



Importance of International Trade to the U.S. Meat and Poultry Industry

The U.S. meat and poultry industry accounts for one of the largest segments of the U.S. agricultural economy, contributing \$16.22 billion to the estimated \$135 billion in agricultural exports in 2016. The future strength and growth of the U.S. meat and poultry industry depends upon the expansion of trade into foreign markets, particularly as domestic per capita consumption of meat and poultry remains stable.

PORK

U.S. pork export volume reached a record 2.31 million metric tons (mt) in 2016, up 2 percent above the previous high in 2012. Pork exports accounted for 25.8 percent of total 2016 pork production and 21.5 percent of total pork muscle cuts.

- Pork exports to Mexico set a fifth consecutive volume record, totaling 730,316 mt. Export value to Mexico was the second-highest on record, totaling \$1.36 billion.
- Japan remained the leading value destination for U.S. pork in 2016, totaling \$1.56 billion. Chilled pork exports to Japan set a new record of 218,211 mt, representing an 8 percent increase.
- Pork shipments increased to both Australia and New Zealand, as export volume to Oceania reached 69,963 mt (up 10 percent) valued at \$197.3 million (up 3 percent).
- Fueled by increased exports to China/Hong Kong and Canada and steady exports to Mexico, pork variety meat exports jumped 20 percent in volume to 523,199 mt and 24 percent in value to \$999 million – just short of the record levels reached in 2014.

BEEF

U.S. beef exports increased in 2016, accounting for 13.7 percent of total beef production and 10.5 percent of total beef muscle cuts.

- Asian markets drove strong beef export growth in 2016. Beef exports achieved new value records in South Korea and Taiwan, and rebounded strongly in Japan, largely due to increased demand for higher-value chilled cuts. In South Korea, for instance, beef exports totaled 179,280 mt – a volume increase of 42 percent – and were valued at \$1.06 billion, breaking the previous value record by more than 20 percent.
- Beef exports to Japan were the largest of the post-BSE era at 258,653 mt, up 26 percent year-over-year. Export value totaled \$1.51 billion, an increase of 18 percent. Furthermore, chilled beef exports to Japan totaled 112,334 mt, up 44 percent from 2015.
- U.S. beef exports to Mexico increased 7 percent year-over-year in volume to 242,373 mt. Mexico remains a key destination for muscle cuts, such as shoulder clods and rounds, as well as for beef variety meat.
- Fueled by a resurgence in Indonesia and solid growth in Vietnam, beef exports to the ASEAN region were up 41 percent in volume (29,920 mt) and 15 percent in value (\$156.9 million). U.S. exports to Indonesia set a new value record of \$39.4 million.
- Beef variety meat exports increased 10 percent in volume (341,433 mt) and 4 percent in value (\$902.2 million) in 2016.

LAMB

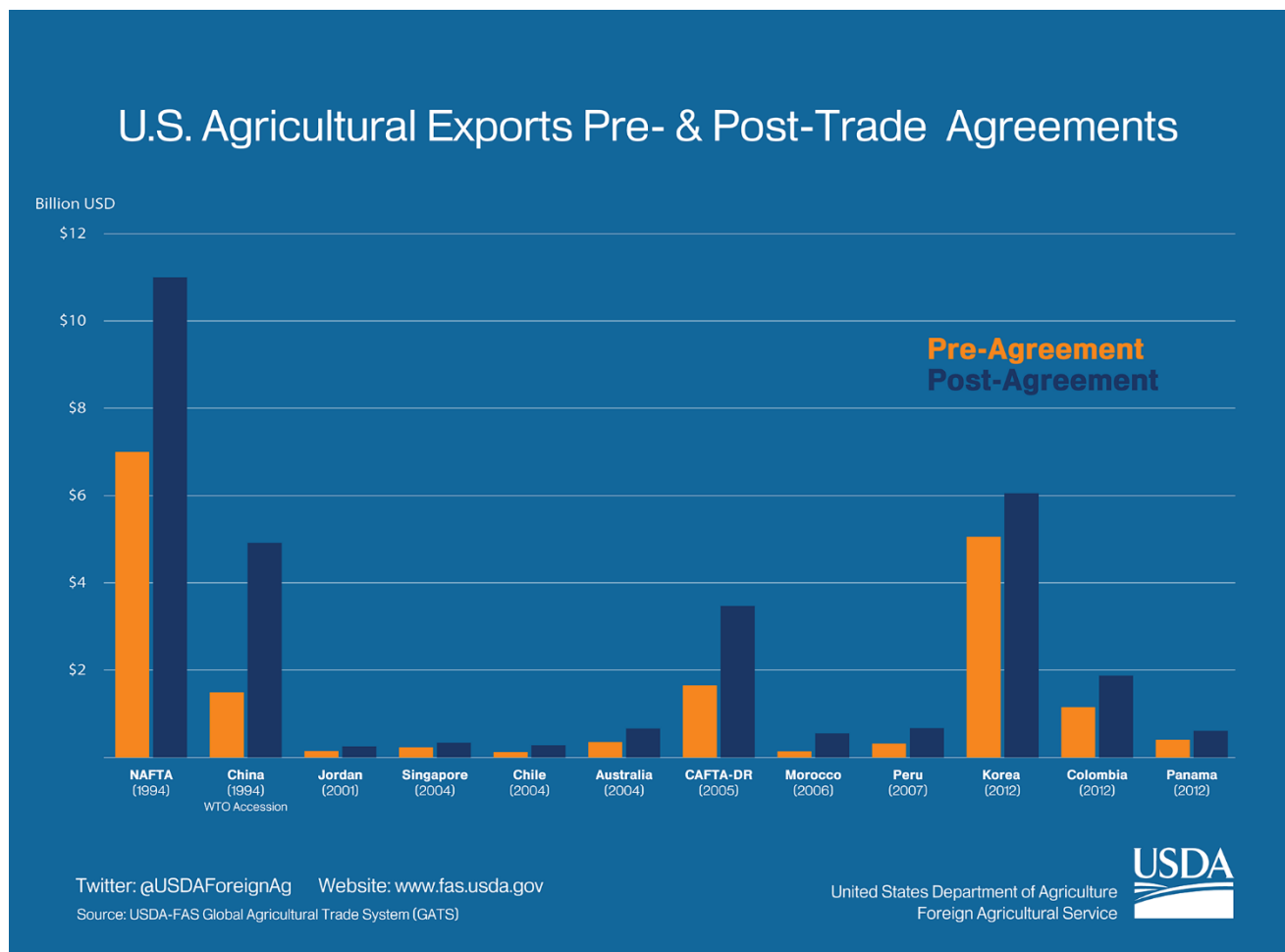
U.S. lamb muscle cut exports continued their upward trend in 2016.

- Lamb muscle cut exports increased 26 percent in volume (2,239 mt) and 16 percent in value (\$12.3 million) in 2016.
- Mexico was the leading market for U.S. lamb muscle cut exports, increasing 9 percent in volume (965 mt) and 1 percent in value (\$2.8 million).
- Bermuda, the Philippines, Vietnam, and the United Arab Emirates emerged as strong markets for U.S. lamb muscle cut exports.

Hides, Skins, Leather

The U.S. hide, skin, and leather industry exported more than \$2.04 billion in cattle hides, pig skins, and semi-processed leather products in 2016.

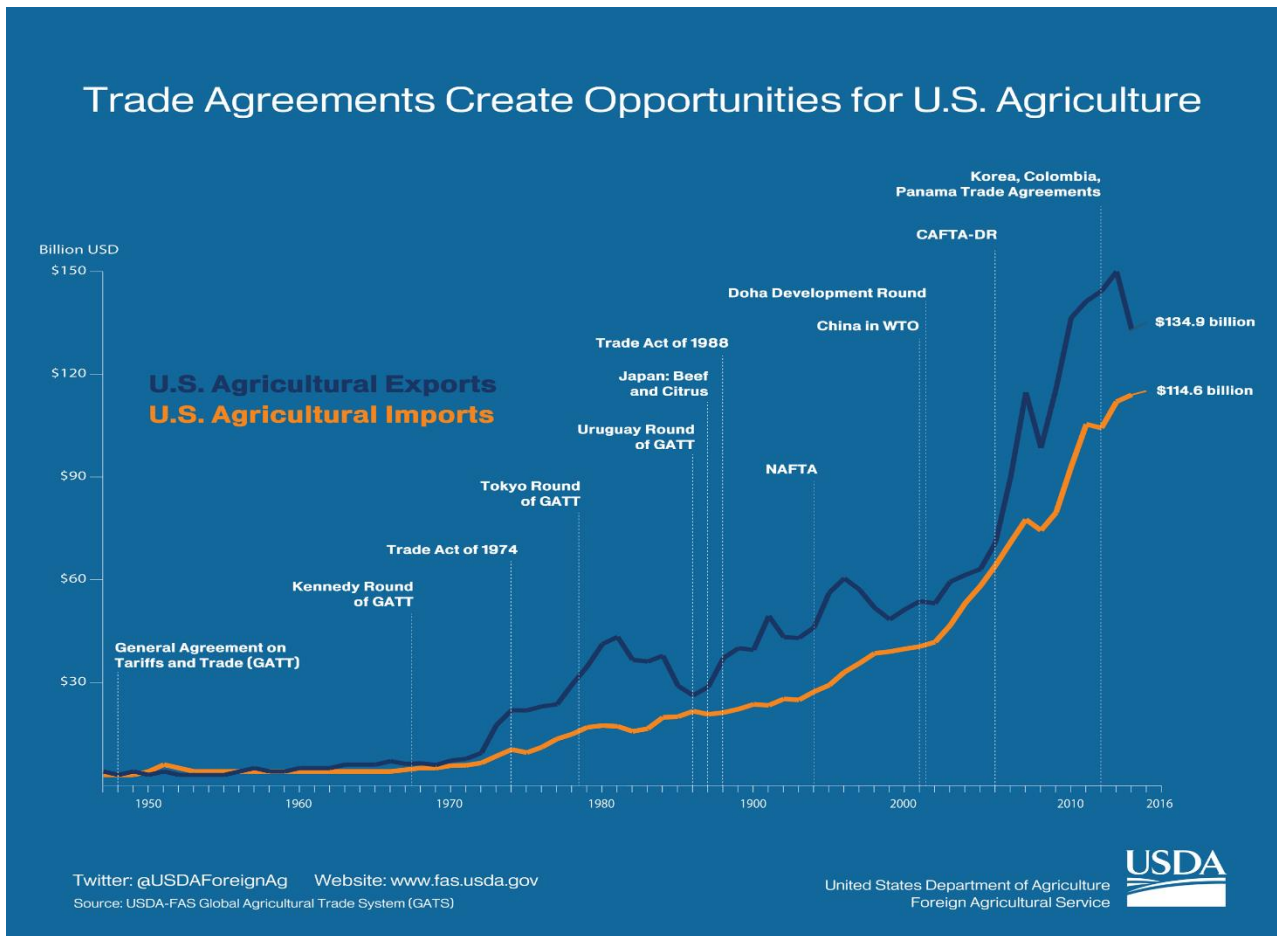
- U.S. hides and skins companies – including producers, processors, brokers and dealers – regularly export more than 90 percent of total U.S. production of these products and are one of the top raw materials suppliers to the global leather manufacturing industry.



The broader agriculture sector's impact on the U.S. economy cannot be overstated. USDA's Economic Research Service estimates that, in 2016, each dollar of agricultural exports stimulated another \$1.27 in business activity. The \$135 billion of agricultural exports in calendar year 2016 produced an additional \$169.4 billion in economic activity and every \$1 billion of U.S. agricultural exports in 2016 required approximately

8,000 American jobs throughout the economy. Agricultural exports supported 1,067,000 full-time civilian jobs, which included 751,000 jobs in the nonfarm sector.

- Of the total 6.7 million jobs supported by U.S. goods exports in 2015, goods exports to Canada supported the greatest number of U.S. jobs followed by Mexico, China, Japan, and the United Kingdom. Specifically, our NAFTA partners accounted for almost one out of every three jobs supported by the exports of goods, with 18 percent of jobs supported by exports to Canada and 14 percent to Mexico.
- Total goods exports to the Asia-Pacific region supported 2.0 million (30 percent of the jobs supported by goods exports) in 2015, while goods exports to Latin America and Europe supported 1.5 million (23 percent) and 1.4 million (21 percent) jobs, respectively.



Sources

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