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Report Highlights:

In 2025, U.S. exports of consumer oriented products to Bangladesh totaled $13.9 million, accounting for less than one percent of the $2 billion Bangladesh imported in that category. The domestic food market is competitive, with growing ready food processing industries and more consumers demanding high-value, safe, and quality products. The evolving Bangladesh market presents new opportunities for U.S. exporters in the fast-moving consumer goods and beverage for growing modern retail, and hospitality sectors.

Executive Summary

Bangladesh, home to 175 million people, ranks as the world's eighth most populous country and the 37th largest economy. Bangladesh is scheduled to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status in 2026, but the UN Economic and Social Council is reviewing the GOB's extension application. As of 2026, Bangladesh is the second-largest economy in South Asia, with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of $510 billion and a per capita GDP of $2,910 (IMF 2026).

Consumer-Oriented Agricultural Imports

U.S. exports of agricultural and related products reached $1,214 million in 2025, of which $171 million were intermediate products, and $14 million were consumer-oriented products. Bangladesh imported $2 billion of consumer-oriented products from the world in 2025, 15 percent of total agricultural and related products imports ($13.4 billion).

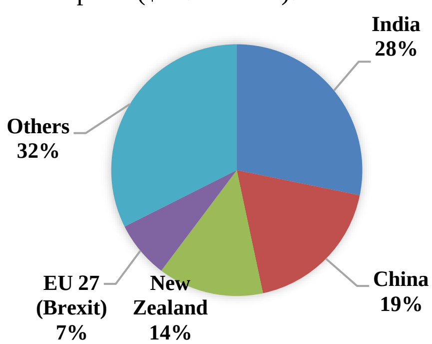


Chart 1: Top Exporting Countries to Bangladesh

Food Retail Industry

Bangladesh's modern food retail sector has over 1,500 supermarket chain outlets and 1,500 small outlets, owned by 100+ companies. There are over 2,500 e-commerce and f-commerce companies for online food retail and Facebook business pages. The annual turnover of the food retail industry is $800 million.

Food Processing Industry

Bangladesh has approximately 1,000+ value-added food processing companies. The $8 billion food processing sector in Bangladesh grows at an average of eight percent annually.

Food Service Industry

Bangladesh has 436,274 hotels and restaurants including 53 government-licensed international chains, local hotels, and resorts, with 20 five-star, eight four-star, and 25 three-star hotels. Top hotels include the Pan Pacific Sonargaon, the InterContinental Dhaka, the Westin Dhaka, the Sheraton Hotel, Le Meridien, and the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel.

Quick Facts CY 2025

Imports of Consumer-Oriented Products (USD)

From the world $2 billion

From the United States $13 million

List of Top 10 Growth Products in Bangladesh

1) Tree nuts	2) Dairy products
3) Soup, food preparations	4) Chocolate products
5) Processed fruits	6) Beef and beef products
7) Bakery, cereals and pasta	8) Condiments and sauces
9) Coffee	10) Processed vegetables

Food Industry by Channels (U.S. billion)

Food Industry Output	$8.0
Consumer-Oriented Food Exports	$0.4
Consumer-Oriented Food Imports	$2.0
Domestic Consumer-Oriented Food Market	$9.6

Top 10 Bangladesh Retailers

Shwapno	Metro Mart
Agora	Prince Bazar
Meena Bazar	Fresh Super Mart
Unimart	Chaldal
Daily Shopping	Pandamart

GDP/Population

Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Challenges

Strengths	***Weaknesses***
Growing demand from middle-class consumers	High import tariffs on consumer-oriented foods
Modern retail is expanding	Weak port infrastructure and limited cold chain infrastructure
Opportunities	***Challenges***
The food processing industry demands safe and high-quality ingredients	The sluggish economy is currently hampering buying power
Consumer-oriented food importers have in interest in U.S. brands and new products	The United States faces stiff competition in the consumer-oriented food market

Section I. Market Overview

Bangladesh is a country the size of Iowa, situated in the northeastern corner of the Indian subcontinent bordered by India and Myanmar, with a population of approximately 175 million. Bangladesh is the eighth most populous country in the world, and the most densely populated country outside of city-states. Currently, 70 percent of Bangladesh's population lives in rural areas, but the country continues to urbanize at a fast pace. Ninety-one percent of Bangladeshis are Muslim.

Dhaka is the capital and largest city in Bangladesh and the main economic hub. Chattogram, situated on the coast, boasts the second-largest economy and is home to the main seaport, responsible for managing 98 percent of container cargo. Dhaka and Chattogram are home to sizable middle-class populations, leading to robust demand for goods and services.

Bangladesh requested a delay in its graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status, originally scheduled for November 2026, citing macroeconomic vulnerabilities, global shocks and gaps in preparedness. The UN Committee for Development Policy (CDP) recommended that the UN General Assembly grant shorter extension. The UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is currently reviewing the application.

In 2025, per the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), gross national income (GNI) per capita was $3,020, up from $1,210 in 2015, and also increased slightly from the $2,769 GNI per capita in 2024-25 (July-June) reported in June 2026 (BBS). In 2025, ready-made garment exports were valued at $38.8 billion, up 0.89 percent increase from $38.5 billion in 2024. The ready-made garment (RMG) industry makes up 81 percent of Bangladesh's total export value.

In 2025, Bangladesh faced economic challenges, marked by declining foreign exchange (forex) reserves, rising debt burdens, high inflation, and the devaluation of the local currency, the taka. After the national election in February 2026, democratic elections took place and a new government formed. Consumer purchasing power has decreased as the average yearly inflation rate reached 9.42 percent in May 2026 (Bangladesh Bank). Bangladesh had an average annual gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 5.27 percent since 2022, although GDP growth was 4.22 percent in fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 (July-June) and is projected to slow to 4.14 percent in FY2025-26 (July-June) (BBS).

While the agriculture sector employs 38 percent of the employed population, it accounted for only 10.93 percent of GDP in FY2025-26. The industrial sector accounts for 37 percent of GDP and employs 18 percent of the population, while the services sector accounts for 52 percent of GDP and employs 44 percent of the employed population (BBS).

U.S. agricultural and related products exports to Bangladesh totaled $1,211.2 million in 2025. Leading exports included bulk and intermediate products including soybeans ($603.4 million), cotton ($234.2), wheat ($115.8), soybean meal ($103.1) and distillers' dried grains with solubles (DDGS) ($28.4 million) (USDA GATS).

Food Purchasing Behavior
More upper-middle to upper-class consumers are shopping at modern retail outlets due to greater convenience. Consumers in higher income brackets prefer international brands, including products from

a specific country of origin, which they believe indicate safety and quality. The modern retail sector currently constitutes about 3 to 4 percent of total retail sales. Wet markets and street vendors selling fresh fruits, vegetables, and other food items are very popular with all consumer classes, as many prefer fresh, locally sourced produce.

Advantages and Challenges

ADVANTAGES	CHALLENGES
Urban middle-class consumers prefer imported consumer-oriented products.	There is a high level of market competition for imported food. U.S. prices are comparatively higher for consumers, compounded by high shipping costs.
Urban consumers are increasingly spending more on imported food items and are changing their eating habits to consume more international foods.	Prices of imported products are higher than those of locally produced products.
Road infrastructure is gradually improving, facilitating faster travel from the port to Dhaka.	Weak port infrastructure and poor cold chain management hamper market expansion.
Modern retailers and distributors are expanding the marketing of imported products.	Customs procedures and import regulations are complex and non-transparent. Customs clearance is time-consuming.
The expanding food processing industry demands safe and high-quality products.	High tariff rates increase costs.
Bangladeshi consumers are aware of the quality and safety of U.S. products.	The sluggish economy is currently hampering buying power.

Section II. Exporter Business Tips

Market Research: Road Map for Market Entry

U.S. exporters to Bangladesh are encouraged first to ensure that their products have market access. It is also beneficial to connect with importers to receive up-to-date information on prices and demand. Due to high tariffs, a product is likely to be at least two to three times more costly than U.S. FOB prices when it reaches retail shelves. Exporters should consider whether they are willing to start small, meet special labeling requirements, ship mixed or partial containers, ensure sufficient shelf life, and be both persistent and patient.

Locate a reliable importer/distributor to export agricultural products to Bangladesh. Importers must have an import registration certificate from the Ministry of Commerce; a trade license from the municipal corporation under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives; a value-added tax (VAT) registration certificate from the Ministry of Finance, and an income tax payment certificate from the National Board of Revenue.

Consider the following before selecting an importer/distributor:

- Do they have a strong distribution network?
- How is their distribution network structured?

- Who are their customers? Do they sell to retailers, hotels, or restaurants?
- What are their capabilities? Do they have experience handling perishable foods?
- Are they interested in marketing your products? If so, how will marketing costs be handled?
- Are they managing similar brands or products from other suppliers? If yes, consider whether this could lead to a conflict of interest or offer other benefits, such as working with someone experienced with a product similar to yours.
- What does the distributor charge for the margins and costs?
- Agents with an established, long-term reputation in the market can also provide additional certainty that they are interested in developing a long-term business relationship with you.

Ensuring payment is another important consideration when establishing a relationship with an importer. Bangladeshi importers must follow government import procedures. All import transactions exceeding $100,000 must be conducted through a bank via an irrevocable letter of credit (LC). Please note that USDA does not have the authority to mediate contractual disputes or to serve as a collection agent when differences over payment arise.

Visit Bangladesh to understand the market first-hand, particularly the modern retail and hotel, restaurant, and institutional (HRI) sectors. Bangladesh hosts a few food and agriculture expos (BAPA Foodpro and CEMS-Foodexpo), but they are small compared to the major international trade shows. Most Bangladeshi importers and other end users travel to major regional shows such as Food Hotel Asia, Anuga, Thaifex Anuga Asia, and Gulfood.

Several local trade associations and chambers of commerce are active in Bangladesh. These associations work on behalf of both domestic and international food and food ingredient manufacturers, processors, importers, farmers, retailers, and cooperatives. Exporters should identify appropriate associations, such as the Bangladesh Foodstuff Importers and Suppliers Association (BAFISA).

Local Business Customs and Trends

Business practices in Bangladesh differ significantly from those in the United States.

- There are no laws regulating the relationship between international suppliers and local agents and distributors; this relationship is governed only by private agreements.
- Engaging a local agent is usually the best option in Bangladesh; however, many Bangladeshi importers do not know U.S. grades, standards, and appellations. Exporters may provide pictures, brochures, or samples. Bangladesh uses the metric system.
- English is the language of international business in Bangladesh, but translation may be needed occasionally.
- Customs clearing and forwarding agents provide services for port and customs clearance. Customs clearance requires multiple copies of stamped and signed documents and takes more time than in the United States.
- Business travel during Ramadan and Eid holidays should be avoided, if possible.
- Foreigners cannot open retail shops.

General Consumer Tastes and Trends

Bangladesh has a rich culinary tradition with steamed rice as a staple food; spicy curry dishes made with chicken, beef, and goat meat; cultured, river, and sea fish; and many kinds of seasonal vegetables.

Various varieties of rice and rice-based dishes are popular, such as biryani and khichuri. Consumers appreciate well-spiced dishes with a balance of flavors.

Urbanization and exposure to global trends have influenced consumer preferences. Younger consumers are more familiar and interested in global cuisines, and western-style restaurants are expanding in Dhaka and Chattogram. Imported and locally produced milk-based desserts and sweets are very popular, fueling milk powder imports.

Urban consumers' preferences are expanding to include imported nuts and seeds, potato chips, chocolates, coffee, condiments and sauces, and savory snacks made with imported ingredients. There is a growing awareness of health and wellness, leading to an increased interest in healthier food options. Consumers are seeking products with perceived health benefits and natural ingredients.

Section III. Import Food Standards, Regulations and Procedures

U.S. exporters doing business in Bangladesh for the first time may find Bangladesh's food standards and food safety regulations challenging. Bangladeshi importers are often the best sources of information and can assist with import procedures.

FAS/Dhaka publishes Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) reports that describe Bangladesh's requirements for imported food and beverage products. The FAIRS Country Report provides information on general food laws and regulations for food additives, pesticides, packaging and containers, labeling, and other specific standards, and the FAIRS Export Certificate Report provides information on the required certificates for export to Bangladesh. Information on country language labeling requirements, trademarks, and patents is available in the FAIRS report. Detailed Bangladesh import guidance is available on the Government of Bangladesh's Trade Portal.

Food Laws
The Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA) governs food safety issues per the Food Safety Act, 2013 and the Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute (BSTI) administers the agricultural and food product standards following the Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute Act, 2018. BSTI regulates standards of domestic and imported food and non-food items and certifies domestically produced halal food.

Customs Clearance
Bangladesh Customs works with multiple regulatory ministries to verify certificates, test samples, issue laboratory reports, clearance certificates, and approve consignment release.

Bangladesh's Ministry of Commerce (MOC) issues the import policy order (IPO) which details the trading procedures and customs clearance requirements for exporting food and non-food products to Bangladesh. Trading procedures, tariff schedules, regulatory orders, and export-import guides are available on the Bangladesh Trade Portal and Bangladesh Customs website. The MOC is currently working on approving the draft IPO 2026-29; Bangladeshi importers are required to follow the most recent final IPO in force.

Documents Generally Required by Bangladesh Customs
To complete customs clearance, Customs requires the following documents depending on the type of commodity:

International exporter's part:

- Invoice
- Bill of lading
- Packing list
- Certificates of origin
- Health certificate (fit for human consumption)
- Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Certificates from the exporting country authority
- Quality standard testing report from the exporting country laboratory
- APHIS's animal health certificate (for live animals)
- Certificate of weight and quality issued by the exporter
- Halal certificate issued by any certifying organization
- Radioactivity level certificate from the exporting country's accredited laboratory

Bangladeshi importer's part:

- Import permits from the Plant Quarantine Wing (PQW), Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) for prior approval to import plants and plant products
- No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Department of Livestock Services for prior approval to import live animals, livestock products, drugs, and plants products for feed processing.
- No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Department of Fisheries for prior approval to import fish, fish products, and fish feed ingredients.
- Letter of Credit (LC)
- Phytosanitary release order from the PQW for customs clearance of plants and plant products
- BSTI certificate of quality standard compliance based on the release order for customs clearance of food products
- Radioactivity certificate for customs clearance of any agricultural or food products

Seaports
Chattogram Port, located in the southeastern part of the country, is the largest port. Located in the southern region, Mongla Port and Payra Port, serve as important hubs for trade and transportation of goods in and out of southern Bangladesh.

From July 2024 to June 2025, Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) and Inland Container Depot handled 130 million metric tons (MT) of products through cargo shipments and 3 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) containers (CPA Stat). The National Board of Revenue reported in 2022 that the average time required for import clearance through the Chattogram Port is 7 days, 7 hours, and 58 minutes (minimum 1 day, 1 hour, and 30 minutes; maximum 19 days, 9 hours).

Tariffs and FTAs
Bangladesh Customs utilizes the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) to process the import manifests and goods declarations online. Bangladeshi importers submit bill of entry, letter of credit, invoice, bill of lading, packing list, and certificate of origin through the ASYCUDA online portal. The customs officer verifies the submitted documents and products; the importer pays duties through the system, and the customs officer then issues a release order for the shipment. Bangladesh Customs falls under the National Bureau for Revenue (NBR), which regulates tariff structures and publishes harmonized system-based operative tariff rates (2026-27) annually in line with the national financial budget plan for FY2026-27.

Exporters should be aware of the port and customs clearing challenges that importers face due to the extensive documentation requirements, inaccurate valuation assessments, incorrect harmonized system (HS) classification of goods, slow inspections, poor coordination between ports and customs, multiple testing requirements, and additional port clearing costs.

Bangladesh follows the Most Favored Nation (MFN) tariff process and the NBR decides the duty concessions and general exemptions to the applied MFN tariff rates, which are published in a gazette notification. The average MFN applied tariff rate for agricultural products is 17.9 percent. The maximum MFN applied rate is 25 percent.

The NBR imposes several types of customs duties and taxes, and a special formula-based total payable duty rate is defined as the Total Tax Incidence (TTI). Definitions of these duties and taxes are available on the Bangladesh Trade Portal.

Example: How to estimate Total Payable Duties and Taxes
HS Code: 08081090 – Apple, Fresh,
Cost and Freight (C&F): $1000, Declared price - $5 per kg
NBR's Assessable price (minimum price) ($/kg) - $7 per kg
Adjustment rate = Assessable price / Declared price
Assessable Value = (C&F + Insurance Cost + Landing Charge) x Adjustment Rate
Assessable Value (AV) $1428.1 = ($1000 + $10 + $10.1) x (7/5)

Duties and Taxes	Rate	Formulas	Value ($)
Base Value ($)	100	$AV	1428.1
Custom Duty (CD%)	25	$AV x CD% = $CDV	357
Regulatory Duty (RD%)	20	$AV x RD% = $RDV	285.6
Supplementary Duty (SD%)	30	$(AV+CDV+RDV) x SD% = $SDV	621.2
Value Added Tax (VAT%)	15	$(AV+CDV+RDV+SDV) x VAT% = $VATV	403.8
Advance Income Tax (AIT%)	5	$AV x AIT% = $AITV	71.4
Advance Tax (AT%)	0	$(AV+CDV+RDV+SDV) x AT% = $ATV	0
Total Tax Incidence (TTI%)	121.78	Total Payable Duties and Taxes ($TPDT)	1739.1

Note: TPDT = $CDV+RDV+SDV+VATV+AITV+ATV = $AV x TTI%

Bangladesh has ratified several regional trade agreements since 1975. Bangladesh has bilateral trade agreements with Japan, and Bhutan. India (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement), Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Bhutan (Preferential Trade Agreement), and Nepal. Bangladesh ratified its membership in the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) under three frameworks: trade facilitation, investment, and liberalization of trade in services. Bangladesh is a member of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8), South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA), Protocol on Trade Negotiations (PTN), Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), Trade Preferential System among the Organizational of Islamic Cooperation Countries (TPS-OIC), Global System of Trade Preferences Among Developing Countries (GSTP), and Bay of Bengal Initiatives for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and WTO. Bangladesh is also member of Non-Reciprocal Trade Schemes (GSP) under the China LDC Scheme; Everything But Arms (EBA) of the EU; Developing Countries Trade Scheme (DCTS) of the UK; Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP)-India; Duty-free, quota-free (DFQF) of Canada; and Duty-free, quota-free (DFQF) of Australia.

Section IV. Market Sector Structure and Trends

Food Processing
The processed food and beverage industry in Bangladesh has seen notable growth in recent years. Increased middle-class urban consumer demand for convenience is the driving force behind processed food consumption. The processed food market is highly competitive as the domestic food industry expands its investments to export worldwide. Popular processed foods include snacks, ready-to-eat meals, frozen foods, beverages, and dairy products.

Food Retail
The modern retail sector, including supermarkets, convenience stores, and online businesses, is growing as consumers prefer greater importance to appearance, ambience, comfort, and the availability of a wide range of products. Modern retail outlets are increasing in number, although contacts believe they account for only 3-4 percent of total urban retail market sales. These modern retail chains are striving to differentiate themselves from wet markets by offering a wider range of high-quality products, and greater convenience. However, they also have challenges, such as cold chain capacity, food preservation and packaging, and general transportation logistics. The e-commerce sector is thriving in the urban food and non-food retail market. The adoption of digital technologies and e-commerce is expected to play a crucial role in shaping the sector’s future.

On February 20, 2025, the NBR waived 7.5 percent value-added tax (VAT) on products sold in retail stores. Retail owners reported that eliminating the VAT drove higher sales volumes, prompting an expansion in both the number of outlets and their customer base.

Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Sector
Bangladesh's hotel and restaurant industry has experienced growth, especially in urban areas. Bangladesh has 53 government-licensed international chains, local hotels, and resorts, with 20 five-star, eight four-star, and 25 three-star hotels. Most of these hotels are in Dhaka, Chattogram, Cox’s Bazar, and Sylhet, catering to the business community and domestic tourists.

In 2021, Bangladesh had 436,274 hotels and restaurants, of which 80 percent were tea stalls and 15 percent were fast food shops/restaurants. The hotel and food service sector's contribution to GDP was 1.11 percent in 2025-26, lower than the previous year (BBS). Bangladesh has a shortage of hotels offering international standards. Challenges such as infrastructure limitations and the need to maintain consistent quality standards exist, but efforts are underway to enhance the hospitality sector's appeal. The number of domestic tourists is 15-20 times higher than that of international tourists; therefore, recreational opportunities, nightlife activities, and other attractions cater to the domestic audience.

The Alcohol Control Rules, 2022 (Bangla) have made it easier to get licenses to sell liquor in hotels, restaurants, and other food-service establishments. However, alcohol sales and consumption remain strictly regulated. Foreigners can drink at licensed bars, whereas Bangladeshi citizens above the age of 21 must possess a license of the Department of Narcotics Control to enter a bar. All alcoholic product bottles must carry a health warning and all import, export, production, supply, marketing, sale, purchase, and storage of alcohol related products require licenses.

Section V. Agricultural and Food Imports

Total consumer-oriented food product imports from the world remain flat at $2 billion in the period 2021 - 2025. The United States was Bangladesh's 14th largest supplier in 2025. Currently, consumer-oriented products make up less than two percent of total U.S. agricultural and related product exports to Bangladesh (GATS).

Table 1: Bangladesh Consumer-Oriented Food Imports from the World (USD thousands)

Products	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Dairy Products	603016	669484	540871	519472	651205
Spices	371073	316054	420133	484661	390788
Fresh Fruit	600333	471547	372926	352741	380717
Fresh Vegetables	226223	202253	370564	439140	179274
Tree Nuts	86232	53445	53650	68053	149985
Soup & Other Food Preparations	74965	86537	87612	68233	69781
Processed Fruit	24092	29437	17701	28835	39681
Chocolate & Cocoa Products	20492	25768	20001	26821	34767
Processed Vegetables	27709	25063	30171	28971	27426
Bakery Goods, Cereals, & Pasta	21254	29884	26399	23271	24581
Condiments & Sauces	24978	30460	24678	26227	23347
Coffee, Roasted and Extracts	12842	11045	11827	11887	20079
Meat Products NESOI	1548	2568	9960	9494	9661
Dog & Cat Food	1635	2351	6793	6697	6853
Beef & Beef Products	38516	31543	567	1093	6233
Mfg. Tobacco	3685	3768	3639	5869	5443
Chewing Gum & Candy	2954	8205	3126	2656	4820
Fruit & Vegetable Juices	2014	2419	1911	2648	2406
Tea	2813	2571	1258	1696	2327

Products	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Non-Alcoholic Bev. (ex. juices, coffee, tea)	1208	1548	1333	1287	2124
Distilled Spirits	2446	2830	5668	2733	2034
Nursery Products & Cut Flowers	780	1060	1025	898	864
Beer	833	594	793	385	464
Wine & Related Products	336	475	1028	250	438
Poultry Meat & Prods. (ex. eggs)	523	505	483	374	225
Eggs & Products	1106	1223	202	199	179
Pork & Pork Products	23	13	2	2	3
Grand Total	**2,153,629**	**2,012,651**	**2,014,319**	**2,114,592**	**2,035,704**

Source: Trade Data Monitor (TDM)

Consumer-Oriented Product Prospects

Rising per-capita income, increased urbanization, increasing female labor force participation, and the resulting lifestyle changes are driving the demand for processed fruits, fruit and vegetable juices, chocolates and cocoa products, tree nuts, fresh vegetables and spices, meat products not elsewhere specified or included (nesoi), tea, condiments and sauces, processed dairy products, bakery products, ready-made meals, confectionery, breakfast cereals, baby food, non-alcoholic beverages, and dressings. Ingredients for the bakery and confectionery food industry, a growing number of quick-service restaurants, and e-commerce food delivery services to meet the demand for Asian and Western cuisines are driving import demand.

The five leading categories of imported food products in 2025 were dairy products ($651 million), spices ($390 million), fresh fruit ($380 million), fresh vegetables ($179 million), and tree nuts ($149 million). In 2025, the top U.S. exports of consumer-oriented products were tree nuts ($5.8 million), dairy products ($4.7 million), food preparations ($2.7 million), condiments and sauces ($0.5 million), and processed fruit ($0.21 million).

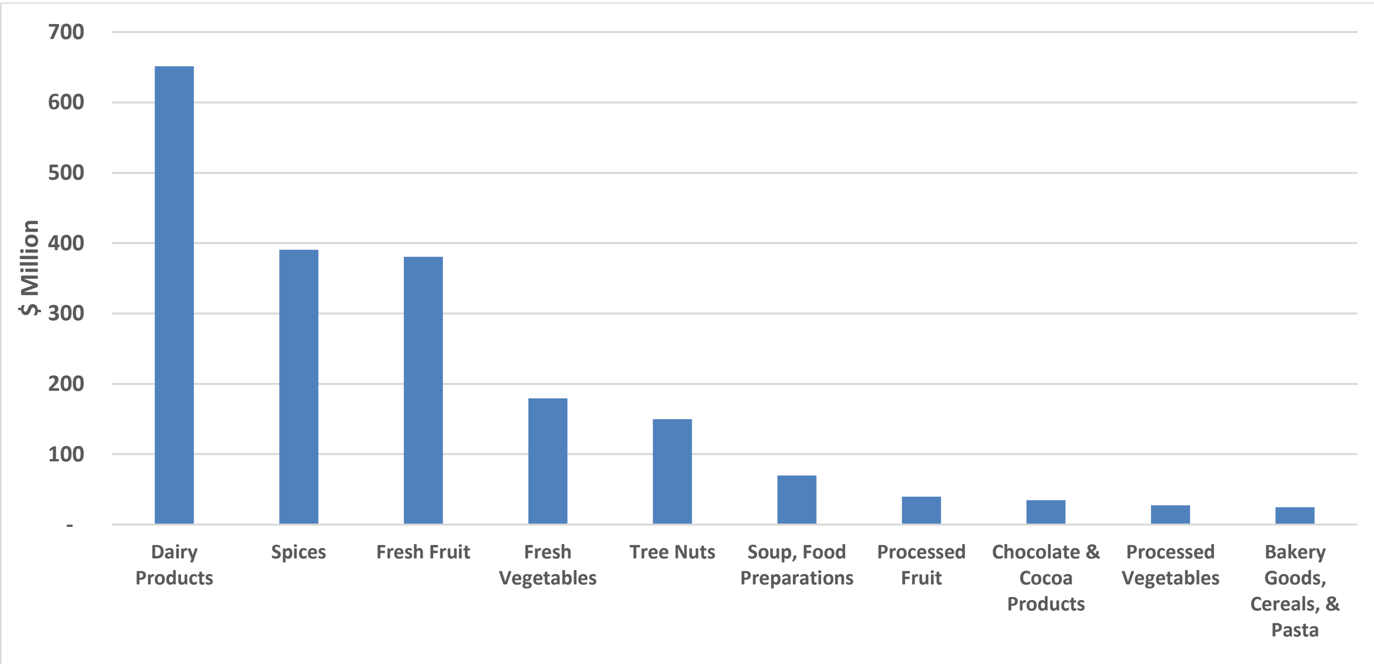
Tree Nuts

Rising purchasing power and a growing health-conscious consumer base are driving increased demand for tree nuts. In 2025, Bangladesh imported $150 million worth of tree nuts, of which U.S. exports accounted for $5.7 million. Almonds, walnuts, and a variety of prepared, mixed, and preserved nut products made up most of these imports. Indonesia (62 percent) and Thailand (16 percent) dominate the tree nut market. U.S. almonds command a premium positioning that continues to resonate with higher-income Bangladeshi consumers. With changing dietary preferences, the popularity of tree nuts is expected to increase. The total tax incidence (TTI) for almonds and walnuts in Bangladesh ranges from 64.25 percent to 96.10 percent.

Dairy Products

Bangladesh has a $3 billion dairy market. Locally produced milk (14 million MT) contributes to the liquid milk market while imported dairy products (0.2 million MT) are used in the value-added dairy industry. The expansion of the dairy industry is fueled by the growing middle class, expanding urbanization, and increasing consumption demand, creating market opportunities for milk and cream concentrated granule or solid (HS 040221), milk and cream powder (HS 040210), whey (HS 040410), lactose syrup (HS 170211), and food preparations for infant use (HS 190110). U.S. dairy exports were $4.7 million in 2025. The TTI for major dairy products ranges from 35 percent to 64.25 percent and the TTI for infant formula stands at 96.10 percent. Dairy products remain one of the more competitively priced categories for U.S. exporters targeting the country's growing value-added dairy processing industry.

Figure 1: Bangladesh Top 10 Imported Consumer Oriented Products in 2025



Source: TDM

Food Preparations

Bangladesh imports a variety of food preparations to meet the diverse culinary preferences of consumers. In 2025, U.S. exports of food preparations not elsewhere specified or included (nesoi) (HS 210690 and HS 210410) were $2.4 million. Beverage concentrates, soy-based food preparations, stabilizers for milk and creamer, and various food supplements are all encompassed within the food preparations category. Bangladesh Customs imposes a TTI of 64.25 percent to 96.10 percent on food preparations. This food category's consistency across years, even during Bangladesh's economic stress period of 2024 – 2025, underscores the structural demand from the country's food processing sector, which grows at approximately 8 percent annually.

Condiments, Sauces and Mustard

The growth of restaurants specializing in global cuisines has increased demand for condiments and sauces. Imported condiments and sauces, including soy sauce, tomato ketchup, mustard flour and meal, prepared mustard, and vinegar are sought after. In 2025, condiments and sauces were the fourth highest valued ($0.5 million) consumer-oriented product exported from the United States to Bangladesh. The TTI for soya sauce (HS 2103) is 96.1 percent and for vinegar and substitutes (HS 2209) it is 64.25 percent. The high TTI is a cost barrier, but the limited availability of domestic substitutes for U.S. style condiments and mustard products supports continued market entry efforts, particularly targeting the hotel, restaurant, and institutional (HRI) sector.

Processed Fruit
Processed fruit import demand, specifically for dates, has steadily risen over the past five years. During Ramadan, U.S. medjool dates are in high demand among consumers due to their large size, texture, and consistency. The TTI for dates (HS 08041011-29) is 48.75 percent.

Fruit and Vegetable Juices
Fruit juice demand is increasing with growth in dining at hotels and restaurants and as well as rising health consciousness among urban populations. U.S. fruit and vegetable juice exports were $0.1 million in 2025. The TTI for fruit juice (HS 20091100-9000) is 112.03 percent.

Other Products
Demand is growing for bakery goods and cereals; roasted and extracted coffee (HS 210111, HS 090121); and processed vegetables (particularly onion powder). Increasing consumer demand for convenience, shifting lifestyles, a preference for coffee over tea, and heightened health consciousness are driving demand. The demand for chocolate and cocoa products, as well as egg products is on the rise, both for personal consumption and in the HRI sector, as consumers prefer imported options over domestic products, which are perceived as lower quality.

Section VI: Key Contacts and Further Information

Government Data Sources:

Bangladesh Import and Export Portal, Ministry of Commerce
National Statistics, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
Foreign Trade Statistics, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
Bangladesh Export Data, Export Promotion Bureau
Economic Trend, Bangladesh Bank
Trade and Economic Statistics Publication, Bangladesh Bank
Bangladesh Bank Open Data Initiative, Bangladesh Bank
Bangladesh Customs Operative Tariff FY2026-27, Bangladesh Customs
Bangladesh Tariff Schedule FY2026-27, National Board of Revenue
Note: Accessibility of the links may vary depending on the security firewalls

Ministries and Regulatory Agencies Responsible for Food Policies and Import Policies:

Ministry of Agriculture
Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
Ministry of Food
Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA)
Ministry of Commerce

Ministry of Industries
Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute (BSTI)
Ministry of Science and Technology
Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC)
Ministry of Finance
National Board of Revenue
Bangladesh Customs
Note: Accessibility of the links may vary depending on the security firewalls

Trade and Business Associations:
Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industries
Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industries
International Chamber of Commerce Bangladesh
Bangladesh Fresh Fruits Importers Association
Bangladesh Agro-Processors Associations
Bangladesh Foodstuff Importers and Suppliers Association
Bangladesh Freight Forwarders Association
Customs Clearing and Forwarding Agent Association
The American Chamber of Commerce
U.S.-Bangladesh Business Council
Note: Accessibility of the links may vary depending on the security firewalls

Post Contact Information:

Agricultural Affairs Office Physical Address: 12 Madani Avenue Embassy of the United States Dhaka, Bangladesh http://www.fas.usda.gov	Phone: +880255662000 Email: AgDhaka@usda.gov

Appendix – I

U.S. Agriculture and Related Product Exports to Bangladesh 2021-25

Product	2021 ($000)	2022 ($000)	2023 ($000)	2024 ($000)	2025 ($000)
Bulk Total	**810,915**	**849,391**	**653,770**	**648,877**	**1,026,525**
Soybeans	449,093	382,523	302,946	350,525	603,379
Cotton	308,936	466,501	339,127	244,016	234,191
Wheat	52,030	0	11,598	34,544	115,829
Rice	364	0	0	26	35,945
Corn	0	0	0	0	35,805
Pulses	267	0	0	19,245	879
Coarse Grains (excl. corn)	0	0	0	0	357
Other Bulk Commodities	226	367	87	95	142
Oilseeds (excl. soybean)	0	0	12	13	0
Tobacco	0	0	0	412	0
Intermediate Total	**99,018**	**69,821**	**85,604**	**113,462**	**170,771**
Soybean Meal	25,312	502	5,321	20,334	103,096
Distillers Grains	31,443	29,947	38,792	42,108	28,438
Other Intermediate Products	11,626	14,291	12,340	13,153	13,105
Other Feeds, Meals & Fodders	18,315	11,622	18,994	25,559	9,539
Vegetable Oils (excl. soybean)	301	185	162	239	6,956
Dextrin, Peptones, & Proteins	2,629	2,467	2,051	2,021	3,018
Live Animals	7,183	4,104	4,411	6,548	2,887
Essential Oils	1,054	1,661	734	1,093	2,017
Planting Seeds	1,109	4,947	2,334	1,702	1,569
Sugar, Sweeteners, Bev. Bases	41	89	450	697	147
Milled Grains & Products	7	6	12	5	0
Animal Fats	0	0	3	0	0
Ethanol (non-bev.)	0	0	0	4	0
Consumer Oriented Total	**12,375**	**9,422**	**13,940**	**12,554**	**13,909**
Tree Nuts	5,276	3,404	1,866	3,906	5,699
Dairy Products	2,153	1,212	8,428	4,803	4,676

Product	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	($000)	**($000)**	**($000)**	**($000)**	**($000)**
Food Preparations	2,640	2,455	2,534	2,677	2,433
Condiments & Sauces	790	398	313	522	467
Processed Fruit	37	625	0	79	178
Beef & Beef Products	26	0	3	191	164
Fruit & Vegetable Juices	136	81	18	72	83
Non-Alcoholic Bev. (excl. juice)	127	225	209	39	62
Other Consumer Oriented	36	27	19	27	53
Processed Vegetables	1,065	706	149	179	32
Fresh Fruit	0	0	0	0	23
Bakery Goods, Cereals, & Pasta	54	192	3	49	22
Beer	11	0	0	0	15
Chocolate & Cocoa Products	0	8	37	0	4
Poultry Meat & Prods. (excl. eggs)	0	0	92	0	0
Eggs & Products	0	44	118	0	0
Wine & Related Products	17	43	119	10	0
Distilled Spirits	3	3	29	0	0
Nursery Products & Cut Flowers	4	0	0	0	0
Agricultural Related Products	**5,761**	**5,350**	**4,074**	**4,028**	**3,154**
Forest Products	2,599	2,209	1,475	2,751	1,762
Seafood Products	3,161	3,142	2,600	1,277	1,392
Agricultural and Related Products	**928,069**	**933,984**	**757,388**	**778,921**	**1,214,360**

Source: GATS

Notes:

1. Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau Trade Data
2. Product Group : BICO-HS10

Attachments:

No Attachments