

U.S.-Oman Free Trade Agreement Market Access Results

Fish

Trade and Tariffs

The fish sector includes processed and unprocessed fish products contained in Chapters 3 and 16 of the Harmonized Tariff System. The United States did not export fish to Oman in 2003.

Oman applies a 5 percent tariff to all fish products that enter the country.

In 2003, the United States imported fish from Oman worth \$14 million, or approximately 3.5 percent of total U.S. non-textile industrial imports. Lobsters and shrimps are the main U.S. imports from Oman in this sector.

The United States imposes tariffs on fish ranging from 0 to 35 percent, with an average of 2 percent for the sector. The highest tariffs are applied to processed tuna.

Tariff Elimination

In industrial goods overall, tariffs will be phased out according to four tariff elimination categories: 1) immediate elimination, 2) equal cuts over 5 years, 3) equal cuts over 10 years and 4) no reduction in rate until January 1 of year ten when the rate goes to zero.

Currently, the United States gives duty-free treatment to nearly 70 percent of fish products from Oman. Upon implementation of the agreement, the remaining 29.9 percent will receive duty-free treatment immediately. Leaving only the tariff on sardines in airtight containers to be phased out equally over ten years.

Oman currently gives duty-free treatment to 38 percent of fish products. Upon implementation of the agreement, Oman will grant immediate duty free treatment to approximately 94 percent of fish products imported from the United States. Products in extended staging include lobsters, shrimps, flat fish, cod fish, hamoor, shei'ri. Five years after implementation over 99 percent of all fish products from the United States will enter Oman duty free. Leaving only the tariff on sardines in airtight containers to be phased out equally over ten years.