

## **Turkish exports start 2009 poorly with sharp decreases in the last months of 2008.**

The recent figures released by Turkish Exporters' Assembly revealed that Turkey's export had decreased 25 percent in December and 27 percent in January. The Assembly also predicted that the export was expected to decline by 20-25 percent in the upcoming months.

According to the provisional data of TUIK (Turkish Statistical Institution) which was announced recently, in December 2008; exports decreased by 21% and fell to 7.685 Million Dollars due to the global crisis. Although the weight of the EU in Exports has continued in December 2008, when compared with the same month of the previous year, exports to EU were 3.216 Million Dollars decreased by 39,4%. In December 2008, the main partner for exports was Germany with 765 Million Dollars and decreased by 20,2%. In terms of main sectors, manufacturing sector export dropped by 21,8% in December over the same month of the previous year. Despite this fall it had a share of 92,9% share in total exports.

As Anatolian Agency reported the Turkish Trade Minister said Turkish exports to neighbouring countries is on the rise despite the global crisis and a contraction in the markets triggered by the global crisis; however, there is a serious decline to some western countries. Mr. Tuzmen had earlier said country's exports would shrink in the first half of 2009 and expected to experience a revival in the second half of the year.

The announced figures of exports by TUIK are as follows;

1. Foreign Trade by Months						
Value: Million Dollars						
Months	Year	Exports		Imports		Coverage Ratio (%)
		Value	Change (%)	Value	Change (%)	
January-December	2007	107272		170063		63,1
	2008	132003	23,1	201823	18,7	65,4
December	2007	9724		16120		60,3
	2008	7685	-21	11271	-30,1	68,2

2. Exports by Sectors								
Value: Million Dollars, ISIC Rev.3								
Sectors	December				January-December			
	2007		2008		2007		2008	
	Value	(%)	Value	(%)	Value	(%)	Value	(%)
Total	9.727	100,0	7.685	100,0	107.278	100,0	132.003	100,0
Agriculture and Forestry	386	4,0	402	5,2	3.725	3,5	3.928	3,0
Fisheries	13	0,1	26	0,3	158	0,1	240	0,2
Mining and Quarrying	158	1,2	97	1,3	1.661	1,5	2.155	1,6
Manufacturing	9.138	94,0	7.139	92,9	101.082	94,2	125.173	94,8
Others	29	0,3	21	0,3	646	0,6	507	0,4

3. Export by Country Groups								
Value: Million Dollars								
Country Group	December				January-December			
	2007		2008		2007		2008	
	Value	(%)	Value	(%)	Value	(%)	Value	(%)
Total	9.724	100,0	7.685	100,0	107.272	100,0	132.003	100,0
European Union (EU-27)	5.309	54,6	3.216	41,8	60.399	56,3	63.409	48,0
Other Countries	4.415	45,4	4.469	58,2	46.873	43,7	68.593	52,0