🇸🇻 El Salvador: trade brief

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

El Salvador exported **$6.4B** of goods and imported **$18B** in 2025, a trade deficit of **$11B**. Its largest export market was United States (32.8% of exports) and its largest supplier was United States (26.4% of imports).

#116
largest exporter of 202 economies, and #92 importer
#1 #202

33%
of exports go to 🇺🇸 United States, the largest market

69%
of exports go to just three markets, out of 110

−11B
trade deficit: exports pay for 36% of imports

−0.3%
change in exports on 2024: $6.4B then, $6.4B in 2025

26%
of imports come from 🇺🇸 United States, the largest supplier

El Salvador in 2025 and 2026: the latest figures

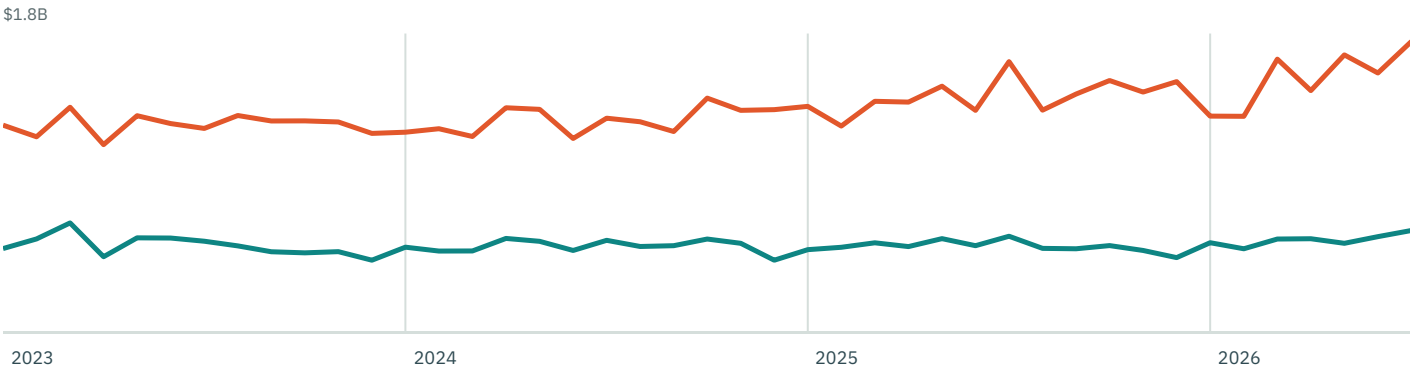
Monthly customs figures in US dollars from the IMF's trade-by-partner database. The newest month is Jul 2026.

$6.4B
Exports, 2025 **−0.3%** on 2024

$18B
Imports, 2025 **+11.4%** on 2024

$4.0B
Exports, Jan–Jul 2026 **+4.4%** on the same months of 2025

$11B
Imports, Jan–Jul 2026 **+8.8%** on the same months of 2025



Period	Exports	Imports	Balance
2026 (Jan–Jul)	$4.0B	$11B	−7.1B
2025	$6.4B	$18B	−11B
2024	$6.4B	$16B	−9.5B
2023	$6.5B	$16B	−9.1B
2022	$7.1B	$17B	−10.0B

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	$2.1B	−2.5%	33.1%	$1.3B	+4.9%
🇬🇹 Guatemala	$1.3B	−3.0%	19.8%	$787M	+5.3%
🇭🇳 Honduras	$1.1B	+3.3%	16.9%	$623M	−2.3%
🇳🇮 Nicaragua	$586M	+0.8%	9.2%	$350M	−0.5%
🇨🇷 Costa Rica	$286M	−7.7%	4.5%	$181M	+5.2%
🇲🇽 Mexico	$252M	+1.2%	3.9%	$171M	+21.5%
🇵🇦 Panama	$123M	+1.2%	1.9%	$72M	+2.8%
🇩🇴 Dominican Republic	$110M	+1.5%	1.7%	$57M	−16.4%
🇪🇸 Spain	$72M	+42.8%	1.1%	$42M	+17.2%
🇧🇪 Belgium	$55M	+80.0%	0.9%	$43M	+5.2%

Largest suppliers in 2025 and 2026 so far

Supplier	2025	Change on 2024	Share	Jan–Jul 2026	Change on Jan–Jul 2025
🇺🇸 United States	$4.7B	+5.9%	26.4%	$3.1B	+12.1%
🇨🇳 China	$3.6B	+30.5%	20.1%	$2.2B	+8.6%
🇬🇹 Guatemala	$1.7B	+7.7%	9.3%	$1.0B	+7.2%
🇲🇽 Mexico	$1.4B	+7.7%	8.1%	$853M	+4.9%
🇭🇳 Honduras	$729M	−2.4%	4.1%	$441M	+0.7%
🇳🇮 Nicaragua	$558M	+13.1%	3.1%	$342M	+5.9%
🇨🇷 Costa Rica	$472M	+6.2%	2.7%	$300M	+8.9%
🇰🇷 South Korea	$378M	+26.0%	2.1%	$245M	+7.2%
🇯🇵 Japan	$347M	+22.6%	2.0%	$235M	+25.7%
🇧🇷 Brazil	$313M	+10.2%	1.8%	$173M	+5.7%

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 El Salvador'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 El Salvador exports, 2024

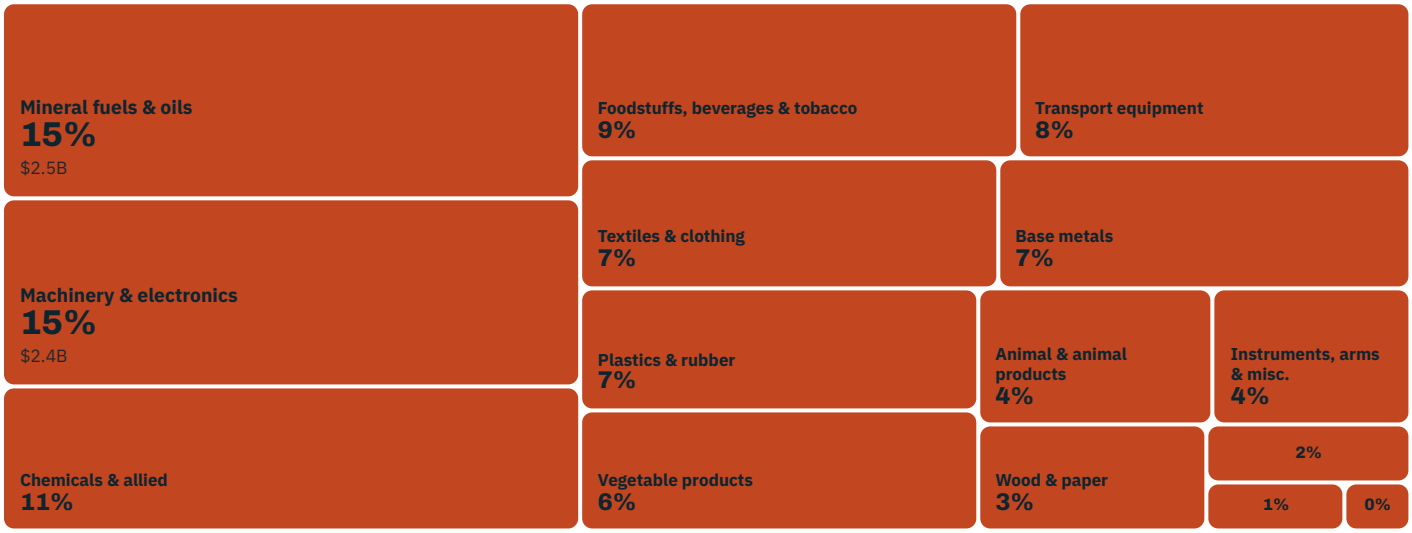


Reconciled figures (BACI): exports of $6.7B on that basis. 2024 is the newest year with product detail for every economy.

Largest export products

Product	2024	Share
T-shirts, singlets and other vests; of cotton, knitted or... 6109.10	$423M	6.3%
Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar... 6110.30	$249M	3.7%
T-shirts, singlets and other vests; of textile materials... 6109.90	$188M	2.8%
Sugars; cane sugar, raw, in solid form, other than as... 1701.14	$182M	2.7%
Plastics; carboys, bottles, flasks and similar articles... 3923.30	$174M	2.6%
Paper articles; toilet paper 4818.10	$163M	2.4%
Medicaments; consisting of mixed or unmixed products... 3004.90	$161M	2.4%
Coffee; not roasted or decaffeinated 0901.11	$149M	2.2%

What El Salvador imports, 2024



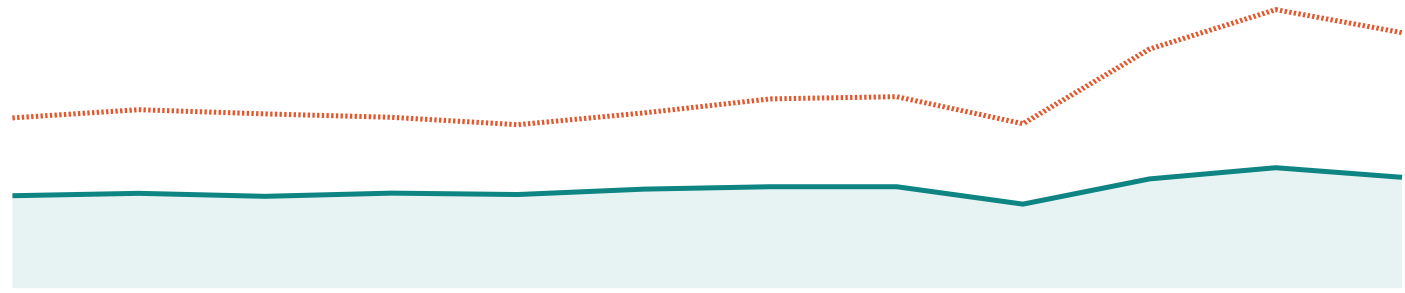
Reconciled figures (BACI): imports of $16B on that basis.

Largest import products

Product	2024	Share
Petroleum oils and oils from bituminous minerals, not... 2710.00	$1.7B	10.5%
Medicaments; consisting of mixed or unmixed products... 3004.90	$364M	2.2%
Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons... 2711.12	$321M	2.0%
Vehicles; with only compression-ignition internal... 8704.21	$294M	1.8%
Telephone sets; smartphones for cellular or other... 8517.13	$261M	1.6%
Food preparations; n.e.c. in item no. 2106.10 2106.90	$257M	1.6%
Aeroplanes and other aircraft, except unmanned; of an... 8802.40	$241M	1.5%
Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons... 2711.11	$201M	1.2%

El Salvador'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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