



REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE  
MINISTRY OF TRADE

INDUSTRY



# LEATHER WEAR



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## LEATHER WEAR

The Turkish leather industry has a history dating back more than 500 years. The sector's production is based on combination of two assets; modern technology and historical background. Today, the sector is known worldwide with its well-designed and fashionable products.

Although initial efforts to modernize the leather industry began in the 70s, significant progress on a real industrial scale began in the mid-80s. The sector has showed a rapid progress in recent years. Today, production is made in line with the international standards and great importance is attached to environmentally-friendly production policies – about 90% of the production is based on health and environmental standards.

## PRODUCTION

According to Social Security Institution Statistics there are 7.909 workplaces producing leather and leather related products and 82,318 insured persons in 2022. Leather manufacturers are mainly located in Istanbul (Tuzla), Izmir (Menemen), Tekirdag (Corlu), Usak, Denizli, Bolu (Gerede), Bursa, Balikesir (Gönen), Isparta, Hatay and Manisa (Kula). Istanbul (Zeytinburnu) is considered as the most important trade centre for the Turkish leather wear industry.

Technological advancements in the sector, which are a must for a competitive industry, are increasing rapidly. Today, Turkish leather sector exports its own technology. The leather products sector realizes the change in itself by complying with the spirit of time. Now, the industry embarks upon to look for added value and advantageous innovation, branding and design.

Turkish leather wear industry produces the finest women and men leather garments. Most of the big companies in the sector produce original collections with their own brand names. The sector creates its own fashion by using an unsurpassed blend of colors, patterns, manufacturing care and quality materials. Thanks to these traits of the sector, Turkish leather wear products have a good reputation and are appreciated all over the world.

## EXPORTS

The leather industry is one of the significant export sectors of Türkiye. Exports of leather and leather products industry have increased by 18.2% in 2022, reaching 2.2 billion US dollars. The most important item being exported is footwear with a share of 58.3%. On the other hand, leather goods industry has a 30.1% share in the exports of leather and leather products while raw leather has a share of 11.6%.

### Leather and Leather Products Exports of Türkiye (US\$)

HS Code	Product label	2020	2021	2022	Change % (2021/2022)
41	Raw hides and skins (other than furskins) and leather	155.984	253.123	260.111	2,8%
42	Articles of leather; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags and similar containers; articles ...	284.832	413.356	513.308	24,2%
43	Furskins and artificial fur; manufactures thereof	101.824	152.956	163.099	6,6%
64	Footwear, gaiters and the like; parts of such articles	829.448	1.081.892	1.310.742	21,2%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1.372.088</b>	<b>1.901.327</b>	<b>2.247.260</b>	<b>18,2%</b>

Source: Trademap

The majority of the exports of the sector were used to be directed to the Germany and other Commonwealth of Independent States-CIS countries through shuttle trade. But after the economic crisis in the Russian Federation in 1998, the Turkish leather wear industry penetrated new markets and today, the industry exports to more than 180 countries.

Exports of leather wear amounted almost US\$ 164,3 million in 2022. The main markets such as USA (15,1%), Tajikistan (14,1 %) and Germany (12,6%) are followed by France (9,5%) in 2022.

### Leather Wear Exports of Türkiye by Country (US\$) (HS: 4203)

Countries	2020	2021	2022	Change % (2021/2022)
United States of America	10.964	16.542	24.874	50,4%
Tajikistan	486	3.228	23.194	618,5%
Germany	15.268	18.640	20.630	10,7%
France	15.396	14.600	15.633	7,1%
Russian Federation	9.330	13.956	13.605	-2,5%
Netherlands	12.161	10.144	11.333	11,7%
United Kingdom	6.015	8.852	6.079	-31,3%
Italy	5.767	6.584	5.511	-16,3%
Israel	895	1.353	4.791	254,1%
Sweden	2.595	3.807	3.210	-15,7%
Poland	327	748	2.432	225,1%
United Arab Emirates	996	1.347	2.334	73,3%
Denmark	1.371	1.676	2.057	22,7%
Kazakhstan	3.122	10.441	1.851	-82,3%
Egypt	1.980	4.297	1.744	-59,4%

Iraq	4.185	2.214	1.718	-22,4%
Belgium	1.032	1.581	1.433	-9,4%
Romania	849	1.041	1.425	36,9%
Australia	1.419	1.219	1.279	4,9%
Spain	3.264	1.250	1.241	-0,7%
Others	16.516	18.100	17.983	-0,6%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>113.938</b>	<b>141.620</b>	<b>164.357</b>	<b>16,1%</b>

Source: Trademap

Turkish saddler products industry has also showed a remarkable progress in terms of exports, similar to shoes industry. Exports of Turkish leather trunks, suitcases and handbags reached at US\$ 324,3 million in 2022. USA (11,1%), UK(10,6%) and Italy (9,7%) were the main destinations for leather trunks, suitcases and handbags in 2022. In 2022, exports of Turkish leather trunks, suitcases and handbags has increased by almost 31,6% and there is a remarkable increase in the export to Ukraine, by 673,2%. The other significant markets are USA, United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Netherlands, France and Spain for the same period.

#### **Leather Trunks, Suit-Cases, Handbags, etc. Exports of Türkiye by Country (HS:4202)(US\$)**

Countries	2020	2021	2022	Change % (2021/2022)
United States of America	8.656	30.853	35.855	16,2%
United Kingdom	17.413	29.535	34.534	16,9%
Italy	16.825	22.644	31.589	39,5%
Ukraine	1.643	3.148	24.341	673,2%
Germany	14.447	19.808	22.786	15,0%
Netherlands	5.819	9.581	15.109	57,7%
France	7.617	12.684	14.729	16,1%
Spain	9.819	8.705	9.300	6,8%
Switzerland	5.361	5.960	8.034	34,8%
Israel	3.327	5.353	7.398	38,2%
Greece	1.612	2.706	7.226	167,0%
Iraq	5.718	5.804	7.042	21,3%
Serbia	2.947	4.990	6.014	20,5%
Libya, State of	1.900	4.503	5.017	11,4%
Romania	3.560	4.965	4.783	-3,7%
Russian Federation	2.276	3.204	4.584	43,1%
Kazakhstan	1.559	2.241	4.229	88,7%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.931	2.449	4.153	69,6%
Azerbaijan	849	3.521	4.058	15,3%
Bulgaria	2.218	2.837	3.939	38,8%
Others	38.721	60.927	69.673	14,4%
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>31,6%</b>



	154.218	246.418	324.393	
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Source: Trademap

Türkiye exhibits its unique leather wear collections, capacity and products in major leather fairs which are mostly organized in Istanbul.

### ***Leather and Leather Related Industries Trade Fairs Schedule***

- [Fairs in Türkiye](#)



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## USEFUL LINKS

- Turkish Leather Council  
[www.turkishleather.com](http://www.turkishleather.com)
- Leather Manufacturers' Association of Türkiye  
[www.tdsd.org.tr](http://www.tdsd.org.tr)
- Footwear Industrialists Association of Türkiye  
[www.tasd.com.tr](http://www.tasd.com.tr)
- Istanbul Textile and Apparel Exporters' Associations  
[www.itkib.org.tr](http://www.itkib.org.tr)
- Aegean Exporters' Associations  
[www.egebirlik.org.tr](http://www.egebirlik.org.tr)
- Southeast Anatolia Exporters' Associations  
[www.gaib.org.tr](http://www.gaib.org.tr)
- Uludağ Exporters' Association  
[www.uib.org.tr](http://www.uib.org.tr)
- Denizli Exporters' Association  
[www.denib.gov.tr](http://www.denib.gov.tr)
- Mediterranean Exporter Associations  
[www.akib.org.tr](http://www.akib.org.tr)



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[www.trade.gov.tr](http://www.trade.gov.tr)

[ihticari@ticaret.gov.tr](mailto:ihticari@ticaret.gov.tr)

Call Center  
+90 850 808 04 04