

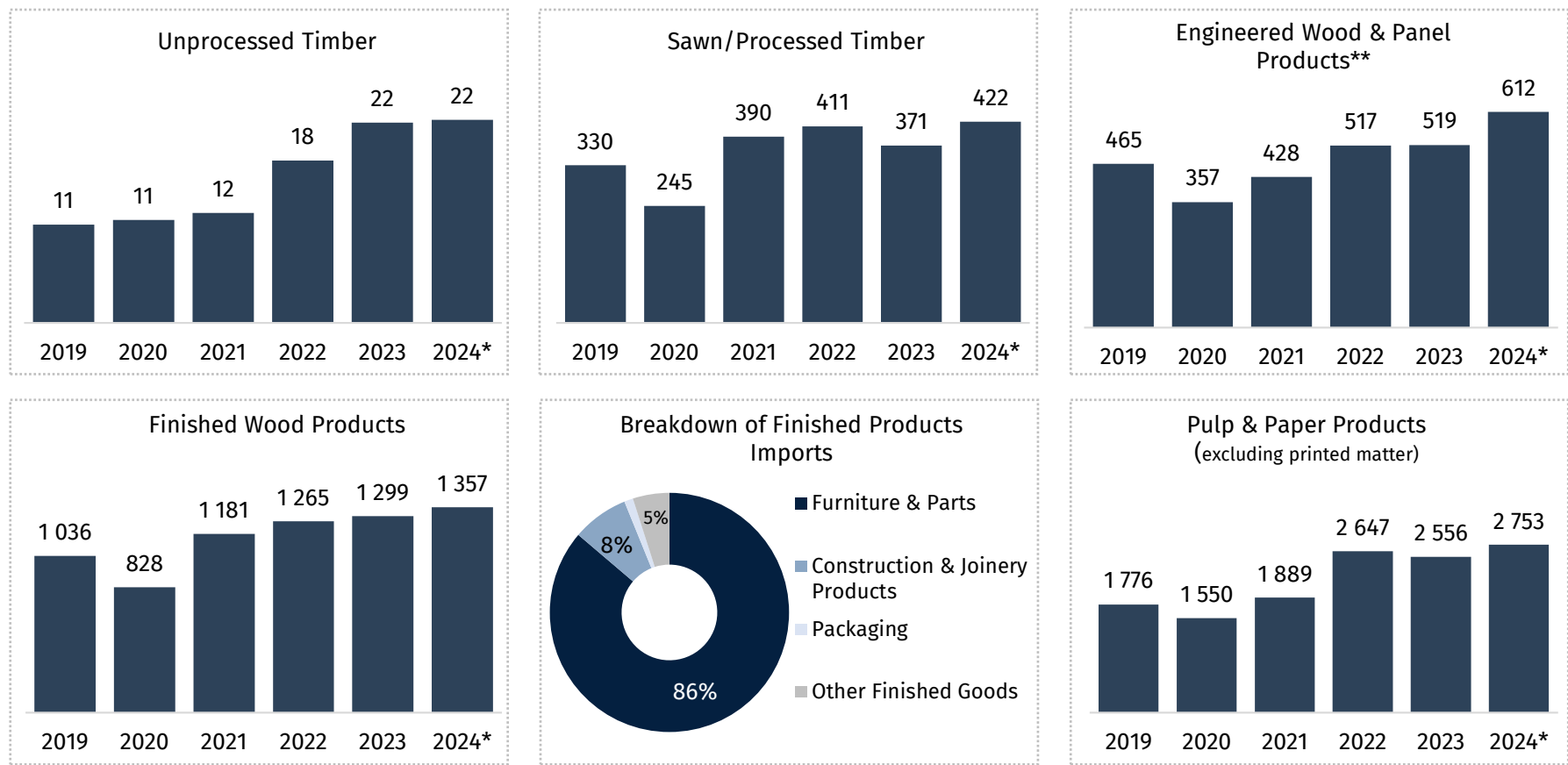


# Wood Processing Market Study United Arab Emirates

December 2025

# PRODUCT IMPORTS

## Imports, USD million



\* ASER Estimate

\*\* Includes: veneers and sheets for plywood, particleboard (chipboard), fiberboard, MDF, plywood, glued plywood, and similar laminated materials

As a major hub for construction, furniture manufacturing, and finishing, the UAE is a significant importer of timber and wood products.

Key features of the import breakdown:

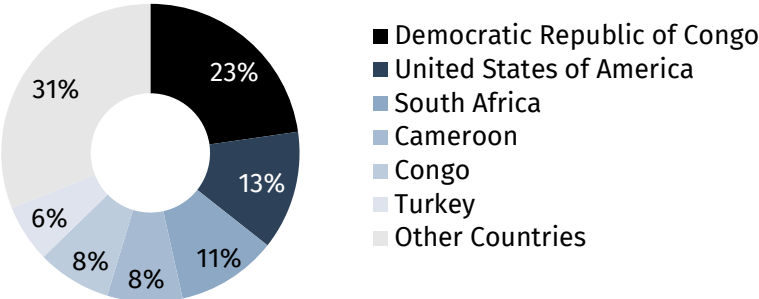
- *Finished goods dominate imports.* Finished products—furniture, joinery, building structures, and interior elements—consistently account for the largest share by value. This is driven by high demand from the hospitality, commercial, and residential sectors.
- *Imports of semi-finished goods serve a supplementary purpose.* Timber and engineered wood & panel products (plywood, particleboard, MDF, veneer) are imported in smaller volumes to support local furniture and finishing production, as well as projects requiring customized solutions.

Thus, the UAE market is predominantly a market for finished goods, reflecting the structure of its economy, which is oriented towards end consumption and rapid project implementation rather than developing a full-cycle wood processing industry.

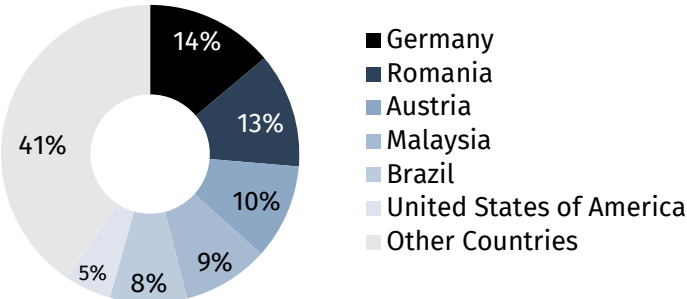
# PRODUCT IMPORTS

## Breakdown of Imports by Supplier Countries

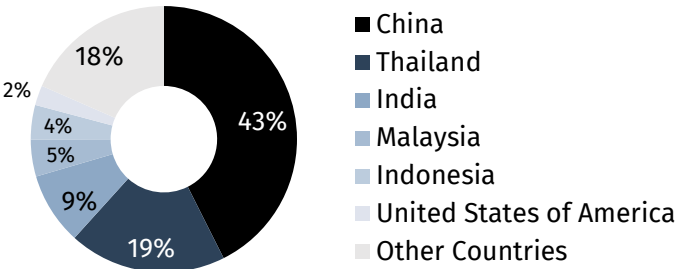
Unprocessed Timber



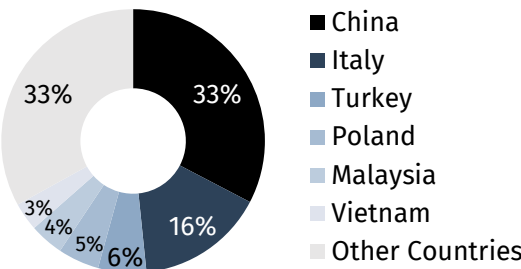
Sawn/Processed Timber



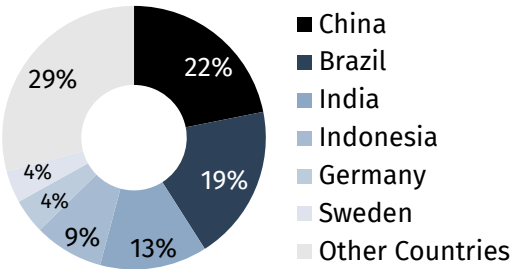
Engineered Wood & Panel Products



Finished Wood Products

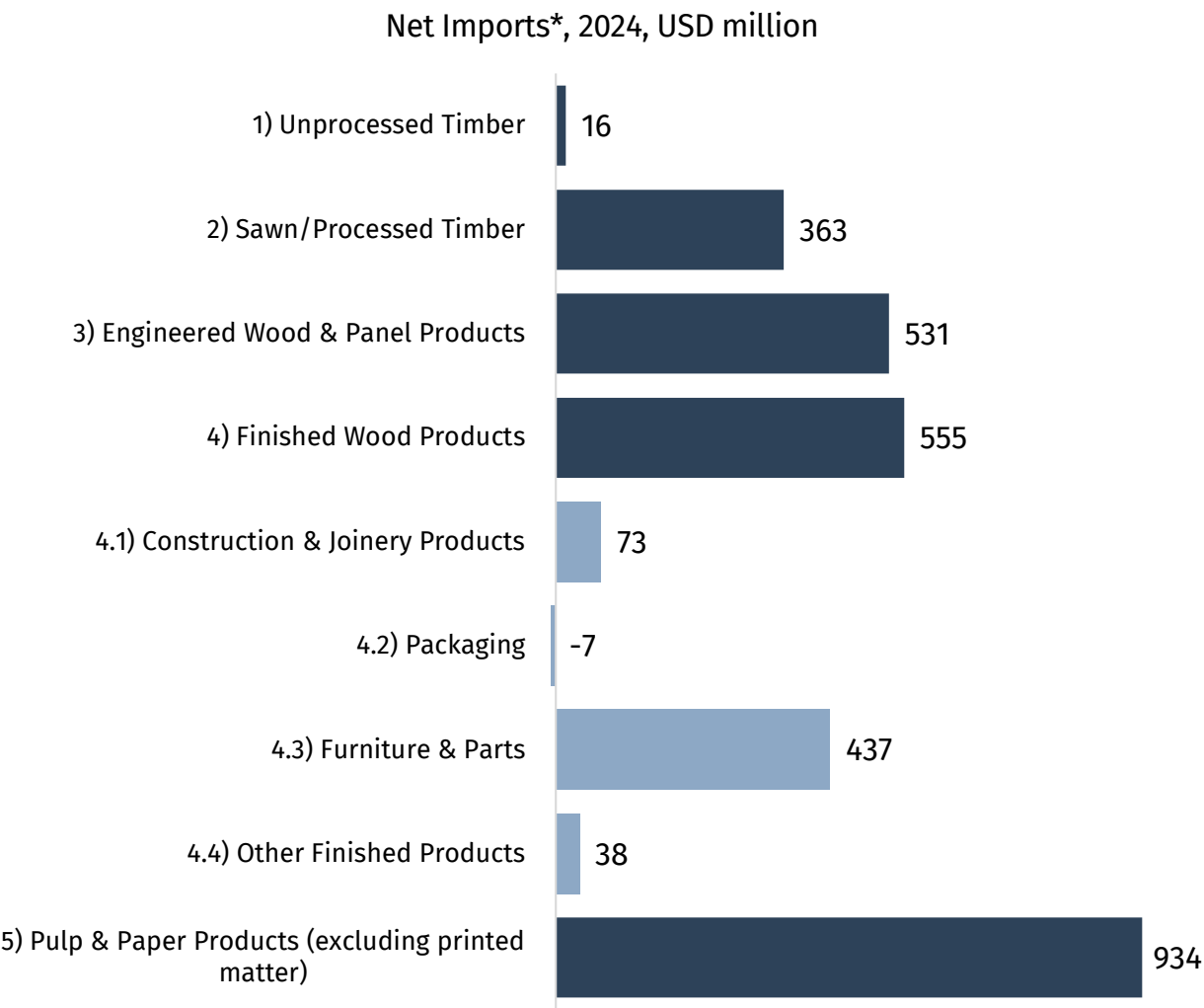


Pulp & Paper Products (excluding printed matter)



Sourcing patterns differ by product category. Solid wood and sawn timber are primarily imported from traditional timber-exporting countries. In contrast, finished furniture and engineered wood products often come from countries with developed industries and efficient logistics networks, including China and European manufacturers. This reflects the UAE market's orientation towards ready-made solutions and high value-added goods.

# NET PRODUCT IMPORTS



\* Net imports = imports - exports

Sources: International Trade Centre, ASER

The chart illustrates the breakdown of net imports for timber and processed wood products in the UAE, revealing a **significant imbalance between import and export volumes across key product groups**.

Pulp & paper products and finished wood products generate the largest net imports, underscoring **the country's high dependence on external supplies of high value-added goods**.

Sawn/processed timber and engineered wood & panel products also show a consistent positive trade balance, confirming **growing domestic demand for construction and manufacturing materials**.





Conversely, unprocessed timber constitutes a relatively small share, highlighting the **UAE's strategic preference for importing processed goods over raw materials**.

A key exception is the Packaging category, which shows a negative balance (trade surplus). This indicates that the UAE not only meets its domestic demand for such products but is also a net exporter, suggesting the presence of competitive local operations in this niche.

Economic implications:





- A clear indicator of dependence. Persistently high net imports demonstrate the absolute reliance of the UAE's domestic market on foreign supplies of timber, semi-finished goods, and, notably, finished furniture.
- Orientation towards end consumption. The scale of net imports confirms that the UAE's economy is oriented not toward the production and re-exports of timber materials, but toward their final consumption.
- A trade balance factor. The constant positive net import in this product group is one component contributing to the UAE's merchandise trade deficit, which is, however, offset by surpluses in the services sector and hydrocarbon re-exports.

# PRODUCT IMPORTERS/DISTRIBUTORS

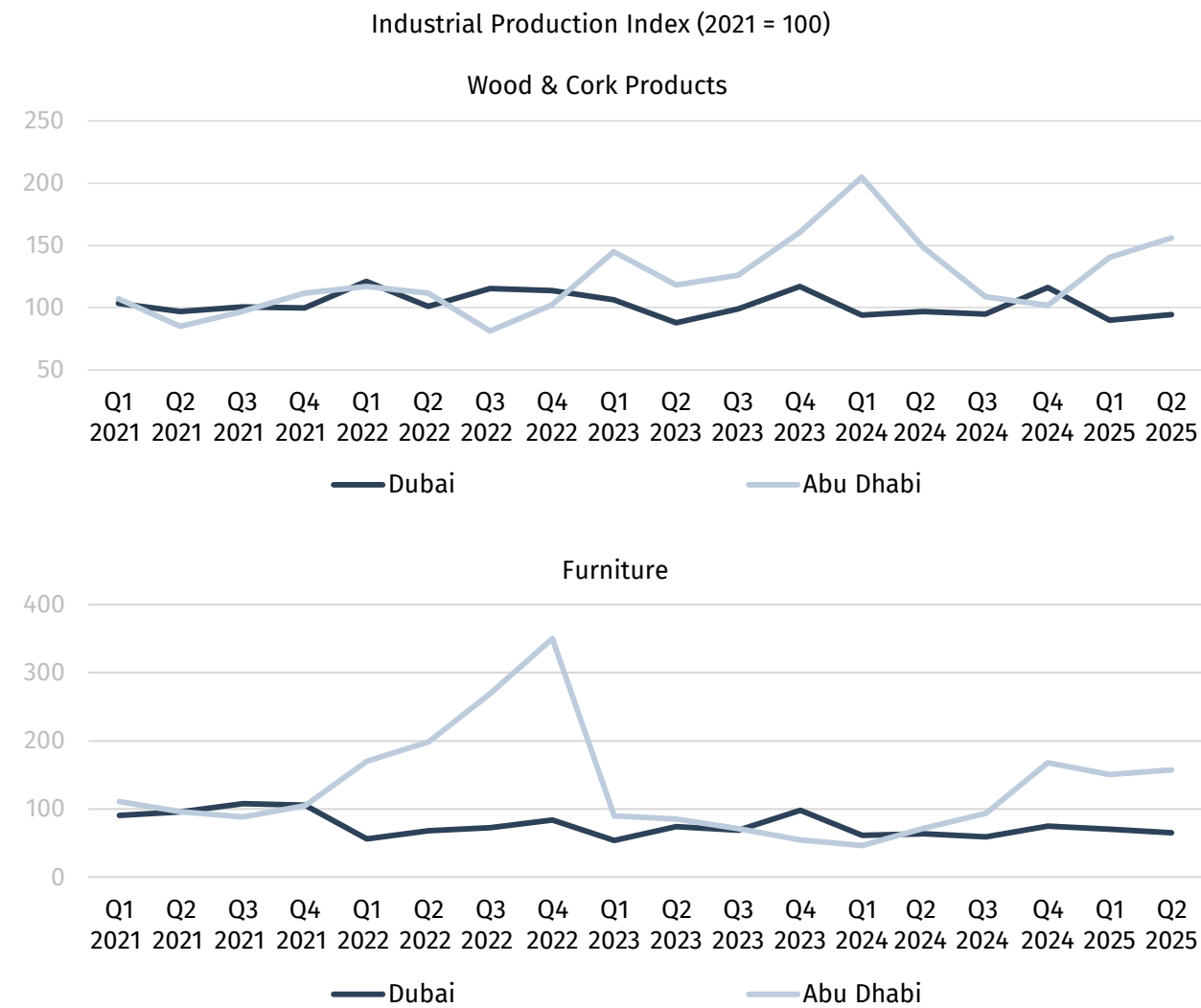
Company	Emirate (HQ)	Products	Key Customer Segments	Supplier Countries	Logistics and Coverage	Features & Comments
ACME Building Materials Trading LLC 	Dubai	Specialization in premium & exotic woods: solid wood (teak, iroko, mahogany), marine plywood & timber, decking, high-quality plywood, MDF.	B2B: premium construction, yachting, architectural bureaus, exclusive furniture makers, interior finishing.	Asia (Myanmar, Malaysia), Africa (for exotic species), Europe (for specialty materials).	Warehouse network in Dubai, supplies to GCC countries. Emphasis on quality and special requirements.	Niche player in the premium segment. Focus on durable and decorative species for critical projects.
Al Reyami Interiors LLC 	Dubai	Interior solutions & furniture: kitchens, wardrobes, built-in furniture, ready-made cabinet furniture, interior items, finishing materials.	B2B & B2C: private clients (premium segment), designers, architectural bureaus, villa & apartment finishing projects.	Likely Europe (Italy, Spain, Germany) for designer furniture and fittings, also Asia for some components.	Local distribution in UAE, focusing on Dubai & Abu Dhabi. Provide turnkey supply and installation.	Part of Al Reyami Group. Specializes in comprehensive, often custom interior solutions for the premium market.
Depa United Group (Depa Interiors LLC) 	Dubai	Comprehensive interior solutions: built-in furniture, joinery products, finishing materials, specialized furniture for hotels and commercial properties.	B2B: general contractors, developers, owners of 5-star hotels, business centers, airports, premium segment objects.	Global: Southeast Asia, Europe, China. Imports of both materials and finished goods.	Project logistics: turnkey supplies across the MENA region. Own logistics capabilities.	Market leader in comprehensive interior finishing. Works on landmark projects.
Euro Home Interiors FZE 	Dubai	Designer European furniture & interior items: living rooms, bedrooms, dining furniture, lighting, textiles, décor.	B2B & B2C: designers, architects, high-budget private clients, private residence and commercial space projects.	Europe: core specialization – direct supply of furniture & interiors from Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany, etc.	Imports goods into UAE and re-exports them to the GCC region. Operates from a free zone.	Pure importer and distributor. Clear niche specialization in European style and quality.



# PRODUCT IMPORTERS/DISTRIBUTORS

Company	Emirate (HQ)	Products	Key Customer Segments	Supplier Countries	Logistics and Coverage	Features & Comments
<b>European Wood Products Trading LLC</b> 	Dubai	Exclusive European materials: veneers, solid precious species, beech/oak/ash panels, finished joinery blanks.	B2B: high-end furniture manufacturers, premium joinery workshops, interior architects & designers.	Europe: primary supplies from Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Eastern Europe.	Supplies across the UAE and GCC countries. Direct imports from European mills.	Pure niche importer. Motto: "100% European Wood." Focus on quality and supply stability.
<b>Lumber World Building Materials Trading LLC</b> 	Ajman	Universal assortment: softwood & hardwood timber, plywood (incl. film-faced, marine), MDF, particleboard, OSB, decking.	B2B: construction companies, contractors, furniture factories, joinery shops.	Southeast Asia (Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia), Europe, South America	Supplies across all UAE and exports to Oman. Large warehouse capacity in Ajman.	Large universal supplier with a wide assortment 'under one roof.'
<b>Madar Emirates for Building Materials</b> 	Dubai & Ajman (branches)	Specialization in plywood & formwork: film-faced plywood, marine plywood, commercial plywood, formwork systems, OSB, MDF.	B2B: major general contractors, infrastructure projects, concrete construction.	Vietnam (key supplier, Springply brand), Malaysia, China	Branches in several emirates. Supply to large-scale construction sites across all UAE.	One of the market leaders in construction plywood in the UAE. Participated in supplies for Dubai Expo 2020.
<b>Pan Gulf Furniture Company LLC</b> 	Dubai	Wide range of furniture: office furniture, home furniture, hotel furniture, specialized solutions.	B2B-oriented: corporate sector, companies, hotel chains, government institutions, project developers.	International: supplies from Southeast Asia, China, Europe, also likely India & Turkey	Distribution across the UAE and GCC. Positions itself as a reliable supplier for large projects.	Explicitly states it is one of the leading furniture importers and distributors in the UAE.

# PRODUCTION OVERVIEW



Sources: Dubai Statistics Center, Statistics Centre Abu Dhabi, ASER

The UAE's wood processing industry is limited in scale but developing steadily, largely **focused on producing goods with low to medium processing depth.**

The most common activities are furniture assembly, manufacturing of joinery and construction elements, and production of certain categories of finished wood products, all heavily reliant on imported raw materials and components.

Due to the lack of major forest resources and a developed raw material base, **the UAE essentially functions as a processing and assembly hub, not a full-cycle producer of wood-based materials.**

**The main concentration of woodworking enterprises is in Dubai** – specifically in the Jebel Ali Industrial Area, Dubai Investment Park, and Al Quoz Industrial Area. These zones offer the necessary infrastructure, logistics, and access to imported raw materials, making them key sites for furniture makers and light wood processing. The Northern Emirates (Sharjah, Ajman) also have production clusters, but on a smaller scale, primarily serving the local market.

**The dynamics of industrial output in Abu Dhabi show anomalous fluctuations, likely linked to temporary projects, notably the large-scale preparation phase for Expo 2020.** During this period, a surge in furniture and interior construction production may have occurred, much of which involved assembling ready-made kits from imported materials. After the exhibition ended, demand for such products sharply declined, explaining the subsequent drop in production volumes. The following years show a shift towards producing other types of wood products, reflecting the industry's adaptation to more stable long-term needs.

**The UAE's annual woodworking production is valued at approximately USD 1 billion,** a significant portion (up to 50%-70%) of which is furniture. This underscores the moderate scale of the industry and its dependence on imported raw materials and semi-finished goods, while also highlighting the presence of stable domestic demand supporting the development of local assembly and processing operations.

# WOOD PRODUCTS MANUFACTURERS

## Veneer & Wood-Based Panels



## Construction Carpentry & Joinery Products



## Wooden Packaging



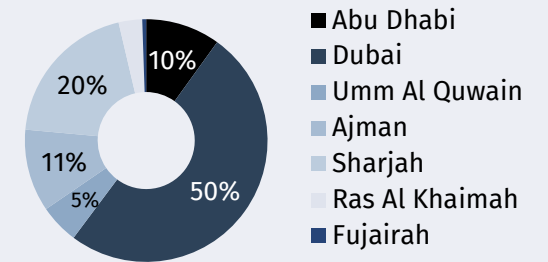
## Other



There are approximately 190 manufacturers of wood products\* in the UAE (excluding furniture) in the following categories:

- Veneer & wood-based panels: 11 companies
- Construction carpentry & joinery products: 134 companies
- Wooden packaging: 30 companies
- Other wood products; articles of cork, straw and plaiting materials: 68 companies

Breakdown of Manufacturers by Emirate



\*Companies holding UAE MoIAT licenses



# FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS

## Household Furniture



## Kitchen Furniture



## Office Furniture



## Freestanding Partitions

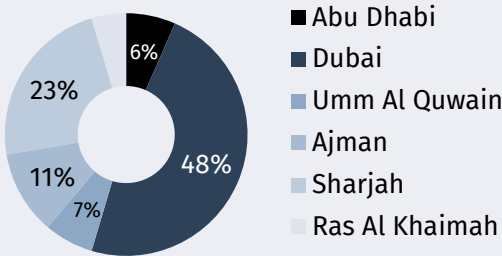


Over 150 companies\* in the UAE manufacture furniture in the following categories:

- Household furniture: 106 companies
- Kitchen furniture: 71 companies
- Office furniture: 49 companies
- Freestanding partitions: 2 companies

Note that approximately 60 manufacturers within these furniture categories are also producers of the wood products listed on the previous slide.

Breakdown of Manufacturers by Emirate



\*Companies holding UAE MoIAT licenses

# CONCLUSIONS & TRENDS

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The market is characterized by deep import dependency, with high-value-added finished goods—primarily furniture—absolutely dominating the import structure.

Domestic production plays a supplementary, assembly-service role and is incomparable in scale to import volumes.

Supply sources for raw materials and finished goods are differentiated: sawn timber comes from traditional timber-exporting countries, while furniture and components come from global industrial centers, including China and Europe.

Production dynamics are highly uneven across emirates: relatively stable and cyclical in Dubai, while showing sharp, event-driven fluctuations in Abu Dhabi, as seen during the Expo 2020 preparation period.

The only product category where the UAE is a net exporter is packaging and wooden packaging, indicating the presence of competitive niche producers in the country.

The main demand drivers remain the construction sector, hospitality industry, and premium housing market, making the industry sensitive to macroeconomic cycles and the volume of new projects.

In the medium term, the current model is expected to persist: large-scale imports for end consumption with limited development of deep processing within the country.



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