



TRADE & INDUSTRIAL POLICY STRATEGIES



Tracking quarterly trends and analysing foreign direct investment, imports and exports

TIPS EXPORT TRACKER

FIRST QUARTER 2024

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TIPS TRACKERS

TIPS Export Tracker provides updates on export trends and identifies sectors and products that are performing well and those that are lagging.

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CONTENTS

Overview of export performance	3
Significant product growth in exports and analysis.....	7
Significant growth in Groats and meal of maize.....	7
Significant growth in Fresh pears	9
Significant product slump in exports and analysis.....	11
Significant slump in polypropylene.....	11
Significant slump in Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, < 0.25% of carbon	12

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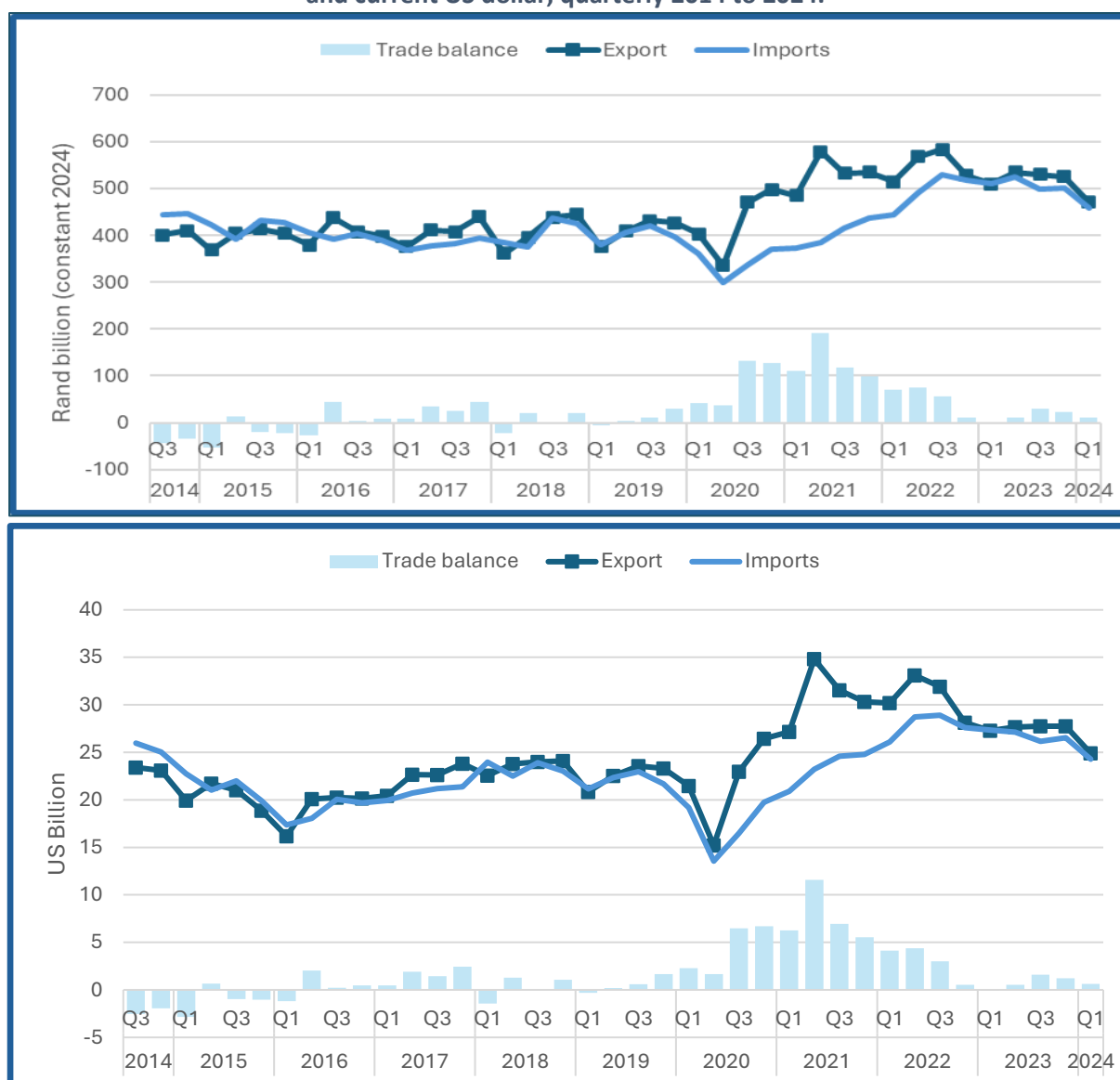
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OVERVIEW OF EXPORT PERFORMANCE

South Africa’s exports continued to decline in the first quarter of 2024, after falling for two consecutive quarters. In Q1 2024, South African exports fell by 7.8% year-on-year, from R510 billion in Q1 2023 to R470 billion (in constant 2024 prices). On a quarter-to-quarter basis, exports declined by 10%, down from R525 billion in Q4 2023. This decline was mainly driven by the reduced demand from key markets such as Asia, North America, and the Middle East.

Imports also saw a decline, falling by 10.2% year-on-year from R511 billion in Q1 2023 to R458 billion in Q1 2024. Though the exports declined, South Africa still registered a surplus of R12 billion in Q1 2024 compared with a trade deficit of one billion Rands in the first quarter of 2023, shown in Graph 1. On quarterly basis, South Africa’s trade surplus declined by 47.8% from R23 billion to R12 billion.

Graph 1: Exports, imports, and trade balance in constant (2024), Rand value and current US dollar, quarterly 2014 to 2024.



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> in July 2024.

In the first quarter of 2024, South Africa’s top 20 export product groups included ores, precious stones, vehicles, and mineral fuels, as detailed in Table 1. The top five export product groups represented 61%

of total exports. Ores, with an export value of R81.91 billion (17%), reflected an annual growth rate of 14% from Q1 2023 to Q1 2024. Of these exports, 46% (R37 billion) were destined for China. R12.7 billion (15%) of total exports were through Mozambique to other markets. The increase in ores exports was driven by higher demand in India, 43.9%, and the United States (US), 37.8%, as iron ores, manganese ores and chrome ores made South Africa’s top five export products (see Table A2 in the Annexure).

During the same quarter, R76 billion worth of precious stones were exported, indicating a 16% year-on-year decline and a 15% quarter-on-quarter decline. Exports of precious stones to South Africa’s top three markets declined, with Japan seeing a 41% drop. Other countries (categorised as Area NES in the data) received 36% of these exports, while the US and Japan accounted for 17% and 13%, respectively. Vehicle exports amounted to R51 billion, representing 11% of the total South African exports and a 25% year-on-year increase. This significant growth follows a rebound in demand from the UK which saw exports to the United Kingdom (UK) rise by 307% and a 70% increase to the US, with each country accounting for 11% of vehicle exports. Mineral fuels and oils generated R47.8 billion, or 10% of total exports, with 20% of these exports going to the South African Development Community (SADC). Exports of mineral fuels were dominated by coal and light oils. Iron and steel exports declined by 8%, from R32 billion in Q1 2023 to R30 billion in Q1 2024, resulting in a decrease in the share of mineral fuels and oils exports from 7% to 6% over the same period.

Among the top 20 export groups, fruits and nuts exhibited the highest growth rates, increasing by 33%, in part, due to higher demand from India and the US. In contrast, machinery exports declined, dropping to R23.8 billion from R27.3 billion, a slump of 12.96%. Other notable decline in exports included cereals (27%), pulp of wood (22%), and chemical products (22%).

Table 1: Top 20 sectors, Q1 2023 to Q1 2024

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION		VALUE (R BILLIONS)		SHARES		ANNUAL GROWTH RATE	TOP EXPORT MARKET
HS Code	Sector	2023-Q1	2024-Q1	2023-Q1	2024-Q1	2023-Q1 to 2024-Q1	Top Export Markets
'26	Ores	71.6	81.9	14.8%	17.4%	14.4%	China
'71	Precious stones	95.4	76.7	19.7%	16.3%	-19.6%	Area NES*, United States
87	Vehicles	41.3	51.6	8.5%	11.0%	24.8%	Germany
'27	Mineral fuels and oils	61.3	47.8	12.7%	10.2%	-22.0%	India
'72	Iron and steel	32.7	30.1	6.8%	6.4%	-8.1%	China
'84	Machinery (industrial)	27.3	23.8	5.6%	5.1%	-12.9%	Germany
'08	Fruit and nuts	16.4	21.7	3.4%	4.6%	33.1%	Netherlands
'76	Aluminium	10	9.1	2.1%	1.9%	-8.9%	United States
'85	Electrical machinery	7.4	8.9	1.5%	1.9%	19.7%	Namibia

'22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	5.2	6.3	1.1%	1.3%	20.8%	Namibia
'39	Plastics	6.6	5.9	1.4%	1.3%	-10.6%	Zambia
'47	Pulp of wood	6.6	5.2	1.4%	1.1%	-21.7%	India
'28	Inorganic chemicals	6.4	5.2	1.3%	1.1%	-19.8%	Belgium
'29	Organic chemicals	5.1	5.1	1.1%	1.1%	0.6%	Belgium
'73	iron or steel	5.0	4.9	1.0%	1.0%	-2.4%	Zambia
'10	Cereals	6.7	4.9	1.4%	1.0%	-27.4%	Zimbabwe
'38	inorganic chemical products	5.3	4.4	1.1%	0.9%	-18.4%	United States
'74	Copper	4.4	4.1	0.9%	0.9%	-6.1%	China
'25	Salt; sulphur; earths and stone	3.2	3.9	0.7%	0.8%	19.4%	Netherlands
'33	Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery	2.6	3.1	0.5%	0.7%	18.8%	Namibia

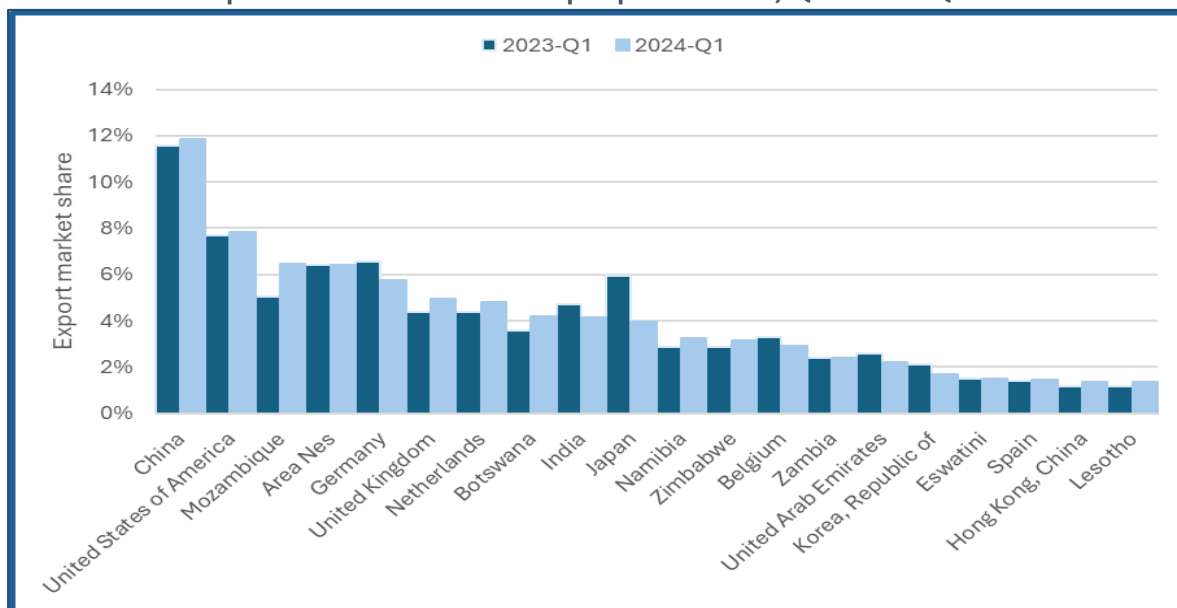
Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from www.trademap.org. Accessed August 2024. Note: *Area Not Elsewhere Specified.

In Q1 2024, the top five export markets shown in Graph 2 accounted for 43% of South Africa's total exports. During this quarter, exports were mostly directed to China and the US. China remained South Africa's largest export market, particularly of raw materials such as ores, representing 11.8% of total exports by value, even though exports to China decreased from R56 billion in Q1 2023 to R55 billion in Q1 2024. The composition and share of South Africa's top five exports to China remained relatively stable. In Q1 2024, ores made up 68.1% of the total export value, followed by iron and steel at 14.4%, copper at 6.2%, wool at 2.3%, and wood pulp at 1.9%. Collectively, these products accounted for 93% of South Africa's total exports to China, consistent with the figures from Q4 2023. Of the top five export products to China, ores experienced the highest growth, increasing by 8.8%, from R34 billion in Q1 2023 to R37 billion in Q1 2024. Wood pulp, in contrast, saw a significant decline of 69%, followed by iron and steel at 14%.

The United States, the second-largest export market, accounted for 7.8% of all exports. Exports to the US fell from R37.3 billion in Q1 2023 to R36.8 billion in Q1 2024, a decrease in the share of exports by 2.3% year-on-year.

It is important to note the significant exports to Mozambique which, according to data, retained its position as South Africa's third-largest export market. However, this standing is flawed as a significant share of exports to Mozambique tend to represent exports destined for other markets such as China. Furthermore, the 1.4 percentage points rise in exports from 5% to 6.4% to Mozambique in Q1 2024 may represent increased exports through Mozambique instead of exports destined for Mozambique.

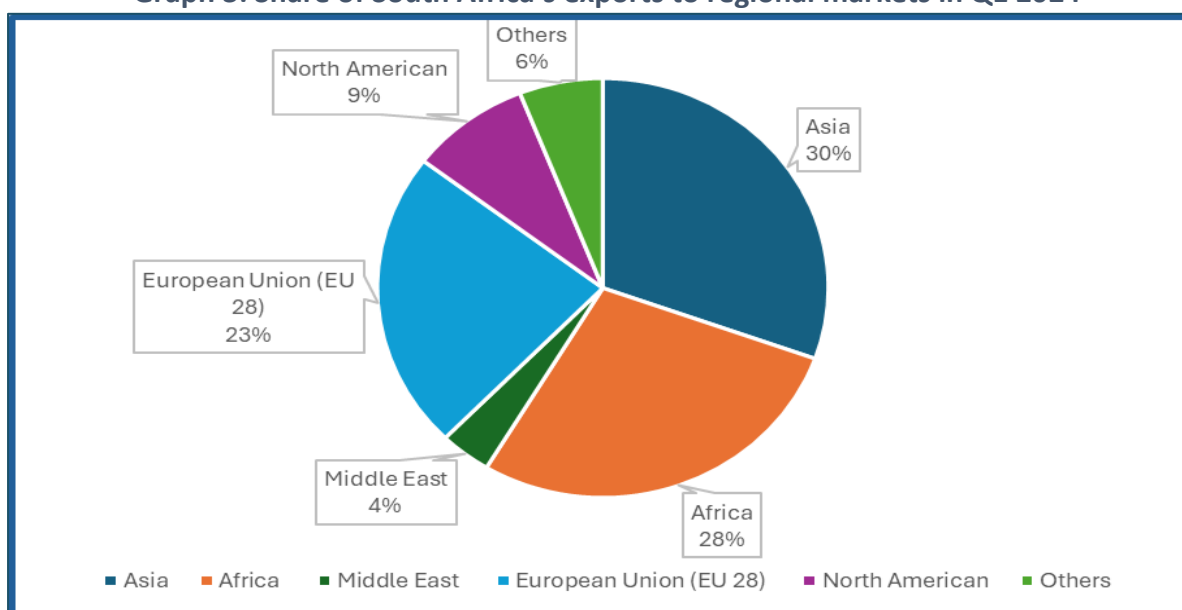
Graph 2: Market share in the top export markets, Q1 2023 to Q1 2024



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map Data. Downloaded from www.trademap.org in July 2024.

Graph 3 illustrates the distribution of South Africa’s exports to regional markets in Q1 2024. Asia, Africa, and the European Union (EU) together accounted for 82% of these regional exports. Asia was the largest recipient, with exports valued at R470 billion, comprising 30% of the total. However, exports to Asia experienced a notable year-on-year decline of 10%, dropping from R158.9 billion in Q1 2023 to R143 billion in Q1 2024 (constant 2024 prices). This was the largest year-on-year drop in regional exports and represented a 12% decrease quarter-on-quarter. In contrast, exports to Africa, the second-largest recipient, accounted for 28% of total exports. They grew by R10 billion, or 9%, rising from R121 billion in Q1 2023 to R132 billion in Q1 2024, marking the largest gains in regional exports. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, however, exports to Africa declined by 10%. The European Union (EU 28) received 23% of South Africa's exports, experiencing a decline of R12 billion, from R120 billion in Q1 2023 to R108 billion in Q1 2024, a 10% decrease. Exports to the Middle East and other regions comprised the smallest shares, at 4% and 6%, respectively.

Graph 3: Share of South Africa’s exports to regional markets in Q1 2024



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> in July 2024

SIGNIFICANT PRODUCT GROWTH IN EXPORTS AND ANALYSIS

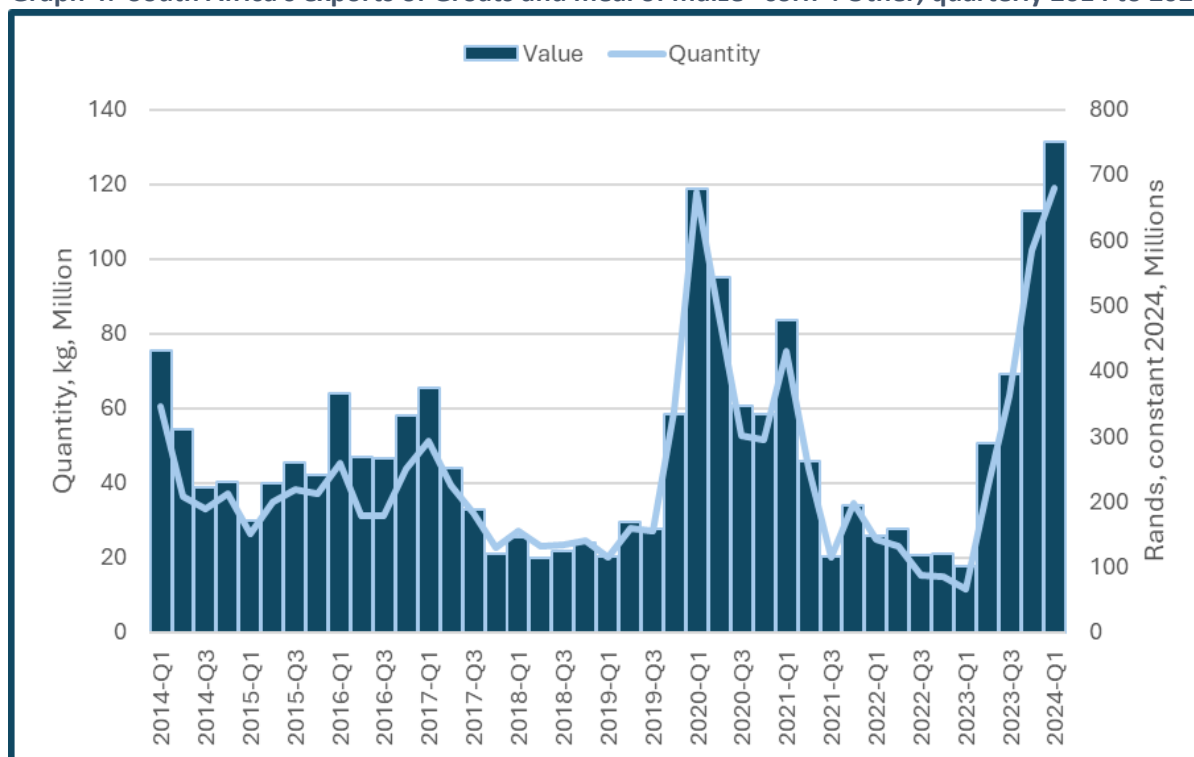
Significant growth in Groats and meal of maize

HS 11031390 – Groats and meal of maize “corn”: Other

Corn groats, or maize meal, commonly referred to as mielie meal in South Africa, is a coarse grain derived from corn. It ranges in colour from yellow to off-white¹, depending on the type of maize used. This versatile ingredient is a key staple in various dishes and plays a crucial role in the diet of many communities across Sub-Saharan Africa.²

Graph 4: South Africa's exports of Groats and meal of maize “corn”: Other illustrates South Africa’s exports of groats and meal of maize from Q1 2014 to Q1 2024. During this period, the exports exhibit significant volatility, with cyclical spikes typically occurring in the first or second quarter of each year. Notably, Q1 2020 and Q1 2024 stand out, with exports reaching 117.8 million kg (valued at R678.4 million) and 118.9 million kg (valued at R749.6 million), respectively. These peaks are often followed by sharp declines in the subsequent quarters, with the lowest export levels usually observed in the fourth quarter. However, Q1 2023 marked the lowest export level within the entire period. This was followed by a sharp year-on-year increase of 662% in Q1 2024, with the value of exports rising from R98 million in Q1 2023 to R750 million in Q1 2024. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, exports also saw a 16% increase from R512 million in Q4 2023 to R594 million in Q1 2024.

Graph 4: South Africa's exports of Groats and meal of maize “corn”: Other, quarterly 2014 to 2024



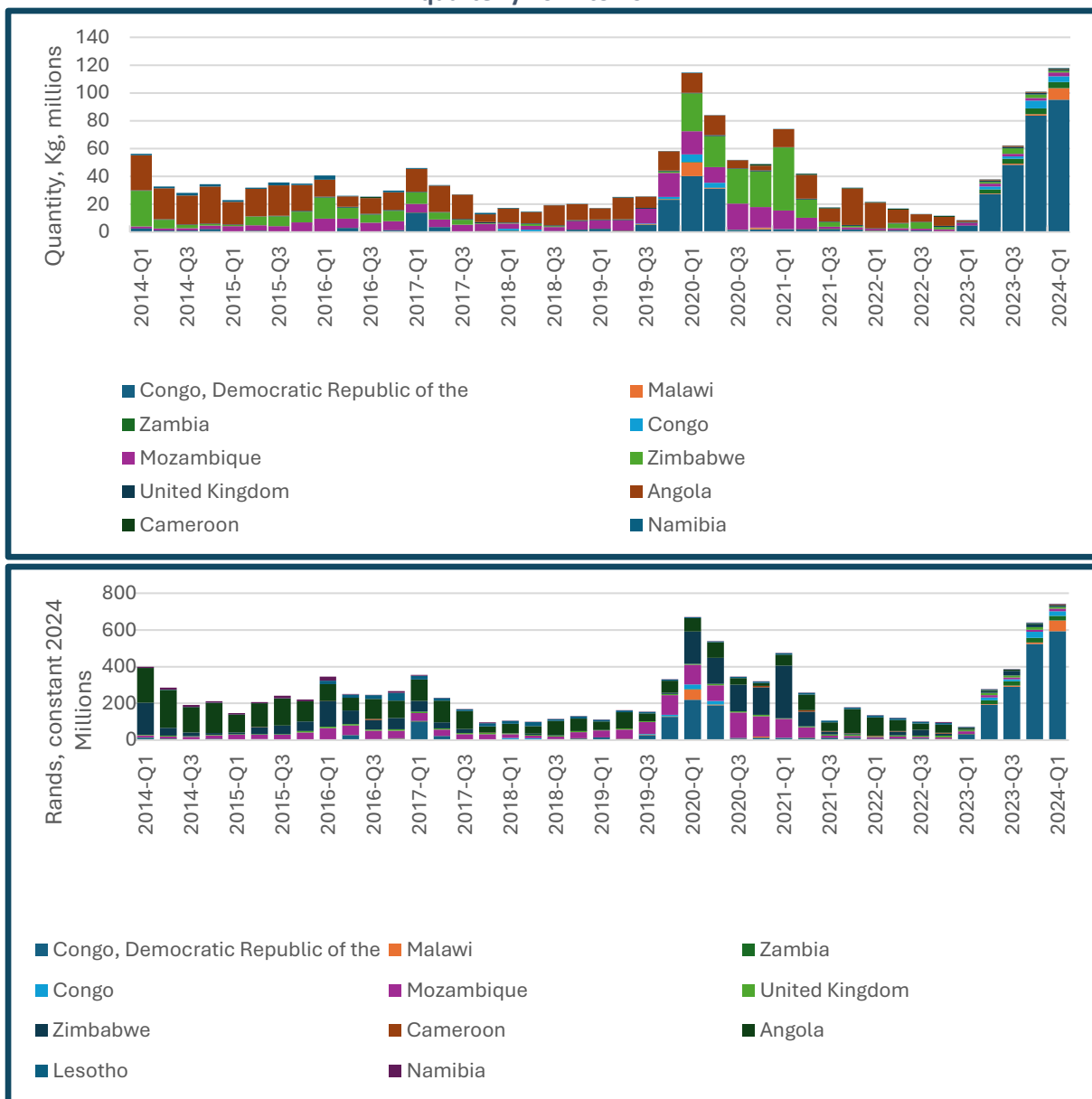
Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded <https://trademap.org>, and sars.gov.za in August 2024

¹UL Prospector, n.d. Corn Groats/Hominy Grits. <https://www.ulprospector.com/en/eu/Food/Detail/12497/381994/Corn-Groats-Hominy-Grits#:~:text=Corn%20Groats%2FHominy%20Grits%20is,of%20bag%20sizes%20and%20weights>. Accessed August 2024.

²Tshiamala, 2023. Can DRC withstand the maize meal crisis? <https://www.grainsa.co.za/maize-what-a-versatile-crop>. Accessed August 2024.

Throughout the observed period, Angola, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique have been the dominant export markets for South Africa's corn groats. However, since the first quarter of 2023, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has emerged as a key export market. The rising demand for maize groats in the DRC is largely due to limited local production and the escalating cost of maize in the conflict-affected country.³ This situation has been exacerbated by deteriorating climate conditions and Zambia's export ban on maize to the DRC.⁴ By Q1 2024, the DRC accounted for 79% of South Africa's corn groat exports by quantity, up from 32% in Q1 2023. Malawi also saw a notable increase in imports of maize groats from South Africa, with exports growing from R36 million (0.1% of total maize groats exports) to R593 million (7.7% of total maize groats exports), depicted by Graph 5.

Graph 5: Top 10 export markets for South Africa's Groats and meal of maize "corn": other, quarterly 2014 to 2024.



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded <https://trademap.org> in August 2024.

³ <https://www.theafricareport.com/310568/can-drc-withstand-the-maize-meal-crisis/>

⁴ <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/news/east-africa/zambia-maize-exports-ban-hurts-drc-4217050>

Significant growth in Fresh pears

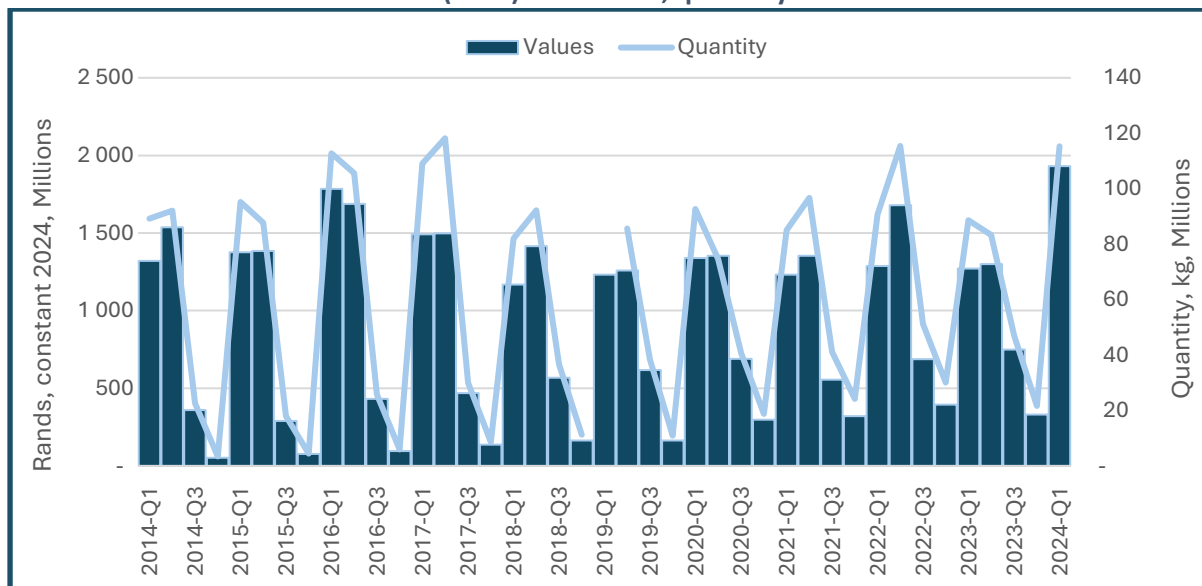
HS 08083000 Fresh pears

Fresh pears are sweet, bell-shaped fruits that have been enjoyed since ancient times and can be eaten either crisp or soft. They are highly nutritious, packed with vitamins, minerals, fibre, and antioxidants, and can be consumed fresh or added to salads⁵.

Fresh pears are seasonal, with South Africa's exports peaking primarily during the first and second quarters each year. The South African pear production area is estimated at around 12 892 hectares, (Hortgro, 2023)⁶. Reports suggest that this pear production area is relatively small compared to global standards. Despite this, South Africa is among the top four pear exporters globally in value and ranks in the top five in volume for Q1 2024. Most of the country's pear production is geared toward exports⁷.

Graph 6 shows South Africa's exports of fresh pears by quantity and in constant 2024 Rand values, quarterly in the past decade. In line with the seasonal nature of the fresh pears (as a summer fruit), the graph demonstrates a cyclical trend of South Africa's total exports of fresh pears, typically peaking in the first and second quarters every year. South Africa's total exports of fresh pears grew by 56% from Q1 2023 to Q1 2024 from R1.2 billion to the record high of R1.9 billion in constant rand terms. In volumes, the exports increased by 30% from 91 million kg to 115 million kg in the same period. Similarly, while the global unit prices of South Africa's exports of fresh pears averaged R14 per kg (constant price) during the first quarters over the last decade, Q1 2024 reached a peak of R17 per kg in constant prices. The first quarter of 2024 saw fresh pears reaching the market earlier than usual due to early harvest (DALRD 2024)⁸. Moreover, the higher yield in Q1 2024 was characterised by good climate compared to the hailstorms that were experienced in Q1 2023⁹.

Graph 6: South Africa's exports of fresh pears in quantity and constant (2024) Rand value, quarterly 2014 to 2024



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> in August 2024.

Note: Quantity for Q1 2019 discarded due to data error.

5 <https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/benefits-of-pears>

6 Hortgro. Growing Fruit IQ. Key Deciduous Fruit Statistics 2023. www.hortgro.co.za. Accessed October 2024.

7 <https://southafrica.co.za/pears-south-africa.html>

8 Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development. 2024. Quarterly Economic Overview Agriculture Sector. Volume22, Number 1, First Quarter 2024. Available at quarterly-economic-overview-of-the-agriculture-sector-volume-22-number-1-first-quarter-2024.pdf. Accessed October 2024.

9 <https://www.freshfruitportal.com/news/2024/05/26/south-african-fruit-export-industry-sees-growth/>

Globally, South Africa is the fourth largest exporter of fresh pears, following the Netherlands, China, and Belgium in value terms. It takes the fifth position in volumes following China, Netherlands, Argentina and Belgium. The top five global export markets for South Africa’s fresh pears in the first quarter of 2024 in constant value terms were the Netherlands (28.8%), Russian Federation (12.2%), United Arab Emirates (10.6%), India (6%) and Italy (4.4%). Even though Netherlands produces its own fresh pears, its demand for South Africa’s fresh pears is significant. The top three export markets account for 51.6% of the total global exports of fresh pears from South Africa.

All the top export markets for South Africa’s fresh pears demonstrated growth from Q1 2023 to Q1 2024 in constant rands. During the same period, Portugal experienced the highest growth with 137% in constant rands from R28 million to R67 million. In volumes, while the demand increased in other markets, the demand for South Africa’s fresh pears declined in the United Kingdom and India by 12.2% (from 4.52 million kg to 3.98 million kg) and 3.7% (from 6.91 million kg to 6.66 million kg), respectively shown in Graph 7.

Graph 7: Top 10 export markets for South Africa's fresh pears in quantity and constant (2024) Rand value, quarterly 2014 to 2024



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> in August 2024.

SIGNIFICANT PRODUCT SLUMP IN EXPORTS AND ANALYSIS

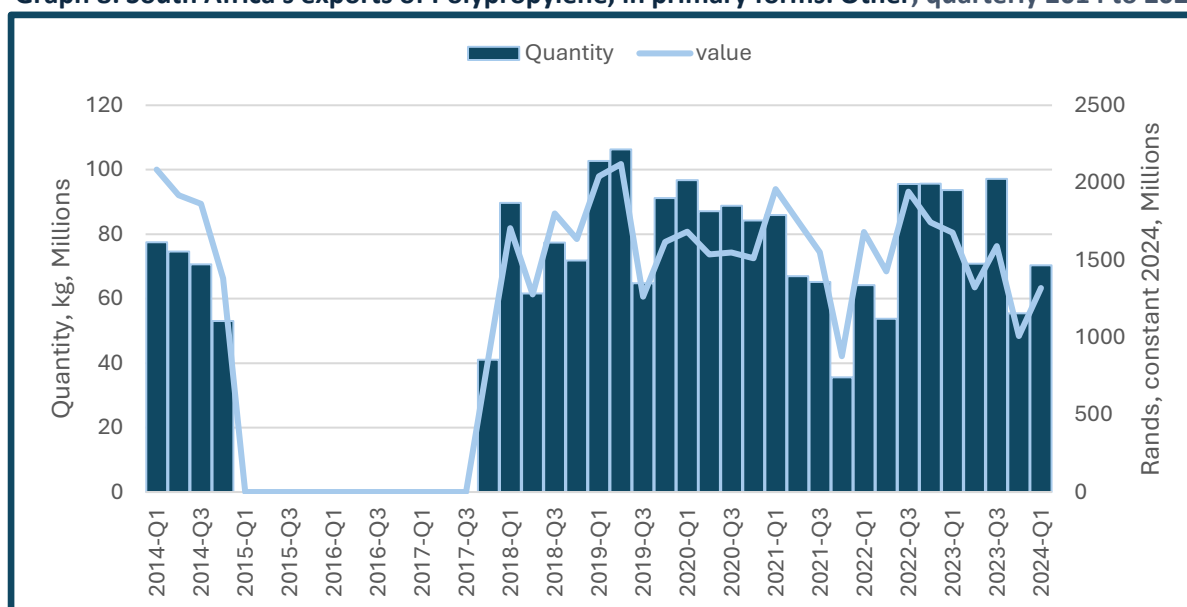
Significant slump in polypropylene

HS39021090 Polypropylene, in primary forms: Other

Polypropylene (PP) is a low-density, heat-resistant polyolefin¹⁰ widely used in manufacturing plastic packaging, woven products, and plastic components for machinery and equipment.¹¹ It is particularly favoured in applications requiring low friction, such as gears in machinery and vehicles. Thanks to its flexibility and durability, polypropylene is a preferred material for packaging and textile products.

While exports of polypropylene, as shown in Graph 8, has previously been analysed (see Q4 2022 Export Tracker) as a product of significant growth, exports of polypropylene have since experienced a declining trend. In Q1 2024, this product experienced significant decline, falling by 25% year-on-year, representing a decline from 93 million kg valued at R1.6 billion in Q1 2023 to 70 million kg valued R1.3 billion in Q1 2024. However, from the previous quarter, exports of polypropylene increased 27% by volume and 30% by value (see Graph 8).

Graph 8: South Africa's exports of Polypropylene, in primary forms: Other, quarterly 2014 to 2024



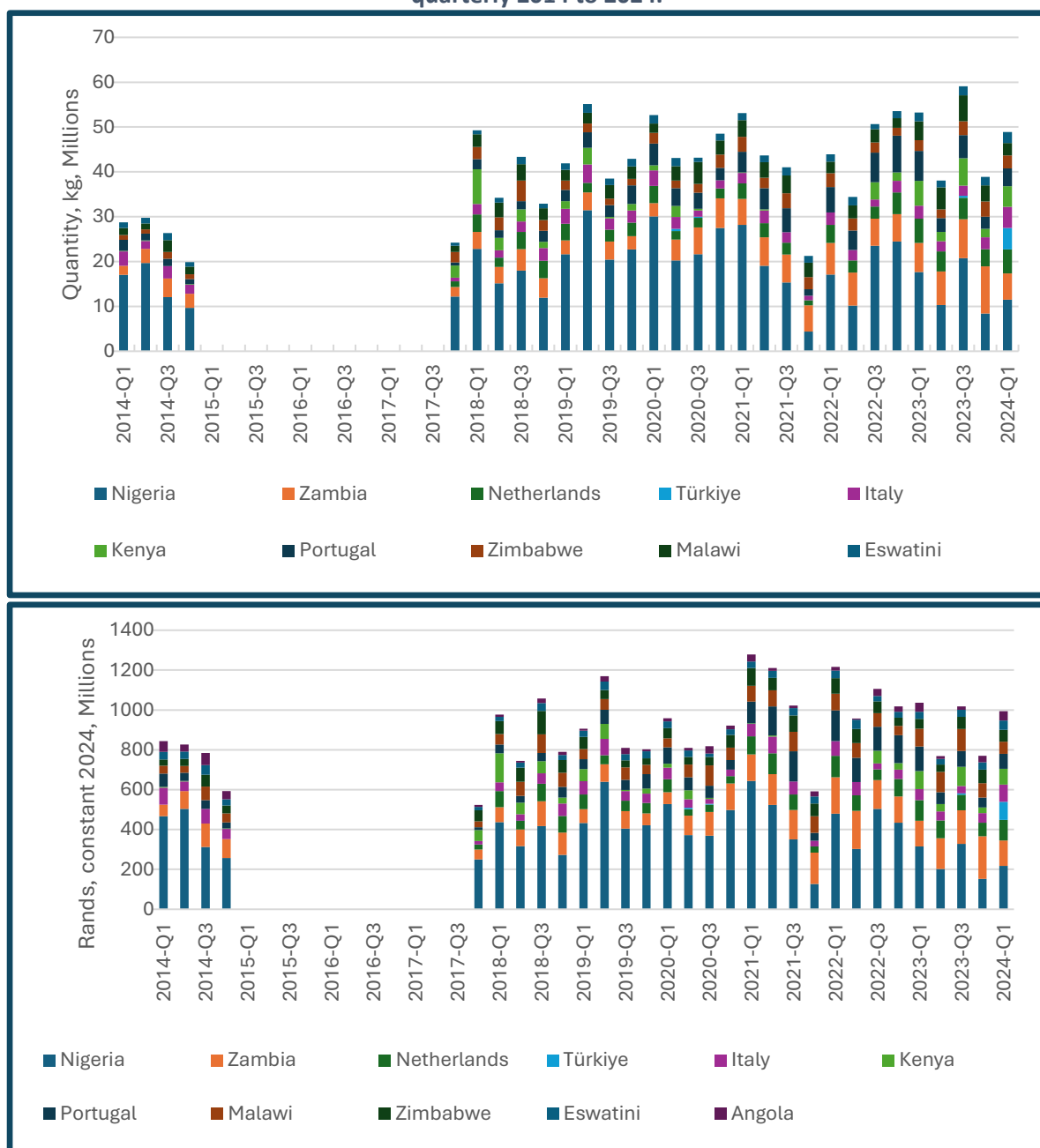
Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded <https://trademap.org>, and sars.gov.za in August 2024.

In Q4 2024, the top 10 export markets for South Africa's polypropylene accounted for 69% of the total exports of the product. Nigeria remained the leading market, importing 11.5 million kg of polypropylene, representing 16% of the total export share. This is a decrease from 19% in Q1 2023 but a slight increase from 15% in Q4 2023. Other significant markets included Zambia (8%), the Netherlands (8%), and Türkiye (7%). The overall decline in exports during Q1 2024 was primarily driven by reduced demand from key markets: exports to Portugal dropped by 41%, to Nigeria by 35%, and to Malawi by 32%, see Graph 9.

¹⁰Omnexus, 2024. How to Select the Right Polypropylene Grade? Available at [https://omnexus.specialchem.com/selection-guide/polypropylene-pp-plastic#:~:text=Polypropylene%20\(PP\)%20is%20a%20type,C3H6\)n](https://omnexus.specialchem.com/selection-guide/polypropylene-pp-plastic#:~:text=Polypropylene%20(PP)%20is%20a%20type,C3H6)n). Accessed in August 2024.

¹¹Plastics SA. (2021). What is Polypropylene? Available at <https://www.plasticsinfo.co.za/2021/01/13/what-is-polypropylene>. Accessed in August 2024.

Graph 9: Top 10 export markets for South Africa's Polypropylene, in primary forms: Other, quarterly 2014 to 2024.



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded <https://trademap.org>, and sars.gov.za. August 2024..

Significant slump in Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, < 0.25% of carbon, ...

HS 72071900 Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, < 0.25% of carbon,...

Steel is a metal primarily composed of iron (Fe), carbon (ranging from 0.025% to 2.14%), and various additives and alloys. Semi-finished products are processed in steel rolling mills to produce finished items such as hot-rolled sections, plates, sheets, and flats¹².

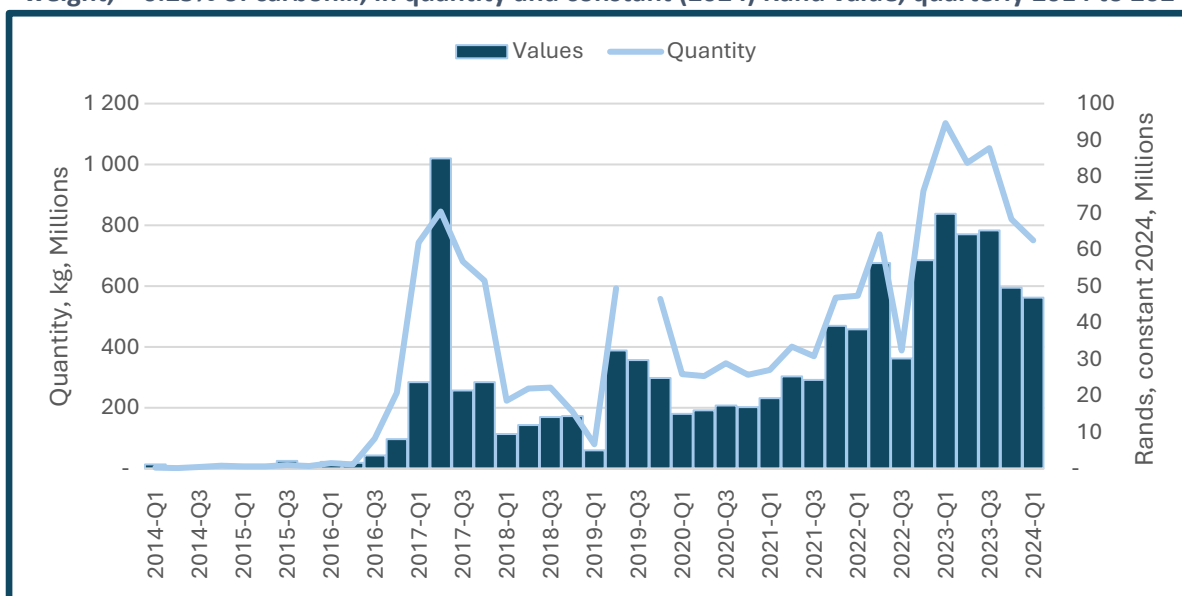
¹² <https://metinvestholding.com/en/products/semi-finished-products#:~:text=Semi%2Dfinished%20steel%20products%20include,sections%2C%20flat%20products%20and%20pipes>.

Non-alloy steel consists of iron and carbon with small traces of other elements like manganese, nickel, and phosphorus, which are not added intentionally but are present as impurities from the blast furnace process¹³.

Non-alloy steel contains iron, carbon, and trace impurities (e.g. manganese, nickel) from the production process. It is used where strength or hardness is needed without additional elements for corrosion or wear resistance, making it harder but more brittle than alloy steel. Applications include automotive parts and construction materials¹⁴.

South Africa’s exports in the category of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, <0.25% of carbon have been fluctuating over the years. Though the post-COVID exports have been fluctuating, they were generally higher than the pre-COVID exports, with Q1 2023 exports peaking at 95 million kg valued at R838 million in constant 2024 Rands. South Africa’s exports of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, <0.25% of carbon, plummeted by 33.94% in volumes from 95 million kg to 63 million kg from Q1 2023 to Q1 2024. It also saw a decline of 32.85% in constant rand terms in the same period from R838 million to R562 million. The decline in exports of the same product from South Africa was observed from Q4 2023 to Q1 2024 with 8.49% (from 68 million kg) and 5.49% (from R595 million to R562 million) in both the quantities and in the constant rand terms respectively (see Graph 10).

Graph 10: South Africa's exports of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, < 0.25% of carbon..., in quantity and constant (2024) Rand value, quarterly 2014 to 2024



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> in August 2024.

Note: Quantity for Q3 2019 discarded due to data error.

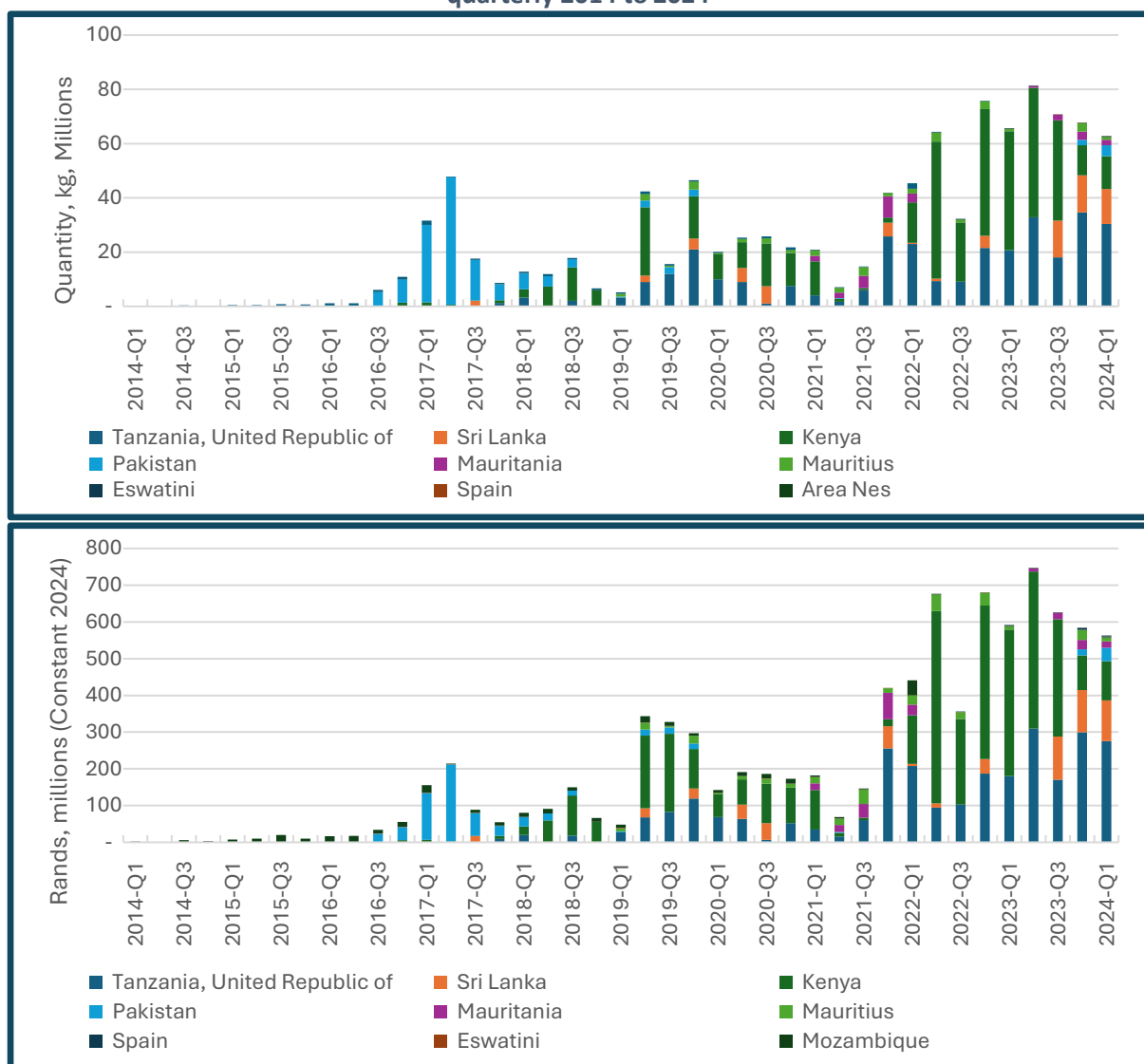
The South African exports of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel, containing by weight <0.25% of carbon, are destined to Africa, mostly to the SADC countries, and to South Asia, then Europe. The United Republic of Tanzania was the top market for South Africa’s exports in the category of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, <0.25% of carbon with 49% shares both in quantities and values in Q1 2024. The United Republic of Tanzania was followed by Sri Lanka (20.66%), Kenya (19.27%), Pakistan (6.51%) and Mauritania (3.21%) in volumes. The demand for South Africa’s products in the category of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel

¹³ <https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-difference-between-alloy-and-non-alloy-steel#:~:text=Non%20alloy%20steel%20is%20steel,iron%20in%20a%20blast%20furnace.>

¹⁴ <https://blog.thepipingmart.com/metals/alloy-steel-vs-non-alloy-steel-whats-the-difference/>

containing, by weight, <0.25% of carbon, fell the most in Kenya with 73.1% and 72.45% in values (in constant rands) and in volumes, respectively, on a year-on-year basis. Of the top three¹⁵ export markets for South Africa’s semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, <0.25% of carbon, the Republic of Tanzania experienced the highest drop with a 12.45% decline in volumes and a 7.99% decrease in values (constant Rands) on a quarter-to-quarter basis. However, on a year-on-year basis, the quantities of South Africa’s semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, <0.25% of carbon, exported to the United Republic of Tanzania grew by 46.1% (from 21 million kg in Q1 2023 to 30 million kg in Q1 2024) and 52.8% in constant rands (from R180 million in Q1 2023 to R275 million in Q1 2024), demonstrated by Graph 11.

Graph 11: Top 10 export markets for South Africa's semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, < 0.25% of carbon..., in quantity and constant (2024) Rand value, quarterly 2014 to 2024



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> in August 2024.

¹⁵ The reporting by other seven countries in the Top 10 export markets for South Africa’s products in the category of semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, <0.25% of carbon, appears to be inconsistent over the years. There are some data gaps in other quarters, especially in non-African countries: Pakistan, Spain including Area NES, as well as Mauritania. Moreover, exports in the semi-finished products should be looked at in conjunction with the South African government’s policy intervention to curb scrap metal theft and illegal exports of scrap metals that sometimes are exported (in disguise) as semi-finished products.

ANNEXURE

Table A1: South Africa's Top 50 exports by value, Q1 2024

RANK	HS CODE	DESCRIPTION	EXPORT VALUE (RANDS THOUSANDS)		GROWTH RATES (%)
			2023-Q1	2024-Q1	
1	'26	Ores. slag and ash	71 601 622	81 918 467	14.41%
2	'71	Natural or cultured pearls. precious or semi-precious stones. precious metals. metals clad ...	95 411 198	76 686 981	-19.6%
3	'87	Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling stock and parts and accessories thereof	41 326 451	51 581 377	24.81%
4	'27	Mineral fuels. mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral ...	61 325 040	47 833 185	-22%
5	'72	Iron and steel	32 704 848	30 057 195	-8.1
6	'84	Nuclear reactors. boilers. machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	27 343 045	23 809 321	-12.9%
7	'08	Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons	16 360 248	21 773 204	33.09%
8	'76	Aluminium and articles thereof	10 000 607	9 112 290	-8.9%
9	'85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers. television ...	7 402 401	8 861 607	19.71%
10	'22	Beverages. spirits and vinegar	5 188 571	6 267 323	20.79%
11	'39	Plastics and articles thereof	6 572 915	5 878 495	-10.6%
12	'47	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or ...	6 643 812	5 203 427	-21.7%
13	'28	Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic compounds of precious metals. of rare-earth metals. ...	6 435 168	5 164 020	-19.8%
14	'29	Organic chemicals	5 096 331	5 124 876	0.56%
15	'73	Articles of iron or steel	5 046 956	4 927 724	-2.4%

16	'10	Cereals	6 723 278	4 880 896	-27.4%
17	'38	Miscellaneous chemical products	5 338 401	4 358 153	-18.4%
18	'74	Copper and articles thereof	4 409 420	4 142 383	-6.1%
19	'25	Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials; lime and cement	3 232 017	3 858 522	19.38%
20	'33	Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery; cosmetic or toilet preparations	2 587 384	3 074 352	18.82%
21	'20	Preparations of vegetables; fruit; nuts or other parts of plants	2 930 565	3 047 085	3.98%
22	'48	Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp; of paper or of paperboard	3 020 676	2 957 431	-2.1%
23	'21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	2 324 397	2 737 998	17.79%
24	'75	Nickel and articles thereof	2 436 827	2 590 998	6.33%
25	'34	Soap. organic surface-active agents; washing preparations; lubricating preparations; artificial ...	2 494 630	2 582 614	3.53%
26	'44	Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal	2 366 072	2 423 529	2.43%
27	'90	Optical. photographic. cinematographic. measuring. checking. precision. medical or surgical ...	2 454 019	2 342 599	-4.5%
28	'17	Sugars and sugar confectionery	1 998 337	2 256 476	12.92%
29	'03	Fish and crustaceans. molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	2 097 709	2 061 306	-1.7%
30	'40	Rubber and articles thereof	2 166 565	2 050 468	-5.4%
31	'31	Fertilisers	2 697 206	2 009 644	-25.5%
32	'11	Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten	1 080 018	2 000 429	85.22%
33	'30	Pharmaceutical products	1 778 728	1 988 344	11.78%
34	'51	Wool. fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric	2 245 090	1 783 073	-20.6%
35	'15	Animal. vegetable or microbial fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; ...	1 555 500	1 738 303	11.75%

36	'02	Meat and edible meat offal	1 273 262	1 688 491	32.61%
37	'88	Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof	1 676 588	1 586 336	-5.4%
38	'32	Tanning or dyeing extracts; tannins and their derivatives; dyes, pigments and other colouring ...	1 484 124	1 498 287	0.95%
39	'19	Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastrycooks' products	1 386 189	1 462 977	5.54%
40	'23	Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder	1 260 133	1 433 653	13.77%
41	'94	Furniture; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings; ...	1 146 355	1 352 515	17.98%
42	'12	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal ...	2 148 291	1 339 221	-37.7%
43	'99	Commodities not elsewhere specified	799 590	1 309 160	63.73%
44	'07	Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	926 852	1 186 273	27.99%
45	'89	Ships, boats and floating structures	1 067 013	1 150 850	7.86%
46	'04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin; not elsewhere ...	1 094 921	1 059 062	-3.3%
47	'61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	874 141	815 572	-6.7%
48	'96	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	723 140	803 015	11.05%
49	'82	Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof of base metal	669 560	802 940	19.92%
50	'41	Raw hides and skins and leather	741 965	786 909	6.1%

Table A2: Top 50 exports of goods, by quantity with explanations, Q1 2024

No.	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	MAJOR IMPORTER	EXPLANATION	Q1 2023 QUANTITY	Q1 2024 QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT GROWTH	CHANGE IN RANK
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1	27011200	Bituminous coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	India	Resurged exports to Viet Nam and Morocco	15 499 210 054	15 987 560 485	Kilograms	3.2%	0
2	26011100	Non-agglomerated iron ores and concentrates (excluding roasted iron pyrites)	China	Increased exports to key markets including China, Netherlands and Korea Republic	5 479 544 206	15 778 898 906	Kilograms	188.0%	2
3	26020000	Manganese ores and concentrates, including ferruginous manganese ores and concentrates, with a ...	China	Decrease in quantity within the normal variance. with no substantial change in ranking.	5 833 812 266	5 670 955 149	Kilograms	-2.8%	0
4	26100000	Chromium ores and concentrates	China	Significant increase in export volumes to main market	4 097 951 994	5 072 190 006	Kilograms	23.8%	1
5	27011900	Coal. whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated (excluding anthracite and bituminous coal)	India	Significant decline of exports to India which accounts for 30% and a decline in exports to the UK, down from 55 million kg in Q1 2023 to 30000 kg in Q1 2024	1 883 012 592	1 428 854 403	Kilograms	-24.1%	1

6	04069099	Cheese (excluding fresh cheese, including whey cheese, Curd, processed cheese, blue-veined cheese ...	Botswana	Abnormal increase in export quantity to Botswana. accounting for 99% of total exports. Possible data error	1 435 764	1 097 986 854	Kilograms	76374.0%	504
7	48041900	Kraftliner Uncoated, in rolls of a width > 36 cm (excluding unbleached and goods of heading ...	Italy	Abnormal increase in export quantity to Italy. accounting for 99% of total exports. Possible data error	28 761 026	1 080 734 256	Kilograms	3657.6%	68
8	72024100	Ferro-chromium. containing by weight > 4% of carbon	China	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial change in rank.	1 205 331 484	1 008 453 453	Kilograms	-16.3%	-1
9	10059090	Maize (excluding seed for sowing): Other	Zimbabwe	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance. No change in rank.	593 911 255	559 110 773	Kilograms	-5.9%	0
10	27101235	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including ...	Ship stores and bunkers. Mauritius	significant increase in volumes held in ship stores and bunkers. In addition to exports to markets with gaps in export data, i.e. Mauritius and Mozambique	137 427 334	360 445 964	Liters	162.3%	13

11	47020000	Chemical wood pulp, dissolving grades	Mozambique	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial slight change in rank.	343 320 593	354 010 175	Kilograms	3.1%	0
12	44012200	Wood in chips or particles (excluding those of a kind used principally for dyeing or tanning ...	Japan	No exports to Taipei, China, and the Netherlands in Q1 2024 after significant export in Q1 2023	471 897 181	353 283 366	Kilograms	-25.1%	-2
13	08061000	Fresh grapes	Netherlands	Increase in quantity within normal seasonal variance.	25 3271 787	319 069 812	Kilograms	26.0%	0
14	25101000	Natural calcium phosphates and natural aluminium calcium phosphates, natural and phosphatic ...	Netherlands	Significant increase in exports to the Netherlands which account for 74% of exports. Together with new exports to the Republic of Korea.	188 174 620	312 712 711	Kilograms	66.2%	2
15	26140000	Titanium ores and concentrates	China	Significant increase in exports to key markets including China and the US which account for 45% and 21% of exports.	150 381 618	291 640 010	Kilograms	93.9%	2

16	27101202	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including ...	Botswana	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial change in rank.	242 269 439	262 140 983	Liters	8.2%	-2
17	25232900	Portland cement (excluding white, whether or not artificially coloured)	Botswana	Significant increase in exports to key markets including member states of SADC which account for over 90% of exports.	148 476 358	241 045 206	Kilograms	62.3%	2
18	72011000	Non-alloy pig iron in pigs, blocks or other primary forms. containing. by weight, <= 0.5% of ...	Italy	An increase in exports to key markets in addition to the return of exports to Oman, Taipei and the Republic of Korea	145 195 095	234 362 680	Kilograms	61.4%	2
19	27101230	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including ...	Botswana	Slight decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial change in rank.	229 923 535	230 775 101	Liters	0.4%	-4
20	27011100	Anthracite. whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	Viet Nam	Increase as a result of exports to new markets such as Viet Nam, Spain. and Congo.	141 877 850	216 728 731	Kilograms	52.8%	1

21	25309000	Arsenic sulfides. Alunite, pozzuolana. earth colours and other mineral substances, n.e.s.	China	Abnormal increase in export quantity to China. accounting for 99% of total exports. for the past three quarters. Possible data error.	59 117	204 411 564	Kilograms	345674.6%	2146
22	71039900	Precious and semi-precious stones, worked, whether or not graded, but not strung, mounted or ...	United States	Possible data error in Q1 2023. Monitoring product in the following quarters.	94 932 777	161 665 726	Carats	70.3%	8
23	26151000	Zirconium ores and concentrates	China	An increase in exports to China and a resurged export to the Netherland	93 026 107	139 655 960	Kilograms	50.1%	12
24	76011000	Aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought	United States	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial change in rank.	139 006 836	133 559 239	Kilograms	-3.9%	-2
25	08081000	Fresh apples	Bangladesh	Increase in quantity within normal seasonal variance.	116 655 978	132 319 698	Kilograms	13.4%	-1
26	26180000	Granulated slag (slag sand) from the manufacture of iron or steel	United States	resurged exports to Japan and Namibia	104 885 671	121 238 909	Kilograms	15.6%	2

27	11031390	Groats and meal of maize "corn": Other	Congo DRC	Significant increase in exports to DRC and Malawi. Monitoring product in the following quarters.	11 444 427	118 966 807	Kilograms	939.5%	108
28	08083000	Fresh pears	Netherlands	Increase in quantity within normal seasonal variance.	88 594 013	115 256 752	Kilograms	30.1%	10
29	10059010	Maize (excluding seed for sowing): dried kernels or grains fit for human consumption, not further ...	Mozambique	Increase in quantity within normal seasonal variance.	89 565 412	102 600 156	Kilograms	14.6%	8
30	27012000	Briquettes, ovoids and similar solid fuels manufactured from coal	Viet Nam	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial change in rank.	108 366 161	102 540 551	Kilograms	-5.4%	-3
31	17011400	Raw cane sugar. in solid form, not containing added flavouring or colouring matter (excluding ...	Republic of Korea	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial change in rank.	94 497 516	94 022 948	Kilograms	-0.5%	2

32	28253000	Vanadium oxides and hydroxides	Mozambique	Abnormal increase in export quantity to Mozambique. accounting for 99% of total exports. for the past three quarters. Possible data error	1 533 944	91 759 619	Kilograms	5881.9%	463
33	10019900	Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat)	Botswana	Significant decline in exports to Zimbabwe and Namibia	113 077 607	89 942 248	Kilograms	-20.5%	-7
34	27101207	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including ...	Ship stores and bunkers. Botswana	A 46% decline in exports to ships stores and bunkers.	14 9740 996	81 849 248	Liters	-45.3%	-16
35	26080000	Zinc ores and concentrates	China	Decline in exports to China which accounts for 99% of exports.	94 919 410	81 078 404	Kilograms	-14.6%	-4
36	29012900	Hydrocarbons, Acyclic, unsaturated (excluding ethylene, propene "propylene", butene "butylene" ...	Singapore	Increase in exports to Singapore and Belgium.	64 198 853	74 095 605	Kilograms	15.4%	6

37	27101252	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including ...	Angola	Increase in exports to Angola which accounts for 85% of exports and other key markets such Zambia. Malawi and Zimbabwe.	12 221 469	70 817 707	Liters	479.5%	86
38	39021090	Polypropylene in primary forms: Other	Nigeria	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial change in rank.	93 713 170	70 371 889	Kilograms	-24.9%	-4
39	28092090	Phosphoric acid; polyphosphoric acids, whether or not chemically defined: Other	India	Decline in exports to India	90 932 820	69 181 399	Kilograms	-23.9%	-3
40	11031310	Groats and meal of maize "corn": maize meal not further processed other than by the addition ...	Mozambique	Decline in exports to Mozambique, Lesotho and Malawi.	52 851 978	67 695 684	Kilograms	28.1%	5
41	25291000	Feldspar	India	Abnormal increase in exports to India. accounting for 99% of exports. Possible data error in quantities recorded for India.	30 189 761	65 075 691	Kilograms	115.6%	31

42	72071900	Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel containing, by weight, < 0.25% of carbon, ...	Tanzania	Significant decrease in export volumes to Kenya, falling from 43 million kg in Q1 2023 to 12 million kg in Q1 2024. Other significant decline in the same period include Ghana and DRC.	94 644 259	62 520 151	Kilograms	-33.9%	-10
43	08094000	Fresh plums and sloes	Netherlands	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance. No change in rank.	58 035 944	55 676 067	Kilograms	-4.1%	0
44	72142000	Bars and rods. of iron or non-alloy steel, with indentations, Ribs, groves or other deformations ...	Mozambique	Significant increase in export volumes to main market.	38 291 890	54 929 463	Kilograms	43.4%	13
45	25292200	Fluorspar containing by weight > 97% calcium fluoride	Luxembourg	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance with no substantial change in rank.	50 827 546	54 667 234	Kilograms	7.6%	2
46	22021010	Waters, incl. mineral and aerated, with added sugar, sweetener or flavour, for direct consumption ...	Eswatini	Increase in export quantities to Eswatini which accounts for 60% of all exports.	36 253 164	54 389 724	Liters	50.0%	12

47	25132000	Emery; natural corundum, natural garnet and other natural abrasives, whether or not heat-treated	United States	Significant increase in exports to the DRC.	52 851 978	5 109 3597	Kilograms	-3.3%	-3
48	22021090	Waters, incl. mineral and aerated, with added sugar, sweetener or flavour, for direct consumption ...	Netherlands	Significant increase in export to Netherlands.	21 947 422	48 660 109	Liters	121.7%	39
49	72104990	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of >= 600 mm, hot-rolled or cold-rolled ...	United States	Increase in export quantities to the US, which grew by 927%.	13 863 472	48 345 344	Kilograms	248.7%	62
50	12141000	Alfalfa meal and pellets	United Arab Emirates	Increase in export quantities to China which grew by 210%, as well as significant increase to Kuwait and Botswana	39 613 786	47 281 000	Kilograms	19.4%	3