Swiss watchmaking in November 2023

New record for value

Swiss watch exports reached their highest-ever monthly level in November, at almost 2.5 billion francs. This record value was achieved thanks to growth of 3.1% compared with November 2022. Despite a more moderate rate of growth since the summer, the sector saw an increase in its results of 7.7% over 11 months, comparable to the already remarkable performance recorded in 2022.

Swiss watch exports in November 2023

Products	Units in mio.	Change	Mil. of CHF	Change
Wrist watches	1.5	-1.3%	2,387.6	+3.3%
Other products			109.1	-0.3%
Total			2,496.6	+3.1%

12 months moving average

+20%
+15%
+10%

Dec 22 Jan 23 Feb 23 Mar 23 Apr 23 May 23 Jun 23 Jul 23 Aug 23 Sep 23 Oct 23 Nov 23

The main contributions to the increase in value were due to watches made from precious metals (+5.2%) and bimetallic watches (+10.7%), as well as those in the *Other metals* category (+18.4%). Total volumes fell back by 21,000 items in November (-1.3%), largely as a result of the decline in steel watches (-2.5%) and, to a lesser extent, the *Other materials* category, which decreased by 1.6%.

Wristwatches by materials

Materials	Units (in 1'000)	Change	Mil. of CHF	Change
Precious metal	43.0	-2.0%	924.7	+5.2%
Steel	794.2	-2.5%	819.7	-4.1%
Gold-steel	107.0	+1.2%	382.8	+10.7%
Other metals	129.3	+5.1%	157.7	+18.4%
Other materials	472.0	-1.6%	102.7	+4.6%
Total	1,545.4	-1.3%	2,387.6	+3.3%

Main markets

Markets	Mil. of CHF	Change	Share
USA	404.4	+0.9%	16.2%
Hong Kong	207.6	+12.9%	8.3%
China	204.1	-3.7%	8.2%
United Kingdom	184.6	+16.7%	7.4%
Japan	176.0	+11.9%	7.1%
Singapore	158.6	+1.1%	6.4%
Total 6 markets	1,335.4	+5.2%	53.5%

Wristwatches by price categories



Watches priced at less than 200 francs (export price) slightly exceeded the high level recorded last year (+1.1% by value). The trend for watches priced between 200 and 3,000 francs was negative, while there was significant growth above that bracket (+5.0%).

The United States (+0.9%) performed well, at over 400 million francs, and posted results close to China and Hong Kong combined. China declined (-3.7%), despite a favourable base effect, while the special administrative region (+12.9%) continued on the trajectory of the last ten months. The other main markets increased to varying degrees (United Kingdom +16.7%, Japan +11.9%, Singapore +1.1%, Germany +3.9% and United Arab Emirates +9.5%) or posted limited declines (France -2.9%, Italy -0.3% and South Korea -1.7%).