

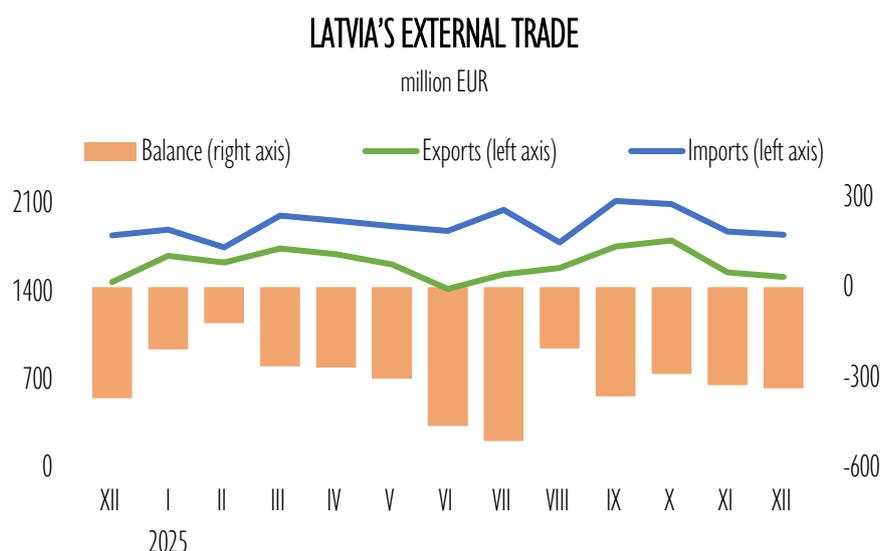
On Latvia's External Trade in December 2025 and in 2025 Overall

In 2025, the Values of Goods Exports Increased by 3.7%

Although export growth was volatile in the final months of 2025, the year as a whole ended with stable export growth. This positive trend was largely supported by entrepreneurs' ability to rapidly adapt production processes, market structures, and logistics solutions, which is particularly important in the context of geopolitical risks and structural changes in global trade.

Moderate export growth is expected to continue at the beginning of 2026, supported by the gradual recovery of demand in key export markets and the development of the largest export sector - manufacturing. At the same time, downside risks must be taken into account, especially those related to geopolitical uncertainty and its potential impact on global trade flows.

In December, goods exports at current prices increased by 2.7% compared to December 2024, while imports rose more moderately - by 0.3%. As a result, the trade deficit decreased slightly. Overall, exports showed stable growth in 2025 - by 3.7%.



Significantly - by 9% year-on-year in December 2025 - exports to the main export market, EU countries, increased. This was driven by a sharp rise in exports to Spain (cereals), Poland (machinery and electrical equipment), Lithuania (vehicles and electrical equipment), and to both Finland and Estonia (mineral products).

During this period, exports to CIS countries also grew rapidly - by 20.9%. The increase in exports to CIS countries was largely driven by higher exports of alcoholic beverages to Russia and Belarus. Exports of clothing and footwear to Russia, as well as exports of optical devices to Belarus, also increased significantly. It should be noted that despite growth in certain months, trade with CIS countries shows a downward trend that will continue in 2026. Overall, in 2025 exports to CIS countries were 6.6% lower than a year earlier.

Meanwhile, export volumes declined to countries outside the EU and CIS. This was mainly related to a significant decrease in exports of wood and wood products to the United States and a substantial drop in cereal exports to several African countries. It should be taken into account that due to comparatively

poor cereal harvests, cereal export volumes will also be lower in the first half of next year than a year earlier.

Overall, export growth in 2025 was significantly influenced by increases in the export value of mineral products, milk and dairy products, vehicles, as well as electrical equipment and machinery.

In December, on a year-on-year basis, import value also continued to grow – by 0.3%. This growth was positively affected by increases in imports of electrical equipment and machinery, iron, steel and articles thereof, pharmaceutical products, and land transport vehicles. Meanwhile, the import value of mineral products decreased significantly.

Overall, in 2025 imports from EU countries increased by 7.4%, while imports from countries outside the EU and CIS rose by 16.8%, whereas imports from CIS countries decreased by almost half.