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Prepared By: Tanvir Mahmud

Approved By: Sarah Gilleski

Report Highlights:

In 2024, U.S. exports of consumer-oriented products to Bangladesh were valued at \$12.7 million, accounting for less than 1 percent of the market share of the \$2.1 billion in consumer-oriented products Bangladesh imported. The domestic food market is competitive, with a growing food processing industry and more consumers demanding high-value and quality products. The evolving Bangladesh market presents new opportunities for U.S. exporters in the food processing, modern retail, and hospitality sectors.

Executive Summary

Bangladesh, home to 172 million people, ranks as the world's eighth most populated country and the 41st largest economy. Bangladesh is projected to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status in 2026. As of 2024, Bangladesh had the second largest economy in South Asia, with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of \$451 billion and a per capita GDP of \$2,620 (IMF 2024).

Consumer-Oriented Agricultural Imports

U.S. exports of agricultural and related products reached \$790.6 million in 2024, of which \$117 million were intermediate products, and \$12.7 million were consumer-oriented products. Bangladesh imported \$2.1 billion of consumer-oriented products from the world in 2024, out of \$11.5 billion in total agricultural and related products imports.

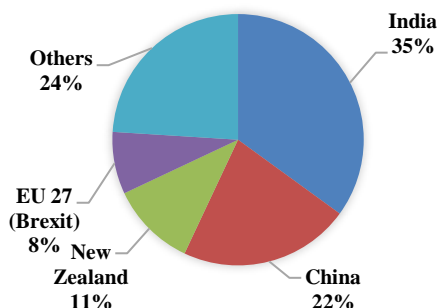


Chart 1: Top Exporting Countries to Bangladesh

Food Retail Industry

Bangladesh's modern food retail sector has over 750 supermarket outlets and 1,000 small chain outlets, owned by different companies. There are over 700 websites for online food retail and numerous Facebook pages. The annual turnover is \$600 million.

Food Processing Industry

Bangladesh has approximately 1,000 value added food processing companies. The \$8 billion food processing sector in Bangladesh grows on average 8 percent annually.

Food Service Industry

Bangladesh has 436,274 hotels and restaurants including 51 government-licensed international chains, local hotels, and resorts, with 20 five-star, seven four-star, and 24 three-star hotels. Top hotels include the Pan Pacific Sonargaon, the InterContinental Dhaka, the Westin Dhaka, Le Meridien, and the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel.

Quick Facts CY 2024

Imports of Consumer-Oriented Products (USD)

From the world \$2.1 billion

From the United States \$12.7 million

List of Top 10 Growth Products in Bangladesh

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1) Food preparation | 2) Tree nuts |
| 3) Fruit juice | 4) Chocolate products |
| 5) Processed fruits | 6) Bakery goods, cereals, and pastas |
| 7) Processed vegetables | 8) Condiments and sauces |
| 9) Coffee | 10) Dairy products |

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	Chaldal
Agora	Pandamart
Meena Bazar	Khaas Food
Unimart	Ghorer Bazar
The Daily Shopping	Jogan

GDP/Population

Population: 172 million

GDP: \$451 billion

GDP per capita: \$2,620

Sources: Trade Data Monitor, International Monetary Fund, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

Strength/Weakness/Opportunities/Challenges

Strengths	Weakness
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
Food processing industry demands safe and high-quality ingredients	Sluggish economy is currently hampering buying power
Consumer-oriented food importers have 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 172 million people. Bangladesh is the eighth most populous country in the world, and the most densely populated country outside of city states. Currently, 60 percent of Bangladesh's population resides in rural areas, but Bangladesh continues to urbanize at a fast pace. 91 percent of Bangladeshi's 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 a robust demand for goods and services.

With a growing middle class, Bangladesh is expected to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status in November 2026. In 2024, per the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the gross national income (GNI) per capita was \$2,738, up from \$1,210 in 2015, but declining slightly from the \$2,749 GNI per capita in 2022-23 (July-June) reported in May 2025 ([BBS](#)). In 2024, ready-made garment exports were valued at \$36 billion, experiencing a 5.2 percent decrease from the \$38.1 billion in 2023. The ready-made garment (RMG) industry makes up 81 percent of Bangladesh's [total export value](#).

In 2024, Bangladesh faced economic challenges, marked by declining foreign exchange reserves (forex), debt burdens, high inflation, and the devaluation of the local currency, the taka. In response, Bangladesh's Interim Government (IG) working with the Central Bank of Bangladesh is implementing economic reforms. Consumer purchasing power has decreased as the average yearly inflation rate reached 9.17 percent in April 2025 ([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 3.97 percent in FY 2024-25 (July-June) ([BBS](#)).

While the agriculture sector employs 38 percent of the employed population, it accounted for only 11.19 percent of GDP in 2023-24. The industrial sector accounts for 24.62 percent of GDP and employs 18 percent of the population, while the services sector accounts for 51.44 percent of GDP and employs 44 percent of the employed population ([BBS](#)).

U.S. agricultural and related products exports to Bangladesh totaled \$790.6 million in 2024. Leading exports were dominated by bulk and intermediate products including soybeans (\$348.9 million), cotton (\$250.5) and distillers' dried grains with solubles (DDGS) (\$42 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 indicates safety and quality. The modern retail sector currently constitutes about 2 to 3 percent of total retail sales. Wet markets and street vendors selling fresh fruits, vegetables, and other food items are very popular with all classes of consumers, as many consumers prefer fresh and 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 locally produced products.
Road infrastructure is gradually improving, which is facilitating quicker movements 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.
Expanding food processing industry demands safe and quality products.	High tariff rates increase costs.
Bangladeshi consumers are aware of the quality and safety of U.S. products.	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 to first ensure their product has 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 should be both persistent and patient.

Locate a reliable importer/distributor to export agricultural products to Bangladesh. The 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 income tax payment certificate from 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 if this leads to a conflict of interest or has other benefits, such as working with someone who has experience with a product similar to yours.
- What are the margins and costs charged by the distributor?
- 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 for more than \$100,000 must be through a bank via opening an irrevocable letter of credit (LC). Please note that USDA does not have the authority to mediate contractual disputes or 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 industry 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](#).

Local Business Customs and Trends

Business practices in Bangladesh significantly differ 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 requires more time to be cleared compared to 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 local 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 summer and winter vegetables. Different 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 supplied 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 imported ingredient-based savory snacks. There is a growing awareness of health and wellness, leading to an increased interest in healthier food options. Consumers may seek 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, and trademarks and patents are in the FAIRS report. Detailed export and import guidance is available in 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 consignment release approval.

Bangladesh's Ministry of Commerce issued the [Import Policy Order 2021-24 \(Bangla\)](#) (English attached), which details the trading procedures and customs clearance requirements to export food and non-food products to Bangladesh. Trading procedures, tariff schedules, regulatory orders, and export-import guides are explained in the [Bangladesh Trade Portal](#) and [Bangladesh Customs website](#).

Documents Generally Required by Bangladesh Customs

To complete customs clearance, Customs requires [the following documents](#) depending on the type of commodity:

From the exporter:

- Invoice
- Bill of lading
- Packing list
- Country of origin certificates
- Health certificate (Fit for human consumption)
- Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Certificates from exporting country authority
- Quality standard testing report from exporting country laboratory
- Radioactivity level certificate from exporting country laboratory
- Animal health certificate for live animal issued by APHIS
- Certificate of weight and quality condition issued by the exporter
- Halal certificate issued by the competent organization

From the importer:

- Letter of Credit (LC)
- Import Permits from Plant Quarantine Wing, Department of Agricultural Extension
- No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Department of Livestock Services or the Department of Fisheries
- Phytosanitary release order for customs clearance
- Quality standard compliance based [release order](#) for customs clearance
- [Radioactivity certificate](#) for customs clearance

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. In 2024, Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) handled 123 million metric tons (MT) of products through cargo shipments and 3 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) containers ([CPA Overview](#)). The National Board of Revenue [reported](#) 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 operates customs duties and tax clearing processes using the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA). Bangladesh Customs falls under the National Bureau for Revenue (NBR), which regulates tariff structures and publishes harmonized system-based [tariff rates \(2024-25\)](#) annually based on the national financial budget plan.

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 clearance costs.

Bangladesh follows the Most Favored Nation (MFN) tariff process and 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.

NBR imposes several types of customs duties and taxes and a combination, but not a sum, is defined as the Total Tax Incidence (TTI) explained in the Bangladesh Trade Portal.

Example: How to Estimate TTI

HS Code: 08081090 – Apple, Fresh, Assessable Value (AV) = \$100

Duties and taxes	Rate (%)	Formulas	Value (\$)
Custom Duty (CD)	25	$\$AV \times CD\% = VCD$	25
Regulatory Duty (RD)	20	$\$AV \times RD\% = VRD$	20
Supplementary Duty (SD)	20	$\$(AV+CD+RD) \times SD\% = VSD$	29
Value Added Tax (VAT)	15	$\$(AV+CD+RD+VSD) \times VAT\% = VVAT$	26.1
Advance Income Tax (AIT)	10	$\$AV \times AIT\% = VAIT$	10
Advance Tax (AT)	5	$\$(AV+CD+RD+VSD) \times AT\% = VATx$	8.7
Total Tax Incidence (TTI)	113.8	$\$(VCD+VRD+VSD+VVAT+VAIT+VATx)$	118.8

Note: Value of CD (VCD), Value of RD (VRD), Value of SD (VSD), Value of VAT (VVAT), Value of AIT (VAIT), and Value of AT (VATx)

Bangladesh has ratified several regional trade agreements since 1975. Bangladesh has bilateral trade agreements with 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 Agreement on Trade in Services](#) (SATIS), [Trade Preferential System among the Organizational of Islamic Cooperation Countries](#) (TPS-OIC), and [Bay of Bengal Initiatives for Multi Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation](#) (BIMSTEC).

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 of processed food consumption. The processed food market is highly competitive as the domestic food industry is expanding their investments to export to the world. Popular processed foods include snacks, ready-to-eat meals, frozen items, drinks and beverages, and dairy products.

Food Retail

The modern retail sector, including supermarkets, convenience stores, and online business, is growing as consumers attach more importance to appearance, ambience, comfort, and the availability of a vast range of products. Modern retail outlets are rising in number, although contacts believe they likely only represent 3-4 percent of total urban retail market sales. These modern retail chains are striving to differentiate themselves from wet markets by offering more varied, high-quality products, as well as convenience. However, they also have challenges, such as cold chain capacity, food preservation and packaging, and general transportation logistics. The growth of e-commerce 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 future of the sector.

On February 20, 2025, NBR waived the value added tax (VAT) of 7.5 percent paid by the consumer on products at retail stores. Retail owners expect that the removal of this VAT will expand sales volume leading to an increase in the number of outlets.

Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Sector

Bangladesh's hotel and restaurant industry has experienced growth, especially in urban areas.

Bangladesh has 51 [government-licensed](#) international chains, local hotels, and resorts, with 20 five-star, seven four-star, and 24 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. Hotel and food service contribution to GDP was 1.10 percent in 2024-25 (provisional), lower than the previous year ([BBS](#)). Bangladesh has a shortage of hotels offering international standards. Challenges such as infrastructural limitations and maintaining consistent quality standards exist, but efforts are being made to enhance the hospitality sector's appeal. The number of domestic tourists is 15 - 20 times higher than international; 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 places that serve food, although alcohol sales and consumption are still strictly regulated. Foreigners can drink at licensed bars, whereas Bangladesh citizens above the age of 21 must possess Department of Narcotics Control's ([DNC](#)) consent to enter the bar. All alcoholic product bottles must carry a health warning and all import, export, production, supply, marketing, sale, purchase, and storage relating to alcohol require licenses.

Section V. Agricultural and Food Imports

Total consumer-oriented food product imports from the world increased from \$2 billion in 2023 to \$2.1 billion in 2024. The United States was Bangladesh's 16th largest supplier in 2024. 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)

Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Dairy Products	477,152	602,932	669,221	540,888	519,515
Spices	601,727	600,714	471,681	372,863	352,653
Fresh Fruit	497,031	371,099	316,007	420,121	484,320
Fresh Vegetables	278,523	226,224	202,253	370,571	439,068
Soup & Other Food Preparations	49,771	86,233	53,445	53,598	68,160
Tree Nuts	48,306	74,776	86,426	87,495	68,112
Processed Vegetables	23,554	38,516	31,543	567	1,093
Bakery Goods, Cereals, & Pasta	21,290	27,483	25,062	30,171	28,837

Condiments & Sauces	23,047	24,978	30,461	24,678	26,227
Chocolate & Cocoa Products	18,075	24,096	29,436	17,696	26,150
Processed Fruit	16,192	21,253	29,883	26,398	23,271
Coffee, Roasted and Extracts	13,283	20,492	25,728	20,001	26,818
Meat Products NESOI	10,671	12,842	11,045	11,827	11,887
Dog & Cat Food	6,188	3,685	3,748	3,639	5,869
Distilled Spirits	2,413	2,954	8,205	3,126	2,656
Mfg. Tobacco	1,634	2,803	2,518	1,251	1,680
Chewing Gum & Candy	4,853	2,446	2,830	5,668	2,733
Fruit & Vegetable Juices	1,698	2,002	2,363	1,909	2,648
Non-Alcoholic Bev.	2,492	1,635	2,351	6,793	6,697
Tea	1,158	1,548	2,568	9,960	9,494
Wine & Related Products	1,166	1,208	1,548	1,333	1,287
Nursery Products & Cut Flowers	109	1,106	1,223	202	199
Beer	2,327	833	594	793	385
Beef & Beef Products	602	780	1,055	1,020	898
Poultry Meat & Prods. (ex. eggs)	388	523	505	483	374
Eggs & Products	337	336	475	1,028	250
Pork & Pork Products	16	23	13	2	2
Total Imports	2,104,004	2,153,517	2,012,186	2,014,080	2,111,284

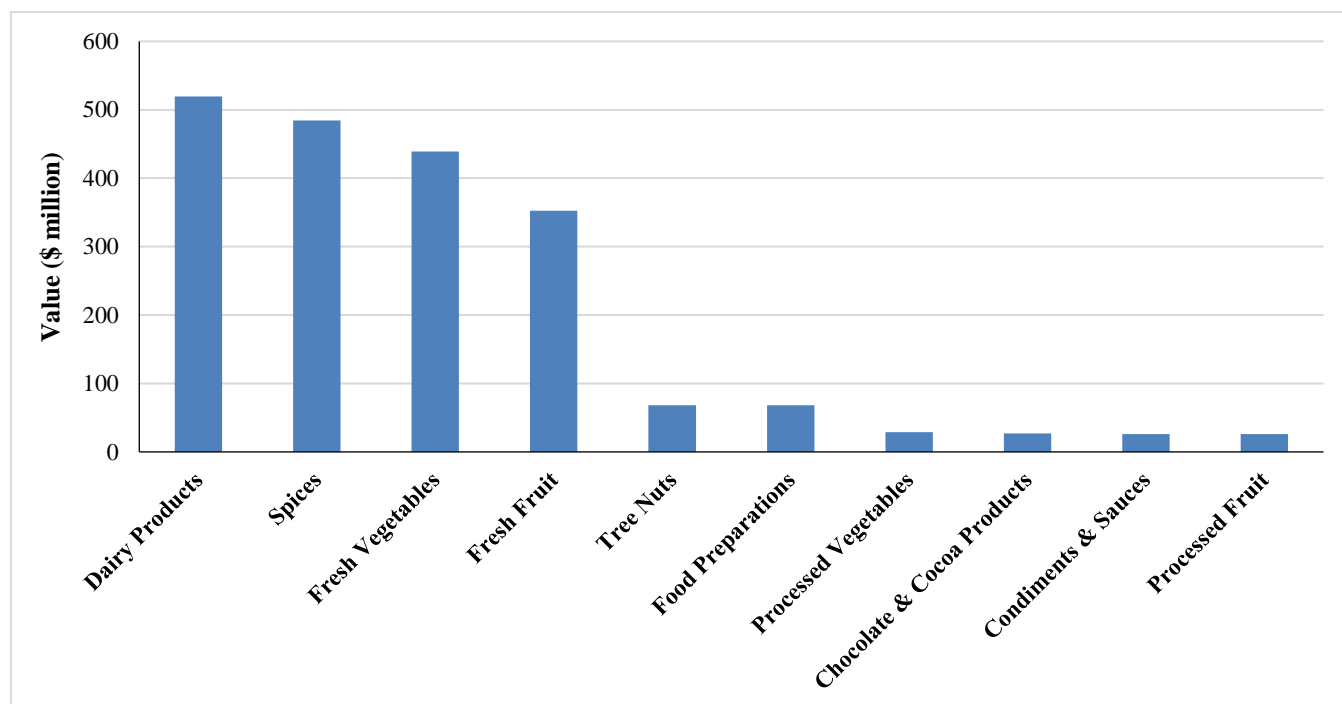
Source: Trade Data Monitor (TDM)

Consumer-Oriented Product Prospects

Rising per-capita income, increased urbanization, increasing female labor force participation, and the resulting lifestyle changes are augmenting 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 sector and confectionery food industry, a growing number of quick service restaurants, and e-commerce food delivery to meet the demand for Asian and Western cuisines are driving import demand.

The five leading categories of imported food products in 2024 were dairy products (\$519 million), spices (\$484 million), fresh vegetables (\$439 million), fresh fruits (\$352 million), and tree nuts (\$68 million). In 2024, the top U.S. exports of consumer-oriented products were dairy products (\$4.8 million), tree nuts (\$4 million), food preparations (\$2.7 million), condiments and sauces (\$0.5 million), and processed vegetables (\$0.18 million).

Figure 1: Bangladesh Top 10 Imported Consumer Oriented Products in 2024



Source: TDM

Tree Nuts

Increased purchasing power combined with more health-conscious consumers has increased the demand for tree nuts. Bangladesh imported \$68 million in tree nuts in 2024, with U.S. exports reaching \$4 million. Almonds, walnuts, and a variety of prepared, mixed, and preserved nut items made up most of these imports. Thailand (32 percent) and Indonesia (22 percent) dominate the market for tree nuts. 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 63.6 percent to 94.32 percent.

Food Preparations

Bangladesh imports a variety of food preparations to meet the varied culinary preferences of consumers. In 2024, U.S. exports of food preparations not elsewhere specified or included (nesoi) (HS 210690) products were \$2.7 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 58.6 percent to 89.32 percent on food preparations.

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 (311,000 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 powder (HS 040210), whey (HS 040410), lactose syrup (HS 170211), and food preparations. U.S. dairy exports were \$4.8 million in 2024. The TTI for dairy products ranges from 31 percent to 58.6 percent.

Condiments and Sauces

The growth of restaurants focused on global cuisines have resulted in an increased need for condiments and sauces. Imported condiments and seasonings including soy sauce, tomato ketchup, mustard flour and meal, prepared mustard, and vinegar are sought after. In 2024, condiments and sauces were the fourth highest valued consumer-oriented product exported from the United States to Bangladesh. The TTI for HS 2103 is 89.32 percent and 58.6 percent for HS 2209.

Processed Fruit

Processed fruit import demand, specifically dates, has steadily risen during the past five years. During the month of Ramadan, U.S. Medjool dates are in high demand among consumers due to their large size, texture, and consistency. The TTI for dates (HS code 08041011-29) is 63.6 percent.

Fruit and Vegetable Juices

Fruit juice demand is increasing with the demand for dining in hotels and restaurants and the increasing health consciousness of urban populations. U.S. fruit and vegetable juice exports were \$100,000 in 2024. The TTI of fruit juice (HS code 20091100-9000) is 89.32 percent.

Other Products

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

Section VI: Key Contacts and Further Information

Government Data Sources:

[National Statistics](#), Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

[Economic Trend](#), Bangladesh Bank

[Bangladesh Economic Review](#), Ministry of Finance

[Bangladesh Tariff Schedule](#), Bangladesh Customs

[Bangladesh Export Data](#), Export Promotion Bureau

Note: Accessibility of the links may vary depending on 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 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 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 2020-24

Product	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Bulk Total	890,183	810,915	851,637	651,163	656,613
Soybeans	483,680	449,093	382,523	302,946	348,896
Cotton	329,507	308,936	468,747	336,520	250,548
Wheat	76,634	52,030	0	11,598	33,921
Pulses	0	267	0	0	19,245
Rice	0	364	0	0	3,482
Tobacco	0	0	0	0	412
Other Bulk Commodities	154	226	367	87	95
Oilseeds (excl. soybean)	0	0	0	12	13
Corn	208	0	0	0	0
Intermediate Total	112,488	99,018	69,821	85,604	117,300
Distillers Grains	35,674	31,443	29,947	38,792	42,122
Other Feeds, Meals & Fodders	20,217	18,315	11,622	18,994	25,798
Soybean Meal	41,176	25,312	502	5,321	20,334
Other Intermediate Products	6,667	11,626	14,291	12,340	13,153
Live Animals	5,290	7,183	4,104	4,411	6,548
Vegetable Oils (excl. soybean)	119	301	185	162	3,825
Dextrins, Peptones, & Proteins	1,002	2,629	2,467	2,051	2,021
Planting Seeds	1,175	1,109	4,947	2,334	1,702
Essential Oils	997	1,054	1,661	734	1,093
Sugar, Sweeteners, Bev. Bases	170	41	89	450	697
Milled Grains & Products	0	7	6	12	5
Ethanol (non-bev.)	0	0	0	0	4
Animal Fats	0	0	0	3	0
Consumer Oriented Total	20,909	12,375	9,422	13,940	12,661
Dairy Products	13,944	2,153	1,212	8,428	4,803
Tree Nuts	2,358	5,276	3,404	1,866	4,013
Food Preparations	994	2,640	2,455	2,534	2,677
Condiments & Sauces	961	790	398	313	522
Beef & Beef Products	0	26	0	3	191
Processed Vegetables	893	1,065	706	149	179
Processed Fruit	78	37	625	0	79
Fruit & Vegetable Juices	18	136	81	18	72
Bakery Goods, Cereals, & Pasta	96	54	192	3	49
Non-Alcoholic Bev. (excl. juice)	107	127	225	209	39

Product	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Other Consumer Oriented	25	36	27	19	27
Wine & Related Products	29	17	43	119	10
Poultry Meat & Prods. (excl. eggs)	0	0	0	92	0
Eggs & Products	4	0	44	118	0
Fresh Fruit	0	0	0	0	0
Confectionery	30	0	0	0	0
Chocolate & Cocoa Products	94	0	8	37	0
Beer	16	11	0	0	0
Distilled Spirits	19	3	3	29	0
Nursery Products & Cut Flowers	0	4	0	0	0
Dog & Cat Food	1,243	0	0	0	0
Agricultural Related Products	7,157	5,761	5,350	4,074	4,028
Forest Products	5,534	2,599	2,209	1,475	2,751
Seafood Products	1,623	3,161	3,142	2,600	1,277
Agricultural Products	1,023,580	922,308	930,880	750,707	786,574
Agriculture and Related Products	1,030,737	928,069	936,231	754,781	790,603

Source: GATS

Attachments: [Import Policy Order 2021-24-English.pdf](#)