



Trade Facts

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Highlights of Bush Administration Trade Accomplishments

Trade and the Economy. In addition to fostering America's global competitiveness, the Bush Administration's pro-trade agenda has provided new opportunities for America's workers, farmers, and entrepreneurs by opening markets for U.S. goods and services.

- The Administration's efforts to liberalize trade have contributed to a 58 percent increase in U.S. goods and services trade with the world, from \$2.5 trillion in 2000 to nearly \$4.0 trillion in 2007.
- Since 2000, U.S. exports to the world have increased 54 percent, and in 2007 achieved their highest share of GDP in U.S. history, at nearly 12 percent. In the first three quarters of 2008, exports expanded further, surpassing 13 percent of GDP.
- In 2007, the growth of real exports accounted for nearly half of total U.S. real GDP growth.
- The Administration's trade initiatives have promoted both the economic, foreign policy, and national security interests of the United States.

Doha Round. When the Doha negotiations were launched in November 2001, the United States and the other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) embarked on a path to further reduce barriers to trade in order to expand economic opportunity. Since then, the Doha Round has been at the forefront of the Administration's global engagement to promote economic growth and development, and thereby raise living standards and reduce poverty.

President Bush has actively led U.S. efforts to press the Doha Round forward. He has emphasized its importance in international fora such as the United Nations General Assembly, during innumerable bilateral meetings with foreign leaders, and at various leaders' gatherings such as the Group of Eight (G8) Leaders Summit, the Summit on Financial Markets and World Economy, and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders Meeting.

The United States is committed to promptly concluding a successful Doha Round that results in increased trade flows around the world. These new trade flows should benefit workers, farmers, and entrepreneurs both here in the United States and abroad.

Free Trade Agreements. When President Bush took office eight years ago, the United States had free trade agreements (FTAs) in force with only three nations. Today, the United States has FTAs in force with 14 countries across the globe, with three more agreements awaiting entry into force and three others awaiting congressional action.

In Force		Awaiting Entry Into Force	Awaiting Congressional Action
Israel	Morocco	Costa Rica	Colombia
Canada	El Salvador	Oman	Panama
Mexico	Nicaragua	Peru	South Korea
Jordan	Honduras		
Chile	Guatemala		
Singapore	Bahrain		
Australia	Dominican Republic		

Each FTA negotiated by USTR fulfills our core negotiating objectives and serves our nation's interests. An FTA is one of the best tools for building prosperity, strengthening economies, improving workers' rights, promoting environmental protection, and fostering democracy. Once all of the pending FTAs have entered into force, these agreements will provide U.S. workers, farmers, and entrepreneurs with substantially free access to well over 400 million consumers.

- Although the 14 countries with which we have FTAs in force accounted for only 7 percent of the global economy in 2007 (excluding the United States), these countries were the destination for 41 percent of total U.S. goods and services exports.
- U.S. goods and services exports to the 11 trading partners with FTAs that entered into force between 2001 and 2007 grew nearly 80 percent faster on average than did U.S. exports to the rest of the world. Taken together, U.S. exports to all FTA partners have grown 40 percent faster than U.S. exports to the rest of the world.

Monitoring and Enforcement. The United States has fully supported the international rules-based trading system to help ensure that trade is fair. Effective enforcement requires the flexible and creative application of a wide range of techniques, tools, and strategies. In dealing with foreign barriers, USTR's initial preference has been dialogue and negotiation, because negotiated solutions are typically quicker and more certain in resolving trade-related frictions. For example, in 2006 China agreed to eliminate an antidumping duty on kraft liner board following negotiations between the United States and China.

When dialogue and negotiations have been unsuccessful, the United States has not hesitated to pursue dispute resolution. To this end, the United States has launched more WTO dispute settlement challenges than any other WTO Member. Of the 388 dispute settlement cases initiated at the WTO through today, the United States was the complainant in 90, or almost one in four.

Since 2001, the Bush Administration has filed 27 complaints in the WTO. Since 2004, the United States has launched seven WTO cases against China alone. The Administration

negotiated successful outcomes in three of these disputes against China before the cases were decided and litigated a fourth one to a successful conclusion; the other three disputes are proceeding.

The Bush Administration's winning percentage in WTO cases the United States has brought is almost 95 percent. In addition, we have been able to successfully settle about half of our disputes on favorable terms without going through the entire dispute settlement process, so that our industries do not have to wait three or more years to get relief under WTO procedures.

Bilaterally, we achieved a historic settlement of the two-decade old softwood lumber dispute between the United States and Canada in 2006. The Bush Administration worked vigorously to ensure full Canadian compliance with the terms of the agreement through continuous dialogue and, in two instances, through resort to international arbitration under the enforcement mechanism of the agreement.

WTO Accessions. To bolster the international rules-based trading system, the United States has been instrumental in growing the WTO membership. Under leadership from the Bush Administration, several countries have become WTO members, including China, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine, and others. Progress has been made on Russia's accession to the WTO, in particular after we reached a bilateral WTO market access agreement. The United States remains committed to seeing Russia join the WTO.

Bilateral Investment Treaties. The Bush Administration revised the U.S. model bilateral investment treaty in 2004, concluded treaties with Uruguay and Rwanda, and launched negotiations with China, India and Vietnam. These agreements will level the playing field for U.S. companies, promote transparency, the rule of law, and respect for private property, and facilitate the settlement of disputes under international law rules in key emerging markets.