

**BILATERAL TRADING RELATIONS  
BELGIUM • IRELAND**



2009 figures & Evolution 3 months 2010

**EXCHANGE of GOODS BELGIUM/IRELAND**

<b>27<sup>th</sup> client of Belgium</b>	
<b>Belgian exports</b>	
<b>2009</b>	<b>EUR 1.45 billion</b>
2008	EUR 1.96 billion
2009/'08	- 26.2 %
<b>4<sup>th</sup> supplier</b>	
<b>Belgian imports</b>	
<b>2009</b>	<b>EUR 15.85 billion</b>
2008	EUR 12.57 billion
2009/'08	- 26.1 %
<b>Commercial balance Belgium/Ireland</b>	
<b>2009</b>	<b>- EUR 14.4 billion</b>
2008	- EUR 10.6 billion

(March 2010)

**MAIN EXPORT SECTIONS (2009)**

	<b>Value</b> (EUR million)	<b>%</b> of the <b>total</b>	<b>Variation</b> 2009/'08
Products of the chemical industries	664.1	45.8	- 10.7 %
Plastics & articles thereof	162.3	11.2	- 17.6 %
Machinery & mechanical appliances	124.3	8.6	- 35.5 %
Prepared foodstuffs & beverages	87.1	6.0	- 14.2 %
Textiles & textile articles	72.2	5.0	- 19.5 %
Transport equipment	45.2	3.1	- 77.9 %
Optical & precision instruments	33.6	2.3	+ 30.1 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>82.0 %</b>	

**MAIN EXPORT SECTIONS (3 months 2010) / Top 5**

	<b>Value</b> (EUR million)	<b>% of the</b> <b>total</b>	<b>Variation</b> (2010/'09)
Products of the chemical industries	211.7	51.6	- 5.5 %
Plastics & articles thereof	41.4	10.1	+ 12.5 %
Transport equipment	31.2	7.6	+ 137.8 %
Machinery & mechanical appliances	26.0	6.3	- 17.0 %
Prepared foodstuffs & beverages	17.9	4.4	- 20.7 %
<b>Total (22 sections)</b>	<b>410.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>- 1.7 %</b>

**MAIN IMPORT SECTIONS (2009)**

	<b>Value</b> (EUR million)	<b>%</b> of the <b>total</b>	<b>Variation</b> 2009/'08
Products of the chemical industries	14,562.0	91.9	+ 29.9 %
Machinery & mechanical appliances	628.8	4.0	- 13.8 %
Optical & precision instruments	325.2	2.1	+ 53.7 %
Live animals & animal products	119.7	0.8	- 24.5 %
Prepared foodstuffs & beverages	66.1	0.4	- 5.9 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>99.1 %</b>	

**MAIN IMPORT SECTIONS (3 months 2010) / Top 5**

	<b>Value</b> (EUR million)	<b>% of the</b> <b>total</b>	<b>Variation</b> (2010/'09)
Products of the chemical industries	3,766.8	91,5	+ 1.0 %
Machinery & mechanical appliances	165.7	4.0	- 2.8 %
Optical & precision instruments	72.1	1.8	- 7.2 %
Prepared foodstuffs & beverages	22.4	0.5	+ 61.7 %
Live animals & animal products	22.1	0.5	+ 10.2 %
<b>Total (22 sections)</b>	<b>4,117.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>+ 1.9 %</b>

Source: National Bank of Belgium  
BFTA / [statistic@abh-ace.org](mailto:statistic@abh-ace.org) / DS / June 2010