

Statistical Bulletin

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Imports of petroleum oil and liquefied natural gas from the United States reached record highs in the first four months of 2026, increasing by 7.3% and 3.7 times year-on-year, respectively.

1. As Taiwan continues to advance its energy transition policy, the structure of energy imports has gradually shifted toward “more natural gas, less coal, and expanded renewable energy.” Petroleum oil import volumes, which exceeded 300 million barrels annually before 2019, have declined to around 260–300 million barrels in recent years, with import values also moderating accordingly. Since 2023, international petroleum oil prices have remained relatively weak amid oversupply and sluggish demand from Mainland China. However, escalating geopolitical tensions between the United States and Iran in March and April 2026 disrupted shipping routes and drove global oil prices sharply above US\$100 per barrel, fluctuating between US\$100 and US\$120 thereafter. During the same period, Taiwan's petroleum oil import volumes fell sharply, resulting in imports totaling US\$6.4 billion in the first four months of 2026, down 14.6% year-on-year, while volumes decreased by 12.9%, making the largest simultaneous decline in both import value and volume for the same period in the past 11 years. By source region, the value of petroleum oil imports from the United States (primarily shale oil) surged 1.1 times in April due to supply reallocations and the impact of regional conflicts. Cumulative imports from the U.S. rose 7.3% in January–April to a record high of US\$2.5 billion for the period. Meanwhile, imports from Middle Eastern countries generally declined, causing their share of total petroleum oil imports to fall sharply from 66.7% a year earlier to 57.9%.

Taiwan's Petroleum Oil Imports

Units: US\$ billion, kbbl, %

CY	Amount		Quantity		Average Unit Price (USD/bbl)	Value Share (%) / YoY Growth (%)		
		Shale Oil		Shale Oil		Saudi Arabia	U.S.A.	Kuwait
2020	12.5	2.6	265,263	50,992	47.1	32.6	20.4	18.9
2022	30.9	6.7	300,010	63,989	103.1	33.1	21.4	20.6
2025	21.6	6.3	292,625	83,448	73.9	30.5	27.9	11.9
2026 Jan.-Apr.	6.4	2.9	83,721	35,387	77.0	28.1	38.1	5.9
Apr.	1.9	1.1	16,652	10,479	114.4	15.7	43.2	0.0
Change Rate (%)								
2022	55.4	64.0	6.1	10.0	46.5	59.0	71.0	48.5
2025	-9.4	-9.4	2.7	1.9	-11.8	-12.9	-15.6	-17.5
2026 Jan.-Apr.	-14.6	25.4	-12.9	22.2	-1.9	-23.8	7.3	-51.1
Apr.	18.3	175.8	-19.8	102.7	47.4	-47.9	105.9	-100.0

2. Regarding liquefied natural gas, imports have shown a long-term upward trend driven by growing demand for gas-fired power generation. LNG imports totaled US\$4.5 billion in January–April 2026, up 8.3% year-on-year. Australia remained the largest supplier, accounting for 32% of total import value. Qatar, the second-largest source, saw imports decline by 38.5% due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz and disruptions to shipping routes. In contrast, imports from the United States surged 3.7 times to a record high of US\$1.2 billion for the same period. Coal imports have declined notably over the past three years. In January–April 2026, coal imports totaled US\$2.0 billion, down 0.4% year-on-year. Australia and Indonesia remained the top two suppliers, together accounting for more than 80% of total imports, although their trends diverged, with import values increasing by 22.1% and decreased by 33.7%, respectively.

Overview of Taiwan's LNG and Coal Imports and Changes in Major Source Countries

Units: US\$ billion, kt, %

CY	Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)					Coal			
	Weight	Amount	Value Share / YoY Growth			Weight	Amount	Value Share / YoY Growth	
			Australia	Qatar	U.S.A.			Australia	Indonesia
2020	17,946	5.6	28.3	24.7	5.5	63,033	4.9	54.0	22.0
2022	19,957	19.9	47.0	13.4	7.1	63,059	16.2	61.3	20.8
2025	23,488	12.5	35.5	28.7	9.4	52,003	6.2	54.0	23.9
2026 Jan.-Apr.	7,428	4.5	32.0	17.5	26.2	15,621	2.0	65.1	16.5
Apr.	2,068	1.7	37.5	0.0	46.7	4,464	0.6	62.1	19.2
Change Rate (%)									
2022	4.1	80.0	135.6	51.3	48.0	-7.9	94.0	98.2	135.2
2025	11.5	7.3	-5.0	42.7	43.7	-9.2	-34.0	-37.5	-28.5
2026 Jan.-Apr.	2.5	8.3	-1.0	-38.5	371.8	-0.1	-0.4	22.1	-33.7
Apr.	5.7	48.4	63.7	-100.0	1,228.0	-4.9	7.8	45.4	-17.6

Data Source: Department of Statistics, Ministry of Finance.