



PRESS RELEASE

Wines and spirits companies in 2021, another year as driving force of the French external trade

Paris, February 15th, 2022 – Exports of French wines and spirits reached €15.5 billion in 2021. This record figure marks a strong rebound compared to 2020 (+28%) but also a significant increase compared to 2019 (+11%). The recovery benefits all product categories, in the different parts of the world. The trade balance amounted to €14.2 billion (+29%), confirming the wines and spirits sector as the second largest trade surplus, behind aeronautics.

“This positive result in 2021 is remarkable. Despite remaining health, logistical and geopolitical constraints, French wines and spirits companies have shown both their willingness and their ability to bounce back in the different parts of the world” said César Giron, FEVS Chairman.

In the **United States**, exports of wines and spirits increased by 34% to €4.1 billion, for volumes up 20%. The suspension of additional duties from March 2021 strongly stimulated the recovery for still wine shipments (+33.5%), allowing France to regain some market shares over its main competitors. Exports of sparkling wines (+62%) and spirits (+25%) also remained strong.

The definitive exit of the **United Kingdom** from the European Union on 1 January 2021 had no impact on French exports, which remained strong throughout the year (+20%). The same trend is observed in the various countries of the European Union, with a 23% increase in exports of French wines and spirits, to €3.8 billion.

Asia has also got back on track in 2021, especially thanks to the reopening of bars and restaurants. At €3.7 billion, exports increased by 15% in volume and by 24% in value for wines; 17% by volume and 47% by value for spirits.

Worldwide sales of French **spirits** grew by 30% to €4.9 billion, with volumes up to 54.5 million cases (+12%); wine turnover reached €10.5 billion (+27.5%), for 145 million cases (+10%).

“Our companies have grounds for pride: they have shown their ability to succeed, after 18 very difficult months, facing American duties linked to the dispute on aeronautics and the global pandemic” recalls César Giron, Chairman of the FEVS. *“But this remarkable recovery should not make us forget that, despite the suspension of duties, this dispute is not solved. We hope the EU & the US will now settle this 15-years lasting-long dispute quickly and definitively.”*

César Giron also stresses that *“such performance must remind public authorities that, **in a context of record trade deficit, our companies are “French fleurons”, creating value and jobs in France. They contribute to national wealth by providing one of the largest sectoral trade surpluses. Exporting is an opportunity for our companies and for our country but also an asset for our jobs and our territories. Openness to the world is decisive for France's prosperity. It is also essential to address societal challenges, in particular the climate change.***

Since 1922, FEVS has been proud to represent these companies, employees, know-how and knowledge that contribute to France's international influence. Let us hope that 2022, the year of the centenary of the FEVS, will be the year of full recognition and support for our sector by public authorities.”

French Wine and Spirits Exports in 2021

	Volume*			Value		
	2021	Change (%)		2021	Change (%)	
		2021/2020	2021/2019		2021/2020	2021/2019
TOTAL WINES	144 889 775	10,1	4,2	10 518 283	27,5	13,1
of which						
Champagne	14 203 286	35,1	12,2	3 510 128	42,2	13,2
Still wines PDO	59 283 588	8,7	6,9	5 265 558	24,6	14,8
Still wines PGI	39 193 590	3,9	-2,3	903 695	7,6	3,0
FR varietal wines without GI	10 787 082	8,7	7,3	242 850	13,4	16,8
Other French wines without GI	9 961 597	0,0	-10,8	153 199	10,7	0,1
TOTAL VERMOUTHS & ABV	3 107 105	7,6	18,3	91 451	17,7	38,6
TOTAL SPIRITS	54 504 909	12,4	2,8	4 881 831	30,1	4,7
of which						
Cognac	18 280 221	16,4	2,7	3 600 536	31,8	3,4
Armagnac	145 536	-40,3	15,3	24 809	-1,3	37,9
Other wine spirits	9 617 744	11,6	0,6	176 751	16,7	-13,4
Vodka	10 941 344	5,4	-7,9	336 168	21,0	-6,9
Liqueurs	4 926 031	37,5	23,8	370 975	42,0	29,1
Calvados	256 251	6,7	-0,1	17 583	20,9	15,6
TOTAL WINES AND SPIRITS	202 501 790	10,6	4,0	15 491 566	28,3	10,5

* Wines: cases of 12 bottles, or 9 l – Spirits: cases of 12 bottles, or 8.4 l at 40% vol.

About FEVS: The French Association of Wine and Spirits Exporters (FEVS) brings together about 550 wine and spirits exporting companies from France, together representing 85% of French wine and spirits exports.

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