#### U.S. Free Trade Agreements

The United States is party to numerous trade agreements with other countries. At present, the United States maintains the following 14 Free Trade Agreements:

- Australia Free Trade Agreement
- Bahrain Free Trade Agreement
- Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement
- Chile Free Trade Agreement
- Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement
- Israel Free Trade Agreement
- Jordan Free Trade Agreement
- Korea Free Trade Agreement
- Morocco Free Trade Agreement
- North American Free Trade Agreement
- Oman Free Trade Agreement
- Panama Trade Promotion Agreement
- Peru Trade Promotion Agreement
- Singapore Free Trade Agreement



## Reporting Suspicious Trade Activity

If you have any suspicion of or information regarding suspected fraud or illegal trade activity, please contact CBP through the e-Allegations website: https://eallegations.cbp.gov/Home/Index2

Centers of Excellence and Expertise transform the way CBP approaches trade operations and work with the international trade community to facilitate the timely resolution of trade compliance issues nationwide. For more information, please visit:

http://www.cbp.gov/trade/centers-excellence-and -expertise-information

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http://www.cbp.gov/trade/priorityissues/trade-agreements

# Trade Agreements

U.S. Customs and Border
Protection

Office of Trade

**Priority Trade Issue** 

Reflective of FY 2016

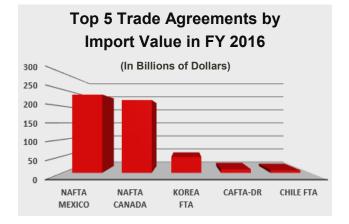




#### Overview

The Trade Agreements Priority Trade Issue (PTI) features complex rules of origin, posing risks of false claims and a potential loss of revenue. CBP is responsible for verifying, validating, and enforcing trade agreement claims.

Free Trade Agreements offer reduced barriers to merchandise trade between the United States and other countries, whereas Special Trade Legislation offers those same reduced barriers to lesser developed countries without reciprocation in hope of stimulating their domestic economy without injuring U.S. industries. The United States had more than \$591 billion in imports under these programs in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, as illustrated in the following graph.



## Protecting Fair Trade

CBP plays a key role in developing and enforcing trade agreements, which provide duty-free or reduced duty access to the U.S. market for qualifying merchandise. In FY 2016, almost 28 percent of all imports were claimed under a Free Trade Agreement. CBP works to ensure that the benefits of these agreements accrue only to eligible importations.

#### What is a Priority Trade Issue (PTI)?

PTIs represent high-risk areas that can cause significant revenue loss, harm the U.S. economy, or threaten the health and safety of the American people. CBP focuses its actions and resources around PTIs to better direct an effective trade facilitation and enforcement approach.

#### Enforcing Free Trade Compliance

CBP trade enforcement has traditionally focused on four main components:

- Conducting trend analysis to identify shifts, patterns, or anomalies that need monitoring, explaining, or resolution (i.e., country of origin/sectors to identify transshipment)
- Targeting or expanding the universe in response to port findings on non-compliant imports
- Reviewing and responding to internal and external allegations of potential trade agreement violations
- Verifying compliance by means of comprehensive document reviews

## Trade Agreement Verification

The National Targeting and Analysis Group for Trade Agreements, located in Dallas, Texas, applies their experience to target and prevent illicit trade through fraudulent claims:

- Provides national strategic perspective on trade through risk analysis and multi-disciplined trade strategies
- Develops and applies advanced risk management techniques to support trade security and trade compliance
- Manages national targeting guidance criteria related to trade agreements
- Addresses risk and concern associated with the enforcement of Free Trade Agreements and Special Trade Legislation
- Researches allegations of noncompliance and develops structured responses

# United States Import Value FY 2016 \$1.54 trillion, 72.26% Imports Without Trade Agreement Claims Imports With Trade Agreement Claims

With over \$591 billion worth of non-textile imports claiming preferential treatment, it is crucial to target false claims to protect legitimate trade and the national economy.