

# BELGIAN FOREIGN TRADE AGENCY



## FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS

01-03/2024



### Studies and statistics

**Christelle Charlier**

Director

+32 2 206 35 78

[christelle.charlier@abh-ace.be](mailto:christelle.charlier@abh-ace.be)

**Dennis Gijsbrechts**

International Trade Analyst

+32 2 206 35 73

[dennis.gijsbrechts@abh-ace.be](mailto:dennis.gijsbrechts@abh-ace.be)

**Cédric Cludts**

International Trade Analyst

+32 2 206 35 64

[cedric.cludts@abh-ace.be](mailto:cedric.cludts@abh-ace.be)



Belgian  
Foreign Trade Agency



### For further information

Belgian Foreign Trade Agency  
Rue Montoyer 3  
B-1000 Brussels  
Belgium

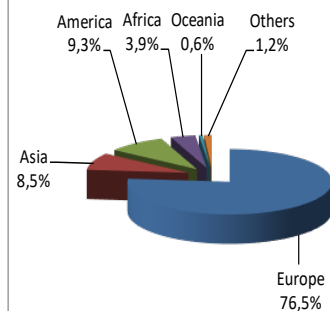
# BELGIAN FOREIGN TRADE

## 01-03/2024

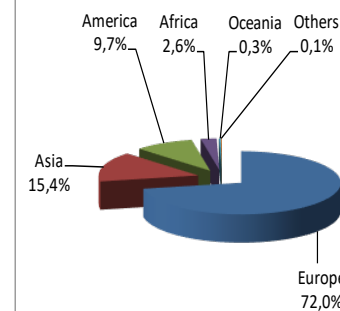
|                                | EXPORTS       | IMPORTS       | BALANCE     | COVER RATIO |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>X 1.000 EUR</b>             |               |               |             |             |
| <b>01-03/2023</b>              | 142.213.104,3 | 140.768.040,8 | 1.445.063,5 | 101,0       |
| <b>01-03/2024</b>              | 124.087.553,7 | 118.232.452,4 | 5.855.101,2 | 105,0       |
| <b>% VARIATION</b>             |               |               |             |             |
| <b>01-03/2024 - 01-03/2023</b> | -12,7         | -16,0         |             |             |

| PER CONTINENT | EXPORTS              |              | IMPORTS              |              | COVER RATIO  |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
|               | X 1.000 EUR          | % Tot.       | X 1.000 EUR          | % Tot.       |              |
| Europe        | 94.916.490,2         | 76,5         | 85.081.580,1         | 72,0         | 111,6        |
| Asia          | 10.566.904,6         | 8,5          | 18.169.502,2         | 15,4         | 58,2         |
| America       | 11.550.590,0         | 9,3          | 11.430.472,4         | 9,7          | 101,1        |
| Africa        | 4.864.037,1          | 3,9          | 3.041.827,8          | 2,6          | 159,9        |
| Oceania       | 727.569,9            | 0,6          | 352.075,5            | 0,3          | 206,7        |
| Others        | 1.461.961,9          | 1,2          | 156.994,5            | 0,1          | 931,2        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>124.087.553,7</b> | <b>100,0</b> | <b>118.232.452,4</b> | <b>100,0</b> | <b>105,0</b> |

### EXPORTS PER CONTINENT



### IMPORTS PER CONTINENT























The figures in this brochure, provided by the National Bank of Belgium and processed by the Belgian Foreign Trade Agency, are provisional results which have been partially rectified. Due to rounding off and/or changes in real time in the data base the totals in the various tables may differ from the sum of the sections (one digit after the comma).

The following statistical data are based upon the community concept and not upon the national concept that relies on the principle of economic residence. The community concept takes into consideration e.g. the import and export transactions carried out by VAT registered non-residents without the intervention of residents. Returned goods are also taken into account.

Source: EUROSTAT

## Belgium's top 20 customers

|   | X 1.000 EUR  | EXPORTS      |            | VAR.<br>% | TOT.<br>% |
|---|--------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|   |              | 01-03/2023   | 01-03/2024 |           |           |
|  GERMANY        | 27.369.401,9 | 21.628.711,9 | -21,0      | 17,4      |           |
|  NETHERLANDS    | 17.998.487,9 | 16.268.802,1 | -9,6       | 13,1      |           |
|  FRANCE         | 19.379.816,5 | 16.218.508,1 | -16,3      | 13,1      |           |
|  UNITED STATES  | 8.169.897,6  | 7.917.875,7  | -3,1       | 6,4       |           |
|  UNITED KINGDOM | 7.851.509,0  | 6.837.041,0  | -12,9      | 5,5       |           |
|  ITALY          | 6.863.946,2  | 6.342.057,8  | -7,6       | 5,1       |           |
|  SPAIN          | 4.308.735,3  | 4.019.578,8  | -6,7       | 3,2       |           |
|  POLAND         | 3.500.721,4  | 3.524.205,0  | 0,7        | 2,8       |           |
|  SWEDEN         | 2.564.856,6  | 2.418.338,4  | -5,7       | 2,0       |           |
|  CHINA          | 2.482.730,4  | 2.197.678,7  | -11,5      | 1,8       |           |
|  LUXEMBOURG     | 2.160.768,7  | 1.813.278,6  | -16,1      | 1,5       |           |
|  TÜRKIYE        | 1.871.193,0  | 1.799.931,0  | -3,8       | 1,5       |           |
|  AUSTRIA       | 1.517.347,8  | 1.513.299,9  | -0,3       | 1,2       |           |
|  SWITZERLAND  | 1.561.922,9  | 1.510.006,7  | -3,3       | 1,2       |           |
|  CZECH REP.   | 1.355.157,6  | 1.264.748,1  | -6,7       | 1,0       |           |
|  IRELAND      | 1.153.674,1  | 1.138.743,2  | -1,3       | 0,9       |           |
|  INDIA        | 1.469.915,3  | 1.115.395,3  | -24,1      | 0,9       |           |
|  UAE          | 1.219.580,9  | 1.114.804,9  | -8,6       | 0,9       |           |
|  DENMARK      | 1.058.308,5  | 1.089.914,4  | 3,0        | 0,9       |           |
|  NIGERIA      | 1.151.734,3  | 959.076,9    | -16,7      | 0,8       |           |

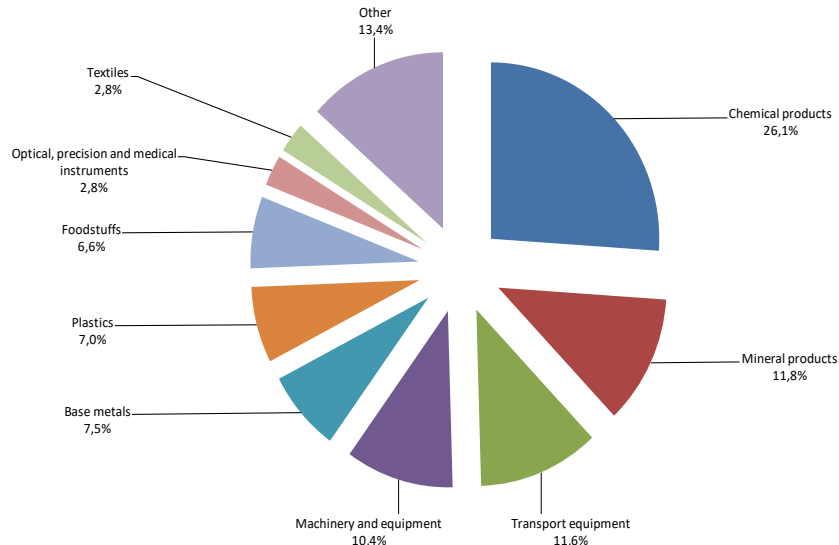
## Belgium's top 20 suppliers

|   | X 1.000 EUR  | IMPORTS      |            | VAR.<br>% | TOT.<br>% |
|---|--------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|   |              | 01-03/2023   | 01-03/2024 |           |           |
|  NETHERLANDS     | 25.108.840,9 | 24.419.582,4 | -2,8       | 20,7      |           |
|  GERMANY         | 16.693.563,0 | 14.423.303,8 | -13,6      | 12,2      |           |
|  FRANCE          | 13.224.034,3 | 12.214.081,5 | -7,6       | 10,3      |           |
|  UNITED STATES   | 9.956.331,8  | 8.446.273,4  | -15,2      | 7,1       |           |
|  CHINA           | 9.038.774,2  | 7.473.694,5  | -17,3      | 6,3       |           |
|  ITALY           | 4.948.203,3  | 4.843.865,4  | -2,1       | 4,1       |           |
|  IRELAND         | 4.738.358,4  | 4.460.304,1  | -5,9       | 3,8       |           |
|  UNITED KINGDOM  | 5.446.698,9  | 4.091.041,4  | -24,9      | 3,5       |           |
|  SPAIN           | 6.393.367,7  | 2.807.711,5  | -56,1      | 2,4       |           |
|  JAPAN           | 2.759.607,9  | 2.801.415,2  | 1,5        | 2,4       |           |
|  SWEDEN          | 2.362.643,9  | 2.505.096,9  | 6,0        | 2,1       |           |
|  SWITZERLAND     | 2.912.870,1  | 2.463.780,0  | -15,4      | 2,1       |           |
|  POLAND         | 2.369.737,9  | 1.747.814,3  | -26,2      | 1,5       |           |
|  NORWAY        | 3.537.466,1  | 1.739.460,6  | -50,8      | 1,5       |           |
|  INDIA         | 1.870.232,2  | 1.616.735,1  | -13,6      | 1,4       |           |
|  TÜRKIYE       | 1.447.069,1  | 1.293.232,6  | -10,6      | 1,1       |           |
|  CZECH REP.    | 1.244.123,0  | 1.197.418,6  | -3,8       | 1,0       |           |
|  AUSTRIA       | 883.114,3    | 1.067.839,6  | 20,9       | 0,9       |           |
|  VIET NAM      | 1.030.231,0  | 884.500,6    | -14,2      | 0,8       |           |
|  REP. OF KOREA | 1.360.392,1  | 857.678,9    | -37,0      | 0,7       |           |

## Belgium's export sections

| BELGIAN EXPORTS<br>SECTIONS                | x 1.000 EUR         | MARCH               |              | VAR.<br>%            | JANUARY-MARCH        |              | VAR.<br>%    | % TOT. |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
|  |                     | 2023                | 2024         |                      | 2023                 | 2024         |              |        |
| Chemical products                          | 13.143.767,8        | 11.020.509,5        | -16,2        | 36.618.007,6         | 32.366.221,6         | -11,6        | 26,1         |        |
| Mineral products                           | 5.808.049,1         | 5.236.151,5         | -9,8         | 18.749.734,4         | 14.697.325,7         | -21,6        | 11,8         |        |
| Transport equipment                        | 6.105.162,5         | 5.227.373,5         | -14,4        | 15.661.120,4         | 14.419.523,5         | -7,9         | 11,6         |        |
| Machinery and equipment                    | 5.247.525,5         | 4.468.982,7         | -14,8        | 14.385.533,4         | 12.888.035,8         | -10,4        | 10,4         |        |
| Base metals                                | 4.082.770,7         | 3.163.867,3         | -22,5        | 10.953.973,4         | 9.254.556,5          | -15,5        | 7,5          |        |
| Plastics                                   | 3.575.579,7         | 3.118.003,6         | -12,8        | 9.940.848,7          | 8.673.936,0          | -12,7        | 7,0          |        |
| Foodstuffs                                 | 3.051.981,9         | 2.788.539,1         | -8,6         | 8.327.412,1          | 8.165.364,2          | -1,9         | 6,6          |        |
| Optical, precision and medical instruments | 1.278.603,7         | 1.207.392,7         | -5,6         | 3.428.003,1          | 3.486.470,5          | 1,7          | 2,8          |        |
| Textiles                                   | 1.397.923,0         | 1.266.142,8         | -9,4         | 3.956.857,0          | 3.452.314,8          | -12,8        | 2,8          |        |
| Precious metals and stones                 | 1.522.969,7         | 968.091,8           | -36,4        | 4.859.753,6          | 3.316.601,2          | -31,8        | 2,7          |        |
| Live animals                               | 1.085.830,6         | 976.483,8           | -10,1        | 2.960.500,2          | 2.771.408,2          | -6,4         | 2,2          |        |
| Vegetable products                         | 1.094.714,9         | 894.630,5           | -18,3        | 3.090.596,3          | 2.718.684,9          | -12,0        | 2,2          |        |
| Footwear, headgear and umbrellas           | 655.552,6           | 698.581,5           | 6,6          | 2.159.815,6          | 1.971.244,7          | -8,7         | 1,6          |        |
| Miscellaneous manufactured articles        | 603.650,2           | 560.533,4           | -7,1         | 1.608.882,0          | 1.490.484,9          | -7,4         | 1,2          |        |
| Paper and paperboard                       | 578.120,7           | 418.898,5           | -27,5        | 1.595.434,6          | 1.281.871,8          | -19,7        | 1,0          |        |
| Stone. Plaster. Cement.                    | 466.409,1           | 390.099,1           | -16,4        | 1.291.301,8          | 1.102.780,8          | -14,6        | 0,9          |        |
| Wood and articles of wood                  | 402.754,4           | 269.326,3           | -33,1        | 1.031.002,3          | 767.281,8            | -25,6        | 0,6          |        |
| Fats and oils                              | 311.154,4           | 198.806,6           | -36,1        | 854.085,5            | 618.010,2            | -27,6        | 0,5          |        |
| Raw hides and skins, leather               | 119.817,7           | 109.989,7           | -8,2         | 339.891,2            | 326.218,3            | -4,0         | 0,3          |        |
| Works of art                               | 36.580,4            | 35.732,9            | -2,3         | 210.993,3            | 130.755,0            | -38,0        | 0,1          |        |
| Non-classified articles                    | 40.371,9            | 32.806,9            | -18,7        | 107.321,0            | 107.802,1            | 0,4          | 0,1          |        |
| Arms and ammunition                        | 26.582,4            | 33.635,3            | 26,5         | 82.062,1             | 80.684,9             | -1,7         | 0,1          |        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>50.635.863,7</b> | <b>43.084.571,2</b> | <b>-14,9</b> | <b>142.213.104,3</b> | <b>124.087.553,7</b> | <b>-12,7</b> | <b>100,0</b> |        |

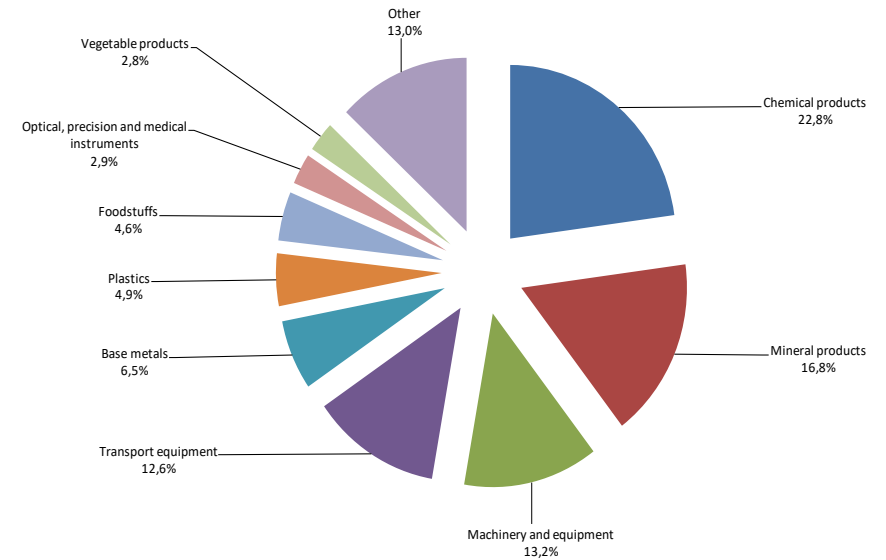
### BELGIUM'S TOP EXPORT SECTIONS



## Belgium's import sections

| BELGIAN IMPORTS<br>SECTIONS                | x 1.000 EUR         | MARCH               |              | VAR.<br>%            | JANUARY-MARCH        |              | VAR.<br>%    | % TOT. |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
|  |                     | 2023                | 2024         |                      | 2023                 | 2024         |              |        |
| Chemical products                          | 12.390.662,7        | 9.539.409,3         | -23,0        | 33.479.195,2         | 26.997.213,4         | -19,4        | 22,8         |        |
| Mineral products                           | 7.768.039,9         | 6.880.307,9         | -11,4        | 25.762.219,9         | 19.826.220,0         | -23,0        | 16,8         |        |
| Machinery and equipment                    | 6.229.036,9         | 5.086.151,6         | -18,3        | 17.535.271,2         | 15.567.060,0         | -11,2        | 13,2         |        |
| Transport equipment                        | 6.011.678,3         | 5.356.379,5         | -10,9        | 16.528.108,5         | 14.942.698,4         | -9,6         | 12,6         |        |
| Base metals                                | 2.998.523,9         | 2.597.416,8         | -13,4        | 8.889.047,7          | 7.713.113,1          | -13,2        | 6,5          |        |
| Plastics                                   | 2.449.991,8         | 1.972.444,1         | -19,5        | 6.856.058,2          | 5.781.716,4          | -15,7        | 4,9          |        |
| Foodstuffs                                 | 1.958.933,5         | 1.830.871,2         | -6,5         | 5.291.038,9          | 5.402.516,7          | 2,1          | 4,6          |        |
| Optical, precision and medical instruments | 1.281.987,2         | 1.191.762,4         | -7,0         | 3.571.431,3          | 3.390.724,3          | -5,1         | 2,9          |        |
| Vegetable products                         | 1.422.299,4         | 1.217.736,0         | -14,4        | 4.119.980,5          | 3.297.478,7          | -20,0        | 2,8          |        |
| Textiles                                   | 1.206.637,9         | 950.404,3           | -21,2        | 3.433.757,8          | 2.824.297,3          | -17,7        | 2,4          |        |
| Precious metals and stones                 | 1.439.433,4         | 911.824,4           | -36,7        | 3.853.341,1          | 2.673.440,4          | -30,6        | 2,3          |        |
| Live animals                               | 901.637,6           | 795.346,7           | -11,8        | 2.535.080,0          | 2.292.452,0          | -9,6         | 1,9          |        |
| Miscellaneous manufactured articles        | 639.896,9           | 603.437,5           | -5,7         | 1.849.840,7          | 1.727.721,6          | -6,6         | 1,5          |        |
| Paper and paperboard                       | 610.908,1           | 462.316,8           | -24,3        | 1.736.004,2          | 1.434.325,9          | -17,4        | 1,2          |        |
| Footwear, headgear and umbrellas           | 577.658,5           | 408.746,4           | -29,2        | 1.651.362,5          | 1.352.186,7          | -18,1        | 1,1          |        |
| Stone. Plaster. Cement.                    | 430.746,4           | 370.278,2           | -14,0        | 1.209.625,3          | 1.035.371,0          | -14,4        | 0,9          |        |
| Fats and oils                              | 322.935,5           | 256.499,5           | -20,6        | 939.396,6            | 862.459,1            | -8,2         | 0,7          |        |
| Wood and articles of wood                  | 326.051,9           | 224.492,7           | -31,1        | 942.731,1            | 652.786,2            | -30,8        | 0,6          |        |
| Raw hides and skins, leather               | 113.441,9           | 95.993,1            | -15,4        | 343.035,7            | 292.277,5            | -14,8        | 0,2          |        |
| Works of art                               | 46.808,5            | 40.392,8            | -13,7        | 178.893,5            | 102.070,0            | -42,9        | 0,1          |        |
| Arms and ammunition                        | 16.806,3            | 14.683,5            | -12,6        | 50.525,9             | 52.949,0             | 4,8          | 0,0          |        |
| Non-classified articles                    | 5.195,3             | 3.822,5             | -26,4        | 12.100,2             | 11.379,2             | -6,0         | 0,0          |        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>49.149.310,0</b> | <b>40.810.715,2</b> | <b>-17,0</b> | <b>140.768.040,8</b> | <b>118.232.452,4</b> | <b>-16,0</b> | <b>100,0</b> |        |

### BELGIUM'S TOP IMPORT SECTIONS

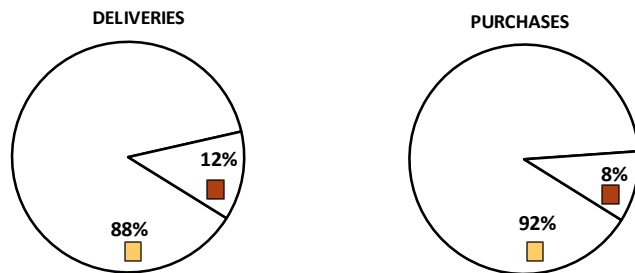
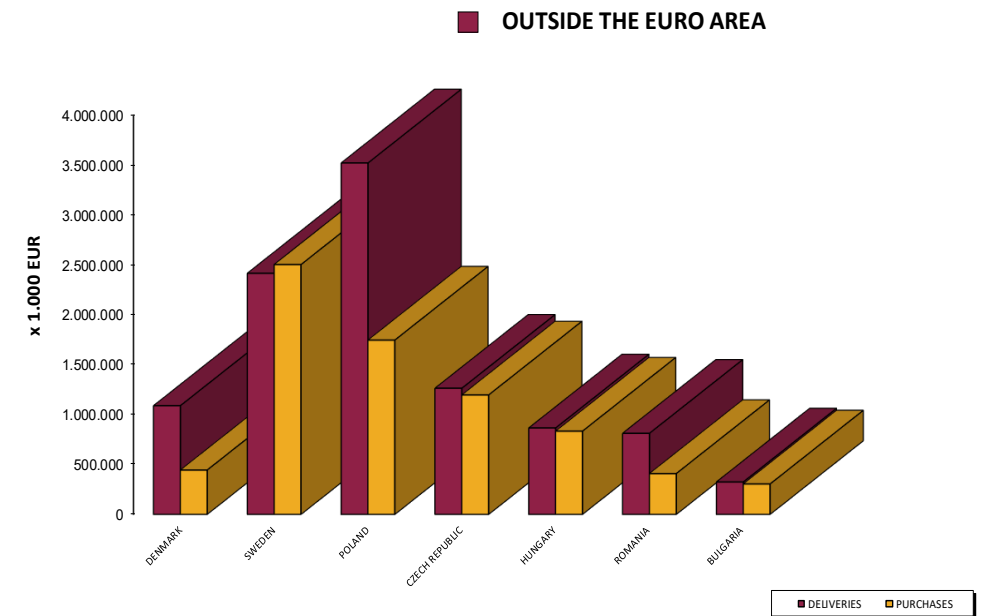
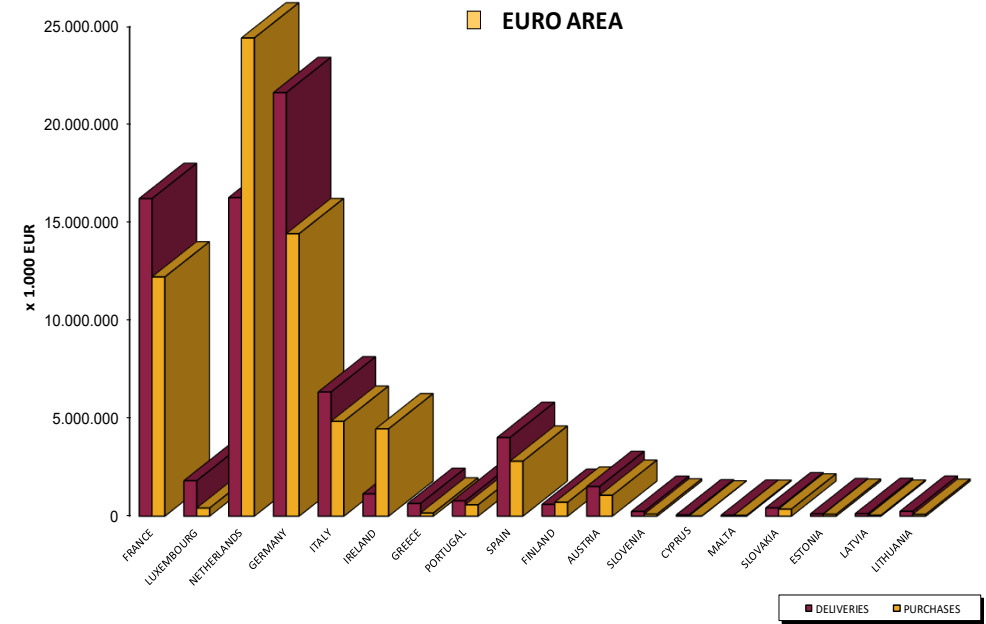




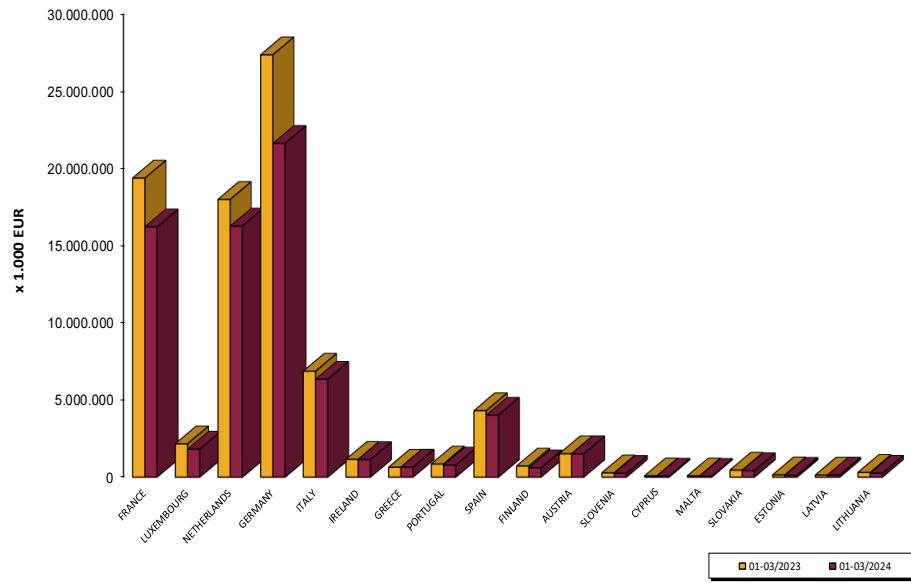
## Movement of goods within the EU after the first three months of 2024



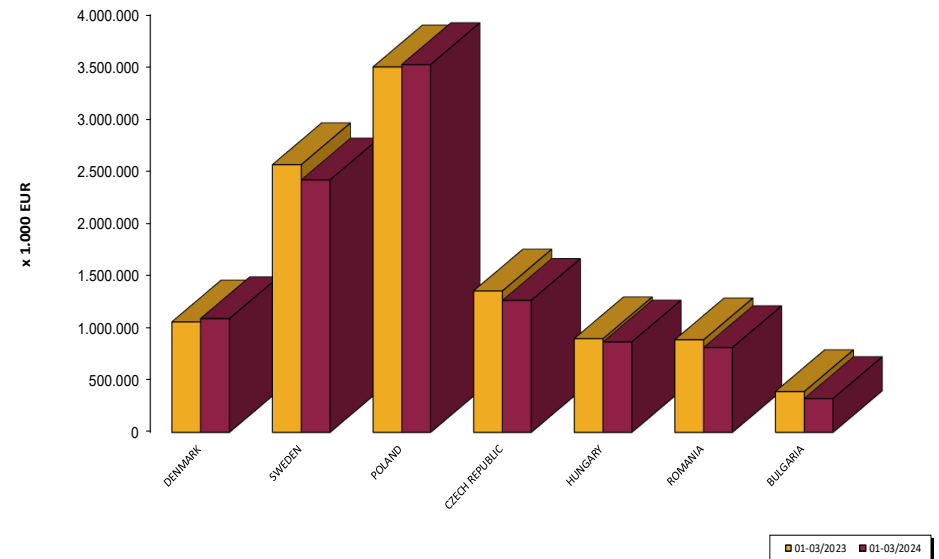
## Comparison deliveries-purchases after the first three months of 2024



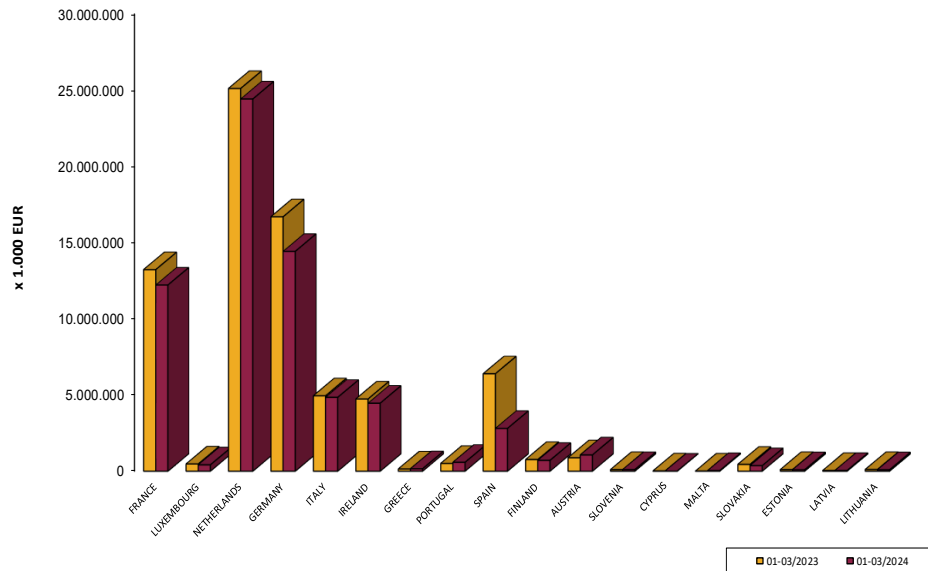
EVOLUTION OF THE DELIVERIES IN THE EURO AREA



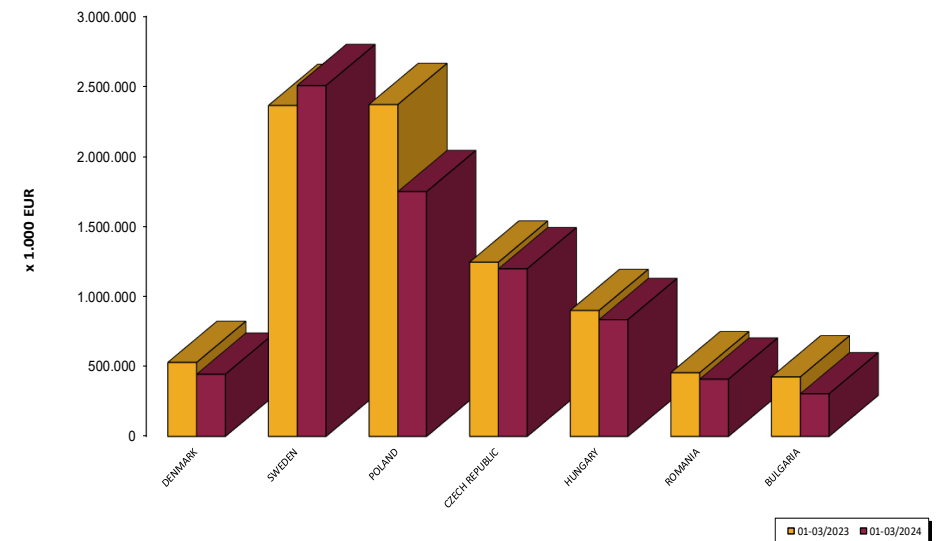
EVOLUTION OF THE DELIVERIES OUTSIDE THE EURO AREA



EVOLUTION OF THE PURCHASES IN THE EURO AREA



EVOLUTION OF THE PURCHASES OUTSIDE THE EURO AREA



## Monthly evolution of Belgium's trade

|                    | 01-03/2023           | 01-03/2024           | 3/2024 - 01-03/2024 | 01-03/2023           | 01-03/2024           | 3/2024 - 01-03/2024 | 01-03/2023         | 01-03/2024         |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| MONTHS             | EXPORTS              |                      |                     | IMPORTS              |                      |                     | BALANCE            |                    |
| QUARTERS           | X 1.000 EUR          |                      |                     | X 1.000 EUR          |                      |                     | X 1.000 EUR        |                    |
|                    |                      |                      | %                   |                      |                      | %                   |                    |                    |
| JANUARY            | 46.566.374,6         | 40.118.567,8         | -13,8               | 47.173.775,0         | 38.862.808,8         | -17,6               | -607.400,4         | 1.255.759,0        |
| FEBRUARY           | 45.010.866,0         | 40.884.414,7         | -9,2                | 44.444.955,7         | 38.558.928,4         | -13,2               | 565.910,2          | 2.325.486,4        |
| MARCH              | 50.635.863,7         | 43.084.571,2         | -14,9               | 49.149.310,0         | 40.810.715,2         | -17,0               | 1.486.553,7        | 2.273.855,9        |
| <b>1st QUARTER</b> | <b>142.213.104,3</b> | <b>124.087.553,7</b> | <b>-12,7</b>        | <b>140.768.040,8</b> | <b>118.232.452,4</b> | <b>-16,0</b>        | <b>1.445.063,6</b> | <b>5.855.101,3</b> |
| APRIL              |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| MAY                |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| JUNE               |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| <b>2nd QUARTER</b> |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| <b>6 MONTHS</b>    |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| JULY               |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| AUGUST             |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| SEPTEMBER          |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| <b>3rd QUARTER</b> |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| <b>9 MONTHS</b>    |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| OCTOBER            |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| NOVEMBER           |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| DECEMBER           |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| <b>4th QUARTER</b> |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |
| <b>12 MONTHS</b>   |                      |                      |                     |                      |                      |                     |                    |                    |