🇱🇰 Sri Lanka: trade brief

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

Sri Lanka exported **$13B** of goods and imported **$21B** in 2025, a trade deficit of **$8.0B**. Its largest export market was United States (22.8% of exports) and its largest supplier was China (24.2% of imports).

#89
largest exporter of 202 economies, and #82 importer

#1 #202

23%
of exports go to 🇺🇸 United States, the largest market

38%
of exports go to just three markets, out of 189

−8.0B
trade deficit: exports pay for 62% of imports

+7.4%
change in exports on 2024: $12B then, $13B in 2025

24%
of imports come from 🇨🇳 China, the largest supplier

Sri Lanka in 2025 and 2026: the latest figures

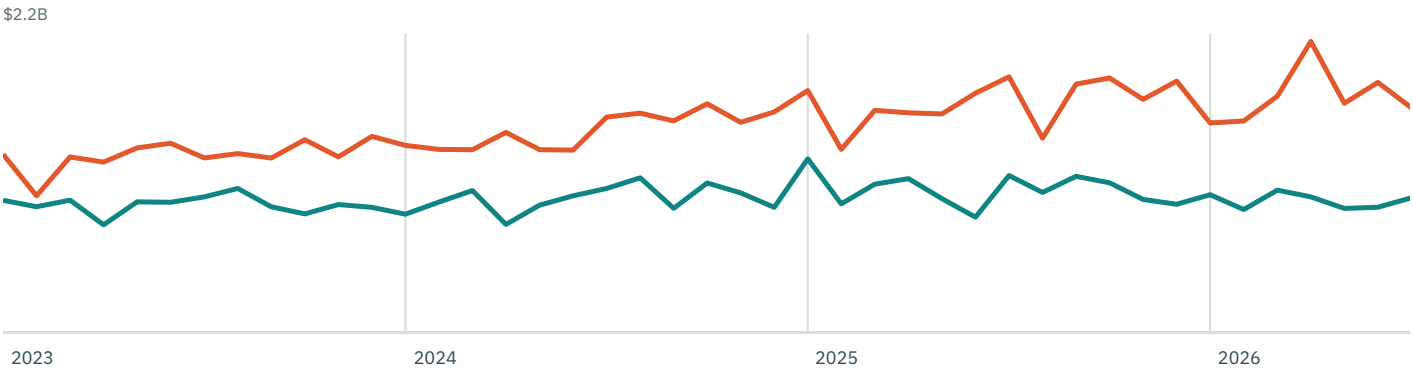
Monthly customs figures in US dollars from the IMF's trade-by-partner database. The newest month is Jul 2026.

$13B
Exports, 2025 **+7.4%** on 2024

$21B
Imports, 2025 **+14.0%** on 2024

$7.0B
Exports, Jan–Jul 2026 **−8.7%** on the same months of 2025

$13B
Imports, Jan–Jul 2026 **+4.6%** on the same months of 2025



Period	Exports	Imports	Balance
2026 (Jan–Jul)	$7.0B	$13B	−5.6B
2025	$13B	$21B	−8.0B
2024	$12B	$18B	−6.3B
2023	$12B	$16B	−4.5B
2022	$13B	$17B	−4.5B

Largest export markets in 2025 and 2026 so far

Export market	2025	Change on 2024	Share	Jan–Jul 2026	Change on Jan–Jul 2025
United States †	$3.0B	+2.8%	22.8%	$1.7B	−1.8%
India †	$1.0B	+17.6%	8.0%	$561M	−7.4%
United Kingdom †	$950M	+2.8%	7.3%	$463M	−22.2%
Germany †	$703M	+12.3%	5.4%	$385M	−6.6%
Italy †	$672M	+13.7%	5.2%	$418M	+16.8%
Netherlands †	$469M	+20.5%	3.6%	$265M	+6.4%
United Arab Emirates †	$353M	+3.5%	2.7%	$188M	−9.6%
Canada †	$313M	−1.3%	2.4%	$133M	−26.7%
France †	$299M	+13.5%	2.3%	$167M	−1.0%
China †	$282M	+8.0%	2.2%	$141M	−30.0%

Largest suppliers in 2025 and 2026 so far

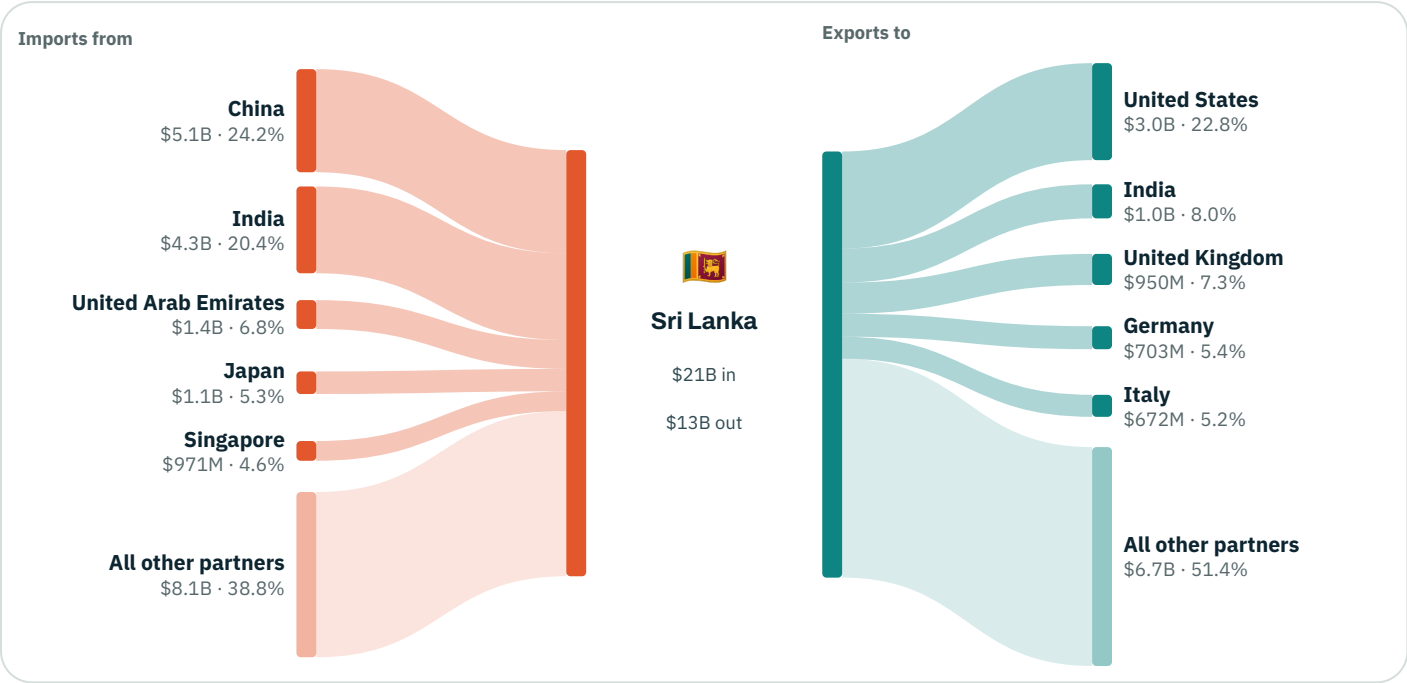
Supplier	2025	Change on 2024	Share	Jan–Jul 2026	Change on Jan–Jul 2025
China †	$5.1B	+18.7%	24.3%	$3.2B	+20.0%
India †	$4.3B	+14.3%	20.5%	$2.4B	−6.1%
United Arab Emirates †	$1.4B	+4.6%	6.8%	$765M	−12.2%
Japan †	$1.1B	+342.0%	5.3%	$712M	+31.8%
Singapore †	$971M	−21.7%	4.7%	$628M	+10.5%
Malaysia †	$955M	+35.3%	4.6%	$584M	+7.7%
Indonesia †	$549M	+24.9%	2.6%	$279M	−13.3%
United States †	$540M	+22.5%	2.6%	$563M	+105.7%
Thailand †	$473M	+58.5%	2.3%	$280M	+6.0%
Oman †	$432M	+10.9%	2.1%	$245M	−0.3%

† Sri Lanka 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 Sri Lanka'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 Sri Lanka exports, 2024

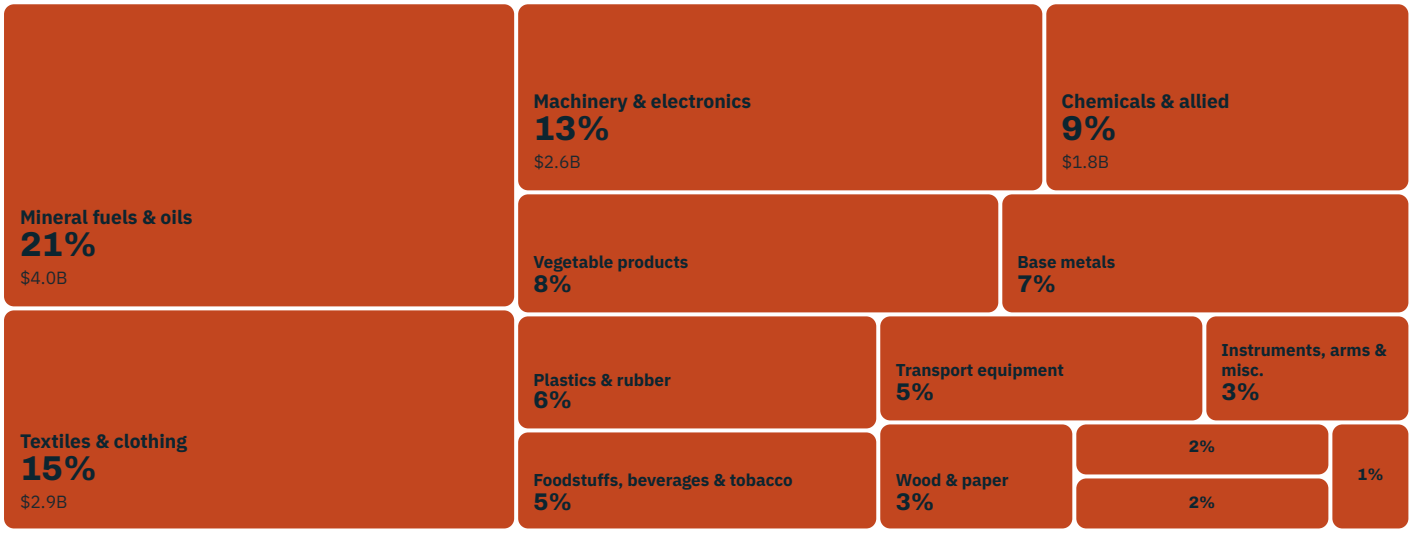


Reconciled figures (BACI): exports of $14B on that basis. 2024 is the newest year with product detail for every economy.

Largest export products

Product	2024	Share
Tea, black; (fermented) and partly fermented tea, in... 0902.40	$661M	4.8%
Tea, black; (fermented) and partly fermented tea, in... 0902.30	$658M	4.8%
Brassieres; whether or not knitted or crocheted 6212.10	$625M	4.5%
Rubber; tyres n.e.c. in heading no. 4012 4012.90	$451M	3.3%
Gloves, mittens and mitts; knitted or crocheted... 6116.10	$401M	2.9%
Stones; rubies, sapphires and emeralds, worked (other... 7103.91	$297M	2.2%
Trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts... 6203.42	$251M	1.8%
T-shirts, singlets and other vests; of textile materials... 6109.90	$238M	1.7%

What Sri Lanka imports, 2024



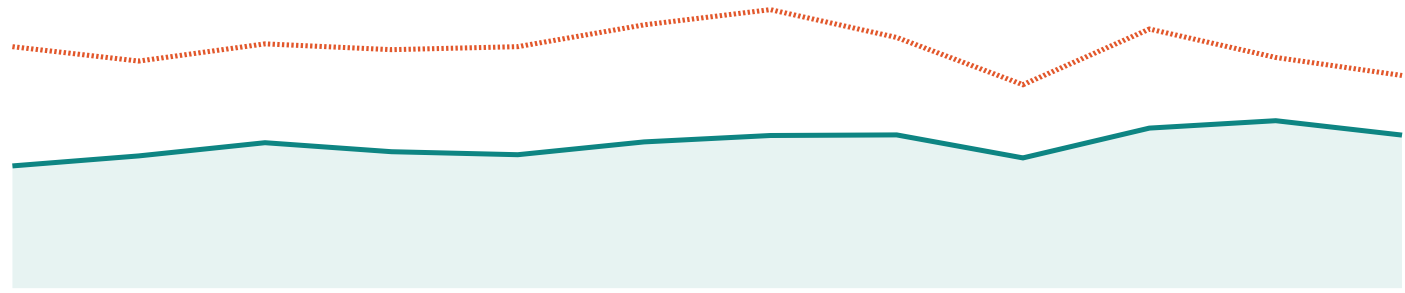
Reconciled figures (BACI): imports of $19B on that basis.

Largest import products

Product	2024	Share
Petroleum oils and oils from bituminous minerals, not... 2710.00	$2.5B	13.2%
Oils; petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous... 2709.00	$766M	4.0%
Sugars; sucrose, chemically pure, in solid form, not... 1701.99	$364M	1.9%
Medicaments; consisting of mixed or unmixed products... 3004.90	$349M	1.8%
Coal; (other than anthracite and bituminous), whether or... 2701.19	$312M	1.6%
Fabrics; knitted or crocheted fabrics of a width... 6004.10	$302M	1.6%
Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons... 2711.19	$290M	1.5%
Cereals; wheat and meslin, other than durum wheat, other... 1001.99	$287M	1.5%

Sri Lanka'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.

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