

The Current Condition of the Japanese Machine Tool Industry

Monthly Machine Tool Orders (September 2024)

The total value of machine tool orders in September was 125.36 billion yen. This was an increase of 13.2% compared to August 2024 and marked the first month of month-on-month growth in three months. However, this figure represented a decrease of 6.4% compared to the same month of the previous year and marked the second consecutive year-on-year decline. Total orders exceeded 120 billion yen for the first time in two months but decreased for the second consecutive month compared to the same month last year.

Orders in September increased from the previous month due to seasonal factors and other factors, both domestic and foreign demand, but the momentum is not strong enough to indicate a real recovery in orders, so we will need to keep a close eye on future trends.

Domestic orders rose by 29.0% over August, amounting to 41.53 billion yen. This marked the first month of month-on-month growth in three months. Nevertheless, this figure was a decrease of 7.8% from the same month of the previous year and marked the twenty-fifth consecutive month of year-on-year decline. Looking at major industries, orders compared to August rose by 11.0% in industrial machinery, by 3.8% in motor vehicles, by 128.1% in electrical & precision machinery, and by 8.2% in aircraft, shipbuilding & transport equipment.

Foreign orders rose by 6.7% over August to 83.83 billion yen, marked first month of month-on-month growth in three months. But foreign orders showed a decrease of 5.7% from the same month of the previous year, and this marked the second consecutive month of year-on-year decline. By region, orders from Asia fell by 1.9% from August to 42.81 billion yen. This increased 32.2% over the same month of the previous year. Orders from Europe rose by 26.1% over August to 13.50 billion yen. This was a decrease of 34.7% from the same month of the previous year. Orders from North America rose by 7.8% over August, amounting to 24.78 billion yen. This figure was a decrease of 27.5% from the same month of the previous year.

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NET NEW ORDERS – METAL CUTTING MACHINE TOOLS IN JAPAN

(Value: in Millions of Yen)

Industry	Period	Total 2023	23/22 (%)	24/04–24/06	24/07–24/09	Previous Quarter (%)	year-to-year (%)	24/01–24/09	year-to-year (%)	Sept. '24	Sept. 24/Aug. 24 (%)	Sept. 24/Sept. 23 (%)
1. Primary Metals		16,345	83.1	3,905	3,265	83.6	71.2	10,918	80.5	1,427	147.9	76.9
2. Fabricated Metal Products		36,813	72.8	7,624	10,721	140.6	108.1	27,789	93.2	5,443	246.3	129.0
Machinery & Equipment Industries	3. Industrial Machinery	203,557	83.6	43,656	46,676	106.9	94.3	136,324	83.9	16,406	111.0	92.9
	(of which construction machinery)	12,442	91.1	2,238	1,608	71.8	57.0	6,761	68.2	632	103.4	56.3
	(of which dies and molds)	28,189	81.8	4,045	3,358	83.0	55.8	12,724	55.1	1,334	138.4	50.0
	4. Motor Vehicles	100,588	74.7	25,805	20,978	81.3	78.6	69,991	94.0	7,439	103.8	72.3
	(of which auto parts)	73,519	79.1	17,447	14,600	83.7	73.9	49,145	90.2	5,407	106.1	72.7
	5. Electrical Machinery	36,272	63.7	6,060	8,853	146.1	87.6	24,495	79.9	3,711	233.8	87.8
	6. Precision Machinery	21,430	72.6	6,681	4,937	73.9	114.4	17,124	109.5	2,248	219.1	150.1
	5–6. Electrical & Precision Machinery (Sub Total)	57,702	66.7	12,741	13,790	108.2	95.6	41,619	89.9	5,959	228.1	104.1
	7. Aircraft, Shipbuilding & Transport equipment	20,172	107.0	7,447	5,364	72.0	131.9	17,785	125.8	2,073	108.2	123.6
	(of which aircraft)	8,509	146.9	4,368	2,399	54.9	156.3	9,077	154.4	1,024	145.0	114.3
3–7. Sub total	382,019	79.0	89,649	86,808	96.8	91.7	265,719	89.3	31,877	120.4	90.2	
8. Other Machinery & Equipment	22,867	87.1	4,756	4,234	89.0	71.3	14,060	81.5	1,345	122.7	71.1	
9. Government, Public Agencies & Schools	1,977	89.7	576	1,119	194.3	139.7	2,114	146.7	260	53.7	181.8	
10. Others	12,165	86.3	3,376	2,591	76.7	95.2	9,179	97.5	955	137.6	87.6	
11. Trading Companies	4,635	67.2	2,133	686	32.2	45.3	4,067	123.1	222	82.8	43.8	
1–11. Domestic Total	476,821	79.0	112,019	109,424	97.7	91.1	333,846	89.7	41,529	129.0	92.2	
12. Foreign	1,009,698	87.3	267,229	250,648	93.8	103.2	766,292	100.9	83,831	106.7	94.3	
1–12. Grand Total	1,486,519	84.5	379,248	360,072	94.9	99.2	1,100,138	97.2	125,360	113.2	93.6	
(of which: NC machines)	1,463,024	84.7	372,199	354,947	95.4	99.8	1,082,837	97.3	123,444	112.7	93.8	
Sales		1,616,581	103.1	329,117	399,490	121.4	102.9	1,118,197	92.3	158,177	127.6	101.3
(of which: NC machines)		1,591,253	103.0	324,633	393,475	121.2	103.1	1,100,336	92.3	155,087	126.7	101.4
Order Backlog		785,775	87.6	807,134	767,716	95.1	94.0	767,716	94.0	767,716	95.9	94.0
(of which: NC machines)		760,531	87.5	781,560	743,032	95.1	94.0	743,032	94.0	743,032	95.9	94.0

