

FOR RELEASE AT 8:30 AM EST, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

PRELIMINARY PROFILE OF U.S. IMPORTING AND EXPORTING COMPANIES, 2024

Release Number: CB25-163

DECEMBER 11, 2025 — The U.S. Census Bureau has released the report, Preliminary Profile of U.S. Importing and Exporting Companies, 2024. This report compiles preliminary data on the universe of U.S. importing or exporting companies in 2024, using characteristics from the 2023 Business Register.

Exports

In 2024, there were 270,001 identified U.S. exporters, accounting for \$1,817 billion in exports of goods (of \$2,062 billion total exports of goods). All data are subject to revision with the *Profile of U.S. Importing and Exporting Companies, 2023 – 2024*, scheduled for release in 2026.

	Identified U.S. Exporters ¹			Known Export Value (\$millions) ²		
	2024 Preliminary	2023 Preliminary	2023 Final	2024 Preliminary	2023 Preliminary	2023 Final
All Exporters						
All Identified Companies	270,001	278,207	277,799	1,816,737	1,769,336	1,780,773
Manufacturing	65,659	68,001	67,553	954,129	969,998	954,357
Wholesale	83,538	86,502	86,790	470,975	451,928	457,575
Other/Unidentified	120,804	123,704	123,456	391,632	347,410	368,840
Small and Medium Exporters ³						
All Identified Companies	262,281	270,731	270,014	606,725	609,976	588,425
Manufacturing	62,849	65,191	64,732	170,510	176,111	166,622
Wholesale	82,501	85,482	85,740	282,132	272,642	276,893
Other/Unidentified	116,931	120,058	119,542	154,083	161,223	144,910

¹ Identified U.S. exporters are defined as companies that can be linked to export transactions.

² Known value is defined as the portion of U.S. total exports that could be matched to specific companies.

³ Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) are defined as those companies with fewer than 500 employees, those with missing employment data, nonemployers, and companies that reported annual payroll but did not report any employees on their payroll.

Data Inquiries

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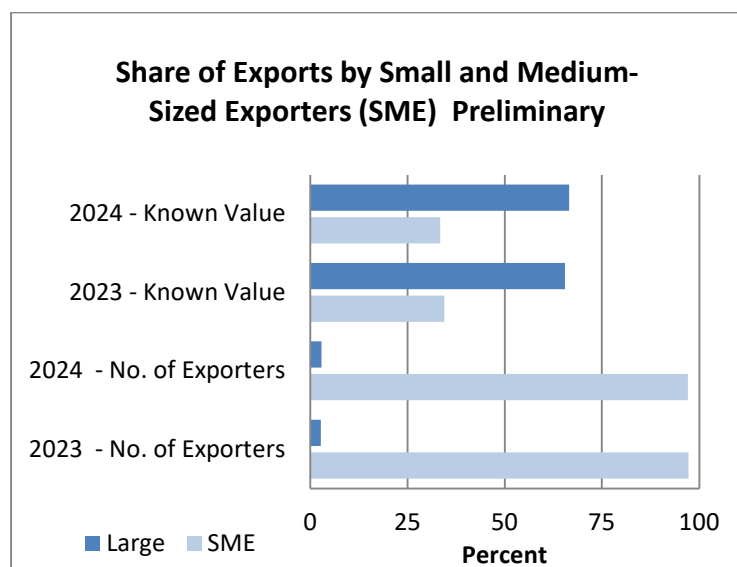
Media Inquiries

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Nearly one-third (85,729) of identified SME exporters reported goods exports to Canada in 2024.



SME exporters accounted for over 97 percent of the identified exporters and nearly 35 percent of the known export value in both 2024 and 2023.



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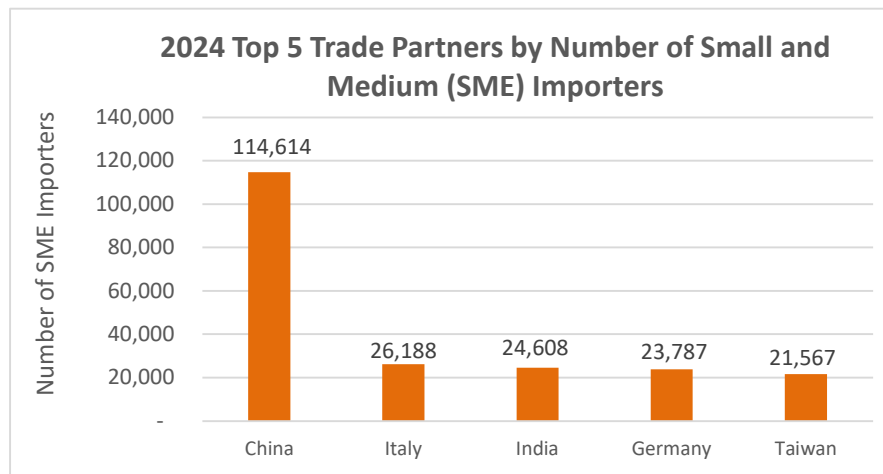
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Imports

In 2024, there were 239,231 identified U.S. importers, accounting for \$2,921 billion in imports of goods (of \$3,266 billion total imports of goods).

	Identified U.S. Importers ⁴			Known Import Value (\$millions) ⁵		
	2024 Preliminary	2023 Preliminary	2023 Final	2024 Preliminary	2023 Preliminary	2023 Final
All Importers						
All Identified Companies	239,231	241,314	242,515	2,921,156	2,744,883	2,742,968
Manufacturing	41,531	42,177	42,223	1,196,126	1,165,114	1,139,743
Wholesale	87,429	88,360	89,233	946,983	907,056	908,437
Other/Unidentified	110,271	110,777	111,059	778,047	672,712	694,788
Small and Medium Importers⁶						
All Identified Companies	232,804	234,971	236,045	914,457	889,495	868,251
Manufacturing	38,909	39,539	39,589	177,929	161,699	161,787
Wholesale	86,492	87,435	88,291	481,727	469,614	462,727
Other/Unidentified	107,403	107,997	108,165	254,801	258,182	243,739



⁴ Identified U.S. importers are defined as companies that can be linked to import transactions.

⁵ Known value is defined as the portion of U.S. total general imports that could be matched to specific companies.

⁶ Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) are defined as those companies with fewer than 500 employees, those with missing employment data, nonemployers, and companies that reported annual payroll but did not report any employees on their payroll.

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Methodology

Preliminary Exporter and Importer data was created by comparing the statistical year data to the prior year Business Register. For example, 2024 trade data was compared to the 2023 Business Register; 2023 trade data was compared to the 2022 Business Register, etc. Research has shown that this methodology captures approximately 95% of the Known Value and 99% of Identified Exporters or Importers when compared to the final data, which is created using trade data and the Business Register from the same year. The missing data reflect the lack of information on exporters or importers that were birthed during the statistical year and therefore not part of the prior year Business Register. See the table below for more information (exports only).

While the use of the prior year Business Register has little effect on the overall Known Value and Identified companies, it can have significant effects on more detailed statistics. Changes in ownership, NAICS classification, employee size class, and location can cause these detailed statistics to change significantly from year-to-year. For this reason, only the high-level summary data is published in the Preliminary Profile. Full detail will be available with the publication of the final Profile of U.S. Importing and Exporting Companies in 2026.

Preliminary-to-Final Change Comparison

	Identified U.S. Exporters			Known Export Value		
	Preliminary	Final	Change	Preliminary	Final	Change
2024	270,001			1,816,737		
2023	278,207	277,799	-0.15%	1,769,336	1,780,773	0.64%
2022	278,964	279,115	0.05%	1,806,050	1,814,965	0.49%
2021	277,489	278,362	0.31%	1,532,210	1,553,994	1.42%
2020	270,290	271,705	0.52%	1,253,648	1,265,900	0.98%
2019	286,132	288,063	0.67%	1,386,225	1,455,444	4.99%
2018	291,802	292,793	0.34%	1,406,368	1,477,975	5.09%
2017	284,168	290,142	2.10%	1,291,586	1,377,324	6.64%
2016	285,281	287,314	0.71%	1,210,666	1,290,213	6.57%
2015	292,784	294,834	0.70%	1,307,013	1,355,114	3.68%
2014	301,923	304,466	0.84%	1,403,769	1,441,914	2.72%

Note: The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revision. For more information, visit www.census.gov/trade. The Census Bureau has reviewed this data product to ensure appropriate access, use, and disclosure avoidance protection of the confidential source data (Project No. 7504799, Disclosure Review Board (DRB) approval number: CBDRB-FY26-015).

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