🇸🇹 Sao Tome and Principe: trade brief

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

Sao Tome and Principe exported **$31M** of goods and imported **$205M** in 2025, a trade deficit of **$174M**. Its largest export market was Netherlands (62.9% of exports) and its largest supplier was Portugal (38.3% of imports).

#197
largest exporter of 202 economies, and #200 importer
#1 #202

63%
of exports go to 🇳🇱 Netherlands, the largest market

87%
of exports go to just three markets, out of 18

−174M
trade deficit: exports pay for 15% of imports

+26.5%
change in exports on 2024: $25M then, $31M in 2025

38%
of imports come from 🇵🇹 Portugal, the largest supplier

Sao Tome and Principe in 2025 and 2026: the latest figures

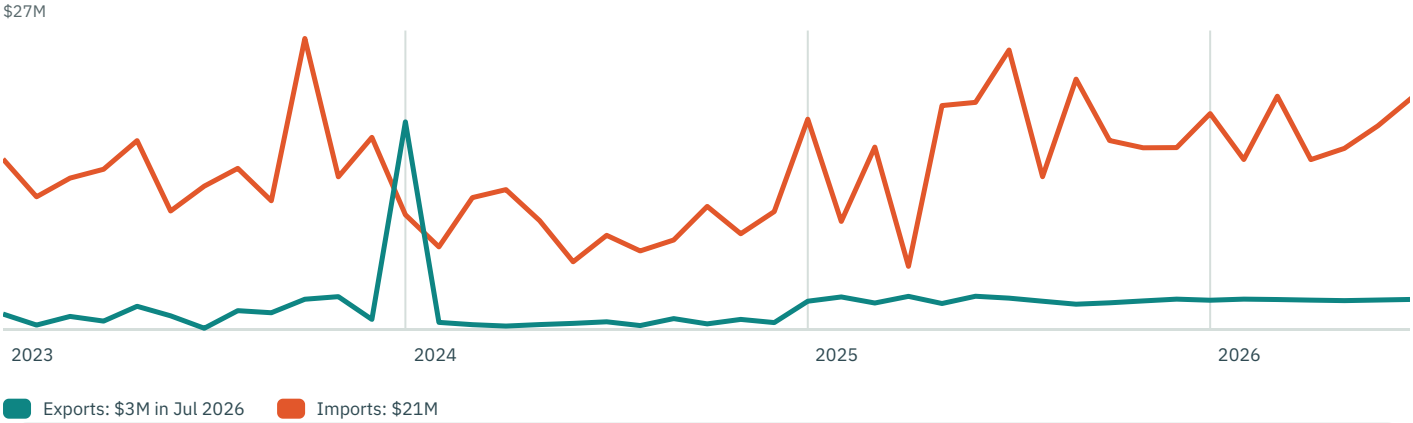
Monthly customs figures in US dollars from the IMF's trade-by-partner database. The newest month is Jul 2026.

$31M
Exports, 2025 **+26.5%** on 2024

$205M
Imports, 2025 **+81.4%** on 2024

$18M
Exports, Jan–Jul 2026 **−1.8%** on the same months of 2025

$128M
Imports, Jan–Jul 2026 **+8.6%** on the same months of 2025



Period	Exports	Imports	Balance
2026 (Jan–Jul)	$18M	$128M	−110M
2025	$31M	$205M	−174M
2024	$25M	$113M	−89M
2023	$16M	$182M	−165M
2022	$22M	$192M	−170M

Largest export markets in 2025 and 2026 so far

Export market	2025	Change on 2024	Share	Jan–Jul 2026	Change on Jan–Jul 2025
Netherlands †	$20M	+6.1%	62.9%	$11M	+0.0%
Germany †	$4M	+145.2%	13.3%	$2M	−8.1%
Belgium †	$3M	+14.4%	10.4%	$2M	+2.5%
Latvia †	$1M	+108.7%	3.8%	$688,000	+0.0%
United Arab Emirates †	$844,000	—	2.7%	$492,000	+0.0%
Spain †	$486,000	+171.5%	1.6%	$284,000	+0.0%
France †	$394,000	+196.2%	1.3%	$230,000	+0.0%
Portugal †	$362,000	—	1.2%	$168,000	−29.1%
Eswatini †	$282,000	—	0.9%	$164,000	+0.0%
Cameroon †	$231,000	+23000.0%	0.7%	$135,000	+0.0%

Largest suppliers in 2025 and 2026 so far

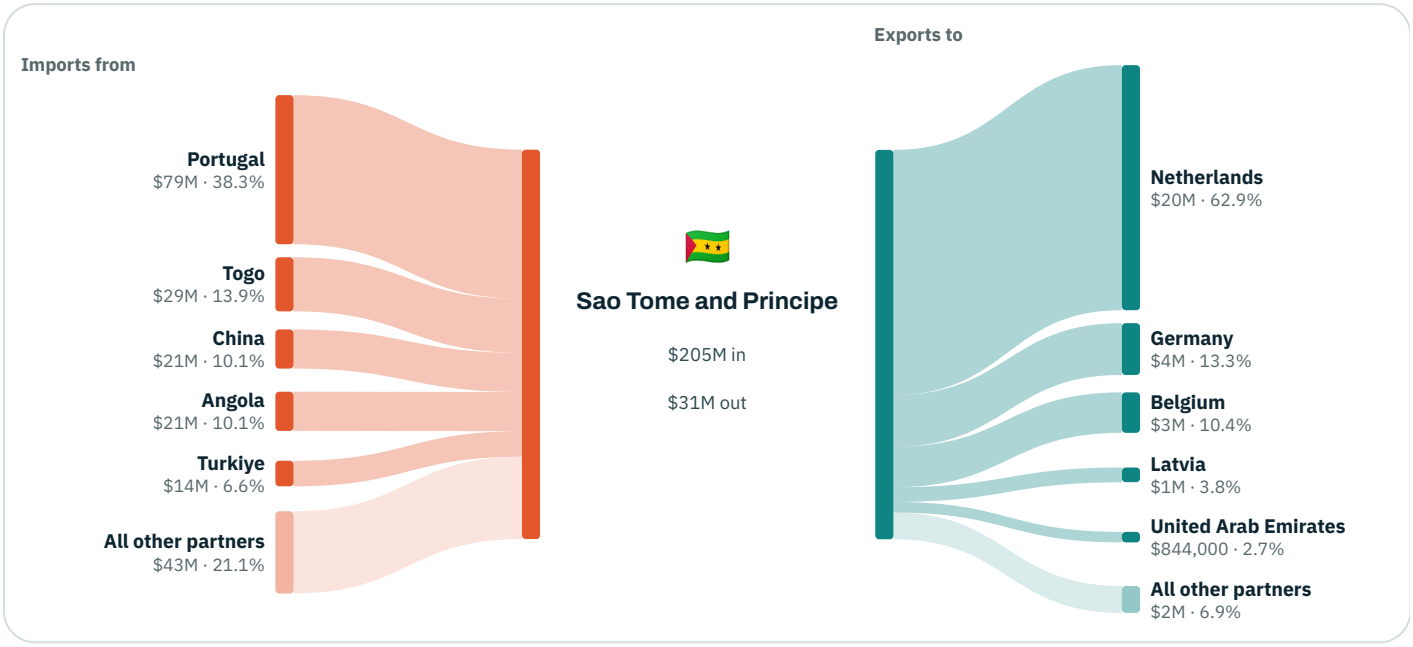
Supplier	2025	Change on 2024	Share	Jan–Jul 2026	Change on Jan–Jul 2025
Portugal †	$79M	—	38.3%	$52M	+19.0%
Togo †	$29M	−16.9%	13.9%	$17M	+1.0%
China †	$21M	+36.0%	10.1%	$12M	+1.0%
Angola †	$21M	−10.7%	10.1%	$12M	+1.0%
Turkiye †	$14M	+76.2%	6.6%	$8M	−4.7%
Brazil †	$5M	−21.9%	2.4%	$3M	+14.9%
Equatorial Guinea †	$5M	+88.7%	2.4%	$3M	−7.3%
Japan †	$3M	+369.9%	1.6%	$1M	−64.7%
India †	$3M	+345.3%	1.4%	$2M	−7.4%
Gabon †	$2M	−42.0%	1.2%	$2M	+7.7%

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

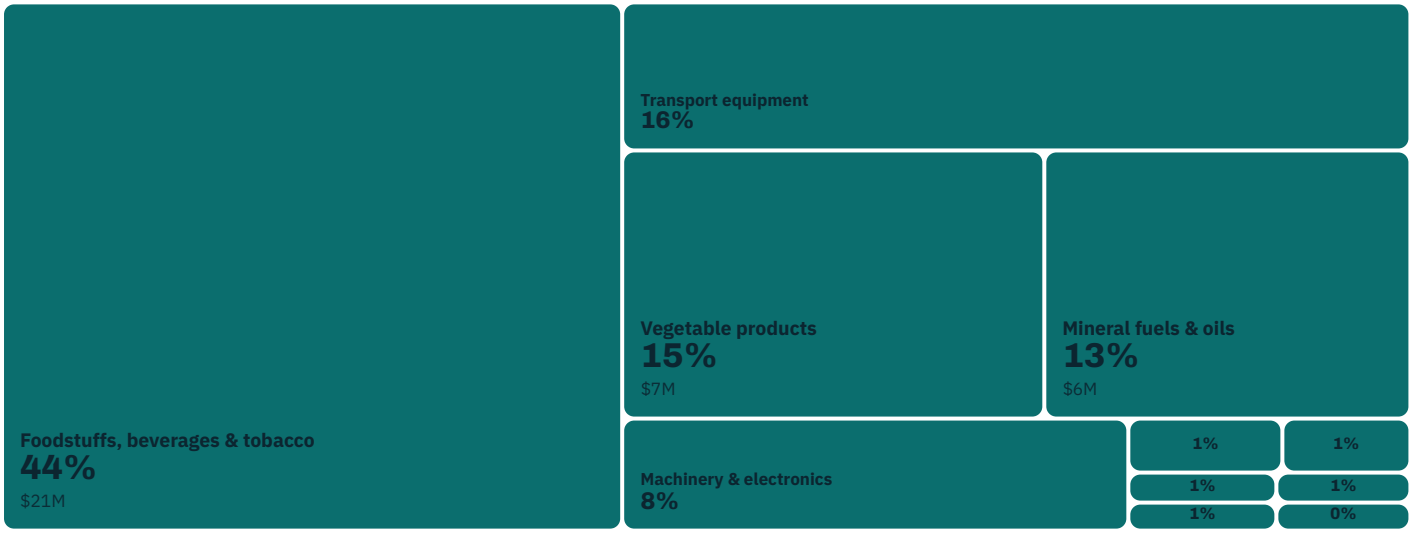
Source: International Monetary Fund, International Trade in Goods by partner country, retrieved 2026-11-15. The IMF collects each economy's national customs figures and converts them to US dollars at the average exchange rate of the month the goods moved. Imports include freight and insurance; exports 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 Sao Tome and Principe'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 Sao Tome and Principe exports, 2024

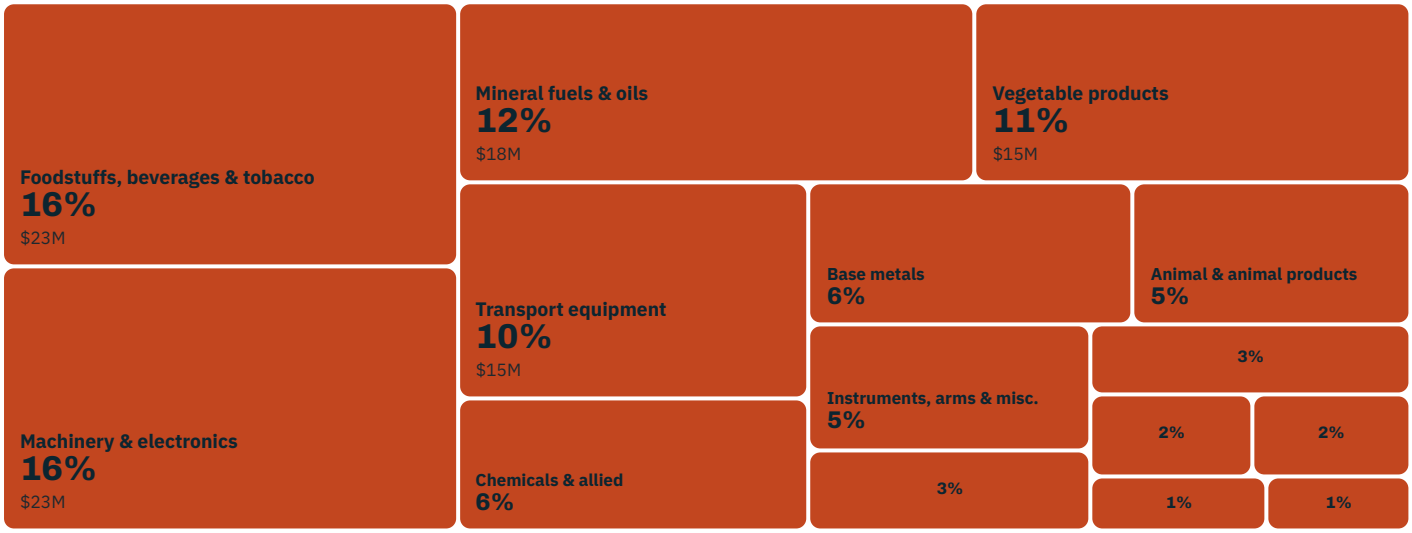


Reconciled figures (BACI): exports of $49M on that basis. 2024 is the newest year with product detail for every economy.

Largest export products

Product	2024	Share
Cocoa beans; whole or broken, raw or roasted `1801.00`	$21M	43.0%
Vegetable oils; palm oil and its fractions, crude, not… `1511.10`	$7M	13.8%
Oils; petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous… `2709.00`	$6M	12.9%
Vessels and other floating structures; for breaking up `8908.00`	$5M	9.3%
Vehicle parts; gear boxes and parts thereof `8708.40`	$3M	5.7%
Turbines; parts of turbo-jets and turbo-propellers `8411.91`	$2M	3.2%
Television cameras; n.e.c. in item no 8525.8 `8525.89`	$650,000	1.3%
Aircraft and spacecraft; parts of aeroplanes, helicopters… `8807.30`	$318,000	0.6%

What Sao Tome and Principe imports, 2024



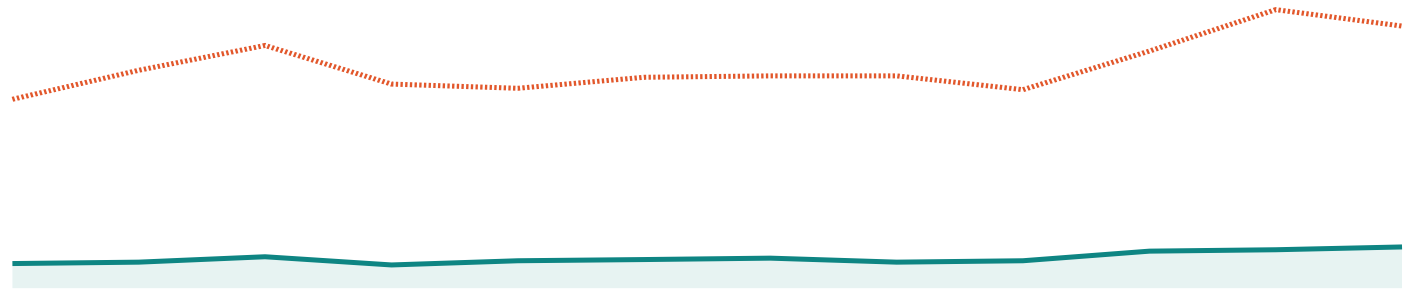
Reconciled figures (BACI): imports of $145M on that basis.

Largest import products

Product	2024	Share
Petroleum oils and oils from bituminous minerals, not… `2710.00`	$18M	12.4%
Tankers `8901.20`	$9M	6.5%
Cereals; rice, semi-milled or wholly milled, whether or… `1006.30`	$4M	2.7%
Wheat or meslin flour `1101.00`	$4M	2.6%
Meat and edible offal; of fowls of the species Gallus… `0207.14`	$3M	2.4%
Sugars; sucrose, chemically pure, in solid form, not… `1701.99`	$3M	1.8%
Wine; still, in containers holding more than 2 litres but… `2204.22`	$3M	1.7%
Machinery parts; not containing electrical connectors… `8487.90`	$2M	1.7%

Sao Tome and Principe'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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