

China's Fasteners Stage a Strong Comeback! Taiwan's Market Share in Crisis: 2024-2025 Export Data Warning

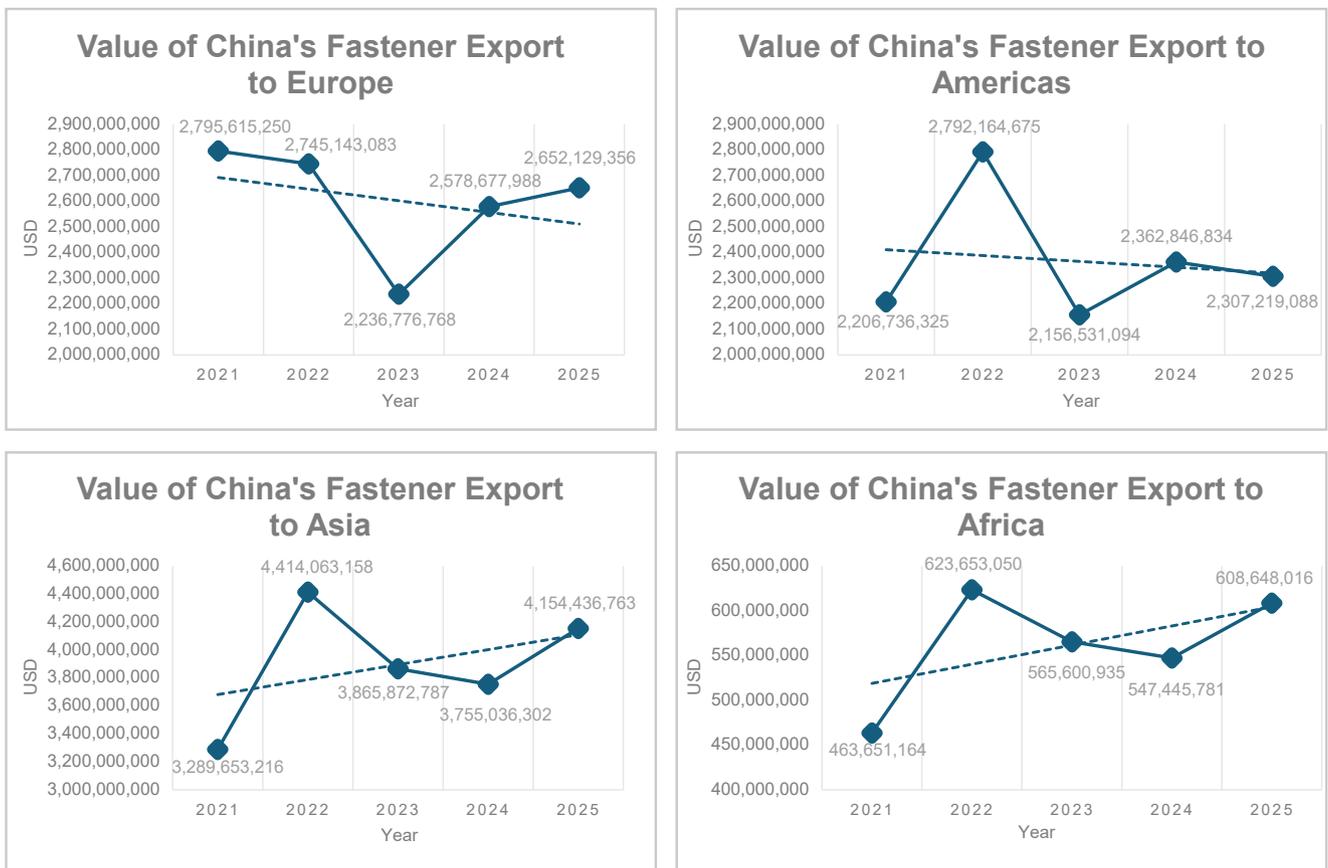
中國緊固件強勢反撲！台灣市佔告急：2024-2025外銷數據警訊

According to the latest 2024 data from the UN commodity trade statistics database (UN Comtrade), global fastener imports totaled USD 46.6 billion and exports exceeded USD 47.2 billion, indicating a massive and stable fasteners trade market. However, amid US-China trade frictions and global demand fluctuations, China (taking up 20.5% of global market share in 2024) and Taiwan (9.3%)—the two major fastener exporting powerhouses—exhibit starkly divergent export momentum and market share trends. This article analyzes bilateral fastener export trends to Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa, and the Oceania using data from China Customs, Taiwan's Bureau of International Trade (up to 2025), and regional trade sources (up to 2024), with a focus on market share comparisons in the Americas, EU, ASEAN, and Latin America to reveal competitive dynamics and future outlooks.

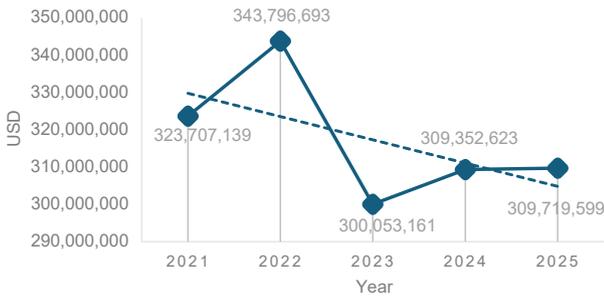


China's Fastener Export Momentum

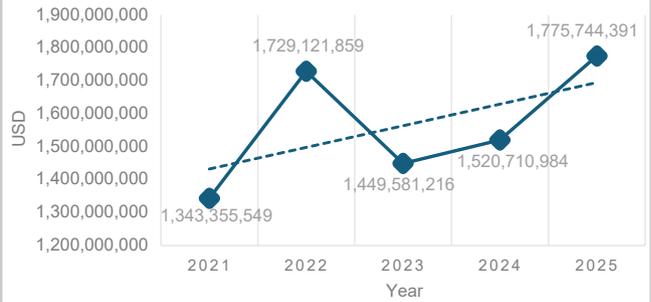
Figure 1. China's Fastener Export Values to the World's Five Continents
(Source: General Administration of Customs of China; Data up to 2025; Unit: USD)



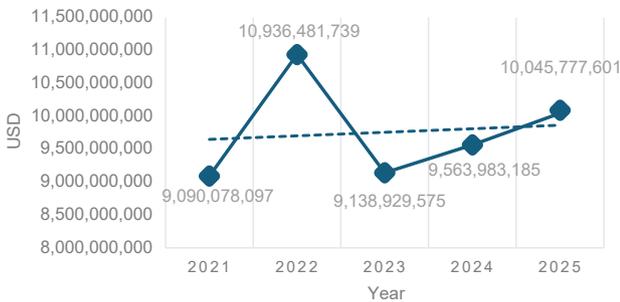
Value of China's Fastener Export to the Oceania



Value of China's Fastener Export to ASEAN



Value of China's Fastener Export to the World



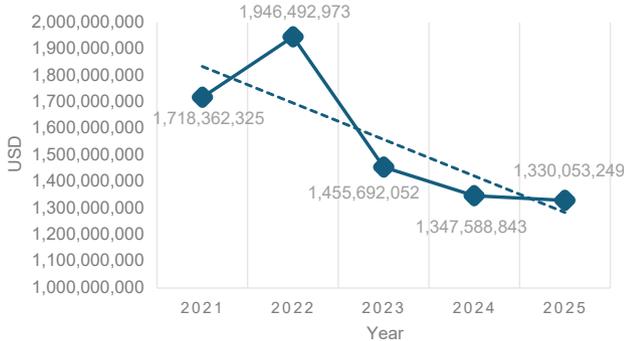
1. China's export values to Europe, the Americas, and the Oceania show a downward trend, while exports to Asia (including ASEAN) and Africa rise.
2. In 2025, China's exports to ASEAN grew 16.7% YOY, hitting a new five-year high; exports to other regions did not surpass prior peaks. Notably, exports to Europe, Asia, and Africa in 2025 approached their respective historical highs.
3. China's global fastener exports have risen annually over the past three years, with a cumulative increase of 9.9%, returning to the US\$10 billion mark in 2025—watch if it will reach the 2022 peak in 2026.
4. Overall, China's fastener export momentum is clearly recovering. Over a five-year horizon, it has not been significantly impacted by US tariffs, and as long as there are no major tariff changes, it is poised to surpass prior peaks in the coming years.
5. In a nutshell: China's fastener exports are rebounding from the bottom.



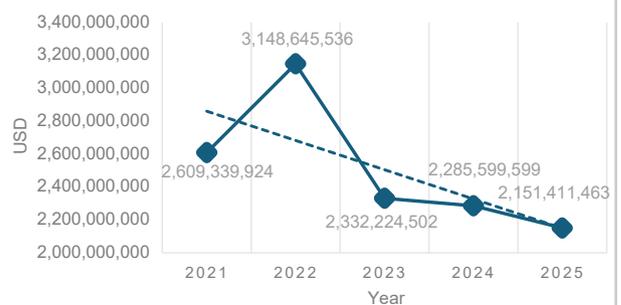
Taiwan's Fastener Export Momentum

Figure 2. Taiwan's Fastener Export Values to the World's Five Major Continents (Source: Bureau of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs; Data up to 2025; Unit: USD)

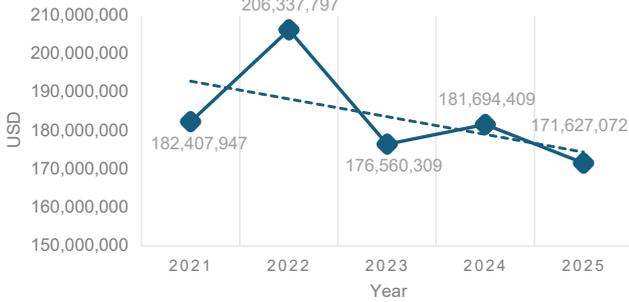
Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to Europe



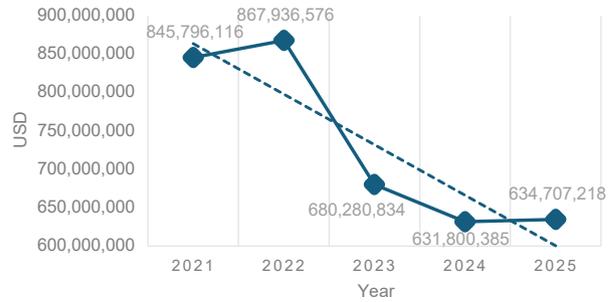
Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to the Americas



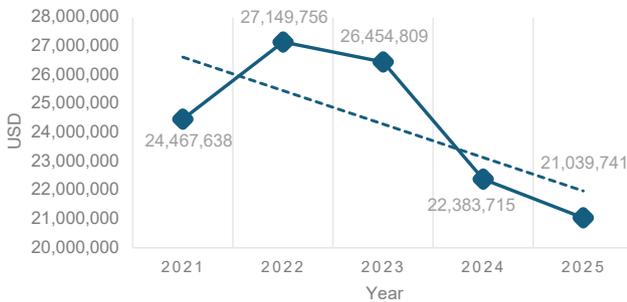
Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to Latin Americas



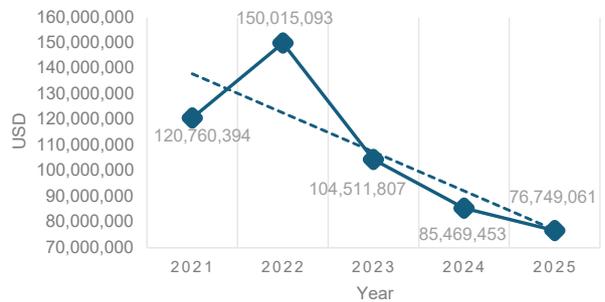
Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to Asia



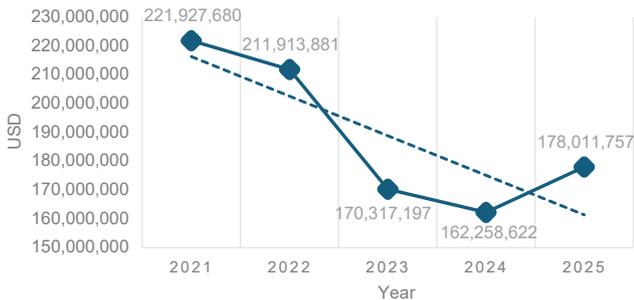
Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to Africa



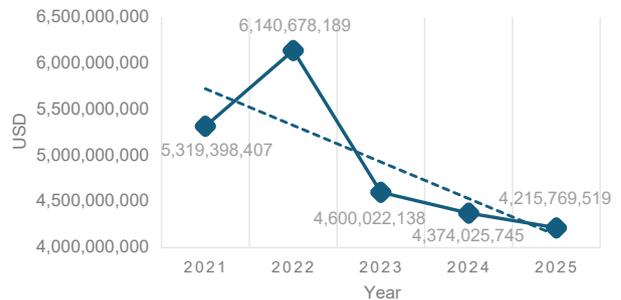
Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to the Oceania



Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to ASEAN



Value of Taiwan's Fastener Export to the World



- Taiwan's exports to all five major continents show a downward trend.
- ASEAN stands out: Despite a sharp drop in exports to Greater Asia, Taiwan's exports to ASEAN grew 9.7% in 2025. ASEAN is Taiwan's largest target region for fastener export momentum, aligning with recent trends of Taiwanese fastener manufacturers' increasing investments in Southeast Asia.
- Taiwan's global fastener exports have declined annually over the past three years, with a cumulative drop of 8.3%, and no bottom in sight as of 2025.
- Overall, Taiwan's fastener export momentum was clearly contracting. Although Taiwan enjoyed better conditions than China amid US-China tensions, exports to the Americas continued to fall, and other regions could not fill the gap. This indicates the decline stemmed from reduced global demand for Taiwanese fasteners, not directly related to tariffs.
- China's rising export momentum signaled recovering global demand for Chinese fasteners and declining demand for Taiwanese ones. Taiwan faced intense competition from China.
- In a nutshell: Taiwan's fastener exports were still probing for a bottom.



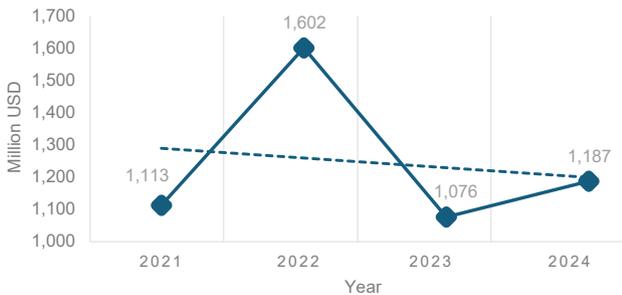


China's and Taiwan's Overseas Fastener Market Shares

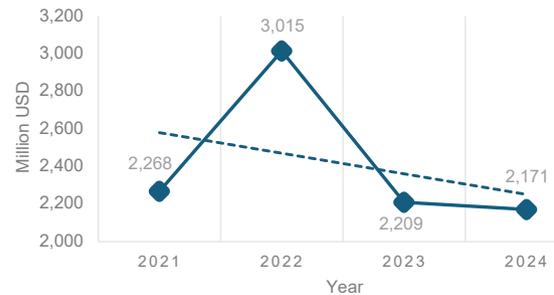


Figure 3. China's and Taiwan's Market Shares in the Americas
(Source: US International Trade Commission; Data up to 2024; Unit: Million USD)

Values of the United State's Fastener Imports from China



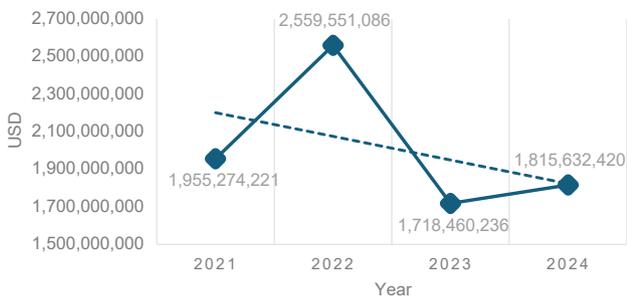
Values of the United State's Fastener Imports from Taiwan



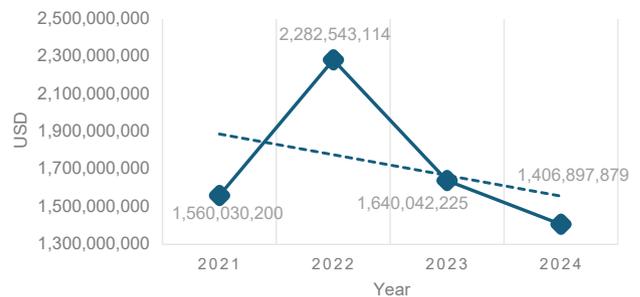
- In 2024, US global fastener imports totaled USD 6,617 million; imports from China were USD 1,187 million, for a 17.9% market share. Comparing China's 2025 exports to the US (USD 1,261 million) against 2024 US total imports yielded a 19.0% share.
- US demand for Chinese fasteners shows a downward trend but bottomed in 2023 and began recovering in 2024.
- In 2024, US imports from Taiwan were USD 2,171 million, for a 32.8% market share. Comparing Taiwan's 2025 exports to the US (USD 1,808 million) against 2024 US total imports yielded a 27.3% share.
- US demand for Taiwanese fasteners also trended downward but was still probing for a bottom in 2024.
- As of 2024, Taiwan remained the top source of US fasteners imports, followed by China. Taiwan's US market share exceeded China's by 14.9%.

Figure 4. China's and Taiwan's Market Shares in the EU
(Source: European Commission; Data up to 2024; Unit: USD)

Values of Europe's Fastener Imports from China



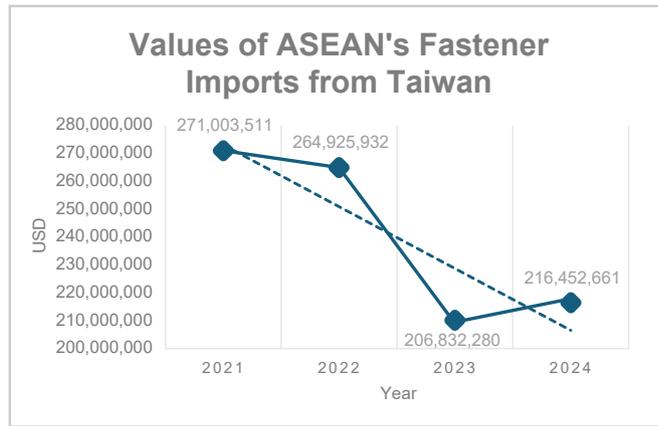
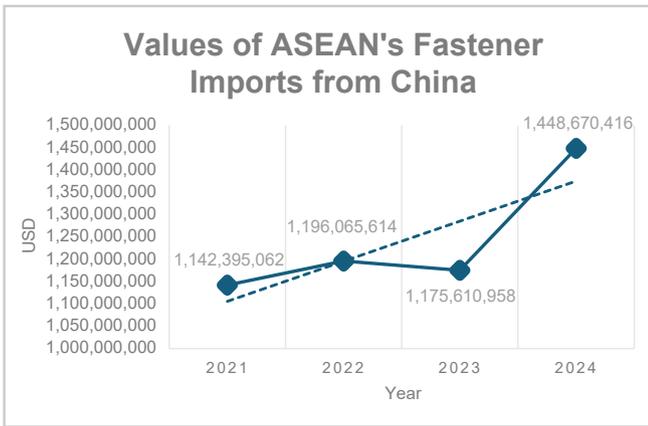
Values of Europe's Fastener Imports from Taiwan



- In 2024, EU global fastener imports totaled USD 7,469,960,104; imports from China were USD 1,815,632,420, for a 24.3% market share. Comparing China's 2025 exports to the EU (USD 2,652,129,356) against 2024 EU total imports yielded a 35.5% share.
- EU demand for Chinese fasteners shows a downward trend but bottomed in 2023 and began recovering in 2024.
- In 2024, EU imports from Taiwan were USD 1,406,897,879, for an 18.8% market share. Comparing Taiwan's 2025 exports to the EU (USD 1,165,305,324) against 2024 EU total imports yielded a 15.5% share.
- EU demand for Taiwanese fasteners also trended downward but was still probing for a bottom in 2024.
- As of 2024, China was the EU's top fasteners import source, followed by Taiwan. Taiwan's EU market share trailed China's by 5.5%.



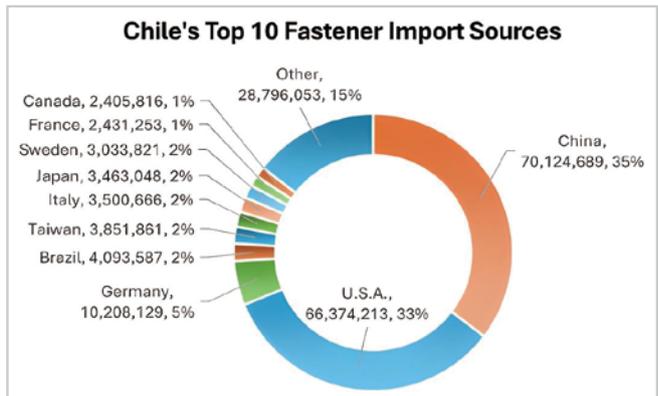
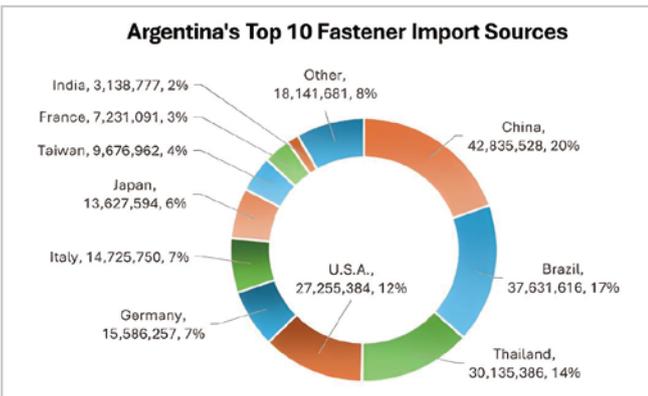
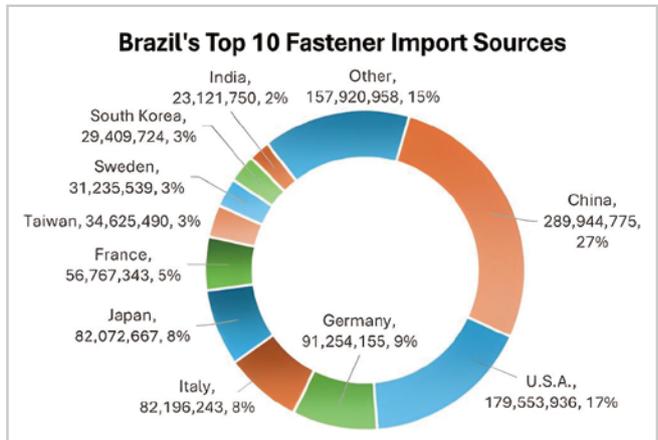
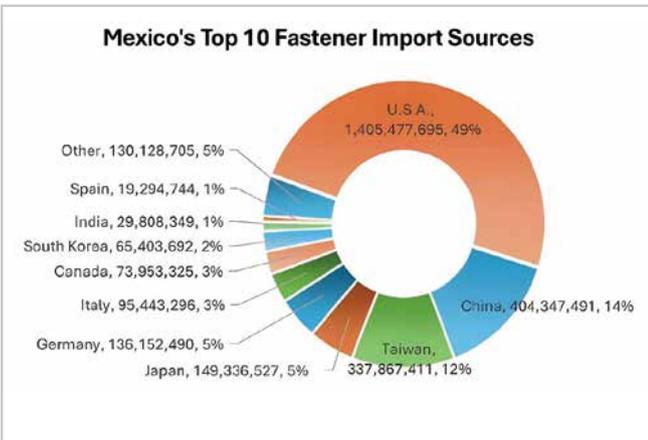
Figure 5. China and Taiwan's Market Shares in ASEAN
(Source: AseanStats; data up to 2024; Unit: USD)



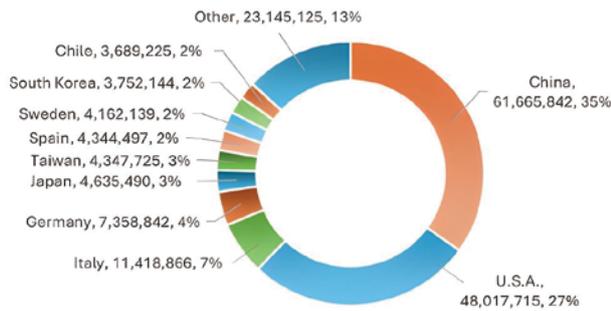
1. In 2024, ASEAN global fastener imports totaled USD 3,927,396,093; imports from China were USD 1,448,670,416, for a 36.8% market share. Comparing China's 2025 exports to ASEAN (USD 1,775,744,391) against 2024 ASEAN total imports yielded a 45.2% share.
2. ASEAN demand for Chinese fasteners has increased, growing 26.8% over the past five years.
3. In 2024, ASEAN imports from Taiwan were USD 216,452,661, for a 5.5% market share. Comparing Taiwan's

- 2025 exports to ASEAN (USD 178,011,757) against 2024 ASEAN total imports yielded a 4.5% share.
4. ASEAN demand for Taiwanese fasteners declined 20.1% over the past five years but rebounded in 2024.
5. As of 2024, China was ASEAN's top fastener import source, followed by Japan and the US; Taiwan ranked fourth. Taiwan's ASEAN market share lagged far behind China's by 31.3%.
6. Despite Taiwan's recent increased investments in Southeast Asia, it could not keep pace with China's advances.

Figure 6. China's and Taiwan's Market Shares in Latin America
(Source: Inter-American Development Bank / Fastener World Magazine Issue 214; 2024 Data; Unit: USD)



Peru's Top 10 Fastener Import Sources



1. In 2024, the top 15 Latin American countries' global fastener imports totaled USD 4,863,204,949 (see *Fastener World Magazine Issue #214*); the top 5 (Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru) imported USD 868,918,325 from China, estimating a ~17.8% market share.
2. The same top 5 imported USD 390,369,449 from Taiwan, for an 8.0% market share.
3. China held the top market share in Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Peru, and second in Mexico (behind the US).
4. Taiwan's market share in Latin America trailed China's by 9.8%. Taiwan's ranking remained far behind China.



Taiwan's Fastener Industry Must Accelerate Breakthrough Against Encirclement

Reviewing 2024-2025 data, China's fastener export momentum was strongly recovering, with record highs to ASEAN and Africa, global exports back above USD 10 billion, and leading market shares in the EU (35.5%) and ASEAN (45.2%) over Taiwan. In contrast, Taiwan's exports were sliding across the board; while it still led in the Americas (27.3%), it lagged significantly in the EU (15.5%) and ASEAN (4.5%), with overall momentum yet to stabilize.

Despite Taiwan's geopolitical advantages and Southeast Asian investment dividends, China's regional penetration and demand recovery pose formidable competitive pressure. The current industry challenge lies in global demand reallocation—Taiwanese manufacturers should accelerate diversified strategies and product high-value upgrades to counter China's market share expansion. ■

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