



## **GOUVERNEMENT**

Liberté Égalité Fraternité

Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs / Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty



# FRANCE'S 2022 FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES

Olivier Becht, Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade, Economic Attractiveness and French Nationals Abroad, attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs



## The global context has weighed on trade

- Runaway commodity prices (energy, metals, agrifood) had an impact on consumer prices, before falling back at the end of the year.
- The euro has depreciated against the dollar in a volatile exchange market.
- Value chains are under pressure that is diminishing but persistent.



Global activity slowed in 2022 after a very strong recovery in 2021. This slow-down is set to continue in 2023.

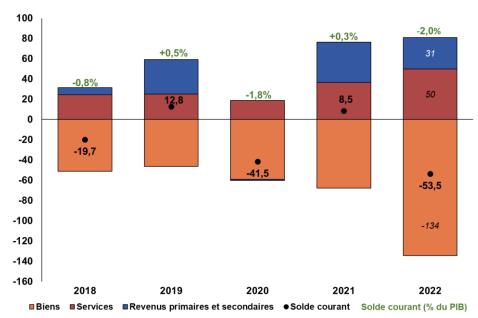


## France's foreign trade has slowed

The current account balance fell into deficit in 2022 after 2021's surplus.

The record performances of services (+€50 billion) and income (+31 billion) no longer offset increased energy costs.

The trade balances of our main partners (Germany, Italy and Spain) have also been hit hard by rising energy costs.





Source: Banque de France, CVS data

\*Goods trades data as defined by the Banque de France differ from those of French Customs and include international trading



## Services and income: record surpluses

 Services have posted a surplus of +€50 billion, a new record after +€36 billion in 2021, with:



A historic surplus of **+€25 billion** in transport services



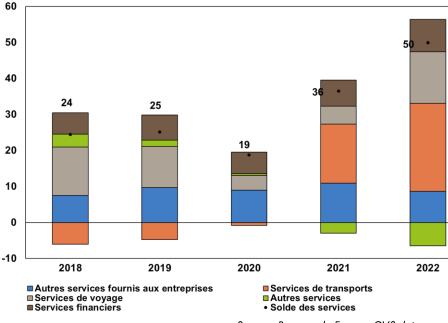
Highest surplus since 2015 in travel services (+€14 billion) thanks to significant recovery of tourism.



Record surplus of financial services exports (+€9 billion) following growth of 21% in 2022.

• On the income balance: a surplus of **+€31 billion**(\*), well above the average value between 2010 -10 and 2019 (+€8 billion).

#### Services balance breakdown (billions of euros)

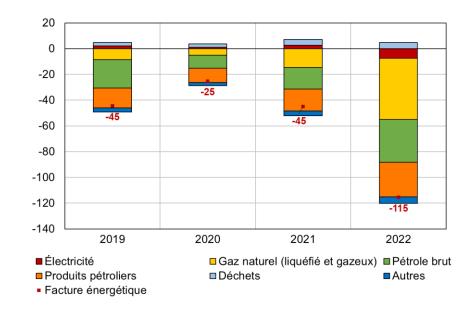


Source: Banque de France, CVS data



## Trade in goods: France is paying a high price for increased energy costs

- Our energy imports in 2022:
  - Energy import prices 2.1 times higher than in 2021.
  - Including gas imports: +248% to €59 billion.
- Consequence: France is paying a high price for energy costs that have more than doubled (€115 billion in 2022, after €45 billion in 2021).
- The trade deficit has grown by €78 billion in one year and stands at a record -€164 billion.
  - 86% of this deterioration is due to energy costs.



Source: French Customs (raw data)

6



## This deficit hides another reality: the remarkable strength of our exports

- Trade in goods is very strong (+18% for exports and +29% for imports) and now well above pre-COVID-19 levels:
  - Automobile exports have recovered to practically (97%) 2019 levels;
  - The strong recovery of aviation exports (+21%) has not brought them back to 2019 levels, but prospects are good.
  - Agricultural product exports have grown strongly (+37% to €21 billion).

#### **Examples of sectors in surplus:**



Aerospace: €23 billion



Perfumes and cosmetics: €15 billion

7



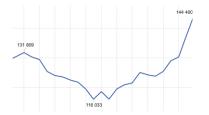
Beverages: €16 billion



Pharmaceuticals: €3 billion

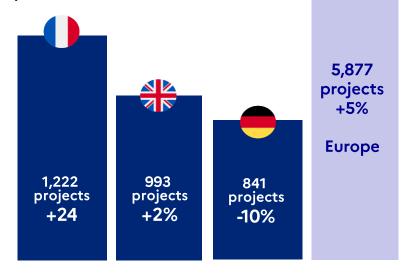


### Redressing the balance



1. Fabric of French exporters at a historic high (144,000 companies, 81% of which are SMEs of less than 20 employees). We aim to support more SMEs in entering and staying in export markets.

- 2. First place for business attractiveness in Europe (3rd year running).
- **3. Reindustrialization** of our economy, underway for 5 years and intensified by the France 2030 plan, will help restore our trade balance.



8