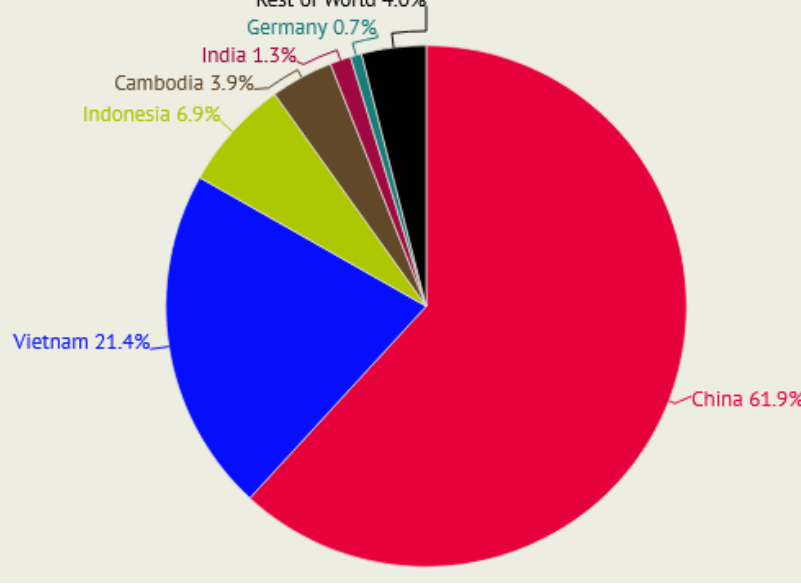


# FDRA SHOE SOURCING & SUPPLY CHAIN UPDATE

A <2 Minute Update on Supply Chain Costs and Shifts

## US Total Footwear Import Report

### Distribution of YTD\* 2025 Total U.S. Footwear Import Volume



### Reflecting Shipments through January 2025

**By the numbers:** Both the *value* and *volume* of US footwear imports rose year over year again to start 2025, higher ten of the last twelve months for each metric.

**At \$2.4 billion,** the Customs value of shipments grew 1.8%, the eighth straight year-over-year advance. Rising 5.6%, the volume of imports grew even faster, also the eighth straight increase.

**Yes, but:** Despite import growth lingering into January, with [shoe store sales stubbornly on the defensive](#), footwear companies' inventories continue to build, echoing our earlier outlook. We maintain our earlier caution that even moderate growth in footwear imports is likely to hinder retailers' and importers' efforts to pare inventory levels later in 2025.

**Go deeper:** [click for total footwear import data & graphs](#)

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



**Athletic Footwear:** The value and volume of US athletic footwear imports diverged in January, retreating in value terms but rising in volume terms, higher for the thirteenth straight month in volume terms and only the second divergence in two years.

**Men's Footwear:** The volume and value of men's footwear imports rose again in January, climbing 7.2% year over year in volume terms and 6.5% in value terms, the seventh straight month of expansions for both.

**Women's Footwear:** The value and volume of women's footwear imports diverged year over year in January, only the third time in more than four years this has happened.

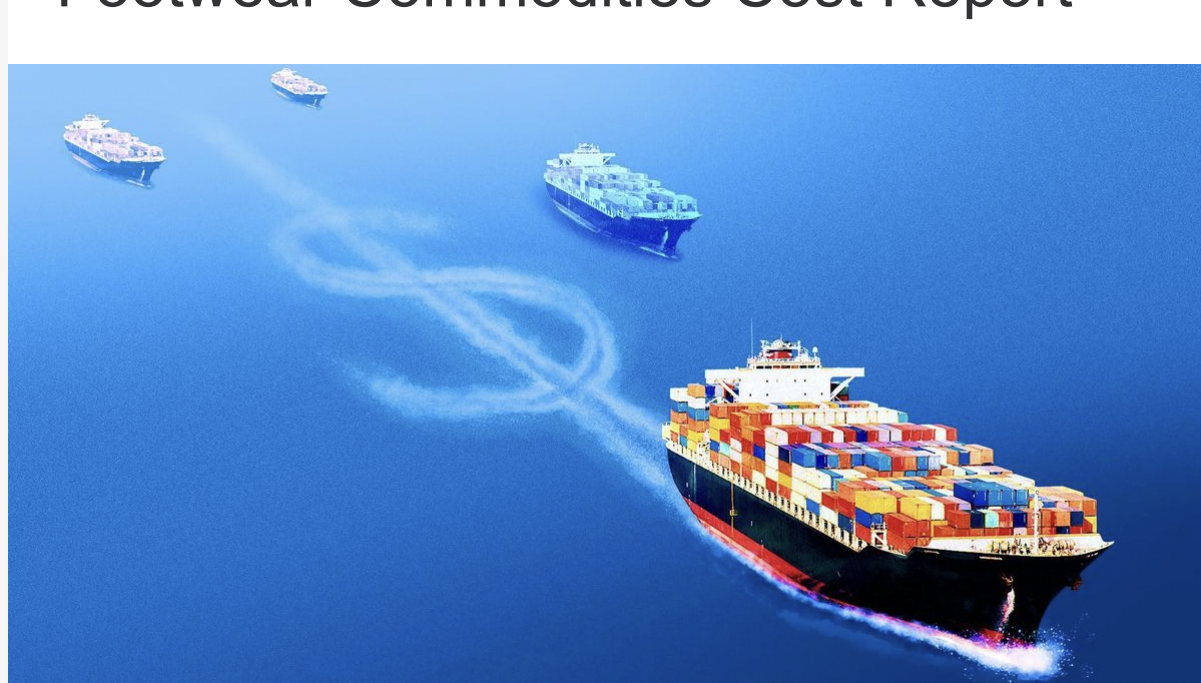
**Children's Footwear:** The value and volume of US children's footwear imports sank year over year to start 2025, early evidence that full-year shipments may fare likewise, rivaling the lowest volume of imports in nineteen years.

**Boots:** US bootwear imports retreated again in January, off -15.4% year over year in value terms and -9.1% in volume terms, lower twenty-five of the last twenty-seven months for both measures.

**Leather Footwear:** The value and volume of leather footwear imports reversed direction and sank from a year earlier in January, fading -7.5% in value terms and -3.9% in volume terms, the first volume retreat after eleven straight expansions.

**Sandals:** The volume and value of sandal imports diverged year over year in January, fading -1.2% in volume terms but rising 2.4% in value terms, the first time this has happened in more than two years.

## Footwear Commodities Cost Report



**Highlight Issue - The Dollar:** The dollar has fallen recently on increased downbeat economic prospects. After stretching to a twenty-six-month high in mid-January, US Dollar Index nearby futures traded on the Intercontinental Exchange fell seven of the next nine weeks to a five-month low by mid-March.

**Cotton/Textiles:** As we speculated last month, global cotton prices are rebounding in March from lowest since September 2020 on prospects for expanding global mill demand for the fiber.

**Leather:** After reversing from January's record high to a year-to-date low by early March, nearby live cattle futures traded on the CME have ricocheted again, climbing closer to January's unprecedented highs.

**Oil:** Global oil prices continue to recede slowly, supporting our late 2024 outlook for crude prices to drift lower well through this year.

**Rubber:** Global rubber prices are little changed over the last three months as competing market signals largely offset one another.

**Polyester Fiber & PET/Plastics:** Confirming our earlier outlook, prices for a range of synthetic fibers have drifted lower recently, with more downside likely in store.

**Go deeper:** [Read the full report here with charts & analysis](#)