ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY

ITA Beijing Office

NEWSLETTER

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Foshan Ceramic Price Index Rises in July 2026
The Foshan ceramic price index climbed to 69.26 in July, up 2.68% month-on-month and 0.54% year-on-year, data from the China (Foshan) Ceramic Price Index showed. The construction ceramics sub-index rose 2.61% from June to 67.57 but dipped 0.35% annually. Sanitary ceramics outperformed, gaining 2.95% monthly and 3.82% yearly to reach 76.05. （**Foshan Ceramics Price Index Information Center**）

China's Building Materials Home Retail Sales Edge Down in July
China's above-scale building materials and home furnishing stores reported sales of 113.60 billion yuan (about $16.71 billion) in July, down 1.68% month-on-month and 0.18% year-on-year. Total sales for the first seven months reached 777.64 billion yuan (about $114.36 billion), marking a 3.80% decline compared to the same period last year. **(China Building Materials Circulation Association)**

China Lighting Exports Turned Positive in July but Jan-Jul Still Contract
China's lighting products exports rose 2.4% year-on-year to $4.61 billion in July 2026, turning positive after months of narrowing declines. Jan-Jul cumulative exports reached $28.73 billion, down 5.4% year-on-year, with the contraction narrowing by 1.4 percentage points from June. Non-EU markets showed signs of recovery, U.S.-bound exports plunged 17% year-on-year amid persistent trade barriers and tariff pressures. （**The Observatory of Economic Complexity**）

Guangdong Sanitary Ware Sector Ramps Up Production
Thirteen new sanitary ware projects have won approval in Guangdong in the past two months, marking a wave of capacity expansion. The projects are clustered in Chaozhou, Jiangmen, Zhongshan and Huizhou, with total investment exceeding 800 million yuan ($117.65 million). Beyond manufacturing, companies are also investing in solar power and other energy projects to support the expanded operations. **(Guangdong Investment)**

China Building Materials Profits Plunge 73% Through July
The profits of China's building materials industry plummeted 73% year-on-year in the first seven months of 2026. In July, the sector's value-added output fell 3.3%, widening the decline by 1.0 percentage point from June. The drop marks five consecutive months of contraction in the industry's production activity.For January-July, value-added output dropped 2.9% year-on-year as production trailed 2025 levels. **(China Building Materials Federation-Industry Working Desk)**