

SupplySpark · Data report

State of Turkish apparel manufacturing, 2026

What 8,517 supplier profiles show — with India and China for comparison

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Turkey is the largest single country in SupplySpark's database: **8,517 published manufacturer profiles**, more than India (6,819) and China (1,783) combined at the time of writing. This report reads across all of them — location, product mix, order sizes, lead times, certifications, materials, export markets, company size and age — and puts India and China next to Turkey so the differences are visible. Every figure is what suppliers themselves publish; where only part of the set publishes something, the denominator is stated.

8,517 Turkish manufacturer profiles	88% based in Istanbul	100 median published MOQ (units)	42 d median published lead time
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1. Turkey is Istanbul — with specialised clusters around it

7,457 of the 8,517 profiles (88%) give Istanbul as their base. That concentration is real: Istanbul is where the export houses, the vertically integrated knit and woven factories and most of the private-label capacity sit, and it is where trade shows, agents and buyers meet. The rest of the map is smaller but distinct — Bursa (178 profiles), Izmir (100), Denizli (81), Ankara (39), Tekirdağ (32), Kahramanmaraş (32) and Konya (31).

Turkish manufacturers by city

Istanbul	7,457
Bursa	178
Izmir	100
Denizli	81
Ankara	39
Tekirdağ	32
Kahramanmaraş	32
Konya	31

Profiles with a stated city; Istanbul and İstanbul spellings merged. 261 profiles state no city.

For a buyer the practical reading is simple: an Istanbul-only search covers almost the whole market, but Denizli (home textiles, towels), Bursa (knits, technical textiles) and Kahramanmaraş (yarn and denim) are where you look when the product is specialised. Compare India, whose profiles spread across Tirupur (1,117 including the Tiruppur spelling), Delhi (571), Mumbai (451), Noida (387), Jaipur (366), Gurugram (263) and Bengaluru (195), and China, where the top cities — Guangzhou (157), Dongguan (133), Shaoxing (89), Wenzhou (89), Shenzhen (80), Hangzhou (75) — split the map much more evenly.

2. What Turkish factories make

Among profiles with a categorised product range, the largest categories are outerwear and jackets (444 profiles), shirts and blouses (422), trousers and chinos (377), t-shirts (354), woven dresses and skirts (327), knit dresses (266), sweaters (249) and hoodies and sweatshirts (217). The mix is broad rather than narrow: Turkey's strength is full-package apparel across knits and wovens, not one dominant product.

Top product categories, Turkey (profiles tagged)

Outerwear & jackets	444
Shirts & blouses	422
Trousers & chinos	377
T-shirts	354
Woven dresses & skirts	327
Knit dresses	266
Sweaters	249
Hoodies & sweatshirts	217

Category tags cover a subset of profiles; counts are profiles carrying the tag, and a profile can carry several.

India's largest categories are shirts and blouses (1,036), t-shirts (855), trousers and chinos (848), polos (560) and sleepwear (555) — knit basics and woven shirts, led by Tirupur's knitting base. China's are trousers and chinos (533), outerwear (480), shirts (458), activewear (444) and sweaters (372), with caps (255) as the standout accessory category. The three countries overlap heavily on the basics; they separate on what surrounds them — Turkey on woven dresses and fashion outerwear, India on sleepwear and polos, China on activewear and headwear.

3. How they work: private label and OEM first

Turkish profiles that describe a service model lean towards production for other people's brands: OEM (1,570 profiles, 18% of all Turkish profiles), private label (1,506, 18%), custom design (1,115, 13%), ODM (900, 11%), own brand / OBM (631, 7%) and sampling (623, 7%). That is the profile of a market built around European retail — factories that execute a buyer's tech pack, with a substantial minority offering their own designs.

China's published models look different: custom design (75% of Chinese profiles), OEM (68%), sampling (59%) and ODM (57%) are all majority answers, private label 39%. Part of that gap is data — Chinese profiles are far more complete (see section 8) — but the ordering is telling: Chinese factories lead with design and development services, Turkish factories with manufacturing to specification. India sits between, with custom design (14%) and sampling (9%) the most common published models.

4. Order sizes: higher minimums than India or China

Only 306 Turkish profiles (3.6%) publish a minimum order quantity — the lowest disclosure rate of the three countries, and a finding in itself. Among those that do, the median MOQ is **100 units** per style, with 37% accepting 50 or fewer, 31% between 51 and 200, 20% between 201 and 500, 8% between 501 and 1,000 and 4% above 1,000.

Published MOQ, share of suppliers that state one

Turkey · 50 or fewer	37%
Turkey · 51–200	31%
Turkey · 201–500	20%
Turkey · 501–1,000	8%
Turkey · over 1,000	4%

n = 306 Turkish suppliers publishing an MOQ. Median 100; average 383 (a few large-run factories pull the average up).

China's published median is 50 units (n = 1,215; 57% accept 50 or fewer) and India's is 25 (n = 682; 64% accept 50 or fewer). Read carefully: Chinese and Indian profiles disclose MOQs far more often, and the low-MOQ end is over-represented among suppliers who advertise it. But the direction matches what buyers report — Turkish factories are geared to mid-volume fashion runs and are less inclined to publish sample-scale minimums, while Chinese and Indian suppliers court small first orders openly.

5. Lead times: on par with China, slower than India

Of the 239 Turkish profiles that publish a lead time, the median maximum is **42 days**: 40% quote 30 days or less, 46% between 31 and 60, 15% more than 60. China's published median is 40 days (n = 1,059), India's is 15 days (n = 458) — India's Tirupur knit base is built for speed on basics. What the profile data cannot show is transit: a Turkish shipment reaches Central Europe by road in three to five days, where China and India add three to six weeks by sea. For European brands, Turkey's total time-to-shelf is usually the shortest of the three despite a similar production lead time.

6. Certifications: a sustainability-led profile

Turkey's certification mix is the most distinctive result in the data. The most common standards among Turkish profiles are GOTS (324 profiles), OEKO-TEX Standard 100 (289), the Global Recycled Standard (273), ISO 9001 (262), the Organic Content Standard (253) and the Recycled Claim Standard (228), followed by Sedex/SMETA (174) and ISO 14001 (168). Four of the top six are organic or recycled-content standards.

Most-held certifications, Turkey (profiles)

GOTS	324
OEKO-TEX Standard 100	289
Global Recycled Standard (GRS)	273
ISO 9001	262
Organic Content Standard (OCS)	253
Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)	228

Sedex (SMETA)	174
ISO 14001	168

China's list is led by quality and social-compliance standards — ISO 9001 (598), amfori BSCI (538), Sedex (248), GRS (240), ISO 14001 (202) — and India's by social and organic standards — Sedex (404), GOTS (365), ISO 9001 (294), GRS (193), BSCI (169), SA8000 (168). The pattern reflects who each country sells to: European retailers ask Turkish suppliers for organic and recycled-content proof; US and global buyers ask Chinese factories for quality systems and social audits. A buyer sourcing a GOTS or GRS programme will find the deepest certified base in Turkey and India; one sourcing on BSCI or ISO 9001 will find it in China.

7. Materials and markets: cotton, viscose — and Europe

The materials Turkish suppliers list most are cotton (1,000 profiles), polyester (664), viscose (547), organic cotton (391), linen (293), elastane (263), wool (207) and recycled polyester (192) — a natural-fibre-led mix with viscose and linen far more prominent than in China, where polyester (1,006) narrowly leads cotton (941) and nylon (454), spandex (399), wool (275) and leather (259) follow. India's mix is the most cotton-dominant of the three (cotton 1,577, polyester 1,044, viscose 542, organic cotton 404, linen 370, rayon 255, silk 252).

Export markets named by Turkish suppliers (profiles)

Turkey (domestic)	1,262
Europe	706
Germany	399
United States	395
United Kingdom	369
Russia	275
France	260
Worldwide	235

Markets confirm the orientation: after the domestic market, Turkish suppliers name Europe, Germany, the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia and France. Chinese suppliers name "worldwide" (1,031) and the United States (397) first; Indian suppliers "worldwide" (824), the United States (600) and the United Kingdom (291). Turkey is the only one of the three where a single European market — Germany — outranks the United States.

8. Size, age and the transparency gap

Among the 1,249 Turkish profiles that state headcount, the most common size is 51–200 employees (27%), then 11–50 (25%), 1–10 (17%), 201–500 (15%), 501–1,000 (9%) and over 1,000 (7%). China's known set skews larger — 51–200 (39%) and 201–500 (21%) together are three-fifths of profiles — while India's distribution is close to Turkey's.

Turkish factories are also older. Of the 2,096 profiles with a founding year, 26% were founded in the 1990s, 19% in the 2000s, 21% in the 2010s, 15% in the 1980s and 7% in the 1970s; roughly half predate 2000. Three-quarters of Chinese profiles with a founding year were founded in the 2000s (39%) or 2010s (37%); India, like Turkey, has a long tail of family firms going back to the 1960s and earlier.

The transparency gap Turkish suppliers publish the least operational data of the three: an MOQ on 3.6% of profiles, a lead time on 2.8%, product images on 17%. Chinese profiles publish an MOQ on 68%, a lead time on 59% and images on 77%. Independent evidence follows the same pattern — customs shipment records exist for 68% of Chinese profiles, 20% of Indian and 5% of Turkish; company-registry records for 53%, 35% and 12%. None of this says Turkish factories are worse; it says a buyer sourcing in Turkey has to ask for the numbers rather than read them, and that verification does more work there than anywhere else.

9. What this means if you are sourcing in Turkey

- **Expect mid-volume minimums.** A median published MOQ of 100 per style, and a market geared to European retail runs. Small first orders are possible but must be negotiated; they are not advertised.
- **Lead time is a wash; logistics is the win.** About six weeks in production, like China — then days rather than weeks to a European warehouse.
- **Sustainability certification is a strength to use.** GOTS, GRS, OCS and RCS are more common among Turkish profiles than any quality or social standard; if your programme needs organic or recycled-content chain of custody, Turkey has the deepest certified base.
- **Istanbul covers the market; the clusters cover the niches.** Denizli for towels and home textiles, Bursa for knits and technical fabrics, Kahramanmaraş for denim and yarn.
- **Ask for what isn't published.** Most Turkish profiles state neither MOQ nor lead time. Get both in writing before sampling, and verify the entity — registry and customs evidence exist for only one in eight.

Method and coverage

Figures come from SupplySpark's supplier database as of 6 September 2026: 8,517 published Turkish profiles, 6,819 Indian and 1,783 Chinese. Profiles are compiled from public sources — exporter-association member lists (including IHKIB in Turkey and AEPC in India), company websites, company registries and customs records — and describe what suppliers publish about themselves. Percentages use the stated denominator wherever a field is published by only part of the set. City spellings were merged (Istanbul/İstanbul, Tirupur/Tiruppur). Category tags cover a subset of profiles and a profile can carry several. 4,924 Indian profiles were added from the AEPC member list in September 2026 with limited data and are included in totals but rarely in field-level figures. The database grows daily; live counts for any category and country are on the manufacturer directory.

Browse the live data behind this report — every category, country and city page updates as suppliers are added and verified. supplyspark.co/manufacturers/in/turkey