



Tracking quarterly trends and analysing foreign direct investment, imports and exports

# TIPS IMPORT TRACKER

## SECOND QUARTER 2025

**Project lead:** Nokwanda Maseko

**Contributors:** Kelello Mashiane, Lucas Mthembu and Dylan Kirsten

**Editorial inputs:** Saul Levin

### TIPS TRACKERS

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Trade & Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS)  
info@tips.org.za | +27 12 433 9340 | www.tips.org.za

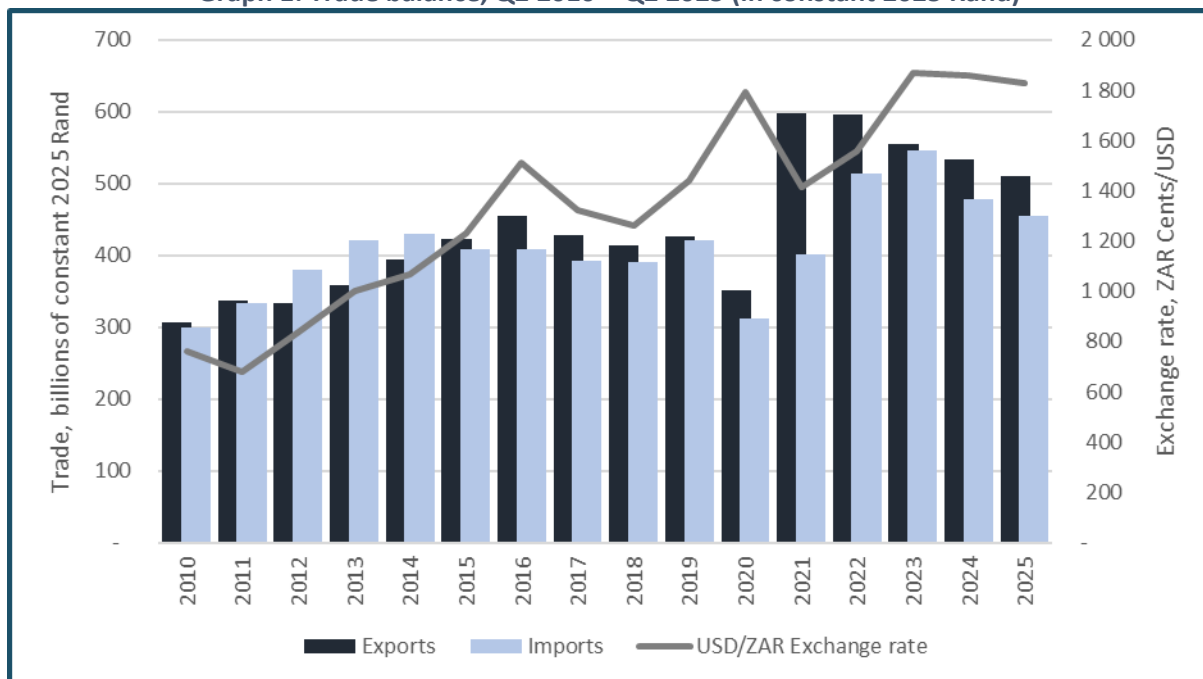
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## Trade context

In constant 2025 Rand, South Africa had a trade surplus of R55 billion in the second quarter of 2025, with exports amounting to R510 billion and imports amounting to R455 billion (see Graph 1). However, exports declined by R24 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025, while imports declined by R23 billion. In this period, the surplus declined by less than R400 million. The decline in imports was in part due to a R15 billion decline in the value of the top five imports (see Graph 2). The value of the top five exports decreased by R5 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025. Ferrochromium exports show the largest decrease, falling by almost R12 billion, followed by a R7 billion decrease in exports of goods vehicles, and an almost R6 billion fall in bituminous coal exports.

**Graph 1: Trade balance, Q2 2010 – Q2 2025 (in constant 2025 Rand)**

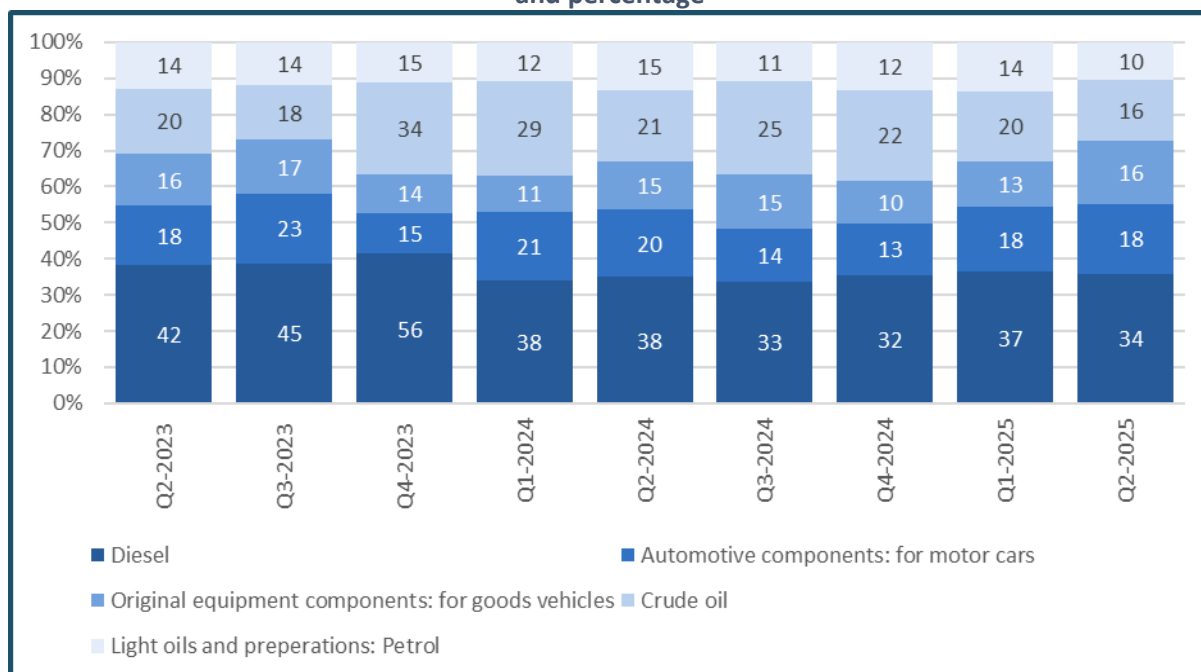


*Source:* Trade data from the South African Revenue Service (SARS) monthly merchandise trade statistics. Downloaded from <https://www.sars.gov.za/> in August 2025. Exchange rate data from the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) downloaded from <https://www.resbank.co.za/> in August 2025. *Note:* Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to the second quarter of 2025.

Imports from the Top five sources (China, the United States (US), Germany, India and Saudi Arabia) increased by R12 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025. Only imports from Germany and India decreased in this period (by a combined R4 billion). In both cases, automotive imports were part of the drivers of the decrease, though petroleum imports (diesel and petrol) also contributed to the decrease in imports from India.

The growth in imports from China for the year to the second quarter of 2025 was driven by growth in electronics and vehicle imports, with wind-powered generation sets also growing. Notably, imports of other renewable energy-related products like solar panels and lithium-ion batteries decreased year-on-year. Imports from the US increased by almost R4 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025, with crude oil and goods vehicles being the key drivers of the growth. The US has regularly supplied crude oil to South Africa since the third quarter of 2023, with the second quarter of 2024 being the only exception, with no imports reported. Saudi Arabia showed the highest import growth, rising by almost R10 billion to R18 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025. Diesel and petrol imports were the main contributors to the growth, while crude oil imports decreased by more than R2 billion in this period.

**Graph 2: Top 5 imports by Rand value, Q2 2023 – Q2 2025 (in billions of constant 2025 Rand) and percentage**



*Source:* Calculated based on data from Quantec EasyData online interactive database. Downloaded from <https://www.easydata.co.za/> in August 2025. *Note:* Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to the second quarter of 2025.

In the year to the second quarter of 2025, exports to the top five<sup>1</sup> destinations (China, Germany, the US, the United Kingdom, and India) decreased by R29 billion, with exports to all countries decreasing. The US accounted for slightly less than a third of the decline, with exports falling by R9 billion to R35 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025. In this period, passenger vehicle exports declined by almost R2 billion, while palladium exports declined by R555 million, and platinum exports fell by just over R1 billion. Similarly, there was a decline in automotive exports to Germany, with passenger vehicle exports falling by almost half. However, exports of hybrid-electric vehicles continued to increase, rising to almost R4 billion in the second quarter of 2025, from less than R2 billion in the first quarter of 2025.

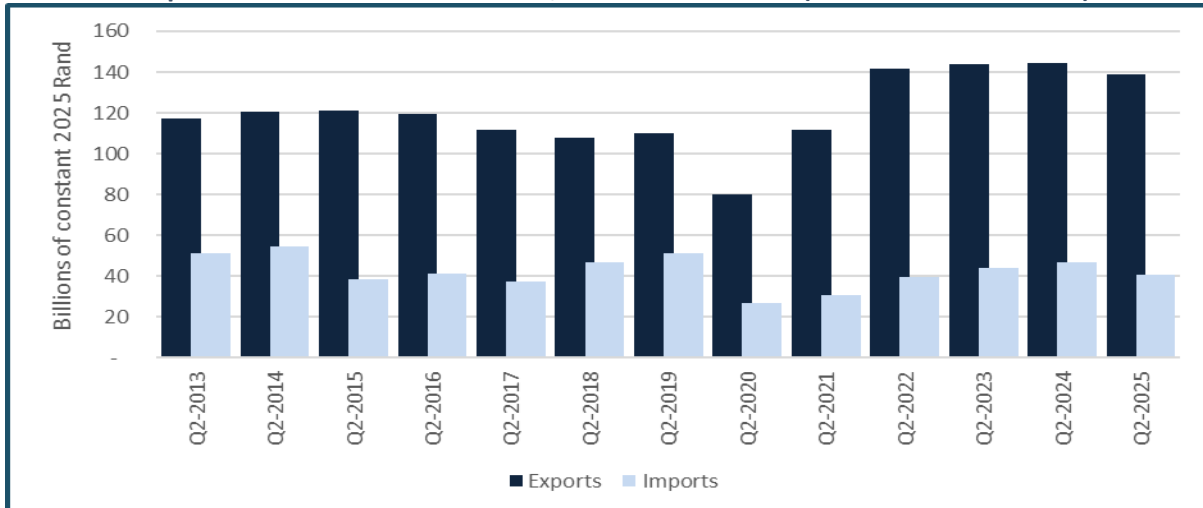
## Continental trade

South Africa's trade balance (Graph 3) with the rest of the continent increased by half a percent to R98 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025, following three consecutive quarters of decline. Exports decreased by 4% to R139 billion, while imports decreased by 13% to R40 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025. Graph 3 shows South Africa's trade balance with the rest of the continent.

Graph 4 shows the top 10 African markets from which South Africa imports goods. The top 10 African countries from which South Africa imported goods averaged about 84% of total imports from the continent annually. The bulk of this value is from Nigeria, which has, on average, accounted for more than a quarter of imports from the continent between the second quarters of 2013 and 2025. Five of the top 10 countries saw a decline in their exports to South Africa. Year-on-year imports from Nigeria fell by just over R3 billion due to a fall in imports of crude oil (in value and volume) while imports from Mozambique decreased by more than R1 billion due to a 50% decrease in the value of electrical energy imports, with volumes falling by 48% to 1102.3 gigawatts.

<sup>1</sup> Not including exports to areas not elsewhere specified (n.e.s) and Mozambique, which amounted to R42 billion and R27 billion respectively. Exports to Mozambique are mainly ores destined for re-export via Maputo.

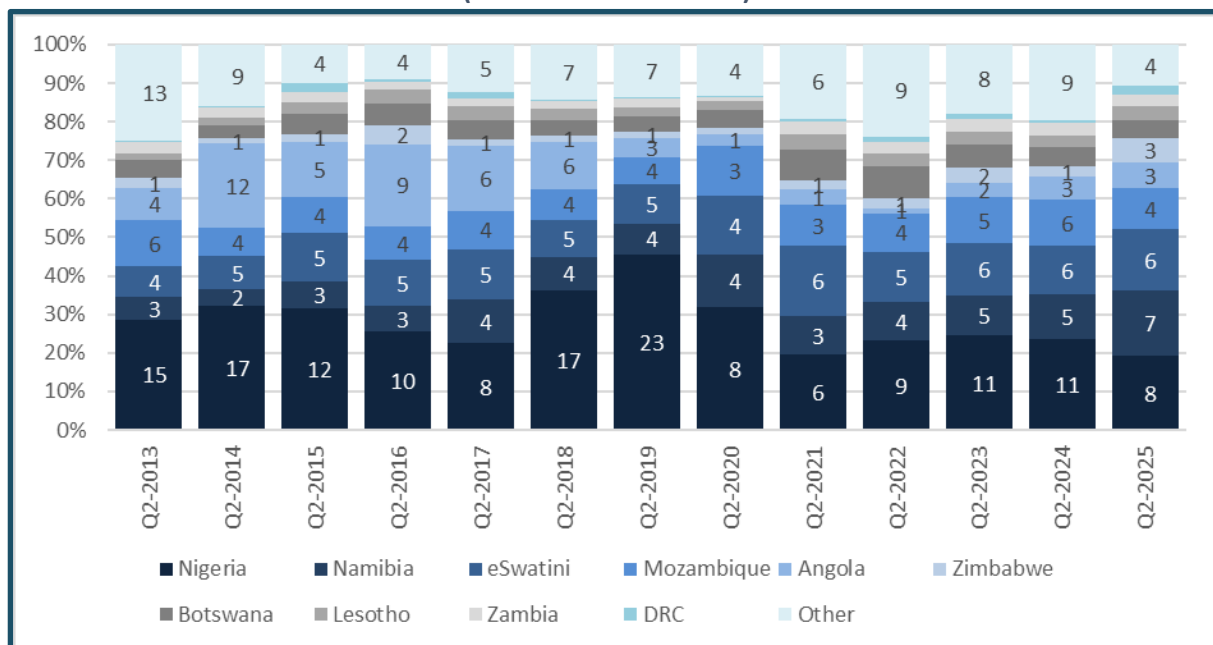
**Graph 3: Continental trade balance, Q2 2013 – Q2 2025 (in constant 2025 Rand)**



Source: Calculated based on data from Quantec EasyData online interactive database. Downloaded from <https://www.easydata.co.za/> in August 2025. Note: Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to the second quarter of 2025.

Imports from Zimbabwe grew by 25% to R7 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025. The growth was driven by new imports of gold, which reached a high of R444 million in the second quarter of 2025, from R98 million in the third quarter of 2024 (first appearance of gold imports from Zimbabwe with no trade reported prior to this period). In addition, South Africa has been importing semi-finished products of iron or non-alloyed steel from Zimbabwe since the first quarter of 2025, with these imports growing from R330 million in the first quarter of 2025 to R440 million in the second quarter of 2025. Other products with growth include coke and semi-coke of coal and tobacco, which both grew by more than R100 million apiece.

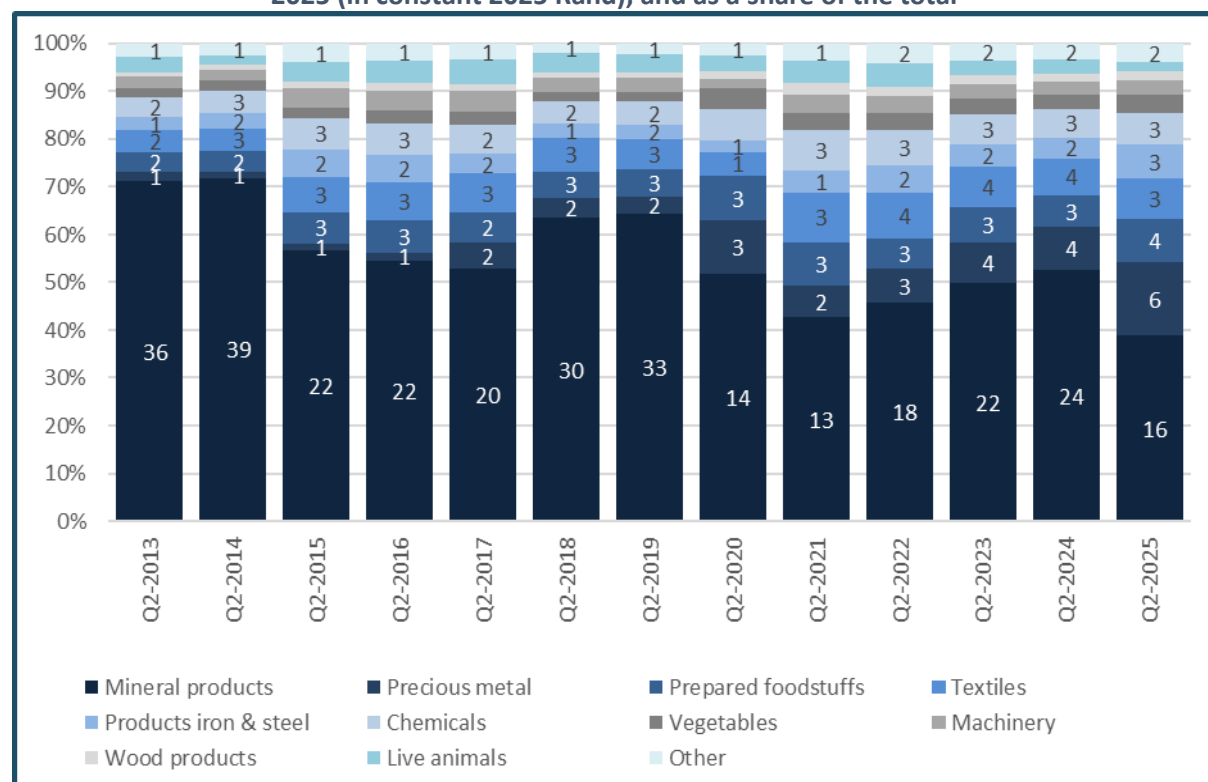
**Graph 4: Top African countries from which South Africa imports goods, Q2 2013 – Q2 2025 (in constant 2025 Rand)**



Source: Calculated based on data from Quantec EasyData online interactive database. Downloaded from <https://www.easydata.co.za/> in August 2025. Note: Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to the second quarter of 2025.

South Africa’s top 10 import product groups from the continent accounted for R39 billion, down from R45 billion in the second quarter of 2024 (see Graph 5). In this period, imports of textiles, chemicals, machinery and live animals fell by a combined R1 billion, with live animal imports alone falling by R632 million. Precious metals imports grew by 49% to R6 billion, largely driven by non-monetary semi-manufactured gold from Namibia and Zimbabwe.

**Graph 5: South Africa’s imports from the rest of the continent by product group, Q2 2013 – Q2 2025 (in constant 2025 Rand), and as a share of the total**



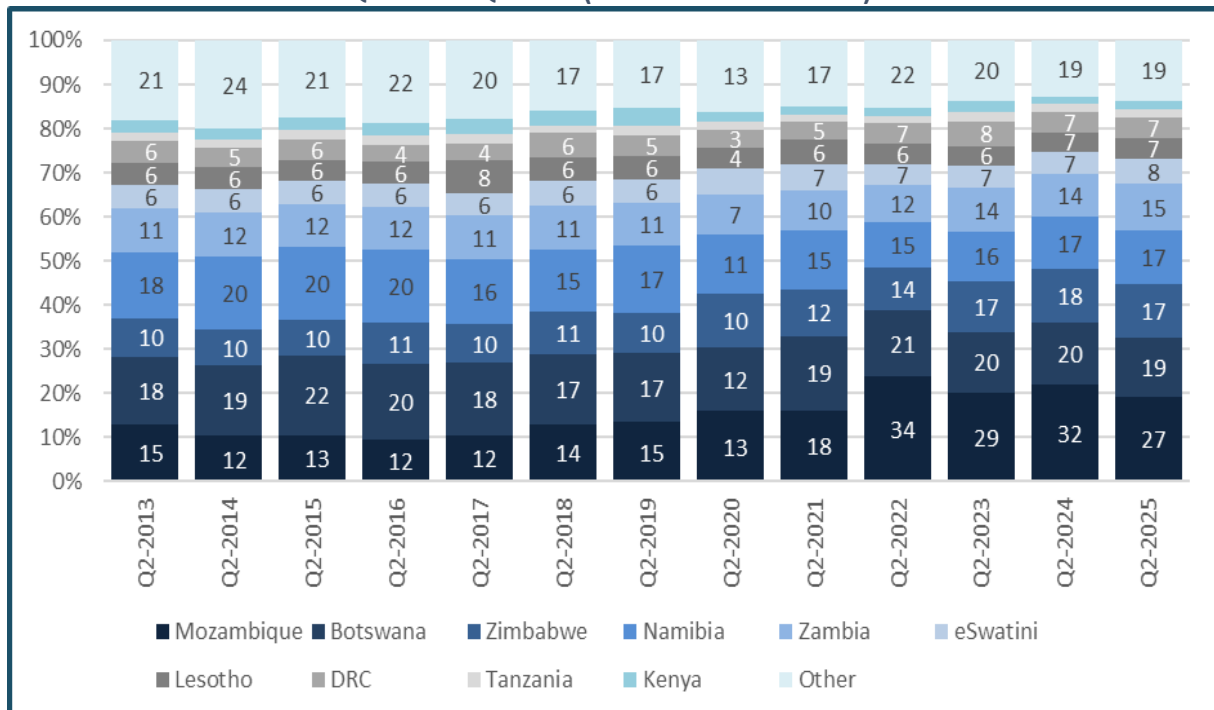
Source: Calculated based on data from Quantec EasyData online interactive database. Downloaded from <https://www.easydata.co.za/> in August 2025. Note: Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to the second quarter of 2025.

Graph 6 shows South Africa’s top 10 export destinations on the African continent. Mozambique continues to appear as the top destination for exports from South Africa, following the agreement between Transnet and Caminhos de Ferro de Moçambique (Mozambique’s national rail company)<sup>2</sup>. Excluding the exports to Mozambique, which are in large part made up of minerals destined for other countries, Botswana becomes the largest market for South Africa’s exports, at R19 billion, down by R1.5 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025.

Excluding minerals, at the product group level, exports to the rest of the continent amounted to R101 billion in the second quarter of 2025, down 4% from the second quarter of 2024. The main sources of the decrease were machinery, down 6% to R22 billion; products of iron and steel, down 18% to R13 billion; and vegetables, down 12% to R9 billion in the year to the second quarter of 2025. Graph 7 shows exports to the rest of the continent for the period between the second quarters of 2013 and 2025.

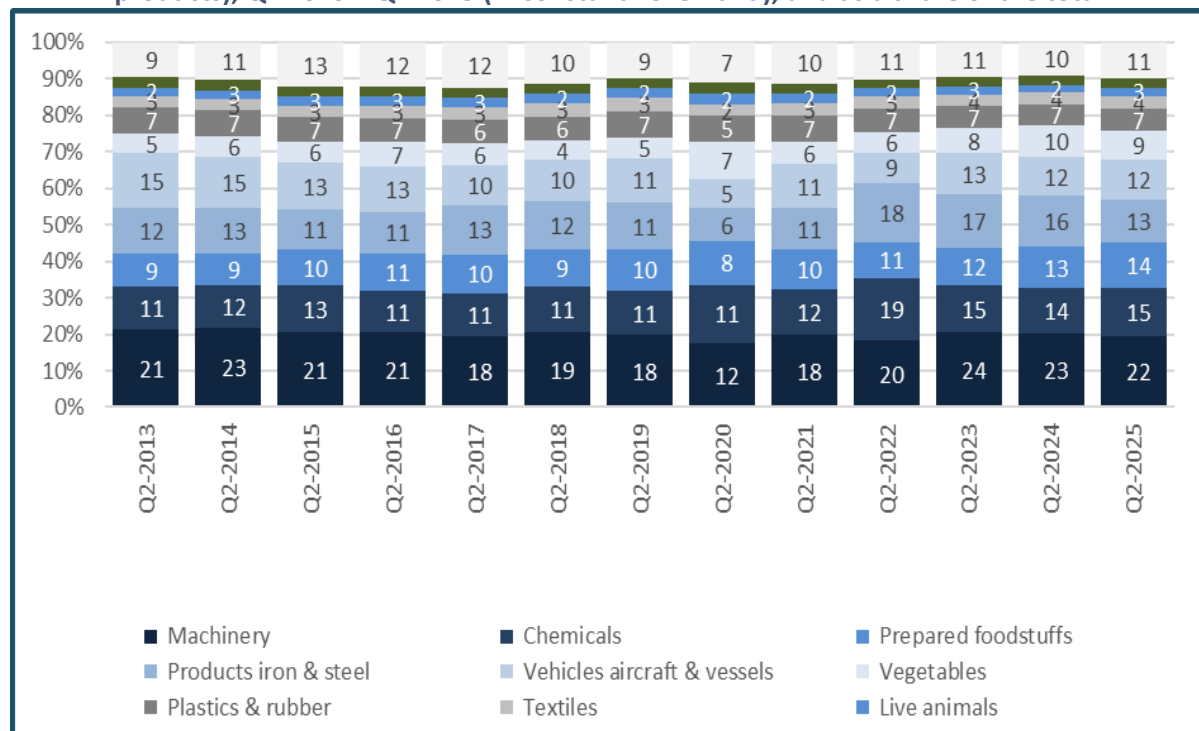
<sup>2</sup> The agreement allows Transnet Freight Rail to operate trains from South Africa to the port of Maputo. These trains transport various commodities like ferrochrome. See <https://clubofmozambique.com/news/transnet-and-cfm-extend-commodity-transport-agreement-244134/>

**Graph 6: Top African countries to which South Africa exports goods, Q2 2013 – Q2 2025 (in constant 2025 Rand)**



Source: Calculated based on data from Quantec EasyData online interactive database. Downloaded from <https://www.easydata.co.za/> in August 2025. Note: Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to the second quarter of 2025.

**Graph 7: South Africa's exports to the rest of the continent by product group (excluding mineral products), Q2 2013 – Q2 2025 (in constant 2025 Rand), and as a share of the total**



Source: Calculated based on data from Quantec EasyData online interactive database. Downloaded from <https://www.easydata.co.za/> in August 2025. Note: Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to the second quarter of 2025.

## Major imports

In constant 2025 Rand, the value of the Top 100 imports declined to R243 billion in the second quarter of 2025, from R249 billion in the first quarter of 2025. Annexure 1 shows the Top 100 import products by value and covers different sectors like petroleum and other liquid fuels; renewable energy-related equipment; information and communications technology equipment; food and beverages; production metals; automotives and related components; medical equipment; and aircraft and related components.

## Import surges

Annexure 2 shows the Top 50 imports by volume for the second quarter of 2025, and the changes in the trend of these volumes. Changes in the trend of imported volumes are classified into categories, including not significant; selected for analysis; ongoing monitoring; data errors; surge within usual variance; and decline in imports.

One product was flagged for analysis for the second quarter of 2025, three were flagged for potential data errors, with another 17 showing decreased volumes.

Table 1 shows the products with a year-on-year decrease in imported volumes. Imported volumes for goods vehicle components declined by 23%, though the value of the imports increased by 10%. In addition, bituminous coal import volumes declined by 21%, while the value declined by 70%, in line with lower global prices.

**Table 1: Decline in imports between Q2 2024 and Q2 2025**

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	REAL DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT DECLINE, QUANTITY	PERCENT GROWTH / DECLINE, VALUE	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
27090000	Crude oil	- 96 250 967	Kilograms	-6%	-25%	Free of duty
27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	- 125 003 956	Litres	-11%	-34%	0.091c/li
10019900	Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat)	- 108 153 848	Kilograms	-14%	-11%	54.95c/kg
10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	- 47 313 959	Kilograms	-15%	-39%	Free of duty
28182000	Aluminium oxide (excluding artificial corundum)	- 100 099 263	Kilograms	-27%	-7%	Free of duty
27011900	Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated (excluding anthracite and bituminous coal)	- 89 615 294	Kilograms	-27%	-52%	Free of duty
27040000	Coke and semi-coke of coal, of lignite or of peat, whether or not	- 42 747 373	Kilograms	-16%	-38%	Free of duty

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	REAL DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT DECLINE, QUANTITY	PERCENT GROWTH / DECLINE, VALUE	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
	agglomerated; retort carbon					
<b>27011200</b>	Bituminous coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	- 60 430 856	Kilograms	-21%	-70%	Free of duty
<b>27101207</b>	Light oils and preparations: aviation kerosene	- 97 424 863	Litres	-37%	-45%	Free of duty
<b>27101235</b>	Light oils and preparations: Residual fuels	- 16 370 093	Litres	-10%	-22%	Free of duty
<b>31022100</b>	Ammonium sulphate (excluding that in tablets or similar forms, or in packages with a gross weight of <= 10 kg)	- 10 450 021	Kilograms	-7%	-1%	Free of duty
<b>31021000</b>	Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution	- 63 867 415	Kilograms	-38%	-33%	Free of duty
<b>25010010</b>	Salts, incl. table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride, whether or not in aqueous solution or containing added anti-caking or free-flowing agents; sea water: not for human consumption	- 3 437 713	Kilograms	-4%	-3%	Free of duty
<b>98010040</b>	Original equipment components: For goods vehicles	- 19 291 062	Kilograms	-23%	10%	20%
<b>27011100</b>	Anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	- 26 198 358	Kilograms	-31%	-25%	Free of duty
<b>25201000</b>	Gypsum; anhydrite	- 59 973 461	Kilograms	-53%	-74%	Free of duty
<b>27101257</b>	Light oils and preparations: other base oils	- 55 293 001	Litres	-54%	-53%	0.1c/li with a maximum of 8%

Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in August 2025.

The next section provides explanations for the surges in Annexure 2.

## Explanation of import surges

### Finding 1: Ongoing monitoring of previously identified surges

Table 2 shows products that have previously been selected for analysis and are now monitored for changes in the trend.

**Table 2: Ongoing monitoring of import surges of previously identified surges**

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	STATUS OF SURGE	EXPLANATION	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
01064900	Live insects (excluding bees)	Significant year-on-year increase, but significant quarter-on-quarter decrease	Year-on-year imports more than doubled between 2024 and 2025. However, this is due to the lower base for 2024. Moreover, second quarter 2025 imports fell to their lowest level since the surge that began in the fourth quarter of 2024. Imports declined by 68% to about 690 billion units between the first and second quarters of 2025. The Netherlands continues to account for the bulk of the imports, though this fell to 62% of total imported units, with re-imports – which started in the first quarter of 2025 – almost doubling to 266 billion units in this period.	Free of duty
25232900	Portland cement (excluding white, whether or not artificially coloured)	Significant year-on-year increase, but slight quarter-on-quarter decrease	The apparent surge is due to a lower-than-normal base in the second quarter of 2024. Imports for the quarter remain within the usual trend.	Free of duty
25231000	Cement clinkers	Significant year-on-year and quarter-on-quarter increase	Year-on-year imports almost doubled, rising to 200 million kilograms. All reported imports came from Saudi Arabia. It is not clear what drove the surge.	Free of duty
85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits “smart cards”: Digital	Significant year-on-year and quarter-on-quarter increase	Imports continued to grow, reaching 147 million units in the second quarter of 2025, from 96 million units in the second quarter of 2024.	5.0%
23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil	Notable year-on-year increase and notable quarter-on-quarter decrease	The apparent surge is due to a lower-than-normal base in the second quarter of 2024, with imports having been on a downward trend between the third quarter of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024. As of the fourth quarter of 2024, imports have returned to their usual trend.	6.6%

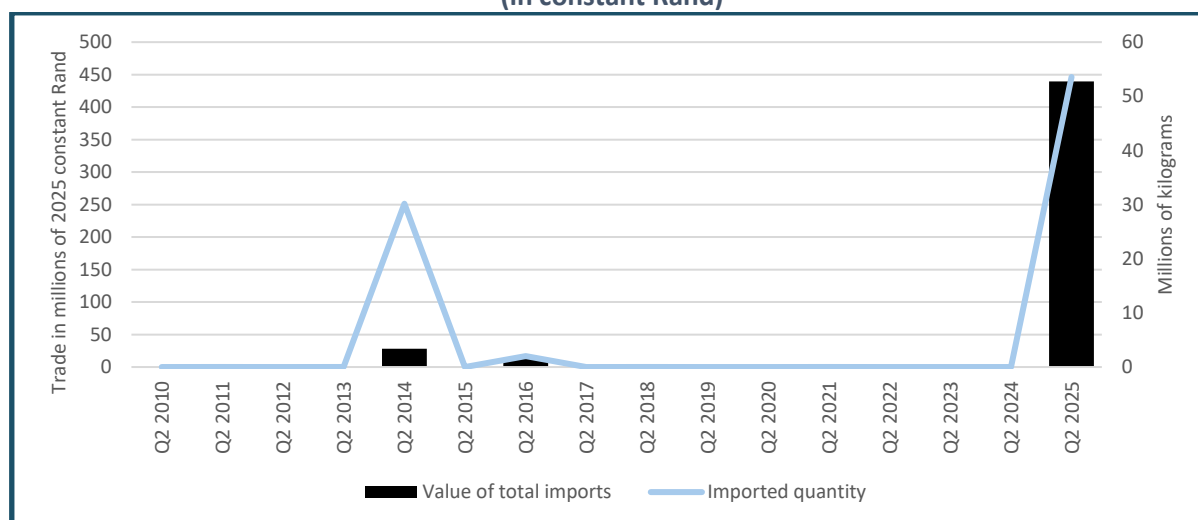
Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in August 2025.

## Finding 2: Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel

Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, <0.25% of carbon of square or rectangular cross-section, the width measuring < twice the thickness (HS72071100) are intermediate steel products. Partially processed steel products are billets, blooms, and slabs, which have a square or rectangular cross-section. Billets are further processed into long steel products, including bars, rods, and wires, as well as blooms for rails and seamless pipes. Slabs are used to produce plates, sheets and coils. These are low-carbon steel products with a carbon of 0.05 to 0.25% and are ductile and highly formable (Fisher, 2025).

Semi-finished products are then further processed, either through rolling or forging, to achieve the desired rectangular cross-section and carbon content (121 Export, n.d.). Manufacturers of semi-finished steel products include ArcelorMittal South Africa, Cape Gate, Scaw Metals, and Unica Iron and Steel. Importers include Aco Casting Services, Humulani Marketing, Insimbi Alloy Supplies, DHC Steel, Chemosol, and DCD Ringrollers (ITAC, 2016).

**Graph 8: Imports of semi-finished iron or non-alloy steel products, Q2 2010 to Q2 2025 (in constant Rand)**



*Source:* Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in September 2025. *Note:* Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to the second quarter of 2025.

South Africa was a net importer of semi-finished iron or non-alloy steel products in the second quarter of 2025. In volumes, imports surged from zero imported kilograms to 54 million kilograms in the year to the second quarter of 2025 (see Graph 8), amounting to R440 million. Zimbabwe accounted for virtually all the imports. The second quarter of 2025 marked the second consecutive quarter of imports of this product, with previously reported imports remaining below 10 million kilograms.

While the source of the surge is unclear, it may be attributable to Chinese steel manufacturers' investments in the Southern African Development Community's steel industry. China's domestic steel price dropped to about US\$552 per tonne due to oversupply and weak demand, compared to South African manufacturers paying between US\$850 and US\$1200 per tonne because of import tariffs, shipping costs and inefficiencies in domestic production. This price discrepancy, including global steel demand trends, has made the African steel industry attractive to Chinese investors seeking to avoid trade barriers, bypass import duties, and meet increasing current and future local demand (Voncuji, 2025).

Dinson Iron and Steel Company (DISCO, 2023) is a subsidiary of the Chinese Tsingshan Holding Group. DISCO started producing billets with a carbon of 0.12% to 0.20% in June 2024. DISCO was set to produce 600 000 tonnes of pig iron and billets annually during the first phase of its operations. Phase 2 will result in steel production growing to 1.2 million tonnes and to 3.5 million tonnes in Phase 3. Moreover, in May 2025, Zimbabwe imposed a 30% surtax on long steel products, including blooms, billets, and structural steel, to protect DISCO (SAISI, 2025).

Zimbabwe hosts 11 steel producing mills and two re-rolling mills, with a steelmaking capacity of over eight million tonnes annually. Their utilisation rate was reported in November 2024 to be below 55% due to business rescue, care and maintenance (OPIS, 2024).

### Finding 3: Data errors and other issues

Table 3 outlines some potential data errors as outlined in Annexure 2. The table also explains why these imports have been flagged as potential data errors.

**Table 3: Potential data errors, Q2 2025**

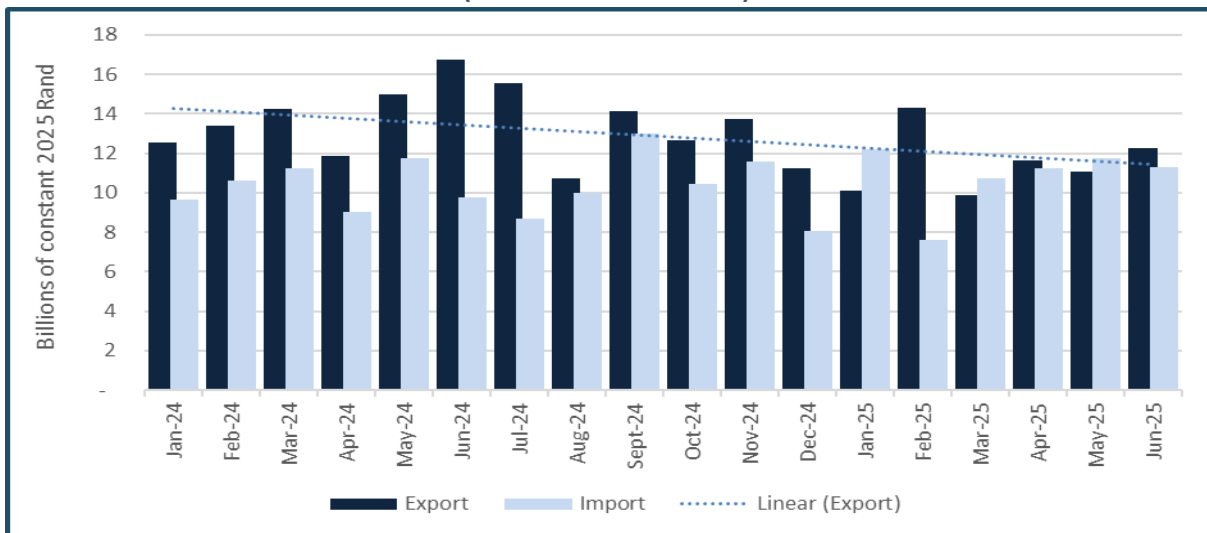
HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
28291100	Chlorate of sodium	Error in reporting import volumes from Sweden. Sweden does not report any data for this product. In addition, the apparent volume surge is not matched by a corresponding surge in the value.	Free of duty
23091090	Dog or cat food, put up for retail sale: Other	Error in reporting volumes from France. Reported volumes far exceed what France reports as total exports.	20.0%
48101990	Paper and paperboard used for writing, printing or other graphic purposes	Error in reporting volumes from Austria. Reported volumes exceed what Austria usually reports as total exports. The price increase does not match.	Free of duty
22030090	Beer made from malt: Other	Error in converting volumes imported from Namibia. Namibia reports its export volumes in kilograms, while South Africa reports in litres. Although reported import volumes surged, the value of the imports decreased.	5.0%
20096900	Grape juice (including grape must): Other	Error in reporting volumes from Argentina, which reports two million kilograms as exports	5.0%

Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in August 2025.

### South African trade with the US

South Africa had a trade deficit with the US in May 2025, following the April announcement of what the US administration described as “reciprocal tariffs” with a range of countries including South Africa. The deficit amounted to R647 million in May 2025, from a small surplus of R374 million in April 2025. Between January 2024 and June 2025, South Africa had three trade deficits with the US, all occurring between January and May 2025 (see Graph 9). As noted in the [TIPS Real Economy Bulletin Q2 2025](#), the impact of the tariffs will not be clear until perhaps the third quarter. Instead, the deficits seen since January 2025 appear to reflect falling global mineral prices.

**Graph 9: South Africa monthly trade with the US, January 2024 to June 2025  
(in constant 2025 Rand)**

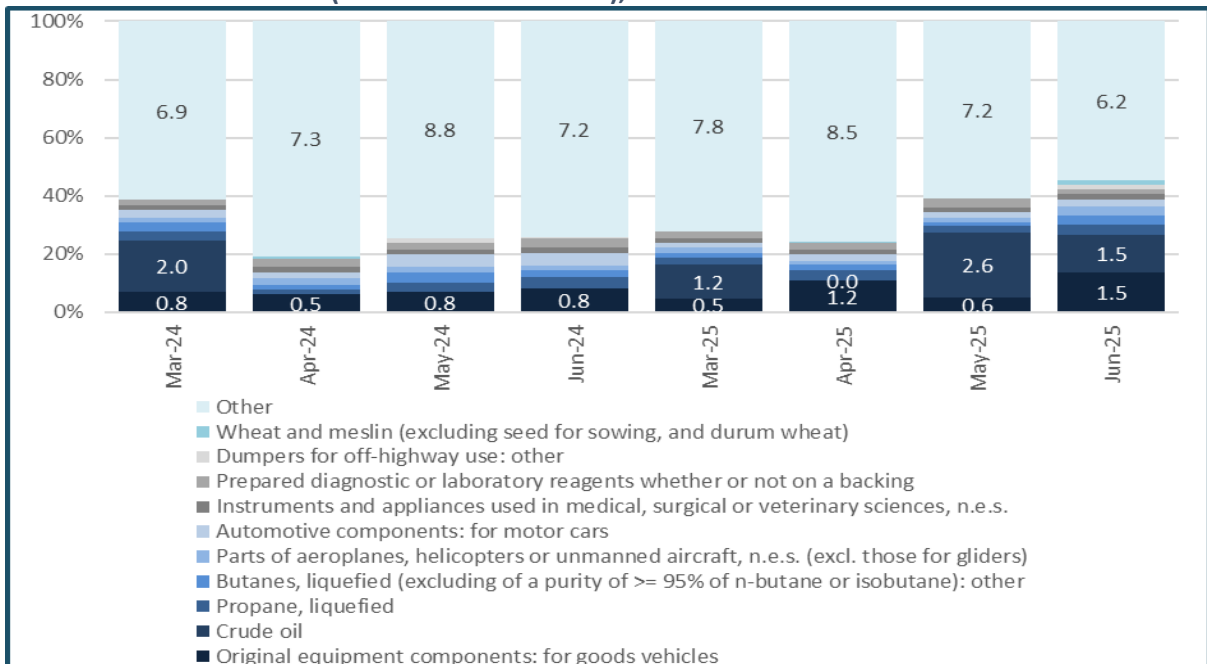


Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in September 2025. Note: Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to June 2025.

Graph 10 shows South Africa’s top 10 monthly imports from the US between March and June 2024 and March and June 2025 (at HS8). The analysis focuses on this period (beginning in March, prior to the US announcement of new tariff measures) to assess the potential impact of the announcement on South Africa’s trade with the US.

The top 10 import products for this period accounted for just under half of the value of total imports from the US. The data show no significant changes in imports from the US between 2024 and 2025. In this period, the value of imports grew by 8%, with crude oil imports among the contributors to the growth. Petroleum and automotive imports make up a notable share of the top 10 imports, averaging about 77% of the monthly value over the analysis period.

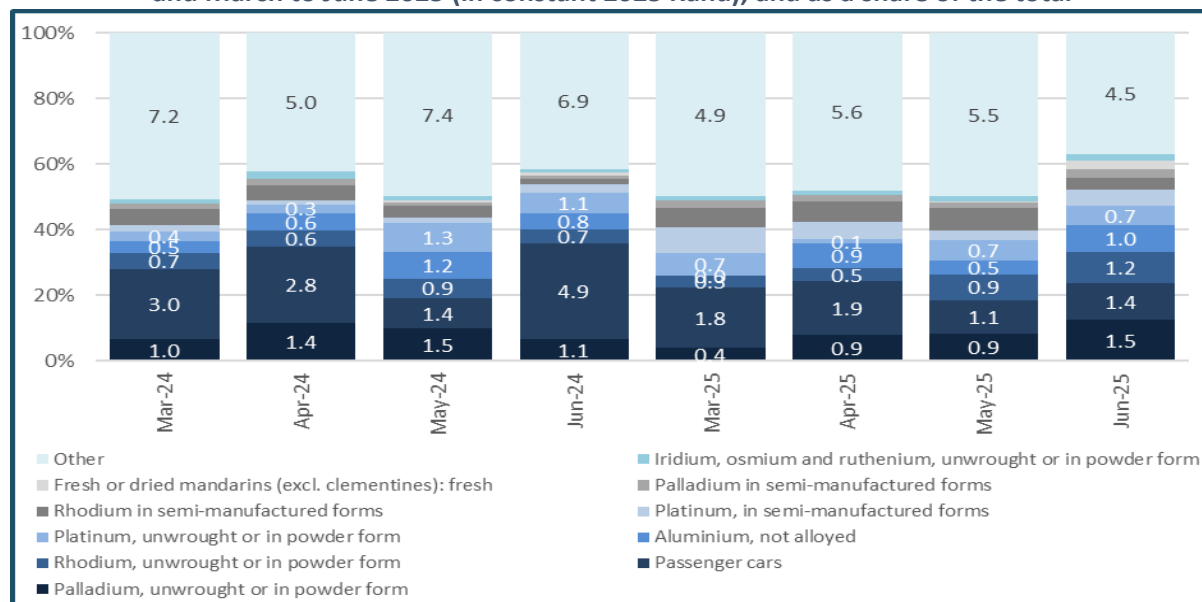
**Graph 10: South Africa’s top 10 imports from the US (HS8), March to June 2024 and March to June 2025 (in constant 2025 Rand), and as a share of the total**



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in September 2025. Note: Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to June 2025.

Exports show a slightly more notable shift over the analysis period, with the value decreasing by 22% between 2024 and 2025. The largest decline was in exports of passenger cars, which fell by almost R6 billion. However, the decline seems unrelated to the US tariffs. Further, passenger cars were the only manufactured products in the top 10 exports to the US, with the only other non-mineral product being fresh mandarins (see Graph 11).

**Graph 11: South Africa's top 10 exports to the US (HS8), March to June 2024 and March to June 2025 (in constant 2025 Rand), and as a share of the total**



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in September 2025. Note: Rebased, using CPI data from Stats SA to June 2025.

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## DATA ANNEXURES

Annexure 1: Top 100 import products by Rand value, Q2 2025

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q2 2024 – Q2 2025	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
1	27101230	Diesel	33.72	No change	Not designated	0.183c/li
2	98010030	Automotive components: For motor cars	18.29	1	Not designated	20%
3	98010040	Original equipment components: For goods vehicles	16.35	1	Not designated	20%
4	27090000	Crude oil	15.93	-2	Not designated	Free of duty
5	27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	9.81	No change	Not designated	0.091c/li
6	87032290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm3 to 1 500 cm3	8.91	3	Not designated	25%
7	30049099	Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes	6.09	No change	Not designated	Free of duty
8	71081300	Gold, in semi-manufactured forms, for non-monetary purposes	5.73	6	Not designated	Free of duty
9	85171310	Smartphones for wireless networks	4.51	-3	Not designated	Free of duty
10	84713090	Data-processing machines, automatic, portable, weighing <= 10 kg	4.31	No change	Not designated	Free of duty
11	85176290	Routers and set-top boxes: Other	4.26	No change	Routers not designated; STB 30% designated	Free of duty
12	98010045	Original equipment components: For goods vehicles	3.79	-4	Not designated	20%
13	85171390	Smartphones for wireless networks: Other	3.52	1591	Not designated	Free of duty
14	10019900	Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat)	3.25	-1	Not designated	18.35 c/kg
15	87032390	Cars and related vehicles: Cylinder capacity 1 500 cm3 to 3 000 cm3	2.97	2	Not designated	25%
16	88024000	Aeroplanes and other aircraft, of an unladen mass exceeding 15 000 kg	2.96	54	Not designated	Free of duty
17	85023100	Generating sets: wind-powered	2.87	38	Not designated	Free of duty
18	28182000	Aluminium oxide (excluding artificial corundum)	2.62	1	Not designated	Free of duty
19	15119090	Palm oil and its fractions, whether or not refined	2.47	8	Not designated	10%
20	87032190	Cars and related vehicles: Cylinder capacity not exceeding 1 000 cm3	2.32	20	Not designated	25.0%
21	10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	2.30	-9	Not designated	Free of duty
22	71023100	Non-industrial diamonds unworked or simply sawn, cleaved or bruted	2.30	2	Not designated	Free of duty

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q2 2024 – Q2 2025	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
23	85044000	Static converters	2.20	-8	Inverters 40% designated	Free of duty
24	27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	2.13	5	Not designated	Free of duty
25	85076000	Lithium-ion accumulators (excluding spent)	2.11	No change	Not designated	Free of duty
26	87033290	Cars and related vehicles: Cylinder capacity 1 000 cm <sup>3</sup> to 2 500 cm <sup>3</sup>	2.08	7	Not designated	25%
27	84715000	Processing units for automatic data-processing machines	1.92	-6	Not designated	Free of duty
28	90189000	Instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical or veterinary sciences, not elsewhere specified	1.91	2	Not designated	Free of duty
29	27101226	Light oils and preparations: Illuminating kerosene	1.90	-7	Not designated	0.183 c/li
30	33021000	Mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures, including alcoholic solutions of a kind used in the food and drink industries	1.82	8	Not designated	Free of duty
31	27101207	Light oils and preparations: Aviation kerosene	1.78	-15	Not designated	Free of duty
32	84295200	Self-propelled bulldozers, etc: With 360-degree revolving superstructure	1.74	9	Not designated	Free of duty
33	84314990	Parts of machinery of heading 8426, 8429 and 8430, not elsewhere specified: Other	1.71	1	Not designated	Free of duty
34	87033390	Cars and related vehicles: Cylinder capacity exceeding 2 500 cm <sup>3</sup>	1.64	-11	Not designated	25%
35	84219990	Parts of machinery and apparatus for filtering or purifying liquids or gases, n.e.s: Other	1.63	-9	Not designated	Free of duty
36	98010015	Automotive components: For tractors and buses	1.59	-18	Not designated	20%
37	74081100	Wire of refined copper, with a maximum cross-sectional dimension of > 6 mm	1.53	-17	Not designated	Free of duty
38	38249999	Chemical products and preparations of the chemical or allied industries	1.42	8	Not designated	Free of duty
39	74031100	Copper, refined, in the form of cathodes and sections of cathodes	1.40	11	Not designated	Free of duty
40	87089990	Parts and accessories for tractors and buses	1.39	-4	Bus bodies 80% designated	20%
41	27101235	Light oils and preparations: Residual fuels	1.39	-6	Not designated	Free of duty
42	88073000	Parts of aeroplanes, helicopters or unmanned aircraft, not elsewhere specified (excluding those for gliders)	1.34	6	Not designated	Free of duty
43	27111390	Butanes, liquefied (excluding of a purity of >= 95% of n-butane or isobutane): Other	1.33	10	Not designated	Free of duty

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q2 2024 – Q2 2025	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
44	38221900	Prepared diagnostic or laboratory reagents whether or not on a backing	1.31	-1	Not designated	Free of duty
45	84261900	Ships' derricks; cranes, including cable cranes; mobile lifting frames, straddle carriers and works trucks fitted with a crane: Other	1.25	806	Not designated	Free of duty
46	87082900	Parts and accessories of bodies for tractors and goods and passenger vehicles	1.23	-7	Not designated	20%
47	87041090	Dumpers for off-highway use: Other	1.21	-15	Not designated	Free of duty
48	17011300	Raw cane sugar, in solid form, not containing added flavouring or colouring matter	1.17	19	Not designated	286.25 c/kg
49	85177900	Parts of telephone sets, telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks	1.16	3	Not designated	Free of duty
50	84439900	Parts and accessories of printers, copying machines and facsimile machines, not elsewhere specified	1.16	-5	Not designated	Free of duty
51	84798990	Machines and mechanical appliances, not elsewhere specified: Other	1.15	38	Not designated	Free of duty
52	27111200	Propane, liquefied	1.12	9	Not designated	Free of duty
53	87032490	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 3 000 cm3	1.09	9	Not designated	25%
54	31042000	Potassium chloride for use as fertiliser	1.08	14	Not designated	Free of duty
55	87041030	Articulated dumpers with a gross vehicle mass (g.v.m.) exceeding 50t, as defined in Additional Note 7 to Chapter 87	1.03	7008	Not designated	10%
56	27101215	Light oils and preparations: Illuminating kerosene	1.02	37	Not designated	Free of duty
57	27160000	Electrical energy	1.00	-29	Not designated	Free of duty
58	84111200	Turbojets: Of a thrust exceeding 25 kn	0.99	106	Not designated	Free of duty
59	27101957	Other base oils for prepared lubricating oil	0.96	7005	Not designated	Free of duty
60	39269090	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s.: Other	0.93	-1	Not designated	20%
61	21069090	Food preparations, n.e.s.: Other	0.89	5	Not designated	20%
62	38112100	Prepared additives for oil lubricants containing petroleum oil or bituminous mineral oil	0.89	28	Not designated	Free of duty
63	87042181	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods, with compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine "diesel or semi-diesel engine" of a gross vehicle weight <= 5 t: Other, double-cab, of a vehicle mass not exceeding 2 000 kg or a g.v.m. not	0.89	128	Not designated	25%

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q2 2024 – Q2 2025	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
		exceeding 3 500 kg, or of a mass not exceeding 1 600 kg or a g.v.m. not exceeding 3 500 kg per chassis fitted with a cab				
64	85414300	Photovoltaic cells assembled in modules or made up into panels	0.88	-20	Solar PV components 70% designated	10%
65	94019990	Parts of seats, not of wood, n.e.s: Other	0.87	-8	Not designated	25%
66	33049990	Beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin: Other	0.86	-3	Not designated	20%
67	39011000	Polyethylene having a specific gravity of less than 0,94	0.85	-13	Not designated	Free of duty
68	38089399	Herbicides, anti-sprouting products and plant-growth regulators	0.83	-3	Not designated	Free of duty
69	64039990	Footwear, with outer soles of rubber, plastics, leather or composition leather and uppers of leather: Other	0.80	27	100% designated	30%
70	27101257	Light oils and preparations: Other base oils	0.79	-33	Not designated	0.1c/li with max of 8%
71	27040000	Coke and semi-coke of coal, of lignite or of peat, whether or not agglomerated	0.78	-22	Not designated	Free of duty
72	27131200	Petroleum coke, petroleum bitumen and other residues of petroleum oils or of oils obtained from bituminous minerals: calcined	0.76	29	Not designated	Free of duty
73	25030000	Sulphur of all kinds (excluding sublimed sulphur, precipitated sulphur and colloidal sulphur)	0.76	248	Not designated	Free of duty
74	84834000	Gears and gearing (excluding toothed wheels, chain sprockets and other transmission elements presented separately); ball or roller screws; gear boxes and other speed changers, including torque converters	0.76	8	Not designated	Free of duty
75	31021000	Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution	0.74	-24	Not designated	Free of duty
76	84089090	Compression-ignition internal combustion piston engines (diesel or semi-diesel engines): Other	0.74	-20	Not designated	Free of duty
77	87085085	Drive-axles with differential, whether or not provided with other transmission components	0.74	-1	Not designated	20%
78	84749000	Parts of machinery for working mineral substances of heading 8474, not elsewhere specified	0.72	5	Not designated	Free of duty
79	39012000	Polyethylene having a specific gravity of 0.94 or more	0.72	-19	Not designated	Free of duty

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q2 2024 – Q2 2025	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
80	87034090	Other vehicles, with both spark-ignition internal combustion piston engine and electric motor as motors for propulsion, excluding those capable of being charged by plugging to external source of electric power: Other	0.71	128	Not designated	25.0%
81	38089199	Insecticides: Other	0.70	39	Not designated	Free of duty
82	27011900	Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated (excluding anthracite and bituminous coal)	0.70	-40	Not designated	Free of duty
83	27101990	Light oils and preparations: Other	0.70	824	Not designated	11c/li
84	17019900	Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form: Other	0.69	915	Not designated	234.89c/kg
85	21011190	Extracts, essences and concentrates, of coffee: Other	0.69	48	Not designated	25%
86	84717000	Storage units for automatic data-processing machines	0.68	19	Not designated	Free of duty
87	40111009	New pneumatic tyres, of rubber, of a kind used for motor cars, including station wagons and racing cars: having a rim size of 43 cm (17 inches) or more	0.68	11	Not designated	30.0%
88	85437000	Other machines and apparatus	0.68	4	Not designated	Free of duty
89	84099990	Parts suitable for use solely or principally with compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine "diesel or semi-diesel engine", n.e.s: Other	0.68	-8	Not designated	Free of duty
90	90183900	Needles, catheters, cannulae and the like, used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences (excluding syringes, tubular metal needles and needles for sutures)	0.67	28	Not designated	Free of duty
91	87036090	Other vehicles, with both spark-ignition internal combustion piston engine and electric motor as motors for propulsion, capable of being charged by plugging to external source of electric power: Other	0.67	327	Not designated	25%
92	85371090	Boards, cabinets and similar combinations of apparatus for electric control or the distribution of electricity, for a voltage <= 1.000 V: Other	0.66	-5	Not designated	5%
93	22021010	Flavoured water in sealed containers holding 2,5 li or less (excluding those in collapsible plastic tubes)	0.64	-20	Not designated	4.36c/li
94	99000000	Miscellaneous classification provisions	0.64	41	Not designated	Free of duty
95	84314300	Parts for boring or sinking machinery of subheading 8430.41 or 8430.49	0.64	-1	Not designated	Free of duty
96	27132000	Petroleum bitumen	0.63	-10	Not designated	10%
97	61091000	T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted	0.63	-13	100% designated	45%

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q2 2024 – Q2 2025	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
98	33029090	Mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures, including alcoholic solutions of a kind used in the food and drink industries: Other	0.62	-18	Not designated	Free of duty
99	85235210	Digital smart cards	0.59	20	Not designated	5%
100	40118020	New pneumatic tyres, of rubber, of a kind used on construction, mining or industrial handling vehicles and machines: having a rim size of 91 cm or more	0.59	-9	Not designated	Free of duty

Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in August 2025.

### Annexure 2: Surges in import products by quantity Q2 2025

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH/DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT GROWTH/DECLINE	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
1	01064900	Live insects (excluding bees)	Ongoing monitoring	453 518 339 974	Units	189%	Not designated	Free of duty
2	27101230	Diesel	Not significant	193 697 051	Litres	7%	Not designated	0.183c/li
3	27090000	Crude oil	Decline in imports	- 96 250 967	Kilograms	-6%	Not designated	Free
4	27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	Decline in imports	- 125 003 956	Litres	-11%	Not designated	0.091c/li
5	27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	Not significant	33 804 404	Kilograms	5%	Not designated	Free of duty
6	10019900	Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat)	Decline in imports	- 108 153 848	Kilograms	-14%	Not designated	54.95c/kg
7	25232900	Portland cement (excluding white, whether or not artificially coloured)	Ongoing monitoring	150 743 227	Kilograms	96%	100% designated	Free of duty
8	28291100	Chlorate of sodium	Data error	299 148 921	Kilograms	4557%	Not designated	Free of duty
9	10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	Decline in imports	- 47 313 959	Kilograms	-15%	Not designated	Free of duty
10	28182000	Aluminium oxide (excluding artificial corundum)	Decline in imports	- 100 099 263	Kilograms	-27%	Not designated	Free of duty
11	27011900	Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated (excluding anthracite and bituminous coal)	Decline in imports	- 89 615 294	Kilograms	-27%	Not designated	Free of duty
12	27040000	Coke and semi-coke of coal, of lignite or of peat, whether or not agglomerated; retort carbon	Decline in imports	- 42 747 373	Kilograms	-16%	Not designated	Free of duty

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH/DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT GROWTH/DECLINE	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
13	27011200	Bituminous coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	Decline in imports	- 60 430 856	Kilograms	-21%	Not designated	Free of duty
14	25231000	Cement clinkers	Ongoing monitoring	87 062 228	Kilograms	76%	Not designated	Free of duty
15	44011200	Fuel wood, in logs, billets, twigs, faggots or similar forms, non-coniferous	Surge within usual variance	54 823 318	Kilograms	39%	Not designated	Free of duty
16	27101226	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals	Not significant	2 912 457	Litres	2%	Not designated	0.183c/li
17	31042000	Potassium chloride for use as fertiliser	Not significant	35 604 615	Kilograms	24%	Not designated	Free of duty
18	23091090	Dog or cat food, put up for retail sale: other	Data error	157 346 353	Kilograms	2206%	Not designated	20.0%
19	27101207	Light oils and preparations: aviation kerosene	Decline in imports	- 97 424 863	Litres	-37%	Not designated	Free of duty
20	85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits "smart cards": Digital	Ongoing monitoring	50 866 610	Units	53%	Not designated	5.0%
21	27101235	Light oils and preparations: Residual fuels	Decline in imports	- 16 370 093	Litres	-10%	Not designated	Free of duty
22	25030000	Sulphur of all kinds (excluding sublimed sulphur, precipitated sulphur and colloidal sulphur)	Not significant	10 215 247	Kilograms	8%	Not designated	Free of duty
23	31022100	Ammonium sulphate (excl. that in tablets or similar forms, or in packages with a gross weight of <= 10 kg)	Decline in imports	- 10 450 021	Kilograms	-7%	Not designated	Free of duty
24	15119090	Palm oil and its fractions, whether or not refined (excluding chemically modified and crude): Other	Not significant	8 656 461	Kilograms	7%	Not designated	10.0%
25	48101990	Paper and paperboard used for writing, printing or other graphic purposes	Data error	110 722 945	Kilograms	1574%	Not designated	Free of duty

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH/DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT GROWTH/DECLINE	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
26	27111390	Butanes, liquefied (excluding of a purity of >= 95% of n-butane or isobutane): Other	Surge within usual variance	29 796 153	Kilograms	39%	Not designated	Free of duty
27	31021000	Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution	Decline in imports	- 63 867 415	Kilograms	-38%	Not designated	Free of duty
28	27101215	Light oils and preparations: Illuminating kerosene	Surge within usual variance	46 599 740	Litres	101%	Not designated	Free of duty
29	28362000	Disodium carbonate	Not significant	6 197 157	Kilograms	7%	Not designated	5.5%
30	27111200	Propane, liquefied	Surge within usual variance	21 592 286	Kilograms	32%	Not designated	Free of duty
31	25010010	Salts, including table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride, whether or not in aqueous solution or containing added anti-caking or free-flowing agents; sea water: Not for human consumption	Decline in imports	- 3 437 713	Kilograms	-4%	Not designated	Free of duty
32	28151200	Sodium hydroxide "caustic soda" in aqueous solution "soda lye or liquid soda"	Not significant	11 968 517	Kilograms	16%	Not designated	20.0%
33	27132000	Petroleum bitumen	Not significant	6 929 545	Kilograms	9%	Not designated	10.0%
34	17011300	Raw cane sugar, in solid form, not containing added flavouring or colouring matter	Surge within usual variance	27 688 008	Kilograms	53%	Not designated	282.85 c/kg
35	22030090	Beer made from malt: Other	Data error	39 196 637	Litres	100%	Not designated	5.0%
36	27131200	Petroleum coke, calcined	Not significant	12 092 888	Kilograms	18%	Not designated	Free of duty
37	17019900	Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form: other	Surge within usual variance	63 471 383	Kilograms	1420%	Not designated	234.89 c/kg
38	98010030	Automotive components: For motor cars	Not significant	1 831 442	Kilograms	3%	Not designated	20.0%
39	98010040	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	Decline in imports	- 19 291 062	Kilograms	-23%	Not designated	20.0%

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH/DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT GROWTH/DECLINE	DESIGNATION STATUS	APPLICABLE GENERAL DUTY
40	27011100	Anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	Decline in imports	- 26 198 358	Kilograms	-31%	Not designated	Free of duty
41	08039010	Fresh or dried bananas (excluding plantains): Fresh	Not significant	1 784 791	Kilograms	3%	Not designated	5.0%
42	25010090	Salts, including table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride, whether or not in aqueous solution: Other	Not significant	8 727 204	Kilograms	19%	Not designated	Free of duty
43	31026000	Double salts and mixtures of calcium nitrate and ammonium nitrate	Not significant	936 482	Kilograms	2%	Not designated	Free of duty
44	72071100	<b>Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing by mass less than 0.25% of carbon of rectangular (including square) cross-section, the width measuring less than twice the thickness</b>	<b>Selected for analysis</b>	<b>53 562 477</b>	<b>Kilograms</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>100% designated</b>	<b>10.0%</b>
45	25201000	Gypsum; anhydrite	Decline in imports	- 59 973 461	Kilograms	-53%	Not designated	Free of duty
46	27101957	Other base oils for prepared lubricating oil	HS code change	53 437 635	Litres	N/A	Not designated	0.1c/li with a maximum of 8%
47	23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil	Ongoing monitoring	12 030 838	Kilograms	31%	Not designated	6.6%
48	20096900	Grape juice (including grape must): Other	Data error	43 329 259	Kilograms	666%	Not designated	5.0%
49	27101257	Light oils and preparations: other base oils	Decline in imports	- 55 293 001	Litres	-54%	Not designated	0.1c/li with a maximum of 8%
50	44012100	Wood in chips or particles: Coniferous	Surge within usual variance	27 835 296	Kilograms	155%	Not designated	Free of duty

Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in August 2025.