



Botswana Food & Beverage Imports

May 2026

Botswana received imports worth **P8, 065.5 million** in May 2026. In this amount, Food & Beverages imports amounted to **P1, 099.0 million**, representing **13.6 percent** of total imports. The leading imported chapters among Food & Beverages imports, were Cereals (Chapter 10) and Beverages, Spirits & Vinegar (Chapter 22) with contribution of 22.6 percent and 13.9 percent, respectively.

Cereals emerged as the most prominent commodity imported during the period under review. Within this commodity group, the leading imported products were Other wheat, other than durum wheat (HS100199), Other maize (corn) (HS100590), and Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed (HS100630). These products accounted for 45.5 percent, 28.9 percent, and 17.0 percent of total cereal imports, respectively. This could be highlighting the country's strong reliance on Cereal imports to meet domestic demand.

Beverages, Spirits & Vinegar was the second dominant commodity imported. The major food products imported among this sector are Beer made from malt (HS220300) and Other fermented beverages, (for example, cider, perry, mead, sake), mixtures of fermented beverages & mixtures of fermented beverages & non-alcoholic beverage (HS220600) with contributions of 43.1 percent and 19.3 percent. Other waters (HS220299) followed with a contribution of 10.0 percent.

Table1: Botswana Food (excluding live animals) imports – April 2026 and May 2026 (Million Pula)

HS Code	Description	May_2026	% Contribution	Apr_2026	Change	% Change
10	Cereals	248.3	22.6	142.7	105.7	74.1
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	152.8	13.9	125.7	27.0	21.5
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	95.2	8.7	89.4	5.9	6.6
19	Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastrycooks' products	93.5	8.5	89.4	4.1	4.5
17	Sugars and sugar confectionery	86.2	7.8	60.6	25.6	42.2
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants	76.2	6.9	61.1	15.1	24.6
15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared animal fats; animal or vegetable waxes	62.8	5.7	62.4	0.4	0.6
04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	59.2	5.4	58.4	0.8	1.4
23	Food industries, residues and wastes thereof; prepared animal fodder	50.9	4.6	48.8	2.0	4.1
09	Coffee, tea, mate and spices	42.1	3.8	30.9	11.1	36.0
	Other	131.9	12.0	147.1	(15.2)	(10.3)
	Total Food & Beverages Imports	1,099.0	13.6	916.5	182.5	19.9
	Non-Food & Beverages Imports	6,966.5	86.4	7,491.9	(525.4)	(7.0)
	Total Imports	8,065.5	100.0	8,408.4	(343.0)	(4.1)

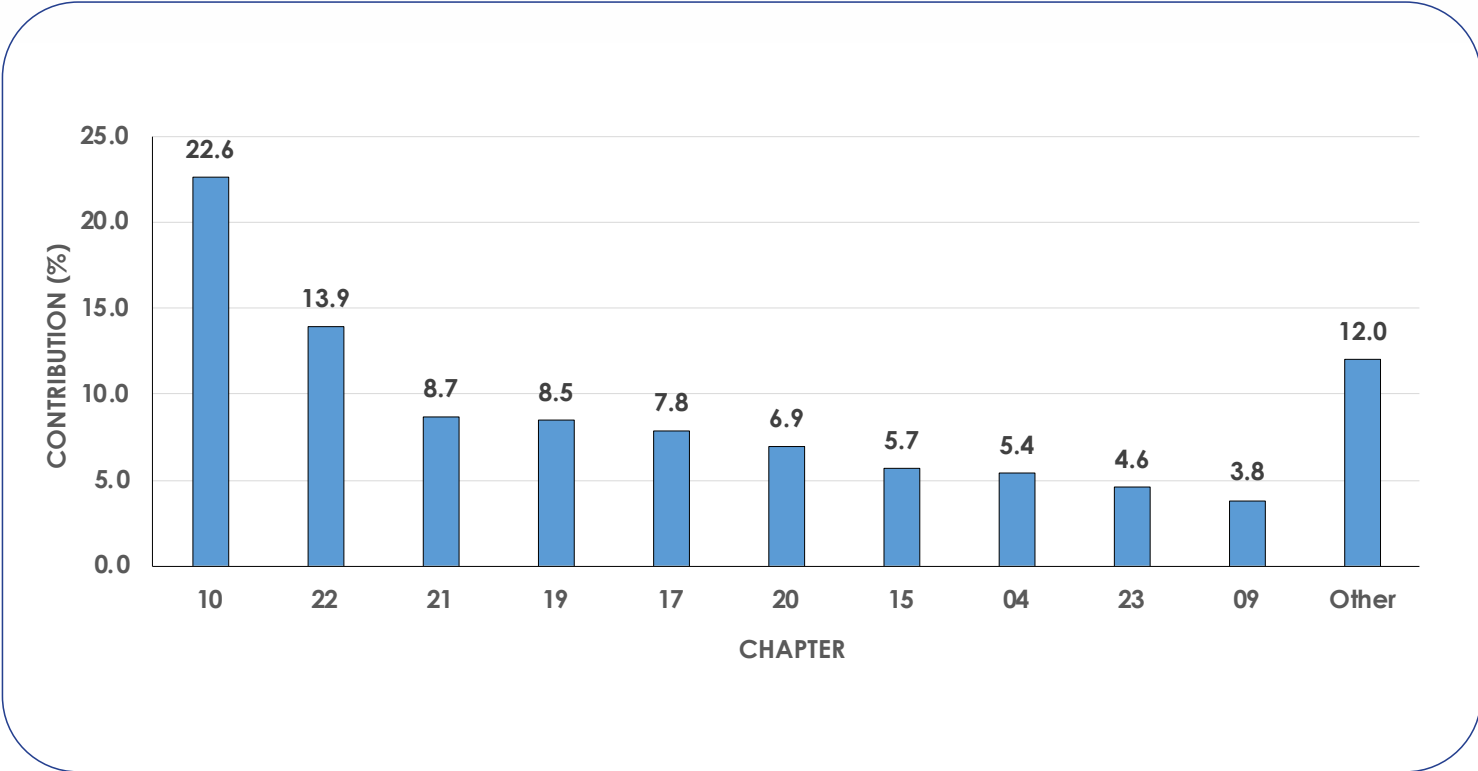
Note: 'Other' combine Chapters 02, 03, 05, 06, 12, 13, 14 & 18

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Percentage Distribution of Botswana Food imports by Chapter – May 2026



Note: 'Other' combine Chapters 02, 03, 05, 06, 07, 08, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 & 18

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Table 2: Breakdown of the top two Food & Beverages Imports – May 2026

a) Cereals			
HS Code	Description	BW Pula	% Contribution
100199	Other wheat, other than durum wheat	113.0	45.5
100590	Other maize (corn)	71.8	28.9
100630	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	42.2	17.0
100790	Other grain sorghum	19.4	7.8
100640	Broken rice	1.3	0.5
	Other	0.5	0.2
	Total	248.3	100.0

b) Beverages, Spirits and Vinegar			
HS Code	Description	BW Pula (Million)	% Contribution
220300	Beer made from malt	65.9	43.1
220600	Other fermented beverages (for example, cider, perry, mead, sake), mixtures of fermented beverages and mixtures of fermented beverages and non-alcoholic beverages NES or included	29.4	19.3
220299	Other waters, including mineral waters and aerated waters, containing added sugar or other sweetening matter or flavoured, and other non-alcoholic beverages, (excluding fruit, nut or vegetable juices	15.2	10.0
220210	Waters, including mineral waters and aerated waters, containing added sugar or other sweetening matter or flavoured:	13.6	8.9
220421	Other wine; grape must with fermentation prevented or arrested by the addition of alcohol In containers holding 2 li or less; Unfortified wine: / Fortified wine	10.4	6.8
220830	Whiskies	4.6	3.0
220850	Gin and Geneva	2.6	1.7
220870	Liqueurs and cordials;; In containers holding 2 li or less: / Other	2.5	1.6
220422	Other wine; grape must with fermentation prevented or arrested by the addition of alcohol In containers holding more than 2 li but not more than 10 li	2.2	1.4
220890	Other spirituous beverages; In containers holding 2 li or less	1.4	0.9
220820	Spirits obtained by distilling grape wine or grape marc:	1.0	0.7
220900	Vinegar and substitutes for vinegar obtained from acetic acid	0.9	0.6
220410	Sparkling wine	0.8	0.5
	Other	2.2	1.5
	Total	152.8	100.0



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Table 3: Botswana Food & Beverages Imports (Excluding Live Animals) – January 2025 to May 2026 (Million' Pula)

Period \ HS	10	22	21	19	17	20	15	04	23	09	Other	Total
Jan_2025	187.3	221.6	77.7	93.6	101.3	83.2	64.1	64.3	58.2	19.9	117.1	1,088.3
Feb	243.3	256.5	88.3	94.9	94.8	94.7	47.5	64.8	54.3	45.9	144.7	1,229.6
Mar	262.8	160.0	90.1	104.0	107.7	95.6	49.3	74.3	57.9	37.8	164.9	1,204.4
Q1	693.4	638.1	256.0	292.5	303.9	273.4	160.8	203.4	170.4	103.6	426.8	3,522.3
Apr	200.7	129.5	76.8	97.4	88.1	95.0	54.7	56.9	45.7	25.5	177.3	1,047.7
May	216.5	168.5	112.7	112.3	99.5	110.5	78.3	66.3	68.5	48.4	166.9	1,248.3
Jun	167.9	166.7	84.5	107.0	111.9	89.3	76.0	62.0	52.7	45.5	117.4	1,081.0
Q2	585.2	464.7	274.0	316.7	299.5	294.8	209.0	185.2	166.9	119.3	461.6	3,376.9
Jul	143.1	148.0	82.8	98.5	79.9	86.9	82.2	63.3	55.8	39.0	112.4	991.9
Aug	196.2	184.5	93.5	110.2	119.0	98.3	83.8	77.7	68.7	44.2	127.6	1,203.8
Sep	179.0	238.3	85.8	102.4	115.8	100.2	66.2	64.9	60.1	32.8	117.6	1,163.0
Q3	518.3	570.7	262.1	311.1	314.7	285.3	232.3	205.9	184.7	116.0	357.7	3,358.7
Oct	164.1	206.8	128.3	91.8	87.4	98.9	71.9	74.8	74.6	44.4	148.5	1,191.4
Nov	205.8	247.5	120.2	128.7	97.3	103.2	90.1	74.1	61.2	41.2	127.9	1,297.2
Dec	190.9	188.5	93.8	82.4	91.4	78.6	65.4	59.6	60.9	35.1	131.4	1,077.9
Q4	560.7	642.8	342.2	302.8	276.1	280.7	227.3	208.5	196.7	120.6	407.8	3,566.5
Total_2025	2,357.6	2,316.3	1,134.4	1,223.1	1,194.2	1,134.2	829.5	803.0	718.7	459.5	1,653.9	13,824.4
Jan_2026	395.0	181.7	95.3	78.1	91.9	87.8	58.1	62.0	56.6	28.0	113.6	1,248.2
Feb	150.4	201.5	100.0	81.2	77.6	72.3	62.3	60.1	53.3	37.0	128.8	1,024.5
Mar	116.0	98.7	64.0	53.0	54.8	41.1	42.8	35.0	30.1	21.3	85.8	642.7
Q1	661.3	481.9	259.3	212.4	224.3	201.3	163.2	157.1	140.1	86.3	328.3	2,915.5
Apr	142.7	125.7	89.4	89.4	60.6	61.1	62.4	58.4	48.8	30.9	142.9	912.3
May	248.3	152.8	95.2	93.5	86.2	76.2	62.8	59.2	50.9	42.1	115.4	1,082.5
% Contribution												
Apr_2026	15.6	13.8	9.8	9.8	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.4	5.4	3.4	15.7	100.0
May_2026	22.6	13.9	8.7	8.5	7.8	6.9	5.7	5.4	4.6	3.8	12.0	100.0



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Annex 1: Chapters and Descriptions

HS	Description
02	Meat and edible meat offal
03	Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates
04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included
05	Animal originated products; not elsewhere specified or included
06	Trees and other plants, live; bulbs, roots and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage
07	Vegetables and certain roots and tubers; edible
08	Fruit and nuts, edible; peel of citrus fruit or melons
09	Coffee, tea, mate and spices
10	Cereals
11	Products of the milling industry; malt, starches, insulin, wheat gluten
12	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit, industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder
13	Lac; gums, resins and other vegetable saps and extracts
14	Vegetable plaiting materials; vegetable products not elsewhere specified or included
15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared animal fats; animal or vegetable waxes
16	Meat, fish or crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates; preparations thereof
17	Sugars and sugar confectionery
18	Cocoa and cocoa preparations
19	Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastry cooks' products
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations
22	Non-alcoholic beverages
23	Food industries, residues and wastes thereof; prepared animal fodder

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