northjersey.com

BUSINESS

Trump threatens tariffs on Canada, Mexico, China imports. Here's what NJ gets from them

2-minute read



Daniel Munoz

NorthJersey.com

Published 8:26 a.m. ET Nov. 26, 2024 | Updated 9:11 a.m. ET Nov. 26, 2024

President-elect Donald Trump vowed Monday that on his first day in office he would impose a 25% tariff on all products coming into the United States from Canada and Mexico.

Trump said on his social media platform Truth Social that once he takes office on Jan. 20, 2025, the tariffs would remain in place until both nations clamp down on drugs coming into the U.S, particularly fentanyl, as well as migrants crossing the U.S border.

Trump said in another Truth Social post that he also would levy an additional 10% tariff on top of existing tariffs on Chinese products coming into the United States. All three nations rebuked Trump over the Monday announcement.

Story continues below photo gallery

The move would violate a free-trade deal Trump championed in 2020, known as the U.S-Mexico-Canada Agreement, which called for duty-free imports between the three nations.

William Reinsch, a former president of the National Foreign Trade Council, told Reuters that Trump could use the threat of tariffs to renegotiate the agreement .

Tariffs would have far-reaching implications for New Jersey, which does tens of billions of dollars in trade between both Canada and Mexico.

"Despite Trump's assertions to the contrary, tariffs are paid by the companies or entities

importing goods and not by the countries themselves," said Neil Saunders, a retail analyst and managing director of GlobalData.

"This means the cost of buying products from overseas, whether directly or as an input for manufacturing, would rise sharply," he said.

Value of trade to and from New Jersey

New Jersey annually imports \$8.9 billion worth of goods from Canada and sends \$8.8 billion to the U.S's northern neighbor, according to a 2022 report from the Canadian Consulate General in New York.

More: NJ ports have been slow to modernize. Will they take the leap to control costs?

New Jersey imported \$7.6 billion from Mexico in 2023 and exported \$3.3 billion worth of goods to Mexico, according to the nation's foreign ministry.

These were the most-imported products from Mexico to New Jersey in 2023:

Bakery and tortilla products Oil and gas Audio and video equipment Beverages Navigational, measuring, medical and control instruments

These were the most-imported products from Canada to New Jersey in 2022:

Crude petroleum Copper Fuel oil Perfumes, essential oils and toiletries Plastics

In September, Gov. Phil Murphy visited Canada for a three-day trade mission meant to highlight economic ties with New Jersey.

Murphy met with several Canadian economic officials during the trip and signed several non-binding agreements meant to grow economic relations between Canada and New Jersey.

In addition, China is the country that ships the largest volume of goods to the Port of New York and New Jersey by far. It sent 1.33 million metric tons of products in 2022, well ahead of India's 390,000.

This article contains material from USA Today and Reuters.

Daniel Munoz covers business, consumer affairs, labor and the economy for NorthJersey.com and The Record.

Email: munozd@northjersey.com; Twitter:@danielmunoz100 and Facebook