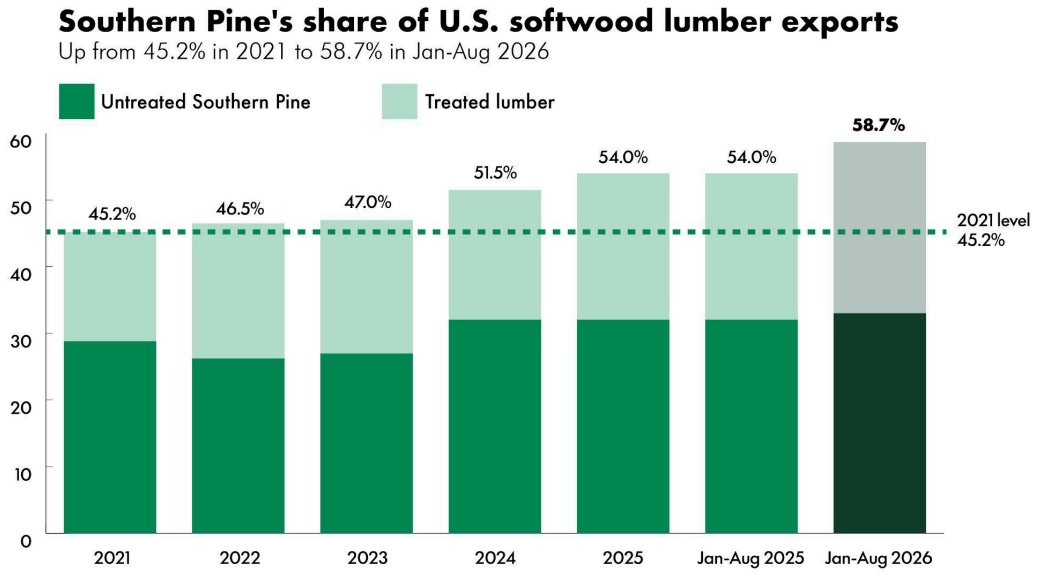
Southern Pine’s Export Share Climbs to a Five-Year High.

Southern Pine is claiming a growing share of U.S. softwood lumber exports. Through the first eight months of 2026, Southern Pine, including treated lumber, **accounted for 58.7 percent of U.S. softwood lumber exports to the markets SFPA tracks, up from 45.2 percent in 2021**. Export volume is running 12 percent ahead of last year, while shipments of other U.S. softwood species have declined about 7 percent.

Those gains didn't happen by accident. For more than 35 years, SFPA has participated in USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service market development program, helping build demand for Southern Pine lumber in overseas markets. The mills and exporters who serve these customers every day deserve just as much credit.

Most of the growth is happening close to home. Mexico and the Caribbean accounted for 88 percent of Southern Pine lumber exports over the past 12 months. In Mexico, the largest U.S. softwood lumber market, Southern Pine's share has grown from 22 percent in 2021 to 35 percent in 2026. Across the Caribbean, shipments to the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Haiti are up sharply, with treated lumber leading the way. A few newer markets are showing promise as well, including Guatemala, Turkey and buyers of Southern Pine logs in Southeast Asia.



Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service GATS, based on U.S. Census trade data through August 2026. Figures cover the export markets in SFPA's data set, which does not include Canada. Treated lumber is counted as Southern Pine, given the species' dominance of U.S. treated material.

SFPA members can request the full report, including market-by-market details, emerging growth markets and additional charts, by emailing mail@sfpa.org.