



10.6.2020

Annual data 2019: detailed data

VOLUME OF EXPORTS INCREASED BY 1.1 PER CENT IN 2019

Export prices increased by one per cent

According to Finnish Customs' international trade in goods statistics, the value of Finland's goods exports increased by 2.1 per cent in 2019. The value of exports amounted to 65.0 billion euros. The increase in the value of exports was due to the increase in both the volume of exports and the export prices. The export prices increased by 1.0 per cent, and the volume of exports by 1.1 per cent. However, the value of imports decreased by 1.2 per cent and amounted to 65.8 billion euros. The volume of import increased by 0.8 per cent, but the import prices decreased by 1.8 per cent. In 2018, the value of exports increased by 6.6 per cent, and the volume of exports by 2.4 per cent. Export prices increased by 4.4 per cent that year. The value of imports grew also by 6.6 per cent due to the increase of 8.1 per cent in import prices. The volume of import decreased by 0.9 per cent.

In 2019, the balance of trade deficit was significantly lower than the previous year. The trade balance showed a deficit of 737 million. The deficit the previous year amounted to 2.9 billion euros. The deficit in the trade with EU countries in 2019 was 1.3 billion euros. In the trade with non-EU countries, however, there was a surplus of 524 million euros. In 2018, the deficit in the trade with EU countries was 1.8 billion euros. However, in the trade with non-EU countries there was a deficit of 1.1 billion euros.

In almost all the main sectors, the growth of exports slowed down or decreased in 2019. An exception was the export of transport equipment, which increased the most, 2.2. per cent, as well as the export of foodstuffs, which increased by 14.4. per cent. Exports of forest industry products as a whole fell by 5.5 percent. Exports of machinery and equipment grew by 2.3 per cent and the export of metal industry products remained at roughly the same level as the previous year. The value of exports of petroleum products grew by 6.9 per cent, whereas exports from the rest of the chemical industry decreased by 2.7 per cent. Exports of instruments and apparatus increased by 8.4 per cent.

In 2019, the total value of imported goods fell by 1.2 per cent. Imports of investment goods decreased by 0.3 per cent; imports of fuels and lubricants by 3.9 per cent as well as the import of industrial production supplies by 5.2 per cent. The imports of transport equipment and their spare parts and accessories increased by 6.1 per cent, but the import of foodstuffs and drinks only by 1.4 per cent, and consumer goods by 1.8 per cent.

The value of exports to EU countries increased by 1.9 per cent in 2019. Exports to the eurozone went up by 3.7 percent. Exports to non-EU countries grew by 2.5 per cent. In 2018, exports to EU countries increased by 5.7 percent and to other countries by 8.1 per cent. In 2017, exports to EU countries increased by 16.9 per cent, and exports to non-EU countries by 12.5 per cent.

Imports from EU countries increased by 0.4 per cent in 2019. However, the imports from non-EU countries decreased by 3.5 per cent. In 2018, EU imports increased by 4.8 percent and imports from other countries by 9.4 per cent. In 2017, imports from EU countries increased by 10.7 percent and imports from other countries by 18.3 per cent.

The EU countries' share of Finland's exports decreased slightly in 2019 from 59.5 per cent in the previous year to 59.3 per cent. As for imports, the EU countries' share increased from 59.7 per cent in the previous year to 60.6 per cent. The shares in the trade with countries outside the EU changed correspondingly. Last year, the EU external trade had a 40.7 per cent share of exports and a 39.4 per cent share of imports, while the corresponding shares for 2018 were 40.3 per cent of imports and 40.5 per cent of exports.

Overall development of the international trade in goods, million euros

Direction/balance	2018	2019	Change %
Export (fob)	63 682	65 049	2.1
Import (cif)	66 585	65 786	-1.2
Trade balance	-2 903	-737	

Indices on international trade of goods

Index	Index points* 2018	Index points* 2019	Change % 2019
Volume index			
Export	101.9	103.0	1.1
Import	105.5	106.3	0.8
Unit value index			
Export	117.4	118.6	1.0
Import	119.9	117.8	-1.8

* The moving average of twelve months, changes calculated by using all decimals

Figure 1. Finland’s monthly exports, imports and trade balance 2017–2019, EUR million.

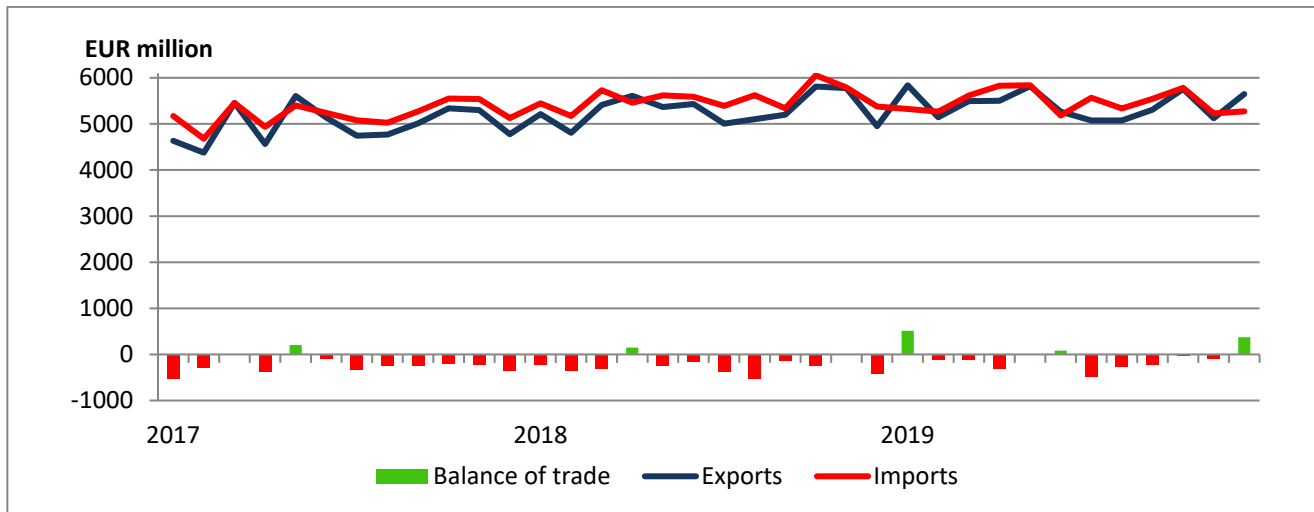
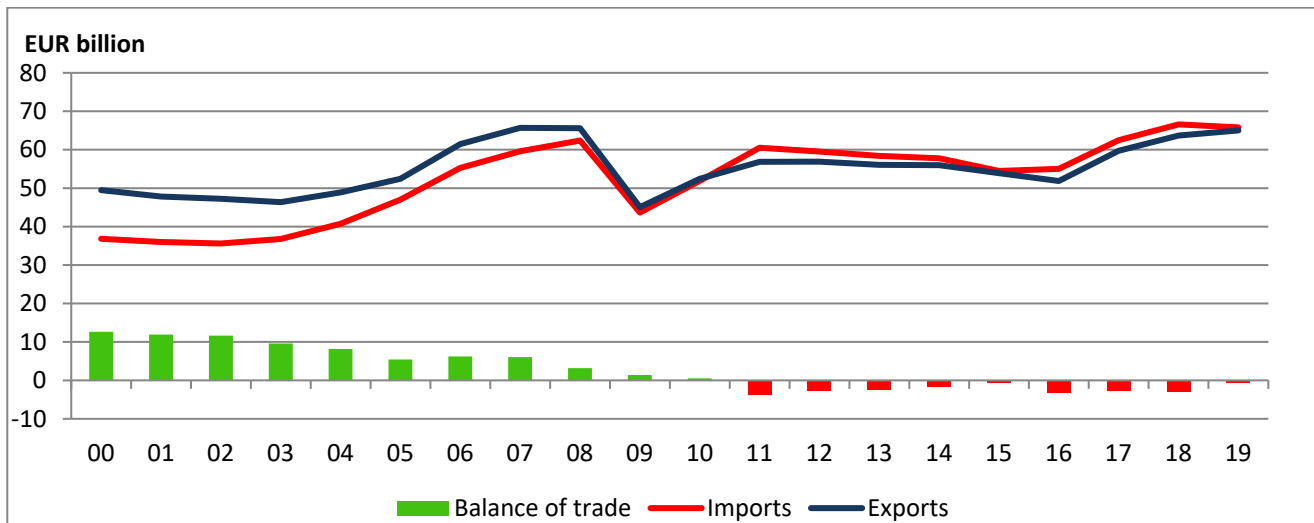


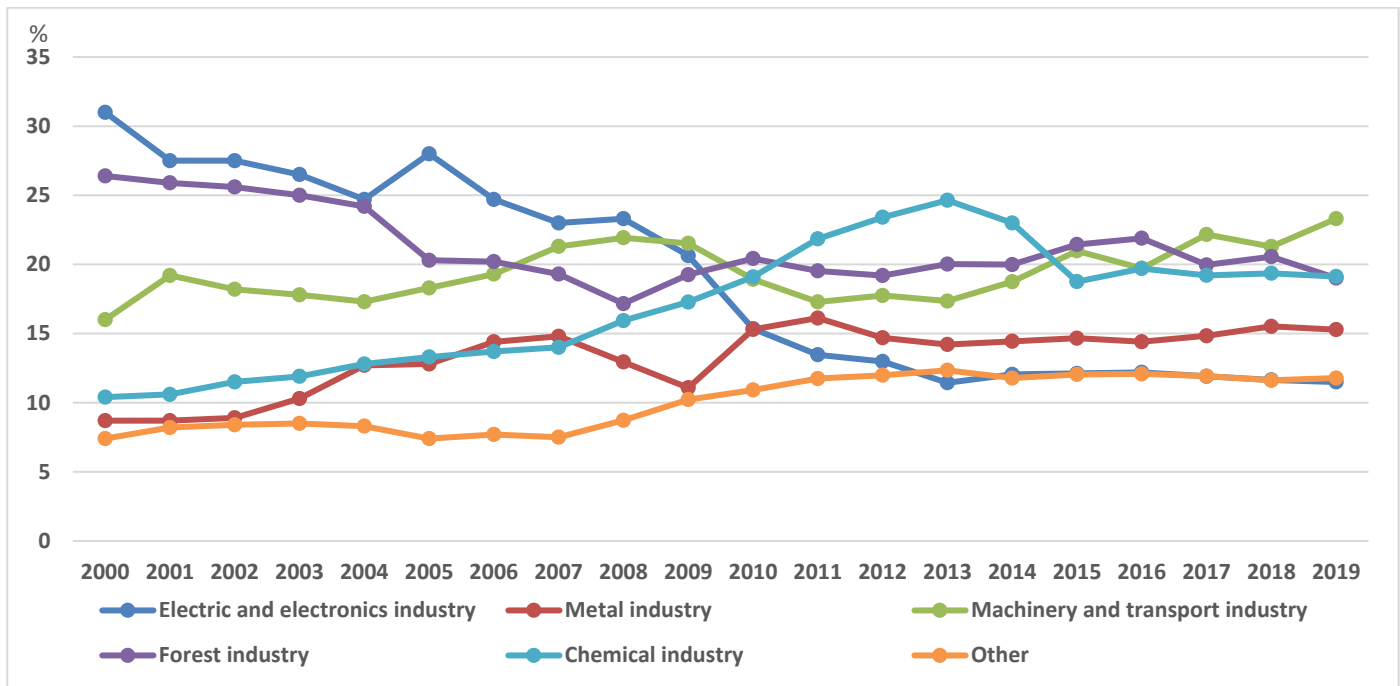
Figure 2. Finland’s exports, imports and trade balance by year 2000–2019, EUR billion



Largest share of exports in the machinery and automotive industry

The Finnish export is governed by three sectors, which order of size varies somewhat each year. In 2019, the machinery and transport industry was, as the previous year, still the largest export branch when calculated according to CPA classification. Its share of total exports increased and was 23.4 per cent last year, from 21.3 per cent the year before. The forest industry's share of total exports decreased to 19.0 per cent, whereas the year before it was 20.6 per cent. The forest industry was the third biggest export sector. However, the difference was slight in comparison to the export share of chemical industry products, including petroleum products. Its share of total exports was 19.2 per cent last year; the share decreased 0.2 percentage points from the year before. In 2018, the share of metal industry products was 15.3 per cent of the total goods export and the electric and electronic industry's share was 11.5 per cent. The changes in the shares of the various sectors were very small compared to the previous years.

Figure 3. Different sectors' (CPA) shares of total exports 2000–2019, per cent



Exports in almost all the main sectors slowed down or took a downward turn last year

The increase in exports of machinery and equipment slowed to 2.3 per cent in 2019 compared to the increase of nearly five per cent the year before. The increase in exports of industrial machinery and equipment slowed to 1.2 per cent, following the increase of nearly seven per cent the previous year. Their share of the total goods exports was 15.4 per cent last year. Exports of general industrial machinery and equipment increased the most, by 10.4 per cent. Exports of power-generating machinery and equipment decreased by 15.8 per cent, but exports of special machinery increased by 5.2 per cent last year.

The United States was the biggest export country in industrial machinery and equipment with a share of 8.4 per cent, and exports increased by 14.0 per cent last year. Russia was second with a share of 8.2 per cent. Exports from the product group to the United States decreased by 1.5 per cent last year. Germany was third with a share of 7.8 per cent; exports grew by 6.1 per cent. Exports from the product group to China increased by two per cent last year, but decreased to Sweden's 5.2 per cent. The total export shares of these countries in this product group, was slightly under seven per cent.

The total exports of electrical machinery and equipment increased by 4.7 per cent in 2019. The year before, the export of these only increased less than one per cent. Electrical machinery and equipment were exported the most to the United States, with a share of 12.8 per cent and to China, with a share of 8.8 per cent. With its increase by more than one quarter, the export of office machines was the highest in its goods category. In 2019, exports of mobile technology networking devices grew by 3.2 per cent, when the growth in 2018 was 30.9 per cent. Most of the networking devices were exported to the United States, even though the exports dropped by nearly one quarter. The country's share of total exports in this goods category was 24.1 per cent. Exports to South Korea multiplied to become the second largest export country, with a share of 23.5 per cent. Exports of networking devices to China decreased by 7.4 per cent, and the country had a 15.4 per cent share of the total export of networking devices.

Exports of transport equipment took an upward turn and increased by 22.2 per cent last year. The increase in exports was especially due to the delivery in December of a vessel worth 931 million to Italy. The value of passenger car exports remained almost at the level of the previous year, when the exports increased by one quarter. Of the passenger car exports, close to 90 per cent went to Germany last year. Exports of passenger cars to the country fell by 1.2 per cent last year. Russia was second with a share of 4.5 per cent. Exports of trucks and vans increased by 17.5 per cent. They were mainly exported to Sweden and Russia.

Total exports from the forest industry sector decreased by 5.5 per cent in 2019. In 2018, the exports of forest industry products still grew by one tenth. The total export share of paper and paperboard was 11.2 per cent, consequently being by far the biggest export product group of the forest industry. The export of paper and paperboard decreased by 4.3 per cent last year, when the export value a year before grew by eight per cent. Exports from the product group to Germany, which was the biggest export country with a share of 16.9 per cent, went down by 7.8 per cent last year. The United States was second with a share of 10.3 per cent. Exports from the product group to the United States decreased by one per cent. Exports of paper and paperboard to the United Kingdom decreased by 5.8 per cent last year, and the country was the third largest buyer of Finnish paper and paperboard with a share of 8.3 per cent.

The export value of pulp decreased by 9.5 per cent, and pulp had a 3.7 per cent share of total exports. The decrease in the value of exports was due to a drop of nearly one fifth in the export prices of pulp. Export volumes increased by over ten per cent. With a share of 36.4 per cent, China was by far the biggest buyer of pulp last year, as in the year before. However, exports of pulp to the country decreased by 6.4 per cent last year. Germany was the second largest export country for pulp, with a share of 13.7 per cent. Exports to Germany grew by 12.2 per cent last year. Italy was in third place. Italy's share was 7.5 per cent, seeing a downturn of 21.3 per cent in pulp exports last year.

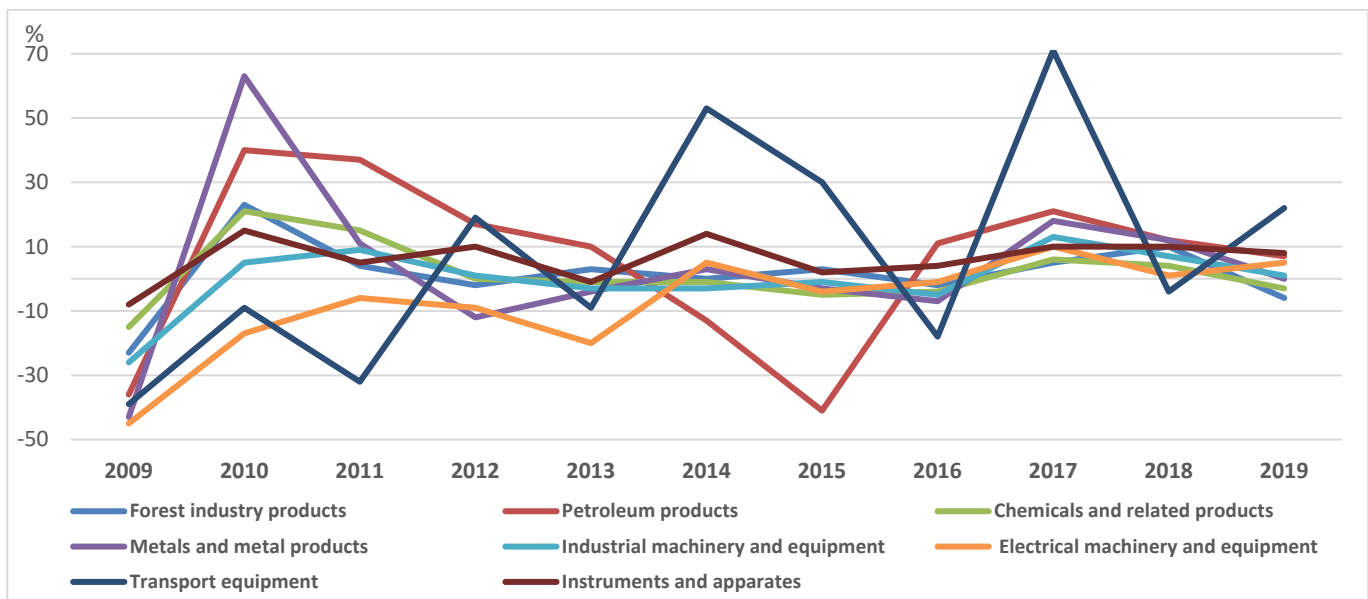
Exports of wood decreased by five per cent and its share of total exports was 2.9 per cent. The biggest buyers of wood were China (11.2%) and Japan (11.0%), followed by the United Kingdom and Egypt with shares of around ten per cent. The exports of wood to China was on the same level as the previous year, but decreased compared to the other countries. Exports to Japan decreased by 6.5 per cent, exports to the United Kingdom by 10.8 per cent and exports to Egypt by 4.5 per cent. Exports of wood manufactures fell by 5.9 per cent, as the product group had a 1.2 per cent share of total exports. Wood manufactures were mainly exported to Japan, Germany and Sweden.

In 2019, the export value of petroleum products grew by 6.9 per cent as the export volumes increased. The year before, the export value of petroleum products increased by 12 per cent. The share of petroleum products of total exports went up somewhat to 8.5 per cent. Sweden was the biggest buyer of petroleum products last year with a share of 30.5 per cent. The export value grew by 21 per cent. The share of the United States increased to 12.5 per cent; the export value nearly doubled. The share of the United Kingdom dropped from 10.7 per cent to 7.1, which meant a decrease in the export value by 29.3 per cent. The exports of petroleum products to Belgium grew by 20.9 per cent, whereas exports to the Netherlands decreased by 18.6 per cent. Exports of other chemical industry products saw a decline of 2.7 per cent last year. Exports of chemicals dropped by 5.9 per cent and exports of plastics by four percent. Exports of pharmaceutical industry products went down by 9.7 per cent.

The total exports of metal industry products in 2019 remained at almost the same level as the year before. The share of the total exports of goods in this product group was 13.4 per cent. Exports of iron and steel went up by 6,1 per cent. The Netherlands and Germany had the biggest shares of total iron and steel exports; 22.4 per cent and 13.6 per cent, respectively. Exports to the Netherlands decreased by 9.7 per cent and exports to Germany by 2.5 per cent. Exports to third-placed Sweden decreased by 15.6 per cent. The country's share of the total exports of iron and steel was 12.1 per cent. Gas pipes valued at 716 million euros were exported to the open sea in 2019. Other metals were mainly exported to Germany, with a share of 26.6 per cent. Copper was the most exported non-ferrous metal, although exports of the metal declined by 17.6 per cent. Almost half of the copper exports went to Germany. Zinc exports decreased by seven per cent, nickel exports increased by 11.6 per cent. Exports of metal products increased by 2.2 per cent last year.

Last year, there was a 8.4 per cent increase from the previous year in exports of instruments and apparatus, and their share of total exports was 3.8 per cent. The United States was by far the biggest export market for instruments and apparatus, accounting for nearly 34.6 per cent of total exports from the product group. Exports grew by 10.8 per cent last year. China was the second largest export country for instruments and apparatus, with a share of 7.5 per cent. Exports grew by 4,8 per cent last year. Exports to Germany of goods in this product group went up by 3.3 per cent, placing the country's share almost at the same level as China's. Exports of medical instruments and appliances grew by 4.1 per cent, as well as exports of measuring, checking, analysing and controlling instruments and apparatus by 13.7 per cent.

Figure 4. Change in exports of main export sectors 2009–2019, per cent



Imports of transport equipment increased the most in 2019

The total import of goods decreased by more than 1.2 per cent in 2019. The biggest product group in imports was machinery, devices and transport equipment with a 33.0 per cent share of total imports. Imports from the product group increased by 2.4 per cent in total last year. Most of the imports of machinery and devices came from Germany; the country’s share of total imports from the group was 19.7 per cent last year. The second biggest import country for these products was China, with a share of 17.0 per cent, followed by Sweden in third place. Sweden’s share was 8.2 per cent. Imports from Germany increased by 5.2 per cent and from China by 6.0 per cent. Imports from Sweden decreased by 2.2 per cent. Industrial machinery and devices were mainly imported from Germany with a growth of 8.3 per cent, which was a 29.8 per cent share of the total imports for these products last year. Imports of instruments and apparatuses decreased by 4.1 per cent. China was the biggest import country with a share of 26.9 per cent.

There was a 4.8 per cent rise in imports of transport equipment last year. Imports of passenger cars rose by 4.0 per cent and imports of motor vehicles for the transport of goods by 6.6 per cent. There was a 3.2 per cent drop in imports of motor vehicle chassis and parts. In 2018, the imports of them increased by 18 per cent. Passenger cars were mainly imported from Germany, and the country’s share of total imports was 28.0 per cent. Imports of these products went down by 3.3 per cent last year. Sweden’s share of passenger car imports was 12.9 per cent and imports increased by 7.2 per cent. The third highest number of passenger vehicles were imported from the United Kingdom, with a share of 9.4 per cent last year. Imports grew by 3.7 per cent. Goods transport vehicles were mainly imported from Sweden, its share was 33.5 per cent and the import value rose by 12.9 per cent. Germany’s share was 21.3 per cent and the imports decreased by 0.9 per cent. Passenger vehicle chassis and parts were mainly imported from Germany, and the country’s share of total imports was 54.7 per cent. Imports of these products went down by 6.4 per cent last year. The second highest number of chassis and parts were imported from the Czech Republic; the country’s share was 5.5 per cent.

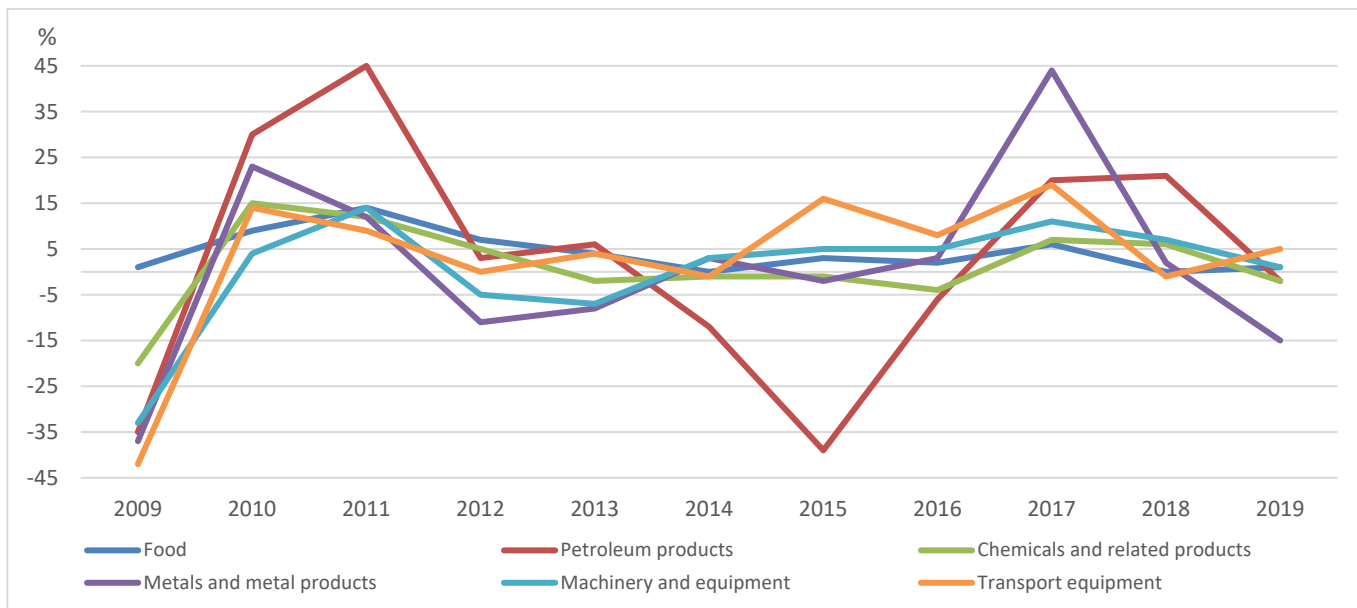
Imports of chemicals and related products declined by 1.8 per cent. The group’s share of total imports was 11.0 per cent last year. The biggest decline, eight per cent, was seen in imports of basic chemical industry products. Imports of plastics decreased by three per cent, whereas pharmaceutical imports increased by one per cent. Germany was also the biggest supplier of chemicals and related products with a share of 20.4 per cent. Next were Russia with a share of 10.3 per cent and the Netherlands with a share of 7.2 per cent.

The value of imports of crude oil decreased by 6.1 per cent last year. Both import prices and quantities went down; import prices somewhat less than import quantities. Crude oil was mainly imported from Russia, the country’s share was 87.0 per cent of total crude oil imports. Imports from Norway accounted for 11.5 per cent. The value of petroleum product imports grew by 5.6 per cent due to the increase in import quantities. Sweden was the biggest supplier of petroleum products with a share of 39.7 per cent, and Russia the second biggest with a share of 27.5 per cent.

Imports of metals and metal products went down by 15 per cent from the previous year. Imports of iron and steel decreased by 16.9 per cent, imports of other metals by 37 per cent and imports of metal products by 6.6 per cent. Iron and steel came mainly from Germany and Sweden. Germany and the Democratic Republic of Congo were the biggest suppliers of other metals.

Foodstuffs had a 6.2 per cent share of total imports in 2019; growing by 1.5 per cent. Imports of dairy products went down by 0.6 per cent, but there was an increase of 0.7 per cent in imports of fruit and vegetables. Germany was also the biggest import country for foodstuffs, with a share of 14.1 per cent. Sweden was second with a share of 12.8 per cent, and the Netherlands third (9.3%). The forest industry's share of total imports was only 2.6 per cent. Imports of these products saw a 7.5 per cent decline last year. The main import countries for forest industry products were Russia, Sweden and Brazil.

Figure 5. Change in main import sectors in 2009–2019, per cent

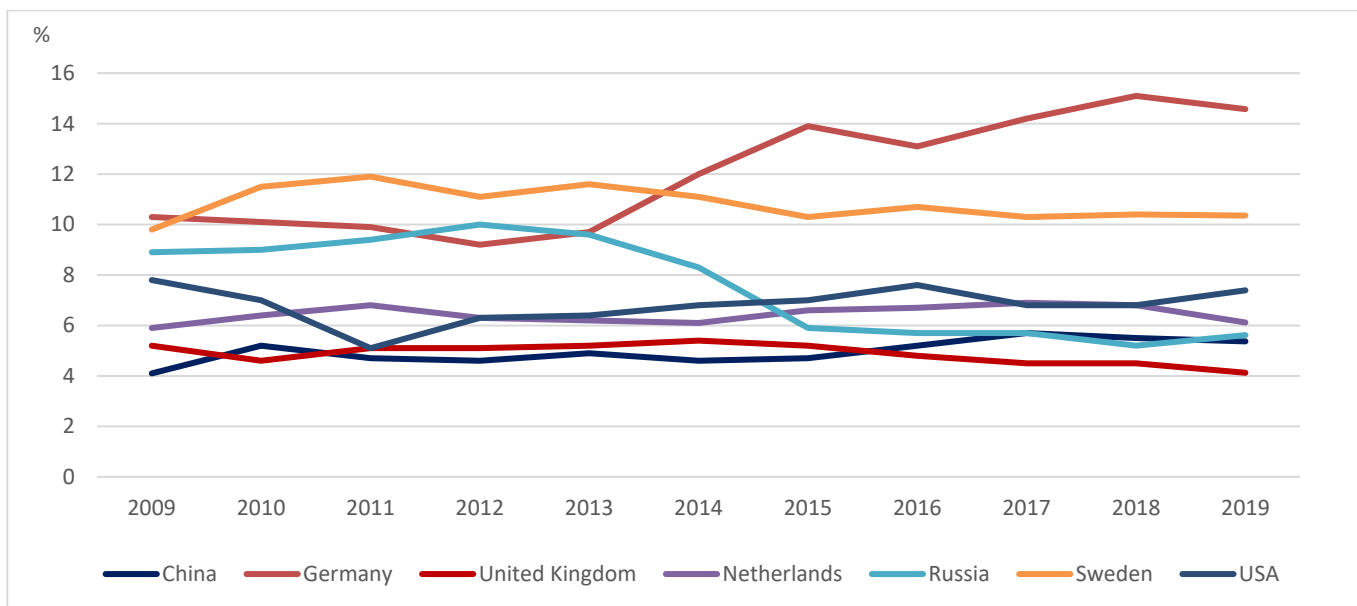


Germany the biggest trade partner according to Finnish Customs international trade statistics

Sweden was for many years our biggest export country and Russia our biggest trading partner when measured by total trade volume. This order changed in 2014. Germany became both our biggest export country and our biggest trading partner. Germany retained this position in 2019 as well, and its share of total exports amounted to 14.6 per cent. Germany's share of the total trade volume was 15.2 per cent.

Sweden was our second biggest export country, with a share of 10.4 per cent, and also our second biggest trading partner. The United States was as our third biggest export country with a share of 7.4 per cent, and the Netherlands had a share of 6.1 per cent. Russia was next, with a share of 5.6 per cent and China's share was 5.4 percent of the total export of goods. The United Kingdom came seventh with a share of 4.1 per cent.

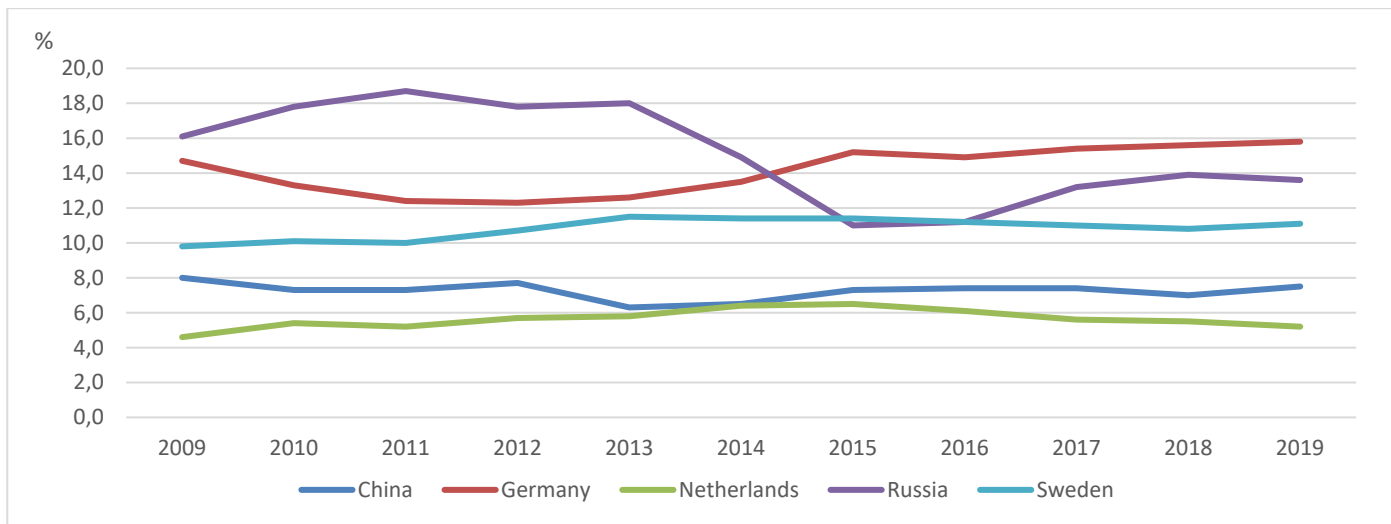
Figure 6. Shares of Finland's total exports to China, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Russia, Sweden and the United States in 2009–2019, per cent.



Russia was our biggest import country from 2003 to 2015, when the country dropped to third place with a share of 11.0 per cent. Russia kept its position in 2016 with a share of 11.2 per cent. In 2014, Russia's share of total imports was almost 15 per cent, and as high as 18 per cent in 2013. In 2017, Russia became the second biggest import country with a share of 13.2 per cent as well as in 2018, when the share rose to 13.9 per cent. In 2019, Russia was also the second biggest import country with a share of 13.6 per cent. The fluctuation in the price of crude oil has a great impact on Russia's share of total imports.

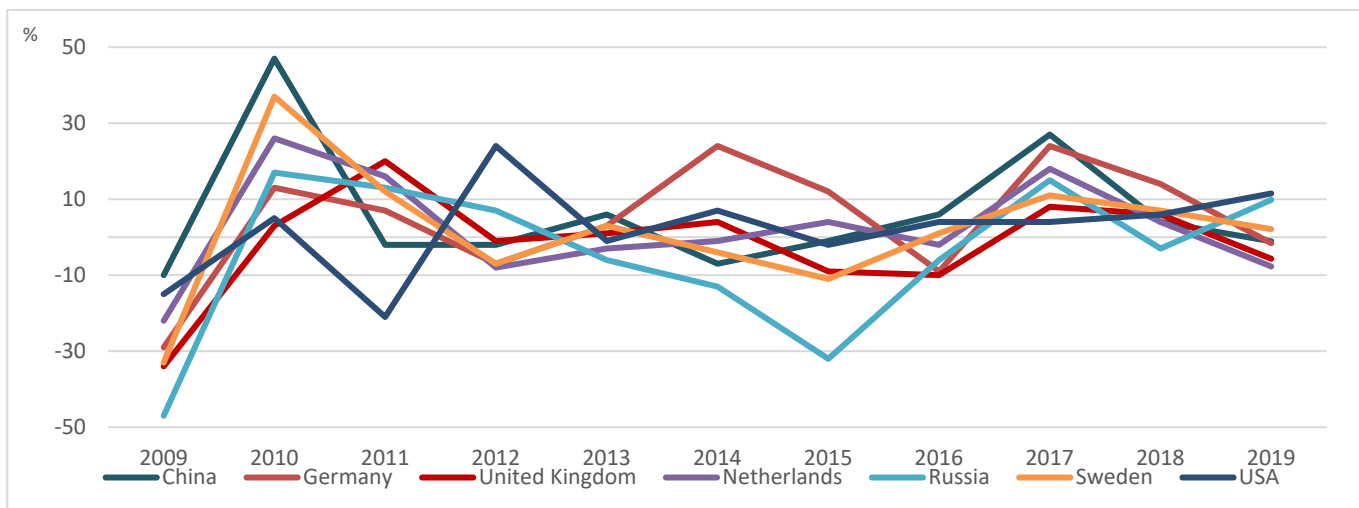
Germany remained our biggest import country also in 2019 with a share of 15.8 per cent of total imports. Sweden was third with a share of 11.1 per cent. China was the fourth biggest import country with a share of 7.5 per cent, and the Netherlands was fifth with a 5.2 per cent share last year.

Figure 7. Share of Finland's total imports from China, Germany, the Netherlands, Russia and Sweden 2009–2019, per cent.



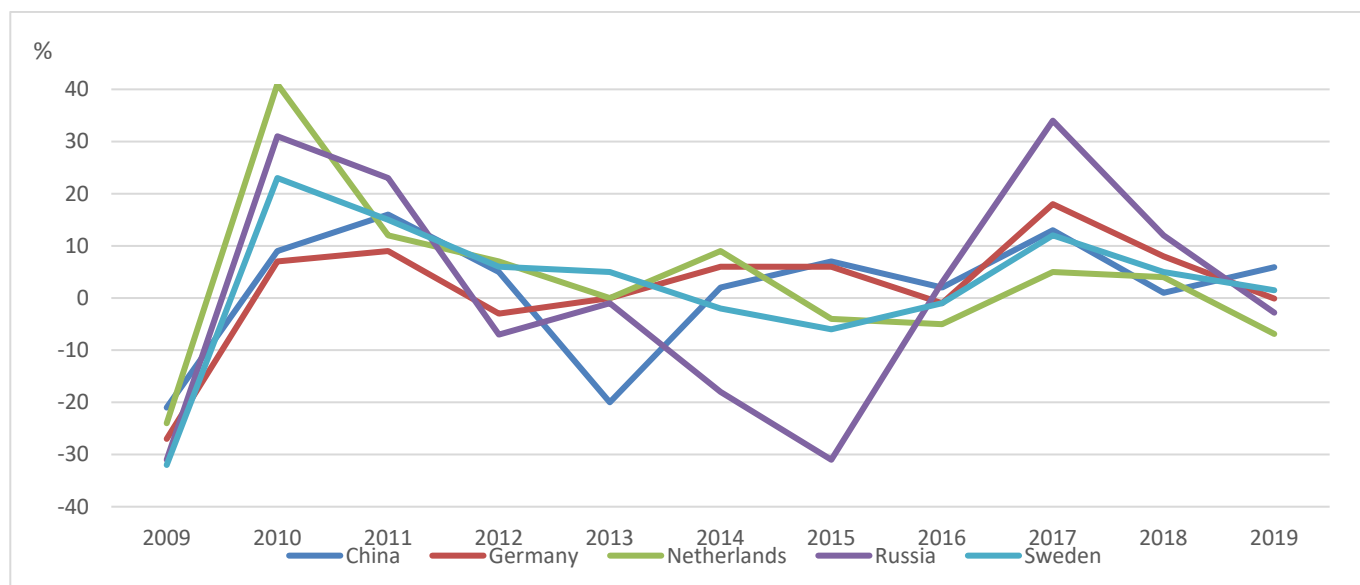
In 2019 exports to Germany decreased by 1.6 per cent. Exports to Sweden grew by 2.1 per cent in 2019 compared to the previous year. During this time, exports to the United States grew by 11.5 per cent, whereas exports to the Netherlands decreased by 7.7 per cent. Exports to Russia took an upward turn of 9.8 per cent, but exports to China declined by 1.1 per cent. Exports to the United Kingdom decreased by 5.7 percent.

Figure 8. Change in the value of Finland's exports to China, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Russia, Sweden and the United States 2009-2019, per cent



Compared to the previous year, imports from Russia went down by 2.8 per cent last year, but imports from Sweden grew 1.5 per cent during this time. Imports from Germany decreased by 0.1 per cent, but imports from China increased by 5.9 per cent. Imports from the Netherlands decreased by 6.9 per cent.

Figure 9. Change in the value of Finland's imports from China, Germany, the Netherlands, Russia and Sweden 2009–2019, per cent



Enquiries

Telasuo Christina, tel: 040 332 1828
 Kaarna Anssi, tel: 040 332 8153
 Email: firstname.surname@tulli.fi