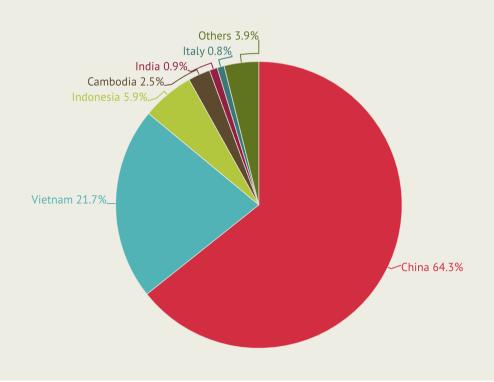


# **US Total Footwear Imports Report**

#### Distribution of YTD\* 2024 Total U.S. Footwear Import Volume



#### **Reflecting Shipments through January 2024**

By the numbers: The *value* and *volume* of US footwear imports tumbled, with the value fading -8.6% while the volume fell -11.2%, the seventeenth straight decline and the the eleventh double-digit drop in the last twelve months.

**Import trends** turned mixed across key origins, hinting at a rebound later this year. While shipments from China sank at a double-digit yearover-year rate for the thirteenth time in the last seventeen months, imports from Vietnam and Indonesia both rebounded following twelve straight month of declines for both.

Bottom Line: Following harrowing losses in 2023, the value and volume of footwear entering the country lost ground again in January, but the declines from a year earlier moderated, hinting that shipments this year will fare better than last year.



# U.S. Footwear Import Reports (by category)



Athletic Footwear: The value of US athletic footwear imports rebounded 5.7% year over year in January, reversing eleven straight double-digit drops and hinting at a recovery in 2024 after a record collapse in imports last year.

**Men's Footwear:** The volume and value of men's footwear imports tumbled a respective -12.2% and -17.9% year over year in January, the fifteenth straight month of double-digit declines.

**Women's Footwear:** Women's footwear imports retreated year over year for the seventeenth straight month in January, hinting shipments may fall again in 2024 and rival a 27-year low.

**Children's Footwear:** The volume and value of US children's footwear

imports sank year over year again in January, falling at a double-digit rate for the twelfth straight month in dollar terms.

**Boots:** US bootwear imports sank again in January, fading -15.2% year over year in volume terms and -15.5% in value terms, marking the thirteenth straight month of double-digit drops for both.

**Leather Footwear:** The volume of leather footwear imports sank for the fifteenth straight month in January, off -1.9% year over year to the second-lowest January volume in thirty-one years.

**Sandals:** The *volume* of sandal imports tumbled -11.6% year over year in January, the twelfth straight double-digit drop.



### Footwear Materials Cost Report



Highlight Issue - Rubber Costs: Nearby futures of RSS3 natural rubber traded on the Singapore Exchange continue their meteoric rise, climbing eleven of the last thirteen weeks to a seven-year high.

**Cotton/Textiles:** After finishing February at a seventeen-month high, ICE nearby cotton futures have retreated sharply in March to 92 cents per pound, little changed from a month earlier.

**Leather:** Live cattle futures traded on the CME reached a record high by mid-March on persistently tight supplies, supporting our earlier outlook for prices to edge higher through most of the year.

**Oil:** Nearby prices for West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil surged by mid-March to the highest in nearly six months, owing to a few key factors.

Polyester Fiber & PET/Plastics: Asian petrochemical prices are little changed over the last month, as offsetting higher crude oil prices, tight raw material supply, and high production costs grapple with weak downstream demand to dictate price direction.

Go deeper: Read the full report here with charts & analysis

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