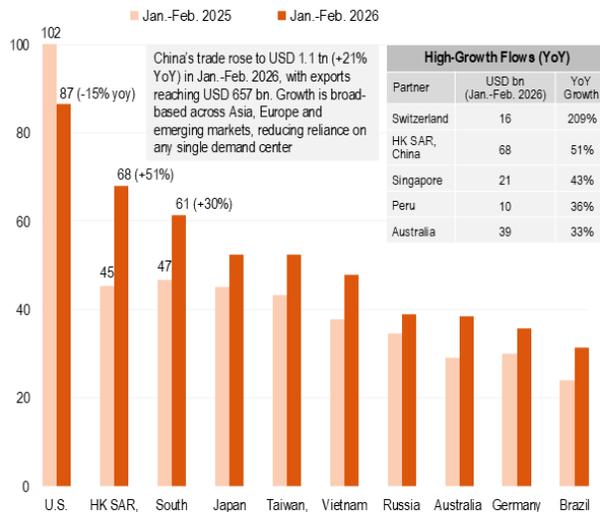


## China's Trade Engine Accelerates in 2026 on Industrial Strength and Global Breadth

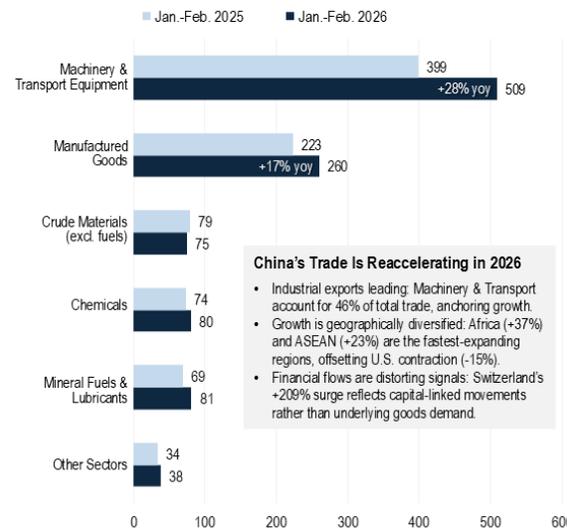
*Broad-based growth across partners and sectors, led by machinery and transport equipment, signals renewed strength in China's export engine.*

China Top 10 Trade Partners, USD bn (Jan.-Feb. 2025 & Jan.-Feb. 2026)



Source: China Customs, ANDAMAN PARTNERS Analysis

China Trade by Sector, USD bn (Jan.-Feb. 2025 & Jan.-Feb. 2026)



**China's Trade Is Reaccelerating in 2026**

- Industrial exports leading: Machinery & Transport account for 46% of total trade, anchoring growth.
- Growth is geographically diversified: Africa (+37%) and ASEAN (+23%) are the fastest-expanding regions, offsetting U.S. contraction (-15%).
- Financial flows are distorting signals: Switzerland's +209% surge reflects capital-linked movements rather than underlying goods demand.

China's trade has reaccelerated sharply at the start of 2026, reaching USD 1.1 trillion in just two months (+21% YoY), with exports of USD 657 billion underpinning the rebound. The recovery is not cyclical or narrowly driven: it is anchored in industrial strength, with machinery and transport equipment alone accounting for roughly 46% of total trade and expanding at +28% YoY.

At the same time, growth is increasingly broad-based across partners, with strong gains across Asia, Europe and emerging markets helping offset a contraction in the U.S. (-15%). This combination of industrial depth and diversified demand signals a more resilient trade structure, where China's external sector is less dependent on any single market and more firmly tied to its role as a global supplier of manufactured and transport goods.



Also by ANDAMAN PARTNERS:

- [Trade Policy Uncertainty Has Become a Structural Feature of the Global Economy](#)
- [Microchips, Oil and Soybeans: The Global Impact of China's Imports](#)
- [Engine of Global Trade: The Rise and Global Impact of China's Exports](#)

**ANDAMAN PARTNERS**

March 2026

[andamanpartners.com](http://andamanpartners.com)

ANDAMAN  
PARTNERS

**ANDAMAN PARTNERS** supports international business ventures and growth. We help launch global initiatives and accelerate successful cross-border expansion. If your business, operations or project requires cross-border support, contact [connect@andamanpartners.com](mailto:connect@andamanpartners.com).



ANDAMAN  
PARTNERS

Global Cross-Border Business Solutions

Investment  Advisory  Trade

Shanghai | Hong Kong | Singapore | Perth | Bangkok | Cape Town

[www.andamanpartners.com](http://www.andamanpartners.com)