



Legal Watch

PH EXPORTS REACH RECORD LEVEL IN FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 2026, HIGHEST SINCE 1991



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Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

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PH exports reach record level in first two months of 2026, highest since 1991

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<https://www.dti.gov.ph/dti-archives/dti-news-archived/dti-ph-exports-reach-record-level-first-two-months-2026-highest-1991>

SUMMARY

Philippine exports reached \$14.47 billion from January to February 2026, up 8.3% year-on-year and the highest level for the period since 1991, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority. February exports alone grew 8% to \$7.33 billion, marking the 14th consecutive month of expansion and reflecting sustained global demand.

Electronics remained the top export, accounting for 57.7% of total shipments, driven by strong demand for semiconductor components used in emerging technologies. Manufactured goods dominated overall exports at 81.3%, followed by mineral and agro-based products. Growth was also supported by increased shipments of coconut and processed pineapple products.

The United States continued to be the Philippines' largest export market, followed by Hong Kong, Japan, China, and the Netherlands. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) attributed the strong performance to expanding trade partnerships under existing free trade agreements (FTAs) and ongoing efforts to diversify markets and strengthen supply chains.

ACTIONABLE ADVICE

Export-oriented businesses should maximize available FTA benefits by ensuring compliance with rules of origin and documentation requirements. Companies are encouraged to align production with high-demand sectors such as electronics and processed food to capture growth opportunities.

Firms are also encouraged to diversify export markets and distribution channels to mitigate geopolitical and supply chain risks. Strengthening internal compliance, customs processes, and contract management are critical in sustaining growth and avoiding trade disruptions.

