

Annual External Trade Report in 2025

STATISTICS DEPT., MOF
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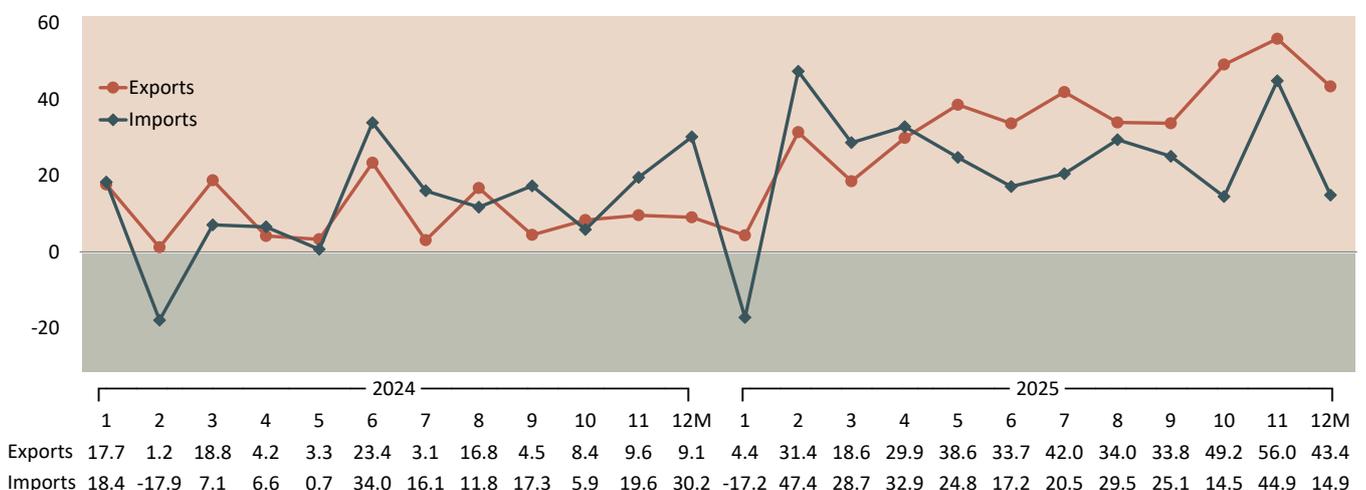
1. Introduction

The application of artificial intelligence (AI) is expanding rapidly, driving up the demand for computing power and related investments. With its competitive advantages in the semiconductor and ICT industries, Taiwan plays a key global manufacturing and system integration node. By seizing the business opportunities presented by this wave of emerging technology applications, Taiwan's exports and imports grew by 34.9% and 22.6%, respectively, in 2025, and total exports exceeded the US\$600 billion mark for the first time. The following is a summary of the changing trends and implications.

2. In 2025, exports increased by 34.9% year-on-year, while imports grew by 22.6%

Taiwan's exports grew month by month last year, first surpassing US\$50 billion from May to September, then exceeding US\$60 billion for three consecutive months, achieving 26 consecutive months of positive growth by December. Benefiting from the international division of labor in the AI industry chain and the rising export-derived demand, coupled with manufacturers' active purchases of capital equipment, monthly imports in 2025 grew by double digits (excluding the Lunar New Year month). Total exports for the year reached US\$640.7 billion, a significant jump from US\$400 billion to US\$600 billion,

Figure 1 Annual Growth Rate of Imports and Exports, 2024-2025 (%)



(Contents on this site have been translated using artificial intelligence (AI) or machine translation technology)

representing a 34.9% increase compared to 2024, the largest growth rate in 15 years. Imports reached US\$483.6 billion, also a record high, representing a 22.6% year-on-year increase.

In 2025, Taiwan’s export growth rate was significantly higher than that of Hong Kong (17.8%), Singapore (12.1%), the United States (6.0%), Mainland China (5.5%), Germany (5.2%), Japan (4.1%), and South Korea (3.8%).

3. Major export commodities

Compared with the previous year, in 2025, among the 11 major export commodities, Information, Communication and Audio-video Products, Parts of Electronic Product, Electrical Machinery Products, and Optical & Precision Instruments all recorded double-digit growth. Machinery also performed well, while the remaining 6 commodities declined.

Table 1 Exports of Leading Export Commodities, 2025

Unit: US\$ billion, %

Item	Total	Information, Communication and Audio-video Products	Parts of Electronic Product	Base Metals and Articles of Base Metal	Machinery	Chemicals
Amount	640.7	251.2	222.9	27.9	25.8	18.3
As % of All Exports	100.0	39.2	34.8	4.4	4.0	2.8
YoY Growth Rate	34.9	89.5	25.8	-2.0	7.0	-0.2
H1	25.9	63.0	22.2	2.2	4.5	-0.4
H2	43.0	113.2	28.7	-6.1	9.4	0.1

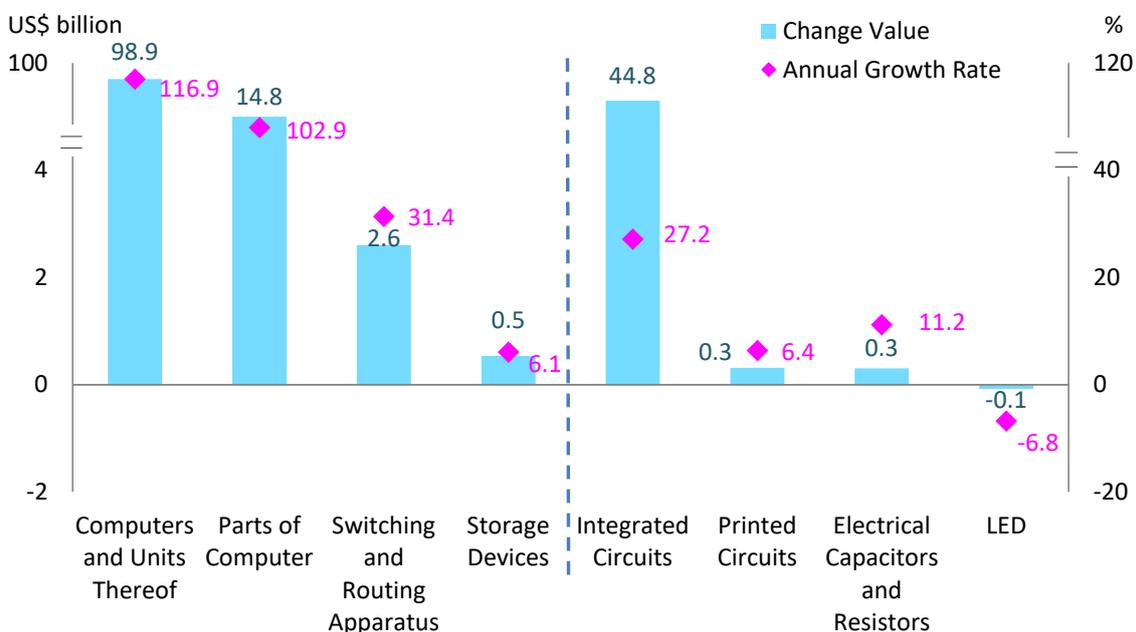
Item	Plastics & Rubber and Articles Thereof	Electrical Machinery Products	Mineral Products	Optical and Precision Instruments	Transport Equipments	Textiles and Textile Articles
Amount	18.0	15.1	13.9	12.4	10.4	6.2
As % of All Exports	2.8	2.4	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.0
YoY Growth Rate	-8.1	13.4	-0.2	10.2	-4.4	-7.5
H1	-6.0	12.2	-1.2	10.9	-2.4	-5.9
H2	-10.2	14.5	1.0	9.6	-6.3	-9.1

3.1 The popularity of AI applications continues, and exports of Information, Communication and Audio-video Products exceeded US\$200 billion for the first time

The booming development of artificial intelligence technology and its diverse applications, coupled with increased infrastructure investment by cloud service providers (CSPs), led to record-breaking exports of Taiwan’s Information, Communication and Audio-video Products. In 2025, exports reached a new high of US\$251.2 billion, making it Taiwan’s largest export category, an increase of US\$118.7 billion (+89.5%), contributing 25.0 percentage points to the overall export growth

(+34.9%). Among these exports, Computers and Units Thereof increased by US\$98.9 billion (+1.2 times), and Parts of Computer increased by US\$14.8 billion (+1.0 times).

Figure 2 Changes in the Export of Various Information, Communication and Audio-video Products and Parts of Electronic Product in 2025



3.2 Demand for advanced process chips exceeded supply, driving Parts of Electronic Product exports to a record high

In 2025, exports of Parts of Electronic Product reached a record high of US\$222.9 billion, an increase of US\$45.7 billion (+25.8%) year-on-year. Among these, exports of Integrated Circuit increased by US\$44.8 billion (+27.2%), reflecting the strong demand for advanced process chips in AI and high-performance computing (HPC).

Combined exports of Information, Communication and Audio-video Products and Parts of Electronic Product totaled US\$474.0 billion for the year, an increase of US\$164.3 billion (+53.0%) year-on-year, accounting for 74% of total exports.

3.3 Machinery exports up 7.0% year-on-year, best performance in nearly 4 years

Although Taiwan’s Machine Tools exports declined for three consecutive years, the overall Machinery exports in 2025 reached US\$25.8 billion, an increase of US\$1.7 billion (+7.0%), driven by a surge of US\$1.3 billion (+3.2 times) in exports of Machinery, Factory or Laboratory Equipment, and US\$0.5 billion (+10.2%) in exports of Semiconductor Manufacturing Machinery.

3.4 International crude oil and petrochemical product oversupply led to continued 3.2% decline in Taiwan's Mineral, Plastic, and Chemical Products exports

Affected by volatile and declining international crude oil prices, Taiwan's Mineral Product exports (mainly Refined Petroleum Products) reached US\$13.9 billion in 2025, continuing a 0.2% decline from a low base period. Exports of Chemicals, Plastics & Rubber and Articles Thereof declined by 0.2% and 8.1%, respectively, due to ongoing capacity expansion by international competitors and high inventory levels, marking the third to fourth consecutive year of decline.

3.5 Under the continued expansion of steel exports from Mainland China, Taiwan's exports of Base Metals and Articles of Base Metal declined by 2.0%

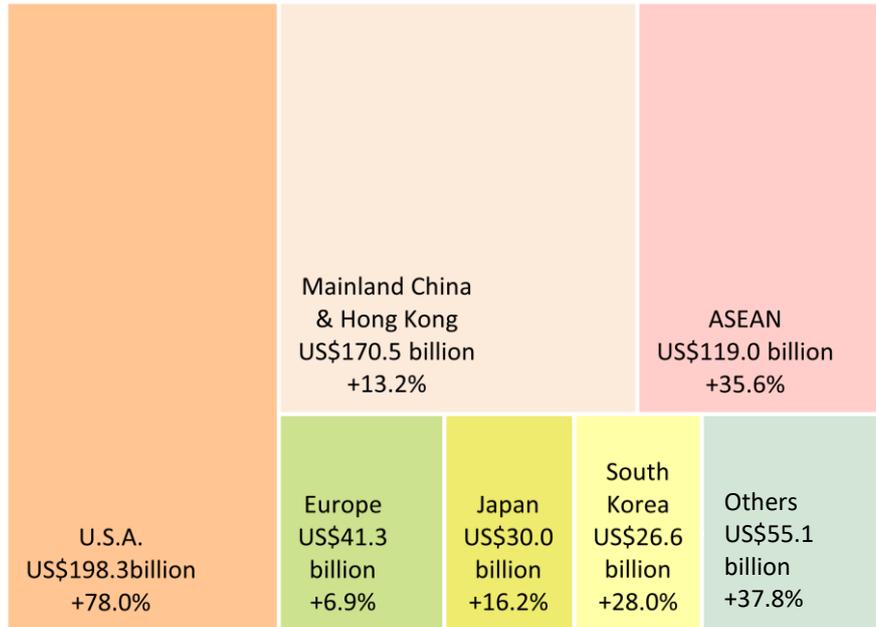
Mainland China's continued dumping steel into overseas markets severely impacted the steel supply and demand order in neighboring countries. In 2025, Taiwan's exports of Base Metals and Articles of Base Metal totaled US\$27.9 billion, a decrease of US\$0.6 billion (-2.0%) year-on-year. Among them, Iron and Steel and Articles Thereof decreased by US\$1.4 billion (-9.0%), while Copper and Articles Thereof increased by US\$1.0 billion (+21.5%).

4. Major export markets

4.1 Exports to the United States, ASEAN, and South Korea all reached record highs, with exports to the United States approaching US\$200 billion being the most significant

Driven by the artificial intelligence boom, exports to the United States reached US\$198.3 billion in 2025, a 78.0% increase over the previous year, both setting new historical records and marking the ninth consecutive year of positive growth. Benefiting from a recovery in shipments of Parts of Electronic Product, exports to Mainland China and Hong Kong reached US\$170.5 billion, rebounding 13.2% and ending a three-year decline. Exports to ASEAN reached US\$119.0 billion, surpassing the US\$100 billion mark for the first time, a 35.6% increase year-on-year. Information, Communication and Audio-video Products, and Parts of Electronic Product were the two main drivers of this growth. Exports to Europe reached US\$41.3 billion, a 6.9% increase year-on-year. Exports to Japan reached US\$30.0 billion, a 16.2% increase year-on-year, the largest increase in nearly four years. Exports to South Korea were dominated by Parts of Electronic Product, driving the export value to US\$26.6 billion, a 28.0% increase year-on-year.

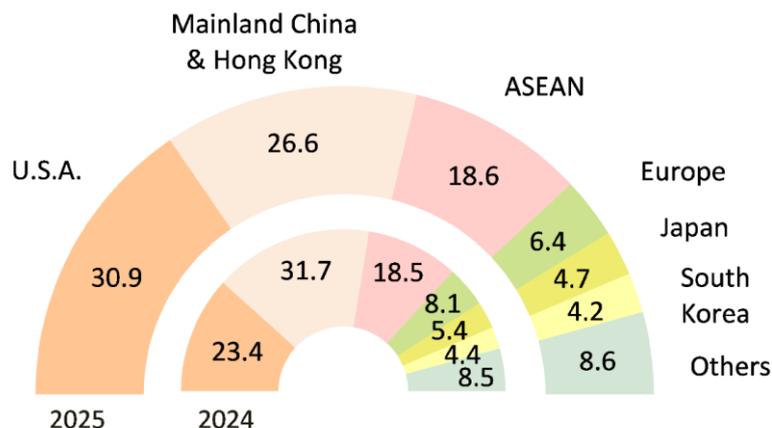
Figure 3 Export Value and Growth Rate of Major Markets, 2025



4.2 The United States Returns as Taiwan’s Largest Export Market

In 2025, the share of exports to the United States increased significantly by 7.5 percentage points to 30.9% compared to the previous year, the highest level in nearly 35 years. The share of exports to Mainland China and Hong Kong fell to 26.6%, a new low in nearly 25 years. For the first time in nearly 26 years, the share of exports to the United States surpassed that of Mainland China and Hong Kong, making the United States Taiwan’s largest export market again. The share of exports to ASEAN accounted for 18.6%, the best performance in nearly 11 years. Exports to Europe accounted for 6.4%, and exports to Japan accounted for 4.7%, both falling to historical lows. Exports to South Korea accounted for 4.2%.

Figure 4 The Proportion of Major Export Markets (%)



5. Major import commodities and markets

5.1 Significant growth in imports of Parts of Electronic Product boosted imports of Agricultural and Industrial Raw Materials by 21.0%

Benefiting from the international division of labor in the artificial intelligence industry chain and the rise in export-derived demand, imports of Agricultural and Industrial Raw Materials in 2025 reached US\$321.5 billion, an increase of US\$55.7 billion (+21.0%) year-on-year. Among them, Parts of Electronic Product increased by US\$39.4 billion (+37.8%), and Parts of Computer increased by US\$17.8 billion (+2.8 times). Mineral Products, Base Metals, and Plastic & Chemical Raw Materials decreased by 9.8%, 3.0%, and 0.9%, respectively.

5.2 Dramatic rise in Semiconductor and Information & Communication Equipment imports drives 50% surge in Capital Goods imports

Driven by AI-included investment in Manufacturing Semiconductor Machines and demand for Information & Communication Equipment, Capital Goods imports reached US\$105.7 billion in 2025, an increase of US\$35.7 billion (+51.0%). Semiconductor Equipment increased by US\$16.4 billion (+69.3%), and Information, Communication Equipment increased by US\$14.4 billion (+94.1%).

5.3 Consumer Goods imports increased by 4.2% year-on-year, with imports of Information, Communication and Electronic Products, and Food reaching record highs

In 2025, imports of Consumer Goods reached US\$49.4 billion, an increase of US\$2.0 billion (+4.2%) year-on-year. Among them, Storage Devices increased by US\$1.6 billion (+73.1%), Food increased by US\$0.6 billion (+5.7%), and Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics increased by US\$0.4 billion (+4.3%), while Passenger Cars decreased by US\$1.4 billion (-17.3%).

Figure 5 Growth Rate of Import Commodities, 2025



5.4 Imports from Mainland China and Hong Kong, South Korea, ASEAN, and the United States all reached new highs

In 2025, imports from Mainland China and Hong Kong reached US\$93.1 billion, an increase of 15.5% year-on-year, driven by significant increases in Parts of Electronic Product, Electrical Machinery Products, Information, Communication and Audio-video Products, and Machinery. Imports from South Korea reached US\$63.7 billion, an increase of 45.7% year-on-year, mainly due to a surge in imports of Parts of Electronic Product. Imports from ASEAN reached US\$62.6 billion, an increase of 27.0% year-on-year; imports from Japan reached US\$54.8 billion, an increase of 18.0%; imports from Europe reached US\$50.5 billion, an increase of 9.9%; and imports from the United States reached US\$48.2 billion, an increase of 3.2% year-on-year. Among these major import markets, only the shares of South Korea and ASEAN increased by 2.1 and 0.4 percentage points respectively, while the share of the others declined.

Table 2 Overview of Imports from Major Markets, 2025

Unit: US\$ billion, %

	Mainland China & Hong Kong	South Korea	ASEAN	Japan	Europe	U.S.A.
Amount	93.1	63.7	62.6	54.8	50.5	48.2
H1	43.2	28.0	28.2	26.4	24.8	23.7
H2	49.9	35.7	34.3	28.4	25.7	24.5
YoY Growth Rate	15.5	45.7	27.0	18.0	9.9	3.2
H1	13.7	56.3	18.6	19.0	12.7	-10.0
H2	17.0	38.3	34.9	17.1	7.4	20.3
As % of All Imports	19.3	13.2	12.9	11.3	10.4	10.0
Percentage Points Change	-1.2	+2.1	+0.4	-0.5	-1.2	-1.8

6. Conclusion

Amid strong demand for innovative technologies led by artificial intelligence, Taiwan's total exports and imports both achieved record highs in 2025, growing by 34.9% and 22.6% respectively, compared to 2024. Among major commodities, Information, Communication and Audio-video Products and Parts of Electronic Product were the two mainstays of exports, both reaching record highs and accounting for 74% of total exports. These two categories combined recorded a 53.0% year-on-year increase, while the remaining categories increased by an average of only 0.9%. Exports to major markets also rose, with the United States showing the best growth at 78.0%, increasing its share

to 30.9%, a nearly 35-year high. The United States surpassed Mainland China and Hong Kong to become Taiwan's largest export market for the first time since 2000.

Looking ahead, cloud service providers continue to increase their AI capital expenditures, and countries are actively promoting sovereign AI, all of which are expected to support the demand for related hardware. In addition, the gradual commissioning of advanced semiconductor processes and high-end packaging capacity in Taiwan, along with the consensus reached in the Taiwan-US tariff negotiations in mid-January this year, will help boost Taiwan's export growth momentum. However, it is still necessary to closely monitor uncertainties such as US trade policy and geopolitical developments, as well as the progress of artificial intelligence investment.