Japan was the fourth largest import trade partner for the United States in 2013. Accounting for 6.1 percent of U.S. total imports, Japan traded over $115 billion of imports to the United States.

Paralleling the decline in the value of the yen relative to the U.S. dollar, prices for imports from Japan declined throughout 2013.

The dollar value of imports from Japan declined 21.0 percent between 2012 and 2013, following a 13.7-percent advance between 2011 and 2012.

Import prices from Japan fell 0.6 percent for the 3 months ended in December 2013. In contrast, prices for U.S. imports excluding fuels remained unchanged for the same period.

For the year ended in December 2013, prices for imports from Japan declined 3.4 percent, the largest year-over-year decline in over 10 years.

Between November 2012 and December 2013, prices for imports from Japan did not record a monthly increase.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics.

Prices for import computer and electronic products from Japan declined 0.6 percent during the last quarter of 2013, as prices for overall U.S. computer and electronic imports edged down 0.5 percent during the same period.

Between December 2012 and December 2013, the index fell 3.3 percent.

As with other import industries from Japan, the overall downward trend parallels the weakening of yen against the U.S. dollar.