



The Sports Goods Export Promotion

Country Report



QATAR

June 2021

ABOUT THE COUNTRY



Capital: Doha
largest city: Doha
Population: 2.6 million
Language : Arabic, English
Currency : Qatari Riyal (QAR)
Exchange rate as on June 2021
1 QAR = 20.26 INR, 1 QAR = 0.27 USD

Qatar, occupying a small desert peninsula that extends northward from the larger Arabian Peninsula, and in south it touches the eastern province of Saudi Arabia. It is a small peninsula in the Persian Gulf covering an area of approximately 11,000 square kilo meter including several small offshore islands. Qatar being a smallest nation by area have been awarded a FIFA World Cup (to host 2022 FIFA World Cup).

Here are few interesting facts about Qatar:-

- According to 2017 Survey Qatar's total population was 2.6 million where 313,000 were Qatari citizens and 2.3 million expatriates. 3/4th population are Male and 1/4th are female.
- In terms of income, the country is in top 10 countries list of highest GDP per capita in the world
- Qatar is classified by the UN as a country of very high human development Index (HDI), having the third highest HDI in the Arab world

Qatar became a British protectorate in the early 20th century until gaining independence in 1971. In the 21st century, Qatar emerged as a significant power in the Arab world through its globally expanding media group, Al Jazeera Media Network. For its size, Qatar wields disproportionate influence in the world, and has been identified as a middle power.

Qatar has one of the world's largest reserves of petroleum and natural gas and employs large numbers of foreign workers in its production process. Because of its oil wealth, the country's residents enjoy a high standard of living and a well-established system of social services.

SPORTS PLAYED IN QATAR

Qatar's sports culture blends the traditional sports of Arabia's desert society with contemporary sports of Western origin. Popular traditional sports include Arabian horse racing, camel racing, and falconry, all rooted in the country's nomadic past.

Western sports such as basketball, golf, handball, football (soccer), swimming, table tennis, track, and volleyball are practiced widely, but primarily by the expatriate population.

Football is overwhelmingly the most popular of these. In 2010 it was announced that Qatar would be the site of the finals of the World Cup football competition in 2022, making it the first Middle Eastern country scheduled to host the event.

The country also hosts several annual sporting events, of which tennis, golf, and automobile racing are the most notable. The Qatar National Sport Federation, founded in 1961, serves as an organizing body for sports education. Qatar made its Olympic debut at the 1984 Summer Games.

India and Qatar Relations

India-Qatar cooperation in diverse sectors has been steadily growing in an excellent framework provided by historically close ties and regular and substantive engagement, including at the highest levels of the two Governments. The large, diverse, accomplished and highly regarded Indian community is making an important contribution to Qatar's progress and in nurturing the bonds of deep-rooted friendship and multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries.

Commercial & Investment Relations

India's bilateral trade with Qatar in 2018-19 was US\$ 12.33 billion. India's export to Qatar during 2018-19 was US\$ 1.61 billion and India's import from Qatar was US\$ 10.72 billion. However due to pandemic there is a decrease in trading from both the countries. India's export during 2019-20 and 2020-21 (April to February) was US\$ 1.26 Billion and US\$ 1.14 Billion . And India's Import from Qatar was US\$ 9.68 Billion in 2019-20 and US\$ 7.07 Billion in 2020-21 (April to February).

Qatar's key exports to India include LNG, LPG, chemicals and petrochemicals, plastics, and aluminium articles, while India's key exports to Qatar include cereals, copper articles, iron and steel articles, vegetables, fruits, spices, and processed food products, electrical and other machinery, plastic products, construction material, textiles & garments, chemicals, precious stones and rubber.

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India is among the top three largest export destinations for Qatar (Japan and South Korea being the other two) and is also among the top three sources of Qatar's imports, along with China and Japan.

Though the balance of trade continues to be heavily in Qatar's favour, there has been a substantial growth in India's exports to Qatar in the last few years mainly owing to the blockade of Qatar by its neighboring countries and by opening of direct shipping lines linking Indian ports with Qatar.

According to the Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCI), there are over 6000 big and small Indian companies operating in Qatar. Indian companies are today pursuing collaborations in various sectors like infrastructure, communications and information technology, energy and other areas in Qatar.

Trade Agreement between India and Qatar

A Framework Agreement on Economic Cooperation between Republic of India and Gulf Cooperation Council (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia & UAE) was signed on 25th August, 2004. The Framework Agreement provided that both the parties shall consider ways and means for extending and liberalizing the trade relations and also for initiating discussions on the feasibility of a Free Trade Agreement between them.

Accordingly, negotiations commenced with GCC. Two rounds of negotiations have been held so far in 2006 and 2008. Third round has not taken place as GCC has deferred its negotiations with all countries and economic groups and is currently reviewing its negotiations with all countries and economic groups. Efforts are being made at various bilateral/multilateral forums for early resumption of the negotiations.

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Import of Toys and Sports Goods (9503, 9504, 9505, 9506, 9507, 9508) by the Qatar from world and India's position is shown in below tables **(In USD Million)** :

9503 wheeled toys; dolls; puzzles of all kinds

Rank	Exporters	Imported value in 2017	Imported value in 2018	Imported value in 2019
	World	37.86	39.32	34.58
1	China	31.72	31.52	28.65
2	USA	1.64	1.78	1.69
3	Viet Nam	0.78	0.93	0.69
4	Italy	0.50	0.95	0.63
5	Indonesia	0.27	0.48	0.52
6	Czech Republic	0.32	0.45	0.47
7	Hungary	0.22	0.19	0.36
8	Hong Kong	0.42	1.05	0.29
9	UK	0.33	0.24	0.26
10	Taipei, Chinese	0.17	0.23	0.23
16	India	0.07	0.07	0.04

9504 Video game consoles, table or parlour games, bowling alley equip.

Rank	Exporters	Imported value in 2017	Imported value in 2018	Imported value in 2019
	World	119.42	132.47	110.89
1	China	83.27	90.03	69.97
2	USA	18.32	18.95	17.65
3	Italy	2.76	5.17	6.61
4	UK	7.26	7.07	6.10
5	Hungary	0.55	0.02	2.45
6	Netherlands	0.50	3.29	2.04
7	Australia	1.24	1.31	1.56
8	India	0.62	1.41	1.20
9	Spain	0.25	0.78	0.71
10	France	1.02	0.71	0.47

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9505 Festival, carnival or other entertainment articles

Rank	Exporters	Imported value in 2017	Imported value in 2018	Imported value in 2019
	World	5.59	3.51	4.78
1	China	1.48	2.22	2.22
2	Spain	3.20	0.40	1.64
3	USA	0.30	0.30	0.41
4	India	0.02	0.11	0.14
5	Italy	0.05	0.28	0.08
6	Thailand	0.04	0.08	0.06
7	Croatia	0.00	0.00	0.05
8	Oman	0.00	0.00	0.03
9	Kuwait	0.00	0.00	0.03
10	UK	0.09	0.08	0.03

9506 All kinds of sports equipment

Rank	Exporters	Imported value in 2017	Imported value in 2018	Imported value in 2019
	World	43.44	33.25	39.31
1	China	15.44	12.50	13.75
2	USA	6.81	5.16	5.43
3	Italy	3.70	4.41	4.54
4	Australia	0.16	0.09	2.64
5	UK	1.74	1.42	1.99
6	Taipei, Chinese	3.27	2.67	1.92
7	Japan	0.09	0.00	1.29
8	Spain	0.72	0.53	0.91
9	Slovakia	0.71	0.59	0.87
10	Turkey	0.10	1.05	0.80
12	India	0.33	0.17	0.62

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9507 rods, fish-hooks etc, hunting or shooting requisites

Rank	Exporters	Imported value in 2017	Imported value in 2018	Imported value in 2019
	World	0.95	0.71	1.20
1	China	0.42	0.49	0.70
2	Japan	0.10	0.04	0.20
3	Italy	0.02	0.00	0.08
4	Malaysia	0.05	0.04	0.06
5	Republic of Korea	0.11	0.00	0.05
6	Estonia	0.00	0.00	0.04
7	Philippines	0.04	0.00	0.03
8	Australia	0.01	0.00	0.02
9	USA	0.09	0.04	0.02
10	Thailand	0.00	0.00	0.01

*India could not find its space in top 25 list.

9508 Roundabouts, swings, shooting galleries and other fairground

Rank	Exporters	Imported value in 2017	Imported value in 2018	Imported value in 2019
	World	16.29	7.44	7.66
1	Germany	1.10	0.00	4.71
2	Austria	0.95	0.00	0.46
3	Malaysia	0.04	0.00	0.35
4	China	1.61	0.90	0.32
5	Italy	4.02	1.27	0.28
6	Turkey	0.22	0.03	0.28
7	USA	2.87	1.07	0.28
8	Portugal	0.00	0.02	0.26
9	Belgium	0.03	0.00	0.17
10	Canada	0.30	2.48	0.17
15	India	0.14	0.00	0.02

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POPULAR SPORTS STORES IN QATAR

Olympia Sports- In 1972, Olympia Sports established its first retail outlet in the old Misheireb region of Doha, Qatar. Since then, Olympia Sports has expanded operation to multiple outlets across prominent and lively locations in Qatar. Olympia Sports deals in all kinds of sports item and accessories.

Sports Corner - Sports Retail Company established in 1979. And in 4 decades it has become one of the Qatar's best retailer and distributor of world's all Sports Brands. Since 1979, they have been catering to the needs of sports and fitness industry of Qatar thus enabling people to lead a healthy life. Sports Corner has 13 sports and fitness stores across Qatar, provide its customer range of sports items. they have a large portfolio of globally recognized sports and lifestyle brands and they possess exclusive state-of-the-art showrooms at the prominent shopping malls of Qatar. Recently added fitness showrooms in Al Wakra and Salwa Road.

Future Marketing & Trading Company - Future Marketing and Trading is the Leading Company in the State of Qatar to Introduce Health and Fitness awareness to the people. They are in Fitness and healthcare. They claim they are the largest supplier and market leader in the state of Qatar supplying healthcare solutions and equipment to hypermarkets, commercial and residential compounds.

POPULAR TOYS STORES IN QATAR

Toymax is a wholesale toy supply company. They supply kids toys to Qatar market since 2011, Toymax showroom is located at Barwa village and storage yard at GVVC Logistics. Toymax is well experienced and a pioneer in managing regular sales & promotions.

Kiddy Zone Franchise was launched in the year 2006 by Qatar National Trading Company, Kiddy Zone has firmly established itself as Qatar's most successful toy stores possessing a reputation for excellent service, pleasant in-store environment and diverse collection of quality toys for a discerning clientele. Currently, Kiddy Zone operates 15 stores across Qatar, United Arab Emirates and Oman located in the most reputed shopping malls serving an estimated footfall of 100,000,000 per annum.

Toys4me is a multi-brand toys shop, offering the latest toys for children of all ages. From arts & crafts to educational and building toys, Toys4me offers an unparalleled range of toys for girls, boys and toddlers. In addition to toys & games, Toys4Me offers several other entertainments including events and activities offered by the staff for customers in store.

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Toys 'R' Us is catered to both the young and young at heart. Get everything from the latest action figures, dolls and plushies for the little ones, to board games and arts and crafts for the whole family to enjoy. Their **Babies 'R' Us** department offers a wide selection of products for newborns and infants, from educational and developmental toys that will have them learning, discovering and building skills, all through play, to specially-designed soft toys that will soothe even the most restless baby.

Hamleys, the World's finest toy retailer captures the imagination of children with its wide range of toys, exclusive merchandise, and magical experience. The Hamleys offers a wide range of toys from much loved brands to more traditional toys and toys which have enthralled children over generations, as well as quirky and unusual treasures. World" is coming to your city soon.

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