

Media Release

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Previous Media Release on Foreign Trade appeared on December 19, 2021

Jerusalem,
January 20, 2022
028/2022

Israel's Foreign Trade in Goods by Country - 2021

Foreign Trade in 2021¹ compared with 2020

- The largest increases in exports of goods (excluding diamonds) were to: Ireland, United Arab Emirates, El Salvador, Gabon, Morocco and Republic of Congo.
- The largest increases in imports of goods (excluding diamonds) were from: Zambia, Honduras, Panama, United Arab Emirates, Cuba, Kenya and Armenia.
- The largest trade surpluses (excluding diamonds) were with: USA, Brazil, Russian Federation, India, Australia and Cyprus.
- The largest trade deficits (excluding diamonds) were with: China, Switzerland, Germany, Turkey, Italy and Hong Kong.

Trend data² in October – December 2021

- Imports of goods from most countries decreased.
- Exports of goods to European Countries increased by 12.7%.

Foreign Trade Presentation for 2021, in USD

Foreign Trade Presentation for 2021, in NIS

¹ The above is based on temporary data regarding goods that cleared customs, not including trade between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. In addition, the data do not include imports and exports of services (e.g. software). Data on all exports and imports of goods and services are published as part of the Balance of Payments, every quarter. 2021 data are provisional. Final data for 2021 will be released April 2022.

² The seasonally adjusted data are calculated by adjusting the original data for the influence of seasonality and festival and trading day effects. Trend data are estimated by removing the irregular influences (noise) from the seasonally adjusted data.

The seasonally adjusted data and the trend are subject to revisions as they are calculated anew, each month or quarter, on the basis of original data that include an additional observation (concurrent season adjustment).

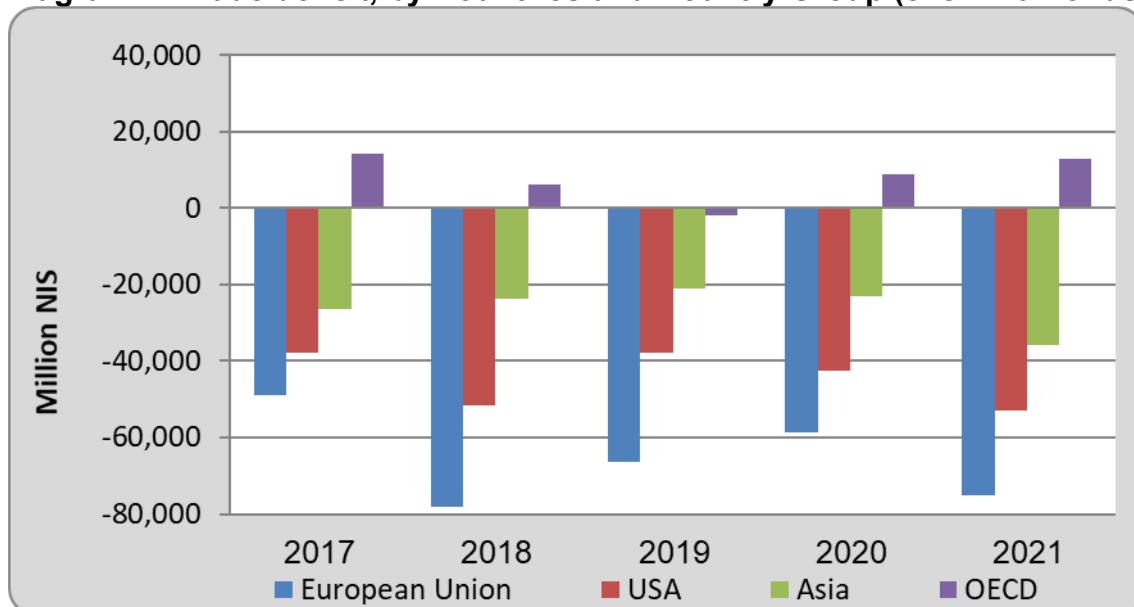
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For explanations and clarifications regarding the contents of this Press Release,

Please contact the Statistics Information Center, at 02-652 7845

In 2021, **exports of goods** (gross) totaled NIS 193.8 billion, an increase of NIS 21.5 billion (12.5%). **Imports of goods** (gross) totaled NIS 291.4 billion, an increase of NIS 53.5 billion (22.5%). **The trade deficit of goods** (gross) totaled NIS 97.6 billion, an increase of 48.9%.

Diagram 1 -Trade deficit, by Countries and Country Group (excl. Diamonds)



Trend data published by the Central Bureau of Statistics show that in 2021 exports to most country groups increased: **exports of goods** to the **Asian Countries** increased by 16.6% (NIS 6.5 billion), **exports of goods** to the **American Countries** increased by 14.7% (NIS 7.9 billion), exports of goods to the **European Countries** increased by 9.5% (NIS 5.7 billion) and exports to the **Other Countries** increased by 6.9% (NIS 1.3 billion).

Imports of goods from the **Asian Countries** increased by 32.0% (NIS 19.2 billion), **imports of goods** from the **European Countries** increased by 18.9% (NIS 23.7 billion) and **imports of goods** from the **Other Countries** increased by 54.2% (NIS 10.7 billion). In contrast, **imports of goods** from the **American Countries** decreased by 0.5% (NIS 0.2 billion).







The trade deficit in goods with the **European Countries** totaled NIS 83.7 billion, an increase of 27.4% compared with 2020.

The trade deficit in goods with the **Asian Countries** totaled NIS 33.7 billion, compared with NIS 21.0 billion in 2020 (an increase of 60.1%).

The trade deficit in goods with the **Other Countries** totaled NIS 10.0 billion.

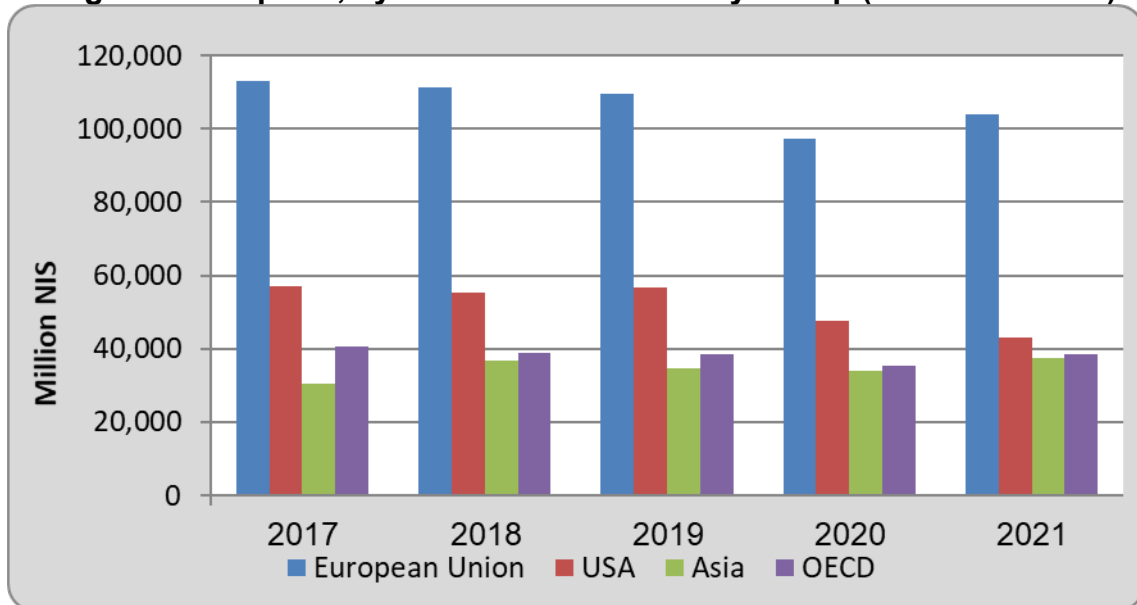
In contrast, in the trade balance in goods with the **American Countries** there was a surplus of NIS 29.8 billion, compared with a surplus of NIS 21.7 billion in 2020 (an increase of 37.2%).

Trade balance January – December 2021

Main Trading Country Groups- in million NIS (Original data)	 Trade Balance January – December 2021	 Trade Balance January – December 2020	 Export January - December 2021	 Export January-December 2020	 Import January-December 2021	 Import January – December 2020
Total	-111380.0	-74400.3	165571.2	153789.7	276951.2	228190.0
Europe	-84290.1	-65279.9	60327.5	56640.3	144617.6	121920.2
Thereof: European Union	-52989.7	-44934.1	43067.1	35237.6	96056.8	80171.7
Asia	-35757.5	-22602.7	37585.2	34181.4	73342.7	56784.1
Thereof: China	-20755.4	-11861.6	13789.5	14393.7	34544.9	26255.3
America	17177.6	13012.9	47684.3	44196.6	30506.7	31183.7
Thereof: USA	12888.8	8679.0	38388.2	35631.2	25499.4	26952.3
Other	-8510.0	469.4	19974.3	18771.4	28484.2	18302.0

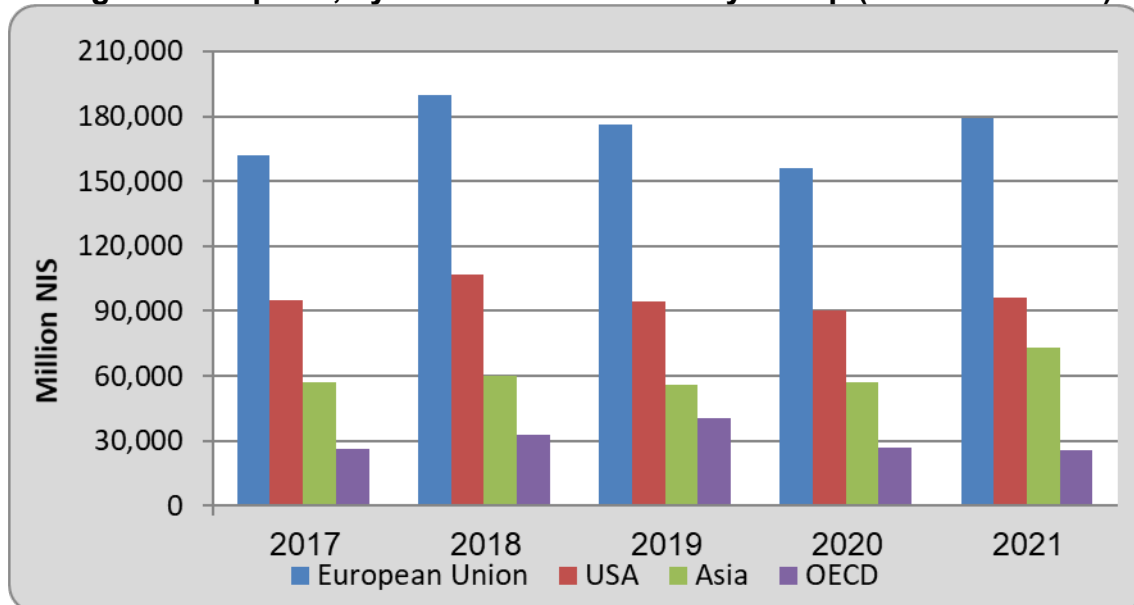
Countries to which exports of goods (excl. diamonds) totaled over NIS 5 billion in 2021 were: USA (NIS 38.4 billion), China (NIS 13.8 billion), Netherlands (NIS 7.2 billion), United Kingdom (NIS 6.7 billion), Turkey (NIS 6.1 billion), Germany (NIS 5.7 billion) and India (NIS 5.3 billion).

Diagram 2 - Exports, by Countries and Country Group (excl. Diamonds)



Countries from which imports of goods (excluding diamonds) totaled over NIS 5 billion in 2021 were: China (NIS 34.5 billion), USA (NIS 25.5 billion), Germany (NIS 21.2 billion), Switzerland (NIS 20.9 billion), Turkey (NIS 15.4 billion), Netherlands (NIS 12.0 billion), Italy, Belgium, United Kingdom, Hong Kong, France, South Korea, Spain and Ireland. It should be noted that country of import is defined as the country of purchase.

Diagram 3 -Imports, by Countries and Country Group (excl. Diamonds)

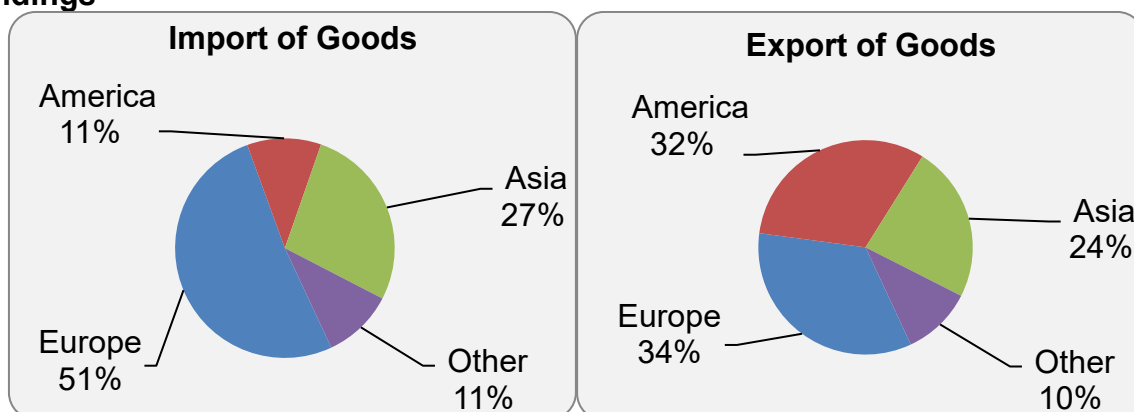


The most significant increases (more than 30%) in exports of goods (excluding diamonds) in 2021 compared with 2020 were in exports to Ireland, United Arab Emirates, El Salvador, Gabon, Morocco, Republic of Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Italy, and Jordan. In contrast, the largest decreases in exports of goods (excluding diamonds) were in exports to Gibraltar, Paraguay, Ghana, Kazakhstan and United Kingdom.

The most significant increases (more than 30%) in imports of goods (excluding diamonds) in 2021 compared with 2020 were in imports from Zambia, Honduras, Panama, United Arab Emirates, Cuba, Kenya and Armenia. In contrast, the largest decreases in imports of goods (excluding diamonds) were in imports from Azerbaijan, Eswatini, Ghana, South Africa, Chile and Ethiopia.

An overview of the development of import and export of goods for 2021 was published in a media release - [Israel's Foreign Trade, Import And Export of Goods: 2021](#) on 13.01.2022.

Main Findings



In 2021, exports of goods to the **European Countries** constituted 34.1% of the total exports of goods (35.0% in 2020) and imports of goods from the **European Countries** constituted 51.4% of the total imports of goods (53.0% in 2020). Exports to the **European countries** increased by 9.5%

(NIS 5.7 billion), imports from the **European countries** increased by 18.8% (NIS 23.7 billion) and the trade deficit in goods with the **European countries** increased by 27.4% compared with 2020.

Exports of goods to the **American Countries** constituted 31.8% of the total exports of goods (31.2% in 2020) and imports of goods from the **American Countries** constituted 10.9% of the total imports of goods (13.4% in 2020). Exports to the **American Countries** increased by 14.7% (NIS 7.9 billion), imports to the **American Countries** decreased by 0.5% (NIS 0.2 billion) and the trade surplus in goods with the **American Countries** increased by 37.2% compared with 2020.

Exports of goods to the **Asian Countries** constituted 23.6% of the total exports of goods (22.7% in 2020) and imports of goods from the **Asian Countries** constituted 27.3% of total imports of goods (25.3% in 2020). Exports to the **Asian Countries** increased by 16.6% (NIS 6.5 billion), imports from the **Asian Countries** increased by 32.0% (NIS 19.2 billion) and the trade deficit with the **Asian countries** in goods totaled NIS 33.7 billion, compared to NIS 21.0 billion in 2020.

Exports of goods to **Other Countries** constituted 10.5% of the total exports of goods (11.1% in 2020) and imports of goods from **Other Countries** constituted 10.4% of the total imports of goods (8.3% in 2020).

Trade in goods in 2021 was influenced by changes in the prices of goods and in the exchange rates of the NIS against other currencies.

Trade in diamonds

In 2021, exports of diamonds (gross) totaled NIS 28.3 billion, an increase of 52.4% compared with 2020. The main export destinations for diamonds were USA (49%), India (13%), Hong Kong (8%), Belgium (8%), Switzerland and United Kingdom.

Imports of diamonds (gross) totaled NIS 14.4 billion, an increase of 49.3% compared with 2020. The main countries from which diamonds were imported were: India (23%), Belgium (22%), Russian Federation (9%) and USA (9%).

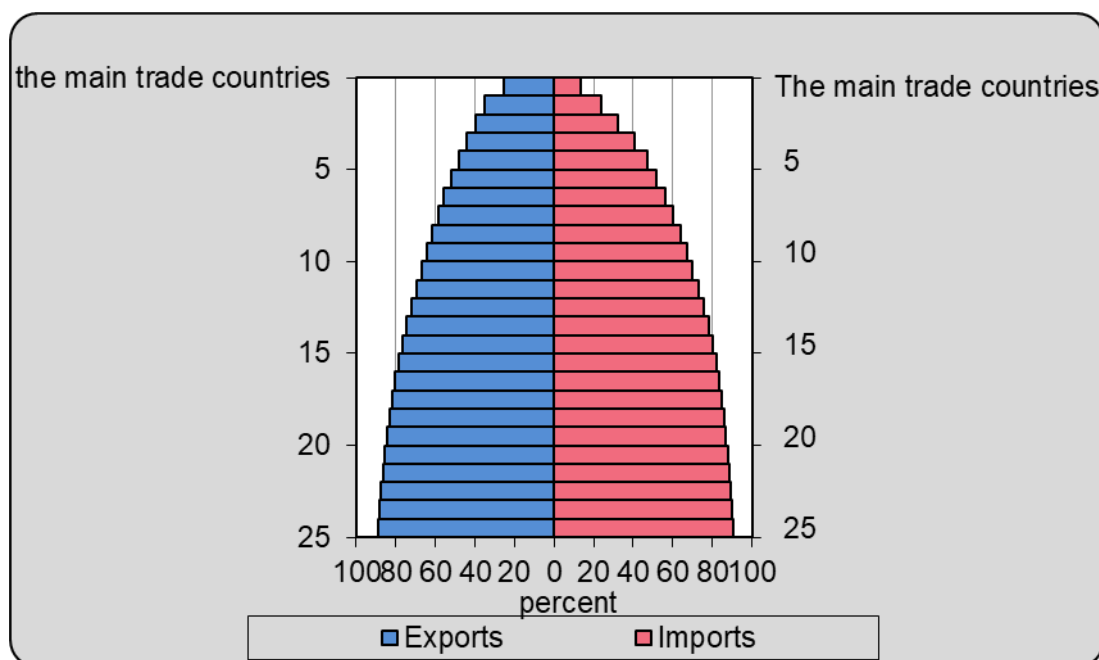
Concentration of trade (excluding diamonds)

In 2021, the concentration of exports by trade partner, as defined by the Herfindahl-Hirschman index (HHI)³, was 903, and the concentration of imports by trade partner was 606.

³ HHI is an index used to measure concentration. The index is based on units' (trade partners') proportionate part from the total value of the variable of interest (import/export). The HHI is calculated by summing the squares of the percentages of trade for each of the trade partners. A high HHI value reflects a high level of concentration and vice-versa.

[For further explanations and formulas.](#)

Diagram 4 – Concentration of trade, by Countries – 2021 – HHI index (Cumulative percent)



A descending ranking of trade partners by import and export values shows that: 48.2% of the total exports were exported to the five largest export partners, whereas 46.9% of the total imports were imported from the five largest import partners.

Trade by countries - December 2021

Trend data in October-December 2021

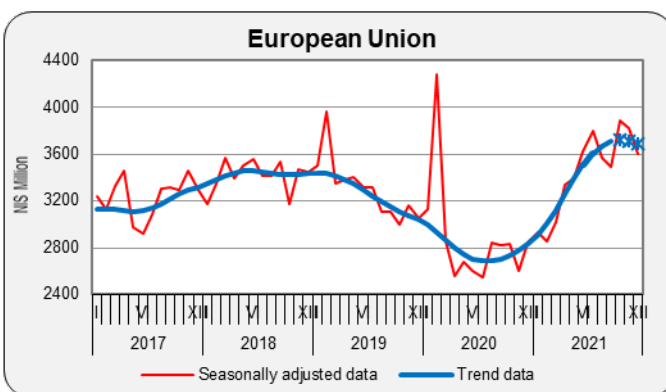
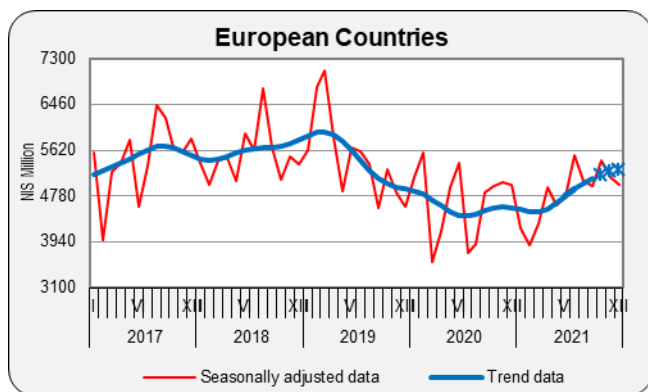
- Imports of goods from most countries decreased.
- Exports of goods to European Countries increased by 12.7%.

Exports of goods October - December 2021

The trend data shows that **exports of goods** (excluding ships, aircrafts and diamonds) increased by 6.0% at an annual rate in October - December 2021, following an increase of 21.9% in July - September 2021 (1.7% monthly average).

Trend data indicate that exports (excluding diamonds) to the **European Countries** increased by 12.7 at an annual rate in October - December 2021, following an increase of 30.3% in July - September 2021 (2.2% monthly average). Since the beginning of 2021, exports (excluding diamonds) to Ireland, Cyprus, Malta and Italy had the most significant increases compared with the same period in 2020.

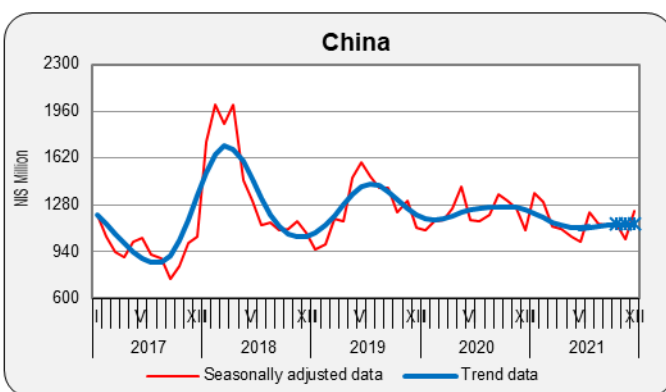
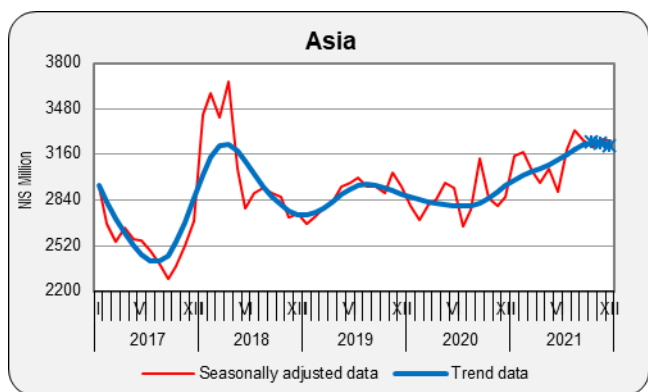
Trend data indicate that exports (excluding diamonds) to the **EU Countries** decreased by 3.1%, at an annual rate, in October - December 2021, following an increase of 25.4% in July - September 2021 (1.9% monthly average).



* The last three trend estimates are subject to substantial revisions.

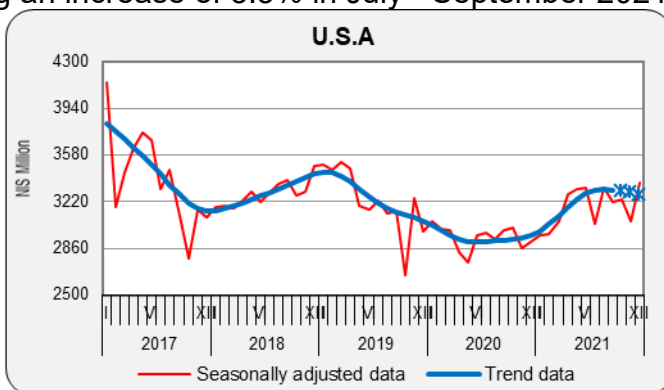
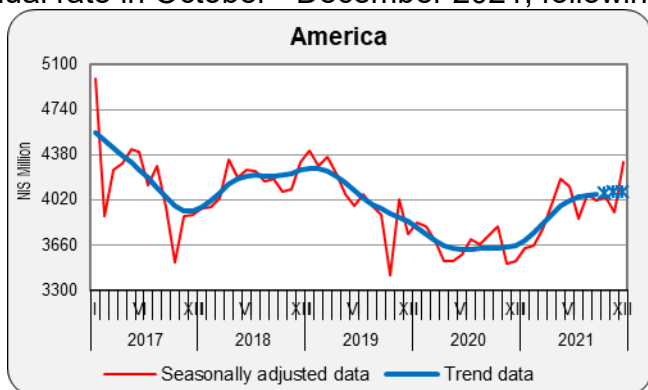
According to trend data, exports (excluding diamonds) to the **Asian Countries** decreased by 0.7% in the last three months, at an annual rate, following an increase of 14.5% in July - September 2021.

Trend data indicate that exports (excluding diamonds) to **China** increased by 0.2%, at an annual rate in October - December 2021, following an increase of 8.1% in July - September 2021.



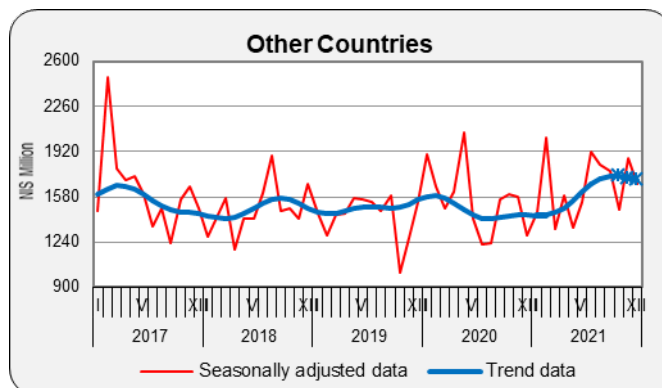
* The last three trend estimates are subject to substantial revisions.

Trend data indicate that exports (excluding diamonds) to the **American Countries** increased by 1.9%, at an annual rate in October - December 2021, following an increase of 4.7% in July - September 2021. Since the beginning of 2021, exports (excluding diamonds) to El Salvador, Costa Rica and Brazil had the most significant increases compared with the same period in 2020. Trend data indicate that exports (excluding diamonds) to the **USA** decreased by 3.9%, at an annual rate in October - December 2021, following an increase of 3.3% in July - September 2021.



* The last three trend estimates are subject to substantial revisions.

According to trend data, exports (excluding diamonds) to the **"Other Countries"** decreased by 6.2%, at an annual rate, in October - December 2021, following an increase of 34.3% in July - September 2021 (2.4% monthly average).



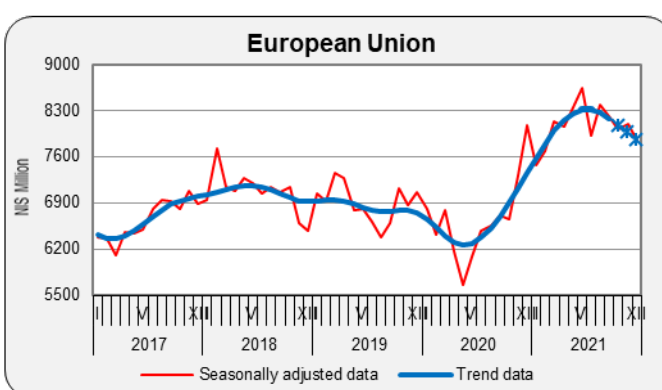
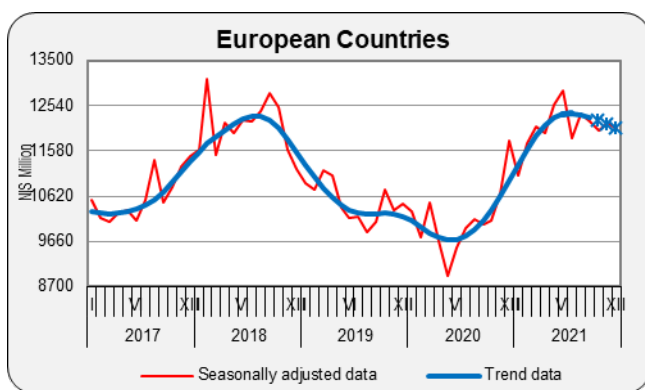
* The last three trend estimates are subject to substantial revisions.

Imports of goods October - December 2021

According to trend data, **imports of goods** (excluding ships, aircrafts, diamonds and fuels) decreased by 3.3% at an annual rate, in October - December 2021, following an increase of 15.9% in July - September 2021.

Trend data indicate that imports (excluding diamonds) from the **European Countries** decreased by 7.4% at an annual rate, in October - December 2021, following a decrease of 2.6% in July - September 2021.

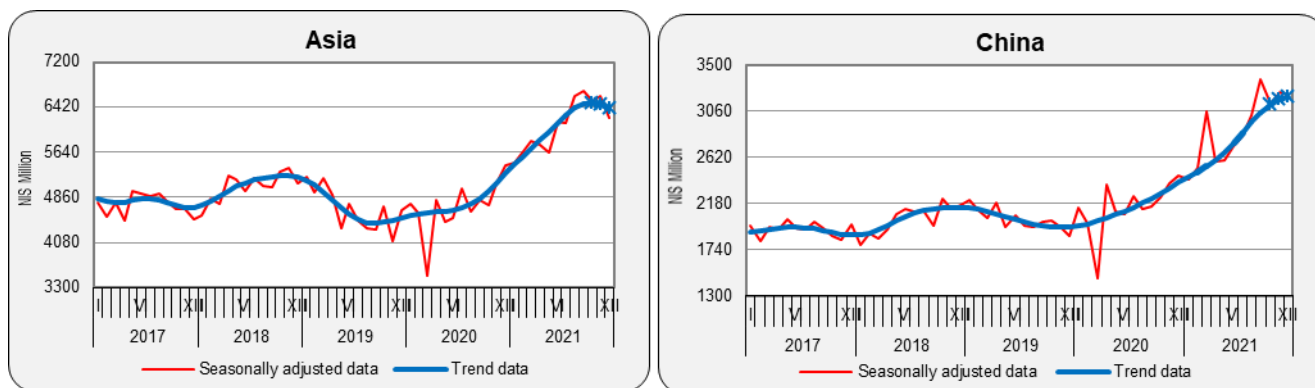
Trend data indicate that imports (excluding diamonds) from the **EU Countries** decreased by 15.1%, at an annual, in October - December 2021, following a decrease of 6.2% in July - September 2021.



* The last three trend estimates are subject to substantial revisions.

Trend data indicate that imports (excluding diamonds) from the **Asian Countries** decreased in the last three months by 4.1% at an annual rate, following an increase of 23.2% in July - September 2021 (1.7% monthly average).

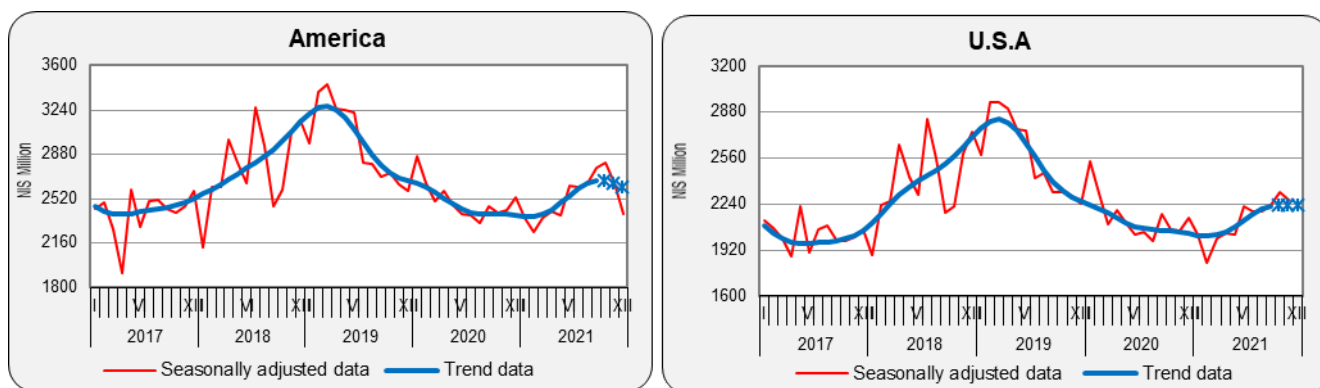
Trend data indicate that imports (excluding diamonds) from **China** increased by 21.6% at an annual rate in October - December 2021 (1.6% monthly average), following an increase of 50.1% in July - September 2021 (3.4% monthly average).



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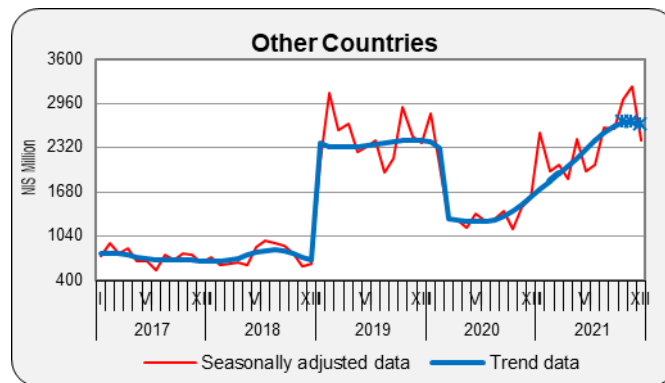
Trend data indicate that imports (excluding diamonds) from the **American Countries** decreased by 7.5% at an annual rate in October - December 2021, following an increase of 19.8% in July - September 2021. Since the beginning of 2021, imports (excluding diamonds) from Argentina and Chile had the most significant decreases compared with the same period in 2020.

Trend data indicate that imports (excluding diamonds) from the **USA** increased by 0.7% at an annual rate in October - December 2021, following an increase of 19.4% in July - September 2021.



* The last three trend estimates are subject to substantial revisions.

Trend data indicate that imports (excluding diamonds) from the **Other Countries** increased by 3.7% at an annual rate in the last three months, following an increase of 75.7% in July - September 2021 (4.8% monthly average). Since the beginning of 2021, imports (excluding diamonds) from Egypt, Kenya and Australia had the most significant increases compared with the same period in 2020.



* The last three trend estimates are subject to substantial revisions.

Next Press Release on “Israel’s Foreign Trade by Country” will appear on February 20, 2022.