

Poultry Imports Summary for 2025

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1. Total annual imports per poultry type (kg)

Unit: kg	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total chicken	460 708 405	406 826 248	360 251 580	399 702 320	400 394 090	371 591 558
Total turkey	24 639 139	25 305 617	12 642 436	15 024 263	14 470 207	7 146 122
Total other	195 088	174 873	154 890	248 196	226 241	163 815
Total poultry	485 542 632	432 306 738	373 048 906	414 974 779	415 090 538	378 901 495

Source: SARS verified

© "Other" refers to ducks, geese and guinea fowl collectively

2. Total annual chicken imports

Unit: kg	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total chicken	460 708 405	406 826 248	360 251 580	399 702 320	400 394 090	371 591 558
Total frozen chicken	460 026 270	405 853 183	359 683 096	399 096 864	399 610 072	370 329 611
Total fresh chicken	8	3 692	9 532	7 547	78 340	732
Total processed	682 127	969 373	558 952	597 909	705 678	1 261 215

Unit: kg	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total frozen chicken	460 026 270	405 853 183	359 683 096	399 096 864	399 610 072	370 329 611
Total frozen chicken excl. MDM	259 302 876	224 658 538	170 098 626	173 757 989	160 521 043	165 034 973
Total chicken MDM	200 723 394	181 194 645	189 584 470	225 338 875	239 089 029	205 294 638

3. Contribution of chicken, turkey and duck, geese or guinea fowl imports to total imports in 2025

In 2025, chicken imports contributed 98.1 % to total poultry imports, turkey imports 1.9 % and ducks, geese or guinea fowl totalled 0.04 %.

4. Total imports of bone-in portions from the EU into South Africa

Year	Total imports of bone-in portions from the EU (tonnes)	Percentage change
2020	51 942	- 41 %
2021	14 780	- 71 %
2022	669	- 95 %
2023	3 492	+ 422 %
2024	7 410	+ 112 %
2025	7 693	+ 3.8 % y-on-y

5. US AGOA quota volumes since introduction in 2016

Year	Bone-in portions (0207.149*) from the US; tonnes	Quota volumes (tonnes)	Percentage of quota
2016	46 456	65 000	71.5 %
2017	69 305	65 000	106.6 %
2018	73 149	65 417	111.8 %
2019	82 593	68 590	120.4 %
2020	65 458	69 972	93.5 %
2021	59 798	71 290	83.9 %
2022	41 792	71 632	58.3 %
2023	29 878	71 963	41.5 %
2024	5 956	71 963 ■	8.3 %
2025	12 251	73 881	16.6 %

The annual quota volume runs from April of the current year to March of the following year

■ No tariff amendment was gazetted for the period April 2024 – March 2025

6. The origin of bone-in imports in 2025

	Bone-in portions (0207.149*); tonnes				
	EU	**US**	**Brazil**	**Argentina**	**Others**
January	382	270	993	286	0
February	542	0	854	774	40
March	752	27	1 653	480	65
April	954	0	2 138	422	22
May	556	0	1 374	681	84
June	476	0	577	596	119
July	685	299	329	1 137	99
August	574	974	845	898	58
September	511	1 383	3 582	427	66
October	1 465	1 489	6 669	51	112
November	770	2 410	3 809	0	96
December	25	2 968	3 132	26	67
Total	**7 692**	**9 820**	**25 955**	**5 778**	**828**

7. Total imports of MDM and percentage coming from Brazil

Year	**Total imports of MDM (tonnes)**	**Percentage from Brazil**
2019	190 380	88.3 %
2020	200 723	92.1 %
2021	181 195	94.3 %
2022	189 584	92.9 %
2023	225 339	94.8 %
2024	239 089	91.3 %
2025	205 295	91.8 %

8. The origin of frozen carcasses and offal imports in 2025

Frozen carcasses (0207.1220) and offal (0207.142*); tonnes				
	Argentina	**Brazil**	**EU**	**Others**
January	714	7 583	377	0
February	464	6 740	327	0
March	814	7 177	503	0
April	468	6 122	277	0
May	699	6 910	173	47
June	478	3 267	581	48
July	541	344	653	70
August	789	2 871	720	120
September	401	10 367	454	120
October	115	20 373	353	201
November	0	13 706	171	151
December	0	14 438	76	370
Total	**5 482**	**99 898**	**4 664**	**1 127**

9. Poultry imports according to the main countries of origin for 2022 to 2025

Country	Imports (tonnes)			
	2022	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**
Brazil	282 128	342 095	337 602	321 537
Argentina	33 455	17 288	25 741	21 120
United States	47 774	39 071	13 850	10 242
Ireland	-	3 924	8 045	7 402
Spain	2 061	4 351	14 340	6 769
Thailand	1 101	2 097	2 944	6 147
eSwatini	984	571	423	1 455
Belgium	25	-	-	1 139
Namibia	3	19	516	1 102
Chile	1 334	638	-	722
Netherlands	84	1 216	5 086	678
Australia	2 334	3 356	1 142	235
China	28	21	-	74
Uruguay	104	75	539	53
Paraguay	26	-	51	50
Burkina Faso	-	-	-	27
Republic of Korea	-	-	-	27
New Zealand	-	-	-	27
Islamic Republic of Iran	-	-	-	25
Austria	-	-	28	25
United Kingdom	-	43	40	12
France	5	4	3	7
UAE	1	-	-	1.3
Poland	-	-	3 698	-
Denmark	-	53	606	-
Hong Kong	5	24	33	-
Greece	-	-	27	-
Barbados	-	-	27	-
Antiqua & Barbados	-	-	27	-
Chile	1 334	638	-	-
Ukraine	-	27	-	-
China	28	21	-	-
Botswana	-	7	-	-
Bhutan		3	-	-
Lesotho	-	0.7	-	-
Canada	1 358	-	-	-
Italy	24	-	-	-
South Africa ▼	***126***	***82***	***266***	***-***
Undeclared	***89***	***8***	***29***	***24***
EU (excl. UK)	***2 199***	***9 548***	***31 834***	***16 033***

▼ *These imports are listed by SARS as originating from South Africa*

10. Poultry imports according to tariff

Species	Tariff description	Code	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
			Unit: tonnes					
CHICKEN	Chicken: Whole fresh or chilled broiler	0207.1100	0	0.05	0.006	0.4	52.8	0
CHICKEN	Chicken: Frozen mechanically deboned broiler meat	0207.1210	200 723	181 195	189 584	225 339	239 089	205 295
CHICKEN	Carcasses (excluding necks and offal) with all cuts (e.g. thighs, wings, legs and breasts) removed	0207.1220	12 499	7 162	7 009	9 114	14 362	8 065
CHICKEN	Chicken: Frozen whole birds	0207.1290	14 930	13 259	1 003	4 601	9 073	2 573
CHICKEN	Chicken: Cuts and offal, fresh or chilled broilers	0207.1300	0	3.6	9.5	7.5	25.5	0.73
CHICKEN	Chicken: Frozen broiler boneless portions	0207.1410	7 948	9 741	2 242	2 734	2 664	1 214
CHICKEN	Chicken: Frozen broiler offal	0207.1420	60 320	60 078	68 562	86 252	94 632	103 106
CHICKEN	Chicken: Frozen broiler bone-in portions	0207.1490	163 606	134 418	91 282	71 057	39 790	50 077
TURKEY	Whole fresh turkey	0207.2400	0	0	25.9	0	0	0
TURKEY	Whole frozen turkey	0207.2500	961.5	533.9	523.0	489.0	460.4	732.5
TURKEY	Cuts and offal, fresh or chilled turkey	0207.2600	0	99.3	75.7	0	97.5	0
TURKEY	Frozen turkey portions and MDM	0207.2700	23 678	24 645	12 018	14 535	13 912	6 414
DUCKS	Ducks not cut in pieces; fresh or chilled	0207.4100	0	0	0	0.012	0	0
DUCKS	Ducks not cut in pieces; frozen	0207.4200	94.2	156.6	138.4	107.8	128.1	151.5
DUCKS	Ducks fatty livers, fresh or chilled	0207.4300	0	0.53	0.83	0.28	0.19	0.16
DUCKS	Ducks other, fresh or chilled	0207.4400	0	0	0	0	0	0
DUCKS	Ducks other, frozen	0207.4500	12.5	15.2	6.1	37.9	41.9	5.3
EESE	Whole frozen geese	0207.5200	0	0	0	0	0	0
GEESE	Geese fatty livers, fresh or chilled	0207.5300	0	0	0	0	0	0
GEESE	Geese other, fresh or chilled	0207.5400	0	0	0	0	0	0
GEESE	Geese other, frozen	0207.5500	0	0	0	0	0	0
GEESE	Sausages: Pate de foie gras / goose liver paste	1601.0010	0	0.01	0.84	0.076	0.676	0.03
GEESE	Other: Pate de foie gras / goose liver paste	1602.2010	1.01	0.79	0.58	0.505	0.501	0.137
TURKEY	Of turkeys	1602.3100	0	27.3	0	0	0	0
CHICKEN	Chicken: Other prepared or preserved broiler meat, offal or blood pastes	1602.3210	0.26	0.44	0	0.017	0.005	0.04
CHICKEN	Frozen, flavoured, herbed or marinated broiler	1602.3290	681.9	968.9	559.0	597.9	705.7	1 261.2
OTHER	Pastes of ducks, geese and guinea fowl	1602.3910	0.32	0.26	1.16	0.91	0.43	0.12
OTHER	Other, not incl pastes of ducks, geese and guinea fowl	1602.3990	87.1	1.46	6.93	100.8	54.4	6.5
	TOTAL POULTRY IMPORTS		**485 543**	**432 307**	**373 049**	**414 975**	**415 091**	**378 901**

All data has been sourced from SARS