

NONRUBBER FOOTWEAR QUARTERLY STATISTICAL REPORT

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on Finance on Investigation
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Washington, DC 20436**

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HIGHLIGHTS

U.S. production.—Nonrubber footwear production, in quantity terms, continued to decline rapidly in the third quarter of 1991, falling by 23 percent from the corresponding period of 1990. The decrease almost matched the 25-percent decline posted in the preceding quarter, bringing the total decline in production for the first 3 quarters of 1991 to 19 percent. The value of U.S. producers' shipments also declined in the third quarter, by 12 percent, although the total value so far this year is down by a much smaller 3 percent, to \$2.6 billion. The U.S. industry, whose share of the domestic nonrubber footwear market sunk to a low of 11 percent in quantity terms, and 25 percent in value terms, in the third quarter, continued to cut its workforce. Employment so far this year is down by 10 percent to an average of 67,000 persons, the lowest in many years.

U.S. imports.—Nonrubber footwear imports rebounded in the third quarter of 1991, climbing by 9 percent over the corresponding period of 1990. They are up by 2 percent so far this year, to just over 700 million pairs, valued at \$6.2 billion. As a result, import penetration in the nonrubber footwear market reached a new quarterly high of 89 percent in the third quarter.

Import trends in nonrubber footwear have continued to reflect trade patterns prevailing for much of the past 3 years. Imports from China, now the largest supplier by far, continued to accelerate, whereas those from Taiwan and Korea, the traditional major sources, declined further. China's shipments for the first 3 quarters of 1991 rose by 59 percent over those in the year-earlier period, to slightly more than 300 million pairs, valued at \$1.6 billion. Taiwan and Korea were a distant second and third, respectively, with their shipments so far this year down roughly 30 percent each, to 94 million pairs, valued at \$776 million, and to 90 million pairs, valued at \$1.3 billion, respectively.

Although Taiwan and Korea remain among the world's largest footwear exporters, their competitive position has eroded in recent years because of rising production costs and relatively strong currencies. As a result, shoe production has been moving out of Taiwan and Korea and into China and, more recently, Indonesia. Aside from China, Indonesia was the only other top 10 supplier to expand its nonrubber footwear shipments to the U.S. market this year. Its shipments rose by 53 percent during the first 3 quarters of 1991, to almost 36 million pairs, valued at almost \$280 million.

Table 1.—Nonrubber footwear: U.S. production/value of producers' shipments, imports for consumption, exports, and apparent consumption, 1986-90 and, by quarters, 1990-91

(Quantity in millions of pairs; value in millions of dollars)

Period	Production/ shipments	Imports	Exports	Apparent consumption	Ratio (percent) of imports to consumption	Percentage change from year-earlier period			
						Production/ shipments	Imports	Exports	Apparent consumption
Quantity									
1986	240.9	940.8	11.9	1,169.8	80	-9	12	5	7
1987	230.0	937.7	14.6	1,153.1	81	-5	0	23	-1
1988	235.1	903.1	15.6	1,122.6	80	2	-4	7	-3
1989	221.9	860.4	14.4	1,067.9	81	-6	-5	-8	-5
1990	198.4	897.5	15.2	1,080.7	83	-11	4	6	1
1990:									
1st quarter	53.0	232.2	4.1	281.1	83	-12	6	5	4
2nd quarter	51.0	221.3	3.6	268.7	82	-11	7	0	6
3rd quarter	49.0	236.8	3.5	282.3	84	-10	4	-3	0
4th quarter	45.3	207.2	4.0	248.5	83	-9	0	25	-4
1991:									
1st quarter*	47.6	233.8	4.5	276.9	84	-10	1	10	-1
2nd quarter*	38.4	211.9	4.8	245.5	86	-25	-4	33	-9
3rd quarter*	37.7	257.7	4.6	290.8	89	-23	9	31	3
Value									
1986	3,573.2	6,175.4	117.4	9,631.2	64	-9	14	18	4
1987	3,639.2	6,862.5	165.2	10,336.5	66	2	11	41	7
1988	3,634.1	7,555.4	217.2	10,972.3	69	0	10	31	6
1989	3,752.8	7,438.5	179.4	11,011.9	68	3	-2	-17	0
1990	3,737.8	8,408.5	254.5	11,891.8	71	0	13	42	8
1990:									
1st quarter	840.7	1,907.2	61.5	2,686.4	71	-5	17	53	9
2nd quarter	848.1	2,033.0	63.3	2,817.8	72	3	14	41	10
3rd quarter	990.9	2,391.5	62.1	3,320.3	72	-2	12	30	7
4th quarter	1,058.1	2,076.7	67.7	3,067.1	68	3	10	46	7
1991:									
1st quarter*	953.3	1,934.2	70.1	2,817.4	69	13	1	14	5
2nd quarter*	772.7	1,914.9	77.3	2,610.3	73	-9	-6	22	-7
3rd quarter*	868.0	2,395.8	81.6	3,182.2	75	-12	0	31	-4

*Preliminary.

Source: Compiled by the U.S. International Trade Commission, Textiles Division, from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Note.—Because of rounding, figures may not add to totals shown.

Table 2.—Employment in the U.S. nonrubber footwear industry, unemployment rate for the nonrubber footwear industry (SIC 314), Producer Price Index for footwear (BLS code 043), and Consumer Price Index for footwear of leather and nonleather, 1986-90 and, by quarters, 1990-91

Period	Employment		Percentage change from year-earlier period		Unemployment rate*	Producer Price Index (1982=100)	Consumer Price Index (1982-1984=100)
	Total	Production Workers	Total employment	Production workers			
	—Thousands—				—Percent—		
1986	88.5	74.6	-11	-11	15.3	106.9	101.9
1987	84.0	72.3	-5	-3	13.3	109.4	105.1
1988	82.6	70.4	-2	-3	10.4	115.1	109.9
1989	77.6	66.2	-6	-6	9.9	120.8	114.4
1990	73.9	62.7	-5	-5	8.0	125.6	117.4
1990:							
1st quarter	75.5	64.3	-4	-4	9.3	125.0	114.8
2nd quarter	75.6	64.3	-4	-4	7.4	125.6	118.1
3rd quarter	73.5	62.1	-4	-5	6.5	125.9	117.0
4th quarter	70.9	59.9	-7	-8	8.9	126.1	119.5
1991:							
1st quarter**	68.0	57.3	-10	-11	13.9	127.1	118.8
2nd quarter**	67.1	56.6	-11	-12	17.8	128.6	121.3
3rd quarter**	67.2	56.3	-9	-9	10.1	129.2	120.6

*Data on quarterly unemployment rates are subject to considerable fluctuation because of the small sample used and, consequently, should be used with caution.

**Preliminary.

Source: Compiled by the U.S. International Trade Commission, Textiles Division, from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 4.—Rubber footwear: U.S. production, imports for consumption, exports, and apparent consumption, 1986–90 and, by quarters, 1990–91

(Quantity in millions of pairs)

Period	Production	Imports	Exports	Apparent consumption	Ratio (percent) of imports to consumption	Percentage change from year-earlier period				
						Production	Imports	Exports	Apparent consumption	
—————Fabric-upper footwear with rubber or plastic soles—————										
1986	57.9	99.1	1.0	156.0	64	5	17	25	12	
1987	71.0	119.5	0.8	189.7	63	23	21	-20	22	
1988	76.7	157.7	0.9	233.5	68	8	32	12	23	
1989	76.8	190.1	10.0	256.9	74	0	21	1011	10	
1990	79.0	199.2	8.7	269.5	74	3	5	-13	5	
1990:										
1st quarter	22.2	71.4	2.9	90.7	79	14	22	12	20	
2nd quarter	22.0	58.4	1.9	78.5	74	11	14	-30	15	
3rd quarter	15.8	32.5	1.9	46.4	70	-11	-14	-24	-12	
4th quarter	18.9	36.9	2.0	53.8	69	-5	-14	-9	-11	
1991:										
1st quarter*	19.9	62.2	2.6	79.5	78	-10	-13	-10	-12	
2nd quarter*	23.2	56.4	3.0	76.6	74	5	-3	58	-2	
3rd quarter*	20.7	43.3	1.9	62.1	70	31	33	0	34	
—————Protective footwear—————										
1986	12.2	10.7	0.5	22.4	48	-26	-16	25	-22	
1987	11.1	9.6	0.8	19.9	48	-9	-10	60	-11	
1988	13.8	8.9	0.7	22.0	40	24	-7	-13	11	
1989	14.1	8.2	0.6	21.7	38	2	-8	-14	-1	
1990	15.4	8.7	0.8	23.3	37	9	6	33	7	
1990:										
1st quarter	3.8	1.8	0.2	5.4	33	15	64	100	26	
2nd quarter	3.8	2.0	0.2	5.6	36	27	20	100	23	
3rd quarter	3.4	2.7	0.2	5.9	46	0	-18	-33	-8	
4th quarter	4.5	2.2	0.2	6.5	34	5	5	0	5	
1991:										
1st quarter*	3.8	1.2	0.3	4.7	26	0	-33	50	-13	
2nd quarter*	4.0	1.9	0.3	5.6	34	5	-7	50	-1	
3rd quarter*	3.4	2.8	0.1	6.1	46	0	4	-50	3	

*Preliminary.

Source: Compiled by the U.S. International Trade Commission, Textiles Division, from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Note.—Because of rounding, figures may not add to totals shown.

