

How Washington State Benefits from the

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

The TPP is a proposed trade agreement between the U.S. and 11 other Asia-Pacific nations that has the potential to rewrite the rules for trade in the Asia-Pacific region in a way that benefits U.S. workers and improves the way the world trades. If approved, the deal would eliminate 18,000 tariffs and countless other barriers that put U.S. exporters at a disadvantage. This groundbreaking agreement contains:

Wins for WA Manufacturing

Eliminates every tariff on made-in-USA manufactured products.¹ Enforces consistent rules and regulations², efficient customs procedures,³ market competition polices,⁴ and IP protection,⁵ all of which increase our manufacturers' competitiveness.



Wins for WA Apparel & Retail

Enacts clear, simple rules of origin instead of opaque, differing rules in each country. Encourages U.S. production and regionally-integrated supply chains. Eliminates tariffs on U.S. exports of textiles & apparel and reduces costs of supply chain sourcing from the TPP region.⁹



Wins for WA Small Businesses

First trade agreement to address issues that disproportionately harm small biz exporters. Streamlines paperwork and customs processes and makes multiple aspects of trade, from logistics to taxation, simpler and more transparent.⁶



Wins for WA Services

Ensures U.S. firms receive equal treatment and state-owned enterprises (SOEs) compete based on quality, not discriminatory regulations or subsidies.¹⁰ Prevents countries from imposing restrictions on supply of services. Eliminates requirement that U.S. companies locate their office in the country to do business.¹¹ Ensures efficient visa processing for business travelers.¹²



Wins for WA Tech & E-Commerce

Protects against IP infringement and piracy.⁵ Prevents countries from requiring servers to be in-country, opening up cross-border data flows, digital trade and use of "cloud" services. Preserves a free and open internet. First trade agreement to require commitments on fighting cybersecurity threats.⁷ Eliminates tariffs on ICT products that reach as high as 35%.⁸



Wins for WA Agriculture

Eliminates many tariffs, such as those that reach as high as 40% on Washington fruit. Ends export subsidies that harm our farmers,¹ and ensures regulations are science-based, transparent and don't discriminate against U.S. producers.¹³



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Wins for the Environment

Environmental protections are the most far-reaching ever achieved in a trade agreement. Prevents wildlife trafficking, illegal logging & fishing and marine pollution. Implements multilateral environmental agreements. Includes commitments to promote energy efficiency & green technology.¹⁴



Wins for Fair Exchange Rates

First U.S. trade agreement accompanied by a side agreement addressing currency manipulation. Side agreement promotes, through transparency and dialogue, market-determined and transparent exchange rate regimes. Each TPP member is bound under the International Monetary Fund to avoid manipulating exchange rates to gain unfair competitive advantages.¹⁵



Wins for Citizens & Consumers

A new approach to Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions would increase protections for governments against spurious lawsuits that would undermine regulations in the public interest for health, safety, stability, workers, environment, other public reasons.¹⁶ Helps ensure better food safety.¹³ Requires no change to U.S. regulations or regulatory procedure.²



Wins for Labor & Human Rights

Contains the strongest protections for workers of any trade agreement in history, requiring all TPP parties to meet International Labor Organization standards. Abolishes child & forced labor and requires minimum wages, safe working environments and the right to join unions. All labor commitments are fully enforceable and backed by trade sanctions.¹⁷



What Countries Are Part of the TPP?

Twelve countries are part of the TPP: The U.S., Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam.

Together, the TPP countries account for 40% of global GDP and are already a destination for more than 30% of Washington's exports.



Photo credit: the New York Times

References from the TPP Text: ¹Chapter 2, [National Treatment & Market Access for Goods](#). ²Chapter 25, [Regulatory Coherence](#). ³Chapter 5, [Customs Administration & Trade Facilitation](#). ⁴Chapter 16, [Competition Policy](#). ⁵Chapter 18, [Intellectual Property](#). ⁶Chapter 24, [Small & Medium-Sized Businesses](#). ⁷Chapter 14, [Electronic Commerce](#). ⁸Chapter 13, [Telecommunications](#). ⁹Chapter 4, [Textiles & Apparel](#). ¹⁰Chapter 17, [State-Owned Enterprises & Designated Monopolies](#). ¹¹Chapter 10, [Cross-Border Trade in Services](#). ¹²Chapter 12, [Temporary Entry for Business Persons](#). ¹³Chapter 7, [Sanitary & Phytosanitary Measures](#). ¹⁴Chapter 20, [Environment](#). ¹⁵[Joint Declaration of the Macroeconomic Policy Authorities of Trans-Pacific Partnership Countries](#). ¹⁶Chapter 7, [Investment](#). ¹⁷Chapter 19, [Labour](#). **The full text of the TPP is available at <https://ustr.gov/tpp/>**

