


# Exports to JAPAN


## FRENCH EXPORTS (2021)



**10,400**  
French businesses  
exported to Japan



**€6.7**  
**BILLION**  
in French goods  
exports to Japan



**103%**  
growth in exports  
in aerospace  
equipment to Japan  
between 2020 and  
2021



**1.4%**  
of all French  
exports



**#3**  
customer  
in Asia for French  
exports

## FRENCH EXPORTS TO JAPAN

**In 2021, some 10,400 businesses exported to Japan from France, amounting to €6.7 billion, or 1.4% of French exports.**

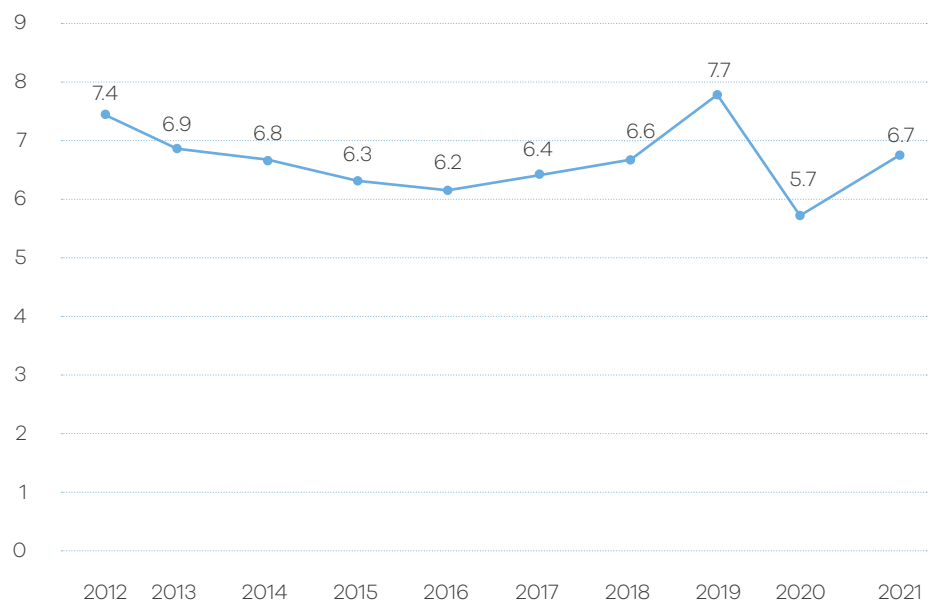
In 2021, Japan returned to positive economic growth, with a 1.7% rise in GDP after two years of decline. This recovery was accompanied by a historically high level of imports, up more than 21% on 2020 and 7% on 2019, which particularly benefited French exporters.

After a year marked by the Covid-19 health crisis, French exports to Japan saw a strong recovery in 2021, experiencing a rebound of 16.5%, a similar level to the growth of French exports as a whole. This growth was driven in particular by sales of aircraft and spacecraft, which increased by 103%.

While amounts exported remained lower than those of 2019 (€7.7 billion), an exceptional year with the implementation of the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement, they met the average observed between 2011 and 2018. Japan received 1.4% of all French exports in 2021, making it France's 13th largest customer in the world and the third biggest in Asia, after China and Singapore.

France was responsible for 1.5% of global exports to Japan in 2021, a share that has remained stable in the last 10 years. This is lower than France's market share in global exports of goods (2.6%). France was Japan's second largest supplier in 2021, after Germany but ahead of Italy.

**Fig 1. FRENCH EXPORTS TO JAPAN (€ BILLION)**



Source: French Customs Authorities, gross figures, FOB, excluding military equipment, 2022

## BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR OF FRENCH EXPORTS TO JAPAN

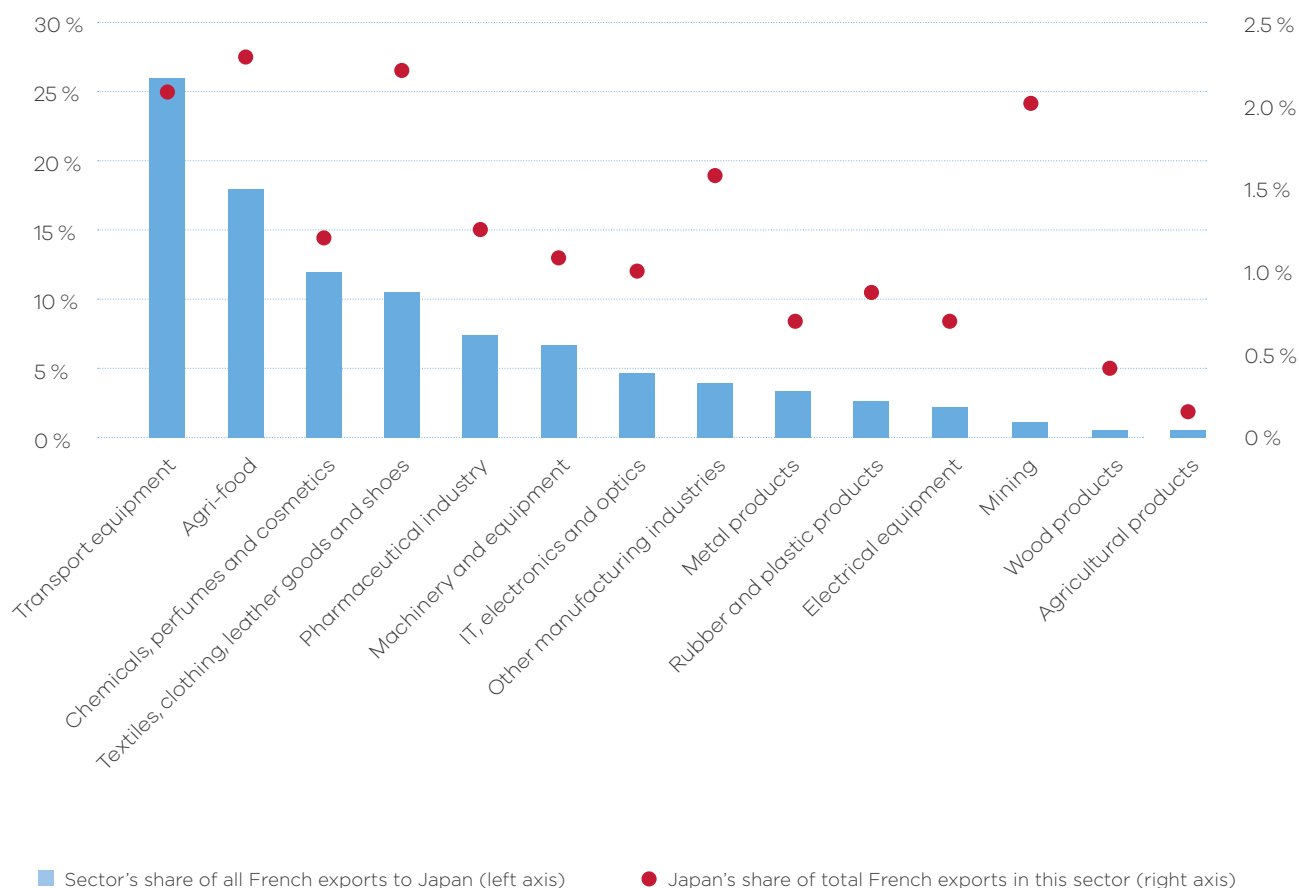
The leading sectors for French exports to Japan in 2021 were transport equipment (26% of exports), agri-food products (18%), chemicals, perfumes and cosmetics (12%) and textiles and clothing (10%).

Among the main export sectors to Japan, transport equipment experienced the fastest recovery following the Covid-19 crisis (+70%), due to the strong increase in sales in the aerospace sector, although they remain around 15% lower than sales generated in 2019. The second leading sector for exports, the agri-food sector, experienced growth of around 6% and returned to a level close to that of 2019.

The chemicals/perfumes/cosmetics and textiles/clothing sectors, areas in which France has particular expertise, and which account for more than 22% of exports to Japan, fared well in 2021, with increases in exports of 5% and 10%, respectively.

On the other hand, the pharmaceutical sector, one of the few sectors to grow in exports among all French exports in 2020 and to remain stable in 2021, did not experience the same trend for Japan. Sales of pharmaceutical products to Japan continued to decline in 2021, after a fall that began in 2020, with sales in 2021 only representing just over half of their value in 2019.

Fig. 2. BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR OF FRENCH EXPORTS TO JAPAN (2021)



Source: French Customs Authorities, gross figures, FOB, excluding military equipment, 2022