



## Benefits from the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement

# Colorado

[www.export.gov/fta/colombia/state](http://www.export.gov/fta/colombia/state)

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

The U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement (TPA) offers tremendous opportunities for Colorado's exporters. When the Agreement enters into force, 80 percent of U.S. consumer and industrial exports to Colombia, including nearly all information technology products; mining, agriculture, and construction equipment; medical and scientific equipment; auto parts; paper products; and chemicals, will be 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 77 percent of current U.S. agriculture exports. Key U.S. agriculture exports such as cotton, wheat, soybeans, high-quality beef, apples, pears, peaches, cherries, and almonds will be duty-free upon entry into force of the Agreement. Colombia will phase out all other agricultural tariffs within 19 years.

### Colorado Depends on World Markets

Colorado's export shipments of merchandise in 2007 totaled \$7.4 billion. This is an increase of 20 percent over the 2003 level of \$6.1 billion.

In 2007, Colorado's shipment of merchandise to Colombia totaled \$15 million, an increase of 176 percent since 2003.

### Exports Support Jobs for Colorado's Workers

– In 2005, export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing accounted for an estimated 3.1 percent of Colorado's total private-sector employment. Nearly one-sixth (16.3 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Colorado depend on exports for their jobs. (2005 data are the latest available.)

**Exports Sustain Thousands of Colorado's Businesses** – A total of 3,837 companies exported from Colorado locations in 2005. Of those, 3,374 (88 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with fewer than 500 employees.

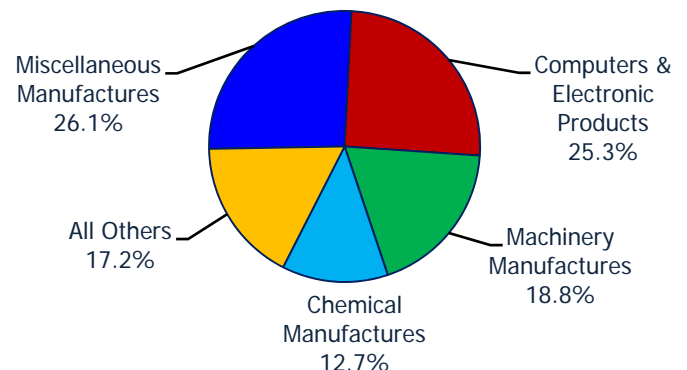
### Colorado's SMEs Will Benefit from U.S.-Colombia TPA Provisions

SMEs generated nearly one-quarter (24 percent) of Colorado's total exports of merchandise in 2005. SMEs particularly benefit from the tariff-eliminating provisions of free trade agreements (FTAs) and should benefit from the significant tariff cuts under the U.S.-Colombia 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.-Colombia TPA Moves the Trade Relationship from One-Way Preferences to Reciprocity

In 2007, 91 percent of U.S. imports from Colombia entered duty-free either on a Normal Trade Relations basis or through unilateral U.S. trade preference programs such as the Andean Trade Preference Act or Generalized System of Preferences. Because of high tariffs, U.S. exporters do not have equivalent access to the Colombian market. The U.S.-Colombia TPA levels the playing field and enhances competition because it moves the U.S.-Colombia commercial relationship beyond one-way preferences to full partnership and reciprocal commitments.

### Colorado Exported \$14.9 Million in Goods to Colombia in 2007



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

## The U.S.-Colombia TPA Opens New Markets for Colorado's Exports

### ***Computers and Electronic Products*** –

Computers and electronic products were the state's leading manufactured export category in 2007, accounting for 42 percent, or \$3.1 billion, of Colorado's total merchandise exports. The U.S.-Colombia TPA improves market access for information technology goods and service providers. Nearly 100 percent of U.S. exports of products covered by the Information Technology Agreement, including important exports of computer equipment and communications equipment, will receive duty-free treatment immediately upon entry into force of the agreement. With the immediate removal of most tariffs, U.S. exports will become much more competitive and affordable to Colombians. The top U.S. exports in this sector include computers, computer parts, and radio and TV broadcasting equipment.

***Processed Foods*** – In 2007, processed foods were Colorado's second leading global merchandise export category, totaling \$832 million, an increase of 26 percent from 2003. The U.S.-Colombia TPA, upon entry into force, will stimulate new opportunities for U.S. businesses in this sector. Colombia is a growing market for consumer-oriented foods. The U.S.-Colombia TPA will enhance these opportunities by eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers that currently hamper exports of U.S. food and consumer products to Colombia. Excellent prospects in this sector include mechanically de-boned chicken meat, breakfast cereals, beer, pet food, and assorted snack foods. Food, beverage, and consumer products currently face Colombian tariffs ranging from 5 to 20 percent.

***Machinery Manufactures*** – In 2007, machinery manufactures were another of Colorado's leading global merchandise export categories, totaling \$682 million. The state's exports of these products have increased 49 percent during the 2003 to 2007 period. Colorado's exports of machinery will benefit from U.S.-Colombia TPA tariff reductions. For infrastructure and machinery products, 70 percent of U.S. industrial exports will receive duty-free treatment immediately upon entry into force of the agreement, including products such as pumps and compressors, filtration equipment, earth-sorting machinery, and printing machinery. Ninety-two percent of agricultural equipment and 88 percent of construction equipment, including bulldozers, mechanical shovels, boring and sinking machinery, and dumpers, will receive duty-free treatment immediately upon entry into force of the agreement. The elimination of Colombian tariffs on such high-value equipment will provide a competitive boost to U.S. exporters, who will no longer face tariffs as high as 20 percent. This will help Colorado's companies take advantage of Colombia's growing demand for industrial machinery.

## The U.S.-Colombia TPA Creates Opportunities for Colorado's Agriculture

In 2006, Colorado's agricultural exports to the world amounted to \$852 million (latest data available). Colombia is already the second largest market for U.S. farm products in Latin America, with significant potential for growth. Despite high tariffs and other barriers on most agricultural products, including key Colorado farm products such as beef, dairy, and corn, U.S. exporters shipped \$1.2 billion in U.S. farm products to Colombia in 2007, up 41 percent from 2006. A primary U.S. objective was to change the "one-way street" of duty-free access currently enjoyed by most Colombian exports into a "two-way street" that provides U.S. suppliers with access to these markets and levels the playing field with competitors. This objective was achieved.

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

## Free Trade Works for Colorado's Exporters

In the first four years of the U.S.-Chile FTA (2004-2007), Colorado's exports to Chile have grown 143 percent. Since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) entered into force in 1994, Colorado's combined exports to Canada and Mexico have increased 251 percent. In the last three years, Colorado's exports to the DR-CAFTA region have increased 54 percent

All state export data in this report are based on the 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: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, Origin of Movement Series; U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Market Access and Compliance.