Swiss watchmaking in January 2025

Return to growth

Swiss watch exports have returned to positive performance. The growth in exports was 4.1% in January, bringing close them to the 2 billion franc mark.

Swiss watch exports in January 2025

Products	Units (million)	Change	CHF (million)	Change
Wristwatches	1.1	-4.2%	1,900.4	+3.9%
Other products			94.4	+8.2%
Total			1,994.8	+4.1%



Watches made from precious metals (+9.7% by value), alongside bimetallic models (+8.9%), were the main growth drivers in January, while steel items (-2.4%) lost ground. The *Other materials* category fell by 24.3% by volume, although the decline was mitigated by an increase of 5.0% for steel watches. In total, almost 1.1 million items were exported, a fall of 4.2% compared with January 2024.

Wristwatches by materials

Materials	Units (in 1,000)	Change	CHF (million)	Change
Precious metal	30.1	-3.6%	721.3	+9.7%
Steel	659.5	+5.0%	656.4	-2.4%
Gold-steel	73.8	-1.5%	354.0	+8.9%
Other metals	92.9	+5.2%	105.0	-0.7%
Other materials	258.7	-24.3%	63.7	-6.0%
Total	1,115.0	-4.2%	1,900.4	+3.9%

Main markets

Markets	CHF (million)	Change	Share
USA	378.9	+16.2%	19.0%
Japan	154.8	+26.2%	7.8%
Hong Kong	141.0	-11.7%	7.1%
China	137.8	-29.1%	6.9%
Singapore	127.4	+3.8%	6.4%
United Kingdom	112.8	+3.2%	5.7%
Total 6 markets	1,052.8	+1.7%	52.8%





Watches priced at over 3,000 francs (export price) achieved growth of 7.0%, while those priced at under 200 francs remained at a level close to their 2024 performance (+0.7%). Other segments suffered more pronounced declines (-8.0%).

The United States (+16.2%) maintained its position as the leading market for Swiss watch exports, recording steady growth in January. Japan (+26.2%) stood out for a remarkable upswing. Conversely, Hong Kong (-11.7%) and China (-29.1%) continued on a downward trend, with markedly poor performance. Among the 10 leading markets, Singapore (+3.8%), the United Kingdom (+3.2%), the United Arab Emirates (+14.3%) and South Korea (+16.6%) recorded growth, while Germany (-0.7%) and France (-3.7%) fell back.