

## **German exports 'hit by cold weather'**

German exports fell unexpectedly in January, with the cold weather cited as the main cause. Exports in the first month of the year declined 6.3% on a seasonally adjusted basis, compared with December. This was the first monthly decline since August of last year, and the biggest since January 2009. While the Federal Statistics Office gave no reason for the fall, economists pointed to the heavy snow in January. Imports in January increased by 6%.