🇰🇮 Kiribati: trade brief

Customs figures for 2025 and 2026 to date; products for 2024; long-run totals. Prepared 2026-11-15.

Kiribati exported **$8M** of goods and imported **$310M** in 2025, a trade deficit of **$302M**. Its largest export market was Japan (53.4% of exports) and its largest supplier was China (35.9% of imports).

#201
largest exporter of 202 economies, and #197 importer
#1 #202

53%
of exports go to 🇯🇵 Japan, the largest market

91%
of exports go to just three markets, out of 11

−302M
trade deficit: exports pay for 2% of imports

+43.9%
change in exports on 2024: $5M then, $8M in 2025

36%
of imports come from 🇨🇳 China, the largest supplier

Kiribati in 2025 and 2026: the latest figures

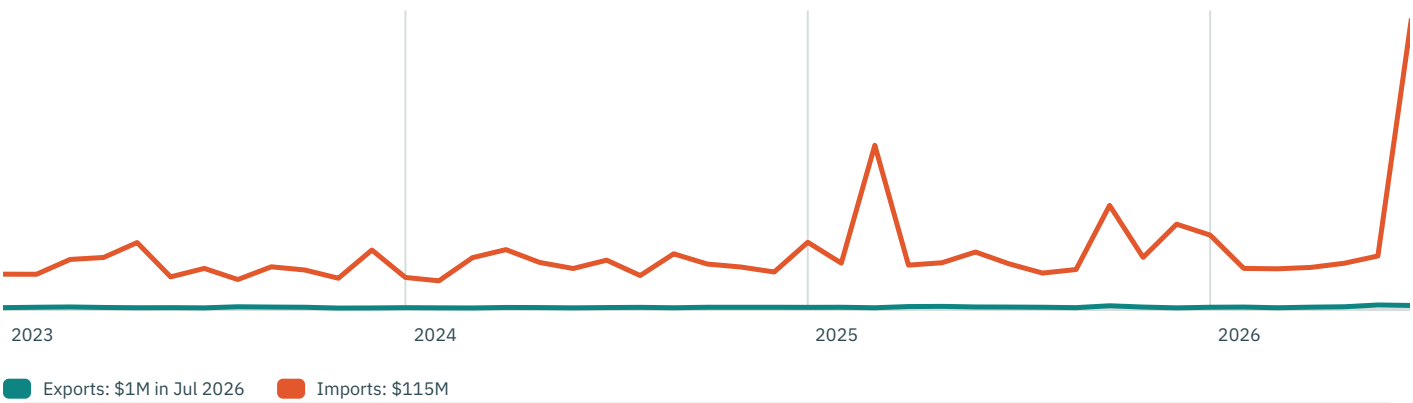
Monthly customs figures in US dollars from the IMF's trade-by-partner database. The newest month is Jul 2026.

$8M
Exports, 2025 **+43.9%** on 2024

$310M
Imports, 2025 **+51.5%** on 2024

$6M
Exports, Jan–Jul 2026 **+25.1%** on the same months of 2025

$232M
Imports, Jan–Jul 2026 **+25.1%** on the same months of 2025



Period	Exports	Imports	Balance
2026 (Jan–Jul)	$6M	$232M	−226M
2025	$8M	$310M	−302M
2024	$5M	$204M	−199M
2023	$6M	$201M	−195M
2022	$11M	$179M	−168M

Largest export markets in 2025 and 2026 so far

Export market	2025	Change on 2024	Share	Jan–Jul 2026	Change on Jan–Jul 2025
Japan †	$4M	+86.8%	53.4%	$4M	+80.6%
New Caledonia †	$2M	−5.6%	21.5%	$918,000	−3.2%
United States †	$1M	+67.4%	16.2%	$125,000	−84.3%
New Zealand †	$294,000	+434.5%	3.9%	$258,000	−7.5%
Belize †	$256,000	+0.0%	3.4%	$149,000	+0.0%
American Samoa †	$53,000	−31.2%	0.7%	$51,000	+88.9%
Vanuatu †	$22,000	+0.0%	0.3%	$13,000	+0.0%
Taiwan †	$20,000	−4.8%	0.3%	$12,000	+0.0%
South Korea †	$15,000	−21.1%	0.2%	$21,000	+2000.0%
Solomon Islands †	$6,000	−33.3%	0.1%	$6,000	+100.0%

Largest suppliers in 2025 and 2026 so far

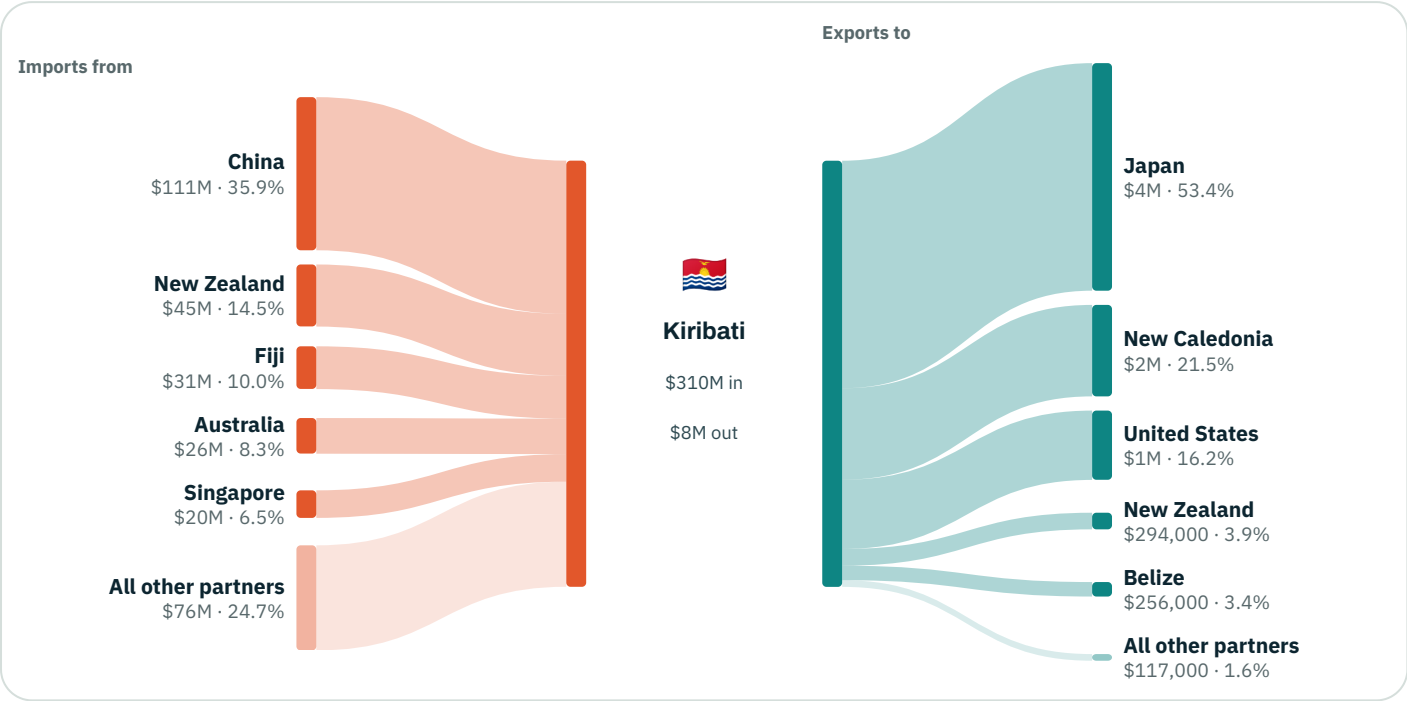
Supplier	2025	Change on 2024	Share	Jan–Jul 2026	Change on Jan–Jul 2025
China †	$111M	+194.3%	36.0%	$57M	−29.6%
New Zealand †	$45M	+57.0%	14.6%	$17M	−37.7%
Fiji †	$31M	+19.8%	10.0%	$26M	+67.1%
Australia †	$26M	+10.6%	8.4%	$15M	+8.0%
Singapore †	$20M	+5.8%	6.5%	$19M	+55.0%
Mexico †	$16M	—	5.1%	$97,000	—
Japan †	$10M	−34.5%	3.3%	$3M	−55.9%
Vanuatu †	$8M	−1.9%	2.7%	$5M	−1.0%
Taiwan †	$6M	+16.4%	1.8%	$5M	+64.5%
Thailand †	$5M	−19.6%	1.6%	$4M	+24.1%

† Kiribati had not yet reported this flow, so the IMF derived it from the partner's own records. Treat these as provisional.

Source: International Monetary Fund, International Trade in Goods by partner country, retrieved 2026-11-15. The IMF collects each economy's national customs figures and converts them to US dollars at the average exchange rate of the month the goods moved. Imports include freight and insurance; exports do not. The product and partner sections further down use BACI's reconciled figures for 2024, which can differ noticeably for the same year, so compare like with like.

Where Kiribati's goods come from, and where they go

The five largest suppliers and the five largest markets in 2025. Ribbon width is in proportion to value within each side.



What Kiribati exports, 2024

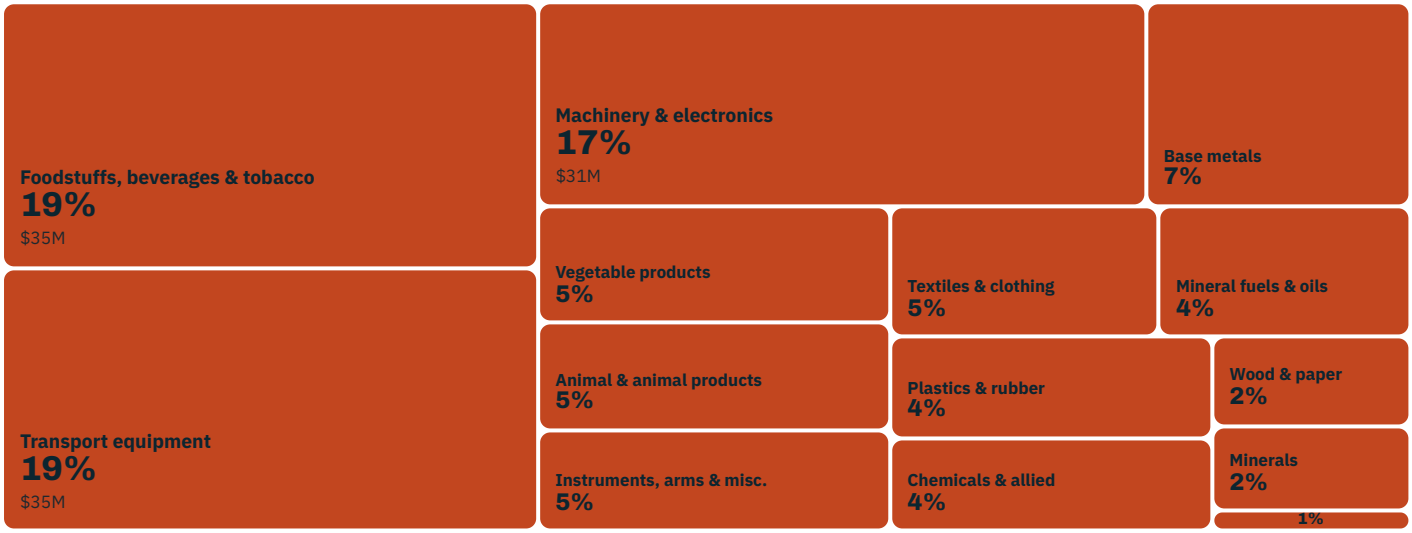


Reconciled figures (BACI): exports of $109M on that basis. 2024 is the newest year with product detail for every economy.

Largest export products

Product	2024	Share
Fish; frozen, skipjack tuna (stripe-bellied bonito)... 0303.43	$79M	72.0%
Fish; frozen, yellowfin tunas (Thunnus albacares)... 0303.42	$9M	8.6%
Tankers 8901.20	$8M	7.0%
Fish fillets; frozen, tunas (of the genus Thunnus)... 0304.87	$6M	5.4%
Fish; frozen, bigeye tunas (Thunnus obesus), excluding... 0303.44	$3M	3.0%
Fish; live, ornamental, other than freshwater 0301.19	$798,000	0.7%
Vegetable oils; coconut (copra) oil and its fractions... 1513.11	$758,000	0.7%
Copra 1203.00	$396,000	0.4%

What Kiribati imports, 2024



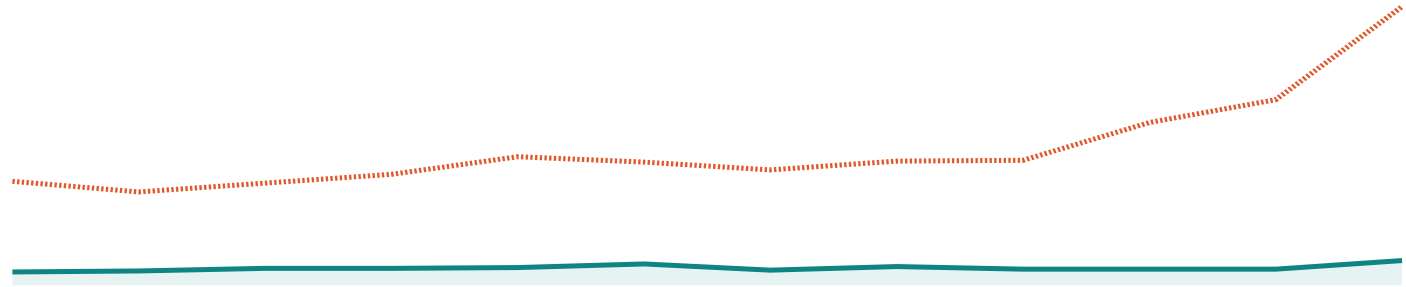
Reconciled figures (BACI): imports of $187M on that basis.

Largest import products

Product	2024	Share
Tankers 8901.20	$12M	6.4%
Petroleum oils and oils from bituminous minerals, not... 2710.00	$7M	3.6%
Fishing vessels, factory ships and other vessels; for... 8902.00	$5M	2.5%
Sugars; cane sugar, raw, in solid form, other than as... 1701.14	$5M	2.4%
Cereals; rice, semi-milled or wholly milled, whether or... 1006.30	$4M	2.4%
Meat and edible offal; of fowls of the species Gallus... 0207.14	$4M	2.2%
Twine, cordage or rope; fishing nets, made up, of man... 5608.11	$4M	2.2%
Plastics; other articles n.e.c. in chapter 39 3926.90	$4M	2.2%

Kiribati's trade over the long run

Merchandise exports and imports, World Bank series, current US dollars.



Exports Imports 2012–2023

Sources and method

- **2024 products:** BACI (CEPII), which reconciles what exporters and importers each reported to UN Comtrade, six-digit HS, current US dollars.
- **Totals and partners, latest year and current year:** International Monetary Fund, International Trade in Goods by partner country: each economy's own monthly customs figures, converted to US dollars at the average exchange rate of each month. Values marked † were derived by the IMF from partners' records because the economy had not yet reported.
- **Long-run totals:** World Bank, merchandise exports and imports, current US dollars.
- The two sources use different methods and can give different totals for the same year. Compare like with like.
- Product classification: Harmonized System, © World Customs Organization.

World Trade Data is an independent reference published by Evolve Tech Pvt. Ltd. It is not affiliated with any government, the IMF, the WCO or the United Nations. Free to share with attribution. The live page, with every partner and product, is at world.customsnepal.com/trade/kiribati.