PRODUCT REPORT

Paper Cartons, Boxes and Packaging

HS Code 4819.10 | Export market guide: Pakistan to Canada | October 2026

Key facts at a glance

Indicator	Value	Source
Canada's imports of corrugated cartons and boxes (HS 481910), 2025	USD 547.66 million (−8.4% vs USD 597.88 million in 2024)	Trade Data Online
Canada's imports from Pakistan, 2025	USD 13,240 (0.002% share; +41.9% vs USD 9,330 in 2024); 49th of 89 suppliers	Trade Data Online
Pakistan in 2026 so far	January–August 2026: USD 43,764 (+365.0%), while total imports were +1.2%	Trade Data Online
Largest suppliers, 2025	United States 85.5%, China 9.3%, Mexico 1.0%; top three 95.8%	Trade Data Online
Pakistan's world exports of HS 481910, 2024	USD 8.26 million (USD 8.13 million in 2025); United Kingdom 48.3% and United States 14.9% of 2024 exports; Canada 15th market	UN Comtrade (Pakistan-reported)
Related codes (2024)	Folding cartons (481920): Canada imported USD 333.9 million, USD 6,971 from Pakistan; Pakistan exported USD 4.6 million. Paper sacks and bags (481940): USD 191.6 million, USD 4,487 from Pakistan; Pakistan exported USD 1.6 million	Trade Data Online; UN Comtrade
Canadian import duty	Free from all origins: MFN Free; GPT (Pakistan) Free; all FTA and LDC rates Free (4819.10, 4819.20 and 4819.40)	CBSA Customs Tariff 2026
Key rules	Food-contact safety (Food and Drug Regulations B.23.001); empty paper boxes must be marked with country of origin; wood pallets must meet ISPM 15 (CFIA D-98-08), paper boxes do not; provincial packaging EPR (Ontario Blue Box, Quebec)	Health Canada; CFIA; CBSA; Ontario; Quebec
Quebec labelling (Bill 96)	Printing on retail boxes sold in Quebec must be in French; plain shipping cartons used in international transport are exempt	Charter of the French Language / OQLF
Major Canadian importers (2024)	263 importers account for 80.5% of imports (CAD 658.7 million of CAD 818.7 million); the CID lists 5 importers of these goods from Pakistan (CAD 8,000 in total)	Canadian Importers Database

Trade values from Trade Data Online and UN Comtrade are in US dollars. Canadian Importers Database values and retail prices are in Canadian dollars. All trade data in this report is by calendar year (January–December), including Pakistan's exports, which are taken from UN Comtrade because the TIPP dashboard (fiscal years) was not accessible.

1. Introduction

HS 4819.10 covers "cartons, boxes and cases, of corrugated paper or paperboard", within heading 48.19 (cartons, boxes, cases, bags and other packing containers, of paper, paperboard, cellulose wadding or webs of cellulose fibres). In Canada's 2026 Customs Tariff the tariff item is 4819.10.00, with two statistical suffixes: 10 "sanitary food or beverage containers" and 90 "other" (unit: kilograms). The code covers corrugated shipping

cartons (regular slotted containers), die-cut and mailer boxes, e-commerce boxes, produce and meat boxes, pizza boxes, bulk bins and printed corrugated retail and display boxes.

This report anchors its detailed statistics on 4819.10 and also covers two related codes (see the related-codes tables in Sections 2 and 3):

- **4819.20** folding cartons, boxes and cases of non-corrugated paper or paperboard: printed cartons for food, confectionery, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and gifts.
- **4819.40** other sacks and bags, including cones: grocery, shopping and gift bags of paper (bags with a base under 40 cm wide).

Products outside 4819.10, which exporters should classify separately:

- Paper sacks and bags with a base of 40 cm or more (4819.30), other packing containers such as drums and record sleeves (4819.50), and box files, letter trays and storage boxes of a kind used in offices or shops (4819.60).
- Corrugated paper and paperboard in rolls or sheets (heading 48.08), boxes of plastics (heading 39.23) and wooden cases, crates and pallets (heading 44.15).

Classification of a specific product should be confirmed with the Canadian importer or a customs broker, or by an advance ruling from the CBSA.

In Canada, corrugated boxes are used by almost every goods-producing sector: greenhouse and field produce, meat and dairy, processed food and beverages, retail and e-commerce, automotive parts and household goods. The Canadian Importers Database (CID) list of major importers shows that most imports are made by companies that pack their own products, together with packaging distributors and Canadian box makers such as Kruger Packaging and Atlantic Packaging, whose own plants make corrugated containers in Canada.

In Pakistan, TDAP describes packaging as the country's 5th-largest industry after textiles, producing cartons, corrugated boxes, bags and paper sacks as well as flexible packaging. TDAP's list of Pakistani exporters of paper and paperboard (HS 48) has 746 entries, including packaging companies in Karachi, Lahore, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, Multan and Sialkot. Pakistan exported USD 8.26 million of corrugated boxes in 2024 (Section 2), much of it probably packaging for its own export industries' customers abroad (inference).

References

[1] CBSA, Customs Tariff 2026, Chapter 48, heading 48.19 (tariff items 4819.10.00, 4819.20.00, 4819.40.00 and statistical suffixes), PDF: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/trade-commerce/tariff-tarif/2026/01-99/ch48-2026-eng.pdf

[2] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481910, major Canadian importers (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481910&lang=eng

[3] Kruger Packaging, LaSalle Packaging Plant: https://pack.kruger.com/projects/lasalle-packaging-plant/

[4] Atlantic Packaging Products Ltd., company website: https://www.atlantic.ca/

[5] TDAP, Packaging Sector of Pakistan (brief): https://tdap.gov.pk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Packaging-Sector-of-Pakistan-brief-converted.pdf

[6] TDAP, Exporters of Pakistan sector: Paper and paperboard (HS 48): https://tdap.gov.pk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Chapter-48-Paper-and-paperboard.pdf

2. Pakistan's Exports (Production)

The table shows Pakistan's exports of corrugated cartons, boxes and cases (HS 481910) by calendar year, as reported by Pakistan to UN Comtrade, for the world, the main markets and Canada.

Pakistan's exports of HS 481910, USD thousand

Partner	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change 2024–25
World	**2,189.3**	**4,955.1**	**6,485.3**	**8,264.0**	**8,134.1**	**−1.6%**
United Kingdom	1,093.4	1,910.1	3,030.4	3,995.0	3,312.1	−17.1%

Partner	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change 2024–25
United States	258.1	1,045.5	1,049.8	1,230.9	1,401.8	+13.9%
Afghanistan	225.1	292.2	533.7	675.7	131.4	−80.5%
United Arab Emirates	153.3	231.5	471.5	376.5	307.6	−18.3%
Angola	77.7	207.3	90.2	333.8	304.9	−8.7%
Germany	50.1	392.5	303.9	165.2	295.0	+78.5%
Netherlands	28.2	91.3	127.4	192.8	118.3	−38.6%
Kenya	–	–	–	138.5	1,247.6	+800.9%
Canada	27.7	69.5	81.5	42.9	88.8	+107.0%

Source: UN Comtrade, exports reported by Pakistan (calendar years). The TIPP dashboard was not accessible for this report. Data was read through the World Bank WITS mirror of UN Comtrade on 14–15 October 2026, because the Comtrade preview API returned errors. Quantities: world 2,048, 2,299, 3,019, 4,366, 4,227 tonnes in 2021–2025; Canada 21.4, 32.2, 37.9, 22.7, 46.1 tonnes. Pakistan exported to 74 destinations in 2024 and 79 in 2025. Canada was the 15th market in 2024 (0.52% of exports). Canada's own import data records much less from Pakistan (USD 9,330 in 2024; Section 3); such mirror gaps are common for small flows. "–" = no exports reported, or too small to appear among the partners extracted (Kenya before 2024).

Related packaging codes: Pakistan's exports and Canada's imports

Code	Canada imports 2024 (USD m)	Canada imports 2025 (USD m)	From Pakistan 2024 (USD)	From Pakistan 2025 (USD)	Pakistan world exports 2024 (USD m)	Pakistan world exports 2025 (USD m)	Pakistan to Canada 2024 / 2025 (USD thousand)
4819.10 Corrugated cartons, boxes and cases (main code)	597.9	547.7	9,330	13,240	8.26	8.13	42.9 / 88.8
4819.20 Folding cartons, boxes and cases of non-corrugated board	333.9	330.3	6,971	66,285	4.63	4.40	5.6 / 8.9
4819.40 Other sacks and bags, including cones	191.6	199.2	4,487	10,411	1.62	0.79	3.8 / 14.1

Canada's imports: Trade Data Online (2025 = sum of the 12 monthly values). Pakistan's exports: UN Comtrade, Pakistan-reported, via WITS, in USD million for the world and USD thousand for Canada. In 2024 Pakistan's folding-carton exports went mainly to the United States (USD 3.02 million), the United Kingdom (0.78) and Afghanistan (0.67); paper bags went mainly to Qatar (0.69), the United States (0.38) and the United Kingdom (0.35).

Insight: Pakistan's corrugated-box exports almost quadrupled, from USD 2.19 million in 2021 to USD 8.26 million in 2024 (+277.5%), and held at USD 8.13 million in 2025. Nearly half goes to the United Kingdom. Average values are about USD 1.89/kg to the world and USD 1.89/kg to Canada in 2024; the two are identical in 2022–2025, which suggests that the quantities are estimated rather than reported (inference). All three paper-packaging codes together came to about USD 14.5 million of exports in 2024, a small industry in export terms.

References

[1] UN Comtrade, exports reported by Pakistan (reporter 586), HS 481910, 481920 and 481940, 2021–2025, USD (UN Comtrade Plus); accessed 14–15 October 2026: https://comtradeplus.un.org/

[2] World Bank WITS, UN Comtrade data: Pakistan exports of HS 481910 by partner, 2024: https://wits.worldbank.org/trade/comtrade/en/country/PAK/year/2024/tradeflow/Exports/partner/ALL/product/481910

[3] World Bank WITS, UN Comtrade data: Pakistan exports of HS 481910 by partner, 2025: https://wits.worldbank.org/trade/comtrade/en/country/PAK/year/2025/tradeflow/Exports/partner/ALL/product/481910

[4] World Bank WITS, UN Comtrade data: Pakistan exports of HS 481920 by partner, 2024: https://wits.worldbank.org/trade/comtrade/en/country/PAK/year/2024/tradeflow/Exports/partner/ALL/product/481920

[5] World Bank WITS, UN Comtrade data: Pakistan exports of HS 481940 by partner, 2024: https://wits.worldbank.org/trade/comtrade/en/country/PAK/year/2024/tradeflow/Exports/partner/ALL/product/481940

[6] Trade Data Online, Canadian imports, HS 481920 and 481940, complete years and monthly trends, USD: https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9999&countryList=DET&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=10%7CComplete+Years&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481920&lang=eng

[7] Trade Information Portal of Pakistan (TIPP), for further detail by fiscal year (not accessible from this environment): https://tipp.gov.pk/index.php?r=site/display&id=305

3. Canada's Imports (Consumption)

Canada's imports of corrugated cartons, boxes and cases (HS 481910), USD million

From	2020	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change 2024–25
Total imports	**408.79**	**585.23**	**546.96**	**597.88**	**547.66**	**−8.4%**
United States	367.11	533.64	492.91	533.91	468.52	−12.2%
China	26.79	32.73	36.08	41.31	51.03	+23.5%
Mexico	1.36	1.94	2.29	2.03	5.35	+163.2%
Türkiye	1.27	1.98	1.51	2.30	3.53	+53.2%
Germany	3.12	2.11	1.67	1.89	2.59	+37.0%
India	0.77	1.44	1.66	1.49	1.98	+32.8%
United Kingdom	0.32	0.42	0.76	1.58	1.96	+23.9%
Pakistan (USD thousand)	10.3	30.1	28.4	9.3	13.2	+41.9%

Suppliers are listed in order of their 2025 imports; Pakistan is shown in USD thousand. 2020 is shown as a benchmark year. 2025 values are the sum of the 12 monthly values in Trade Data Online, because the annual 2025 column had not yet been filled in when the data was accessed. Year to date: total imports in January–August 2026 were USD 376.69 million (+1.2% on the same months of 2025, USD 372.10 million); imports from Pakistan were USD 43,764 (+365.0% on USD 9,411), mainly two shipments in May (USD 12,382) and July 2026 (USD 26,185).

Pakistan in Canada's imports of HS 481910

Indicator	2016	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Imports from Pakistan (USD)	8,768	10,339	16,905	30,074	28,382	9,330	13,240
Share of Canada's imports	0.003%	0.003%	0.003%	0.005%	0.005%	0.002%	0.002%
Rank among suppliers	42nd	38th	36th	32nd	35th	50th	49th

Insight: Canada imports about USD 550–600 million a year of corrugated boxes (USD 547.66 million in 2025, −8.4%), and 85.5% comes from the United States, where box plants serve Canadian customers by truck. China is the only large overseas supplier (USD 51.03 million in 2025, +23.5%). Pakistan's sales are tiny: USD 13,240 in 2025 (49th place), with a peak of USD 55,225 in 2019, though they reached USD 43,764 in January–August 2026.

Related packaging codes: Canada's imports, total and from Pakistan (USD)

Code	Total 2020	Total 2024	Total 2025	Change 2024–25	Pakistan 2024	Pakistan 2025	Pakistan Jan–Aug 2026
4819.10 Corrugated boxes	408.8 m	597.9 m	547.7 m	−8.4%	9,330	13,240	43,764
4819.20 Folding cartons	282.4 m	333.9 m	330.3 m	−1.1%	6,971	66,285	34,583

Code	Total 2020	Total 2024	Total 2025	Change 2024–25	Pakistan 2024	Pakistan 2025	Pakistan Jan–Aug 2026
4819.40 Paper sacks and bags	122.6 m	191.6 m	199.2 m	+4.0%	4,487	10,411	9,039

"m" = USD million. Source: Trade Data Online, complete years and monthly trends (2025 = sum of 12 months). In 2025 the United States supplied 69.9% and China 15.1% of folding cartons, and the United States 44.3% and China 38.9% of paper bags; India supplied USD 4.44 million and USD 6.45 million. Pakistan's shares were 0.020% and 0.005%.

Where demand is: imports of HS 481910 by province (USD)

Province	2022	2023	2024	Share 2024
Ontario	369,933,861	353,319,082	378,444,230	63.3%
British Columbia	131,766,531	120,843,761	139,350,575	23.3%
Quebec	32,424,090	25,993,311	27,956,809	4.7%
Manitoba	24,705,550	21,709,227	25,678,990	4.3%
Alberta	15,994,848	16,591,045	15,703,815	2.6%
New Brunswick	5,799,156	4,573,147	5,255,733	0.9%
Saskatchewan	4,185,543	3,552,907	5,152,863	0.9%

Ontario (63.3%) and British Columbia (23.3%) together cleared 86.6% of imports in 2024, followed by Quebec (4.7%) and Manitoba (4.3%). Ontario's share reflects its manufacturing base and its greenhouse and food-processing clusters close to US box plants; British Columbia's reflects produce packers and imports from Asia through Vancouver (inference). Provincial figures show the province where goods were cleared, not necessarily where the boxes are used.

References

[1] Trade Data Online (ISED / Statistics Canada), Canadian imports, HS 481910, all countries (detailed), complete years, USD; accessed 14–15 October 2026: https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9999&countryList=DET&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=10%7CComplete+Years&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481910&lang=eng

[2] Trade Data Online, HS 481910, monthly trends (September 2024 – August 2026), used to total calendar 2025 and the 2026 year to date: https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9999&countryList=DET&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=24%7CMonthly+Trends&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481910&lang=eng

[3] Trade Data Online, HS 481910, imports by province, complete years: https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9998&countryList=ALL&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=5%7CComplete+Years&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481910&lang=eng

[4] Trade Data Online, HS 481920, complete years and monthly trends: https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9999&countryList=DET&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=10%7CComplete+Years&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481920&lang=eng

[5] Trade Data Online, HS 481940, complete years and monthly trends: https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9999&countryList=DET&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=10%7CComplete+Years&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481940&lang=eng

4. Import Market Analysis

Supplier shares of Canada's imports of HS 481910 (%)

Supplier	2020	2022	2023	2024	2025
United States	89.8%	91.2%	90.1%	89.3%	85.5%

Supplier	2020	2022	2023	2024	2025
China	6.6%	5.6%	6.6%	6.9%	9.3%
Mexico	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	1.0%
Türkiye	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%
Germany	0.8%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%
India	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%
United Kingdom	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%
Pakistan	0.003%	0.005%	0.005%	0.002%	0.002%

- **United States (85.5%)** dominates. US box plants deliver by truck within days, duty-free, and many Canadian and US plants belong to the same North American groups. US supply fell 12.2% in 2025 and a further 4.4% in January–August 2026.
- **China (9.3%)** is the only large overseas supplier and is growing (+23.5% in 2025, +17.6% in January–August 2026). Its sales are likely to include printed retail, gift and e-commerce boxes, where value per cubic metre is higher (inference).
- **Mexico (1.0%), Türkiye (0.6%), Germany (0.5%), India (0.4%) and the United Kingdom (0.4%)** each supply USD 2–5 million. Mexico grew +383.1% in January–August 2026. India, which like Pakistan pays the same zero duty, sold USD 1.98 million in 2025, about 150 times Pakistan's sales.
- **Tariff neutrality:** every origin enters duty-free, so the tariff gives no supplier an advantage; competition is decided by delivered cost, lead time, print quality and service.
- **Market concentration:** the top three supplying countries held 95.8% of imports in 2025. On the buyer side the market is spread out: 263 importers account for 80.5% of imports (CAD 658.7 million of CAD 818.7 million in 2024), and the 25 largest hold only 43.7%. For folding cartons (481920) 106 importers account for 80.5% and for paper bags (481940) 139 importers account for 80.4%. The CID lists five importers of 481910 from Pakistan, with CAD 8,000 in total, mainly a courier and companies that seem to import boxes alongside other goods.

Where can a Pakistani exporter realistically compete?

Plain corrugated shipping boxes are bulky and low in value: the cheapest consumer price found was about CAD 1.40 per box (Section 10), and Pakistan's export value averages about USD 1.9 per kg. Even shipped flat, a container holds relatively little value, and Canadian users expect frequent, just-in-time deliveries from nearby plants. The following assessment is an inference from the trade data and the market structure:

- **Least promising:** standard brown shipping cartons, produce and meat boxes, and bulk bins for Canadian manufacturers and packers. These are made locally or in the US, and freight from Karachi, lead times of 6–8 weeks and moisture risk at sea make Pakistan uncompetitive.
- **More promising:** printed retail and gift boxes (rigid and corrugated gift boxes, e-commerce mailer boxes with high-quality print, display boxes), and folding cartons (481920) for confectionery, cosmetics, tea and gifts. These carry more value per kg, compete with Chinese supply rather than local plants, and can be ordered seasonally (Christmas, Ramadan, Diwali, Valentine's Day).
- **Packaging that travels with Pakistani goods:** Pakistani exporters of textiles, sports goods, surgical instruments, food and leather already ship their products to Canada in Pakistani-made cartons and printed boxes. Box makers can grow by supplying retail-ready, bilingual packaging to those exporters, even though this trade is recorded under the product, not under HS 4819.
- **Paper bags (481940):** printed paper shopping and gift bags are a growing niche as retailers replace plastic bags, but China supplies most imported bags and Pakistan's exports are small.

> **Insight:** The Canadian corrugated-box market is large but almost closed to overseas suppliers for standard shipping boxes, because of bulk, freight and the need for fast local delivery. Pakistan's opportunity, by

inference, lies in higher-value printed packaging: gift and retail boxes, folding cartons and printed paper bags, sold to packaging distributors, gift and confectionery brands and online sellers that already buy from China.

References

[1] Trade Data Online, HS 481910 (shares calculated from import values): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9999&countryList=DET&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=10%7CComplete+Years&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481910&lang=eng

[2] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481910, major importers and market concentration (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481910&lang=eng

[3] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481910, major importers from Pakistan (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/exportingCountries.html?hsCode=481910&countryCode=527

[4] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481920, major importers and market concentration (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481920&lang=eng

[5] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481940, major importers and market concentration (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481940&lang=eng

[6] CBSA, Customs Tariff 2026, Chapter 48: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/trade-commerce/tariff-tarif/2026/html/00/ch48-eng.html

5. Quality, Packaging and Labelling Requirements

This section uses official government sources only (Government of Canada, Government of Ontario, Government of Québec and Government of Pakistan).

5.1 Quality requirements

Requirement	What it means for Pakistani exporters	Authority / legal basis
Food-contact packaging	No person may sell food in a package that may transfer to its contents any substance that may be harmful. Health Canada places responsibility on the food seller (manufacturer, distributor), so food companies buying boxes, cartons or bags that touch food (pizza boxes, bakery and confectionery cartons, produce boxes, food bags) will ask the box maker for evidence of suitable board, inks, coatings and adhesives.	Food and Drug Regulations, s. B.23.001; Health Canada
Letter of No Objection (voluntary)	A packaging supplier may submit a material for Health Canada's voluntary premarket assessment. A favourable result is a "no objection" letter, which is not a legal approval. Since 2 July 2014 the CFIA no longer pre-registers packaging materials.	Health Canada, Packaging materials
Food business supplier controls	CFIA guidance for food businesses under the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations asks them to obtain specifications for packaging (for example chemical migration and dimensions), a signed letter of guarantee that the packaging is food grade and complies with Division 23 of the Food and Drug Regulations, and Health Canada letters of no objection where available, and to check at receiving that packaging is undamaged.	CFIA, Incoming ingredients, materials and non-food chemicals
Retail gift boxes and bags sold to consumers	Empty boxes and bags sold to consumers are consumer products. It is prohibited to manufacture, import or sell a consumer product that is a danger to human health or safety (applicability to gift packaging is an inference).	Canada Consumer Product Safety Act, ss. 7–8
No forced labour in the supply chain	Goods made wholly or partly by forced labour are prohibited from entering Canada, and importers are expected to check their supply chains, including the paper and board used.	Customs Tariff item 9897.00.00; CBSA Memorandum D9-1-6

5.2 Packaging requirements

- **Paper boxes are not "wood packaging".** The CFIA defines wood packaging material as "wood or wood products (excluding paper products) used in supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity", so cartons and boxes of paper or paperboard do not need ISPM 15 treatment or marking.
- **Wood pallets do.** Pallets, crates, dunnage and bracing made of solid wood that carry the boxes must be debarked, treated by an approved ISPM 15 method (heat treatment at 56 °C for 30 minutes through the core, methyl bromide, dielectric heating or sulphuryl fluoride) and bear the IPPC mark (directive D-98-08, 11th version, effective 1 April 2026). Pallets made wholly of processed wood such as plywood or oriented strand board are exempt. Non-compliant material can be ordered treated, disposed of or removed from Canada.
- Knocked-down (flat) boxes are normally shipped in strapped bundles on pallets, stretch-wrapped and protected from moisture, because corrugated board loses strength in humid conditions at sea (good practice, not a legal rule).
- Each bundle or pallet should show the item number, box size, quantity and order number so that the importer can trace and receive the goods.

5.3 Labelling requirements

Label element	Requirement
Country of origin (empty boxes)	The Marking of Imported Goods Order lists, in item 4 of its schedule, "boxes and cartons, empty folding or set-up, made of paper, paper board, plain or corrugated fibre or fibre board" and "paper matter and products, lithographed or printed". Imported goods of these classes must be marked to show the country of origin, for example "Made in Pakistan", legibly and durably, in line with CBSA Memorandum D11-3-1.
Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act (CPLA): only for retail packs	The CPLA applies to a "prepackaged product", one packaged so that it is ordinarily sold to or used by a consumer without being repackaged. Boxes and bags sold to businesses for packing their goods are not covered. Retail packs of empty boxes or bags (for example a pack of gift boxes or moving boxes) must show the product identity in English and French, the net quantity in metric units or by count, and the dealer's name and address (for imports, for example "Imported by / Importé par").
Printed packaging for other products	When a Pakistani box maker prints retail packaging for a brand owner, the label rules that apply are those of the product inside (for example CPLA, food labelling or cosmetics rules), and the brand owner is responsible. Print exactly to the buyer's approved bilingual artwork.
Recycling and environmental claims	Provincial extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs in Ontario and Quebec make the brand owners and first suppliers of packaging responsible for its collection and recycling (Section 6). Buyers may ask box suppliers for the weight and material of each item for their EPR reports.

Plain shipping cartons used to transport goods are not consumer products and carry only the marks the buyer requires (origin, item, lot and handling symbols). The importer is responsible for compliance, so the exporter should agree label and marking content with the buyer before production.

5.4 Quebec: French-language rules (Charter of the French Language, as amended by Bill 96)

Quebec cleared 4.7% of Canada's imports of corrugated boxes in 2024. Plain shipping cartons used in international transport and boxes sold to manufacturers for packing their goods (not at retail) fall under the Charter's exceptions, but printed retail packaging, gift boxes and bags that reach Quebec consumers do not. On top of the federal bilingual rules, products sold in Quebec must follow the Charter of the French Language. Bill 96 (Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec, S.Q. 2022, c. 14) amended the Charter, and new product-labelling rules under the Regulation respecting the language of commerce and business took effect on 1 June 2025.

Rule	What it means for printed boxes, cartons and bags	Legal basis
Everything on the product must be in French	Every inscription on the product, its container or wrapping, and documents supplied with it (inserts, instruction leaflets and warranty cards) must be in French. This includes claims printed on the product or its packaging, such as "recyclable", "eco-friendly" or "food safe".	Charter s. 51
French must not be less prominent	Another language may appear, but it must not be given greater prominence than the French or be available on more favourable terms. The OQLF explains this as meaning the other language must not be more visible than the French, and the consumer must not have to make any extra effort to get the information in French.	Charter s. 51 (amended 2022, c. 14, s. 42); OQLF guidance
Trademarks: descriptive words must be in French (in force 1 June 2025)	A registered trademark may stay in another language only if no French version is registered with the Canadian Intellectual Property Office. Any generic or descriptive words inside the trademark (for example "Gift Box", "Kraft" or "Eco Pack") must also appear in French on the product or on a medium permanently attached to it. The product name and company name may stay in another language.	Charter s. 51.1; Regulation C-11, r. 9, s. 7.1
If a French version of the trademark is registered	It must be used on products sold in Quebec.	Charter s. 51.1; OQLF guidance
Transition period (until 1 June 2027)	Products with trademarks whose descriptive words are not in French may still be sold until 1 June 2027 if they were made before 1 June 2025 and no French version of the trademark had been filed by 26 June 2024. New production for Canada should already comply.	OQLF, Marques de commerce sur les produits
Exceptions useful to exporters	Inscriptions may be only in another language on containers used in international transport (export cartons), and on products for incorporation or processing that are not sold at retail in Quebec. The name of a firm established only outside Quebec may stay in its original language.	Regulation C-11, r. 9, ss. 3(2), 3(4), 7(1)
Displays count as advertising	Shelf displays and point-of-sale material are treated as commercial advertising, where French must be clearly predominant.	OQLF guidance
Enforcement	The Office québécois de la langue française (OQLF) handles complaints and works with businesses to bring products into compliance. The Charter provides penal fines, which are doubled for a second offence and tripled for later offences.	Charter ss. 205–207

Insight: For printed retail and gift packaging, print all text in French at least as prominently as English, including descriptive words inside logos (for example "Gift Box / Boîte-cadeau", "100% recyclable / Recyclable à 100 %"). Plain brown export cartons can carry English-only transport markings.

References

[1] Health Canada, Packaging materials (Food and Drug Regulations B.23.001; Letters of No Objection): https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-safety/packaging-materials.html

[2] CFIA, Incoming ingredients, materials and non-food chemicals (preventive controls guidance): https://inspection.canada.ca/en/preventive-controls/incoming-ingredients-materials-and-non-food-chemic

[3] Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (S.C. 2010, c. 21): https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-1.68/index.html

[4] CBSA, Memorandum D9-1-6, Goods manufactured or produced by prison or forced labour: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/dm-md/d9/d9-1-6-eng.html

[5] CFIA, Wood packaging questions and answers (definition excluding paper products): https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/forestry/imports/wood-packaging/questions-and-answers

[6] CFIA, D-98-08: Entry requirements for wood packaging material into Canada: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/invasive-pests-and-plants/directives/forest-products/98-08

[7] Marking of Imported Goods Order (C.R.C., c. 535), Schedule, item 4: https://lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.,_c._535/FullText.html

[8] CBSA, Memorandum D11-3-1, Marking of Imported Goods: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/dm-md/d11/d11-3-1-eng.html

[9] Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act (R.S.C. 1985, c. C-38), s. 2 definitions: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-38/page-1.html

[10] Competition Bureau Canada, What must be on the label (prepackaged non-food consumer products): https://competition-bureau.canada.ca/en/labelling/prepackaged-non-food-consumer-products/what-must-be-label

[11] Government of Québec (LégisQuébec), Charter of the French Language, C-11, ss. 51, 51.1, 205–207: https://www.legisquebec.gouv.qc.ca/en/document/cs/c-11

[12] Government of Québec (LégisQuébec), Regulation respecting the language of commerce and business, C-11, r. 9, ss. 3, 5, 6, 7, 7.1: https://www.legisquebec.gouv.qc.ca/en/document/cr/C-11,%20r.%209

[13] Office québécois de la langue française, Marques de commerce sur les produits (rules in force since 1 June 2025; transition to 1 June 2027): https://www.oqlf.gouv.qc.ca/francisation/entreprises/marque-commerce-produits.html

[14] Office québécois de la langue française, Loi sur la langue officielle et commune du Québec, le français (Bill 96) – legislative changes: https://www.oqlf.gouv.qc.ca/charte/changementslegislatifs/

6. Technical and Safety Standards

This section uses official government sources only (Government of Canada, Government of Ontario, Government of Québec and Government of Pakistan).

Aspect	Requirement	Authority / reference
Product standard	There is no mandatory Canadian product standard for corrugated boxes. Board grade, strength (for example edge crush or burst values), print and dimensions are set by the buyer's specification.	Buyer specification
Food contact	Packaging must not make food harmful (B.23.001). Food businesses ask for specifications and a letter of guarantee; a Health Canada Letter of No Objection is voluntary.	Health Canada; CFIA
Wood packaging (pallets)	Solid-wood pallets and crates must be ISPM 15 treated and marked; paper and paperboard packaging is excluded from the definition of wood packaging material.	CFIA D-98-08
Origin marking	Empty paper and paperboard boxes and cartons, and printed paper products, must be marked with the country of origin.	Marking of Imported Goods Order, item 4; CBSA D11-3-1
Retail labelling	Only retail packs of boxes or bags need CPLA labels (bilingual identity, net quantity, dealer).	CPLA; Competition Bureau
Federal Plastics Registry	Producers (including importers and brand owners) of plastic packaging must report to the federal registry each year: reports were due from September 2025 for 2024, and are due in 2026 and 2027 for 2025 and 2026; producers handling less than 1,000 kg of plastic a year are exempt. The registry covers plastics only, so paper boxes are outside it, but plastic parts such as windows, films or plastic handles may need to be reported by the Canadian producer (inference).	Environment and Climate Change Canada
Ontario Blue Box (EPR)	Producers, the companies that design, create and market products and packaging, are responsible for the Blue Box program for printed paper and packaging (plastics, paper, glass, aluminum, steel). Transition began on 1 July 2023 and producers became fully responsible province-wide by 31 December 2025.	Government of Ontario
Quebec curbside recycling (EPR)	Since 1 January 2025 producers are fully responsible for the modernized curbside collection system for containers, packaging	Regulation Q-2, r. 46.01; MELCCFP

Aspect	Requirement	Authority / reference
	and printed matter, including cardboard. Éco Entreprises Québec is the designated management body.	
Trade remedies	No anti-dumping or countervailing measures apply to paper cartons, boxes or bags (CBSA list of measures in force, checked 14 October 2026).	CBSA (SIMA)
Export clearance in Pakistan	The Goods Declaration and export documents are filed electronically through Pakistan Single Window (PSW).	Pakistan Single Window
Customs accounting	The importer needs a CBSA business number and import-export account and must use the CARM Client Portal to account for and pay GST/HST (no duty applies).	CBSA

EPR fees are paid in Canada by the brand owner or first importer that supplies the packaging into the province, not by the Pakistani exporter; however, they make Canadian buyers more interested in recyclable, mono-material paper packaging without plastic laminates or windows (inference).

References

[1] Health Canada, Packaging materials: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-safety/packaging-materials.html

[2] CFIA, Incoming ingredients, materials and non-food chemicals: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/preventive-controls/incoming-ingredients-materials-and-non-food-chemic

[3] CFIA, D-98-08: Entry requirements for wood packaging material into Canada: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/invasive-pests-and-plants/directives/forest-products/98-08

[4] Marking of Imported Goods Order (C.R.C., c. 535): https://lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.,_c._535/FullText.html

[5] Competition Bureau Canada, What must be on the label (prepackaged non-food consumer products): https://competition-bureau.canada.ca/en/labelling/prepackaged-non-food-consumer-products/what-must-be-label

[6] Environment and Climate Change Canada, Federal Plastics Registry: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/reduce-plastic-waste/federal-plastics-registry.html

[7] Government of Ontario, Producer responsibility for Ontario's waste diversion programs (Blue Box): https://www.ontario.ca/page/producer-responsibility-ontarios-waste-diversion-programs

[8] Gouvernement du Québec (MELCCFP), La collecte sélective modernisée: https://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/matieres/consigne-collecte/collecte-selective-modernisee.htm

[9] CBSA, Measures in force (Special Import Measures Act): https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/sima-lmsi/mif-mev/menu-eng.html

[10] Pakistan Single Window (PSW): https://www.psw.gov.pk/

[11] CBSA, CARM: Assess and pay duties and taxes on imported commercial goods: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/services/carm-gcra/menu-eng.html

7. Import Tariff

Tariff item	Description	MFN	GPT (Pakistan)	Duty-free / other access
4819.10.00	Cartons, boxes and cases, of corrugated paper or paperboard (10 sanitary food or beverage containers; 90 other). Unit: kg	Free	Free	Free under all tariff treatments (CCCT, LDCT, GPT, UST, MXT, CIAT, CT, CRT, IT, NT, SLT, PT, COLT, JT, PAT, HNT, KRT, CEUT, UAT, CPTPT, UKT)
4819.20.00	Folding cartons, boxes and cases, of non-corrugated paper or paperboard	Free	Free	Free under all tariff treatments
4819.40.00	Other sacks and bags, including cones (vacuum cleaner bags; multiwall; grocers'; other)	Free	Free	Free under all tariff treatments (also AUT, NZT)

Paper and paperboard cartons, boxes and bags enter Canada free of customs duty from every origin, including Pakistan, the United States, China and India. No surtax, anti-dumping or countervailing duty applies (CBSA list of SIMA measures in force, checked 14 October 2026). GST/HST is payable at import (5% GST, or the HST rate in participating provinces). Because the duty is zero under the MFN tariff, the importer does not need a GPT proof of origin.

> **Insight:** The tariff is neutral: Pakistan has no duty advantage or disadvantage against any supplier. Competition depends entirely on delivered cost (including freight), quality, lead time and service.

References

[1] CBSA, Customs Tariff 2026, Chapter 48, tariff item 4819.10.00: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/trade-commerce/tariff-tarif/2026/html/00/ch48-eng.html

[2] CBSA, Import commercial goods into Canada: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/import/?D=A

[3] CBSA, Customs Tariff 2026, Chapter 48 (PDF), heading 48.19: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/trade-commerce/tariff-tarif/2026/01-99/ch48-2026-eng.pdf

[4] CBSA, Measures in force (Special Import Measures Act): https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/sima-lmsi/mif-mev/menu-eng.html

8. Non-Tariff Barriers

- **Bulk and freight cost:** corrugated boxes are low in value per cubic metre, so ocean freight from Karachi and inland transport to Ontario or British Columbia take a large share of the delivered cost compared with US boxes delivered by truck (inference).
- **Lead time and just-in-time supply:** Canadian packers and manufacturers order boxes in frequent small lots from nearby plants and change sizes and print often; a 6–8 week supply chain from Pakistan is hard to fit (inference).
- **Moisture and damage risk:** board can lose strength in humid conditions during a long sea voyage, which buyers may see as a quality risk.
- **Food-contact evidence:** food businesses must obtain specifications and letters of guarantee for packaging (CFIA guidance), so suppliers without documentation on board, inks and coatings are shut out of food packaging.
- **Origin marking and pallets:** empty boxes must be marked with the country of origin, and solid-wood pallets must be ISPM 15 treated and marked, or the shipment can be held or ordered treated or removed.
- **Quebec French-language rules (Bill 96):** printed retail packaging sold in Quebec must be in French, with French at least as prominent as any other language; since 1 June 2025 descriptive words in trademarks must also be in French. Quebec cleared 4.7% of corrugated-box imports in 2024.
- **Provincial EPR costs:** brand owners pay Ontario and Quebec EPR fees on the packaging they supply, which favours light, recyclable paper packaging and may require material data from suppliers.
- **Established supply relationships:** Canadian box makers and US groups supply most users under contracts, and new suppliers must pass sample and print-quality approval.

References

[1] CFIA, Incoming ingredients, materials and non-food chemicals: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/preventive-controls/incoming-ingredients-materials-and-non-food-chemic

[2] Marking of Imported Goods Order (C.R.C., c. 535): https://lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.,_c._535/FullText.html

[3] CFIA, D-98-08: Entry requirements for wood packaging material into Canada: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/invasive-pests-and-plants/directives/forest-products/98-08

[4] Office québécois de la langue française, Marques de commerce sur les produits: https://www.oqlf.gouv.qc.ca/francisation/entreprises/marque-commerce-produits.html

[5] Government of Ontario, Producer responsibility for Ontario's waste diversion programs: https://www.ontario.ca/page/producer-responsibility-ontarios-waste-diversion-programs

[6] Gouvernement du Québec (MELCCFP), La collecte sélective modernisée: https://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/matieres/consigne-collecte/collecte-selective-modernisee.htm

[7] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481910, major importers (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481910&lang=eng

9. Distribution Channels

Imported cartons, boxes and bags reach Canadian users through the channels below. The company examples are taken from the Canadian Importers Database lists of major importers of HS 481910 (and, where stated, 481920 and 481940) for 2024.

Channel	Role	Examples of major importers (CID, 2024)
Packaging distributors	Stock and resell boxes, bags and packaging supplies to small and medium businesses, foodservice and e-commerce	Bunzl Canada (Burlington, ON); Imperial Dade Canada (Saint-Laurent, QC); Crown Hill Packaging / SupplyOne Canada (Brampton, ON); Coleman Containers (Mississauga, ON); Alpha Box Trading (Delta, BC); Megabox (Delta, BC); Rebox Corp (used boxes; Saint-Laurent, QC)
Canadian box makers and converters	Make corrugated boxes in Canada and import specialty items or fill gaps	Kruger Packaging (Montréal, QC); Atlantic Packaging Products (Toronto, ON); WestRock Company of Canada (Pointe-aux-Trembles, QC); Master Packaging (Charlottetown, PE); Les Emballages 2M (QC); Prairie Packaging (Saskatoon, SK)
Printers and folding-carton makers	Print retail boxes, cartons and gift packaging	Goldrich Printpak (Toronto, ON); Rayacom Premium Print (Vancouver, BC); Cimpress Windsor (Tecumseh, ON); Graphic Packaging International Canada (481920; Mississauga, ON)
Brand owners using printed boxes	Import printed retail, gift and display boxes for their products	Hershey Canada, Mars Canada, Ce De Candy (Rockets), Chewters Chocolates (confectionery); Estée Lauder, Michel Germain Parfums, Hunter Amenities, Bath & Body Works (cosmetics and gifts); Mattel Canada (toys); Pollard Banknote (lottery products)
Food, produce and manufacturing companies	Import shipping boxes for their own products	Mastronardi Produce; Driscoll's Canada; A. Lassonde; Agropur; Frito Lay Canada; General Motors of Canada; Volkswagen Group Canada
Retailers (mainly bags, 481940)	Shopping and gift bags	Canadian Tire; Loblaws; Dollarama; Home Depot of Canada; Wal-Mart Canada; Costco; bag distributors such as A-1 Bags & Supplies and The Creative Bag Co.

For a Pakistani exporter, the most practical entry routes are: (1) packaging distributors and printers in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia that already buy printed boxes and bags from Asia; (2) confectionery, cosmetics and gift brands that need seasonal printed gift boxes and folding cartons; and (3) Canadian importers of Pakistani consumer goods, who can source retail packaging and products together.

References

[1] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481910, major Canadian importers (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481910&lang=eng

[2] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481920, major Canadian importers (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481920&lang=eng

[3] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481940, major Canadian importers (2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481940&lang=eng

[4] Trade Data Online, HS 481910, imports by province: https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9998&countryList=ALL&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=5%7CComplete+Years&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481910&lang=eng

10. Pricing

Level	Product / basis	Price	Source
Retail / small business (shipping boxes)	Staples corrugated shipping box, 12 × 12 × 12 in, kraft, 32 ECT single wall, bundle of 25	CAD 34.99 (CAD 1.40 per box)	staples.ca
Retail / small business (shipping boxes)	Staples corrugated shipping box, 16 × 12 × 12 in, kraft, 32 ECT, bundle of 25	CAD 49.99 (CAD 2.00 per box)	staples.ca
Retail (gift boxes)	Kraft gift box, 4 × 4 × 4 in (Holiday Time); decor gift box, 9 × 6 × 3.75 in	CAD 2.98; CAD 5.98	walmart.ca
Retail (gift boxes)	Paper gift boxes, 31 × 25 × 8 cm, pack of 5 (marketplace seller)	CAD 23.79 (CAD 4.76 per box)	walmart.ca
Retail / small business (paper bags)	Kraft paper bags with twist handles, 10 × 5 × 13 in, 120 gsm; pack of 25 / case of 250 (rope handle)	CAD 27.99 (CAD 1.12 per bag); CAD 64.99 (CAD 0.26 per bag)	staples.ca
Export (FOB Pakistan), corrugated boxes	Average value of Pakistan's exports of HS 481910, 2024 (2025)	USD 1.89 per kg (USD 1.92)	UN Comtrade
Export (FOB Pakistan), folding cartons and bags	Average value of Pakistan's exports of HS 481920 and 481940, 2024	USD 1.62 per kg; USD 0.91 per kg	UN Comtrade

Retail prices were checked on 14 October 2026 (CAD, before tax) and change often; the country of origin was not shown online. Uline Canada and Amazon.ca product pages could not be read from this environment. Large Canadian users buy boxes on contract at prices far below these small-pack prices. Export unit values are calculated from UN Comtrade value and quantity (calendar years); the quantities may be estimates, so the per-kg values are indicative only. A Canadian importer will add ocean and inland freight, brokerage and its own and the retailer's margins (no duty).

References

[1] Staples Canada, Corrugated Shipping Box 12 × 12 × 12 in, 25 pack: https://www.staples.ca/products/415595-en-staples-corrugated-shipping-box-12-l-x-12-w-x-12-h-kraft-25-pack

[2] Staples Canada, Corrugated Shipping Box 16 × 12 × 12 in, 25 pack: https://www.staples.ca/products/411797-en-staples-corrugated-shipping-box-16-l-x-12-w-x-12-h-kraft-25-pack

[3] Walmart Canada, Gift boxes: https://www.walmart.ca/en/browse/gifts-holidays/party-supplies/wrapping-paper-bags-accessories/gift-boxes/6000188914393_21085_6000203891830_6000203891857

[4] Staples Canada, Reliabag paper bags, twist handles, 25 pack: https://www.staples.ca/products/3048937-en-reliabag-paper-bags-twist-handles-10w-x-5d-x-13h-kraft-25-pack

[5] Staples Canada, EcoSystems paper bag with rope handle, 250 pack: https://www.staples.ca/products/3077227-en-ecosystems-paper-bag-with-rope-handle-kraft-10-w-x-5-d-x-13-h-250-pack

[6] UN Comtrade, Pakistan exports of HS 481910, 481920 and 481940, 2024 (values and quantities used for unit values), via WITS: https://wits.worldbank.org/trade/comtrade/en/country/PAK/year/2024/tradeflow/Exports/partner/ALL/product/481910

11. Reasons for Pakistan's Low/High Share

Why Pakistan has a foothold

- Growing export base: Pakistan's world exports of corrugated boxes rose from USD 2.2 million in 2021 to USD 8.3 million in 2024, mainly to the United Kingdom and the United States, so some converters already meet Western buyers' requirements.
- Recent shipments to Canada: Canada recorded USD 43,764 of imports from Pakistan in January–August 2026, more than in any full year since 2019.
- Zero duty and an established packaging industry, which TDAP ranks as Pakistan's 5th-largest industry.

Why the share is still tiny

- Geography: the United States supplies 85.5% of Canada's imports by truck, and Canadian box plants serve the rest of the market locally.
- Bulk and low value: freight and lead times make long-distance supply of plain shipping boxes uneconomic (inference).
- Competition in printed packaging: China supplied USD 51.03 million in 2025 and dominates imports of folding cartons and paper bags after the United States.
- Few export-oriented converters: TDAP's HS 48 exporter list has few packaging specialists, and the Pakistan Exporters Directory returned no companies for HS 4819.

References

[1] Trade Data Online, HS 481910 (Canadian imports by country): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/tdo/runRpt.html?grouped=GROUPED&searchType=KS_CS&areaCodes=&naArea=9999&countryList=DET&toFromCountry=CDN&reportType=TI&timePeriod=10%7CComplete+Years&currency=US&productType=HS6&hSelectedCodes=%7C481910&lang=eng

[2] UN Comtrade, Pakistan-reported exports, HS 481910 (via WITS): https://wits.worldbank.org/trade/comtrade/en/country/PAK/year/2024/tradeflow/Exports/partner/ALL/product/481910

[3] TDAP, Packaging Sector of Pakistan (brief): https://tdap.gov.pk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Packaging-Sector-of-Pakistan-brief-converted.pdf

12. Recommendations

- **Target printed, higher-value packaging.** Offer printed gift and retail boxes, rigid and corrugated mailer boxes and folding cartons rather than plain shipping cartons (an inference from Section 4). Ship them flat-packed and in full containers to keep freight per unit low.
- **Sell to distributors, printers and gift brands.** Approach packaging distributors (Bunzl, SupplyOne/Crown Hill, Coleman Containers), printers (Rayacom, Goldrich Printpak) and confectionery, cosmetics and gift brands with seasonal programs.
- **Package Pakistan's own exports.** Work with Pakistani exporters of textiles, sports goods, food and leather to supply retail-ready, bilingual packaging for their Canadian customers.
- **Get food-contact documentation ready.** For food boxes and bags, prepare specifications for board, inks and coatings and a letter of guarantee that the packaging complies with Division 23 of the Food and Drug Regulations.
- **Get the shipment details right.** Mark boxes or bundles "Made in Pakistan", use ISPM 15-treated wood pallets or plywood pallets, and protect board from moisture.
- **Design for EPR and Quebec.** Offer recyclable, mono-material paper packaging (no plastic windows or laminates) and print French at least as prominently as English on retail packaging.

Trade shows

Show	Dates	Location	Focus
Advanced Design & Manufacturing Toronto (includes PACKEX Toronto)	9–11 November 2027	Toronto Congress Centre, Toronto, ON	Packaging, plastics, automation and design; meeting packaging buyers and converters
Toronto Spring Gift + Home Market (CanGift)	24–28 January 2027	Toronto, ON	Gift and home wholesale show; buyers of gift boxes, bags and gift packaging
PACK EXPO International	18–21 October 2026	McCormick Place, Chicago, USA	North America's largest packaging show, attended by Canadian buyers

References

[1] Advanced Design & Manufacturing Toronto (PACKEX), official website: https://admtoronto.com/

[2] CanGift, Gift + Home Markets (official website): https://www.cangift.org/

[3] PACK EXPO International (official website): https://www.packexpointernational.com/

[4] Health Canada, Packaging materials: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-safety/packaging-materials.html

[5] CFIA, D-98-08: Entry requirements for wood packaging material into Canada: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/invasive-pests-and-plants/directives/forest-products/98-08

13. Pakistani Exporters

Canadian buyers looking for Pakistani suppliers of corrugated paper cartons, boxes and cases, folding cartons and paper bags can use these official sources:

- TDAP list of exporters of paper and paperboard (HS 48): 746 entries, including packaging companies such as Packages Limited, Afeef Packages, Saima Packaging, Bulleh Shah Packaging, Dayamer Packages and Rite Pack Packaging Industry (Karachi), Bliss Packaging (Gujranwala), Al-Aziz Packages and Printings (Faisalabad), Vision Foods & Packaging (Multan) and Gulshan Bags Enterprises (Sialkot).
- Pakistan Exporters Directory (TDAP), search by HS code 4819. When checked on 14 October 2026 the search returned no companies for this code, so buyers should use the HS 48 list or contact TDAP.

UN Comtrade data shows that Pakistani exporters shipped corrugated boxes to 74 destinations in 2024 (79 in 2025), folding cartons to 24 destinations and paper bags to 15 destinations in 2024, so there is a base of active exporters.

References

[1] TDAP, Exporters of Pakistan sector: Paper and paperboard (HS 48): https://tdap.gov.pk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Chapter-48-Paper-and-paperboard.pdf

[2] Pakistan Exporters Directory (TDAP), search by HS code 4819: https://pakistanexportersdirectory.gov.pk/searchbyhscode?product_code=4819

[3] TDAP, Pakistan Exporters Directory information page: https://tdap.gov.pk/pakistan-exporters-directory/

[4] UN Comtrade, Pakistan exports of HS 481910 by partner, 2024 (via WITS): https://wits.worldbank.org/trade/comtrade/en/country/PAK/year/2024/tradeflow/Exports/partner/ALL/product/481910

14. List of Canadian Importers

The table below lists major Canadian importers of corrugated paper cartons, boxes and cases (HS 481910). The complete list of importers can be obtained from the Canadian Importers Database at **https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481910&lang=eng**.

Company	City, Province	Postal code	Phone	Website
ATLANTIC PACKAGING PRODUCTS LTD.	Toronto, Ontario	M1P 2Y9	416-298-5574	atlantic.ca
BUNZL CANADA INC.	Burlington, Ontario	L7L 0E8	905-637-4040	bunzlch.ca
CE DE CANDY COMPANY LIMITED	Newmarket, Ontario	L3Y 7B2	905-853-9325	rocketscandy.ca
COLEMAN CONTAINERS LIMITED	Mississauga, Ontario	L5T 1E7	416-253-7441 †	colemancontainers.com
CROWN HILL PACKAGING (now SupplyOne Canada)	Brampton, Ontario	L6T 0B7	905-494-1191	crownhillpackaging.com
EMBALLAGES KRUGER S.E.C.	Montréal,	H3S 1G5	514-366-2701 †	pack.kruger.com

Company	City, Province	Postal code	Phone	Website
/ KRUGER PACKAGING LP	Quebec			
ESTEE LAUDER COSMETICS LTD.	Toronto, Ontario	M1S 3K9	416-292-0042	esteelauder.com
HERSHEY CANADA INC.	Mississauga, Ontario	L4W 0B1	905-602-9200 †	hersheyland.ca
HUNTER AMENITIES INTERNATIONAL LTD.	Burlington, Ontario	L7L 5V5	905-331-0969	hunteramenities.com
MASTER PACKAGING INC.	Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island	C1A 8C3	902-368-3737 †	masterpackaging.ca
MATTEL CANADA INC.	Mississauga, Ontario	L5R 3W2	905-501-0404	mattel.com
MICHEL GERMAIN PARFUMS LTD.	Toronto, Ontario	M4N 2M1	416-485-3239	michelgermain.com
POLLARD BANKNOTE LIMITED	Winnipeg, Manitoba	R3T 0M8	204-474-2323	pollardbanknote.com
RAYACOM PREMIUM PRINT	Vancouver, British Columbia	V5Y 3T8	604-254-4488 †	rayacom.onprintshop.com
REBOX CORP.	Saint-Laurent, Quebec	H4T 1E7	514-335-1921	reboxcorp.com

Contact details and websites checked on 14–15 October 2026. Company names, cities and postal codes are from the CID list of major importers of HS 481910 (2024); phone numbers are from YellowPages.ca. † YellowPages.ca lists the company at a different address from the CID (Coleman Containers: 54 Atomic Ave, Etobicoke, M8Z 5L1; Kruger Packaging: LaSalle packaging plant, 7474 rue Cordner, H8N 2W3; Hershey Canada: 5750 Explorer Dr, Mississauga, L4W 0A9; Master Packaging: 60 Belvedere Ave, Charlottetown, C1A 6B1; Rayacom: 7060 Waltham Ave, Burnaby, V5J 4V5), so confirm before contacting. Crown Hill Packaging now trades as SupplyOne Canada at the CID address. Bunzl Canada's website is that of its Bunzl Cleaning & Hygiene division; hersheycanada.com redirects to hersheyland.ca; Rayacom's own site is rayacom.onprintshop.com. The list covers packaging distributors and converters and consumer-goods companies that use printed boxes; most of the 263 major importers are food, produce and manufacturing companies that import boxes for their own products, and they are not shown. Couriers, non-resident importers and importers for which a phone number and working website could not both be confirmed (for example Goldrich Printpak, Les Emballages 2M, Chewters Chocolates, Alpha Box Trading, Megabox and Prairie Packaging) are not shown. The CID gives company names and addresses only, not contact persons or import values.

References

[1] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481910, major Canadian importers (all countries, 2024): https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/productReport.html?hsCode=481910&lang=eng

[2] Canadian Importers Database, HS 481910, major importers by country of origin: https://ised-isde.canada.ca/app/ixb/cid-bdic/exportingCountries.html?hsCode=481910

[3] YellowPages.ca business search (phone numbers and websites), accessed 14–15 October 2026: https://www.yellowpages.ca/

[4] SupplyOne Canada (formerly Crownhill Packaging), company website: https://www.crownhillpackaging.com/

[5] Kruger Packaging, LaSalle Packaging Plant: https://pack.kruger.com/projects/lasalle-packaging-plant/

[6] Rayacom Print & Packaging, company website: https://rayacom.onprintshop.com/about_us_1.html

**The TIC Wing may be contacted for additional guidance.*