

II 主要国別・地域別貿易

1. アジア：輸入は微増ながらも過去最高を更新

・世界経済の悪化による影響はあったものの、対アジア貿易は総額で72.0兆円(前年比0.1%増)となり、わが国貿易の45%を占めることとなった。

(1) アジア(中国を除く)

(輸出)

・輸出は、40.0兆円(前年比1%減)と横ばいで推移し、過去2番目の水準となった。数量の伸びは、07年第3四半期以降2ケタの伸びを示していたが、08年第2四半期以降は減速し、第4四半期に減少に転じた結果、通年では同2%増にとどまった。

・国別にみると、台湾、香港向けが、一般機械(原動機、電算機類)や電気機器(音響・映像機器の部分品、半導体等電子部品)の落ち込みにより、それぞれ4.8兆円(同9%減)、4.2兆円(同9%減)と減少した。同様に、フィリピン向けも1.0兆円(同7%減)となった。

・一方、インドネシア向けは、一般機械(原動機)や原料別製品(鉄鋼)の2ケタ増などを背景に1.3兆円(同23%増)となった。ベトナム、インド向けはそれぞれ8,100億円(同22%増)、8,200億円(同13%増)となった。

(輸入)

・輸入は、32.1兆円(前年比2%増)と微増にとどまったものの、10年連続の増加となり過去最高を更新した。数量の伸びは、07年は4四半期とも減少で推移していたが、08年第1四半期にはいったん増加に転じた。しかし、第2四半期以降は再び減速し、通年では同1%増にとどまった。

・国別にみると、インドネシア、ベトナムからは、鉱物性燃料(液化天然ガス(LNG)、原油及び粗油、石炭など)が大幅増となり、それぞれ3.4兆円(同8%増)、9,400億円(同31%増)となった。インドからは、食料品(穀物類)の増加を背景に、5,400億円(同10%増)となった。

・一方、韓国、台湾からは、ともに電気機器(半導体等電子部品)が減少し、それぞれ3.0兆円(同5%減)、2.3兆円(同3%減)となった。シンガポール、香港からも同様に8,200億円(同2%減)、1,600億円(同6%減)となった。

(収支)

・輸出が横ばい、輸入が微増となった結果、アジアとの貿易黒字は7.9兆円(前年比10%減)となり、2年ぶりに黒字幅が縮小に転じた。

Trade with Asia (2008)

[By commodity]				[By country/region]			
Exports	Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution	Imports	Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution
Total	3,998.2	▲ 1.0	▲ 1.0	Total	3,205.6	1.6	1.6
Decrease				Increase			
7. Electrical Machinery	949.7	▲ 9.0	▲ 2.3	3. Mineral Fuels	508.5	40.7	4.7
4. Chemicals	521.4	▲ 6.7	▲ 0.9	4. Chemicals	196.3	10.7	0.6
9. Others	515.8	▲ 5.1	▲ 0.7	8. Transport Equipment	58.4	9.9	0.2
6. Machinery	761.0	▲ 1.0	▲ 0.2	5. Manufactured Goods	383.3	0.7	0.1
Increase				Decrease			
3. Mineral Fuels	127.3	114.8	1.7	7. Electrical Machinery	656.8	▲ 5.8	▲ 1.3
5. Manufactured Goods	710.4	5.7	1.0	9. Others	688.1	▲ 5.5	▲ 1.3
8. Transport Equipment	298.8	7.4	0.5	2. Raw Materials	150.7	▲ 11.7	▲ 0.6
Increase				Increase			
Indonesia	130.4	22.5	0.6	China	1,482.6	▲ 1.4	▲ 0.7
Singapore	276.1	7.6	0.5	R.Korea	304.8	▲ 5.0	▲ 0.5
Viet Nam	81.1	21.8	0.4	Philippines	91.8	▲ 10.6	▲ 0.3
				Taiwan	225.5	▲ 3.4	▲ 0.3

Notes: 輸出9.その他は科学光学機器、写真用・映画用材料など
輸入9.その他は科学光学機器、衣類・同付属品など

Exports 9 "Others" includes Scientific & Optical Instruments, Photographic Supplies, etc.

Imports 9 "Others" includes Scientific & Optical Instruments, Clothing & Accessories, etc.

Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

II Trade by Major Country and Region

1. Asia: Imports edge up to new record high

Despite the impact from the worsening of the global economy, in 2008 Japan's trade with Asia rose 0.1% year-on-year to post a record high ¥72.0 trillion, accounting for 45% of Japan's total foreign trade.

(1) Countries and Regions of Asia (excluding China)

Exports

Exports to Asia were basically steady, slipping 1% to ¥40.0 trillion, which is the second highest level on record. On a volume basis, exports to Asia had been posting double-digit growth since the third quarter of 2007, but slowed markedly from the second quarter of 2008 and turned to a decline in the fourth quarter. As a result the volume of exports to Asia rose by 2% for the full year.

By destination, exports to Taiwan and Hong Kong both declined by 9%, dropping to ¥4.8 trillion and ¥4.2 trillion respectively with slumps in exports of Machinery (Power Generating Machines; Computers & Units) and Electrical Machinery (Audio & Visual Apparatus; Semiconductors Etc.). Similarly, exports to the Philippines dropped 7% to ¥1.0 trillion.

In contrast, exports to Indonesia rose 23% to ¥1.3 trillion, with double-digit growth in exports of Machinery (Power Generating Machines) and Manufactured Goods (Iron & Steel Products). Exports to Vietnam were up 22% to ¥810.0 billion while exports to India rose 13% to ¥820.0 billion.

Imports

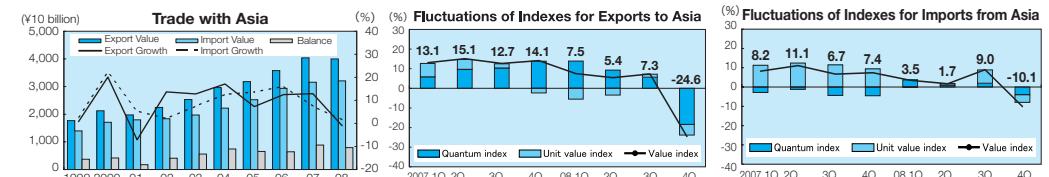
Imports from Asia rose slightly, edging up 2% to ¥32.1 trillion to post a new record high and the tenth consecutive increase. On a volume basis, imports from Asia rose 1% for the full year. After having fallen during all four quarters of 2007 the import volume rose in the first quarter of 2008. This increase was short-lived, however, and volume declined again from the second quarter.

By country, imports from Indonesia rose 8% to ¥3.4 trillion and imports from Vietnam jumped 31% to ¥940.0 billion on large increases in imports of Mineral Fuels (Liquefied Natural Gas [LNG], Petroleum, Coal, etc.). Imports from India rose 10% to ¥540.0 billion with large increases in imports of Foodstuffs (Cereals & Cereal Preparations).

In contrast, imports from South Korea dropped 5% to ¥3.0 trillion and imports from Taiwan fell 3% to ¥2.3 trillion with declines in imports of Electrical Machinery (Semiconductors Etc.) from both countries. Imports from Singapore slipped 2% to ¥820.0 billion while imports from Hong Kong were down 6% to ¥160.0 billion.

Trade Balance

Japan's balance of trade surplus with Asia declined 10% to ¥7.9 trillion, narrowing in 2008 after it had expanded in the previous year, as Japanese exports to Asia held flat while imports from Asia rose slightly.



Notes: 伸び率は対前年同期比。グラフ中の数値は金額の伸び率、数量指数=金額指数/価格指数

Export and import growth are up/down from a year earlier.

Figures in the table represent growth in value. Value indexes divided by unit value indexes make quantum indexes.

Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

(2) 中国：最大の貿易相手国として首位を堅持

・08年の中国経済は、07年の13.0%から大きく減速し、6年ぶりに10%を下回る9.0%成長となった。世界経済の減速による影響があったものの、对中国貿易は総額で27.8兆円(前年比0.3%減)となり、わが国貿易総額の17%を占めることとなった。

(輸出)

・輸出は、13.0兆円(前年比1%増)と横ばいながらも10年連続で過去最高を更新した。数量は、07年第2四半期から08年第2四半期まで2ケタの伸びを示していたが、第3四半期に減速、第4四半期に減少に転じ、その結果、通年では同8%増となった。

・品目別にみると、鉱物性燃料は、上半期の五輪特需による石油製品の輸出増を反映し、4,800億円(同130%増)となった。輸送用機器は、自動車が上半期好調となり16.7万台(同50%増)、4,200億円(同30%増)、自動車の部分品は5,000億円(同4%増)となり、全体では9,500億円(同15%増)となった。原料別製品は2.1兆円(同5%増)となった。一方、電気機器は、半導体等電子部品が1.0兆円(同12%減)、通信機が1,900億円(同14%減)となり、全体では3.3兆円(同6%減)となった。化学製品は1.6兆円(同10%減)となった。

(輸入)

・輸入は、10年ぶりに減少に転じ14.8兆円(前年比1%減)となった。数量の伸びは、第1四半期から第3四半期まで横ばいで推移したが、第4四半期に減少に転じた結果、通年では同1%減となった。

・品目別にみると、食料品は、日本国内で安全性の問題に関心が高まり、7,100億円(同23%減)と大幅に減少した。うち、魚介類が46.4万トン(同15%減)、2,500億円(同21%減)、野菜が125.9万トン(同19%減)、1,700億円(同21%減)、肉類が18.9万トン(同38%減)、820億円(同35%減)であった。一方、鉱物性燃料は、石炭が2,200億円(同56%増)、原油及び粗油が400億円(同3倍)となり、4,300億円(同40%増)となった。化学製品は、有機化合物が2,000億円(同21%増)となり、8,900億円(同11%増)となった。原料別製品は1.9兆円(同3%増)となった。

(収支)

・中国との貿易赤字は1.9兆円(前年比15%減)となり、3年連続で赤字幅が縮小した。

Trade with China (2008)**[By commodity]**

Exports				Imports			
	Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution		Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution
Total	1,295.7	0.9	0.9	Total	1,482.6	▲ 1.4	▲ 1.4
Increase				Decrease			
3.Mineral Fuels	48.4	130.1	2.1	9.Others	481.9	▲ 5.7	▲ 1.9
8.Transport Equipment	95.3	15.3	1.0	1.Foodstuffs	71.3	▲ 22.6	▲ 1.4
5.Manufactured Goods	208.0	4.9	0.8	6.Machinery	247.9	▲ 0.7	▲ 0.1
6.Machinery	242.8	1.6	0.3				
Decrease				Increase			
7.Electrical Machinery	330.4	▲ 6.1	▲ 1.7	3.Mineral Fuels	42.5	40.4	0.8
4.Chemicals	163.2	▲ 9.7	▲ 1.4	4.Chemicals	88.6	10.5	0.6
1.Foodstuffs	3.4	▲ 26.3	▲ 0.1	5.Manufactured Goods	191.7	2.9	0.4
				8.Transport Equipment	29.5	9.3	0.2

Notes: 輸出9.その他は科学光学機器、写真用・映画用材料など

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Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

(2) China: Maintains position as Japan's top trading partner

In 2008 the Chinese economy grew at an annual rate of 9%, slowing markedly from the 13% posted in 2007 and falling below 10% for the first time in six years. While Japan's trade with China was affected by the global economic slowdown, it held steady, slipping 0.3% year-on-year to ¥27.8 trillion, and accounted for 17% of Japan's total trade value.

Exports

Exports to China were basically flat, moving up 1% to ¥13.0 trillion and reaching a new record high for the tenth consecutive year. On a volume basis, exports to China had been posting double-digit growth from the second quarter of 2007 through the second quarter of 2008, but slowed in the third quarter and turned to a decline in the fourth quarter. As a result, the volume of exports to China rose by 8% for the full year.

By product category, exports of Mineral Fuels rose 130% to ¥480.0 billion, reflecting the increased exports of Petroleum Products in the first half to meet the special demand from the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Transport Equipment rose 15% to ¥950.0 billion on strong exports of Motor Vehicles in the first half. Motor Vehicles were up 30% to ¥420.0 billion (up 50% to 167,000 units), and Parts of Motor Vehicles rose 4% to ¥500.0 billion. Exports of Manufactured Goods rose 5% to ¥2.1 trillion. However, exports of Electrical Machinery dropped 6% to ¥3.3 trillion as Semiconductors Etc. dropped 12% to ¥1.0 trillion and Telephony & Telegraphy Equipment fell 14% to ¥190.0 billion. Exports of Chemicals were down 10% to ¥1.6 trillion.

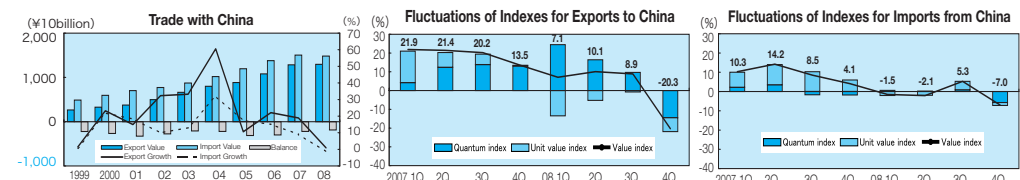
Imports

Imports from China eased 1% to ¥14.8 trillion, posting the first drop in a decade. On a volume basis, imports from China were flat in the first three quarters and then fell in the fourth quarter to register a decline of 1% for the full year.

By product category, imports of Foodstuffs fell sharply, dropping 23% to ¥710.0 billion on growing concerns inside Japan regarding food safety. In detail, Fish & Fish Preparations were down 21% to ¥250.0 billion (down 15% to 464,000 tons), Vegetables were down 21% to ¥170.0 billion (down 19% to 1,259,000 tons), and Meat & Meat Preparations were down 35% to ¥82.0 billion (down 38% to 189,000 tons). In contrast, imports of Mineral Fuels rose 40% to ¥430.0 billion as Coal rose 56% to ¥220.0 billion and Petroleum tripled to ¥40.0 billion. Imports of Chemicals rose 11% to ¥890.0 billion, with imports of Organic Chemicals rising 21% to ¥200.0 billion. Imports of Manufactured Goods were up 3% to ¥1.9 trillion.

Trade Balance

Japan's balance of trade deficit with China contracted 15% to ¥1.9 trillion, narrowing for the third consecutive year.



Notes: 伸び率は対前年同期比。グラフ中の数値は金額の伸び率、数量指数 = 金額指数/価格指数

Export and import growth are up/down from a year earlier.

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Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

2. 米国：米国景気の減速により輸出は大幅に減少

・サブプライムローン問題に端を発した金融危機を背景に米国経済は失速し、輸出は2ケタ減と大幅に落ち込んだ。また対米貿易総額は22.3兆円（前年比12%減）と低調な結果となり、07年に首位の座をゆずった中国27.8兆円との差が拡大した。

(輸出)

・米国経済は金融危機を背景に個人消費、住宅着工、設備投資などが大幅に落ち込み、景気は後退局面に入った。その結果、輸出は14.2兆円（前年比16%減）と著しく落ち込み、2年連続の減少となった。四半期別にみると、第1四半期は前年同期比7%減と1ケタ減であったものの、第2、第3四半期がそれぞれ同11%減、同15%減と2ケタ減となり、第4四半期は同30%減まで落ち込んでいる。また、米国向けはBRICs4カ国向けの合計を初めて下回るようになった。

・品目別にみると、3割を占める自動車は4.2兆円（同20%減）と大幅に落ち込んだのはじめ、原動機6,000億円（同13%減）、映像機器4,000億円（同18%減）、半導体等電子部品3,300億円（同11%減）、パソコンなどの電算機類2,800億円（同21%減）が軒並み2ケタの減少となった。一方、科学光学機器は3,400億円（同3%減）と微減、鉄鋼は2,400億円（同6%増）と増加を維持した。

(輸入)

・日本経済の減速に伴い、輸入は8.0兆円（前年比4%減）と4年ぶりの減少に転じた。
・商品別にみると、4分の1を占める食料品が1.9兆円（同13%）と2ケタ増を記録した。これは上半期の食料価格高騰の影響により穀物類が8,600億円（同40%増）と大幅に伸びたことによるが、数量は同5%増にとどまっている。また同様の理由で、原料品の飼料用大豆が1,800億円（同16%増）と増加している。一方、航空機類5,300億円（同11%減）、半導体等電子部品4,200億円（同15%減）、科学光学機器4,100億円（同14%減）がいずれも著しく減少した。

(収支)

・対米貿易黒字は、07年に8.6兆円（前年比5%減）と縮小に転じたが、08年は大幅な輸出減により、6.2兆円（同28%減）と縮小幅が拡大する結果になった。

Trade with U.S. (2008)

[By commodity]

Exports	Value	Growth	Contribution	Imports	Value	Growth	Contribution
	(¥10billion)	(%)			(¥10billion)	(%)	
Total	1,422.3	▲ 15.8	▲ 15.8	Total	804.0	▲ 3.7	▲ 3.7
Decrease				Decrease			
8.Transport Equipment	551.3	▲ 20.0	▲ 8.2	7.Electrical Machinery	113.5	▲ 17.7	▲ 2.9
6.Machinery	306.0	▲ 13.6	▲ 2.9	6.Machinery	104.7	▲ 18.4	▲ 2.8
7.Electrical Machinery	228.2	▲ 13.6	▲ 2.1	8.Transport Equipment	70.5	▲ 8.2	▲ 0.8
9.Others	148.8	▲ 11.2	▲ 1.1	9.Others	90.1	▲ 6.1	▲ 0.7
3.Mineral Fuels	7.4	▲ 64.3	▲ 0.8	5.Manufactured Goods	47.2	▲ 7.0	▲ 0.4
				Increase			
				1.Foodstuffs	186.2	13.0	2.6
				3.Mineral Fuels	18.7	68.3	0.9

Notes：輸出9.その他は科学光学機器、写真用・映画用材料など
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Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

2. The United States: Exports down sharply on economic slowdown

Exports to the U.S. posted a double-digit decline in 2008 as the U.S. economy slowed under the financial crisis that began from the subprime mortgage crisis. The total value of Japan's trade with the U.S. also dropped 12% year-on-year to ¥22.3 trillion, resulting in a wider gap with Japan's trade with China (¥27.8 trillion), which replaced the U.S. as Japan's top trade partner in 2007.

Exports

The U.S. entered a recession in 2008 against the background of the financial crisis, with major slumps in personal consumption, housing starts, and capital investment. As a result, exports to the U.S. fell markedly, dropping 16% to ¥14.2 trillion and posting a decline for the second consecutive year. By quarter, exports were down 7% in the first quarter, 11% in the second quarter, 15% in the third quarter and 30% in the fourth quarter. Also, in 2008 Japan's total exports to the four BRIC countries surpassed exports to the U.S. for the first time.

By product category, exports of Motor Vehicles, which accounted for 30% of the total, were down sharply, falling 20% to ¥4.2 trillion. Many other product categories posted double-digit declines: Power Generating Machines dropped 13% to ¥600.0 billion, Audio & Visual Apparatus fell 18% to ¥400.0 billion, Semiconductors Etc. were down 11% to ¥330.0 billion, and Personal Computers and other Computers & Units declined 21% to ¥280.0 billion. Exports of Scientific & Optical Instruments were down slightly, off 3% to ¥340.0 billion. Conversely, exports of Iron & Steel Products rose 6% to ¥240.0 billion.

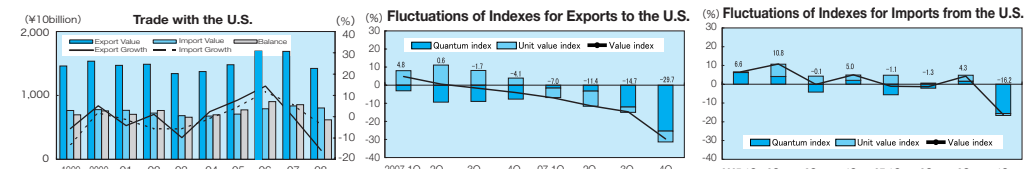
Imports

With the slowdown in the Japanese economy, imports from the U.S. fell 4% to ¥8.0 trillion, posting the first decline in four years.

By product category, imports of Foodstuffs, which accounted for one quarter of the total, posted a double-digit increase, rising 13% to ¥1.9 trillion. This was largely because, with the sudden increase in food prices in the first half, imports of Cereals & Cereal Preparations jumped 40% to ¥860.0 billion. On a volume basis, the increase in imports of Foodstuffs was only 5%. Imports of the Raw Materials item Soy Beans for feed rose 16% to ¥180.0 billion also due to price hikes. Conversely, imports of Aircraft (down 11% to ¥530.0 billion), Semiconductors Etc. (down 15% to ¥420.0 billion), and Scientific & Optical Instruments (down 14% to ¥410.0 billion) all posted substantial declines.

Trade Balance

Japan's balance of trade surplus with the U.S. began to contract in 2007, falling 5% from the 2006 balance to ¥8.6 trillion, and then narrowed sharply in 2008, dropping 28% to ¥6.2 trillion. This was mostly caused by the large decline in exports to the U.S.



Notes：伸び率は対前年同期比、グラフ中の数値は金額の伸び率、数量指数＝金額指数/価格指数

Export and import growth are up/down from a year earlier.

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Source：Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

3. EU：輸出入ともに減少へ

・08年のEU経済は米国発の金融危機の影響により急激に減速し、輸出は6年ぶりに減少に転じた。また、日本経済の低迷により、輸入も9年ぶりに減少している。その結果、対EU貿易は低調に推移し、貿易総額は18.7兆円(前年比7%減)にとどまった。

(輸出)

- ・輸出は、第1四半期が前年同期比7%増と増加を維持したものの、第2四半期(同4%減)、第3四半期(同3%減)は減少に転じ、第4四半期は同30%減と2ケタ減にまで落ち込んだ。その結果、通年では11.4兆円(前年比8%減)にまで減少している。
- ・品目別にみると、自動車を中心とする輸送用機器が2.8兆円(同13%減)、一般機械が2.9兆円(同10%減)、電気機器が2.4兆円(同6%減)と軒並み減少に転じた。特に第4四半期の落ち込みが顕著で、自動車は前年同期比44%減、電気機器は同29%減と大幅に減少している。
- ・国別では、ドイツ向け2.5兆円(前年比7%減)、英国向け1.7兆円(同11%減)、フランス向け9,300億円(同5%減)と主要国を中心にほとんどの国で減少している。

(輸入)

- ・輸入も7.3兆円(前年比5%減)と9年ぶりの減少に転じた。
- ・商品別にみると、食料品が7,400億円(同5%増)と増加している。内訳は魚介類660億円(同26%増)、穀物類460億円(同17%増)が増加、肉類は1,300億円(同2%減)と減少した。また、医薬品などの化学品は1.9兆円(同1%増)と横ばいで推移する一方、一般機械9,900億円(同7%減)、電気機器7,000億円(同5%減)、自動車5,700億円(同21%減)、科学光学機器3,100億円(同2%減)は軒並み減少した。
- ・国別では、ドイツ2.2兆円(同6%減)、フランス1.1兆円(同7%減)、英国7,700億円(同13%減)など主要国からを中心に大きく減少した。

(収支)

- ・対EU貿易黒字は、輸出の減少が輸入の減少を上回ったため、4.1兆円(前年比13%減)と3年ぶりに黒字が縮小した。

Trade with EU (2008)

[By commodity]

Exports		Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution	Imports		Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution
Total		1,143.1	▲ 7.8	▲ 7.8	Total		728.8	▲ 4.9	▲ 4.9
Decrease									
8.Transport Equipment	281.8	▲ 12.7	▲ 3.3		8.Transport Equipment	86.3	▲ 18.1	▲ 2.5	
6.Machinery	294.1	▲ 9.9	▲ 2.6		9.Others	116.3	▲ 5.6	▲ 0.9	
7.Electrical Machinery	239.9	▲ 6.4	▲ 1.3		6.Machinery	99.3	▲ 6.5	▲ 0.9	
4.Chemicals	81.8	▲ 5.4	▲ 0.4		2.Raw Materials	21.9	▲ 18.2	▲ 0.6	
5.Manufactured Goods	75.8	▲ 5.7	▲ 0.4		7.Electrical Machinery	69.8	▲ 5.1	▲ 0.5	
Increase									
3.Mineral Fuels	11.8	40.1	0.3		1.Foodstuffs	74.4	5.0	0.5	
					3.Mineral Fuels	7.1	55.6	0.3	

[By country/region]

Exports		Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution	Imports		Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution
Total		1,143.1	▲ 7.8	▲ 7.8	Total		728.8	▲ 4.9	▲ 4.9
Decrease									
UK	170.7	▲ 10.9	▲ 1.7		Germany	215.8	▲ 5.5	▲ 1.6	
Spain	45.6	▲ 30.5	▲ 1.6		UK	77.3	▲ 12.8	▲ 1.5	
Germany	248.4	▲ 6.6	▲ 1.4		France	110.0	▲ 6.8	▲ 1.0	
Italy	70.6	▲ 10.6	▲ 0.7		Ireland	43.0	▲ 10.9	▲ 0.7	
Ireland	13.2	▲ 29.6	▲ 0.4		Sweden	21.6	▲ 18.0	▲ 0.6	
Increase									
Netherlands	39.6	20.1	0.9						
Switzerland	66.4	8.2	0.7						

Notes: 輸出9.その他は科学光学機器、写真用・映画用材料など
輸入9.その他は科学光学機器、衣類・同付属品など

Exports 9 "Others" includes Scientific & Optical Instruments, Photographic Supplies, etc.

Imports 9 "Others" includes Scientific & Optical Instruments, Clothing & Accessories, etc.

Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

3. The European Union: Exports and imports both turn to declines

The EU economy suddenly decelerated in 2008 under the effects of the financial crisis that began from the U.S. Japan's exports to the EU declined for the first time in six years. Moreover, with the domestic economic slump, Japan's imports from the EU declined for the first time in nine years. Consequently, Japan's trade with the EU was sluggish, dropping 7% year-on-year to ¥18.7 trillion.

Exports

Exports to the EU rose 7% in the first quarter, holding firm from the previous year, but fell in the second and third quarters (down 4% and 3%, respectively) and then plunged to a double-digit drop of 30% in the fourth quarter. For the full year, exports to the EU turned to a decline, falling 8% to ¥11.4 trillion.

By category, exports of Motor Vehicles and other Transport Equipment declined 13% to ¥2.8 trillion. Exports of Machinery dropped 10% to ¥2.9 trillion, and exports of Electrical Machinery were off 6% to ¥2.4 trillion. The declines in exports were particularly pronounced in the fourth quarter, when Motor Vehicles plunged 44% and Electrical Machinery dropped 29%.

By country, exports to top importers and almost all other destinations dropped, with exports to Germany down 7% to ¥2.5 trillion, exports to the United Kingdom down 11% to ¥1.7 trillion, and exports to France down 5% to ¥930.0 billion.

Imports

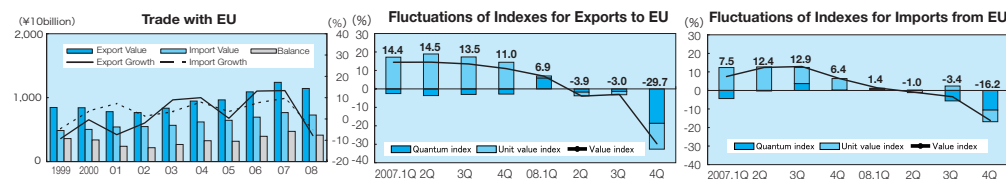
Imports from the EU posted the first decline in nine years, falling 5% to ¥7.3 trillion.

By product category, imports of Foodstuffs rose 5% to ¥740.0 billion. In detail, Fish & Fish Preparations rose 26% to ¥66.0 billion, Cereals & Cereal Preparations were up 17% to ¥46.0 billion, and Meat & Meat Preparations were down 2% to ¥130.0 billion. Imports of Medical Products and other Chemicals were flat, rising 1% to ¥1.9 trillion. In contrast, imports were down in the following categories: Machinery fell 7% to ¥990.0 billion, Electrical Machinery declined 5% to ¥700.0 billion, Motor Vehicles dropped 21% to ¥570.0 billion, and Scientific & Optical Instruments slid 2% to ¥310.0 billion.

By country, imports from the leading EU countries fell substantially, including imports from Germany (down 6% to ¥2.2 trillion), France (down 7% to ¥1.1 trillion), and the UK (down 13% to ¥770.0 billion).

Trade Balance

Japan's balance of trade surplus with the EU fell for the first time in three years, dropping 13% to ¥4.1 trillion, as the decline in Japanese exports to the EU exceeded the decline in imports from the EU.



Notes: 伸び率は対前年同期比。グラフ中の数値は金額の伸び率。数量指数 = 金額指数 / 価格指数

Export and import growth are up/down from a year earlier.

Figures in the table represent growth in value. Value indexes divided by unit value indexes make quantum indexes.

Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

4. 中東：上半期の原油高騰により輸入が大幅に増加、貿易総額20兆円台に

・08年の対中東貿易は原油価格の乱高下に大いに翻弄された1年になった。年初に1バレル100ドルを突破した原油価格(WTI)は、7月には史上最高値の147ドルに達したが、その後下落に転じ12月には40ドルを割り込んだ。その結果、貿易総額は、第1四半期から第3四半期の累計で前年同期比94%増と大幅増を記録、第4四半期は同4%減となったものの、通年では20.9兆円(前年比62%増)と20兆円の台に乗った。

(輸出)

・輸出は、8年連続で増加したが、金融危機および下半期の原油価格急落の影響により、伸び率は第4四半期に鈍化し、3.5兆円(前年比14%増)にとどまった。
 ・品目別にみると、自動車1.8兆円(同25%増)が牽引した。また、建設用機械などの一般機械が6,300億円(同8%増)と堅調に推移する一方、鉄鋼は2,000億円(同14%減)と減少に転じた。
 ・国別では、UAE向け1.1兆円(同19%増)、サウジアラビア向け8,100億円(同3%増)、オマーン向け4,100億円(同38%増)など軒並み増加した。

(輸入)

・輸入は、上半期の原油価格高騰により通年で17.3兆円(前年比30%増)と大幅に増加した。しかし、下半期の原油価格下落により第4四半期は前年同期比19%減と減少に転じている。
 ・品目別にみると、鉱物性燃料17.1兆円(同30%増)が輸入の98%とそのほとんどを占めている。うち原油及び粗油は、価格(同33%高)が上昇したが数量はほぼ横ばいとなり、14.1兆円(同33%増)となった。液化天然ガス(LNG)および液化石油ガス(LPG)は、いずれも価格が上昇したものの数量は減少し、ともに1.1兆円(同38%増、20%増)となった。
 ・国別では、サウジアラビア5.3兆円(同28%増)、UAE4.9兆円(同28%増)、カタール2.8兆円(同38%増)、クウェート1.6兆円(同36%増)などからがいずれも2ケタの大幅増となった。

(収支)

・輸入の大幅な増加により、貿易赤字は13.8兆円(前年比35%増)と大きく拡大した。

Trade with Middle East (2008)

[By commodity]				[By country/region]			
Exports	Value (\$10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution	Imports	Value (\$10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution
Total	350.9	14.0	14.0	Total	1,735.0	29.8	29.8
Increase				Increase			
8.Transport Equipment	196.2	25.3	12.9	3.Mineral Fuels	1706.6	30.4	29.8
6.Machinery	62.5	7.6	1.4	4.Chemicals	11.9	13.3	0.1
4.Chemicals	7.5	30.5	0.6	2.Raw Materials	2.7	46.5	0.1
3.Mineral Fuels	1.3	137.2	0.2				
Decrease				Decrease			
5.Manufactured Goods	45.2	▲5.5	▲0.9	9.Others	2.2	▲38.6	▲0.1
9.Others	11.4	▲3.5	▲0.1	5.Manufactured Goods	6.7	▲9.5	▲0.1
				By country/region			
				Exports	Value (\$10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution
				Total	350.9	14.0	14.0
				Increase			
				UAE	112.4	18.9	5.8
				Oman	40.8	37.6	3.6
				Iran	19.6	25.0	1.3
				Saudi Arabia	81.4	3.0	0.8
				Kuwait	21.7	11.2	0.7
				Decrease			
				Qatar	20.8	▲3.8	▲0.3
				Imports			
				Total	1,735.0	29.8	29.8
				Increase			
				Saudi Arabia	529.2	27.6	8.6
				UAE	487.3	28.1	8.0
				Qatar	275.3	38.4	5.7
				Kuwait	158.4	35.9	3.1
				Iran	189.7	27.7	3.1
				Decrease			
				Israel	9.5	▲10.1	▲0.1
				Yemen	5.6	▲13.0	▲0.1
				Bahrain	4.3	▲14.7	▲0.1

Notes: 輸出9.その他は科学光学機器、写真用・映画用材料など
 輸入9.その他は科学光学機器、衣類・同付属品など

Exports 9 "Others" includes Scientific & Optical Instruments, Photographic Supplies, etc.
 Imports 9 "Others" includes Scientific & Optical Instruments, Clothing & Accessories, etc.

Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

4. Middle East: Total trade value exceeds ¥20 trillion as imports jump from sharp hike in crude oil prices during first half

Japan's trade with the Middle East in 2008 was buffeted by wild fluctuations in crude oil prices throughout the year. The per-barrel price of crude oil (West Texas Intermediate) surpassed \$100 at the start of the year, reached a record high \$147 in July, and subsequently plunged, dropping below \$40 in December. As a result, on a value basis Japan's trade with the Middle East rose by 94% year-on-year for the first three quarters in total, and then declined by 4% in the fourth quarter. For the full year, Japan's trade with the Middle East was up 62% to ¥20.9 trillion.

Exports

Exports to the Middle East increased 14% to ¥3.5 trillion. While exports rose for the eighth consecutive year, the rate of growth eased in the fourth quarter from the influence of the financial crisis and the sudden drop in crude oil prices in the second half.

By product category, the growth was led by exports of Motor Vehicles, which rose 25% to ¥1.8 trillion. Exports of Construction Machines and other Machinery were firm, moving up 8% to ¥630.0 billion. Exports of Iron & Steel Products, however, fell 14% to ¥200.0 billion.

By country, exports rose to countries across the region including exports to the UAE (up 19% to ¥1.1 trillion), Saudi Arabia (up 3% to ¥810.0 billion) and Oman (up 38% to ¥410.0 billion).

Imports

Imports from the Middle East rose a stiff 30% to ¥17.3 trillion for the full year on the sharp rise in crude oil prices during the first half. With the decline in crude oil prices in the second half, however, imports from the Middle East turned to a decline in the fourth quarter, falling by 19%.

By product category, imports of Mineral Fuels, which accounted for nearly all the imports (98%), rose 30% to ¥17.1 trillion. In particular, the value of Petroleum imports rose 33% to ¥14.1 trillion as prices jumped 33% while the volume of Petroleum imports remained basically flat. Imports of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) both declined on a volume basis and rose on a value basis as a result of price hikes. LNG imports rose 38% to ¥1.1 trillion, and LPG imports rose 20%, also to ¥1.1 trillion.

By country, there was double-digit growth in imports from countries throughout the Middle East including Saudi Arabia (up 28% to ¥5.3 trillion), the UAE (up 28% to ¥4.9 trillion), Qatar (up 38% to ¥2.8 trillion), and Kuwait (up 36% to ¥1.6 trillion).

Trade Balance

Japan's balance of trade deficit with the Middle East greatly expanded, rising 35% to ¥13.8 trillion, due to the dramatic rise in imports.

5. 中南米：輸出は小幅増、輸入は微減

・対中南米貿易は、7.1兆円(前年比1%増)と若干ながら前年水準を上回った。

(輸出)

・輸出は、4.2兆円(前年比3%増)と07年の伸び(同16%増)が大幅に鈍化したものの、引き続き堅調に推移した。しかし、第4四半期は前年同期比11%減となり第1四半期から第3四半期の累計(同8%増)に比べ急速に失速した。

・国別に見ると、メキシコ向けは1.0兆円(前年比14%減)となった。電気機器が音響・映像機器(含部品)の不振を主因に大幅減となったのに加え、輸送用機器が自動車や自動車の部分品などで2ケタ減となったのが響いた。一方、一般機械は原動機の倍増を中心に小幅増、鉄鋼は2ケタ増となった。ブラジル向けは、個人消費など内需が牽引し5%強の経済成長となったことを受け、6,100億円(同31%増)となった。鉄鋼が7割増となったほか、一般機械が原動機、金属加工機械などを中心に3割増、輸送用機器が自動車的大幅増や自動車の部分品の増加により3割増となったことが全体を押し上げた。アルゼンチン向けは、自動車の2ケタ増をはじめ、原動機、荷役機械など一般機械の増加により、6年連続で増加し1,000億円(同4%増)となった。

(輸入)

・輸入は2.8兆円(前年比1%減)となり、わずかながらも7年ぶりに減少に転じた。

・国別に見ると、ブラジルからは、鉄鉱石や鉄鋼のほか、鶏肉を中心に肉類の増加等が全体を押し上げ、9,000億円(同27%増)となった。一方、アルミを中心に非鉄金属が2ケタ台の落ち込みとなったのに加え、コーヒーや果実は振るわなかった。チリからは、木製品や非鉄金属が増加したものの、主力の非鉄金属鉱や食料品が振るわず、8,300億円(同14%減)と減少に転じた。このほか、メキシコからは、自動車、通信機、電算機類(含周辺機器)などを中心とする機械機器の増加や非鉄金属、化学製品の著増が押し上げ、4,000億円(同7%増)と好調を維持した。

(収支)

・貿易黒字は5年連続で拡大し、1.4兆円(前年比10%増)となった。

5. Latin America: Exports up slightly, imports down marginally

Japan's trade with Latin America rose slightly in 2008, moving up 1% year-on-year to ¥7.1 trillion.

Exports

For the full year 2008, exports to Latin America rose 3% to ¥4.2 trillion. This rate of growth was down sharply from the 16% recorded in 2007, but is still solid as an annual rate. The fourth quarter exports, however, dropped 11%, indicating an abrupt slowing in exports compared with the 8% total increase realized over the first three quarters.

By country, exports to Mexico declined 14% to ¥1.0 trillion. In the trade with Mexico, exports of Electrical Machinery were down sharply, mostly because of a slump in Audio & Visual Apparatus (including parts), and exports of Transport Equipment fell by more than 10% with declines in Motor Vehicles and Parts of Motor Vehicles. Meanwhile, exports of Machinery rose slightly as exports of Power Generating Machines doubled. Exports of Iron & Steel Products posted a double-digit increase. Exports to Brazil leaped 31% to ¥610.0 billion as Brazil's economy grew by more than 5% on firm personal consumption and other domestic demand. Looking at the exports to Brazil by category, Iron & Steel Products were up by about 70%. Machinery exports rose by about 30%, with strong performance in Power Generating Machines and Metalworking Machinery. Transport Equipment exports also rose by about 30%, with a large increase in Motor Vehicles and an increase in Parts of Motor Vehicles. Exports to Argentina moved up 4% to ¥100.0 billion, rising for the sixth consecutive year, with a double-digit increase in exports of Motor Vehicles along with increases in exports of Power Generating Machines, Mechanical Handling Equipment, and other Machinery.

Imports

Imports from Latin America slipped by a marginal 1% to ¥2.8 trillion, posting their first decline in seven years.

By country, imports from Brazil rose 27% to ¥900.0 billion, lifted by higher imports of products including Iron Ore & Concentrates, Iron & Steel Products, and Meat & Meat Preparations, especially chicken. On the other hand, aluminum and other Nonferrous Metals imports fell by double digits, while imports of Coffee and Fruits were both weak. Imports from Chile turned to a decline, falling 14% to ¥830.0 billion. Although imports of Wood & Cork Manufactures and Nonferrous Metals increased, imports of Foodstuffs, Ore of Nonferrous Metals, and other main items were lackluster. Imports from Mexico were firm, rising 7% to ¥400.0 billion, supported by higher imports of equipment and machinery such as Motor Vehicles, Telephony & Telegraphy Equipment, and Computers & Units, combined with conspicuous increases in imports of Nonferrous Metals and Chemicals.

Trade Balance

Japan's balance of trade surplus with Latin America rose 10% to ¥1.4 trillion, expanding for the fifth consecutive year.

[By country/region]	Exports			Imports		
	Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution	Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution
Total	424.6	2.8	2.8	282.3	▲ 0.6	▲ 0.6
Increase				Increase		
Mexico	103.1	▲ 14.4	▲ 4.2	Mexico	39.5	6.5
Brasil	61.3	30.6	3.5	Brasil	89.6	27.0
Chile	28.5	53.6	2.4	Chile	82.6	▲ 13.9
Argentina	10.3	4.3	0.1	Argentina	7.1	▲ 25.1

6. ロシア：対ロシア貿易3兆円台に

・08年のロシア経済は、米国金融危機の影響により07年の8.1%成長から減速したものの、5.6%と堅調な成長を継続した(ロシア経済発展省推計)。輸出は、上半期の経済好調が支えて4割近い伸びとなった。輸入は、原油価格の高騰を背景とする鉱物性燃料の増加に支えられ2ケタ増となった。その結果、貿易総額は3.1兆円(前年比24%増)と3兆円の台を記録した。

(輸出)

・輸出は、1.7兆円(前年比36%増)と07年に引き続き顕著な伸びを示し、わが国輸出総額に占めるシェアは2.1%と07年の1.5%から拡大した。しかし第4四半期は前年同期比36%増となり、第1四半期から第3四半期の累計(同50%増)と比較してやや減速した。

・品目別にみると、8割弱を占める輸送用機器が1.3兆円(前年比37%増)となり、07年から急増した。そのうち大半を占める自動車が1.3兆円(同37%増)となり、乗用車1.2兆円(同36%増)やバス・トラック900億円(同53%増)が全体を押し上げた。また、建設用・鉱山用機械930億円(同16%増)や荷役機械490億円(同65%増)も07年に続き顕著な伸びを示した。

(輸入)

・輸入は、上半期の増勢が下半期に鈍化したものの、通年では1.4兆円(前年比12%増)と2ケタ増となり、引き続き堅調に推移した。鉱物性燃料は、原油及び粗油が価格の上昇を主因に5,300億円(同19%増)と2割増となったことや、石油製品1,200億円(同2倍)、石炭1,600億円(同47%増)の著増が支え、全体では8,100億円(同33%増)と3割強の伸びとなった。このほか魚介類1,300億円(同11%増)が好調であった。一方、非鉄金属2,800億円(同12%減)は減少し、木材もロシア側の輸出関税引き上げが予定されていたことを背景に580億円(同48%減)と半減した。

(収支)

・この結果、貿易収支は3,300億円と2年ぶりに黒字に転じた。

Trade with Russia (2008)

(By commodity)

Exports				Imports			
	Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution		Value (¥10billion)	Growth (%)	Contribution
Total	171.5	35.5	35.5	Total	138.5	11.5	11.5
Increase				Increase			
6.Machinery	18.9	23.9	2.9	1.Foodstuffs	13.3	8.7	0.9
8.Transport Equipment	132.7	37.1	28.4	3.Mineral Fuels	81.2	32.7	16.1
5.Manufactured Goods	8.1	38.9	1.8	4.Chemicals	1.4	28.0	0.2
7.Electrical Machinery	6.3	36.1	1.3	Decrease			
9.Others	2.6	32.4	0.5	2.Raw Materials	7.3	▲42.3	▲4.3
				5.Manufactured Goods	34.4	▲5.4	▲1.6

Notes: 輸出9.その他は科学光学機器、写真用・映画用材料など
輸入9.その他は科学光学機器、衣類・同付属品など

Exports 9 "Others" includes Scientific & Optical Instruments, Photographic Supplies, etc.
Imports 9 "Others" includes Scientific & Optical Instruments, Clothing & Accessories, etc.

Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis

6. Russia: Trade with Russia exceeds ¥3 trillion

In 2008 the Russian economy grew at an annual rate of 5.6%, slowing under the effects of the U.S. financial crisis from the 8.1% achieved in 2007 (Russian Federation Ministry of Economic Development statistics) but remaining firm nonetheless. Japan's exports to Russia climbed nearly 40% year-on-year as the Russian economy continued to enjoy good performance in the first half. Japan's imports from Russia posted a double-digit increase, supported by the rise in Mineral Fuels imports under the sharp hike in crude oil prices. As a result, the total value of Japan's trade with Russia rose 24% to pass the ¥3 trillion mark, reaching ¥3.1 trillion.

Exports

Exports to Russia rose 36% to ¥1.7 trillion in 2008, posting outstanding growth for the second consecutive year and pushing up Russia's share of total Japanese exports from 1.5% the previous year to 2.1%. However, the fourth quarter exports were up 36%, indicating some slowing of export growth compared with the 50% total growth realized over the first three quarters.

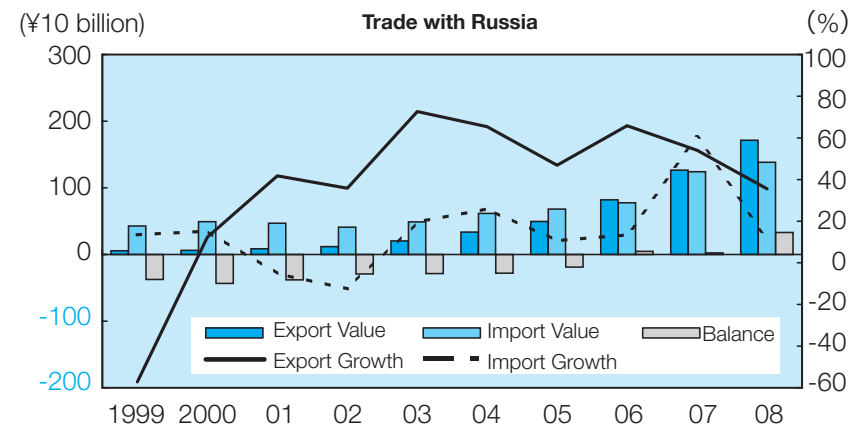
By product category, exports of Transport Equipment, which accounted for nearly 80% of the total, rose 37% to ¥1.3 trillion, a large increase from 2007. Exports of Motor Vehicles, which accounted for most of Transport Equipment, increased 37% to ¥1.3 trillion with Cars up 36% to ¥1.2 trillion and Buses & Trucks up 53% to ¥90.0 billion. Construction Machines (up 16% to ¥93.0 billion) and Mechanical Handling Equipment (up 65% to ¥49.0 billion) posted high growth for the second consecutive year.

Imports

Imports from Russia increased in the first half and eased in the second half, but still realized double-digit growth for the full year to remain strong, rising 12% to ¥1.4 trillion. Imports of Mineral Fuels rose 33% to ¥810.0 billion as Petroleum climbed 19% to ¥530.0 billion, primarily because of price increases, and supported by notable growth in Petroleum Products (which doubled to ¥120.0 billion) and Coal (up 47% to ¥160.0 billion). Imports of Fish & Fish Preparations were also favorable, rising 11% to ¥130.0 billion. Conversely, imports of Nonferrous Metals declined 12% to ¥280.0 billion, and imports of Wood fell by half, dropping 48% to ¥58.0 billion prior to a scheduled increase in a Russian export tax.

Trade Balance

Consequently, Japan realized a balance of trade surplus with Russia of ¥330.0 billion in 2008 after posting a trade deficit with Russia the previous year.



Source: Compiled from MOF's Trade Statistics on a Customs-cleared Basis