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Switzerland's Foreign Trade and Textiles in 1951

On the whole, Switzerland's economic situation was favourable during the course of last year. Imports showed an improvement on those of the previous year, amounting to 30 % in value and 20 % in quantity. Thus they constituted a new record. Exports also exceeded all previous figures in value while remaining slightly less in quantity than those of the record year 1948.

Here are the totals for Switzerland's foreign trade during the last two years compared with those of 1948, a year of great industrial activity, and 1938, the last year before the war :

TOTAL EXPORTS				TOTAL IMPORTS			
<i>in millions of Swiss Francs</i>							
1938	1948	1950	1951	1938	1948	1950	1951
1316.6	3435.5	3910.9	4690.9	1606.9	4998.9	4535.9	5915.5

Exports of the textile industries were satisfactory in 1951. The table below in fact shows increases in value for all items as compared with 1950.

SWISS EXPORTS OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS

	<i>in millions of Swiss Francs</i>		
	1938	1950	1951
Cotton yarns	23.6	45.2	62.4
Cotton fabrics	58.9	127.0	138.2
Embroideries	26.1	66.4	95.2
Rayon and staple fibre yarns	20.2	53.3	62.1
Pure and artificial silk fabrics	30.7	79.2	106.0
Pure and artificial silk ribbons	5.8	9.1	11.9
Worsted yarns	2.0	11.3	12.6
Woollen fabrics	3.2	18.2	20.1
Hosiery, knitted wear	8.0	28.6	35.8
Clothing	11.7	25.3	40.1
Straw-braid for hats	13.6	24.5	29.3