

An Active Trade Agenda Will Support America's Pork Producers and the U.S. Economy

U.S. pork producers have a global reputation for providing domestic and foreign markets with high-quality, affordable products. To grow exports and support high paying jobs in rural communities, the U.S. must open new and expand existing markets through trade agreements, trade and investment framework agreements, and market access deals.

Eliminate Ongoing Market Access Issues Globally

Countries in Asia and the South Pacific are some of the fastest growing regions in the world. However, many tariff and non-tariff barriers exist throughout the region.

> **Vietnam:** The ongoing ban on white offal must be resolved. In 2011, the country instituted a ban on the importation of all pork offal. In 2014, the ban was lifted, and many U.S. companies submitted to Vietnam paperwork to begin exporting. However, an inconsistent approval process has left many waiting for approval. Pork consumption in Vietnam is more than 2.5 million metric tons annually – more than Mexico, which is the U.S.'s largest export market. In 2022, the Most Favored Nation tariff for frozen pork was dropped to 10 percent. Although positive, competitors like those in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership and the EU face zero tariffs. The discrepancy in tariff makes it difficult for U.S. pork to compete in this market.

> **The Philippines:** One of the main non-tariff obstacles that must be addressed is the cold storage requirements for imported pork. The Philippines requires all imported meat to be placed in a cold storage facility. However, domestically produced meat is exempt from this requirement, suppressing demand for U.S. pork and violating World Trade Organization rules related to non-discriminatory treatment of imports.

> **Australia:** Certain U.S. pork imports for the retail market are limited to products that are heat-processed or frozen and boneless for further processing because of what the country claims are risks associated with the transmission of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome virus to the Australian swine herd. These restrictions are inconsistent with international standards and scientific findings.

> **Taiwan:** In 2021, Taiwan implemented new food safety labeling that targets the United States. Since then, U.S. pork exports have dropped to \$22 million (Jan-Nov 2024) from \$54 million in 2020. During this same time period, Taiwan has been increasing its imports from U.S. competitors.

> **South Africa:** During the renewal of the African Growth and Opportunity Act in 2016, South Africa agreed to partially lift its ban on U.S. pork. However, since then, they have continued to impose multiple restrictions on the importation of pork, so very little has been exported. Conversations with South Africa must include negotiations on full market access without restrictions.

Facts That Matter:

Pork exports are vital to the U.S. pork industry. **\$8.62 billion** is exported to over 100 foreign destinations.

The total value of exports equates to more than **\$66** in average value from each hog that is marketed in the U.S.

More than **140,000 U.S. jobs** are supported by pork exports, which contributed over **\$15.6 billion** to the U.S. economy.