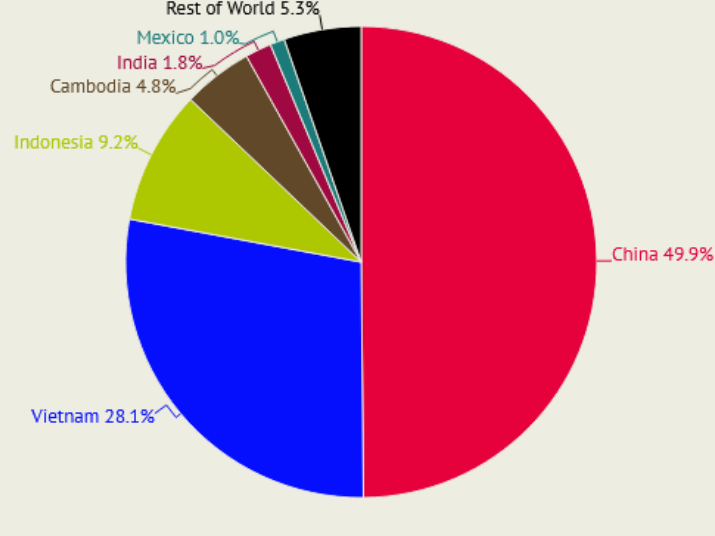


FDRA SHOE SOURCING & SUPPLY CHAIN UPDATE

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 August 2025

By the numbers: As duties paid on footwear imports soared, both the *value* and *volume* of US footwear imports retreated for the fourth straight month in August.

At \$2.4 billion, the Customs value of shipments declined -3.6% from August 2024. Tumbling -5.7%, the volume of imports fell even faster, with both lower for the fourth straight month after expanding for eleven previous months.

Why it matters: We maintain our earlier caution that as earlier imports that were front-loaded before duties surged continue to wane and these higher duties permeate the supply chain, footwear shoppers soon are likely to see higher prices at the store shelf.

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

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- Managing Cost Volatility
- Audited Supplier Network
- Alternative Sourcing
- Ethical and Sustainable
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U.S. Footwear Import Reports (by category)



Athletic Footwear: The value and volume of US athletic footwear imports both grew again in August, up 17.4% year over year in value terms and 13.2% in volume terms, the nineteenth expansion in the last twenty months for the latter.

Men's Footwear: Also under pressure from soaring duties, the volume and value of men's footwear imports sagged again in August, fading -3.2% year over year in volume terms and -7.9% in value terms.

Women's Footwear: Responding to another triple-digit surge in average duties per pair paid in August, the value and volume of women's footwear imports retreated year over year again in this latest month.

Children's Footwear: The value and volume of US children's footwear imports sagged year over year again in August.

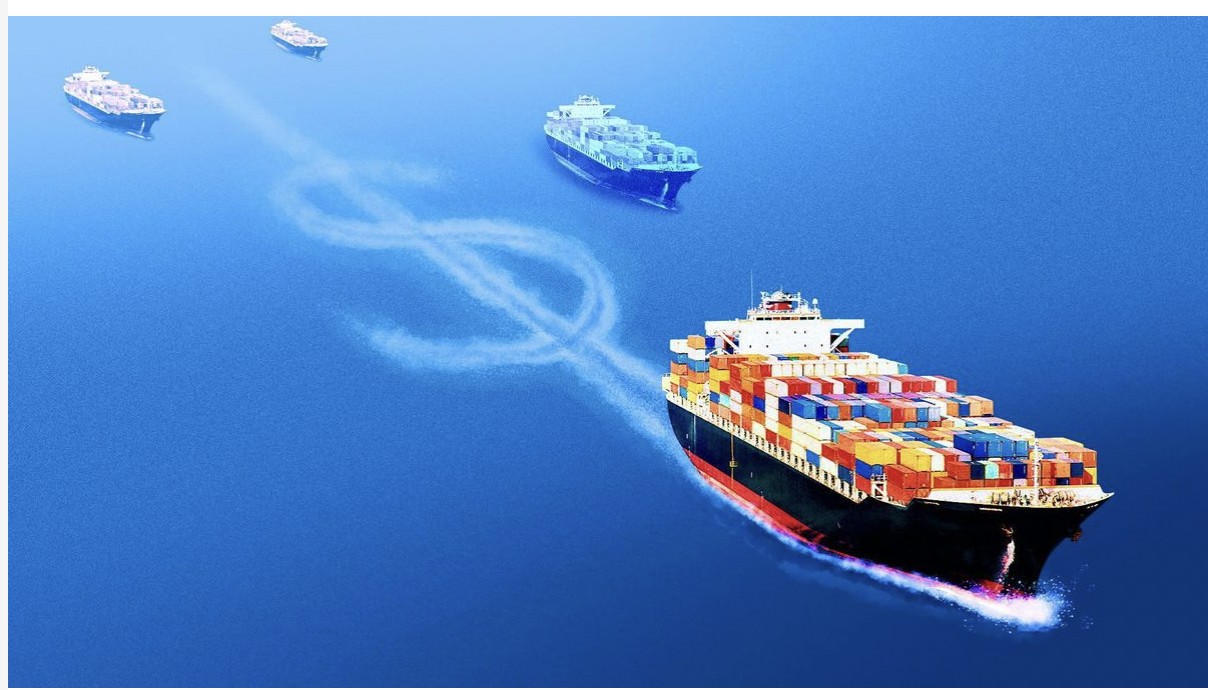
Boots: Declining for the thirtieth time in the last thirty-five months, bootwear imports sank again in August, fading -6.6% in both value *and* volume terms.

Leather Footwear: The value and volume of leather footwear imports diverged in August, with both changing only modestly despite another triple-digit surge in duties paid.

- The Customs value of these imports sagged -1.9% from a year earlier while the volume of shipments rebounded a scant 0.7%.
- Meanwhile, duties paid soared 106.8% from twelve months earlier, the third straight triple-digit jump.

Sandals: As tariffs on sandal imports jumped to a near record in August, the *value* and *volume* of these imports retreated again, declining -9.0% in value terms and -11.2% in volume terms.

Footwear Commodities Cost Report



A current issue that catches our attention this month: Cotton prices.

Cotton/Textiles: Our earlier outlook for the cotton market to remain soft through year end remains on track, with prices receding further during the northern hemisphere harvest to plumb multi-year lows.

Ocean shipping costs: Our October outlook for transpacific shipping rates to elevate in November before easing modestly into 2026 remains in play, with container rates to the US East and West Coasts climbing over recent weeks.

Oil: Our outlook for continued erosion in the oil market remains on track, with prices for West Texas Intermediate little changed on the month, still within reach of a four-year low.

Rubber: Rubber prices have diverged over the last month across key Asian markets, with futures markets in Shanghai and Tokyo firming, while rubber traded in Singapore is little changed.

Polyester Fiber & PET/Plastics: While prices across the petrochemical supply chain continue to ease as 2025 winds to a close, prices for some feedstocks and synthetic fibers have risen modestly.

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

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