ACIMIT
ITALIAN TEXTILE MACHINERY

ITALIAN TEXTILE MACHINERY INDUSTRY

An overview

prepared for
Project Syria 2026
Damasco, 3rd November 2026

Italian textile machinery industry: figures

In Italy there are approximately **300 companies** producing textile machines and related accessories, employing about 12,500 workers.

The value of Italian production is about **1.9 billion euro**.

Italian textile machinery sector* (million euro)

	2022	*2023*	*2024*	*2025*	*2025/24 change*
Production *(a)*	2751	2323	2125	1940	*-9%*
Exports *(b)*	2372	2009	1817	1675	*-8%*
Domestic sales *(a-b)*	380	314	308	266	*-14%*
Imports *(c)*	610	546	433	492	*+14%*
Domestic consumption *(a-b+c)*	989	860	741	758	*+2%*

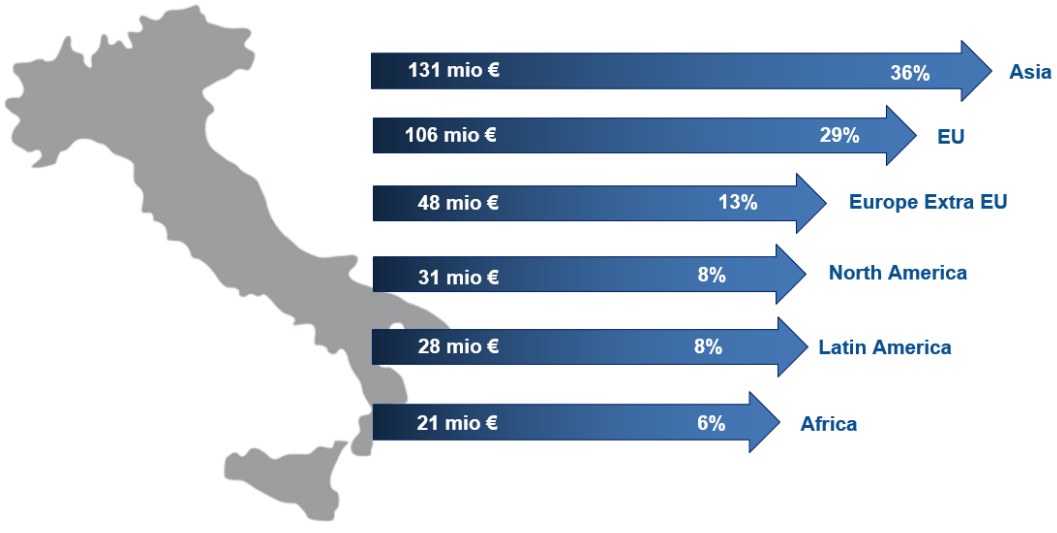
Source: ACIMIT

**: figures include laundry machinery data*

Italian textile machinery exports

86% of Italian total sales are realized in about 130 destination Countries. The process of internationalization and the vocation for innovation in the sector allowed Italian companies to strengthen the leading position of Italy in the world textile machinery industry.

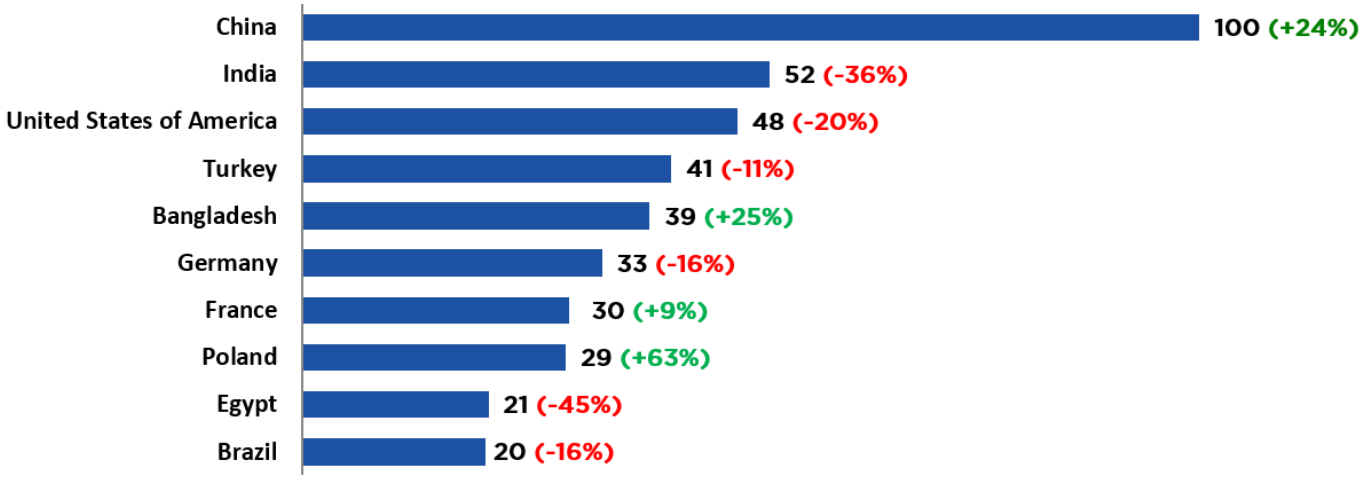
Italian textile machinery exports - geographical destination (1° quarter 2026)
% on total



Source: ACIMIT

In the first half of 2026 period the main destination of Italian exports of textile machines was **Asia** (37%), followed by **European Union** (28%) and **Europe extra EU** (12%). The biggest contribution to the Italian exports of textile machinery came from **China**. Italian sales toward Asia market amounted to a value of 264 million euro. Others main markets are **India**, **United States of America** and **Turkey**.

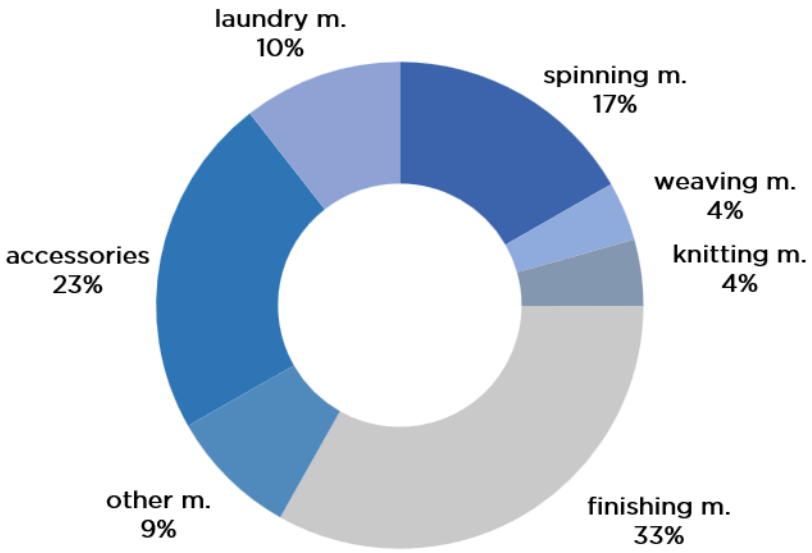
Italian textile machinery exports - main markets (1° half 2026)
million euro, y/y change



Source: ACIMIT

The supply of Italian manufacturers covers all the sectors into which textile production process can be divided. Each type of machines are well represented in the Italian exports.

Italian textile machinery exports – breakdown by categories (1° half 2026)
% on total



Source: ACIMIT

Reasons for a world success

Italian companies involved in this sector, are small-size companies, deeply committed to R&D activities, looking for close cooperation with end users to create new opportunities, new machines, new systems and technologies.

The ability to understand the needs of potential customers enables Italian companies to turn them quickly into dedicated machines and devices which give rise to new high value-added market niches (such as the technical textiles) in the world textile market, both as regards economical and technological aspects.

Italian textile machinery companies are placed in areas of ancient textile tradition, where an exchange of experience with end users offers a strong impetus to the constant technological upgrading of machinery. Textile clusters are located in Northern and Central Italy: Bergamo, Biella, Brescia, Como, Milan, Prato, Vicenza.

The main characteristics that distinguish Italian textile machinery sector are:

- **skilled workforce** that ensures a high quality of products;
- **the dimensions of Italian companies** that allow a quick response to the need of each customer;
- **the flexibility and versatility** ensure a customized production for satisfying the needs of each customer;
- **the high technological level** of the supply, due to the constant attention paid by Italian companies to the R&D activities and to innovative solutions.

Syria and Italy: good chances for cooperation in textile sector

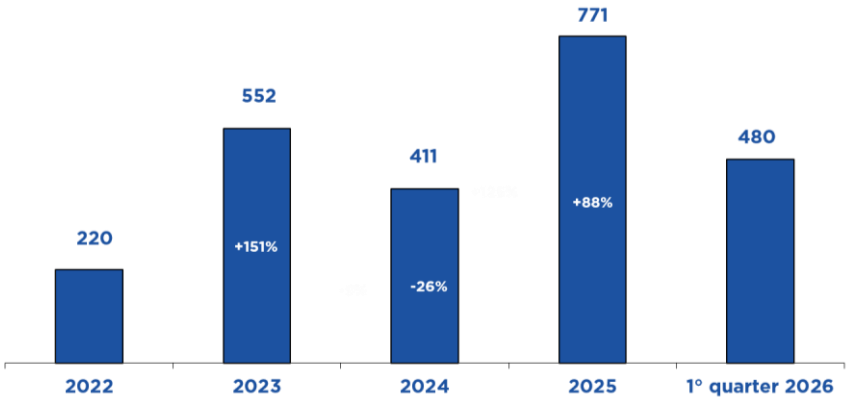
These figures offer a useful indication of the existing commercial relationship between our two countries. However, when looking at the Syrian market, we believe it is important to consider not only current trade volumes, but also the potential for future industrial cooperation.

As reconstruction progresses, investment priorities may include the rehabilitation of existing production facilities, the replacement of outdated equipment and the introduction of more efficient technologies. Italian manufacturers can support these developments across the textile production chain, from spinning and weaving to knitting, finishing and related technologies.

The objective should be to develop sustainable industrial partnerships that respond to the actual needs of Syrian manufacturers.

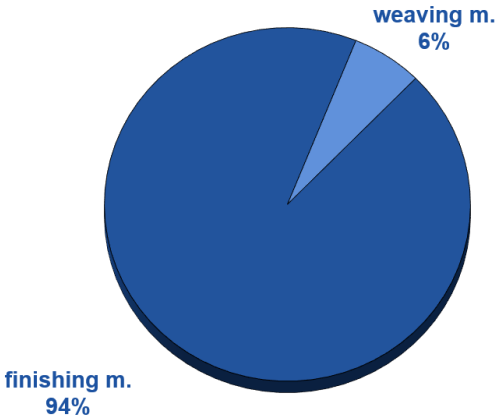
Italian textile machinery exports to SYRIA

million euro, y/y change



Source: ACIMIT

Italian textile machinery exports to SYRIA - breakdown by categories
(1° quarter 2026)
% on total



Source: ACIMIT