



Brazilian News

Fastener Import to Brazil Sets Record

◆ Third time above US\$ 1 billion, and the 2024 result outperforms years 2013 and 2022 ◆

In Brazil last year, the significant depreciation of real (R\$) was a major factor. On the first business day of 2024, US\$ 1.00 was quoted R\$ 4.89; on the last business day it was R\$ 6.19 (a 26.5% increase). Despite this, the fastener sector saw record imports, but exports did not follow suit.

Year	Import				Export			
	US\$ (Millions)	Thousand Tons	Variation		US\$ (Millions)	Thousand Tons	Variation	
2013	1,048	191	13%	16.2%	136	26.4	-6.8%	1%
2014	962	182	-8.2%	-4.8%	131	25.5	-3.4%	-3.4%
2015	761	151	-20.9%	-17.2%	114	24.9	-13.6%	-2.1%
2016	619	107	-18.7%	-28.8%	107	29.4	-5.5%	18%
2017	748	130	20.9%	21.3%	126	31.1	17.4%	5.7%
2018	860	148	15%	13.7%	161	34.2	27.5%	9.7%
2019	847	146	-1.6%	-1.4	194	29.6	20.7%	-13.5%
2020	684	125	-19.2%	-14.4%	137	26.9	-29.5%	-8.9%
2021	934	205	36.6%	64.2%	153	58.6	12.1%	117.6%
2022	1,052	207	12.7%	0.9%	184	38.4	20.2%	-34.3%
2023	977	189	-7.13%	-8.6%	182	30.7	-1%	-20.06%
2024	1,131	252	15.77%	33.33%	161	25.5	-11.54%	-16.94%



Import

According to a report by the Brazilian Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services (MDIC), the country achieved a record high in fastener imports during 2024. This marks the third time since 2013 that the billion-dollar threshold has been surpassed, and the first time annual volume has exceeded 250,000 tons:

- **2013:** US\$ 1.048 billion, 191 thousand tons, US\$ 5.48 FOB price p/kg
- **2022:** US\$ 1.052 billion, 207 thousand tons, US\$ 5.08 FOB price p/kg
- **2024:** US\$ 1.131 billion, 252 thousand tons, US\$ 4.48 FOB price p/kg

Regarding the import sources, China remained on top as before, accounting for a share of 28.4%.

Below are the top 10 sources for Brazil's fasteners in 2024:

1. China: US\$ 321 million, 28.4%
2. USA: US\$ 189 million, 16.7%
3. Germany: US\$ 94.9 million, 10.8%
4. Italy: US\$ 84.5 million, 7.4%
5. Japan: US\$ 84.3 million, 7.4%
6. France: US\$ 66.1 million, 5.8%
7. Taiwan: US\$ 35.1 million, 3.1%
8. Sweden US\$ 32 million, 2.8%
9. India: US\$ 27.7 million, 2.2%
10. UK: US\$ 19.6 million, 1.7%



Export

For fastener manufacturers and providers, the situation is quite the opposite. Overseas sales in 2024 reached just over US\$161 million, the 6th best revenue result since 2013, but still representing an 11.54% decrease compared to 2023. In terms of weight, 25.5 thousand tons were sold, the 11th best result in history, and a 16.94% decrease compared to 2023.



Below are the top 10 destinations for Brazil's fasteners in 2024:

1. Argentina: US\$ 37.8 million, 23.4%
2. USA: US\$ 34.7 million, 21.6%
3. Paraguay: US\$ 18.3 million, 11.3%
4. France: US\$ 8.49 million, 5.2%
5. Germany: US\$ 8.01 million, 4.9%
6. Mexico: US\$ 5.9 million, 3.7%
7. Chile: US\$ 5.84 million, 3.6%
8. Colombia: US\$ 4.79 million, 2.9%
9. Peru: US\$ 3.06 million, 1.9%
10. India: US\$ 2.9 million, 1.8%

Forte Fixadores in USA

Forte Fixadores is a relatively new Brazilian manufacturer of bolts, screws, and a wide range of metal fasteners designed for use in bolted joints, particularly in large-scale structures within industries like wind and hydroelectric energy, oil & gas, mining, alcohol production, and general manufacturing.

Founded in 2012, the company's headquarters and factory are located in Mauá, a town in the São Paulo metropolitan area.

Following some expansions, the company has recently adopted the name Forte Group USA. In January 2024, according to Barbara Silva, the group's marketing head, the Group announced the start of its operations in the USA with the opening of its first business unit abroad.



Auto Parts Should Adapt to New IATF Rules

◆ Including fastener players, Brazil has more than 1.1 thousand automotive part manufacturers ◆



According to Plinio Pereira, a manager at TÜV Rheinland Brazil, adhering to the new International Automotive Task Force (IATF) rules ensures transparency in administrative and manufacturing processes. This includes product traceability, corporate responsibility, and customer protection against quality issues in components.

"In Brazil, there are 1,171 automotive parts manufacturers certified under IATF requirements. To maintain their certification and continue exporting and marketing their products to major automakers, these companies must adapt to the 6th Edition of IATF 16949, which is now in effect, replacing the 5th Edition."

The new rules introduce changes such as adjustments to the maximum audit time, the elimination of preliminary audits, and a prohibition on certification bodies offering consultancy services on quality management systems. Additionally, new deadlines for the audit process have been established. Compliance ensures transparency in administrative and manufacturing processes, including product traceability, corporate accountability, and customer protection regarding component quality.

A single certification body must audit both the production site and any nearby extended sites. Certification bodies are also prohibited from providing consultancy services related to the customer's quality management system. Each production site can have two annual maintenance audits, conducted within an interval of -3/+3 months from the last day of the initial, transfer, or recertification audit. ■

by Sergio Milatias, 'Revista do Parafuso'
(The Fastener Brazilian Magazine)
revistadoparafuso@revistadoparafuso.com
www.revistadoparafuso.com

