

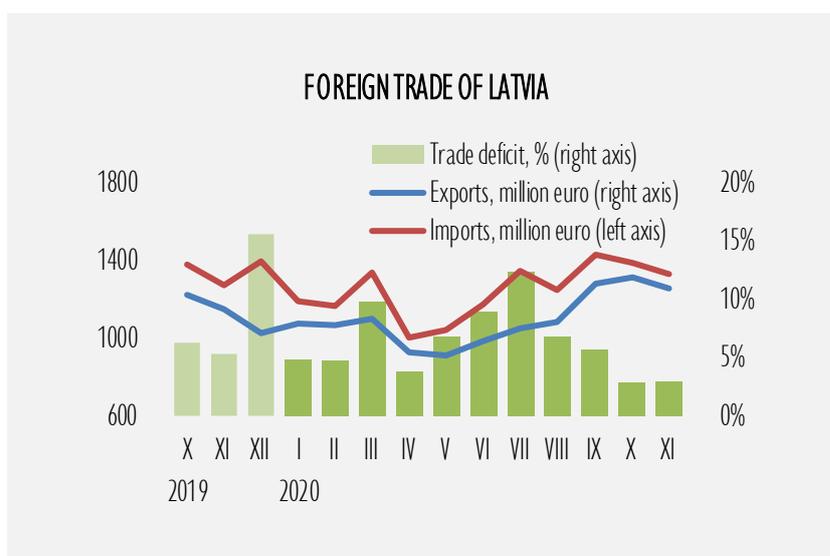
On Latvia's Foreign Trade In November 2020

In November 2020, rapid export growth continued

According to the Central Statistical Bureau (CSB), in November 2020, the value of exports of goods at current prices increased by 9.1% annually. However, imports of goods grew more moderately – by 4.1%. Consequently, the trade deficit was lower than a year ago.

In November 2020, for the third consecutive month, the value of most export commodity groups increased. The largest increases were observed in the export groups of electrical appliances and equipment, cereals, wood and wood products.

Also, exports of aircraft and parts, as well as machinery and equipment, increased significantly. On the other hand, the export value of beverages and oilseeds decreased on an annual basis.



In November 2020, the value of exports of goods to **EU countries** increased by 7.5% annually. Exports increased to Lithuania, Estonia (both electrical appliances and equipment), Spain (i.e., cereals), and Denmark (i.e., wood, oilseeds). However, exports to Sweden declined (i.e., mixed chemical products and furniture).

At the same time, exports to the **CIS countries** decreased slightly - by 0.5%. The value of exports to Ukraine (i.e., aircraft and parts) increased sharply; however, a decrease in exports to Russia (i.e., beverages) was observed.

In November 2020, exports to **other countries** increased significantly - by 23.5%. The value of exports rose sharply to the United Kingdom (i.e., timber), Nigeria, Mozambique, Morocco, Algeria, Ghana, and Singapore (i.e., cereals); however, the value of exports to Saudi Arabia (i.e., cereals) declined.

The annual increase in imports of goods was significantly influenced by the rise in the value of electrical appliances and equipment, machinery and equipment, beverages, and cereals. However, the value of imports of mineral products and tobacco decreased.

Due to a significant increase in exports during September-November, in November 2020, exports exceeded last year's volumes by 0.7%. In turn, during the same period, imports of goods were 6% lower than a year ago.

Although the value of exports has continued to rise in recent months, despite the constraints introduced to curb the spread of the coronavirus epidemic in partner countries, export development trends, as the overall economic outlook, remain highly uncertain due to new outbreaks of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is to be hoped that manufacturers will be able to adapt to the new situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and successfully overcome the 2nd wave of the spread of the virus, continuing to spur export growth also in 2021.