

INTERNATIONAL
HARDWOOD
CONFERENCE
ANTWERP 2026

WHERE HARDWOOD BUSINESS CONNECTS

5 & 6 NOVEMBER 2026
ANTWERP, BELGIUM

MARKET. SURVEY. 2026.

European Timber Trade Federation

EOS

Fedustria
Industries in motion

INTERNATIONAL HARDWOOD CONFERENCE
ANTWERP 2026



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Information collection:
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Tables & Graphs

NOTE 1

The following information, tables and graphs are based on information supplied by the EOS and ETTF members federations and partners. Although we try to align the information with UNECE/FAO some information may differ from that included in the FAO database.

NOTE 2

All data for 2027 are estimations. Forecasts given for 2026.



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Hardwood PRODUCTION by country

(in 1.000 m³)

Country	2025	2026	2027
AT	150	135	130
BE	85	80	80
BIH	313	318	322
DE	808	836	836
DK	45	45	45
ES	303	303	304
FR	1.100	1.050	1.000
HR	1.198	1.150	1.170
NL	26	26	26
PL	340	320	330
SRB	358	362	365
TOTAL	4.726	4.625	4.608

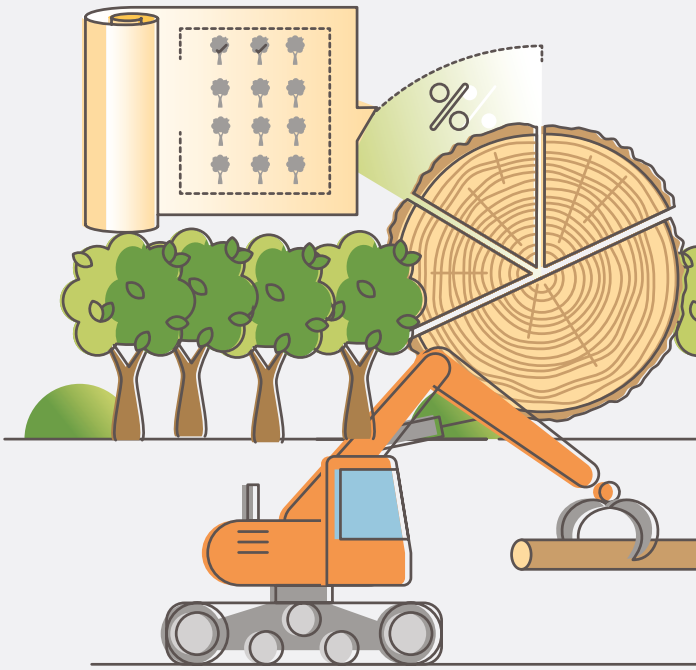
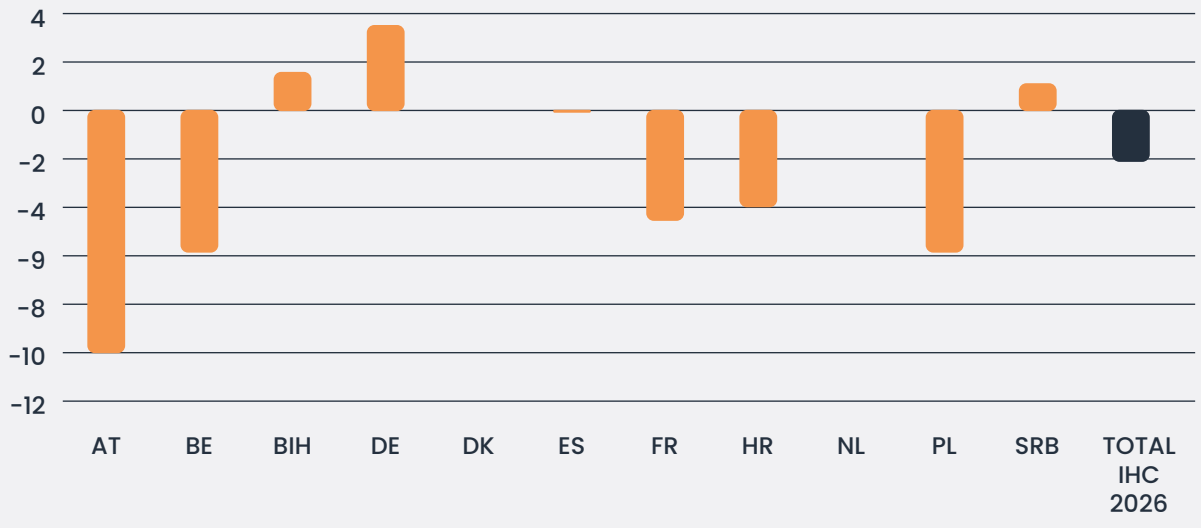


Fig. 1 **PRODUCTION Change in %, 2026 vs 2025**



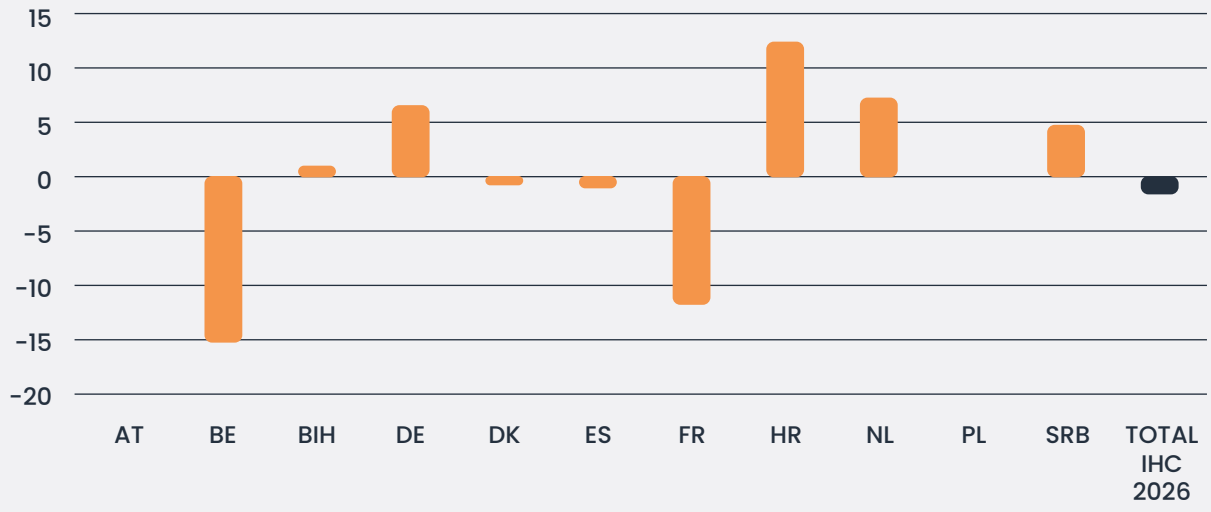


Hardwood CONSUMPTION by country

(in 1.000 m³)

Country	2025	2026	2027
AT	105	105	110
BE	201	170	180
BIH	216	218	223
DE	443	471	471
DK	117	116	115
ES	384	380	382
FR	930	820	780
HR	194	218	220
NL	294	315	312
PL	320	320	350
SRB	275	288	286
TOTAL	3.478	3.421	3.429

Fig. 2 **CONSUMPTION Change in %, 2026 vs 2025**



AUSTRIA
Producer

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	9,2	9,2	9,2
GDP Growth	%	0,8	0,9	1,1
Inflation Rate	%	3,6	3,2	3,4
Unemployment Rate	%	5,7	5,9	5,6
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	31.700	34.000	34.900
Housing starts	units	31.200	31.200	32.800
Housing completions	units	40.000	35.000	32.800
Wage development	% vs previous year	2,4	2,3	n.a.
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	38,5	38,5	38,5

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	150	135	130
Imports	1.000 m³	102	100	100
Exports	1.000 m³	147	130	120
Consumption	1.000 m³	105	105	110

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	282	280	280
Imports	1.000 m³	320	310	300
Exports	1.000 m³	110	110	100
Consumption	1.000 m³	492	480	480

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Chips production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Bark production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	3	3	3

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	-10	0	0

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs	10,0	0,0
Energy	20,0	0,0
Transport	20,0	0,0

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn hardwood	stable	stable
Chips	n.a.	n.a.
Sawdust	n.a.	n.a.

Source: Fachverband der Holzindustrie Österreichs

AUSTRIAN Market Report 2026

Hardwood Market Analysis: Austrian Perspective

The Austrian hardwood industry is currently navigating through a difficult market environment. Although the overall supply of hardwood roundwood was stable in 2026, this was largely due to a significant reduction in production volumes, by around 10-20%. This decrease in production was driven not by a shortage of raw materials, but by weakened demand from key sectors such as furniture, flooring, and toy manufacturing. As the housing market slows down, the demand for interior furnishings also declines, creating challenges for the hardwood as well as a non-preferable development of labour costs diminishes the economic position compared to other countries worldwide. On a worldwide scale, the increased pressure on the hardwood sector leads to shrinking competitiveness.

Impact of Global Competition on the Austrian Industry

One of the primary issues facing the Austrian hardwood industry is the competitive pressure from non-European countries. European roundwood is being exported, processed abroad, and re-imported to Europe at lower prices, which creates market distortions. This situation is particularly challenging for producers who must contend with these cheaper imports. While political measures may offer partial solutions to this anti-dumping problem, such as the introduction of trade restrictions, industry leaders emphasize that the solution lies largely within the industry itself. A way out for the European industry could be to motivate European consumers to buy more European products.

Challenges and Opportunities for the Hardwood Industry

Looking ahead, one of the biggest challenges for the hardwood industry is implementing the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR). This regulation creates obstacles throughout the flow of goods. What major trading nations like China, USA and Vietnam will ultimately respond to the EU is still uncertain. In general, it remains difficult for the industry to constantly adapt to new rules and impractical laws and to turn this regulatory challenge into a market opportunity. European cohesion is more important than ever.

Outlook

Despite the current market challenges, there is hope that domestic demand will increase in the coming years. However, recovery in the hardwood industry is closely tied to the broader housing market, and significant improvement may only occur once the construction and home furnishing sectors regain momentum. A more active economic policy to support housing construction, combined with efforts to promote sustainable and competitive European hardwood, will be essential for the long-term success of the industry.

New spokesperson for Austria's hardwood sawmill sector

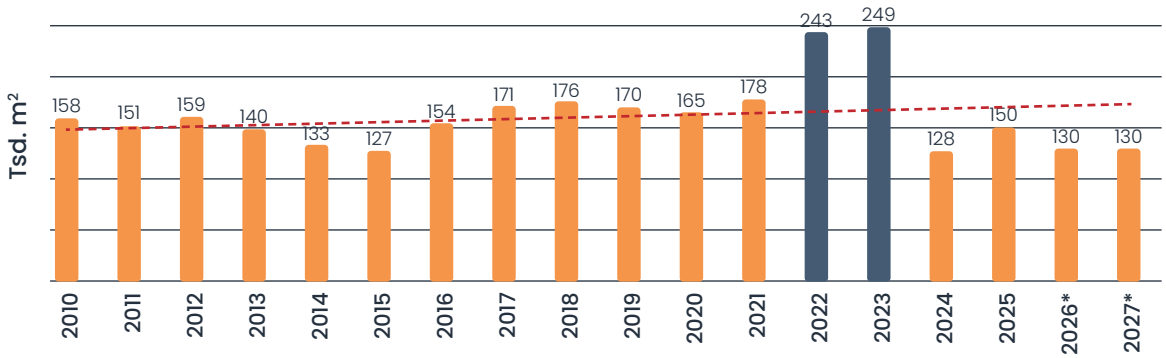
Christian Schrimpl was elected as the new spokesperson for the hardwood sawmill industry in November 2025. In addition to "building", the hardwood sector aims to place greater emphasis on the theme of "living with wood". This requires marketable products, new applications and structured initiatives in standardisation and training along the entire value chain, from forestry through to design.

The FFG project SynLamTimber, led by Holzforschung Austria, aims to make high-quality hardwood lamellas usable for the production of glued laminated timber. It is a broadly supported project with European industry participation.

The flagship project on the correct use of timber for terraces and façades at the Garden Tulln has been running very successfully for three years and will stay in the focus 2027. (www.holzimgarten.eu) Hardwood needs more possible applications for the interior and exterior.

Fig. 1

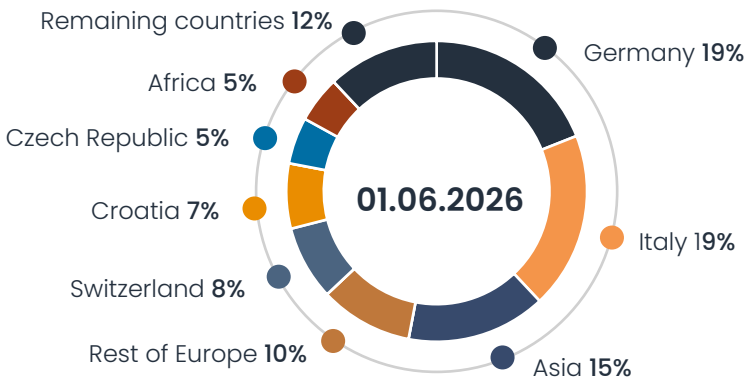
Sawn Hardwood PRODUCTION in Austria



Source: Statistik Austria. 2025: preliminary numbers, 2026, 2027: prognosis

Fig. 2

EXPORT of Sawn Hardwood from Austria



Source: Statistik Austria Außenhandelsstatistik

Facts about the Austrian Hardwood Industry

The Austrian hardwood industry plays a critical role in the overall timber value chain. It consists only of SME family owned businesses and supplies key industries, including furniture, flooring, and construction. The sector faces ongoing challenges from global competition and regulatory changes but holds potential for growth, particularly through sustainable production practices and increased domestic demand. Political and industry-led initiatives will be vital in ensuring a stable and competitive future.

BELGIUM
Producer & User

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	11,8	11,9	11,9
GDP Growth	%	1,1	0,6	1,1
Inflation Rate	%	3,0	3,4	2,3
Unemployment Rate	%	6,1	6,6	6,6
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	26.588	27.500	27.500
Housing starts	units	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Housing completions	units	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Wage development	% vs previous year	2,3	3,0	4,0
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	38	38	38

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	85	80	80
Imports	1.000 m³	325	300	310
Exports	1.000 m³	209	210	210
Consumption	1.000 m³	201	170	180

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	1.100	1.000	1.000
Imports	1.000 m³	1.545	1.500	1.500
Exports	1.000 m³	300	300	300
Consumption	1.000 m³	2.345	2.200	2.200

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	13	12	12
Chips production	1.000 m³	89	84	84
Bark production	1.000 m³	26	24	24
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	3	3	3

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	0	-5	-5

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	-5,0	stable
Energy	10,0	increasing
Transport	20,0	increasing

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	3,0	stable
Chips	5,0	increasing
Sawdust	5,0	increasing

Source: Confédération belge du bois + Fedustria

Market Statement PRODUCER

The market for hardwood sawn timber is relatively healthy for high-quality oak. Unfortunately, more and more logs with sanitary problems are on the market. Much of this timber is infested with insects, making it very difficult to sell. The market for industrial timber is therefore significantly weaker.

Supplying oak sawmills is less difficult than in the past. Competition with export has decreased. The market for by-products is showing a slight improvement.

Market Statement USER

As regards the import of tropical hardwood, the combination of stringent EUTR controls, extensive customs procedures and CITES requirements presents a significant challenge. In particular, the implementation of CITES hampers trade, even though the system is intended to support sustainable and legal trade. The issuance of CITES import permits is often subject to considerable delays, creating uncertainty, lengthy waiting times and frustration for both producers and importers.

BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA
Producer & User

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	3,2	3,2	3,2
GDP Growth	%	2,4	2,1	2,7
Inflation Rate	%	4,0	5,4	3,1
Unemployment Rate	%	12,2	12,0	12,0
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	5.970	n.a.	n.a.
Housing starts	units	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Housing completions	units	3.016	n.a.	n.a.
Wage development	% vs previous year	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	42,7	42,5	42

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	313	318	322
Imports	1.000 m³	81	88	93
Exports	1.000 m³	178	188	192
Consumption	1.000 m³	216	218	223

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	695	714	716
Imports	1.000 m³	93	95	98
Exports	1.000 m³	13	15	18
Consumption	1.000 m³	775	794	796

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Chips production	1.000 m³	204	208	212
Bark production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	438	460	480

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	3	4	4

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	15,0	increasing
Energy	9,0	stable
Transport	6,0	stable

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	7,0	stable
Chips	8,0	stable
Sawdust	n.a.	n.a.

Source: Prof. dr Branko Glavonjic, University of Belgrade-Faculty of Forestry

CROATIA
Producer & User

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	3,9	3,9	3,9
GDP Growth	%	3,4	2,7	2,5
Inflation Rate	%	3,7	4,6	2,7
Unemployment Rate	%	4,9	4,8	4,8
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	11.733	10.200	10.700
Housing starts	units	21.809	19.000	19.500
Housing completions	units	17.733	17.500	18.200
Wage development	% vs previous year	10,0	8,8	7,0
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	40,3	40	40

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	1.198	1.150	1.170
Imports	1.000 m³	84	88	90
Exports	1.000 m³	1.088	1.020	1.040
Consumption	1.000 m³	194	218	220

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	1.942	1.880	1.920
Imports	1.000 m³	121	125	130
Exports	1.000 m³	412	400	405
Consumption	1.000 m³	1.651	1.605	1.645

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Chips production	1.000 m³	502	508	512
Bark production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	475	482	490

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	4	4	4

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	26,5,	increasing
Energy	12,0	increasing
Transport	1,9	increasing

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	8,0	increasing
Chips	n.a.	increasing
Sawdust	n.a.	increasing

Source: Prof. dr Branko Glavonjic, University of Belgrade-Faculty of Forestry

MARKET SURVEY 2026

MADE POSSIBLE BY YOUR CONTRIBUTION



DENMARK
Producer & User

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	6,0	6,0	6,1
GDP Growth	%	2,9	1,9	1,8
Inflation Rate	%	1,8	1,8	1,9
Unemployment Rate	%	2,9	3,1	3,3
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	24.200	24.500	25.000
Housing starts	units	25.600	24.300	24.500
Housing completions	units	25.500	26.100	25.500
Wage development	% vs previous year	3,2	3,2	3,0
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	37	37	37

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	45	45	45
Imports	1.000 m³	96	104	100
Exports	1.000 m³	24	33	30
Consumption	1.000 m³	117	116	115

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	340	340	340
Imports	1.000 m³	191	154	154
Exports	1.000 m³	160	190	190
Consumption	1.000 m³	371	304	304

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	n.a	n.a	n.a
Chips production	1.000 m³	n.a	n.a	n.a
Bark production	1.000 m³	n.a	n.a	n.a
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	n.a	n.a	n.a

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	n.a	n.a	n.a

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	n.a	n.a	n.a

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	n.a	n.a
Energy	n.a	n.a
Transport	n.a	n.a

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	n.a	n.a
Chips	n.a	n.a
Sawdust	n.a	n.a

Source Producer: Association of Danish Wood and Furniture Industries
Source User: Danske Byggecentre / Danish Timber Trade Federation

DENMARK
Producer & User

MARKET Statement

The Danish economy remains resilient, and GDP growth is forecasted at 1.9 percent in 2026, with inflation remaining low at around 1.8 percent and unemployment still at a low level.

Conditions in the construction sector have gradually stabilized as inflation and interest rates have eased. However, residential construction is recovering only slowly.

Housing completions are expected to increase in 2026, while housing starts are forecast to decline slightly, reflecting continued caution in the market.

Danish building code introduced CO2 emission thresholds several years ago. These emission levels will gradually tighten towards 2030 and will continue to strengthen the long-term case for wood in construction.

HARDWOOD imports

Temperate /tropical hardwood

The volume of tropical timber for the Danish market is slightly lower compared to 2025. This is primarily driven by ongoing CITES-related challenges regarding imports of Cumaru and Ipé from Brazil/Peru to Denmark/EU. This has caused, and continues to cause, delivery uncertainties and delays. Several Brazilian producers are feeling the pressure from this situation and are beginning to look toward other markets.

Demand for hardwood - primarily for decking and cladding across the consumer, construction, and project segments - is moderately stable to slightly rising.

In 2027 demand for South American hardwood - primarily for decking and cladding across the consumer, construction, and project segments - is expected to see slight to moderate growth. This rise is driven in particular by expectations of reduced available volume from Brazil in Q1 and Q2, as well as general delays in logging operations this year (mainly due to the election in Brazil), meaning most producers did not receive raw materials at their sawmills according to the normal cycle.

This may in turn lead to increased demand for and growth in imports of African hardwood, currently characterized by stable prices and consistent delivery flows.

European hardwood

In general, the supply of raw material continues to be tight. The war in Ukraine remains a critical factor, leading to rising raw material prices - prices are currently at their peak and are expected to remain there.

Demand for European hardwood - primarily from the furniture and kitchen industries - is stable, however at a "low" level. Demand for European hardwood from the window industry and the interior segment is generally stable and towards 2027 a slight improvement is anticipated.

HARDWOOD SAWMILLS and wood working industries

For the Danish hardwood sawmills and manufacturers specifically, the main challenge remains access to domestically produced and certified raw material. State owned forests have scaled down cuttings and are expected to stop harvesting almost completely by 2027, with significant forest areas being converted to unmanaged status.

The shortage is particularly acute for hardwood, meaning that furniture and flooring companies increasingly have to rely on private forest owners and imported wood while competing with continuing demand on the export market. This creates continued pressure on Danish sawmills and wood-processing companies and risks constraining their ability to contribute to climate mitigation through long-life wood products. Denmark's plan to expand the national forest area by 250,000 hectares by 2045 should improve raw material availability in the longer term, but shortages are likely to remain a concern in the short and medium term.

FRANCE
Producer

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	68,5	68,6	68,7
GDP Growth	%	0,9	0,5	0,5
Inflation Rate	%	0,9	2,3	2,5
Unemployment Rate	%	7,5	8,3	8,5
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	379.222	380.000	390.000
Housing starts	units	274.611	290.000	307.000
Housing completions	units	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Wage development	% vs previous year	1,9	2,0	2,0
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	39	39	39

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	1.100	1.050	1.000
Imports	1.000 m³	130	110	110
Exports	1.000 m³	300	340	330
Consumption	1.000 m³	930	820	780

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	4.700	4.600	4.600
Imports	1.000 m³	70	70	70
Exports	1.000 m³	630	750	700
Consumption	1.000 m³	4.140	3.920	3.970

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Chips production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Bark production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	3	3	2

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	n.a	n.a
Energy	n.a	n.a
Transport	n.a	n.a

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	n.a	n.a
Chips	n.a	n.a
Sawdust	n.a	n.a

Source Producer: Fédération Nationale du Bois

FOREST

In forestry, the 2025–2026 period is marked by an increase in operating costs and a persistent problem of tree dieback.

The decline in Chinese demand and in major sectors such as cooperage, parquet flooring and railway sleepers has led to a decrease in timber prices following record levels in 2024.

The situation of Fibre Excellence's two pulp mills poses a major risk to the many forestry contracting companies in these regions and to the balance of the entire timber industry.

The recovery of exports to China during the first half of 2026 is unfortunately contributing to France becoming the leading supplier, with an estimated 360,000 m³ for 2026.

FORÊTS

En forêt, l'année 2025-2026 est marquée par une augmentation des couts d'exploitation et un problème persistant de dépérissement de arbres.

La baisse de la demande chinoise et de secteurs majeurs comme la tonnellerie, le parquet et les traverses a permis de voir les cours des bois diminuer après des cours record en 2024.

La situation des deux usines de Fibre excellence (pate a papier) présente un risque majeur pour les nombreuses entreprises de travaux forestiers de ces régions et pour l'équilibre de toute le filière bois.

La reprise des exportations vers la Chine sur le premier semestre 2026 contribue malheureusement à placer le France en première place des fournisseurs avec 360 000 m3 estimé pour l'année 2026.

MARKET Statement

The economic situation in France in 2026 is characterised by weak growth and numerous constraints.

- Growth: GDP stagnated in Q2 2026 (0.0% quarter-on-quarter). The Banque de France forecasts growth of only +0.4% for the whole of 2026, followed by +0.9% in 2027.
- Inflation: Consumer prices increased by 2.4% year-on-year in August 2026, according to Insee. The Banque de France forecasts an average of around 2.3% in 2026, particularly due to the impact of energy prices.
- Unemployment: It reached 8.3% in Q2 2026, up 0.7 percentage points year-on-year.
- Public debt: It stood at 117.5% of GDP at the end of March 2026, equivalent to approximately €3,536 billion.
- Industry: Manufacturing output fell by a further 0.8% in July, following a 1.0% decline in June, although it remains slightly above its level one year earlier.
- Confidence: Consumer confidence remains low, at 86 points in September, while the business climate stands at 96. Budgetary uncertainty is weighing heavily on the economy.
- France is not currently in recession, but it is experiencing a period of near-stagnation. The main problem is the combination of several constraints.

ECONOMIE

La situation économique de la France en 2026 se caractérise par une faible croissance et de nombreuses contraintes.

- Croissance : le PIB a stagné au 2e trimestre 2026 (0,0 % sur le trimestre). La Banque de France prévoit seulement +0,4 % sur l'ensemble de 2026, puis +0,9 % en 2027
- Inflation : les prix à la consommation ont augmenté de 2,4 % sur un an en août 2026 selon l'Insee. La Banque de France prévoit environ 2,3 % en moyenne sur 2026, notamment sous l'effet de l'énergie.
- Chômage : il atteint 8,3 % au 2e trimestre 2026, en hausse de 0,7 point sur un an.
- Dette publique : elle atteignait 117,5 % du PIB fin mars 2026, soit environ 3 536 milliards d'euros
- Industrie : la production manufacturière a encore reculé de 0,8 % en juillet, après -1,0 % en juin, même si elle reste légèrement supérieure à son niveau d'un an auparavant.
- Confiance : la confiance des ménages reste basse, à 86 points en septembre, tandis que le climat des affaires est à 96. L'incertitude budgétaire pèse lourdement sur l'économie.
- La France n'est pas actuellement en récession, mais elle connaît une période de quasi-stagnation. Le principal problème est le cumul de plusieurs contraintes.

CONSTRUCTION Market

The market has experienced several years of decline. In 2025, construction activity fell by 4% in real terms, according to the Fédération française du bâtiment. The new-build market was particularly affected: -8.8% for new housing, while maintenance and renovation activities held up much better.

In 2025, only 264,800 housing units were started, compared with 388,400 in 2022 and more than 400,000 in 2017–2021. There was nevertheless an initial recovery in building permits and housing starts in 2025.

However, in 2026, the situation remains fragile: new housing remains at a historically low level, although housing starts are increasing compared with the previous period: Between January and July, 69,209 single-family homes were started (+28% compared with 2025), 81,575 multi-family homes (+25%) and 23,537 other homes (+27%). The total number of housing starts was 29,267 in July (+29%) and 174,321 between January and July (+26%).

Marché de la CONSTRUCTION

Le marché a connu plusieurs années de baisse. En 2025, le volume d'activité du bâtiment a reculé de 4 % en termes réels selon la Fédération française du bâtiment. Le marché de la construction neuve a été particulièrement touché : -8,8 % pour le logement neuf, tandis que l'entretien-amélioration a beaucoup mieux résisté.

En 2025, seulement 264 800 logements ont été mis en chantier, contre 388 400 en 2022 et plus de 400 000 en 2017-2021. Il y a néanmoins eu un début de redressement des autorisations et des mises en chantier en 2025.

Mais en 2026, la situation reste fragile : le logement neuf demeure à un niveau historiquement bas, même si les mises en chantier progressent par rapport à la période précédente : Entre janvier et juillet, 69 209 maisons individuelles ont été commencées (+28 % par rapport à 2025), 81 575 maisons plurifamiliales (+25 %) et 23 537 autres maisons (+27 %). Le total des mises en chantier était de 29 267 en juillet (+29 %) et 174 321 entre janvier et juillet (+26 %).

HARDWOOD Sawn Timber

The outlets for oak are facing difficulties in several major markets: cooperage, parquet flooring and railway sleepers. The parquet market is indeed growing, but from a historically low level. The workload of oak sawmills is reasonable, not because the market is growing, but because of lower European supply.

French exports of oak sawn timber are up 18%, driven mainly by European demand. Asian markets are experiencing a more challenging period, with declining consumption and multiple geopolitical uncertainties.

Regarding beech sawn timber, the situation is more complex. Sawmills are benefiting from lower Chinese demand for logs, but export markets for sawn timber are also declining. Overall, the market remains balanced, with some markets compensating for others depending on the opening and closing of market access conditions (banking, logistics, etc.). It is extremely difficult to pass on the price increases necessary to offset rising logistics costs.

Unfortunately, it is not an increase in demand that is enabling hardwood sawmills to remain resilient, but rather a decline in production both in Europe and North America.

Sciages FEUILLUS

Les débouchés du chêne sont en difficultés sur plusieurs marchés majeurs: tonnellerie, parquet et traverses. Le marché du parquet est certes en progression mais depuis un point historiquement bas. La charge de travail des scieries de chêne est convenable, non pas en raison de marché en progression mais d'une offre européenne plus faible.

Les exportations françaises de sciages de chêne sont en progression de 18 % essentiellement tirées par une demande européenne. Les marchés asiatiques vivent une période plus compliquée avec une consommation en baisse et une instabilité géopolitique multiple.

Concernant les sciages de hêtre, la situation est plus complexe. Les scieries bénéficient d'une baisse de la demande chinoise en grumes mais les marchés export de sciages sont également en baisse. Généralement le marché reste à l'équilibre, certains marchés compensant pour d'autres en fonction de l'ouverture et de la fermeture des conditions d'accès (bancaire, logistique...). Les hausses nécessaires pour compenser l'augmentation des frais logistiques est extrêmement difficile à répercuter.

Ce n'est malheureusement pas une hausse de la demande qui permet aux scieries de feuillus de résister mais bien une baisse de la production en Europe comme en Amérique du Nord.

GERMANY
Producer

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	83,5	83,3	83,1
GDP Growth	%	0,2	0,6	0,9
Inflation Rate	%	2,2	2,8	2,5
Unemployment Rate	%	6,3	6,3	6,2
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	238.500	slight increase	slight increase
Housing starts	units	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Housing completions	units	205.000	185.000	increase
Wage development	% vs previous year	4,2	slight increase	slight increase
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	40	40	40

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	808	836	836
Imports	1.000 m³	80	85	85
Exports	1.000 m³	446	450	450
Consumption	1.000 m³	443	471	471

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	3.052	3.100	3.100
Imports	1.000 m³	270	300	300
Exports	1.000 m³	820	900	900
Consumption	1.000 m³	2.502	2.500	2.500

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Chips production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Bark production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	3	3	3

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	stable	decreasing	decreasing

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	increasing	increasing
Energy	increasing	increasing
Transport	increasing	increasing

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	stable	increasing
Chips	increasing	increasing
Sawdust	increasing	increasing

Source Producer:
DeSH Deutsche Säge- und Holzindustrie Bundesverband e.V.
Source User: GD Holz



MARKET Statement

Business situation

The business environment for German hardwood sawmills remains challenging. Following a 0.2 % decline in GDP in 2025, moderate growth of 0.5–0.7 % is forecast for 2026. A broad-based recovery in demand in the construction sector is yet to materialise: housing completions are expected to fall from approximately 205,000 units in 2025 to 185,000 in 2026. Hardwood producers therefore face subdued domestic demand alongside rising operating costs.problem is the combination of several constraints:

Raw material

Hardwood log availability is assessed as normal for 2026 and 2027, though this assessment reflects the industry's current production level. German hardwood log production is estimated at approximately 3.1 million m³ in 2026, compared with 3.05 million m³ in 2025.

Costs for hardwood logs, energy and transport are expected to increase in both 2026 and 2027. This will continue to put pressure on sawmills' margins. The February 2026 DeSH market report also shows that beech and oak log prices fluctuated during 2025, with beech prices tending to decline towards the end of the year. A normal assessment of log availability does not, by itself, resolve the sector's cost pressures.

Hardwood Production

German hardwood production totaled 808,000 m³ in 2025. An increase of 3.5% to approximately 836,000 m³ is forecast for 2026, with production expected to remain at this level in 2027.

Despite the projected increase in production, hardwood processing capacity is expected to decline in 2026 and 2027. Prices for hardwood lumber are likely to remain stable in 2026 before rising slightly again in 2027. Since input costs will begin to rise earlier, the outlook for manufacturers' margins remains tight.

Foreign Trade

Germany remains a major exporter of hardwood logs and sawn hardwood lumber. Exports of beech logs in 2025 totaled approximately 638,600 m³, representing a 10.1% increase over the previous year. China and Austria were the main destination countries. Exports of oak logs rose by 13.8% to approximately 182,200 m³, with China being the main destination country.

Beech sawnwood exports amounted to approximately 380,500 m³ in 2025, broadly in line with 2024. China, the United States and Poland were the largest markets. Oak sawnwood exports fell by 35.3% to approximately 65,300 m³. On the import side, beech sawnwood imports increased to approximately 20,300 m³, while oak sawnwood imports stood at approximately 60,000 m³.

For 2026 and 2027, hardwood lumber exports are projected to total approximately 450,000 m³ and imports approximately 85,000 m³. These figures should be considered approximate: The stated trade figures were calculated exclusively on the basis of beech and oak lumber. However, the other hardwood species do not account for a significant volume.

GERMANY
User

KEY Messages

- The German economy will return to moderate growth in 2026.
- Housing building permits have bottomed out.
- Timber harvesting declined due to a fall in the use of timber from storm-damaged trees.
- Timber construction remains a structural driver of growth.
- The hardwood market is in a sideways movement at best, but it depends which sector or use-case is looked at.

SUMMARY and Outlook

Following two years of economic weakness, the first signs of a slight recovery are emerging in 2026. The improved macroeconomic situation is creating more favourable conditions for the construction and timber industries. At the same time, construction activity remains well below the long-term average.

The rise in building permits is improving the medium-term outlook for hardwood demand. However, actual construction output continues to be weighed down by the low numbers of planning permissions granted in 2023 and 2024; there is also a large backlog of planning permissions – that is, projects that have been approved but not yet started. On the supply side, the importance of storm-damaged timber continues to decline in softwood, whereas hardwood logging is increasing.

NATIONAL Economy

1. Overall Economic Situation

In 2026, the German economy will be back on a moderate growth path. Gross domestic product is expected to grow by 1.4 per cent this year. Following the weak years of 2024 and 2025, this represents a noticeable improvement.

The current recovery is driven in particular by higher investment, a gradual rise in consumer demand and improved conditions in the construction sector. At the same time, structural challenges such as skills shortages, demographic trends, decarbonisation and shifts in international competition continue to weigh on the economy.

Inflation and interest rates have eased significantly compared with previous years. This generally improves investment conditions and increases planning certainty for businesses. [1]

Overall, the outlook has recently been a bit more positive, with some indicative economy figures even corrected to higher values, but an inflation rate of 2,8-3% weighs heavy on private spending and growth rates remain fragile.

2. Foreign Trade

Current leading indicators remain volatile, but on the whole are sending positive signals: the ifo export expectations index improved in August, rising from -2.8 to +9.6 points – its highest level since February 2022. Manufacturers of electrical equipment, data-processing equipment, and electronic and optical products are particularly optimistic. The automotive and mechanical engineering sectors also expect exports to rise. The growth in German foreign trade can be attributed to the sustained momentum of global trade, which remains remarkably robust despite high energy prices. However, trade and geopolitical uncertainties persist, and with them the risk of significantly higher energy prices in the longer term. As a result, the sales outlook for German exporters remains challenging. Whilst exports had continued to recover up to the middle of the year, despite rising energy prices and geopolitical uncertainties, the July figures point to weaker momentum at the start of the third quarter. [2]

3. Private Consumption

Additional public spending on infrastructure and defence is providing a boost. Exports and government spending are stimulating the economy – but without more private investment and consumption, the recovery remains fragile.

The reason for this, alongside the uncertainty caused by geopolitical risks, is high inflation. According to the ifo and RWI institutes, the inflation rate is set to rise to 2.8 per cent this year and 3.0 per cent next year. It is not expected to move back towards the European Central Bank's target of two per cent – at 2.3 per cent – until 2028. Consumer prices for electricity and gas in particular are likely to rise again in winter and consumption remains subdued due to inflation.

Expenditures from special governmental funds are exacerbating the government's financing deficits. According to ifo calculations, the budget deficit is likely to widen from 3.0 per cent of GDP in 2025 to 4.6 per cent in 2028. [3]

4. Labour Market

The labour market continued to perform weakly at the start of the third quarter. Unemployment stood once again at over three million people in August and rose slightly, even on a seasonally adjusted basis, by four thousand people. The labour market outlook for the second half of the year remains subdued. In line with business sentiment, the ifo Employment Barometer has recently brightened slightly, but remains below the expansion threshold. Accordingly, a less rapid pace of job cuts is expected in the manufacturing sector in the coming months. In the construction and services sectors, the employment outlook is now only slightly negative; in the retail sector, however, the leading indicator points to a further noticeable reduction in jobs. [2]

5. Insolvencies

According to official statistics, a total of 24,867 corporate insolvencies were reported between July 2025 and June 2026 (+7.6 per cent compared with the same period the previous year). In June 2026, the number of corporate insolvencies rose by 13.6 per cent compared with the previous month to 2,266 cases; compared with June 2025, it is 15.8 per cent higher. Based on its own leading indicators, the IWH expects high insolvency figures to continue over the next two months. [2]

6. Outlook

The recovery of the German economy is continuing. Following a strong start to the year, momentum did, however, slow slightly in the second quarter. Energy prices, which rose sharply as a result of the war in Iran, pushed up inflation and weighed on consumer-related service sectors. However, Germany's expansionary fiscal policy and increasing impetus from abroad prevented the energy price shock from causing a more severe slowdown. Real gross domestic product is forecast to grow by 1.4 per cent this year, 1.2 per cent next year and 0.8 per cent in 2028. Compared with the ifo Economic Forecast for Summer 2026, the growth rate for the current year has been revised upwards by 0.6 percentage points and for the coming year by 0.4 percentage points. [4]

BUILDING Sector

1. General

Developments in the construction sector remain the most important factor influencing demand for hardwood in Germany. Following a downturn lasting several years, the first signs of stabilisation are now emerging. However, the latest figures for June, published today by the Federal Statistical Office, offer a glimmer of hope. According to these figures, the German main construction sector [1] [2], partly thanks to a number of major projects, recorded a real and calendar-adjusted increase of 11.3 per cent in new orders for June 2026 compared with the same month last year, and a rise of 6.0 per cent compared with the previous month [3]. This results in a real increase of 1.8 per cent for the first half of the year (the first time this has been achieved overall). However, this has not yet been reflected in turnover: for the first six months, a real decline of 0.7 per cent is still reported, despite real growth of 6.6 per cent in June. [5]

In 2025, 238,500 flats were approved. This represents an increase of 10.8 per cent compared with the previous year. In the first half of 2026, the recovery continued with a rise of 15.1 per cent. At the same time, only around 206,000 flats were completed in 2025. The consequences of the slump in planning permissions in 2023 and 2024 are therefore still being felt. The housing shortage remains a key problem, particularly in conurbations. The policy target of 400,000 flats per year continues to be significantly missed.

2. Timber Construction (Fig. 1)

The improved outlook in the prefabricated timber construction sector is primarily attributable to rising demand in the construction of single-family and two-family homes and to the increasing share of prefabricated timber construction. The number of permits granted for single-family and two-family homes rose sharply by 14.5 per cent in the first half of 2026, whilst the corresponding figure for multi-family homes increased by as much as 16 per cent. [6]

Timber construction remains one of the most dynamic developments within the German construction sector. Around 26 per cent of all approved buildings are now constructed using timber. Growth in timber construction is particularly strong in multi-storey buildings and public buildings. Even though mostly softwood is used in construction, there are use-cases for hardwood species, too – and where houses are built using timber, it is more likely that inhabitants will also use hardwood for flooring, terrace decking or façade cladding.

3. Flats

Fig. 1 **Construction sector overview: permits of dwellings, monthly** [7]



© Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis), 2026

Fig. 2 **Main Construction Industry overview: incoming orders, annual** [8]



© Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis), 2026

4. Main Construction Sector (Fig. 2)

Real (price-adjusted) new orders in the main construction sector rose by 6.0 per cent in June 2026 compared with May 2026, after adjustment for calendar and seasonal effects. Several major contracts contributed to this result. According to the Federal Statistical Office (Destatis), new orders in building construction rose by 8.5 per cent and in civil engineering by 4.0 per cent. [7]

1 https://www.bundeswirtschaftsministerium.de/Redaktion/DE/Dossier/konjunktur-und-wachstum.html

2 https://www.bundeswirtschaftsministerium.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Wirtschaftliche-Lage/2026/20260914-wirt-lage-deutschland-sep-2026.html

3 https://www.tagesschau.de/wirtschaft/konjunktur/wirtschaftsinstitute-herbstprognose-100.html

4 https://www.ifo.de/fakten/2026-09-03/ifo-konjunkturprognose-herbst-2026-erholungskraefte-gewinnen-oberhand

5 https://www.bauindustrie.de/pm/bauindustrie-senkt-umsatzprognose-2026

6 https://holzindustrie.de/presse-und-news/2026/konjunktur-holz-bau-naehrt-hoffnung-auf-besserung-moebelindustrie-und-rohholzverarbeiter-bleiben-skeptisch/

7 https://www.destatis.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2026/08/PD26_291_3111.html? templateQueryString=monatlich+genehmigte+wohnungen

8 https://www.destatis.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2026/08/PD26_304_441.html

MARKET SITUATION in the timber trade

1. National Timber Trade

Table 1 Hardwood logs and timber imports

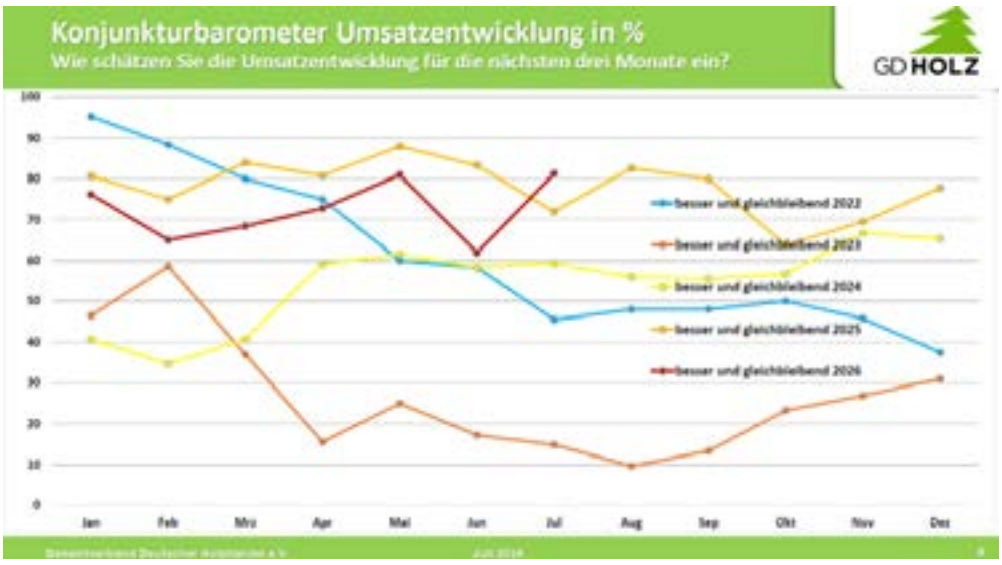
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Tropical Hardwood logs	16.051	9.699	2.088	1.818
Temperate Hardwood logs	381.686	336.105	209.736	239.965
Tropical Hardwood timber	72.010	48.189	42.166	39.018
Tropical Hardwood timber, processed	47.066	39.762	45.241	48.048
Temperate Hardwood timber	304.719	176.398	144.439	195.593
Temperate Hardwood timber, processed	18.158	16.607	15.504	30.071

Table 2 Hardwood logs and timber exports

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Tropical Hardwood logs	4.328	4.871	1.256	587
Temperate Hardwood logs	873.065	915.659	1.028.555	1.185.948
Tropical Hardwood timber	30.623	26.704	24.364	21.056
Tropical Hardwood timber, processed	9.137	5.995	7.076	6.027
Temperate Hardwood timber	647.082	457.551	489.566	475.523
Temperate Hardwood timber, processed	13.416	6.360	5.814	4.702

All underlying HS codes for the abovementioned categories can be found in the GD Holz foreign trade annual statistics brochure.

Fig. 1 GD Holz Turnover expectations in the Timber Trade, m-o-m



It can be seen that the turnover expectations for the next three months in the timber trade are fluctuating between 60 and 80% (red curve for 2026). It is noteworthy that 80% of the wholesalers participating in the survey estimate their business to be "the same" or "better" combined, whereas only 57% of the retailers say "the same". No retailers say it will "be better". So, there is a significantly different perception of market outlooks between these two groups.

2. Foreign Timber Trade IMPORT

Fig. 2 **Tropical Hardwood Logs, supplier countries to Germany in m³**

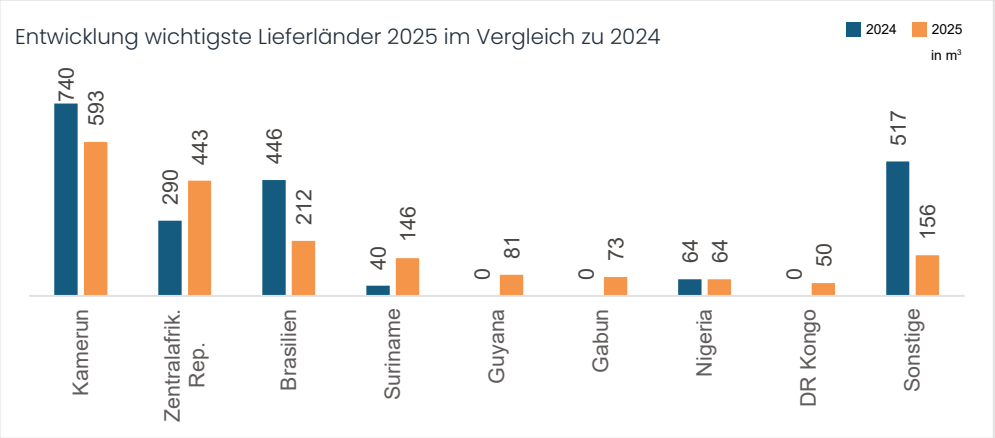


Fig. 3 **Temperate Hardwood logs, supplier countries to Germany in m³**

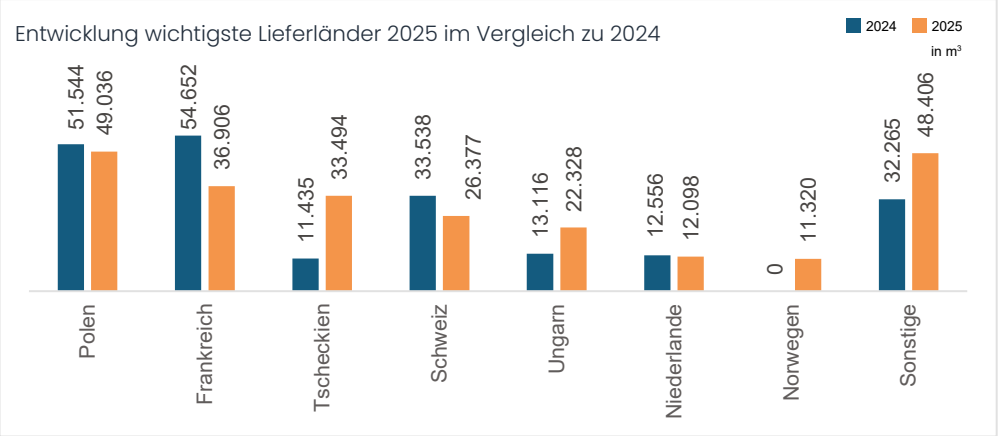
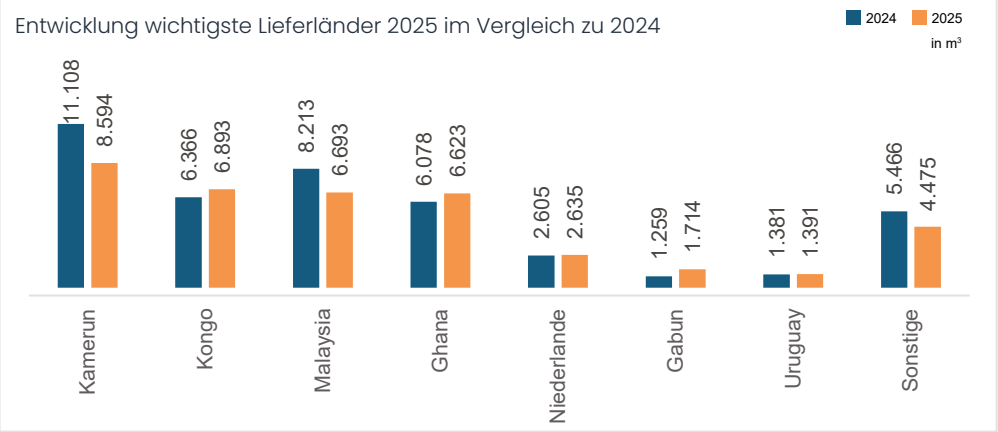


Fig. 4 **Tropical Hardwood timber**



2. Foreign Timber Trade IMPORT

Fig. 5 Tropical Hardwood timber processed

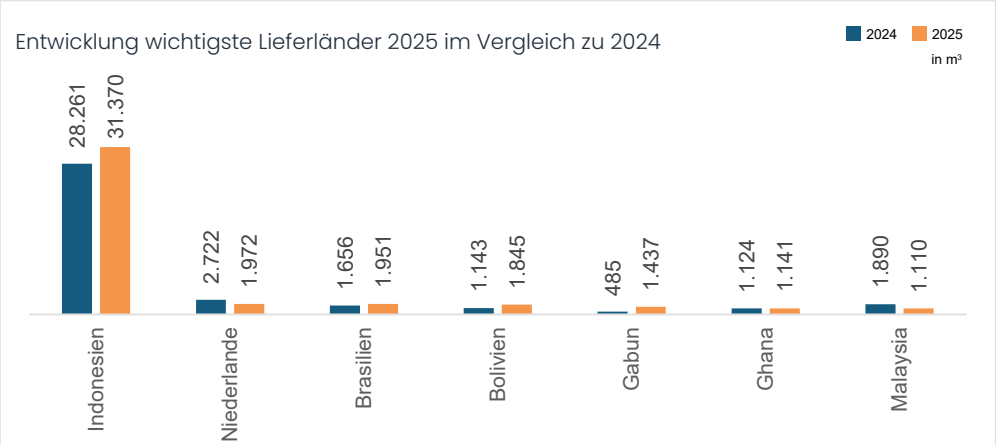


Fig. 6 Temperate Hardwood timber

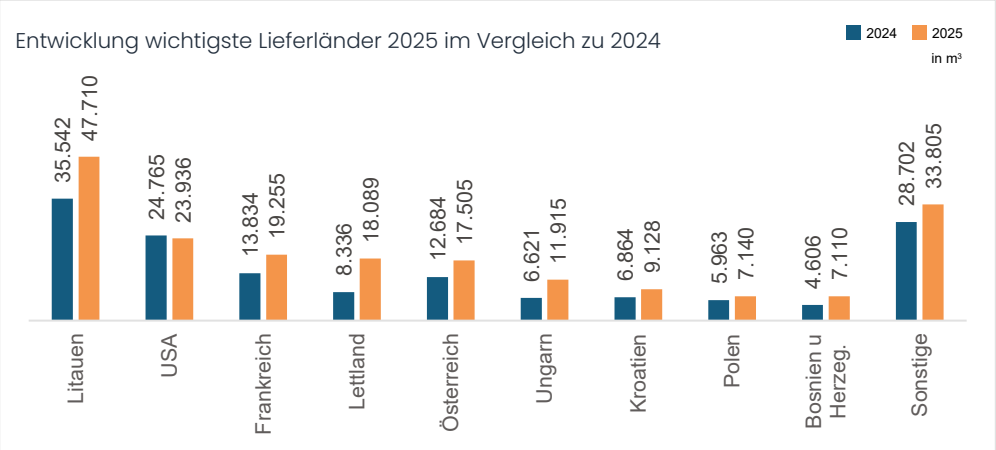
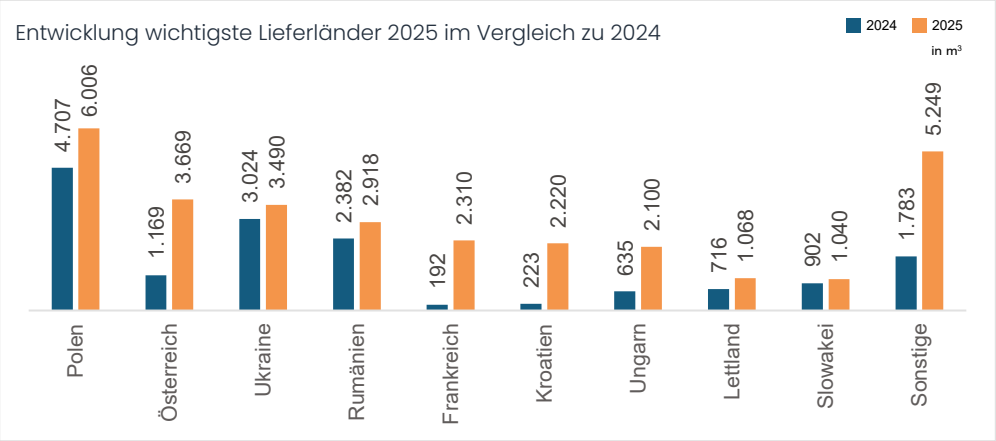


Fig. 7 Temperate Hardwood timber processed



3. Foreign Timber Trade EXPORT

Fig. 8 Tropical hardwood logs destination country from Germany in m³

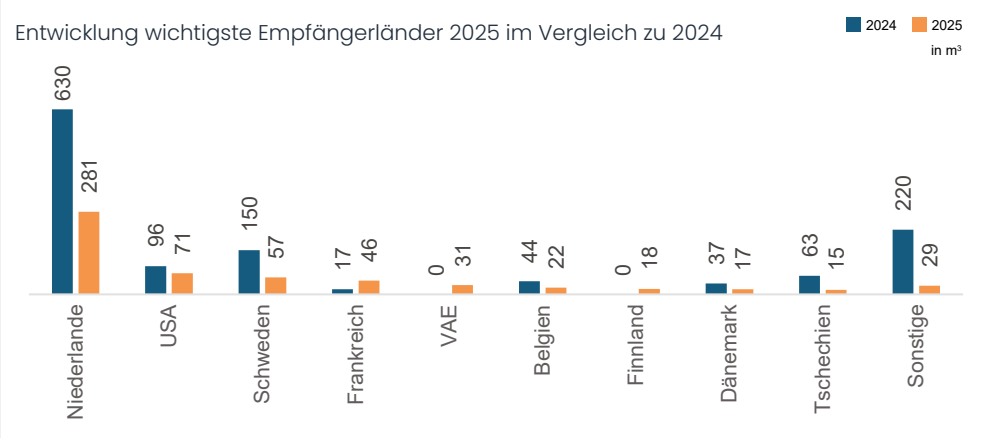


Fig. 9 Temperate hardwood logs

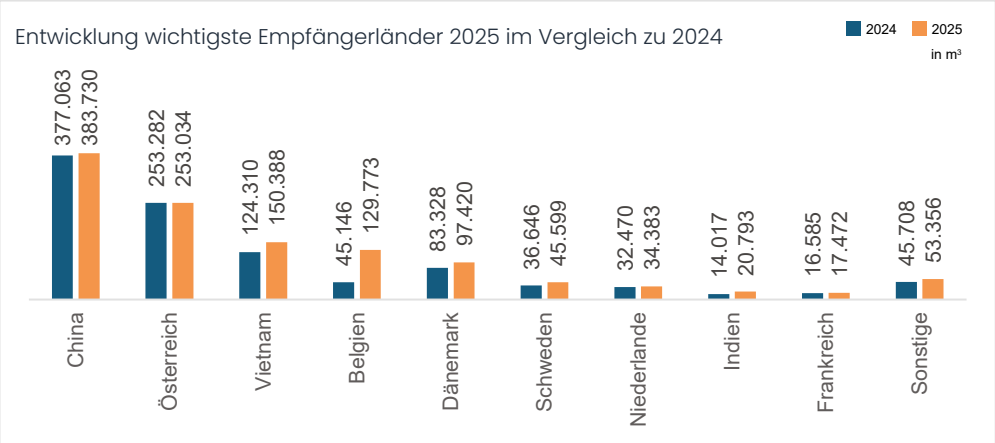
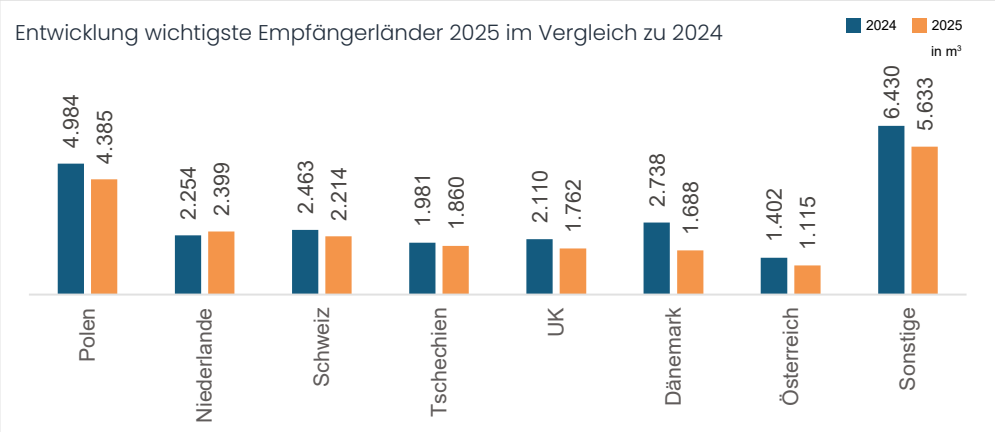


Fig. 10 Tropical hardwood timber



3. Foreign Timber Trade EXPORT

Fig. 11 Tropical hardwood timber processed

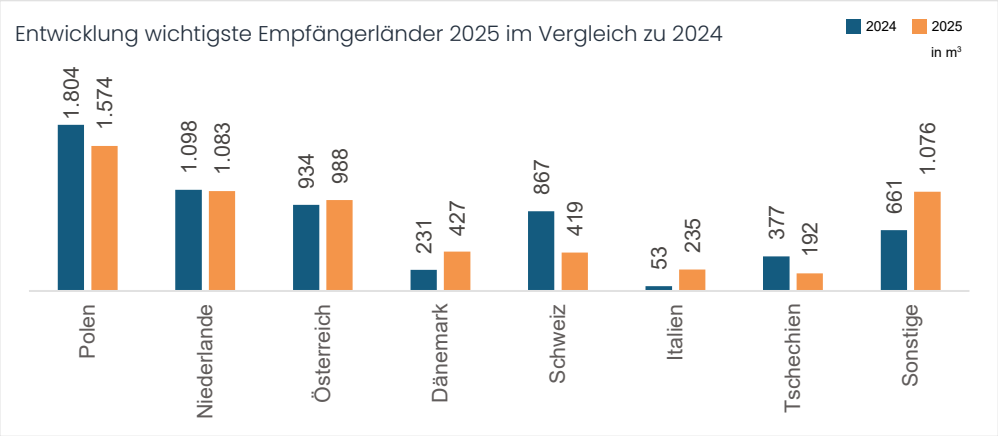


Fig. 12 Temperate hardwood timber

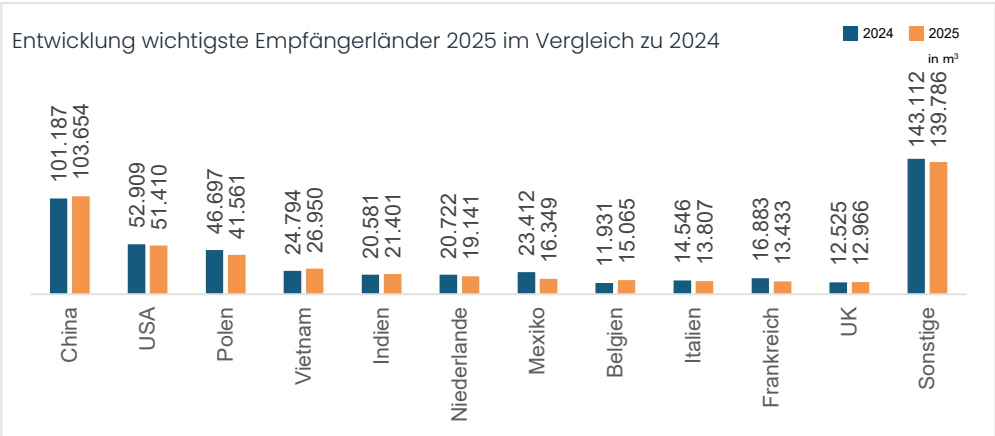
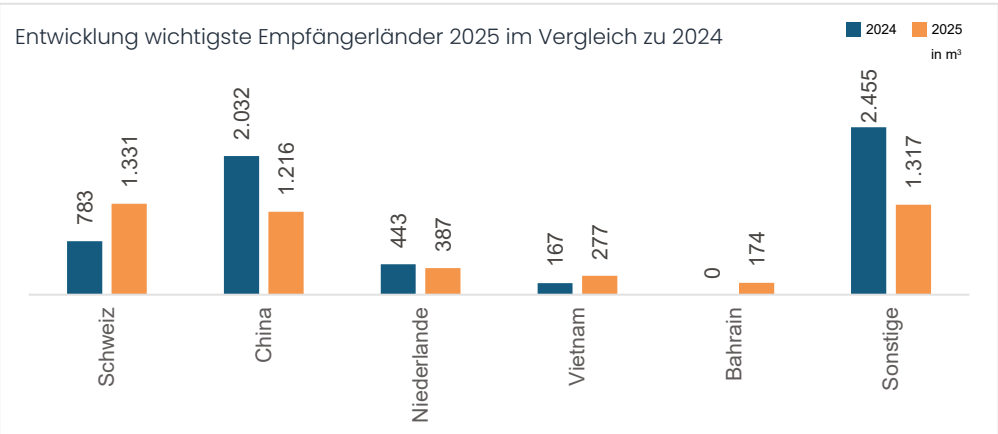


Fig. 13 Temperate hardwood timber processed



All graphs displayed in this chapter reflect numbers collected in the GD Holz annual foreign trade statistics brochure, for which numbers are based on the federal official trade database Destatis.



4. Furniture Industry

The performance of the German furniture industry in the first half of 2026 was characterized by a market environment that remained challenging. According to official statistics, turnover at the 374 companies fell by 2.7 per cent to around 7.7 billion euros between January and June. Domestic business performed particularly poorly, falling by 4.1 per cent to around 5 billion euros, whilst overseas turnover, at 2.7 billion euros, remained almost at the previous year's level. The export ratio rose by one percentage point to 35.2 per cent. According to the association's managing director, the continued slowdown in housing construction is having a significant impact on demand trends. The growing regulatory requirements at European level are entailing considerable costs. For 2026 as a whole, however, the sector remains cautious and a decline in turnover of around 3 per cent is expected. [9]

Interior furniture is the most relevant sector for the consumption of temperate hardwoods in Germany, followed by interior flooring, which is predominantly made from oak.

5. Flooring (indoor)

At the beginning of 2026, almost all segments benefited from strong demand. Three-layer parquet recorded the strongest growth. Sales in this segment rose by almost 22 per cent to 3.1 million m². Solid parquet also performed well, growing by just under 5 per cent to reach 300.000 m². In the two-layer segment, sales saw a slight increase of 0.4 per cent. Mosaic parquet was a notable exception: sales slumped by almost 17 per cent, falling to around 500,000 m². This decline is primarily linked to the growing shortage of skilled workers.

The increase in turnover was weaker than the growth in volume – a clear indication of falling prices. A prime example of this market situation is the three-layer plank flooring. Sales of this product rose by almost 27 per cent to 90 million m². Turnover, however, climbed by just 17 per cent to around 110 million euros.

The decline in mosaic parquet highlights the changes taking place in the trade. Parquet fitters are increasingly opting for pre-finished products, which can be laid more quickly and require fewer staff. Solid parquet, on the other hand, is still holding its own at a low level. [10]

The recent anti-dumping measures initiated by EU producers on imports of hardwood flooring from China only had a short time effect and it can be seen that trade flows adapt quickly, including foreign investments in intra-EU manufacturing lines.

6. Terrace decking

Following several sluggish years, the market for hardwood decking is stabilizing throughout 2026. Whilst sales volumes remain well below the peaks reached in 2020 and 2021, a market study commissioned by GD Holz forecasts a return to slight growth for the first time in 2026. Tropical hardwoods in particular, such as bangkirai, cumaru and ipé, are maintaining their strong position in the premium segment, as their natural durability and long service life remain key selling points and the premium sector is less subject to competition. The slight increase in building permits for dwellings increases the positive signs for 2027, as private sector investments in building and renovating is the most important client for outside hardwood decking. Furthermore, GD Holz successfully conducted a visual strength grading project, during which skills in analyzing and sorting timber were taught. This enables importers and traders to also sell strength graded timber for construction projects in which visual strength grades according to the D-classes are required by planners and a/or architects.

7. Waterways

Hardwood used in hydro construction such as in waterways, bank stabilization, locks and bridges remains highly specialized, profitable and stable, yet a small sector for the use of hardwoods in Germany.

8. Interior doors

In 2026, the market for interior doors with hardwood finishes appears, on the whole, to be more stable than many product groups intended for external use. Whilst the low number of new housing completions continues to weigh on demand, initial signs of recovery in the housing sector are bolstering new business. Oak finishes, in particular, are maintaining their strong position in high-end residential and commercial construction. Overall, the current market situation can be described as cautiously stable with a slight upward trend.

[9] https://www.moebelindustrie.de/presse/4905/deutsche-moebelindustrie-verzeichnet-im-ersten-halbjahr-2026-ein-umsatzminus-von-2-7-prozent.html

[10] https://www.parkett.de/blog/parkettindustrie-waechst-trotz-preisdruck/

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Global Gateway



Technical support is provided through the EU FLEGT VPA Programme.

EU FLEGT VPA PROGRAMME

Building on Ghana's achievements under the **EU–Ghana FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) and its pioneering FLEGT licensing system**, the EU–Ghana Forestry Business Mission aims to strengthen sustainable timber trade and investment partnerships with Europe. Organised in the context of the EU's Global Gateway strategy, the mission brings Ghanaian timber companies and public-sector representatives to Belgium to engage with European buyers, investors and technology partners. The initiative seeks to **expand market opportunities**, investment, promote local value addition and support the development of sustainable and competitive timber value chains.

Global Gateway



Technical support is provided through the Global Gateway Investment Agenda (GGIA) and the EU-funded Forest Governance and Value Chains (FGVC) Programme, implemented by FAO.

In **Guyana** and **Suriname**, the **Global Gateway Investment Agenda** seeks to strengthen partnerships between European and local companies, facilitate technology transfer and promote sustainable economic diversification, while supporting green transition and climate-risk reduction. In this context, the **European Union Delegation to Guyana, Suriname and CARICOM**, through its **Global Gateway Investment Facility for Guyana and Suriname** and in collaboration with the Forest Governance Value Chains programme, organises the **EU - Guyana and Suriname Forestry Business Mission**, which brings export- and investment-ready wood-based companies and public-sector representatives to Europe for targeted engagement with buyers, investors and strategic partners. The mission aims to expand exports, increase local value addition and attract private investment in sustainable forestry. It also seeks to strengthen resilient, deforestation-free timber supply chains for the EU and pilot a scalable approach to buyer and investor matchmaking under the EU Forest Partnerships, linking economic development with forest conservation.


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General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	18,0	18,1	18,2
GDP Growth	%	1,9	1,4	1,1
Inflation Rate	%	3,0	2,1	1,9
Unemployment Rate	%	3,9	4,1	4,3
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	61.433	57.360	n.a.
Housing starts	units	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Housing completions	units	68.000	73.750	79.000
Wage development	% vs previous year	5,2	4,0	3,4
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	26	26	26
Imports	1.000 m³	358	375	371
Exports	1.000 m³	90	88	87
Consumption	1.000 m³	294	315	312

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	166	n.a.	n.a.
Imports	1.000 m³	54	n.a.	n.a.
Exports	1.000 m³	114	n.a.	n.a.
Consumption	1.000 m³	106	n.a.	n.a.

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Chips production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Bark production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	n.a	n.a
Energy	n.a	n.a
Transport	n.a	n.a

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	n.a	n.a
Chips	n.a	n.a
Sawdust	n.a	n.a

Source: VVNH / Netherlands Timber Trade Association

GENERAL ECONOMIC Situation

2025 has shown continued but moderating economic growth. The Dutch economy performed better than expected at the start of the year, with GDP growth of 1.9% in 2025, which is higher than earlier projections. This performance was driven by robust household consumption and a pick-up in exports despite elevated global uncertainty from US tariffs. Business investment contracted, while government consumption and housing investment remained supportive. Growth is expected to slow to 1.4% in 2026 and 1.1% in 2027, becoming more domestically driven as export strength fades in line with moderating world trade, while government consumption eases and investment growth stays modest amid physical constraints such as limited grid capacity.

Inflation, as measured by the harmonised index of consumer prices, eased slightly from 3.2% in 2024 to 3.0% in 2025, and is projected to decline further to 2.1% in 2026 and 1.9% in 2027. Housing costs, together with earlier increases in excise duties and VAT, remained among the main contributors to inflation in 2025. The ongoing disinflation reflects moderating wage growth, lower energy and food price pressures, and softer service-price and rent increases. This price development coincided with a marked slowdown in purchasing power growth, from 3.0% in 2024 to 1.0% in 2025. Purchasing power is expected to pick up again to 1.4% in 2026, driven primarily by real wage growth, before flattening out at 0.0% in 2027, as new fiscal measures under the coalition agreement offset continued real wage gains.

After the very tight post-pandemic labour market, unemployment has continued its gradual rise: from 3.6% in 2023 to 3.7% in 2024 and 3.9% in 2025, and it is forecast to increase further to 4.1% in 2026 and 4.3% in 2027. Wage growth, which had responded only with a delay to the earlier inflation shock, resulting in a historically low level of purchasing power in 2022, accelerated sharply in subsequent years, peaking at 6.7% in 2024, the highest level recorded in more than four decades. Since then, wage growth has begun to cool. Negotiated wages rose by 5.2% in 2025 and are projected to ease further to 4.0% in 2026 and 3.4% in 2027, though wage growth is expected to remain above inflation throughout, keeping real wage growth positive.

The main economic indicators are presented in table 1, showing the historic trend over recent years and a forecast for 2026/2027.

Table 1 Dutch ECONOMIC INDICATORS

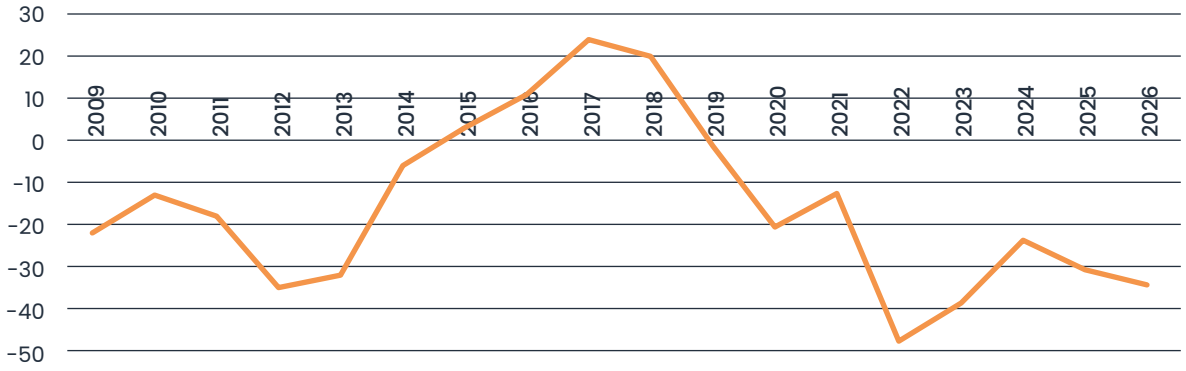
Indicator	Unit	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
GDP [1]	%	5.0	-0.6	1.1	1.9	1.4	1.1
Euro rate (dollar/euro) [1]	Ratio	1.05	1.08	1.08	1.13	1.17	1.18
Inflation [1]	%	11.6	4.1	3.2	3.0	2.1	1.9
Purchasing power [1]	%	-2.5	-0.7	3.0	1.0	1.4	0.0
Unemployment [1]	x 1000	350	359	372	396	425	450
Unemployment rate [1]	%	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.3
Investments [1, 2]	%	5.6	-9.4	-0.6	1.6	1.1	1.8
Building permits granted [3] [4]	Number	64,536	55,347	68,527	61,433	57,360	n.a.
Ditto	%	-14.9	-14.2	23.8	-10.4	-6.6	n.a.
New housing completed [3] [4]	Number	71,750	72,250	67,000	68,000	73,750	79,000
Ditto	%	0.7	0.7	-7.3	1.5	8.3	7.2

[1] CPB, 2026. Raming Centraal Economisch Plan 2026: CPB (Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis), The Hague, the Netherlands.
[2] Including stocks.
[3] CBS Statline, June 2026.
[4] Estimations by Probos based on the average of the projections by the CBS (woningmarkt), Economisch Instituut voor de Bouw, Bouwkennis and ING.

Consumer confidence is an indicator of consumers' faith and expectations in the Dutch economy. It is however largely influenced by the general world economy. As is shown in figure 1, consumer confidence in the Netherlands increased sharply since 2013, stabilised between 2017 and 2018 and then showed a large drop in 2019 because of the COVID-19 outbreak, stretching into 2020. However, over the first seven months of 2021 consumer confidence increased again by 9 points. This recovery may be largely attributed to the high vaccination rate in the Netherlands and consequently the gradual ease of related limitations. Unfortunately, consumer confidence dropped significantly in 2022. The all-time low (-59) was reached in September and October 2022. This is, according to CBS 2022, the lowest level since measurement began in 1986. From November 2022 onwards, consumer confidence started to recover steeply, averaging at -24 in 2024. The reduced inflation rates, among others, probably play a role in this. After declining to -31 in 2025, the first six months of 2026 were marked by a further decrease in consumer confidence, showing an average of 34.

Fig 1

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE TREND
in the period from 2009 till June of 2026



(Source: CBS Statline, edited by Probos)

The Dutch SAWN HARDWOOD MARKET

Historically, the primary markets for imported tropical hardwoods have been civil engineering and infrastructure, the carpentry sector, and the construction industry. The DIY and garden sector represents a secondary market. The packaging industry represents the largest market for temperate wood, with poplar being the primary species used. Other industries, including civil engineering and infrastructure, carpentry, and furniture and interior design, also play a significant role in the import and utilisation of temperate hardwoods [1].

Temperate sawn hardwoods

Imports of sawn temperate hardwood have been at low levels since the recession from 2007 onwards (figure 2). It saw a recovery in 2015 that continued until 2019. After a decrease in 2019, the imports seemed to stabilize in 2020 and 2021. However, a sharp decrease was observed in 2022. In 2025 imports recovered to approximately 201,000 m³ (+71% compared to 2022). Planed sawnwood represents approximately 11% of the import volume, whereas rough sawn hardwood has a share of roughly 89% of the total hardwood import (Table 2).

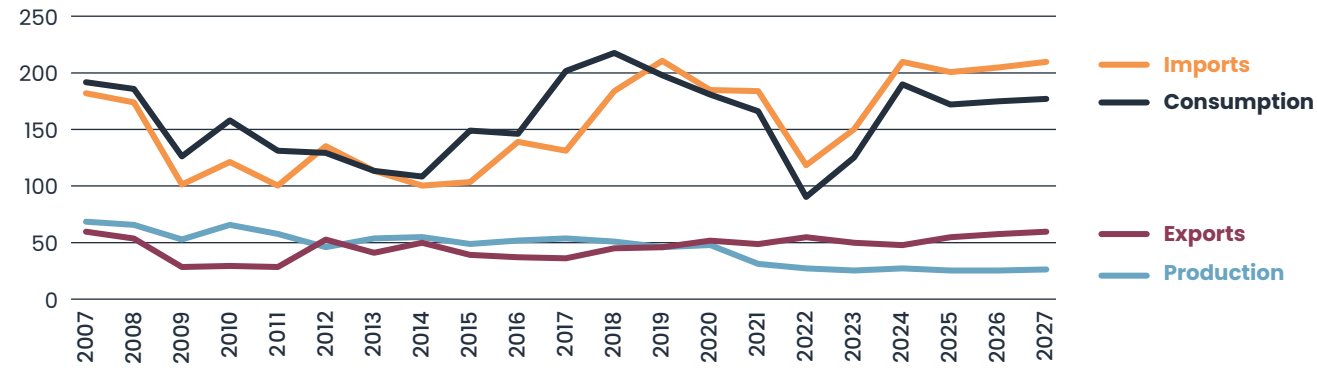
Exports of sawn temperate hardwoods fluctuate yearly with an approximate average volume of 50,000 m³. In 2025 exports increased by 15% compared to 2024. Combined with the imports this resulted in a decreased consumption of sawn temperate hardwood of -10%.

Although Germany and Latvia remain the foremost suppliers of temperate hardwood timber to the Netherlands, there were some changes in the top 10 countries for temperate hardwood imports in the Netherlands compared to 2024 (table 2). Most notable is the disappearance of Sweden in the top 10, with a volume of only 2,700 m³ in 2025 compared to 24,225 m³ in 2024. Generally, the countries in the top 10 increased their exports to the Netherlands, whereas the remaining countries represented less than half of the import volume compared to 2024.

[1] Oldenburger, J., & De Groot, C. (2015). Afzetmarkten voor gezaagd hout en plaatmateriaal op de Nederlandse markt in 2013. Stichting Probos.

Fig 2

Development of production, import, export and consumption of SAWN TEMPERATE HARDWOOD
in the Netherlands in the period 2008-2025 and expectations for 2026 and 2027



(Source: CBS trade statistics edited by Probos, Probos roundwood survey and NTTA estimates and forecasts)

Table 2 Sawn temperate hardwood IMPORTS hardwood (volume in m³)

	Countries	2024 Sawn	2024 Planed	2024 Total	2024 %	2025 Sawn	2025 Planed	2025 Total	2025 %
1	Germany	57,640	2,739	60,379	29,0	57,816	2,591	60,407	30,0
2	Latvia	24,656	1,534	26,190	12,0	33,608	674	34,282	17,0
3	Belgium	29,011	1,419	30,429	14,0	21,880	4,613	26,493	13,0
4	France	9,281	495	9,776	5,0	13,714	992	14,706	7,0
5	Poland	7,763	1,924	9,687	5,0	6,806	3,363	10,169	5,0
6	Italy	3,042	338	3,380	2,0	6,830	1,961	8,791	4,0
7	Ukraine	4,250	261	4,511	2,0	7,825	212	8,037	4,0
8	Romania	3,603	166	3,769	2,0	3,667	638	4,305	2,0
9	USA	2,858	193	3,051	1,0	3,945	176	4,121	2,0
10	Croatia	1,871	52	1,923	1,0	3,290	625	3,915	2,0
	Other *	53,527	3,766	57,293	27,0	20,243	5,807	26,050	13,0
	Total	**197,502**	**12,887**	**210,389**		**179,624**	**21,653**	**201,277**	

* Other (2025): This group consists of 40 countries with exports to the Netherlands of less than 3,800 m3

(Source: CBS trade statistics edited by Probos and international trade statistics of Sweden, Germany, Finland and Latvia for verification)

Tropical sawn hardwoods

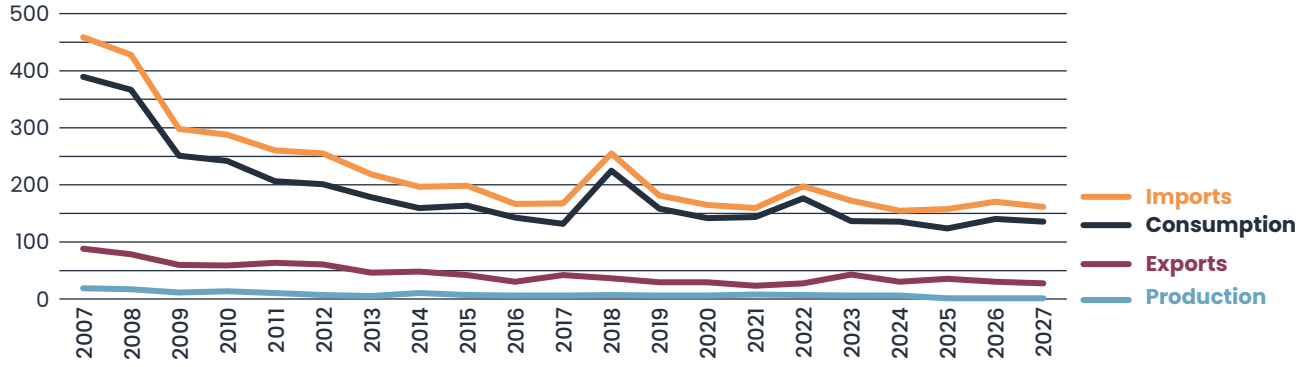
Imports of sawn tropical hardwood have been decreasing since 2007. With a minor recovery in 2018, imports resumed to decline in 2019 (figure 3). However, imports showed an increase in 2022. In 2025, imports decreased by 20% compared to 2022 to approximately 157,000 m3. Planed sawnwood represents approximately 43% of the import volume, whereas rough sawn hardwood has a share of roughly 57% of the total hardwood import (Table 3). The planed tropical hardwood share of the imports increased significantly in recent years.

Exports of sawn tropical hardwood increased by 17% but are expected to decline again in following years. Moreover, exports represent a significantly lower volume than imports. Hence the apparent consumption of sawn tropical hardwood in the Netherlands decreased by 9% in 2025 compared to 2024.

Indonesia, Malaysia and Brazil are the most important countries from which tropical sawnwood is imported. It is worth noting that all tropical sawn timber from Indonesia is planed. Also, Belgium is listed as an important country from which tropical timber is imported. However, this is most likely transit trade from the harbour of Antwerp. Congo and Cameroon are the most important countries of origin for tropical sawn hardwood from Africa, whereas imports from Gabon more than halved compared to 2022 and were hence not included in the top 10.

Fig 3 Development of production, import, export and consumption of SAWN TROPICAL HARDWOOD

in the Netherlands in the period 2008-2025 and expectations for 2026 and 2027



(Source: CBS trade statistics edited by Probos, Probos roundwood survey and NTTA estimates and forecasts)

Table 3 Sawn tropical hardwood IMPORTS (volume in m³)

	Countries	2024 Sawn	2024 Planed	2024 Total	2024 %	2025 Sawn	2025 Planed	2025 Total	2025 %
1	Belgium	17,562	3,432	20,994	13,0	34,757	8,968	43,725	28,0
2	Indonesia	-	25,722	25,722	16,0		28,717	28,717	18,0
3	Malaysia	20,877	16,255	37,131	23,0	13,866	12,554	26,420	17,0
4	Brazil	20,765	5,856	26,621	17,0	17,488	4,771	22,259	14,0
5	Congo (Brazzaville)	4,605	1,252	5,857	4,0	6,869	3,327	10,196	6,0
6	Cameroon	13,826	1,793	15,619	10,0	7,516	1,021	8,537	5,0
7	Germany	3,542	1,456	4,999	3,0	4,569	3,759	8,328	5,0
8	Italy	3,310	314	3,624	2,0	1,638	317	1,955	1,0
9	Suriname	2,745	-	2,745	2,0	1,063		1,063	1,0
10	UAE	-	1,135	1,135	1,0	113	846	959	1,0
	Other *	8,278	5,875	14,153	9,0	2,289	2,697	4,986	3,0
	Total	**95,511**	**63,090**	**158,600**		**90,168**	**66,978**	**157,146**	

* Other (2025): This group consists of 46 countries with exports to the Netherlands of less than 870m3

(Source: CBS trade statistics edited by Probos and international trade statistics of Germany, and STIX for verification)

2026 AND 2027 FORECAST [1] [2] [3] [4]

The Dutch economy is projected to grow by 1.4% in 2026 and 1.1% in 2027, according to the central Economic Plan (CEP) for 2026 published by CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis. Growth is becoming more domestically driven: household consumption remains the main engine, as earlier income gains continue to feed through into spending, while wage growth still outpaces inflation and keeps real incomes rising. Government consumption also continues to support activity, though its contribution eases in 2027 amid cutbacks in healthcare and the civil service. Investment growth stays modest, held back by physical constraints such as limited capacity on the electricity grid, while the exceptional export strength of 2025 fades as world trade growth moderates from 4.1% to around 2.5–2.7%.

Despite these developments, the general government deficit is set to widen from 1.6% of GDP in 2025 to 2.6% in 2026, before narrowing again to 1.9% in 2027. The 2026 deterioration is largely a one-off effect of an €8.2 billion payment to transfer defence pension liabilities to the ABP pension fund; once that item drops out of the budget, the deficit improves in 2027. Underlying this, however, spending on defence, healthcare and social security continues to rise faster than revenues. Government debt, at around 43–45% of GDP, remains low by historical standards, but on current policy the deficit is projected to widen further over the medium term, breaching the EU's –3% reference value by 2034 (reaching –3.1%) as debt climbs toward 52.5% of GDP — driven by rising defence outlays, an ageing population, and higher interest costs on refinanced debt.

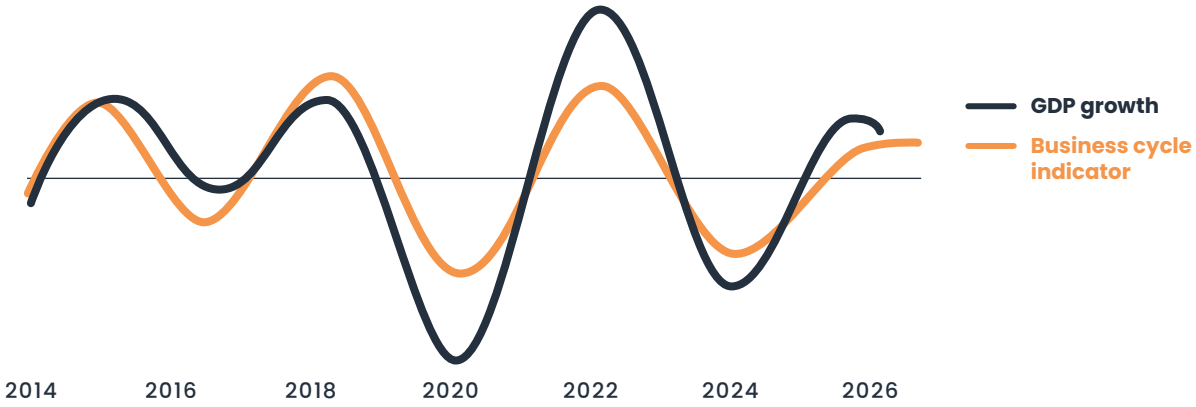
Inflation, as measured by the harmonised index of consumer prices, is forecast to moderate from 3.0% in 2025 to 2.1% in 2026 and 1.9% in 2027. Wage growth is cooling too, from 5.2% in 2025 to 4.0% in 2026 and 3.4% in 2027, but stays above inflation, keeping real wage growth positive. Median household purchasing power is set to rise by 1.0% in 2025 and 1.4% in 2026, driven mainly by real wage growth of 1.7%, before flattening at 0.0% in 2027, as new fiscal measures under the coalition agreement offset the continuing rise in real wages.

The Dutch Bank's business cycle indicator, which considers variables such as consumer confidence and expected business activity, reached a trough in March 2024 and has since turned upward.

[1] https://www.cpb.nl/en/projections-august-2024-cmev-2025
[2] https://www.cpb.nl/sites/default/files/omnidownload/CPB-Projections-Concept-Macro-Economic-Outlook-2025-August-2024.pdf
[3] https://www.cbs.nl/en-gb/figures/detail/70675eng
[4] https://www.dnb.nl/publicaties/publicaties-dnb/eov/voorjaarsraming-2024/

Fig 4

Comparison of the DNB BUSINESS CYCLE INDICATOR with real GDP growth (year-on-year; interpolated), standardized



(Source: CBS and DNB - copied from https://www.dnb.nl/en/current-economic-issues/economic-growth/dnb-business-cycle-indicator/

The average rent for dwellings rose by 4.4% in july 2026 compared with July 2025, following increases of 2.9% in 2020, 0.8% in 2021, 3.0% in 2022, 2.0% in 2023, 5.4% in 2024 and 4.9% in 2025. The housing price index, as reported by the CBS and Cadastre, has been increasing since 2020, the year which represents the baseline (2020=100). In august of 2026, the index peaked at 156.6.

The ING bank expects overall Dutch construction volumes to experience a slight increase of 0.5% in 2025 [1]. In 2026 a similar growth of 0.5% is expected. This stagnation is due to several bottlenecks, including limited building land, slow and complex permitting with objection procedures, grid congestion, and nitrogen rules. The latter requires projects to prove they won't raise emissions, causing further delays or cancellations.

For 2025 and 2026 stabilisation just above or slightly under 2024 imports and exports is plausible, although the future is very unclear due to the many uncertainties worldwide. The market share of wooden buildings however, both residential and non-residential, is believed to keep increasing.

In summary, the Dutch economy is set for moderate, increasingly domestically driven growth, with purchasing power rising further in 2026 before stalling in 2027 as new fiscal measures take effect. At the same time, the widening budget deficit and the prospect of rising government debt over the medium term will require decisive policy choices to safeguard long-term fiscal sustainability. Overall developments in the economy, resource availability, market shares and house building in the short and medium term remain hard to predict, given the many uncertainties posed by the current international situation.

As mentioned, the packaging industry represents the largest market for temperate wood, with poplar being the primary species used. Other industries, including civil engineering and infrastructure, carpentry, and furniture and interior design, also play a significant role in the import and utilisation of temperate hardwood.

The market for temperate hardwoods is expected to benefit from the recovery of the construction sector and the housing market from 2025 onwards. However, this is still surrounded by major uncertainties due to several factors, including nitrogen deposition regulations. Moreover, as interior products and furniture are bought at the end of the construction cycle, there is a delay compared to tropical timber used in construction.

[1] https://www.ing.nl/zakelijk/sector/building-and-construction/outlook-bouw

Table 4 Summary of temperate hardwood STATISTICS

Temp. hardwood lumber (1,000 m³)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Production	27	25	27	25	25	26
Imports	118	150	210	201	205	210
Exports	55	50	48	55	58	60
Apparent consumption	90	125	190	172	175	177

% change on previous year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Production	-11,0	-7,0	8,0	-7,0	0,0	+4,0
Imports	-36,0	27,0	40,0	-4,0	+2,0	+2,0
Exports	13,0	-9,0	-5,0	15,0	+5,0	+3,0
Apparent consumption	-46,0	39,0	52,0	-10,0	+2,0	+1,0

(Source: CBS trade statistics edited by Probos, international trade statistics of Sweden, Germany, Finland and Latvia, Probos roundwood survey and NTTA estimates and forecasts)

The primary markets for imported tropical hardwood have been civil engineering and infrastructure, the carpentry sector, and the construction industry. The DIY and garden sector represents the next largest market.

Imports of tropical hardwood have decreased since 2018; however, in 2022 an unexpected increase in imports was reported. This increase seems to be fully caused by one product: unassembled profiled board for hardwood floors. In 2023 the imports have decreased to levels lower than in 2021 and 2020. The DIY and gardening sector significantly benefitted from the fact that people - due to the COVID measures - were limited in commuting and travelling and thus spent more time at home and in their gardens. The negative impact of COVID-19 regarding imports and delays in shipments and high freight costs seems to have alleviated, and hence the Dutch market for (tropical) hardwoods is positive about the medium-term market development. The productivity within the construction sector is recovering and shows a growing trend. This led to more demand as well.

The share of further processed/optimized tropical sawnwood keeps increasing in the Dutch joinery industry resulting in more demand for timber from Asian producing countries, but the share of African timber species within these imports is increasing. Demand is shifting from Meranti, traditionally the species most used in the Dutch joinery industry, to Mahogany.

Table 4 Summary of tropical hardwood STATISTICS

Trop. hardwood lumber (1,000 m³)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Production	6.8	6.8	6.3	0.6	0.6	0.6
Imports	197	172	159	157	170	161
Exports	27	43	30	35	30	27
Apparent consumption	176	136	135	123	140	135

% change on previous year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Production	-11,0	0,0	-7,0	-91,0	0,0	0,0
Imports	24,0	-12,0	-8,0	-1,0	8,0	-5,0
Exports	16,0	57,0	-30,0	17,0	-13,0	-12,0
Apparent consumption	23,0	-23,0	-1,0	-9,0	14,0	-3,0

(Source: CBS trade statistics edited by Probos, international trade statistics of Germany and STIX, Probos roundwood survey and NTTA estimates and forecasts)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

EUDR

The Netherlands Timber Trade Association (NTTA) has been following this new EU regulation closely and reacting in favour of her members when necessary. Members are informed on developments through newsletters and several workshops. It was also actively engaged with the development of the ETTF EUDR tool and will be made available to her members. NTTA has also developed an EUDR step-by-step-tool and will together with other ETTF members advise its members to use the digital EUDR DDS tool which was initiated and developed by GD Holz. For providing the EUDR-services and - tools the NTTA will use Timber Checker (TimberChecker.nl) for members- and timber traders and wood industry companies that cannot be member.

Environmental information (EPD)

NTTA, in corporation with Centrum Hout and FSC has developed several Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) for wood and wood products, among others: softwood beams and trusses, glulam, CLT, LVL. The data are generic data for the Dutch market and uploaded in the Netherlands Environmental Database (milieudatabase.nl) so architects and builders can calculate the in the Netherlands compulsory Environmental Burden of new to build buildings. Data of selected wood products have been made available in the Ecoportal of Ecoplatform for use in other European countries.

Joint Wood Promotion Campaign)

The Netherlands Timber Trade Federation (VVNH) and Netherlands Association for the Wood Manufacturing Industry (NBvT) work closely together within the platform Centrum Hout, focussing on the efficient and increasing use of wood and wood products. This as wood is a unique, renewable, technically reliable and most environment and climate friendly resource and to be seen as the (building)material for now and the future. A marketing- and communication plan has been developed for 2024 – 2026 containing a wide range of activities on social media, as Linkedin posts, webinars etc. Gradually more and more attention will be paid to wood products and services and corporation with members and producers is sought. For more information, please see our platform: centrumhout.nl.

Reuse and recycling in the Netherlands

Reuse and recycling are given an increased interest, boosted by policies on circular economy in the Netherlands as well as the EU. For packaging the EU has set rules for the reuse and recycling, including those made of wood. The Netherlands has set a minimum level of 30% well above the EU target of 25%. The current efforts of the packaging sector in the Netherlands is monitored and has shown a 66%. The Dutch government has, in its pursuit of a 100% circular in economy in 2050, set a target for reuse and recycling of all packaging of 74% by 2025. Also in other sectors the reuse and recycling of materials is becoming increasingly important. For example, a National Campaign on recycling of window frames has been started, waste management policies are rewritten to reduce waste percentages to zero, e.g. for wood and wood products.

National Building Material Agreement

Centrum Hout has signed, on behalf of the timber sector, the National Building Material Agreement in which 13 industries underline their specific Roadmaps, their efforts to make the building material chain more environmental friendly. It focusses on increased recycling and reduction of (virgin) material use. This agreement is supported by the Dutch government as part of their policies on Circular Economy.

POLAND
Producer

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	37,3	37,2	37,1
GDP Growth	%	3,6	3,6	3,1
Inflation Rate	%	3,6	2,5	2,5
Unemployment Rate	%	5,7	5,6	5,6
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	266.100	315.000	350.000
Housing starts	units	212.400	215.000	230.000
Housing completions	units	208.297	215.500	225.000
Wage development	% vs previous year	9,1	6,0	6,0
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	340	320	330
Imports	1.000 m³	160	170	180
Exports	1.000 m³	180	170	160
Consumption	1.000 m³	320	320	350

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	2.252	2.230	2.200
Imports	1.000 m³	50	70	90
Exports	1.000 m³	250	240	230
Consumption	1.000 m³	2.052	2.060	2.060

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	295	290	285
Chips production	1.000 m³	385	380	370
Bark production	1.000 m³	250	245	240
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	1.173	1.250	1.350

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	3	3	2

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	decrease	decrease	decrease

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	increase	increase
Energy	increase	increase
Transport	increase	increase

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	increase	increase
Chips	increase	increase
Sawdust	increase	increase

Source: Polska Izba Gospodarcza Przemysłu Drzewnego

SERBIA
Producer & User



General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	6,6	6,5	6,5
GDP Growth	%	2,0	3,2	3,4
Inflation Rate	%	3,8	4,0	3,0
Unemployment Rate	%	8,2	8,6	8,4
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	29.713	32.000	31.500
Housing starts	units	40.021	40.200	39.500
Housing completions	units	36.390	36.500	35.800
Wage development	% vs previous year	11,2	11,5	11,0
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	41,5	41	41

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	358	362	365
Imports	1.000 m³	122	124	127
Exports	1.000 m³	205	198	206
Consumption	1.000 m³	275	288	286

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	952	964	970
Imports	1.000 m³	50	48	52
Exports	1.000 m³	42	40	43
Consumption	1.000 m³	960	972	979

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	179	181	182
Chips production	1.000 m³	257	265	270
Bark production	1.000 m³	98	99	100
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	448	480	455

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	3	3	3

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	0	0	1

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	5,0	stable
Energy	12,0	increasing
Transport	6,0	increasing

PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	7,0	increasing
Chips	26,0	increasing
Sawdust	12,0	increasing

Source: Prof. dr Branko Glavonjic, University of Belgrade-Faculty of Forestry

SPAIN
User

General ECONOMIC Information

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Population	million	49,7	50,0	50,6
GDP Growth	%	2,8	2,5	1,8
Inflation Rate	%	2,7	3,0	1,9
Unemployment Rate	%	10,5	9,9	9,4
Construction industry				
Building permits	units	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Housing starts	units	139.016	144.132	148.000
Housing completions	units	88.254	89.137	91.200
Wage development	% vs previous year	3,3	4,1	4,0
Average working time in sawmilling	h/week	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

SAWN hardwood

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	303	303	304
Imports	1.000 m³	109	108	110
Exports	1.000 m³	28	31	32
Consumption	1.000 m³	384	380	382

Hardwood LOGS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Production	1.000 m³	6.097	6.000	6.099
Imports	1.000 m³	710	699	713
Exports	1.000 m³	1.309	1.284	1.310
Consumption	1.000 m³	5.498	5.415	5.502

By-PRODUCTS

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Sawdust production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Chips production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Bark production	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pellets production	1.000 tonnes	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Availability of LOGS

(1 = low; 2 = medium low; 3 = normal; 4 = medium high; 5 = high)	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	Range 1-5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Capacity INCREASES / DECREASES

	Unit	2025	2026	2027
Hardwood	1.000 m³	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

COST development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Hardwood logs temperate	n.a.	n.a.
Energy	n.a.	n.a.
Transport	n.a.	n.a.

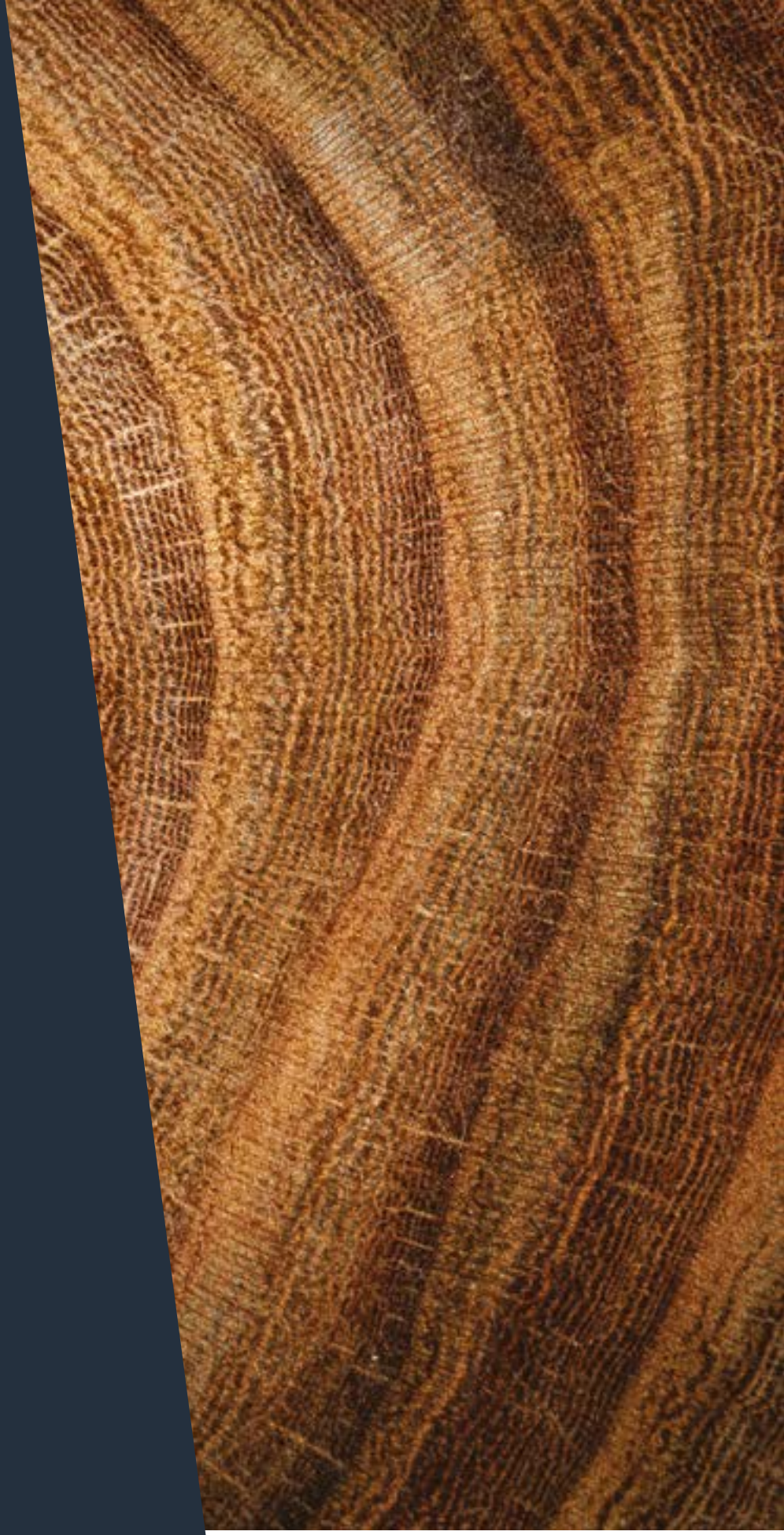
PRICE development (%)

	2026 vs 2025	2027 vs 2026
Sawn Hardwood	n.a.	n.a.
Chips	n.a.	n.a.
Sawdust	n.a.	n.a.

Source: AAEIM. Spanish Timber Trade Federation

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