

Turkey and California: A Job-Creating Economic Partnership



California imports more from Turkey than from any other MENA country besides Israel and Saudi Arabia.

In 2018, California imported just over \$1 billion worth of goods and services from Turkey.

Top exports from Turkey to California include second-hand merchandise, food products, and transportation equipment.

Turkey is the fourth biggest importer from California in both the MENA region and the biggest in Eastern Europe.

In 2018, Turkey imported \$728 million worth of goods and services from California.

Top exports from California to Turkey include agricultural products such as walnuts, almonds, rice, and cotton.



California is home to more than 31,000 Turkish Americans; many are small business owners.

Many members of the state's Turkish American community live in Los Angeles and San Diego.

To the right are the locations of nine companies in California that have strong ties to Turkey.

These include Turkish companies with operations or investments in the state and California companies that have major activities and investments in Turkey.






California's Turkish American community has made major achievements in civic engagement. Last November, Ben Bartlett, married to a Turkish American, was reelected to Berkeley City Council. At the same time, Leah Ersoylu, a Turkish-American academic and businesswoman, was elected as Trustee of the Newport Mesa United School District.



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California has benefited greatly from its ties to Turkey. Turkish and Turkish-American businesses bring hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars in investments to the people of California.

	<p>Godiva: San Diego</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the world's most famous chocolatiers, Godiva was acquired by Yildiz Holding, a Turkish conglomerate, in 2007. • Godiva has 22 stores across California, including three in San Deigo, and has around 5 employees in each store.
	<p>KordSA: Anaheim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KordSA, a Turkish composites and tire reinforcements producer, has a significant presence in California. • In addition to its Anaheim office and textile products facility, it also owns Axiom Materials, a composite materials manufacturer based in Santa Ana, which it acquired as part of a \$100 million expansion into its U.S. operations. • KordSA has approximately 180 employees across its California locations.
	<p>AKDO: Hayward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded 25 years ago, AKDO was founded to provide America with natural stone tiles, slabs, mosaics, and specialty stone sourced from Turkey. • The company has a revenue of around \$40 million and 102 U.S. employees, including in its showroom in Hayward.

Similarly, companies in California have played a major role in Turkey's growing economy.

	<p>Gap: San Francisco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded over 50 years ago in San Francisco, Gap is now one of the world's largest brands, with 135,000 employees and over 3,700 stores worldwide. • In Turkey, Gap has 37 stores and nine factories, all of which produce apparel.
	<p>Chevron: San Ramon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chevron is one of California's biggest employers with almost 11,000 employees in the state. • In Turkey, Chevron has a Joint Operation Agreement for Black Sea oil exploration with Turkey's state oil company. • Last month, Petrol Ofisi, the market leader in Turkey's lubricants market, signed an agreement with Chevron to produce their Texaco-branded lubricant products in Turkey.
	<p>Aecom: Los Angeles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of California's largest companies, Aecom has been in Turkey since 1994, with offices in Ankara and Istanbul. • In Turkey, Aecom has provided construction services and supported civil infrastructure projects. Recently, Aecom won the contract to design Istanbul's new airport, set to become the biggest in the world. • Aecom is also currently constructing Turkey's Consul General Residence and UN Mission in New York.
	<p>Amgen: Thousand Oaks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the world's largest independent biotechnology companies, Amgen was established in Thousand Oaks in 1980. • The company produces a wide range of treatments for cancers, autoimmune diseases, and other conditions. • In 2012, Amgen purchased a Turkish pharmaceutical company for \$700 million. Amgen now produces a number of products in Turkey, where it has invested millions into its facilities and has around 150 employees.
	<p>HP: Palo Alto</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HP is the world's largest personal computer vendor by unit sales and has a strong relationship with Turkey. • The company's Turkish subsidiary has 450 employees, including those working in its printer and cartridge manufacturing plant in Corlu.
	<p>Halliburton: Bakersfield</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halliburton has an office with 100 employees as well as an oilfield in Bakersfield. • The company has 149 employees in Turkey and has had drilling partnerships with Turkish Petroleum.
	<p>Walmart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In California, Walmart has 310 locations, employs almost 92,000 people, and supports 309,000 additional jobs. • Walmart has shifted its supply chains for a number of products from China to Turkey, signing contracts with ten Turkish companies.