by 31,8%, followed by other goods (6,5%) and chemicals (6,2%).

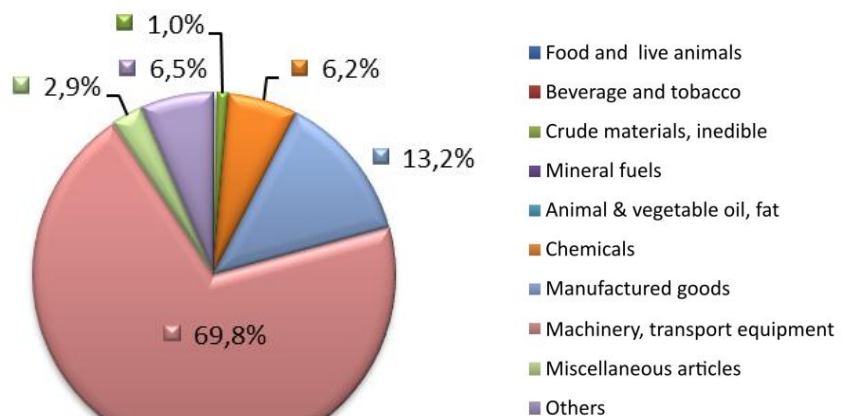
Trade between Finland and Japan

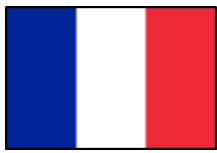


Finland exports to Japan



Japan exports to Finland





FRANCE

Area: 550,000 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 68,401,997 (+0,3%)
Capital: Paris

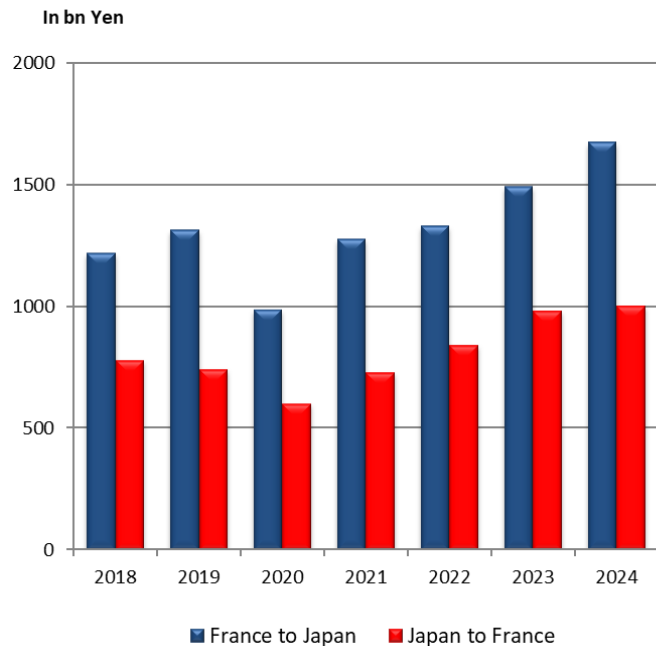
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 2,921,412 million € (+3,5%)
GDP per capita: 42,630 € (+3,1%)
Real GDP growth rate: +1,2%

Trade between France and Japan

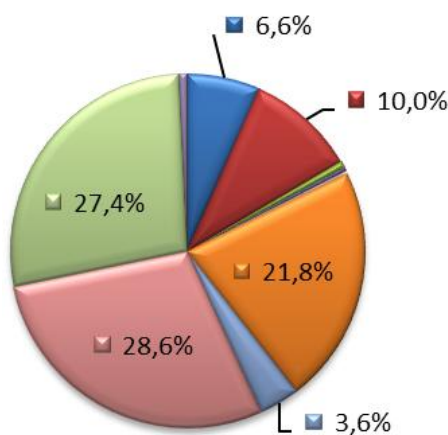
Compared to 2023, France's exports to Japan increased by 12,4%, reaching 1,674 billion yen, while Japan's exports to France grew slightly by 2,2%, totaling 1,003 billion yen.

France's main export sectors remained unchanged from the previous year, with machinery & transport equipment (28,6%) increasing by 27,4%, miscellaneous items (27,4%) rising by 29%, and chemicals (21,8%) experiencing a decline of 5,5%.

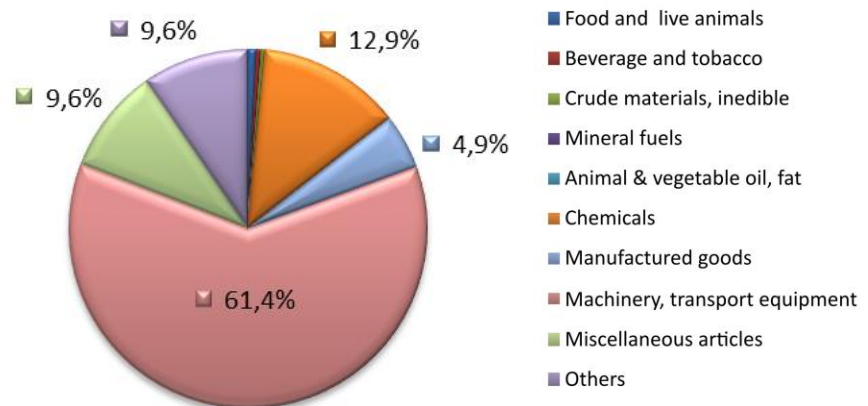
Japan's primary exports consisted of machinery & transport equipment (61,4%), which fell by 2,8%, while chemicals (12,9%) saw an increase of 9,6%.



France exports to Japan



Japan exports to France





GERMANY

Area: 356,854 km²

Population 1st Jan. 24: 83,445,000 (-1,1%)

Capital: Berlin

Monetary unit: Euro (€)

Nominal GDP: 4,305,260 million € (+2,9%)

GDP per capita: 50,820 € (+2,6%)

Real GDP growth rate: -0,2%

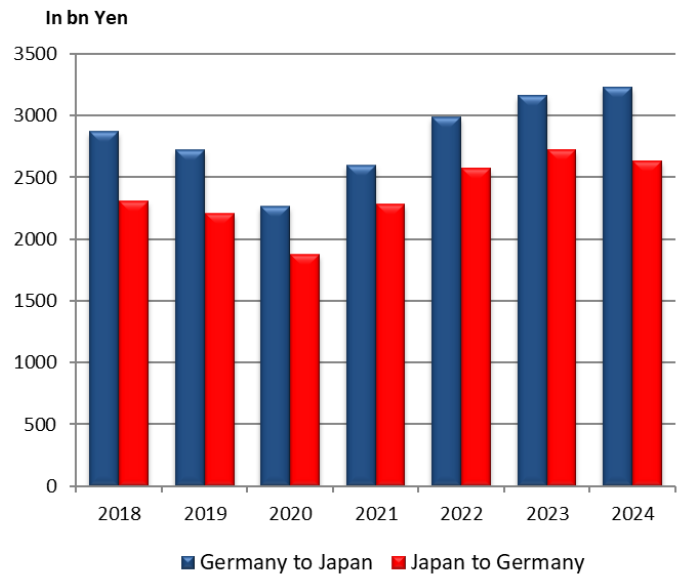
Germany's exports to Japan have been steadily increasing since 2020. In 2024, they reached 3,222 billion yen, marking a 1,9% rise compared to 2023. Conversely, Japan's exports to Germany declined by 3,2%, totaling 2,629 billion yen.

Overall, the distribution of traded goods has remained stable. Half of Germany's exports consisted of machinery & transport equipment (50,3%), and chemicals (31,8%) rose by 6,7%.

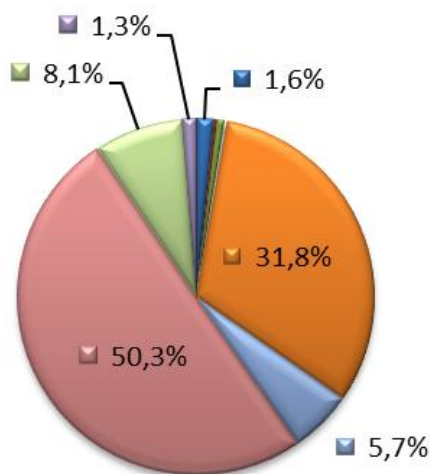
Japan's main exports included machinery & transport equipment (52,9%), which decreased by 10,3%, chemicals (13,3%), and other goods (13%).

In January, the Agreement Between Germany and Japan Concerning Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services Between the Self-Defense Forces of Japan and the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Germany was signed in Tokyo¹⁰. Moreover, in October, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany jointly held the 50 years Jubilee of the Agreement between Japan and Germany on Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology in Kyoto¹¹.

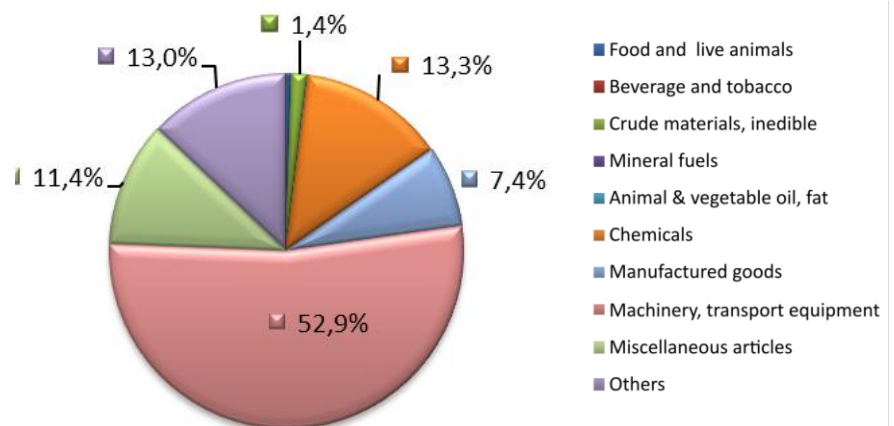
Trade between Germany and Japan



Germany exports to Japan



Japan exports to Germany



¹⁰ https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00124.html

¹¹ https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00633.html



GREECE

Area: 131,957 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 10,397,193 (-0,2%)
Capital: Athens

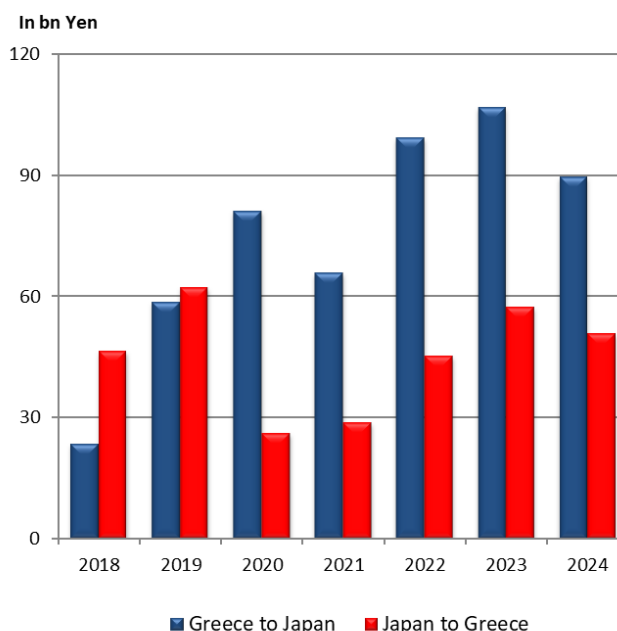
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 237,573 million € (+5,5 %)
GDP per capita: 22,560 € (+5,7%)
Real GDP growth rate: +2,3%

In 2024, both Greece's exports to Japan and Japan's exports to Greece declined, reversing the growth seen in recent years. Greece's exports dropped by 16,2% compared to the previous year, totaling 89,7 billion yen, while Japan's exports fell by 11,3%, reaching 50,9 billion yen.

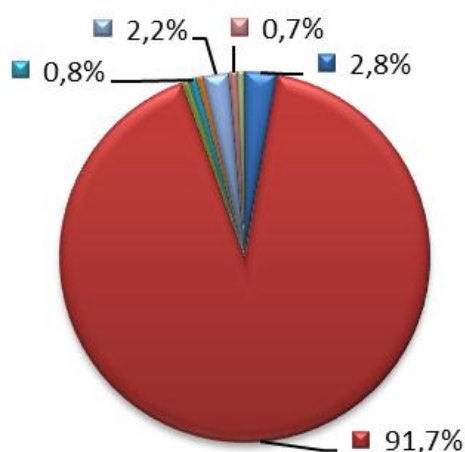
Greece's exports were primarily composed of beverages and tobacco (91,7%), though this category saw a decline of 14,3%, followed by food and live animals (2,8%) and manufactured goods (2,2%).

Japan's exports to Greece were dominated by machinery & transport equipment (83,3%), which increased by 8,1%. In contrast, exports of manufactured goods (6,8%) experienced a significant decline of 74,7% compared to 2023.

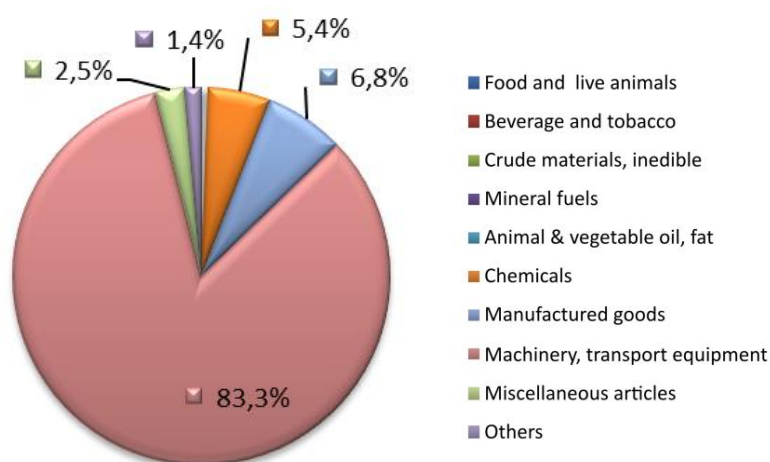
Trade between Greece and Japan



Greece exports to Japan



Japan exports to Greece





HUNGARY

Area: 93,000 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 9,584,627 (-0,2%)
Capital: Budapest

Monetary unit: Forint (Ft)
Nominal GDP: 205,282 million € (+4,4%)
GDP per capital: 21,470 € (+4,7%)
Real GDP growth rate: +0,5%

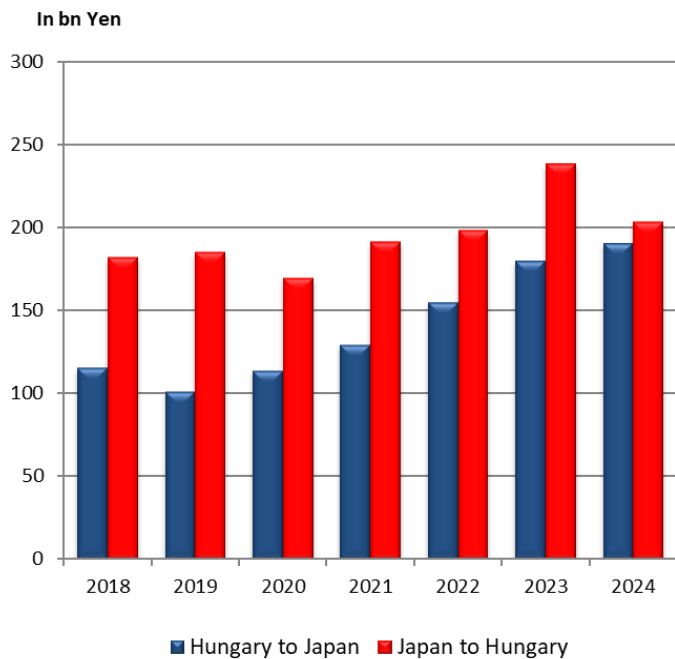
In 2024, Hungary's exports to Japan increased by 5,8%, reaching 190 billion yen, while Japan's exports to Hungary declined by 14,7%, totaling 203,4 billion yen.

Hungary's main export sectors remained unchanged from 2023, with machinery & transport equipment (73,7%) growing by 4,6%, chemicals (11,3%) increasing by 8,6%, and miscellaneous articles (5,8%) rising significantly by 26,3%.

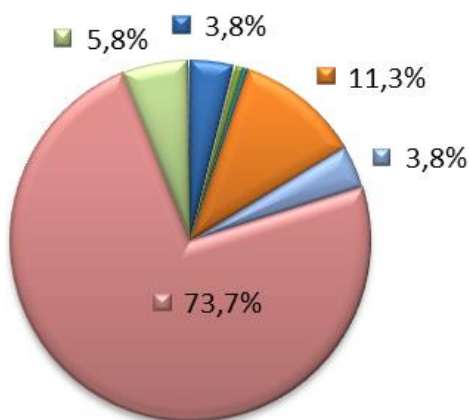
Japan's exports to Hungary were primarily composed of machinery & transport equipment (78,5%), which decreased by 12,8%. This was followed by other goods (8,6%) as the second-largest sector and manufactured goods (6%) as the third largest.

In May, a Memorandum of Cooperation towards collaboration in the field of nuclear energy was signed¹².

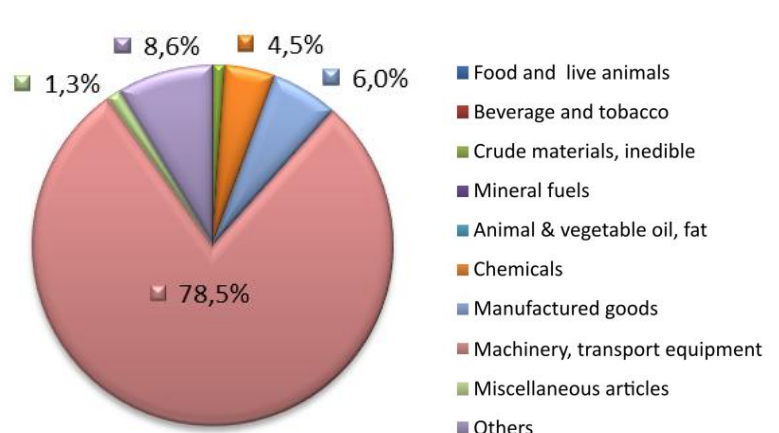
Trade between Hungary and Japan



Hungary exports to Japan



Japan exports to Hungary



¹² https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0521_001.html



IRELAND

Area: 70,000 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 5,343,805 (+1,4%)
Capital: Dublin

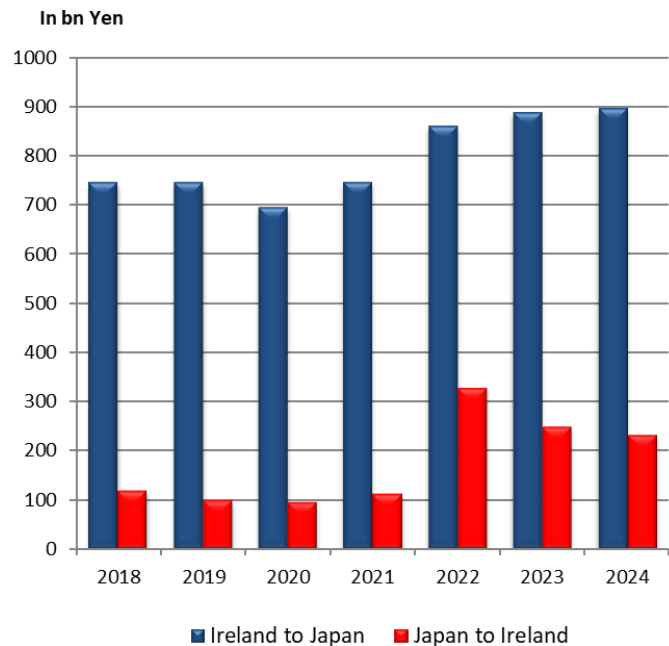
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 533,444 million € (+4,6%)
GDP per capita: 99,060 € (+2,9%)
Real GDP growth rate: +1,2%

The recent trend in Japan's exports to Ireland has shown a decline since 2022, while Ireland's exports to Japan have seen a modest increase. In 2024, Japan's exports totaled 230,2 billion yen, marking a 6,5% decrease compared to 2023. In contrast, Ireland's exports to Japan rose by 1%, reaching 895 billion yen.

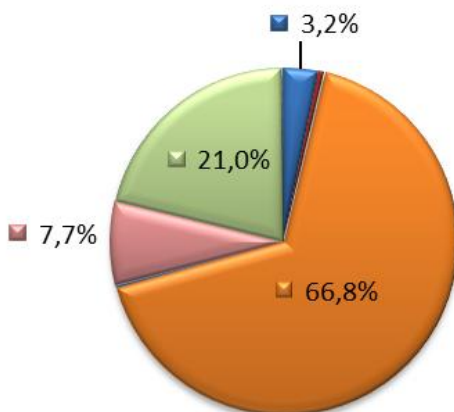
Overall, the distribution of Ireland's export goods to Japan remained stable. Ireland's exports primarily consisted of chemicals (66,8%), which increased by 7,1% from the previous year, and miscellaneous articles (21%), which saw a decline of 6%.

Japan's exports were mainly composed of machinery & transport equipment (44,9%), experiencing a drop of 34,1%, and chemicals (25%). Notably, miscellaneous articles, which had accounted for 4,7% of Japan's total exports in 2023, increased its share to 14,1% in 2024, almost tripling its previous value.

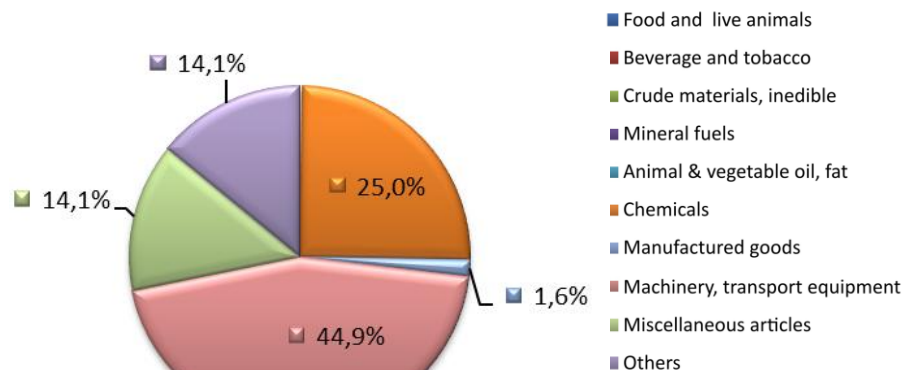
Trade between Ireland and Japan



Ireland exports to Japan



Japan exports to Ireland





ITALY

Area: 301,263 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 58,989,749 (-0,01%)
Capital: Rome

Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 2,192,182 million € (+2,9%)
GDP per capita: 37,180 € (+2,9%)
Real GDP growth rate: +0,7%

Overall, Italy's exports to Japan have been gradually increasing since 2020. In 2024, they reached 1,843 billion yen, marking a 9,2% rise. Meanwhile, Japan's exports to Italy declined by 10%, amounting to 764,8 billion yen.

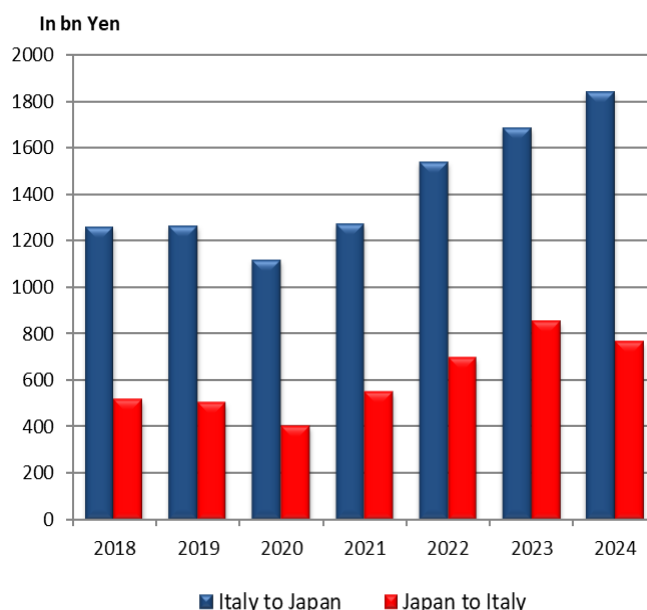
Italy's main exports consisted of miscellaneous articles (36,9%), which increased by 18,4%, machinery & transport equipment (20,1%), and chemicals (17,1%).

Japan's main exports to Italy were machinery & transport equipment (58,7%), which declined by 17,2%, manufactured goods (15,1%), which fell by 13,2%, and chemicals (11,1%), which increased by 8,2%.

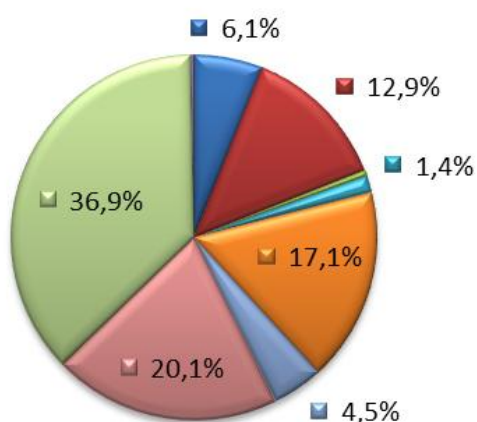
Several key agreements between Italy and Japan came into effect in 2024:

- In April, an Agreement on Social Security, originally signed in 2009, entered into force¹³.
- In August, the Agreement on Film Co-production came into effect¹⁴.
- In November, the Agreement on Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services between the Self-Defense Forces of Japan and the Armed Forces of Italy was signed in Rome¹⁵.

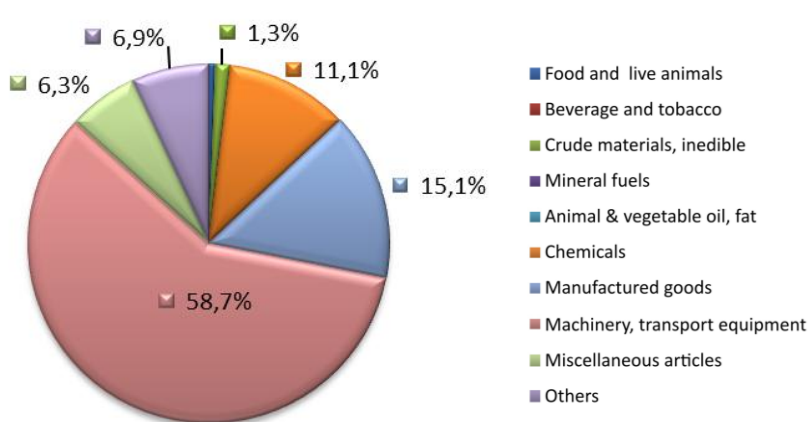
Trade between Italy and Japan



Italy exports to Japan



Japan exports to Italy



¹³ https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/pressrelease_nenkink20240112_00002.html

¹⁴ https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00467.html

¹⁵ https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/it/pageite_000001_00675.html



LATVIA

Area: 65,000 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 1,871,882 (-0,6%)
Capital: Riga

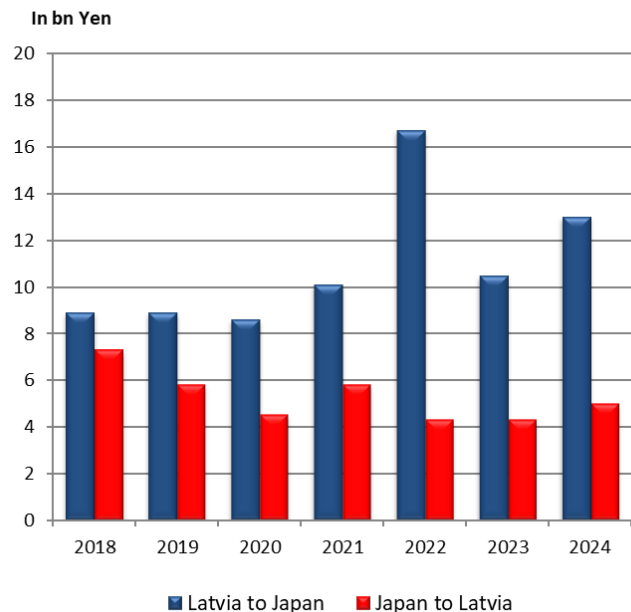
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 40,208 million € (+2,1%)
GDP per capita: 21,610 € (+3,2%)
Real GDP growth rate: -0,4%

2024 marked an increase in both Latvia's exports to Japan and Japan's exports to Latvia. Latvia's exports experienced a 23,8% increase, totalling 13 billion yen, while Japan's exports saw a 16,3% rise, reaching 5 billion yen.

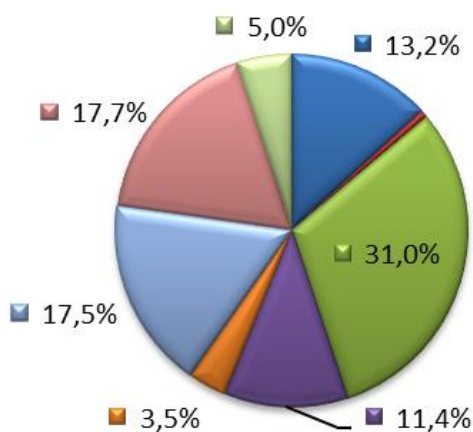
Latvia's main exports consisted of crude materials & inedible items (31%), which increased by 2,2%. Notably, machinery & transport equipment (17,7%) rose by 62,2%, and manufactured goods (17,5%) saw a 111,5% surge.

Manufactured goods accounted for the largest share of Japan's exports to Latvia at 31,4%, marking a 71% increase. This was followed by other goods (17,8%), which grew by 8,5%, and machinery & transport equipment (14,9%).

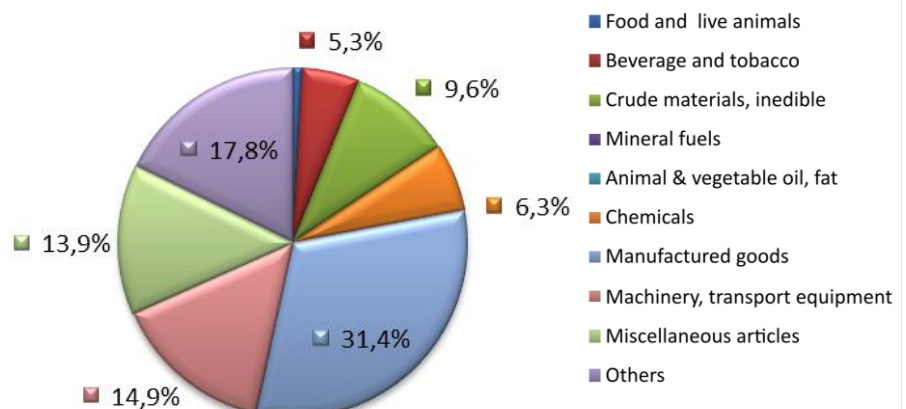
Trade between Latvia and Japan



Latvia exports to Japan



Japan exports to Latvia





LITHUANIA

Area: 65,000 km²

Population 1st Jan. 24: 2,885,891 (+1%)

Capital: Vilnius

Monetary unit: Euro (€)

Nominal GDP: 77,940 million € (+5,6%)

GDP per capita: 26,990 € (+5%)

Real GDP growth rate: +2,7%

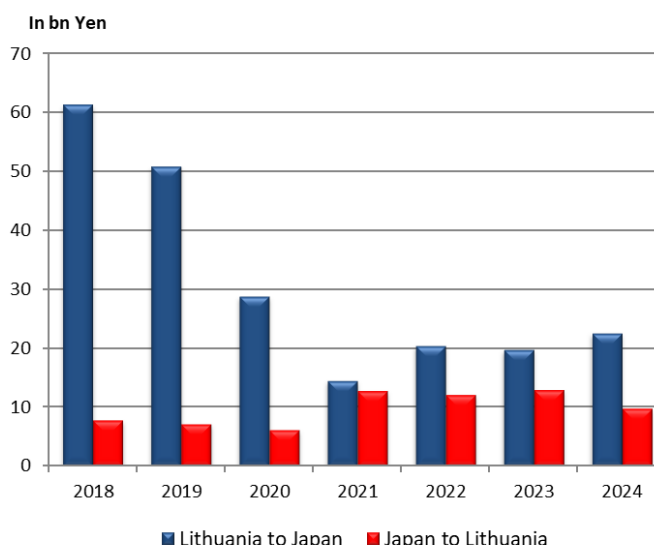
Lithuania's exports to Japan increased by 14,2% compared to 2023, totalling 22,5 billion yen. In contrast, Japan's exports to Lithuania decreased by 24,2%, reaching 9,7 billion yen.

Lithuania mainly exported miscellaneous articles (24,9%), chemicals (21,4%), and machinery & transport equipment (20,1%). These last two sections saw notable increases of 32,1% and 54% respectively.

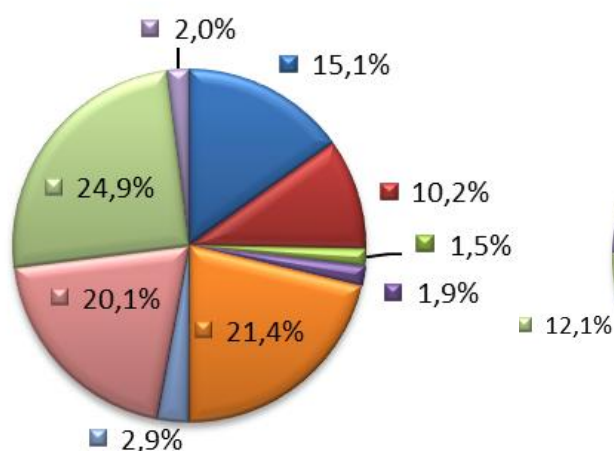
Japan's main exports included machinery & transport equipment (38,9%), which decreased by 37,5%, other goods (24,6%), which fell by 27,2%, and miscellaneous articles (12,1%), dropping by 7,1%.

In September, the two countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between Lithuania and Japan in the fields of technological innovation, industrial research, and development¹⁶.

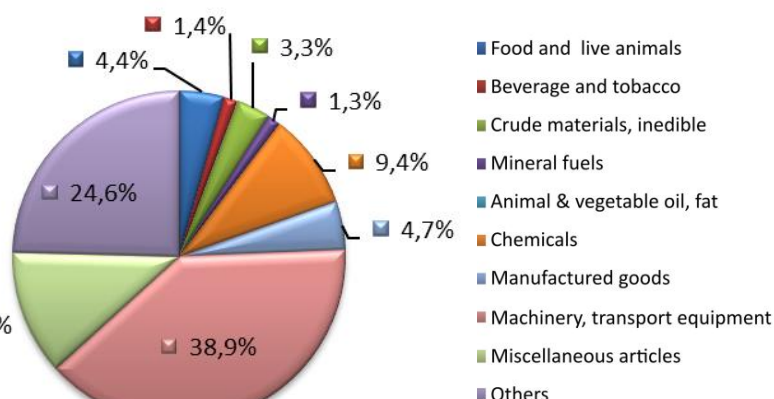
Trade between Lithuania and Japan



Lithuania exports to Japan



Japan exports to Lithuania



¹⁶ <https://jp.mfa.lt/en/news/106/memorandum-of-understanding-mou-on-cooperation-between-lithuania-and-japan-in-the-fields-of-technological-innovation-industrial-research-and-development:1485>



LUXEMBOURG

Area: 2,586 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 672,050 (+1,7%)
Capital: Luxembourg

Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 86,104 million € (+6,3%)
GDP per capita: 126,910 € (+4,6%)
Real GDP growth rate: +1%

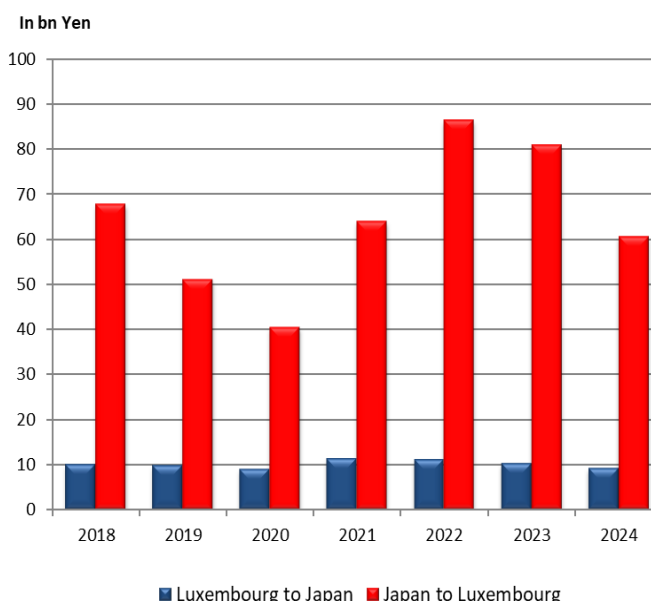
In 2024, Japan's exports to Luxembourg experienced a significant decline of 25,1%, totalling 60,5 billion yen. In contrast, Luxembourg's exports to Japan saw a smaller decrease of 9,8%, amounting to 9,2 billion yen.

Luxembourg mainly exported manufactured goods (58%), which dropped by 19,3%, machinery & transport equipment (21,3%), which increased by 19,9%, and chemicals (7,3%), which saw a notable decrease of 20,4%.

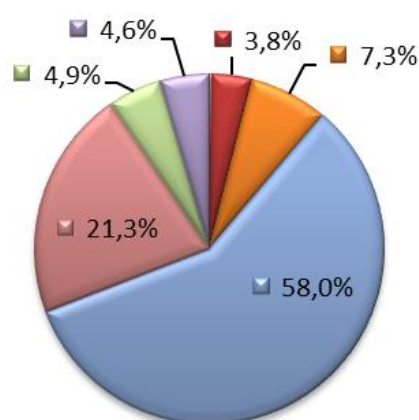
Japan's exports were predominantly machinery & transport equipment, making up 92,9% of total exports, despite a 20,9% decline in value.

In June, the two countries signed the Agreement between Japan and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for Air Services in Tokyo¹⁷.

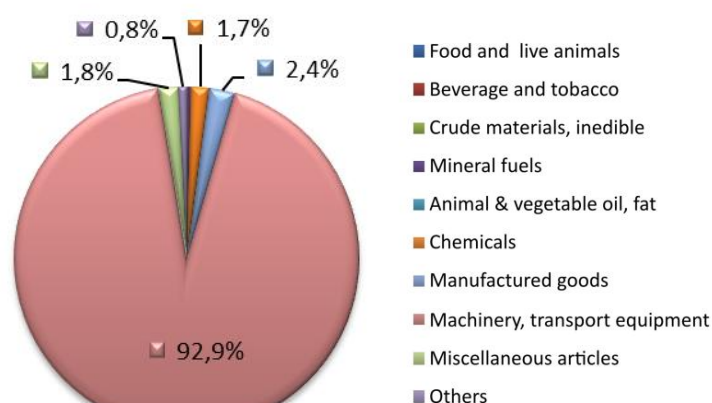
Trade between Luxembourg and Japan



Luxembourg exports to Japan



Japan exports to Luxembourg



¹⁷ https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00369.html



MALTA

Area: 316 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 563,443 (+3,9%)
Capital: Valletta

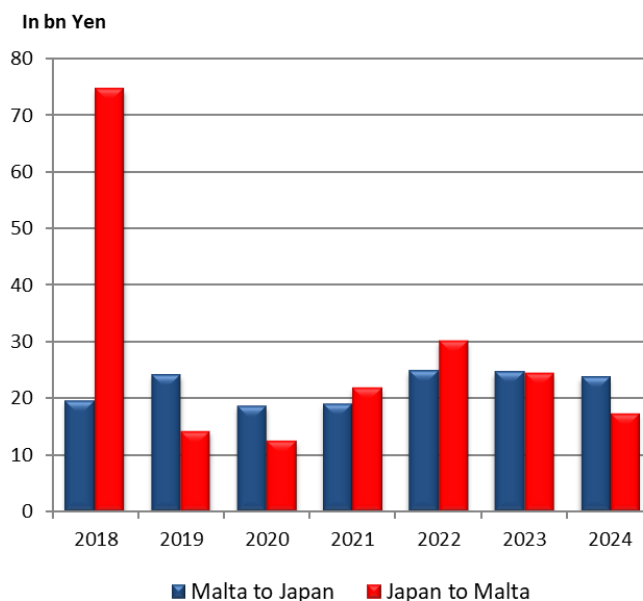
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 22,471 million € (+9,4%)
GDP per capita: 39,350 € (+6%)
Real GDP growth rate: +6%

In 2024, both Malta's exports to Japan and Japan's exports to Malta recorded declines of 3,3% and 29,1%, respectively. As a result, Malta's exports to Japan amounted to 23.8 billion yen, while Japan's exports to Malta totalled 17,3 billion yen.

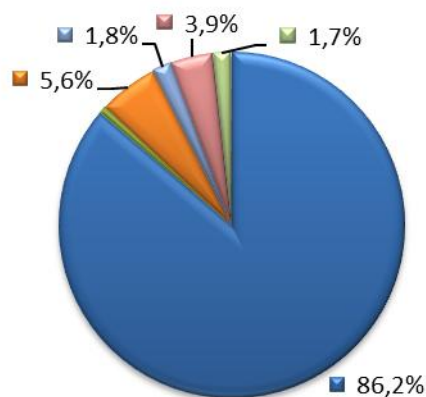
Malta's exports primarily consisted of food & live animals (86,2%), which declined by 7,3%, followed by chemicals (5,6%), which saw a significant increase of 82,3%, and machinery & transport equipment (3,9%), which grew by 6,9%.

Japan's exports were mainly machinery & transport equipment (71,3%), which decreased by 43,1%, while other goods (22,6%), which saw a substantial increase of 111,6%.

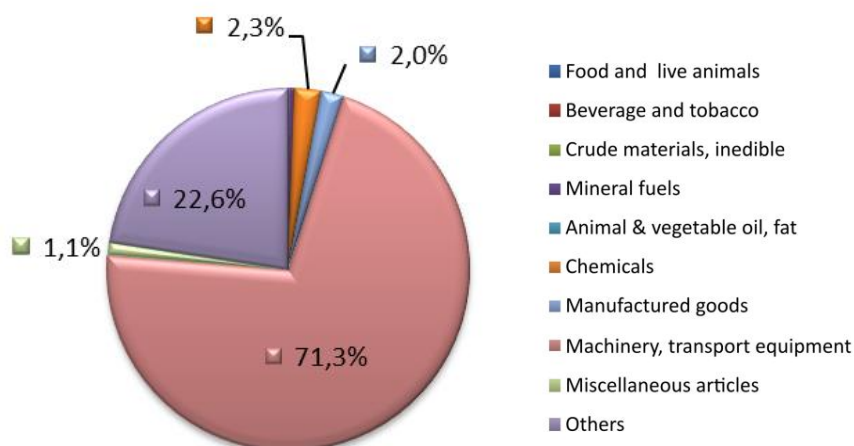
Trade between Malta and Japan



Malta exports to Japan



Japan exports to Malta





THE NETHERLANDS

Area: 41,526 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 17,942,942 (+0,7%)
Capital: Amsterdam

Monetary unit: Euro (€)
GDP: 1,132,733 million € (+6,1%)
GDP per capita: 62,950 € (+5,4%)
Real GDP growth rate: +0,9%

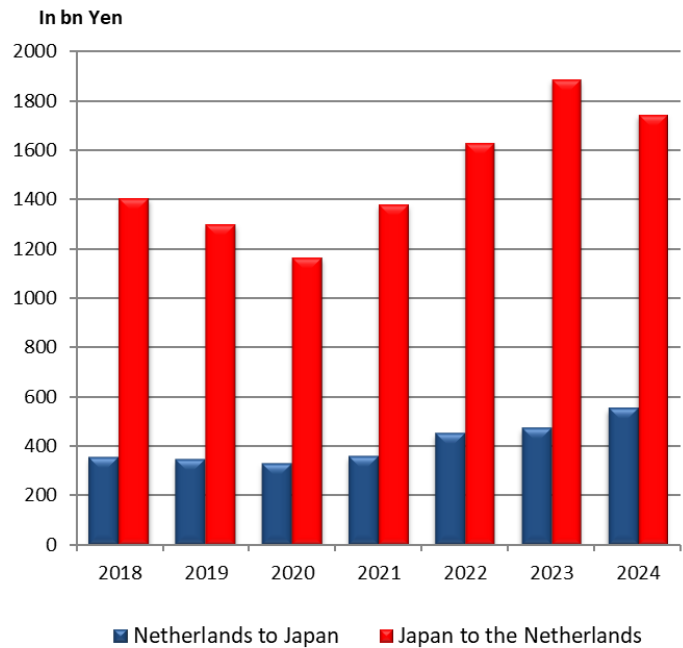
In 2024, Netherlands' exports to Japan amounted to 553,6 billion yen, marking an increase of 17,6%. In contrast, Japan's exports to the Netherlands declined by 7,7%, totalling 1,742 billion yen.

The Netherlands' main exports to Japan included machinery & transport equipment (45%), which rose by 31,1%, chemicals (23,5%), which increased by 9,1%, and food & live animals (16,9%), which grew by 6,2%.

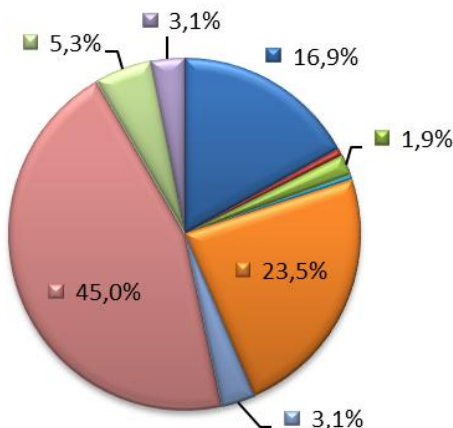
Japan's main exports to the Netherlands consisted of machinery & transport equipment (68,7%), which decreased by 10,8%, chemicals (9,5%), which increased by 6,2%, and miscellaneous articles (7,3%).

In January, Dujat - the Dutch and Japanese Trade Federation's celebrated its 40-year anniversary¹⁸.

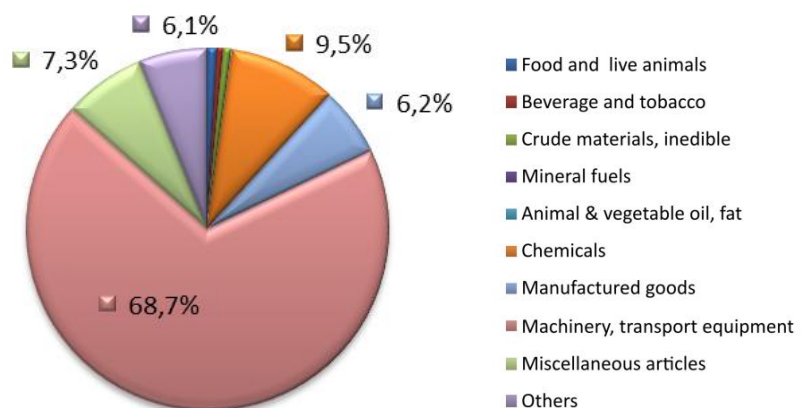
Trade between the Netherlands and Japan



Netherlands exports to Japan



Japan exports to Netherlands



¹⁸ <https://www.dujat.nl/event/past-event/2024-01-22-40-years-dujat-anniversary>



POLAND

Area: 312,679 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 36,620,970 (-0,4%)
Capital: Warsaw

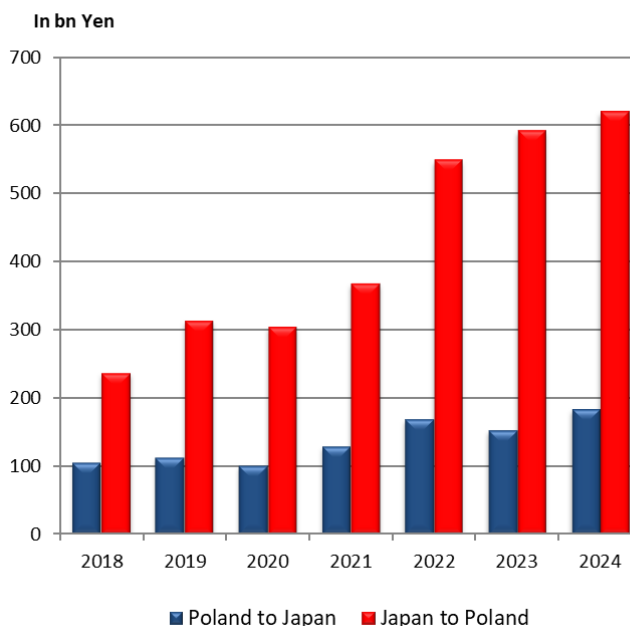
Monetary unit: Zloty (zł)
Nominal GDP: 840,132 million € (+12,2%)
GDP per capita: 22,410 € (+12,6%)
Real GDP growth rate: +2,9%

In 2024, Poland's exports to Japan increased by 20%, totaling 182,8 billion yen, recovering from a decline in 2023. Meanwhile, Japan's exports to Poland have been experiencing a steady increase since 2020, reaching 619,4 billion yen in 2024, with a 4,8% rise compared to 2023.

Poland's top three exports to Japan shifted slightly. Machinery & transport equipment accounted for 53% of total exports, increasing by 19,4%. The export of chemicals made up 11,6%, rising significantly by 33,4%, while manufactured goods, which represented 11,1% of Poland's total exports to Japan, decreased slightly by 1,4%.

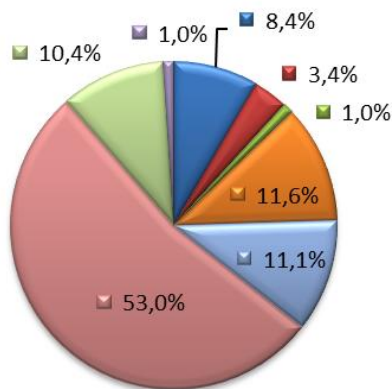
Japan's main exports to Poland remained largely unchanged. Machinery & transport equipment dominated at 71,5%, increasing by 6,2%. Chemicals followed, making up 15,4% of Japan's exports to Poland, with a 2,8% rise.

Trade between Poland and Japan

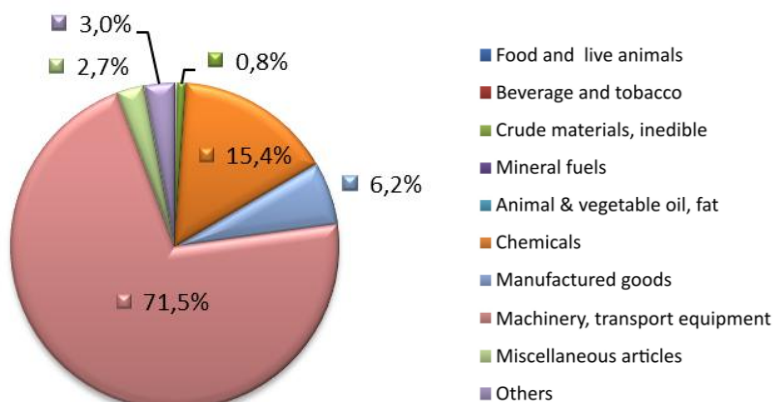


In September, Japan and Poland reached an agreement in principle on a Social Security Agreement¹⁹. In addition, in November, a memorandum of cooperation in the field of nuclear power was signed²⁰.

Poland exports to Japan



Japan exports to Poland



¹⁹ https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00595.html

²⁰ https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1111_001.html



PORTUGAL

Area: 92,072 km²

Population 1st Jan. 24: 10,639,726 (+1,2%)

Capital: Lisbon

Monetary unit: Euro (€)

Nominal GDP: 284,862 million € (+6,3%)

GDP per capita: 26,670 € (+5,3%)

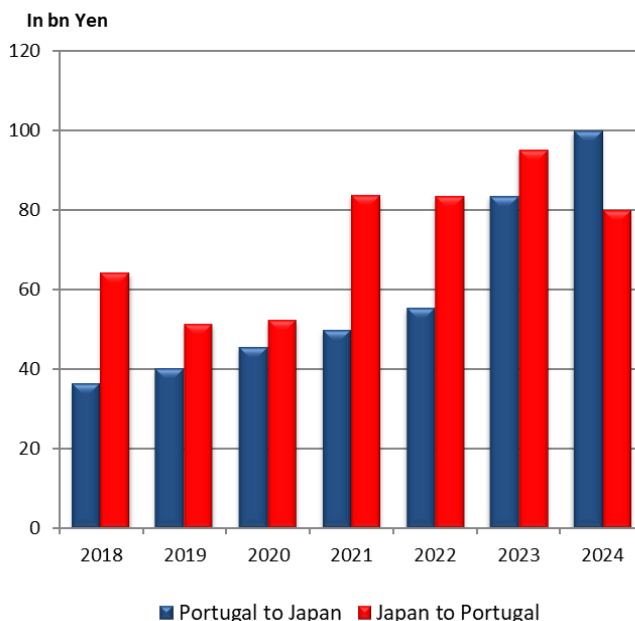
Real GDP growth rate: +1,9%

Trade between Portugal and Japan in 2024 marked a significant shift. For the first time since 2013, the net trade balance between the two nations was in favour of Portugal. As a result, Portugal's exports to Japan reached 100 billion yen, reflecting a 19,6% increase compared to 2023, while Japan's exports to Portugal totalled 80 billion yen, marking a 15,9% decline.

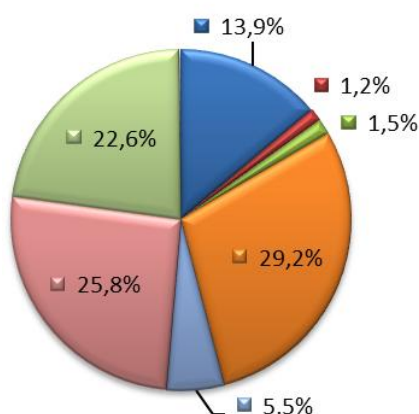
In 2023, nearly half of Portugal's exports to Japan consisted of machinery & transport equipment (49%). However, in 2024, the distribution of Portugal's exports shifted significantly. Chemicals emerged as the leading export category (29,2%) with an extraordinary increase of 1948,3% compared to the previous year. Machinery & transport equipment followed at 25,8%, and miscellaneous articles accounted for 22,6%.

In contrast, Japan's exports to Portugal remained largely unchanged in terms of composition. Machinery & transport equipment continued to dominate, making up 56,3% of total exports, but experienced a 17,8% decline. Manufactured goods followed at 25,6%, also seeing a decrease of 20,5%.

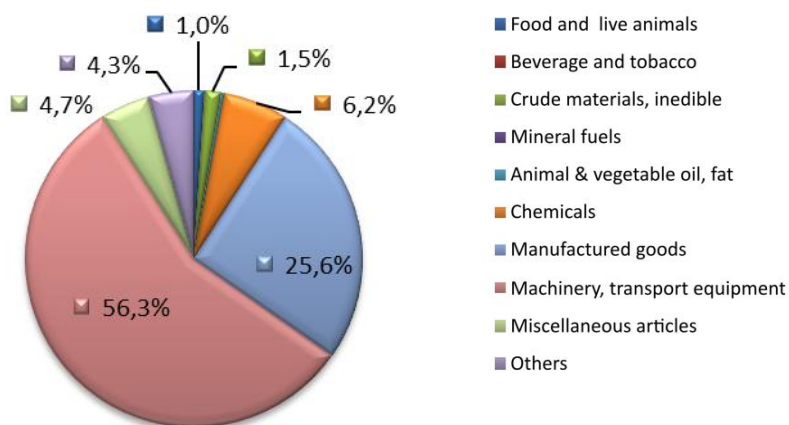
Trade between Portugal and Japan



Portugal exports to Japan



Japan exports to Portugal





ROMANIA

Area: 237,500 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 19,064,409 (+0,1%)
Capital: Bucharest

Monetary unit: Romanian leu
Nominal GDP: 323,160 million € (+9,4%)
GDP per capita: 18,620 € (+9,5%)
Real GDP growth rate: +0,9%

In 2024, Romania's exports to Japan experienced a decrease of 6,8%, totalling 182 billion yen, while Japan's exports to Romania saw a slight increase of 4,5%, reaching a value of 76,6 billion yen.

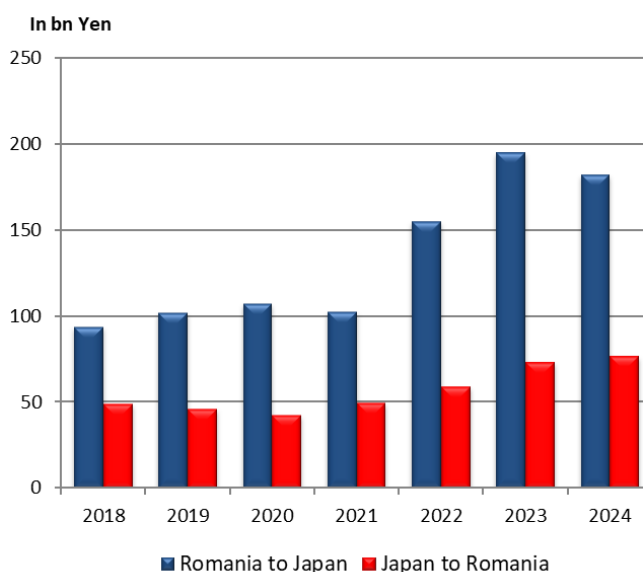
Romania's main exporting sectors remained largely consistent with previous years. Beverages and tobacco accounted for 50,8% of total exports. Machinery & transport equipment followed at 18,1%, while miscellaneous articles made up 17,9%.

Japan's exports to Romania were predominantly machinery & transport equipment (80%). Manufactured goods (9,4%) ranked second, which declined by 14,9%.

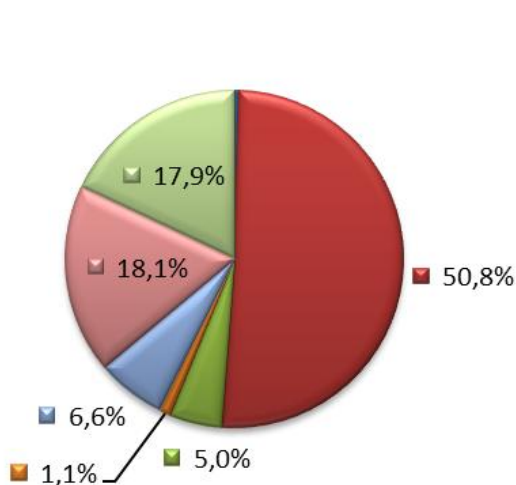
In November, the two countries signed three joint statements on²¹:

- Energy cooperation, covering nuclear power, hydrogen, renewable energy, and carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS)
- Energy transformation cooperation
- Strengthening economic cooperation

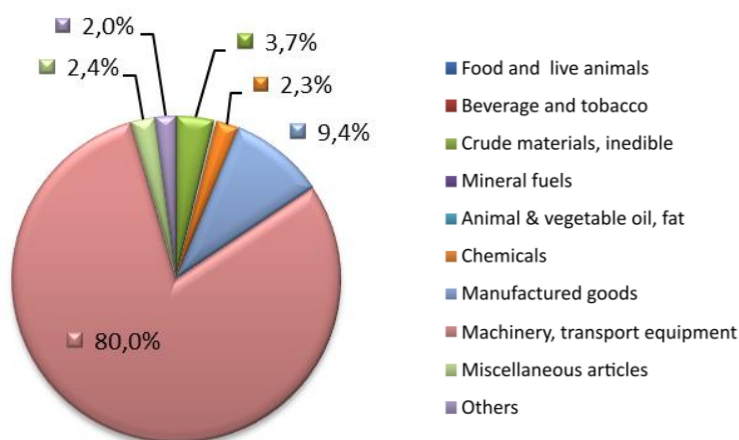
Trade between Romania and Japan



Romania exports to Japan



Japan exports to Romania



²¹ https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1111_001.html



SLOVAKIA

Area: 48,845 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 5,424,687 (-0,1%)
Capital: Bratislava

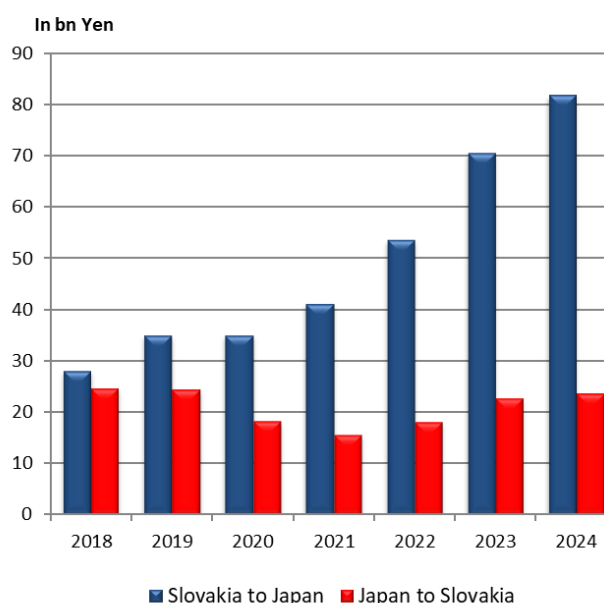
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 129,972 million € (+5,7%)
GDP per capita: 23,810 € (+5,7%)
Real GDP growth rate: +2%

Slovakia's exports to Japan maintained a positive trend in 2024, reaching 81,6 billion yen, reflecting an increase of 15,9%. Japan's exports to Slovakia also experienced growth, rising by 4,4% and amounting to 23,6 billion yen.

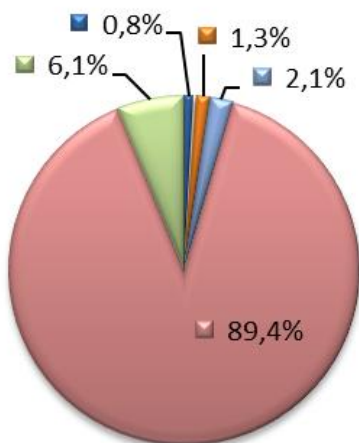
Slovakia's primary exports continued to be machinery & transport equipment, which accounted for 89,4% of total exports and saw an increase of 15,6%. Miscellaneous articles followed at 6,1%, rising by 27,7%, while manufactured goods (2,1%) experienced a slight decline of 2% compared to the previous year.

Japan's main exports to Slovakia were also centred around machinery & transport equipment, which made up 60,6% of its total exports but saw a decrease in value of 6,4%. Other goods accounted for 20,3% and recorded a notable increase of 34,5%, third place for crude materials and inedible (5,6%), rising by 34,2%.

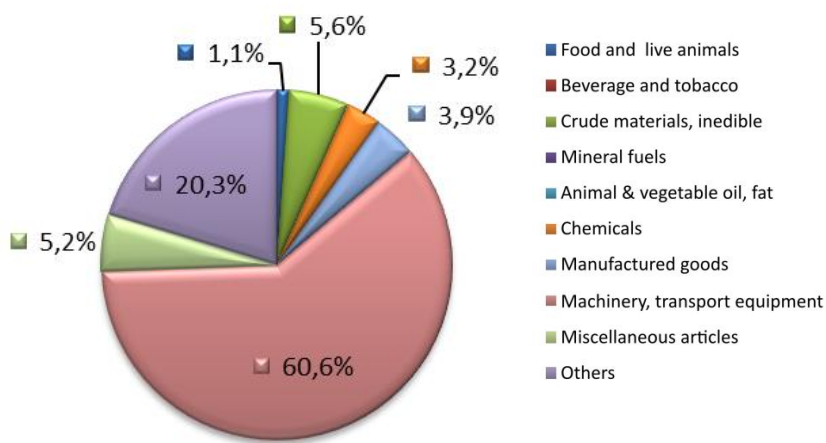
Trade between Slovakia and Japan



Slovakia exports to Japan



Japan exports to Slovakia





SLOVENIA

Area: 20,273 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 2,123,949 (+0,3%)
Capital: Ljubljana

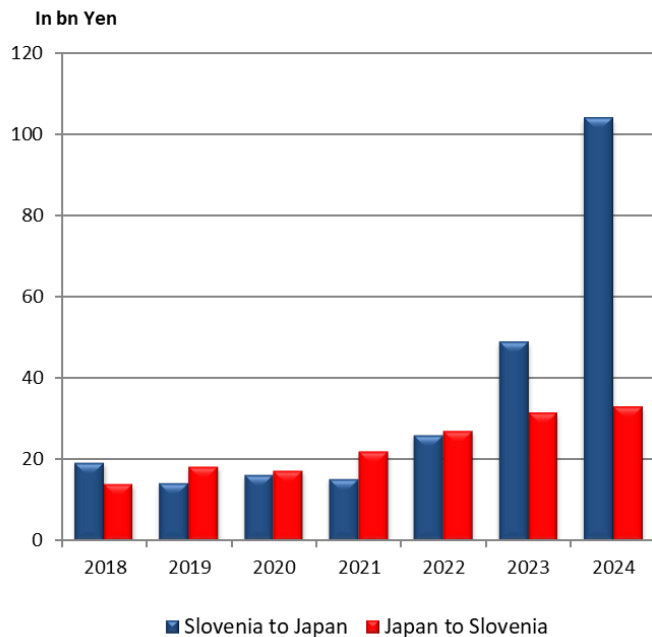
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 66,968 million € (+4,7%)
GDP per capita: 31,490 € (+4,4%)
Real GDP growth rate: +1,6%

In 2024, Slovenia's exports to Japan more than doubled, reaching 104 billion yen. Japan's exports to Slovenia also saw a modest rise of 5,1%, amounting to 33,1 billion yen.

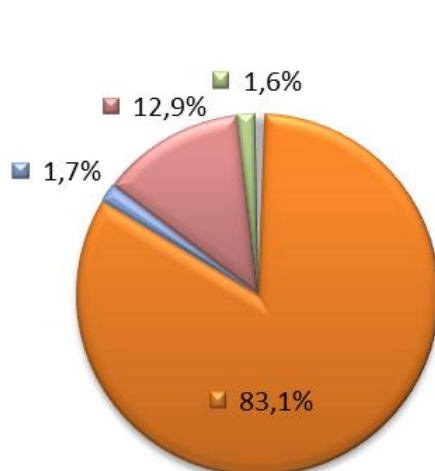
A detailed breakdown of Slovenia's exports to Japan shows that chemicals accounted for 83,1% of total exports, marking an impressive 188% increase from 2023. Machinery & transport equipment made up 12,9%, though this sector recorded a decline of 9,5%.

Japan's exports to Slovenia remained relatively stable, with machinery & transport equipment continuing to dominate at 71% of its total exports, reflecting an 8,7% increase from the previous year. Manufactured goods followed as the second-largest export category (15,3%) experiencing a decline of 4,1%.

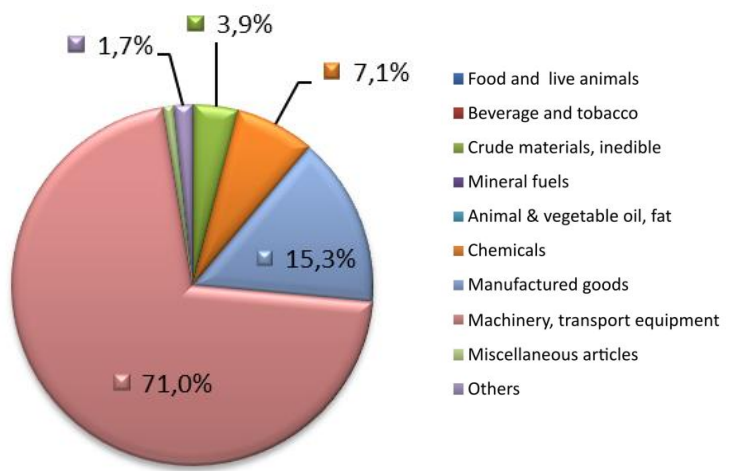
Trade between Slovenia and Japan



Slovenia exports to Japan



Japan exports to Slovenia





SPAIN

Area: 504,782 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 48,610,458 (+1,1%)
Capital: Madrid

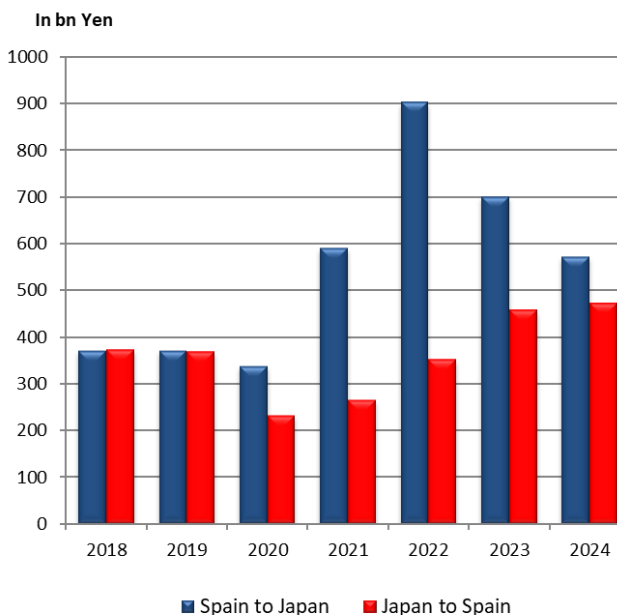
Monetary unit: Euro (€)
Nominal GDP: 1,593,136 million € (+6,3%)
GDP per capita: 32,630 € (+5,4%)
Real GDP growth rate: +3,2%

Spain's exports to Japan in 2024 continued to experience a decline trend losing 18,2% compared to 2023, totalling 572,1 billion yen. In contrast, Japan's exports to Spain saw a slight increase of 3,4%, reaching 472,6 billion yen.

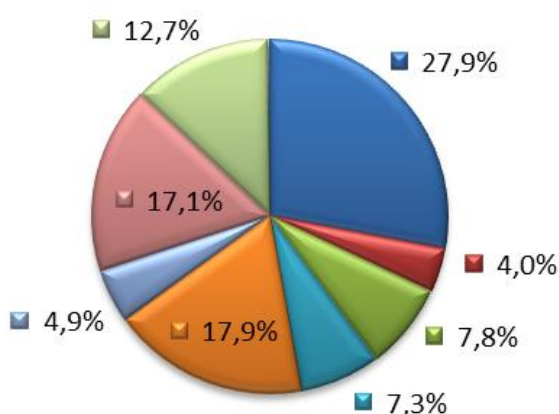
In 2023, Spain's exports to Japan were dominated by chemicals. However, in 2024, food and live animals became the top export category, accounting for 27,9% of total exports, while chemical exports dropped by 56,2%, making up 17,9% of the total.

Japan's main export sectors to Spain remained consistent with the previous year. Machinery & transport equipment continued to be the largest export category (70,6%), which increased by 6,8%. Manufactured goods made up 11,5% but saw a decline of 25,8%. Chemicals, on the other hand, recorded an increase of 21,7%, representing 7,3% of its total exports.

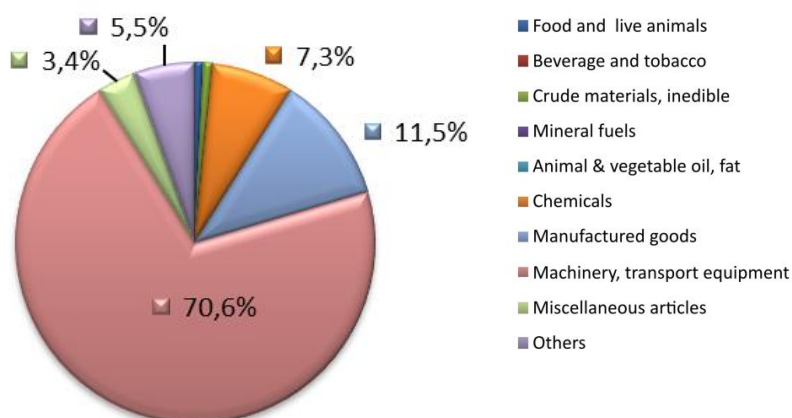
Trade between Spain and Japan



Spain exports to Japan



Japan exports to Spain





SWEDEN

Area: 449,964 km²
Population 1st Jan. 24: 10,551,707 (+0,3%)
Capital: Stockholm

Monetary unit: krona (kr)
Nominal GDP: 563,963 million € (+4,2%)
GDP per capita: 53,020 € (+3,8%)
Real GDP growth rate: +1%

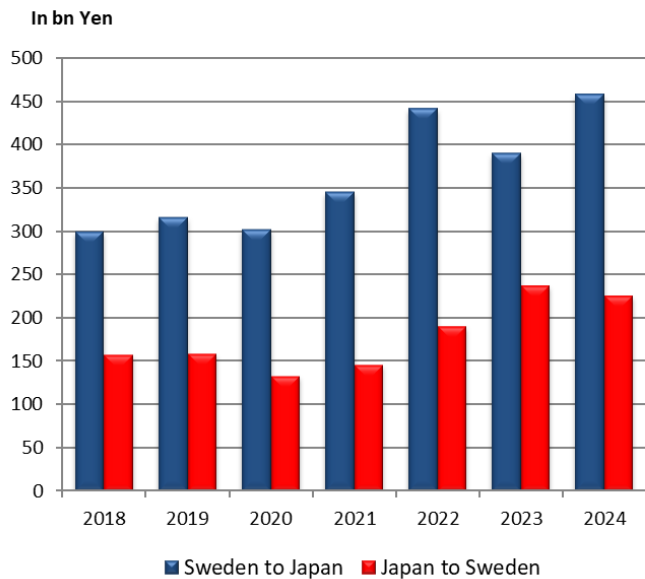
In 2024, Sweden's exports to Japan amounted to 457,5 billion yen, marking a 17,5% increase compared to the previous year. Conversely, Japan's exports to Sweden totalled 226 billion yen, reflecting a 4,7% decline.

Sweden's main export category was chemicals, which accounted for 44,9% of its total exports and saw a significant rise of 39,5% compared to 2023. Machinery & transport equipment made up 31,2% of Sweden's total exports, but this sector experienced a slight decline of 4,1%.

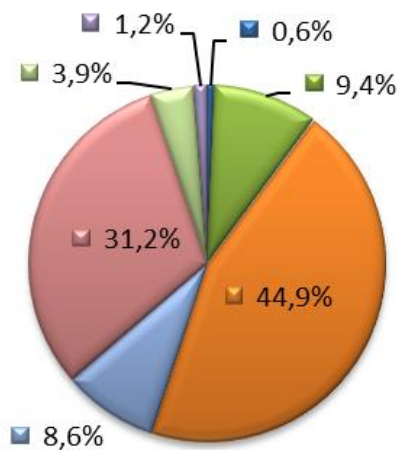
Japan's main exports to Sweden remained largely unchanged from the previous year. Machinery & transport equipment continued to dominate, accounting for 73,3% of total exports despite a 7,2% decline. Manufactured goods accounted for 9,4%, increasing slightly by 1,8%, while miscellaneous articles made up 7,1% and recorded an increase of 30%.

In December, Sweden and Japan signed a Memorandum of Cooperation focused on energy and innovation cooperation²².

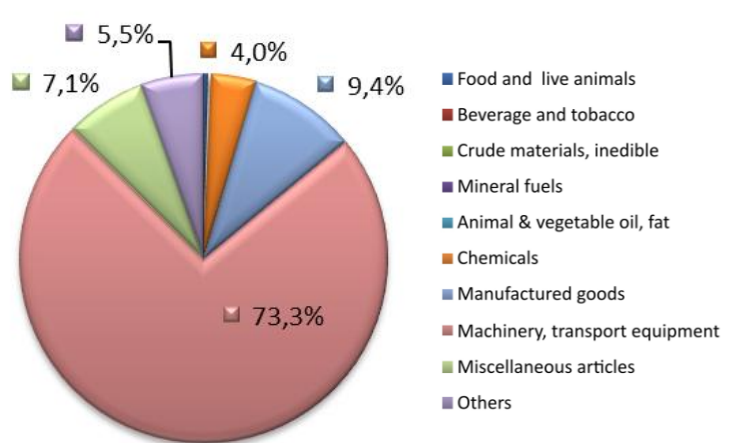
Trade between Sweden and Japan



Sweden exports to Japan



Japan exports to Sweden



²² https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1204_001.html

Useful links:

The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation is co-financed and co-managed by:

European Commission - The Directorate-General for Internal
Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
Japan Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

<https://ec.europa.eu/growth>

<https://www.meti.go.jp/english/index.html>

EU-Japan Relations

European Commission – DG External Relations
Japanese Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Delegation of the European Union to Japan
The Mission of Japan to the European Union
The European Business Council in Japan
The Japan Business Council in Europe
The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation

<https://eeas.europa.eu>

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/index.html>

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan_en

<https://www.eu.emb-japan.go.jp>

<https://ebc-jp.com>

<https://www.jbce.org>

<https://www.eu-japan.eu>

EU Member States & Japan Bilateral Relations

Belgian Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan (BLCCJ)
Belgium Japan Association (BJA)
Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Romania – Japan (CCIRJ)
Comité d'Echanges Franco-Japonais (CEFJ)
Czech Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan (CCCIJ)
Danish Chamber of Commerce in Japan (DCCJ)
Deutsch-Japanischer Wirtschaftskreis (DJW)
Dutch & Japanese Trade Federation (DuJAT)
French Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Japan (CCIFJ)
Finnish Chamber of Commerce in Japan
German Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Japan (DIHKJ)
Greek Chamber of Commerce in Japan (GrCCJ)
Ireland Japan Association (IJA)
Ireland Japan Chamber of Commerce (IJCC)
Italian Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ICCIJ)
Japan-Bulgaria Business Association (JBBA)
Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin (JDZB)
Japanese-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCILJ)
Malta - Japan Chamber of Commerce (MJCC)
Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in Japan (NCCIJ)
Polish Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan (PCCIJ)
Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan (RoCCIJ)
Spanish Chamber of Commerce in Japan (SpCCJ)
Spanish Japanese Chamber of Commerce (CCHJ)
Sweden Japan Foundation (SJF)
Swedish Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Japan (SCCJ)

<https://blccj.or.jp>

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<https://www.pccij.or.jp>

<https://www.roccija.org/en>

<https://spanishchamber.or.jp>

<https://camarajaponesa.com>

<https://swedenjapan.se>

<https://www.sccj.org>

Report sources:

Trade Statistics of Japan Ministry of Finance

https://www.customs.go.jp/toukei/info/index_e.htm

European Union

https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en

EU Population - Eurostat

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tps00001>

EU GDP (at market prices) – Eurostat

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tec00001>

Real GDP growth rate– Eurostat

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tec00115/default/table?lang=en&category=t_na10.t_nama10.t_nama_10_ma

EU International Trade in Services – Eurostat

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/bop_its6_det_custom_16009499/default/table?lang=en

EU Japan EPA usage ratio – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

https://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ie/page22e_000906.html

Euro-Yen Exchange rate - European Central Bank

https://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/policy_and_exchange_rates/euro_reference_exchange_rates/html/eurofxref-graph-jpy.en.html

Japanese Population - Statistics of Japan

<https://www.e-stat.go.jp/en/stat-search/files?page=1&layout=datalist&toukei=00200524&tstat=000000090001&cycle=1&tclass1=000001011678&tclass2val=0&metadata=1&data=1>

Japan's Estimates of GDP – Statistics of Japan

https://www.esri.cao.go.jp/en/sna/data/sokuhou/files/2024/toukei_2024.html

Cover: Aerial view of Osaka, Japan

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