

Foshan imports \$445.8m worth of diamonds in Q1

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Three districts in Foshan in Guangdong Province imported RMB 2.79 billion (about \$445.8 million) worth of diamonds in the first quarter of the year in spite of the city's overall dwindling trade volume, local Chinese newspaper *Foshan Daily* [reported](#) recently, citing figures released by the local Customs department.

The city's total exports and imports of all consumer goods in the quarter declined 0.9 percent year on year to RMB 49.15 billion (about \$7.85 billion), according to the report.

Chancheng, one of the three districts in Foshan, imported RMB 1.42 billion (about \$227.05 million) worth of diamonds in the quarter, a 1.5-fold year-on-year increase. Its precious metal products' exports in the quarter also reached RMB 3 billion (about \$479.36 million), a 1.3-fold increase compared with the same quarter last year, the report said.

Nanhai District imported jewellery products worth RMB 26.823 million (about \$4.29 million) and 11,000 carats of diamonds worth RMB 18.782 million (about \$3 million) in the first quarter. Its jewellery exports in the quarter amounted to RMB 848 million (about \$135.5 million) with RMB 800 million (about \$127.83 million) worth of gold jewellery exports, the report said.

Meanwhile, Shunde District imported RMB 1.35 billion (about \$216.7 million) worth of diamonds in the first quarter, a 3.1-fold increase compared with the same quarter in 2013. The district also exported RMB 3.86 billion (about \$619.7 million) worth of precious metal products in the first quarter, a 1.1-fold increase year on year.

According to the trade figures, Africa has become Foshan's second-biggest trade partner. The city's imports from South Africa in the quarter increased 189.1 percent with the bulk of the imports being diamonds, the report said.



(File photo) Rough diamonds from DTC

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