



INTERNATIONAL
T R A D E
ADMINISTRATION

U.S. EXPORT FACT SHEET

January 2009 Export Statistics Released March 13, 2009

EXPORT OVERVIEW:

- With the release of January 2009 U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services report by the Department of Commerce's U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. exports of goods and services fell by 16.4% in January 2009 to \$124.9 billion since January 2008, while imports declined 22.8% to \$160.9 billion over the same period.
- In January 2009, the U.S. goods and services trade deficit (\$36.0 billion) was the lowest monthly deficit since October 2002. This led to a 39.1% improvement in the goods and services deficit when compared to January 2008.
- The monthly goods and services trade deficit has declined for the sixth consecutive month from the \$62.5 billion deficit recorded in July 2008 to the \$36.0 billion recorded in January 2009.
- Exports comprised 13.0% of U.S. GDP in 2008. To put in historical terms, exports were 9.5% of U.S. GDP five years earlier (2003), and 5.3% 40 years ago (1968).

TRADE SPOTLIGHT:

- The largest export markets for U.S. goods in January 2009 were Canada (\$14.8 billion), Mexico (\$9.8 billion), China (\$4.2 billion), Japan (\$4.0 billion), and Germany (\$3.6 billion).
- Capital goods represent the largest goods export category (end-use) for the U.S. with \$33.0 billion worth of exports in January 2009.
- The top export categories for capital goods products in January 2009 were civilian aircraft (\$3.8 billion), semiconductors (\$2.6 billion), industrial machines (\$2.3 billion), telecommunications equipment (\$2.3 billion), and medicinal equipment (\$2.2 billion).
- Industrial supplies represented \$22.0 billion of U.S. exports in January 2009, down \$7.8 billion (or 26.1 percent) from January 2008.
- The top export categories for industrial supplies in January 2009 were fuel oil (\$1.7 billion), organic chemicals (\$1.7 billion), plastic materials (\$1.7 billion), other petroleum products (\$1.5 billion), and other chemicals (\$1.5 billion).
- Foods, feeds and beverages represented \$7.0 billion of U.S. exports in January 2009. The U.S. trade surplus in foods, feeds and beverages fell \$1.3 billion to reach \$156 million in January 2009, down from a surplus of \$1.4 billion in January 2008.
- The top export categories for foods, feeds, and beverages in January 2009 were meat and poultry (\$1.0 billion), soybeans (\$1.0 billion), and corn (\$682 million).
- U.S. services exports totaled \$42.7 billion in January 2009, down \$2.0 billion (or 4.6 percent) from January 2008. The surplus in services was \$10.9 billion, down \$574 million (or 5.0 percent) from January 2008.
- Services export categories were other private services (\$19.6 billion), travel (\$8.1 billion), royalties and license fees (\$7.3 billion), other transportation (\$3.9 billion), passenger fares (\$2.5 billion), and government services (\$1.3 billion).