



Benefits from the U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement

New York

www.export.gov/fta/panama/state

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The U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement Provides Enhanced Market Access

The U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement (TPA) offers tremendous opportunities for New York's exporters. Panama's strategic location as a major shipping route and the massive project underway to expand the capacity of the Panama Canal enhance the importance of the U.S.-Panama TPA for New York's exporters.

When the Agreement enters into force, 88 percent of U.S. consumer and industrial exports to Panama, including nearly all information technology products; aircraft and related equipment; agriculture and construction equipment; medical and scientific equipment; environmental products; pharmaceuticals; fertilizers; and agro-chemicals will become duty-free immediately. The remaining tariffs phase out over 10 years. U.S. farmers and ranchers will also become much more competitive, benefiting from immediate duty-free treatment of more than 60 percent of current U.S. agriculture exports. Key U.S. agriculture exports such as high-quality beef, other meat and poultry products, soybeans, most fresh fruit and tree nuts, distilled spirits and wines, and many processed food products, will be duty-free upon entry into force of the Agreement. Tariffs on most remaining U.S. farm products will be phased out within 15 years.

Opportunities for New York's Businesses to Participate in the Panama Canal Expansion Project

The U.S.-Panama TPA will ensure that New York's firms can participate on a competitive basis in the \$5.25 billion Panama Canal expansion project that will offer many opportunities for U.S. providers of goods and services. Ultimately, the Canal expansion will benefit New York's exporters by increasing the Canal's capacity, which will reduce the costs of transporting goods while keeping up with the demands of a growing global economy.

New York Depends on World Markets

New York's export shipments of merchandise in 2007 totaled \$69.3 billion. New York was the third largest exporter among the 50 states in 2007.

Export shipments of merchandise from New York to Panama totaled \$77 million in 2007, up \$38 million (96 percent) since 2003.

Exports Support Jobs for New York's Workers –

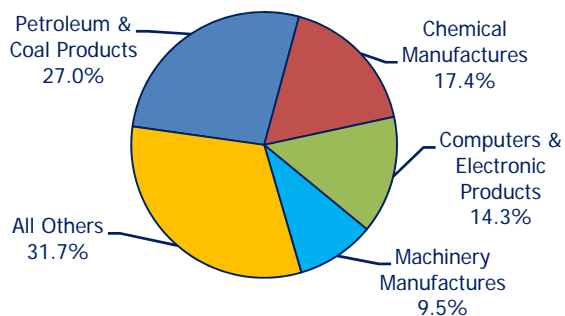
Export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing account for an estimated 2.9 percent of New York's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-fifth (19.1 percent) of all manufacturing workers in New York depend on exports for their jobs. (2006 data are the latest available.)

Exports Sustain Thousands of New York's Businesses – A total of 25,281 companies exported goods from New York locations in 2006, the third highest number among the 50 states. Of those, 94 percent, or 23,688 firms, were small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), with fewer than 500 employees.

The U.S.-Panama TPA Expands U.S. Services Providers' Access to Panama's Services Market

The U.S.-Panama TPA expands U.S. services providers' access to Panama's primarily service-based economy. The Panama Canal and the Colon Free Zone provide much of the stimulus for Panama's services sector. Key services include banking and financial services, accounting, legal and insurance services, inter-modal transportation services, container ports, flagship registry, tourism, and medical and health services. Panama made substantial commitments to liberalize its services trade. For example, Panama committed to open its telecommunications and financial services sector to U.S. companies, to lift restrictions on investment in retail services trade and to provide new access to professional services that previously had been reserved exclusively to Panamanian citizens.

New York Exported \$77 Million in Goods to Panama in 2007



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration

The U.S.-Panama TPA Moves the Trade Relationship from One-Way Preferences to Reciprocity

In 2007, 91 percent of Panama's exports to the United States entered duty free under unilateral U.S. trade preference programs such as the Caribbean Basin Initiative and Generalized System of Preferences or under zero Normal Trade Relations tariffs. Because of high Panamanian tariffs, U.S. exporters do not have equivalent access to the Panamanian market. The U.S.-Panama TPA levels the playing field and enhances competition because it moves the U.S.-Panama commercial relations beyond one-way preferences to full partnership and reciprocal commitments.

New York's SMEs Will Benefit from U.S.-Panama TPA Provisions

SMEs generated more than half (52 percent) of New York's total exports of merchandise in 2006. That is the third highest percentage among the 50 states and well above the national average of 29 percent. SMEs particularly benefit from tariff-eliminating provisions of free trade agreements (FTAs) and should benefit from significant tariff cuts under the U.S.-Panama TPA. The transparency obligations, particularly those contained in the customs chapter, are also very important to SMEs, which may not have the resources to navigate customs and regulatory red tape.

The U.S.-Panama TPA Opens New Markets for New York's Exports

Miscellaneous Manufactures – Miscellaneous Manufactures was New York's top global manufactured export category in 2007. The state's global exports of miscellaneous manufactures totaled \$14.8 billion in 2007, or 21 percent of total exports. New York's exporters of miscellaneous manufactures will benefit from the U.S.-Panama TPA. This sector includes medical equipment, recreation equipment, and toys. Ninety-seven percent of U.S. exports of medical equipment, including tomography and electro-diagnostic apparatuses, will receive duty-free treatment immediately upon implementation of the Agreement. Current Panamanian tariffs on medical equipment average 8.6 percent and range as high as 15 percent. Panama also will eliminate tariffs on 92 percent of U.S. toy exports and 83 percent of U.S. recreational goods exports immediately upon entry into force of the Agreement.

Computers and Electronic Products – Computers and electronic products were a top state global export category in 2007, totaling \$7.5 billion, an increase of percent from 2003. New York's exporters of computers and other information technology equipment will benefit from U.S.-Panama TPA tariff reductions.

Certain U.S. exports of information technology equipment will receive duty-free treatment immediately upon entry into force of the Agreement, including DVDs,

telephone and fax equipment, semiconductors, and medical and laboratory instruments.

Machinery Manufactures – Another of New York's top global export categories in 2007 was machinery manufactures. New York's companies exported \$6.8 billion in machinery manufactures in 2007, an increase of 63 percent from 2003. New York's exporters of machinery will benefit from U.S.-Panama TPA tariff reductions. Certain U.S. exports of machinery manufactures will receive duty-free treatment immediately upon entry into force of the Agreement, including turbines, machine tools, sewing machines and office machines. Tariffs on all U.S. exports of agricultural and construction equipment, which are currently as high as 10 percent, will fall to zero immediately upon entry into force of the Agreement. These tariff reductions will improve U.S. equipment manufacturers' access to the Panamanian market, especially during the bidding processes for the Panama Canal expansion project.

The U.S.-Panama TPA Creates Opportunities for New York's Agriculture

In 2006, agriculture exports from New York to the world amounted to \$671 million (latest data Available). Despite high tariffs and other barriers on agricultural products, including key New York farm products such as dairy, beef, and apples, U.S. exporters shipped \$304 million in U.S. farm products to Panama in 2007, up \$95 million from 2006. A primary U.S. objective was to change the "one-way street" of duty-free access currently enjoyed by most Panama exports into a "two-way street" that provides U.S. suppliers with access to Panama's market and levels the playing field with competitors. This objective was achieved. The U.S.-Panama TPA also includes far-reaching bilateral provisions concerning sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures and technical standards that will help to eliminate long-standing regulatory barriers faced by a variety of U.S. products in the Panamanian market.

For more information on agriculture exports and U.S.-Panama TPA, see the fact sheets prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/itp/us-panama.asp>

Free Trade Works for New York's Exporters

In the first four years (2004-2007) of the U.S.-Chile FTA, New York's exports to Chile increased 307 percent. Since the North American Free Trade Agreement's (NAFTA) entry into force in 1994, New York's exports to Canada and Mexico have grown by 91 percent.

All state export data in this report are based on an unrevised Origin of Movement (OM) series. This series allocates exports to state based on transportation origin, i.e., the state from which goods began their journey to the port (or other point) of exit from the United States. The transportation origin of exports is not always the same as the location where the goods were produced. Thus conclusions about "export production" in a state should not be made solely on the basis of the OM state export figures.

Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Origin of Movement Series; U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Prepared by the International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.