

Global Fastener Supply Chains Operate with
Close Collaboration

Emerging Nations Gradually Exert Greater Influence

全球扣件供應鏈合作緊密 新興國家漸展影響力



Emerging markets outside advanced economies like Europe, the United States, and Japan (including Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, Central and South America, the Middle East, and Africa) have actively participated in the global fastener industry supply chain in recent years. Their contribution to the global fastener industry continues to rise, with specific countries accumulating influence annually that has even begun exerting intangible pressure on competitors from other nations. As many of these emerging markets are developing countries, their economic growth momentum has been relatively stronger compared to other mature economies. Coupled with local governments accelerating infrastructure development to catch up with advanced nations and improve living standards, they have allowed foreign investment for building manufacturing plants. Furthermore, substantial official resources have been allocated to support domestic industries in developing sectors such as automobiles, motorcycles, 3C electronics, renewable energy, machine tools, and CNC precision machining products. This dual approach enables these nations to not only manufacture and supply relevant fastener products for other countries, but also generates significant demand for fasteners required to meet the manufacturing needs of these emerging industries. This article will further explore the collaborative relationship between these emerging markets and the fastener (HS Code 7318) supply-demand dynamics of Europe, USA, and Japan, analyzing the shifting influence of these emerging markets within the import-export landscape of these mature fastener markets.

USA (Unit: million USD / ranked by 2025 data / data published through August 2025 / source: U.S. DoC)

Import



Rank	Partner	Jan-Aug 2024	Jan-Aug 2025	% Change 2025/2024
0	World	4,452.76	4,219.84	-5.23
1	Taiwan	1,476.89	1,353.29	-8.37
2	China	798.79	740.99	-7.23
3	Japan	422.02	398.08	-5.67
4	Canada	277.57	227.11	-18.18
5	Germany	265.59	218.90	-17.58
6	South Korea	197.79	202.09	2.17
7	Italy	174.62	189.43	8.48
8	India	151.37	188.80	24.73
9	Mexico	123.66	129.36	4.61
10	France	83.97	75.85	-9.66

Among the top 10 import sources for the U.S., emerging economies include India and Mexico, ranked 8th and 9th respectively. India also recorded the most significant year-on-year growth rate (24.73%) among the top 10 import sources, with the cumulative import reaching US\$189 million in the first eight months of 2025. Its import scale was comparable to that of South Korea (ranked 6th) and Italy (ranked 7th); Imports from Mexico also saw a modest 4.61% increase compared to the same period in 2024, reaching US\$129 million. Among the top ten import sources, Mexico's growth rate was only second to India and Italy.



Export

Among the top 10 export destinations for the U.S., emerging economies include Mexico, Brazil, and Singapore, ranking 1st, 7th, and 10th respectively. While Mexico remained the largest export destination for U.S. fasteners, with its export reaching US\$1.285 billion in the first eight months of 2025, representing a slight 5.77% decline compared to the same period in 2024. Brazil, however, showed strong performance, with the export in the first eight months of 2025 surging 20.02% year-on-year to US\$106 million, ranking second among the top ten export destinations in growth rate (behind French 41.33%); exports to Singapore experienced a notable 15.17% decline in the first eight months of 2025, marking the largest decrease among the top ten export destinations.

Rank	Partner	Jan-Aug 2024	Jan-Aug 2025	% Change 2025/2024
0	World	3,843.15	3,827.88	-0.40
1	Mexico	1,363.71	1,284.96	-5.77
2	Canada	920.03	864.26	-6.06
3	China	180.35	174.71	-3.13
4	U.K.	120.57	143.80	19.27
5	France	86.98	122.93	41.33
6	Germany	100.32	115.33	14.96
7	Brazil	88.09	105.73	20.02
8	Japan	83.30	89.98	8.03
9	S. Korea	78.29	82.49	5.36
10	Singapore	75.59	64.12	-15.17

Canada (Unit: US dollars / ranked by 2025 data / data published through August 2025 / source: Canada.ca)



Import

Among Canada's top 10 import sources, emerging economies include Vietnam and India, ranked seventh and eighth respectively. Vietnam's import value reached approximately US\$28.5 million in the first eight months of 2025, a significant 22.81% increase compared to the same period in 2024. This growth rate was only second to France, which ranked 10th. India also saw notable double-digit growth, with the import in the first eight months of 2025 rising 13.71% year-on-year to approximately US\$25 million.

Rank	Partner	Jan-Aug 2024	Jan-Aug 2025	% Change 2025/2024
0	World	1,320,331,879	1,352,184,107	2.41
1	USA	621,695,714	600,656,161	-3.38
2	China	192,336,693	222,523,974	15.70
3	Taiwan	177,294,567	185,709,548	4.75
4	Japan	57,782,183	53,168,314	-7.98
5	Germany	36,801,945	38,767,892	5.34
6	Italy	29,364,467	33,914,599	15.50
7	Vietnam	23,218,995	28,514,790	22.81
8	India	21,989,607	25,004,837	13.71
9	S. Korea	22,842,854	23,160,141	1.39
10	France	17,669,802	22,174,788	25.50

Export

Among Canada's top 10 export destinations, emerging economies include Mexico, Singapore, Australia, and Brazil. The export to Mexico during the first eight months of 2025 saw a significant 22.41% decline compared to the same period in 2024, reaching US\$13.61 million. This marks the second-largest contraction among the top 10 export destinations and the only decline among the aforementioned four emerging economies; the export to Singapore reached US\$3.73 million in the first eight months of 2025, marking a 15.43% increase compared to the same period in 2024; the exports to Australia increased by 58.19% to US\$2.41 million in the first eight months of 2025, marking the highest growth rate among the top ten export destinations. The export to Brazil rose by 11.02% to US\$2.35 million in the first eight months of 2025 compared to the same period in 2024.

Rank	Partner	Jan-Aug 2024	Jan-Aug 2025	% Change 2025/2024
0	World	442,310,815	389,697,816	-11.90
1	USA	359,311,010	305,844,031	-14.88
2	Germany	12,776,636	16,896,353	32.24
3	Mexico	17,546,689	13,614,347	-22.41
4	U. K.	6,405,357	7,850,652	22.56
5	France	4,739,709	4,280,377	-9.69
6	Singapore	3,234,776	3,733,782	15.43
7	China	7,578,683	3,566,871	-52.94
8	Poland	3,162,803	3,526,744	11.51
9	Australia	1,521,333	2,406,611	58.19
10	Brazil	2,112,698	2,345,617	11.02

EU (In euros / ranked by weight in 2024 / data published through 2024 / source: EU Trade Helpdesk)



Import

EU's fastener imports also receive significant support from suppliers of emerging countries, including Turkey with its geographical advantage, as well as Vietnam, India, Thailand, and Malaysia in Asia. Turkey ranked as the EU's third-largest fastener import source, with the 2024 imports totaling 335,800 metric tons, a mere 4.31% decrease compared to the same period in 2023; Vietnam recorded the highest year-on-year growth among these emerging suppliers, rising 3.28% to 107,300 metric tons

Rank	Partner	2023 (KG)	2024 (KG)	% Change 2024/2023	2023 (EURO)	2024 (EURO)	% Change 2024/2023
0	World	1,623,263,879	1,644,857,442	1.33	6,532,780,987	6,227,959,842	-4.67
1	China	613,516,635	711,562,283	15.98	1,481,391,833	1,565,217,717	5.66
2	Taiwan	367,266,625	335,843,661	-8.56	1,371,453,522	1,175,845,195	-14.26
3	Turkey	122,716,880	117,432,581	-4.31	535,815,926	502,569,862	-6.20
4	Vietnam	103,873,262	107,280,941	3.28	266,704,280	235,918,695	-11.54
5	India	113,855,471	88,186,461	-22.55	357,821,976	282,604,334	-21.02
6	Thailand	71,184,792	60,318,769	-15.26	132,441,535	103,426,299	-21.91
7	S. Korea	39,980,111	40,202,172	0.56	211,100,595	207,169,766	-1.86
8	U.K.	35,617,083	35,474,117	-0.40	362,980,990	360,645,975	-0.64
9	Switzerland	26,392,765	24,680,386	-6.49	451,924,737	424,426,723	-6.08
10	Malaysia	23,616,772	23,912,610	1.25	71,215,097	55,857,787	-21.56



in 2024; imports from India plummeted 22.55% to 88,000 metric tons in 2024, marking the steepest decline among the top ten import sources; imports from Thailand also declined by 15.26% in 2024 to 60,000 tons, marking the second-largest decrease among the top 10 import sources; Malaysia's imports reached 24,000 tons in 2024, showing a slight increase of 1.25% compared to the same period in 2023.

Export

Among the EU's top 10 export destinations, emerging economies include Mexico, Turkey, Brazil, India, and Morocco. Mexico, the fourth-largest market, imported 40,000 metric tons from the EU in 2024, marking a slight 6.86% decrease compared to the same period in 2023; the export to Turkey was comparable to Mexico's, reaching 39,000 tons, a 3.27% decrease from the same period in 2023; Brazil showed the most impressive performance among the top 10 countries, with the export surging 15.04% to 31,400 tons in 2024 compared to 2023; India procured approximately 20,300 metric tons from the EU in 2024, a slight decrease of 1.32% compared to the same period in 2023. Morocco in North Africa is particularly noteworthy, as its 2024 procurement of fasteners from the EU not only reached 18,100 metric tons (approaching India's scale) but also recorded the second-highest growth rate among the top 10 countries (9.64%).

Rank	Partner	2023 (KG)	2024 (KG)	% Change 2024/2023	2023 (EURO)	2024 (EURO)	% Change 2024/2023
0	World	566,694,084	556,314,698	-1.83	5,585,112,937	5,807,409,715	3.98
1	USA	84,197,746	83,543,690	-0.78	1,054,816,283	1,144,878,296	8.54
2	China	78,666,012	76,053,221	-3.32	814,936,984	831,256,199	2.00
3	U.K.	73,288,312	69,832,914	-4.71	639,754,846	645,446,913	0.89
4	Mexico	43,007,753	40,059,513	-6.86	316,199,001	309,334,262	-2.17
5	Turkey	40,365,628	39,043,817	-3.27	315,482,919	305,263,079	-3.24
6	Switzerland	38,729,636	38,148,043	-1.50	372,994,575	360,296,201	-3.40
7	Brazil	27,271,170	31,372,880	15.04	204,200,734	243,752,140	19.37
8	India	20,522,635	20,252,507	-1.32	190,910,702	198,367,156	3.91
9	Morocco	16,520,265	18,113,499	9.64	142,617,132	155,272,246	8.87
10	Norway	15,567,886	15,885,229	2.04	133,180,138	148,629,613	11.60

Japan (Ranked by weight of 2025 / data published through October 2025 / source: Ministry of Finance, Japan)

Import

Japan's fastener imports originated not only from China and Taiwan, but also significantly from emerging nations such as Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, and India. From January to October 2025, Japan imported 12,400 metric tons from Vietnam, a slight decrease of 3.20% compared to the same period in 2024; imports from Thailand, though only 3,500 metric tons, saw a substantial increase of 14.03% year-on-year; imports from Malaysia totaled 1,249 tons, a slight decrease of 1.81% compared to the same period in 2024; among the top ten import sources, India showed the strongest growth, surging by 92.42% year-on-year.

Rank	Partner	Metric Ton			1,000JPY		
		Jan-Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2025	% Change 2025/2024	Jan-Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2025	% Change 2025/2024
0	World	241,790	247,728	2.46	125,024,403	130,759,094	4.59
1	China	167,103	172,256	3.08	49,881,595	50,945,404	2.13
2	Taiwan	44,495	45,659	2.62	27,162,173	28,104,852	3.47
3	Vietnam	12,827	12,417	-3.20	4,538,637	4,689,775	3.33
4	S. Korea	7,258	7,341	1.14	4,471,551	4,476,356	0.11
5	Thailand	3,114	3,551	14.03	3,366,454	4,017,744	19.35
6	Malaysia	1,272	1,249	-1.81	861,687	803,429	-6.76
7	Germany	1,050	817	-22.19	3,432,504	3,495,036	1.82
8	USA	953	683	-28.33	21,658,187	24,134,235	11.43
9	India	343	660	92.42	326,358	523,747	60.48
10	Italy	517	507	-1.93	1,175,488	1,511,191	28.56

Export

Thailand, Indonesia, India, Mexico, Brazil, Malaysia, and Turkey were among Japan's top 10 export partners for fasteners. From January to October 2025, fastener exports to Thailand totaled approximately 27,700 metric tons, marking a slight 1.07% increase compared to the same period in 2024; the export to Indonesia reached 14,900 metric tons, showing a significant 10.23% decline; the export to India was comparable to Indonesia at 14,500 metric tons, down 2.79% year-on-year; the export to Mexico reached 13,800 tons, down 11.50% year-on-year; the export to Brazil totaled 9,129 tons in the first ten months of 2025, an increase of 6.11%, making it the best performer among emerging markets; the exports to Malaysia amounted to approximately 5,855 tons, a slight decrease of 3.73% compared to the same period in 2024;

Rank	Partner	Metric Ton			1,000JPY		
		Jan-Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2025	% Change 2025/2024	Jan-Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2025	% Change 2025/2024
0	World	245,982	238,322	-3.11	292,903,263	287,955,181	-1.69
1	USA	72,405	72,231	-0.24	84,687,973	79,889,425	-5.67
2	China	40,830	38,185	-6.48	48,664,593	47,632,505	-2.12
3	Thailand	27,386	27,679	1.07	30,578,968	32,373,584	5.87
4	Indonesia	16,693	14,985	-10.23	18,749,346	16,292,399	-13.10
5	India	14,997	14,578	-2.79	15,308,023	16,656,690	8.81
6	Mexico	15,605	13,811	-11.50	13,811	15,603,948	112,882.03
7	Brazil	8,603	9,129	6.11	9,129	9,876,964	108,093.27
8	Malaysia	6,082	5,855	-3.73	5,855	5,587,576	95,332.55
9	Turkey	4,960	4,053	-18.29	4,053	4,120,044	101,554.18
10	U.K.	4,146	3,982	-3.96	3,982	4,339,292	108,872.68



Turkey recorded the steepest year-on-year decline among the aforementioned emerging markets, falling 18.29% to 4,053 tons in the first ten months of 2025.

Taiwan (Ranked by weight in 2025 / data published through October 2025 / source: Taiwan's Bureau of Foreign Trade)

Import

Although Taiwan is a fastener export-oriented country, it also imports certain fasteners. Among emerging import sources are Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Thailand. Vietnam, the third-largest source, reached 969 metric tons in the first ten months of 2025, a 32.67% decrease compared to the same period in 2024; the import from the Philippines

totaled 436 metric tons during the same period, down 15.58% year-on-year; the import from Malaysia reached 307 tons in the first ten months of 2025, a decrease of 19.37% compared to the same period in 2024. Thailand saw the most significant year-on-year decline among all emerging countries, decreasing by 49.34% compared to the same period in 2024.

Rank	Partner	Jan-Oct 2024 (KG)	Jan-Oct 2025 (KG)	% Change 2025/2024	Jan-Oct 2024 (USD)	Jan-Oct 2025 (USD)	% Change 2025/2024
0	World	17,001,630	15,884,089	-6.57%	169,051,513	204,112,375	20.74%
1	China	5,872,728	6,870,638	16.99%	21,497,424	25,389,810	18.11%
2	Japan	4,528,116	3,698,064	-18.33%	44,327,450	41,590,862	-6.17%
3	Vietnam	1,439,352	969,124	-32.67%	10,937,332	13,220,019	20.87%
4	S. Korea	912,660	904,455	-0.90%	7,486,714	11,708,885	56.40%
5	Germany	843,538	623,510	-26.08%	12,623,510	14,896,249	18.00%
6	Philippines	517,490	436,842	-15.58%	1,765,692	1,516,752	-14.10%
7	Malaysia	381,902	307,926	-19.37%	3,949,738	6,585,989	66.74%
8	USA	195,245	206,010	5.51%	31,635,804	45,599,171	44.14%
9	Sweden	82,801	180,589	118.10%	2,269,807	4,741,144	108.88%
10	Thailand	349,199	176,899	-49.34%	1,599,829	1,722,157	7.65%

Export

Among Taiwan's top 10 export destinations, only Mexico is an emerging economy. From January to October 2025, Taiwan's exports of fasteners to Mexico reached 25,400 metric tons, a 9.25% decrease compared to the same period in 2024. This represents the second-largest decline among its top 10 export destinations.

Rank	Partner	Jan-Oct 2024 (KG)	Jan-Oct 2025 (KG)	% Change 2025/2024	Jan-Oct 2024 (USD)	Jan-Oct 2025 (USD)	% Change 2025/2024
0	World	1,031,629,910	1,012,644,502	-1.84%	3,623,722,838	3,542,042,265	-2.25%
1	USA	470,439,123	452,662,885	-3.78%	1,606,258,334	1,529,640,186	-4.77%
2	Germany	86,673,347	92,376,695	6.58%	293,927,727	299,954,278	2.05%
3	Netherlands	62,035,072	58,831,297	-5.16%	205,293,411	199,679,004	-2.73%
4	Japan	42,999,254	44,574,753	3.66%	159,268,741	167,794,689	5.35%
5	Canada	39,159,055	41,004,068	4.71%	134,092,341	143,941,394	7.34%
6	U.K.	28,676,580	27,986,459	-2.41%	122,008,609	114,142,338	-6.45%
7	Mexico	28,039,927	25,446,889	-9.25%	118,254,021	109,647,432	-7.28%
8	Spain	26,660,367	24,983,988	-6.29%	71,399,277	65,217,909	-8.66%
9	Poland	24,144,014	24,142,876	0.00%	64,325,234	65,561,800	1.92%
10	Italy	24,613,246	21,705,641	-11.81%	72,872,778	63,929,443	-12.27%

Conclusions

The global fastener supply and demand industry chain maintains close cooperative relationships. Many developed countries, responding to high domestic manufacturing and labor costs, increasingly shift procurement orders to emerging-market supply chains capable of producing competitively priced products while meeting their technical standards and after-sales service requirements. This trend has inadvertently fostered the gradual growth and development of fastener suppliers in these emerging economies. Although the demand for fasteners in advanced economies like Europe, the U.S., and Japan is still largely met by manufacturers from China and Taiwan, **emerging players from Southeast Asia, Latin America, and Turkey with support from local government policies and through collaborations with clients to acquire more technical expertise and experience have been gaining traction in recent years, making them successfully penetrate the industrial supply chains of Europe, the U.S., and Japan** and capture a significant share of the market. Many manufacturers in Europe, the U.S., and Japan are also attempting to diversify their procurement sources to mitigate risks amid pressures from geopolitical tensions, import tariffs, and regulatory changes.

In terms of exports, a significant portion of exports from Europe, the U.S., and Japan is also destined for emerging economies, indicating that **the demand for mid-to-high-end fasteners is also growing in these markets, which may be attributed to either the needs of overseas factories established by European, U.S. and Japanese companies in emerging economies or the increased focus of emerging economies on developing mid-to-high-end industries.** However, while Taiwanese fastener manufacturers are striving to enter the mid-to-high-end market segment, their primary export partners remain predominantly European and American countries based on the data. This indicates that there is still room for improvement in developing emerging markets. ■

