



STAR

Sustainable Textiles of  
the Asian Region

The **STAR Network** proudly presents our

# Quarterly Roundup

Q1 2025



*A snapshot of key developments & trends across the  
garment & textile industries of the STAR member countries*

STAR Network

# Quarterly Roundup

# Q1 2025

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Political & Economic Instability Disrupts Production
- 02-Apr U.S. Reciprocal Tariffs Cause Industry Concern
- Mostly Positive Export Performance Across Members
- Wage & Employment Increase in Most STAR Countries
- 25-Feb EU CS3D and CSRD Omnibus Simplifies HREDD
- Resilience to Change Will Determine Future Success



## Industry Overview

The industry is navigating a complex landscape of political, economic, and social changes. US Tariffs announced on Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> are a challenge all STAR countries are facing.

### Political Instability

Countries such as Bangladesh and Myanmar have experienced political disruption, impacting their garment sectors. In contrast, Cambodia and Vietnam have enjoyed relative stability, benefiting from trade shifts. Pakistan has faced economic challenges (inflation) and imposed a tax-heavy budget as it prepares for fresh IMF loan.

### Exports Mostly Grew in 2024

Despite challenges, most countries have seen growth in garment exports. Bangladesh saw a 7.23% increase, reaching \$38.48 billion. Cambodia experienced a remarkable 23.8% growth, with exports totaling \$13.74 billion. China, the largest exporter, reached \$301.1 billion. Vietnam also saw growth, with projected exports of \$44 billion. Pakistan saw a slight increase in textile exports, reaching \$16.55 billion, while Myanmar's export figures are less clear, with \$4.22 billion in exports.

### Employment and Wages

The industry employs tens of millions. Women constitute a large portion. Minimum wage increased in most STAR countries: Bangladesh (\$103), Cambodia (\$208), Myanmar (\$70), Pakistan (\$123), and Vietnam (\$135-194). China's wage remains between \$331-368.

### Sustainability

EU HREDD legislation was simplified with the 25-Feb Omnibus Package but is still coming. There is a need for sustainable energy, but reliance on fossil fuels remains high. China and Cambodia have made the most progress in this (at least in terms of energy mix).

### Adaptability Going Forward

An ability to adapt to political and economic shifts with resilience is increasingly important to maintain progress going forward.

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## U.S. Reciprocal Tariffs

On **Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025**, U.S. President Donald Trump **announced the United States' new 'Discounted Reciprocal Tariffs'** on a list of countries spanning the globe, which came into affect on Apr 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The industry is currently grappling with appropriate responses. All STAR member countries were named: Cambodia, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Myanmar & China. The tariff rates are listed below, and were based on a broad calculation related to the trade deficit each country has with the US.

On **Apr 10<sup>th</sup> 2025**, the US President announced a **90-day pause of the Discounted Reciprocal Tariffs** for a number of countries, with the exception of China. This pause exempts 5 STAR countries (Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Pakistan, and Bangladesh) from the extended Reciprocal Tariffs for the time being, but still subjects them to the now-active universal baseline **10%** tariff. In the same announcement, the US announced an increased tariff rate on all imports from China, now at the rate of at least **145%**, following a clarification from a previous figure of **125%**, and an increase to **104%** in the days prior.

The reciprocal tariffs remain a dynamic matter. Further developments are expected. The STAR Network encourages a tariff schedule that supports employment, and that is fair to all members.

| Country    | Tariff charged to US (Claimed) | U.S. Discounted Reciprocal Tariff | New Temporary Tariff rates (90-day pause of higher tariffs) |
|------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cambodia   | 97%                            | 49%                               | 10%                                                         |
| Vietnam    | 90%                            | 46%                               | 10%                                                         |
| Myanmar    | 88%                            | 44%                               | 10%                                                         |
| China      | 67%                            | *34%                              | *145%                                                       |
| Pakistan   | 58%                            | 29%                               | 10%                                                         |
| Bangladesh | 74%                            | 37%                               | 10%                                                         |

*\*Higher US Tariffs on all imports from China remain **active** as of April 11<sup>th</sup> 2025, now combined to a total of 145%*

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## STAR Country's Trade Deficit to the United States

According to 2023 data from the Observatory of Economic Complexity and UN COMTRADE. Collectively, STAR countries exported \$580.87 billion to the US, while importing \$168 billion, with imports averaging 29% of exports across the group.

These deficits, and the products which STAR members import from the US, are likely to be the primary discussion points for bilateral negotiations on the reciprocal tariffs announced. In this Roundup, each country page has a subsequent page highlighting trade between each STAR Member and the US in 2023.

For example, countries may have to lower tariffs on products imported from the US in order for their "reciprocal tariff" to be revised or postponed. Negotiations have already begun.

| STAR Country | Exports to US (Billion USD) | Imports from US (Billion USD) | Trade Deficit (Billion USD) | Imports as % of Exports |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bangladesh   | 8.58                        | 2.21                          | 6.37                        | 25.76%                  |
| Cambodia     | 12.20                       | 0.33                          | 11.88                       | 2.66%                   |
| China        | 436.00                      | 154.00                        | 282.00                      | 35.32%                  |
| Myanmar      | 0.91                        | 0.20                          | 0.71                        | 21.54%                  |
| Pakistan     | 5.18                        | 1.71                          | 3.47                        | 33.01%                  |
| Vietnam      | 118.00                      | 9.56                          | 108.44                      | 8.10%                   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>580.87</b>               | <b>168.00</b>                 | <b>412.87</b>               | <b>29%</b>              |

Source: Observatory of Economic Complexity; UN COMTRADE

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## Focus: Regional Energy Landscape

From our latest STAR Renewable Energy Position Paper, the STAR member countries exhibit a diverse array of energy landscapes, characterized by varying levels of installed capacity, energy mix, and consumption patterns.

The following table provides a snapshot of key energy indicators, including total installed capacity, energy mix, and electricity generation.

| Indicators/<br>Countries                  |                    |                                            |   |  |  |                  |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Total Installed Capacity (MW)</b>      | 24,911 (2023)                                                                                       | 4,649 (2023)                                                                                                                | 2,920,000 (2023)                                                                   | 7,100 (2022)                                                                       | 42,931.83 (2023)                                                                    | 80,555 (2023)                                                                                       |
| <b>Total Electricity Generation (GWh)</b> | 88,450 GWh                                                                                          | 16,751.29 GWh                                                                                                               | 8,909,000 GWh                                                                      | 17,319 GWh                                                                         | 129,473.20 GWh                                                                      | 271,679 GWh                                                                                         |
| <b>Generation Mix (%)</b>                 | Coal: 10.81%<br>Furnace oil: 26.06%<br>Natural gas: 45.65%<br>Power Imports: 10.66%<br>Solar: 1.84% | Coal: 27.96%,<br>Fuel oil: 10.06%<br>Hydro: 38.52%<br>Solar: 9.39%<br>Fuel oil: 8.60%<br>Biomass: 1.05%,<br>Imports: 14.45% | Hydro: 14.4%,<br>Nuclear: 1.9%,<br>Solar: 20.9%<br>Thermal: 47.6%,<br>Wind: 15.1%, | Coal: 2%<br>Natural Gas: 50%<br>Hydro: 45%<br>Solar: 3%                            | Hydro: 18%<br>Nuclear: 20%<br>Thermal: 58%<br>Renewable: 4%                         | Coal: 33%<br>Gas: 9%<br>Hydro: 28%<br>Oil: 1%<br>RE: 27%<br>Import: 1.2%<br>Diesel and others: 0.2% |



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**Bangladesh**

বাংলাদেশ



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## Political

- **New Government:** In August 2024, a revolution led to the ousting of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government, resulting in significant political upheaval. Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus assumed leadership of an interim government, pledging to implement reforms and oversee democratic elections by December 2025 or mid-2026. This political instability has impacted all sectors, including the garment industry.

## Exports

- **Annual Performance:** Despite the political challenges, garment exports still grew by 7.23% year-on-year, reaching \$38.48 billion. [The Daily Star](#)
- **First Half of Fiscal Year 2024-25:** From July to December 2024, garment exports totaled \$19.88 billion, marking a 13.28% increase compared to the same period in the previous fiscal year, suggesting the Full Year for 2025 may see further growth. [Knitting Views](#)
- **December 2024:** Exports in December alone were valued at \$4.62 billion, a 17.72% rise from December 2023. [Knitting Views](#)

## Wage

- **Minimum Wage Adjustment:** The minimum wage for garment workers was raised by 56% in 2024 to 12,500 BDT per month. At the time, this was equivalent to \$113, though now it is \$103.4. Despite the increase, some workers report that living conditions have not substantially improved, citing increased production targets and economic challenges. [The Daily Star](#)

## Employment

- **Worker Estimates:** Approximately 4.5-5.1 million workers across 4,000 factories. The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) reports approximately 3.3 million workers, while the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) estimates around 1.3 million workers. [Textile Focus](#)
- **Gender Composition:** Women constitute a significant portion of the workforce, with estimates ranging from 52% to 62%. [Textile Focus](#)

## Others/Legal

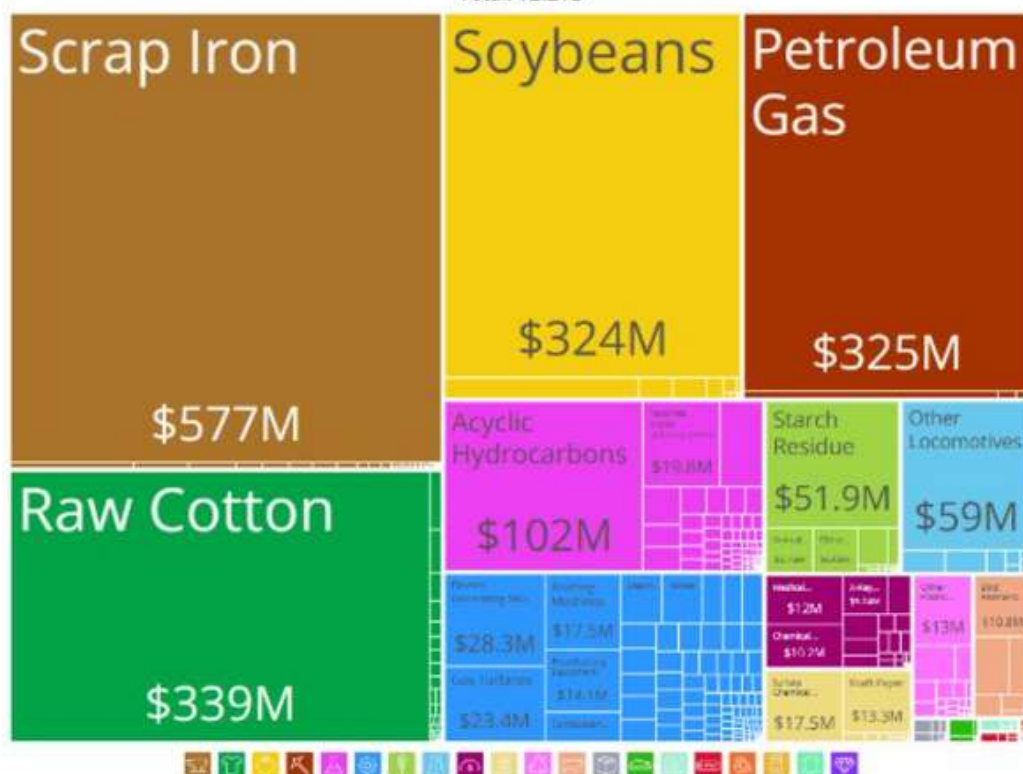
- **Foreign Investment:** The European Investment Bank (EIB) expressed intentions to double its funding for Bangladesh, aiming to support economic stability amid political turmoil. The EIB plans to increase its portfolio to €2 billion, focusing on infrastructure projects and sustainable development. [AP News](#)
- **Renewable Energy Mix:** Bangladesh's renewable energy capacity constitutes 4.5% of its total 27,515 MW installed power generation capacity. Solar power dominates with 946 MW, followed by hydropower (230 MW), wind power (62.9 MW), and biogas/biomass (1.09 MW). Despite significant potential, renewable energy growth faces challenges due to high dependence on fossil fuels (95.5% of total generation). The government has set ambitious targets to increase renewables to 15% by 2030, 40% by 2041, and 100% by 2050. ([Source: trade.gov](#))



## Bangladesh's Export & Import to the United States (2023)

### Exports from United States to Bangladesh in 2023

**Total: \$2.21B**



### Exports from Bangladesh to United States in 2023

Total: \$8.58B





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China

中国



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## Political

- **Trade Relations and Geopolitical Tensions:** China's garment industry is navigating complex geopolitical landscapes, including trade tensions with some Western countries. These dynamics influence export strategies, as well as the import of Chinese raw materials for garment production in other garment producing nations. [FASH455](#)

## Exports

- **Annual Performance:** Garment exports grew by 2.8 % year-on-year, reaching \$301.1 billion in 2024. China remains the world's largest exporter of garment products by a considerable margin.
- **Projected Market Growth:** The apparel market in China is projected to generate revenue of approximately US\$342.70 billion in 2025, with an anticipated annual growth rate of 3.93% from 2025 to 2029. [Statista](#)

## Others/Legal

- **Renewable Energy Mix:** China's renewable energy capacity reached approximately 1,585,000 MW in 2024, accounting for 52.9% of its total installed power capacity of 2,995,000 MW. The mix includes significant contributions from hydro (406,000 MW), wind (434,000 MW), solar (489,000 MW), and biomass energy (30,000 MW). Despite this progress, coal remains a major energy source, with the country producing record coal levels in 2023. China plans to further increase its renewable capacity as part of its carbon neutrality goals by 2060. [Chambers and Partners](#)
- **Technological Advancements:** The Chinese government has identified smart manufacturing in textiles as a key priority under its 'Made in China 2025' plan, with predictions that almost 50% of all manufacturing activities in textiles could be automated. [Odmyanews](#); [CSET Georgetown English Translation of Made In China Plan](#).
- **Global Expansion of Chinese Brands:** Chinese-founded fashion retailer Shein is planning an initial public offering (IPO) on the London Stock Exchange in early 2025, potentially valuing the company at £50 billion. [The Times & The Sunday Times](#)



## Wage

- **Rising Labor Costs:** Between 2010 and 2024, wages in major Chinese cities like Shanghai and Beijing have nearly doubled, prompting manufacturers to explore more cost-effective production locations, often in Southeast Asia in countries such as Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam. [Source of Asia](#).
- **Regional Variations (1 RMB ≈ 0.137 USD (January 2025 average)).**
  - Shanghai: Minimum monthly wage is RMB 2,690 (~USD 368). ([china-briefing.com](#))
  - Beijing: Minimum monthly wage is RMB 2,420 (~USD 331). ([china-briefing.com](#))
  - Sichuan Province: Minimum monthly wage ranges from RMB 2,200 to RMB 2,330 (~USD 301 to USD 319). ([wageindicator.org](#))



## Employment

- **Worker Estimates:** China's garment industry employs around 7.8 million workers across ~13,625 factories ([Asia Garment Hub](#)), with a significant portion of the workforce being women. However, rising labor costs have led to shifts in manufacturing strategies, including automation and relocation to countries with more affordable labor markets. [Source of Asia](#)



## China's Export & Import to the United States (2023)

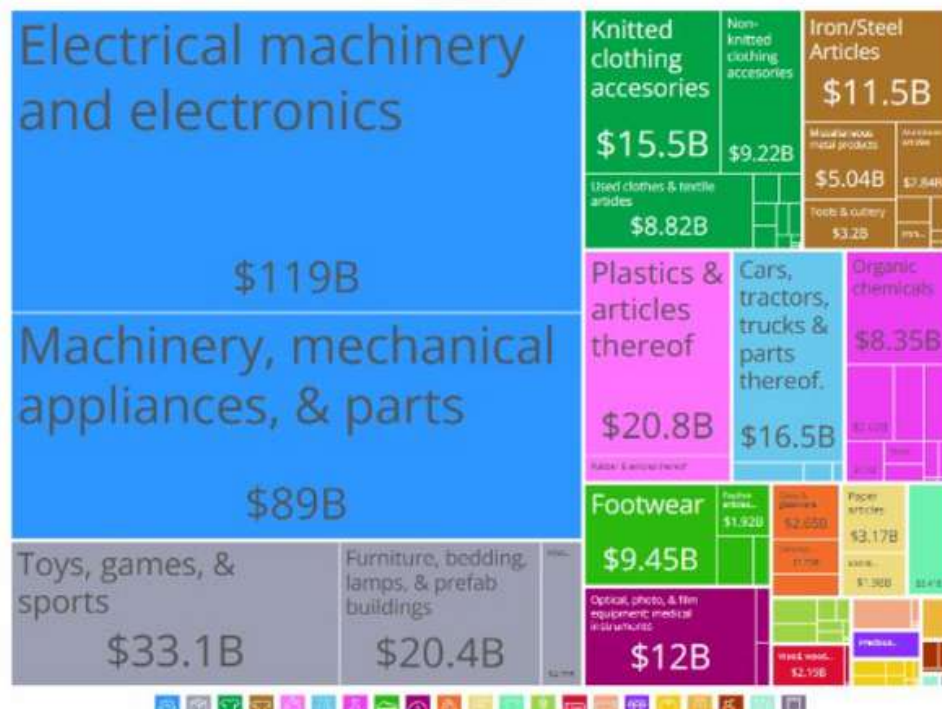
### Exports from United States to China in 2023

Total: \$154B



### Exports from China to United States in 2023

Total: \$436B





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Cambodia

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## Political

- **Growth & Stability:** Cambodia's economy was projected at 5.8% in 2024 (prediction made in December 2024 by the World Bank), driven by rebounds in the garment sector and tourism. [B2B Marketplace](#). Cambodia has continued to enjoy political and economic stability in 2024, and to some extent is benefiting from several geopolitical trends, for example, western trade shifts from China, and political challenges in Bangladesh and Myanmar.

## Exports

- **Record Export Value:** The GFT (Garment, Footwear, and Travel Goods) sector in Cambodia achieved a record high export value of \$13.74 billion in 2024. Including the TOY category (HS code 95), the total export value exceeded \$14 billion. Key drivers of this growth were products in HS codes 61 (knitted apparel), 62 (woven apparel), and 42 (travel goods and handbags).
- **Growth Rate:** The sector grew by 23.8% year-on-year, reflecting a strong performance fueled by stable global demand and geopolitical shifts, including de-risking from China, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.
- **Export Markets:** United States: The US continued to dominate as the largest market for Cambodian GFT exports, representing 38% of exports. The EU represents 27% of exports. Spain emerged as Cambodia's top European market, surpassing Germany for the first time.
- **Positive Outlook for 2025:** In the first half of 2025, raw material imports for the sector rose by 33.6% year-on-year, signaling strong production activity and value addition in the pipeline. Exports for the first two months of 2025 also suggested a 24% rise (though this was before tariffs were announced from the US).

## Wage

- **Minimum Wage Adjustment:** Effective January 2025, the minimum wage for garment workers in Cambodia is set to increase to \$208 per month. It was previously raised from \$200 to \$204 in January 2024. [B2B Marketplace](#)

## Employment

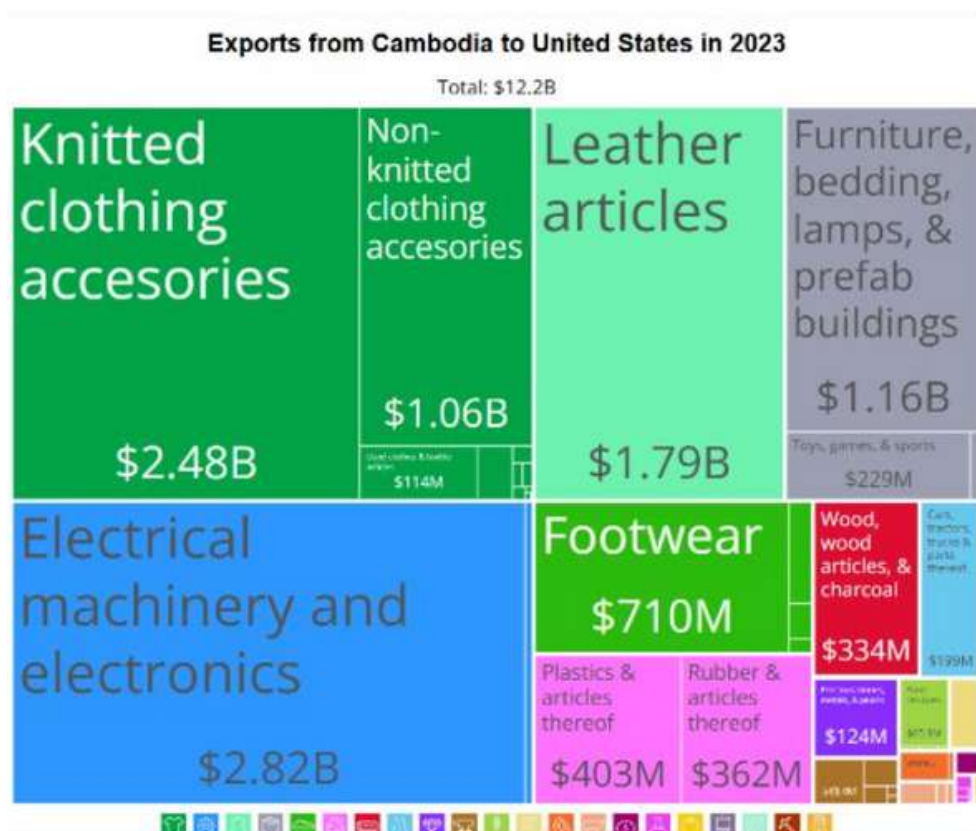
- **Number of Workers:** ~ 925,000 workers directly employed in 2025, up from around 840,000 in 2023.
- **Number of Factories:** The total number of GFT firms expanded from 1,192 in 2020 to 1,579 in 2023.
- **Percentage of Female Workforce:** Female workers accounted for 75.5% of all employees in the sector in 2024.

## Others/Legal

- **New GFT Advisory Working Group:** on June 22nd, 2024, Decision No. 117 SSR by the Royal Government launched the Advisory Group to support the GFT Sector Development Strategy 2022-2027. An important development in driving the sector forward.
- **Renewable Energy Mix:** Electricity is expensive in Cambodia at ~\$0.137 per kWh, but the energy mix is over 50% renewable. The 2024 energy mix consists of hydropower (43%), coal-fired plants (22%), fuel oil plants (20%), and renewable sources such as solar (14%) and biomass (1%). The Cambodian Power Development Plan (PDP) has ambitious targets to increase the installed capacity of Solar to 18% of installed capacity by 20240, and 30% by 2040. [TAFTAC](#)
- **Economic Outlook:** The economy is expected to continue its gradual recovery path with projected growth of 5.6% in 2024 and 5.9% in 2025, driven by stronger demand in major advanced markets and a robust tourism recovery. [Cambodia Daily](#)



## Exports from United States to Cambodia in 2023





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Myanmar

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## Political

- **Ongoing Instability:** Myanmar continues to experience political instability following the military coup in February 2021, affecting various sectors, particularly the garment industry, as many brands have had to stop sourcing from the country. The economy was predicted to contract 1% in 2024, according to the World Bank. [AP News](#)

## Exports

- **Garment Export Performance:** Despite challenges, Myanmar's garment sector remains a significant contributor to exports, though exact full-year figures for 2024 are limited due to reporting constraints. Myanmar achieved \$4.2 billion of exports in 2023. In November 2024, The Myanmar Ministry of Commerce was quoted reporting \$3.3 billion of exports in the past financial year (which runs from April; 2024 to March 2025). [Business Enquirer](#)
- **Export Destinations:** In 2024, Myanmar's garment exports totaled \$4.22 billion, with the EU being the largest destination, accounting for \$2.14 billion (51%) of the total export value. Japan followed as the second-largest market, receiving \$934 million (22%), while other destinations accounted for \$655 million (15%). South Korea imported \$336 million (8%) worth of garments, and the US represented the smallest share, with exports valued at \$158 million.

## Employment

- **Workforce Size:** The garment industry in Myanmar employs a substantial number of workers. In November 2023, MGMA reported 530 active factories in Myanmar, hiring around 300,000 workers. This is a decline from pre-2021 levels, where there were approximately 500,000 workers.
- **Gender Composition:** Women make up 85% of the garment sector workforce in Myanmar.

## Wage

- **Minimum Wage Status:** The ongoing political instability has impacted the stability of the Myanmar Kyat (MMK), and thus the wages of garment workers. As of August 2024, the national minimum wage in Myanmar effectively rose from 4,800 MMK per day, to 6,800 MMK per day, due to 2, 1000 MMK "allowances". It had previously remained at the 4,800 MMK level since 2018.
- **Allowances:** The 6,800 MMK per day is made up of the "base" legal minimum wage (4,800 MMK per day), plus two additional 1,000 MMK allowances, announced in 2023 and 2024. As of January 2025, this is equivalent to \$2.34 per day, equivalent to \$70.2 per month (Factories are legally required to pay full-time workers based on a 30-day month, even though 1.5 days per week is given as time off). Overtime is only calculated on the 4,800 MMK per day base wage. [Fairwear](#), [EuroCham Myanmar](#)

## Others/Legal

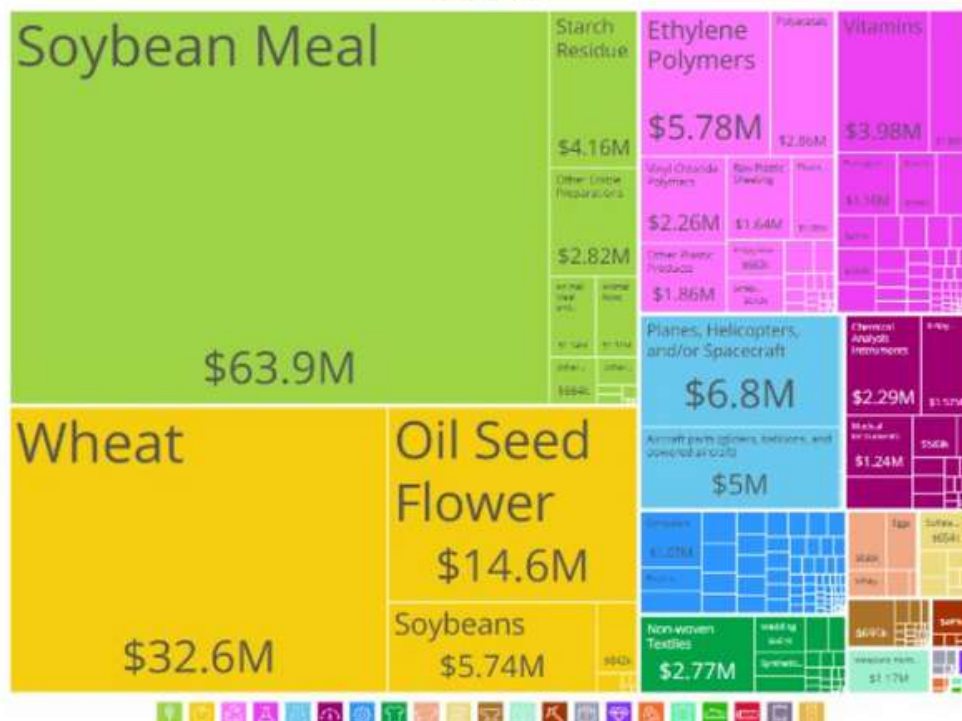
- **Economic Outlook:** Myanmar's economy faces ongoing challenges due to political instability and international sanctions, impacting growth projections and foreign investment. The economy was predicted to contract 1% in 2024, according to the World Bank. [AP News](#)
- **Renewable Energy Mix:** As of November 2024, Myanmar's total installed electricity generation capacity stands at 7,248 MW, with the energy mix distributed as follows: Hydroelectric power accounts for 3,232 MW (44.6%), natural gas contributes 3,638 MW (50.2%), coal-fired plants provide 138 MW (1.9%), and solar power adds 240 MW (3.3%). Renewables represent 47.9% of the total. [The Star](#)



## Myanmar's Export & Import to the United States (2023)

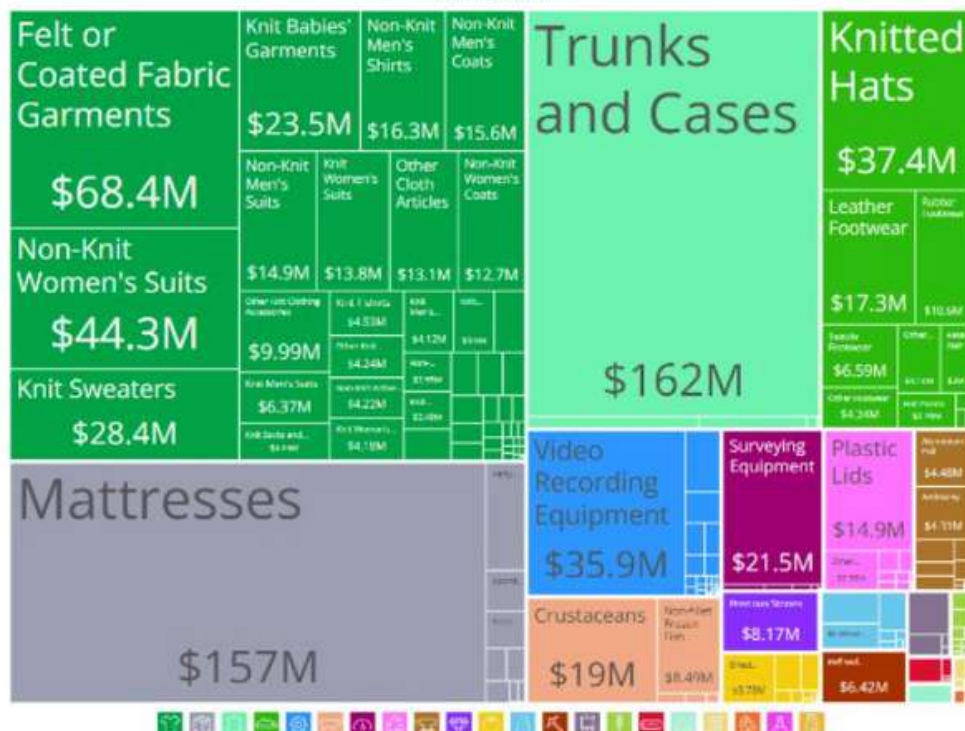
### Exports from United States to Burma in 2023

Total: \$196M



### Exports from Burma to United States in 2023

Total: \$907M





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**Pakistan**

پاکستان



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## Political

- **Economic Challenges:** In 2024, Pakistan faced significant economic challenges, including high inflation and currency depreciation, impacting various industries, notably the textile sector. The government's tax-heavy budget aimed to meet International Monetary Fund (IMF) conditions for a bailout, introducing substantial tax hikes that drew criticism from key economic sectors, including textile industrialists. [Financial Times](#)

## Exports

- **Annual Performance:** Despite economic challenges, Pakistan's textile exports experienced slight growth in the fiscal year 2023-2024 (FY24), rising by 0.93%, with total exports reaching \$16.55 billion, compared to \$16.50 billion in FY23. Pakistan's record exports were achieved in 2022, with \$19.3 billion of exports. Pakistan's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. For instance, FY24 covers the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. [Profit by Pakistan Today](#)
- **Ambitious 2030 Export Targets:** The All-Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) unveiled a plan to double annual textile exports to over \$50 billion within five years by establishing 1,000 new garment plants, potentially creating up to 1.4 million jobs. [ProPakistani](#); [APTMA Policy Roadmap](#)
- **Pakistan's 5Es Plan:** The plan aims to boost exports to \$50 billion and drive sustainable growth by focusing on five key strategies: expanding exports, improving economic efficiency, supporting enterprise development, integrating e-commerce, and strengthening international partnerships. The plan targets key sectors like IT, pharmaceuticals, and manufacturing, aiming to create jobs and enhance global competitiveness by streamlining trade, supporting SMEs, and promoting innovation.

## Wage

- **Minimum Wage:** In the fiscal year 2024-2025, the Pakistani government increased the national minimum wage from PKR 32,000 to PKR 37,000 per month, effective July 1, 2024. This adjustment, equivalent to approximately \$123.33 USD per month at an exchange rate of 1 USD = 300 PKR, was introduced to provide relief to workers amid rising inflation. ([propakistani.pk](#))

## Employment

- **Workforce Size:** The textile and garment sector remains a major employer in Pakistan, providing jobs to around 3.7 million workers ([Asia Garment Hub](#)) across 6,300 factories. If you include indirect employment, and those working as cotton farmers, that figure increases to almost 15 million. [Business & Human Rights Resource Centre](#)
- **Gender Composition:** unlike other STAR nations, women make up the minority of the workforce: 25-30% of Pakistan's garment workforce.

## Others/Legal

- **Renewable Energy Mix:** As of March 2024, Pakistan's total installed electricity capacity stood at 42,131 MW, with the energy mix distributed as follows: Hydro accounted for 25.4%, Nuclear for 8.4%, Renewable sources (Solar & Wind) for 6.8%, and Thermal (Coal, Oil & Gas) dominated at 59.4%. [Energy Update](#)
- **Cotton Production Decline:** Cotton arrivals for the 2024 season dropped by approximately 33% compared to the previous year, raising concerns for the textile sector, which relies heavily on domestic cotton supplies. [Business Recorder](#)

Table: 1 SEED COTTON ARRIVALS AS ON 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2024

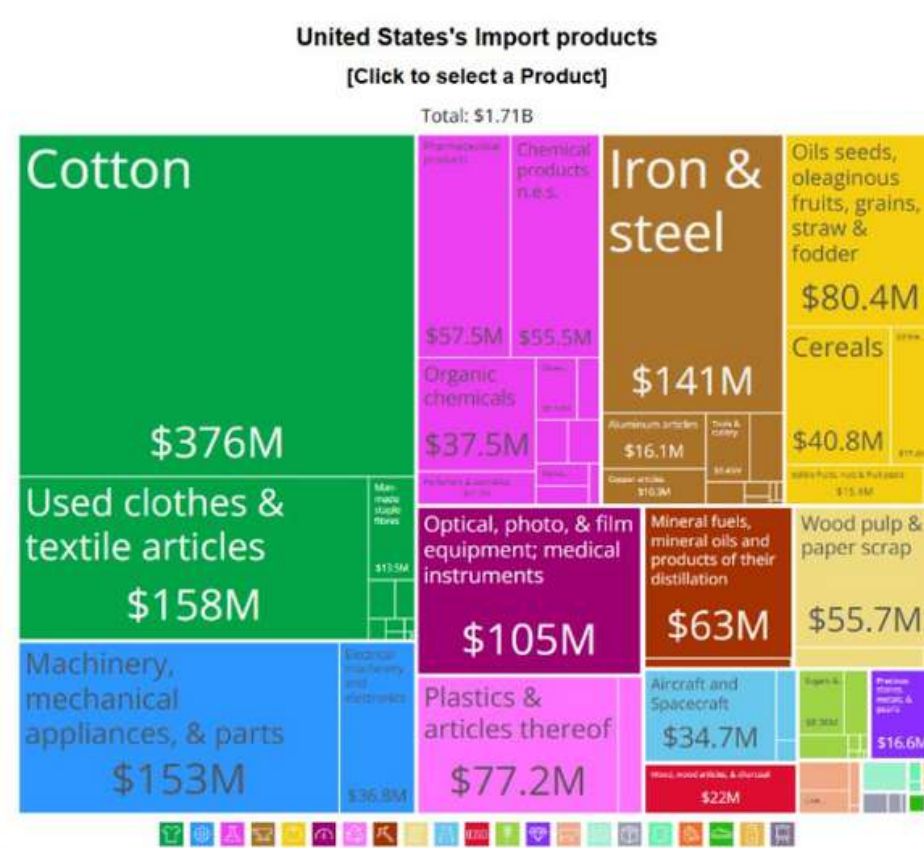
(Bales)

| Heads                  | 2024-2025 Season |         |         | 2023-2024 Season |         |         |
|------------------------|------------------|---------|---------|------------------|---------|---------|
|                        | Punjab           | Sindh   | Total   | Punjab           | Sindh   | Total   |
| Arrivals               | 2658828          | 2793422 | 5452250 | 4078769          | 4092313 | 8171082 |
| Sales to Exporters     | 6700             | 40000   | 46700   | 150626           | 141500  | 292126  |
| Sales to Textile Mills | 2299985          | 2517034 | 4817019 | 3558188          | 3755939 | 7314127 |
| Total Bales Sold       | 2306685          | 2557034 | 4863719 | 3708814          | 3897439 | 7606253 |
| Unsold Stock           | 312567           | 217823  | 530390  | 299520           | 177241  | 476491  |
| Un-ginned Stock        | 39576            | 18565   | 58141   | 70705            | 17633   | 88338   |

Source: Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association



## Pakistan's Export & Import to the United States (2023)





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**Vietnam**

Việt Nam



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## Political

- **Trade Relations:** Vietnam's garment industry continues to navigate complex geopolitical landscapes, including trade tensions and shifts in global supply chains. The US is Vietnam's largest export destination for garment products, but the 2022 EU-Vietnam FTA has led to increased garment exports to the EU.

## Exports

- **Annual Performance:** Garment and textile exports were projected to reach \$44 billion in 2024 (estimate made in December), marking an 11.26% increase from 2023. [Vietnam+](#), [VITAS](#).
- **Annual Performance:** Footwear & Leather Exports represented an additional \$26-27 billion dollars in exports in 2024, a ~13% increase from 2023. [Vietnam+](#)
- **2025 Target:** The expectation is \$48 billion in 2025. [Textile Insights](#)
- **US Largest Export Partner:** The US is by far Vietnam's largest export partner. Approximately 38.4% of Vietnamese exports head to US shores. [The Ky](#)

## Others/Legal

- **Increased Foreign Investment:** By the end of 2024, disbursed foreign direct investment (FDI) in Vietnam is estimated to reach approximately \$25.35 billion, up 9.4% compared to 2023, marking the highest disbursement level ever recorded. [Reuters](#)
- **Economic Growth:** Vietnam's economy grew by 7.09% in 2024, beating expectations, thanks to rising FDI and exports, including those from the garment and textile sector. [Reuters](#)
- **Renewable Energy Mix:** As of 2024, renewable energy accounts for approximately 26.9% of Vietnam's total installed power capacity, with contributions from solar and wind. The government aims to increase the share of renewable energy in its total energy mix to more than 30% by 2030. [USAID](#)

## Wage

- **Minimum Wage Adjustment:** Effective July 1, 2024, Vietnam increased the regional minimum wage by 6%. The new monthly minimum wages are as follows:
- **Region I:** VND 4,960,000 (~\$194.50): Hanoi & Ho Chi Minh
- **Region II:** VND 4,410,000 (~\$172.90): rural Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh, Da Nang
- **Region III:** VND 3,860,000 (~\$151.30): Provincial cities such as Bac Ninh, Bac Giang etc.
- **Region IV:** VND 3,450,000 (~\$135.30): Remaining jurisdictions

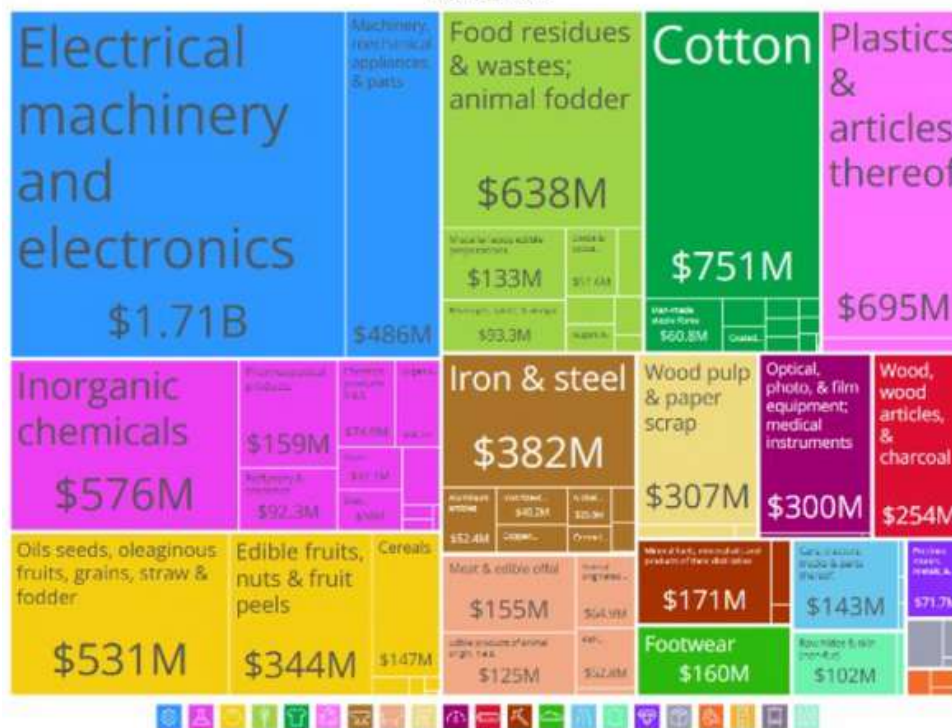
## Employment

- **Worker Estimates:** Vietnam's textile and garment industry employs approximately 2.5 million workers across various factories nationwide. There are another 1 million footwear workers. There are approximately ~7000 factories operating across Vietnam. Mirae Asset Securities
- **Gender Composition:** Women constitute a significant portion of the workforce, with estimates suggesting they make up around 70-80% of the total workforce in the garment sector. [Asian Floor Wage Alliance](#)

## Vietnam's Export & Import to the United States (2023)

### Exports from United States to Vietnam in 2023

Total: \$9.56B



### Exports from Vietnam to United States in 2023

**Total: \$1188**

