STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF BELIZE

ET
EXTERNAL TRADE

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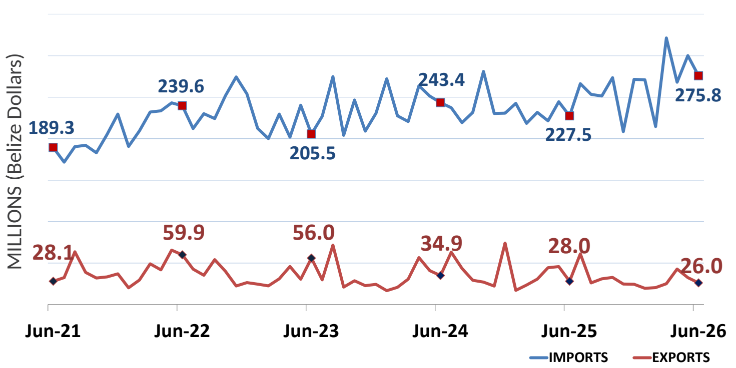
IMPORTS UP 21.3%, DOMESTIC EXPORTS DOWN 7.9% IN JUNE 2026

IMPORTS

June 2026: Belize's total merchandise imports for the month of June 2026 were valued at $275.8 million. This represented an increase of 21.3 percent or $48.3 million, compared to June 2025, when imports were valued at $227.5 million (see Figure 1). Imports were up across nearly all commodity categories, with the largest increases observed in 'Mineral Fuels and Lubricants', 'Food and Live Animals', and 'Chemical Products'. On the other hand, 'Other Manufactures' was the only category to decline during the month.

Figure 1: Monthly Gross Imports and Domestic Exports; June 2021 - June 2026



Source: Statistical Institute of Belize, 2026

INCREASING CATEGORIES:

Mineral Fuels and Lubricants.

Imports of 'Mineral Fuels and Lubricants' rose significantly by $15.2 million, from $33.1 million in June 2025 to $48.2 million in June 2026, mainly driven by higher world market prices and larger import volumes of regular fuel. Additionally, while there were no imports of premium fuel during June of last year, there were purchases of this commodity recorded for June of this year, further contributing to the overall increase in this category.

Food and Live Animals

The 'Food and Live Animals' category went up by $12.1 million, from $23.2 million to $35.3 million in, attributable to higher imports of coffee and other grocery products coupled with the fact that, while wheat imports were absent in June of 2025, there were purchases of this item during June of 2026.

Chemical Products

The 'Chemical Products' category saw imports rise by $9.8 million, from $27.7 million to $37.5 million, mainly due to increased purchases of fertilizers at higher prices.

Commercial Free Zone

Imports destined for the 'Commercial Free Zone' were up by $3.3 million, from $20.0 million in June 2025 to $23.3 million in June 2026, resulting mainly from increased imports of cigarettes.

Manufactured Goods

'Manufactured Goods' rose by $3.2 million, from $31.1 million to $34.3 million, reflecting higher imports of metal building components and glass bottles.

Crude Materials

The 'Crude Materials' category was up by $2.3 million, from $5.2 million to $7.6 million, driven by higher imports of treated pine lumber.

Beverages and Tobacco

The 'Beverages and Tobacco' category rose by $1.6 million, from $4.4 million in June of last year to $6.0 million in June this year. This was mainly attributed to increased imports of alcoholic beverages and nutritional supplements.

Machinery and Transport Equipment

Purchases of 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' went up by $1.3 million, from $57.4 million in June 2025 to $58.7 million in June 2026, due to higher imports of heavy industrial equipment and pick-up trucks.

Oils and Fats

The 'Oils and Fats' category increased by $0.8 million, from $2.3 million to $3.1 million, the result of higher imports of cooking oils.

Export Processing Zone

Goods destined for the 'Export Processing Zone' went up by $0.8 million, from $1.7 million in June 2025 to $2.5 million in June 2026, owing to greater imports of chemical wood pulp and shrimp feed.

DECREASING CATEGORIES:

Other Manufactures

Reduced imports of electrical distribution equipment led to a $2.1 million decrease in the 'Other Manufactures' category, from $21.1 million in June 2025 to $18.9 million in June 2026.

FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR: Belize's total merchandise imports for the first six months of 2026 were valued at $1.651 billion. This represents an increase of 19.1 percent or $264.7 million, compared to the same period in 2025, when imports were valued at $1.386 billion (see Figure 2).

INCREASING CATEGORIES:

Mineral Fuels and Lubricants

Imports of 'Mineral Fuels and Lubricants' increased by a sizeable $92.8 million, from $199.0 million during the first six months of 2025 to $291.8 million during the same period in 2026. This increase was driven by higher world market prices for all major fuel types, coupled with increased quantities of regular and kerosene fuels being imported during the period.

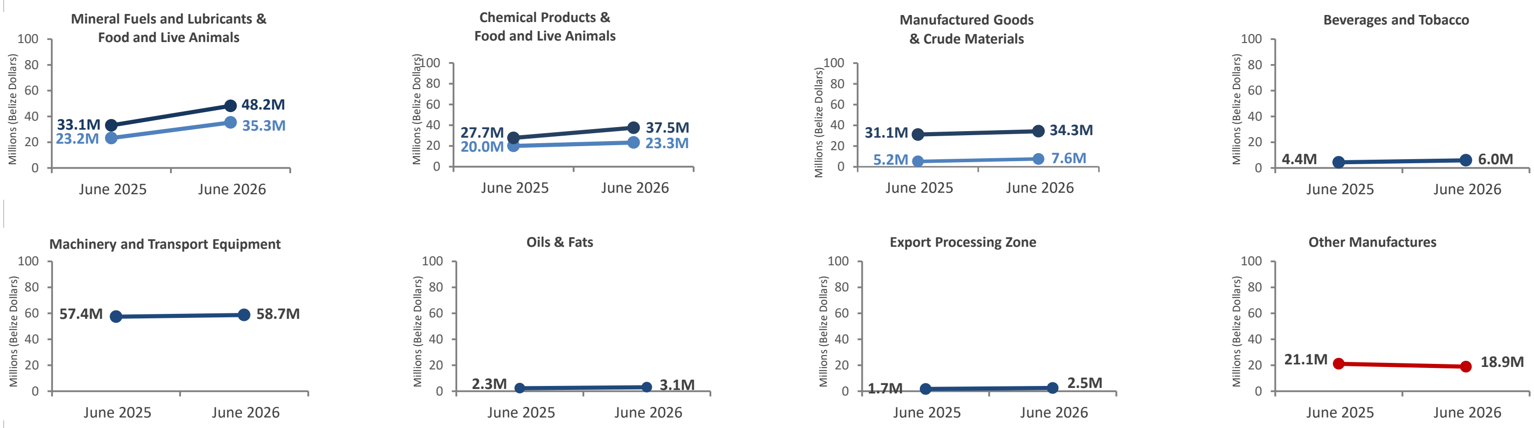
Machinery and Transport Equipment

Purchases of 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' also grew by a considerable $60.7 million, from $336.2 million to $396.9 million, mainly due to higher imports of production machinery lines, an aircraft, electrical cables and wiring, and four-cylinder vehicles.

Chemical Products

The category of 'Chemical Products' increased by $27.0 million, from $135.9 million to $162.8 million, mainly attributed to higher imports of fertilizers, laboratory reagents and diagnostic test kits during the six-month period.

Figure 2: Composition of Gross Imports by Type; June 2025 and June 2026



Source: Statistical Institute of Belize, 2026

Other Manufactures
The 'Other Manufactures' category rose by $19.2 million, from $107.5 million in the first six months of 2025 to $126.7 million during the first six months of 2026. This was largely due to increased purchases of electrical distribution equipment and prefabricated steel structures.

Manufactured Goods
Higher imports of building metal components, steel corrugated bars, and building cement resulted in a $18.6 million rise in the 'Manufactured Goods' category, from $205.3 million to $223.9 million.

Food and Live Animals
The 'Food and Live Animals' category was up by $15.6 million, from $168.0 million in 2025 to $183.6 million in 2026, mainly due to greater imports of wheat, coffee, and shortening.

Commercial Free Zone
Goods destined for the 'Commercial Free Zone' rose by $15.4 million, from $147.1 million in 2025 to $162.4 million in 2026, reflecting increased imports of jerseys, tennis shoes, and T-shirts.

Beverages and Tobacco
Imports of 'Beverages and Tobacco' grew by $8.2 million, from $25.8 million in 2025 to $34.0 million in 2026, due to greater purchases of tequila, nutritional supplements, and cigarettes.

Crude Materials
The 'Crude Materials' category recorded an increase of $4.1 million, from $28.0 million to $32.0 million, on account of larger imports of treated pine lumber.

Oils and Fats
Imports of 'Oils and Fats' rose by $1.6 million, from $16.6 million in the first six months of 2025 to $18.2 million in the first six months of 2026, largely the result of an increase in purchases of cooking oils.

Export Processing Zone
Items destined for the 'Export Processing Zone' increased by $1.5 million, from $15.3 million in January to June 2025 to $16.7 million during the same period in 2026, mainly attributed to higher imports of fabricated metal components.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS

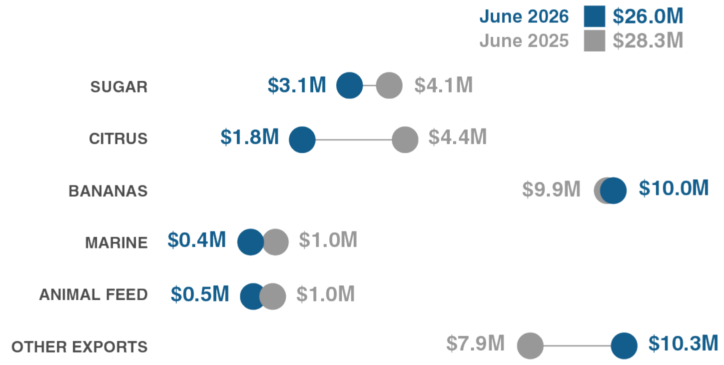
June 2026: Total domestic exports for the month of June 2026 amounted to $26.0 million, down by 7.9 percent, or $2.2 million, when compared to exports for June 2025, which were valued at $28.3 million.

DECREASING CATEGORIES:
For the month of June 2026, export earnings from several major domestic commodities were down when compared to the corresponding month of 2025. Citrus exports recorded the largest decrease of $2.6 million, from $4.4 million to $1.8 million, due to reduced sales of orange concentrate and orange oil. There were no (formal) cattle exports reported during June 2026, in contrast to June of last year, when revenues from this commodity were valued at $2.4 million. Revenue from sugar decreased by $1.0 million, from $4.1 million to $3.1 million, reflecting both lower export quantities and less favorable market prices during the month. Earnings from marine products fell by $0.6 million, from $1.0 million in June 2025 to $0.4 million in June 2026, owing to lower exports of lobster tails and conch. Similarly, sales of animal feed were down by $0.5 million, from $1.0 million to $0.5 million, while red kidney bean exports declined by $0.2 million, from $0.8 million to $0.6 million. Both decreases were attributed to lower export quantities during the month (see Figure 3).

INCREASING CATEGORIES:
On the other hand, earnings from molasses recorded the largest increase for the month, with revenue rising by $3.2 million, from $1.4 million in June 2025 to $4.6 million in June 2026. This was attributed to higher export quantities coupled with more favorable market prices for this commodity. Pepper sauce revenues increased by $0.3 million, from $0.5 million to $0.7 million, due to greater quantities being exported during the month (see Figure 3).

MAJOR DESTINATIONS:
Reduced banana sales to Other European Union countries resulted in a $2.3 million decline in earnings from that market, from $8.5 million in June 2025 to $6.2 million in June 2026. Similarly, lower exports of orange concentrate and sugar contributed to a $2.2 million decrease in revenues from CARICOM countries, from $8.4 million to $6.1 million. Earnings from Mexico also declined by $2.1 million, from $2.5 million in June of last year to $0.4 million in June of this year, reflecting the absence of cattle exports during the month. In addition, export revenues from Central America decreased by $0.7 million, from $2.1 million to $1.4 million.

Figure 3: Composition of Domestic Exports by Type; June 2025 and June 2026



Source: Statistical Institute of Belize, 2026

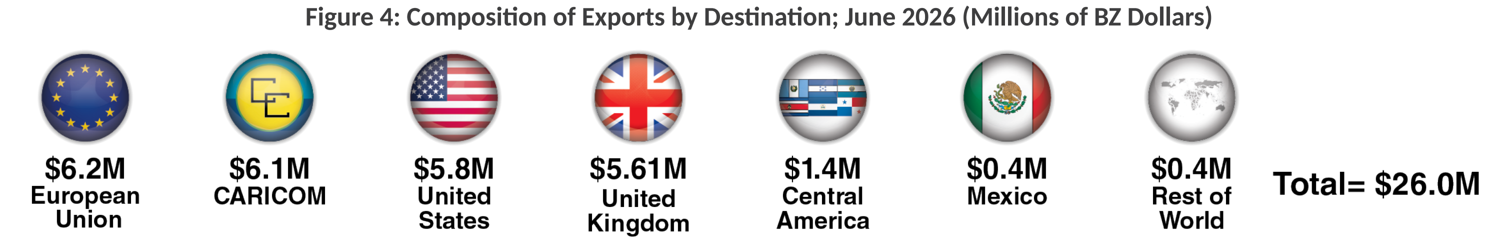
On the other hand, earnings from the United States of America were up by $2.8 million, from $3.0 million in June 2025 to $5.8 million in June 2026, primarily driven by improved molasses sales. Likewise, increased exports of bananas contributed to a $2.0 million rise in earnings from the United Kingdom, from $3.6 million to $5.6 million during the month (see Figure 4).

FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR: Merchandise exports for the period January to June 2026 totaled $166.6 million, down 12.7 percent or $24.2 million from the first six months of 2025, when exports were valued at $190.8 million.

DECREASING CATEGORIES:
During the first six months of the year 2026, several major domestic export commodities recorded lower earnings when compared to the corresponding period in 2025. The largest decline was in earnings from citrus products, which fell by $10.1 million, from $17.8 million in 2025 to $7.7 million in 2026, largely due to reduced sales of orange concentrate, grapefruit concentrate, and orange oil. Sugar exports also decreased by a notable $8.0 million, from $52.4 million to $44.3 million, reflecting lower export quantities together with less favorable market prices. Cattle exports (formal) decreased by $4.2 million, from $7.6 million during the first six months of last year to $3.4 million in the first six months of this year. Similarly, revenues from red kidney beans fell by $3.0 million, from $6.8 million to $3.8 million, while banana exports were down by $2.0 million, from $48.4 million to $46.4 million, the result of reduced export quantities. Other commodities recording lower earnings due to reduced export volumes included sawn wood, which declined by $0.5 million, from $0.6 million to $0.1 million; pineapple concentrate, which was down by $0.4 million, from $0.5 million in 2025 to virtually no exports in 2026; and crude soybean oil, which decreased by $0.4 million, from $5.9 million to $5.4 million.

INCREASING CATEGORIES:
On the other hand, several export commodities recorded higher earnings during the first half of 2026 relative to the same period in 2025. The largest increase was seen in revenues from marine products, which rose by $3.2 million, from $16.3 million to $19.5 million, reflecting stronger sales of lobster meat and shrimp. Molasses exports were up by $1.3 million, from $7.9 million in 2025 to $9.1 million in 2026, supported by improved market prices. Earnings from animal feed rose by $0.7 million, from $5.9 million to $6.6 million, due to higher export volumes. Pepper sauces also recorded higher export revenues, which increased by $0.3 million, from $3.7 million in 2025 to $4.0 million in 2026, while exports of black-eyed peas grew by $0.3 million, from $1.2 million to $1.5 million. In addition, corn meal sales increased by $0.2 million, from $1.6 million to $1.9 million, reflecting higher export volumes during the first six months of the year (see Figure 3).

Figure 4: Composition of Exports by Destination; June 2026 (Millions of BZ Dollars)



Source: Statistical Institute of Belize, 2026

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