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Update of 04/2025 and 12/2025

FAQs about U.S. tariffs on Jordan

Which recent tariffs imposed the U.S. with relevance for Jordan?

Effective from 9 April 2025, the U.S. had announced **“reciprocal” tariffs** on imports from specific countries, which initially were 20% for Jordan and then adjusted to 15% after negotiations and a new U.S. announcement of 31 July 2025. In February 2026, the U.S. Supreme Court dismissed the legal base which was used for much of this, and the U.S. imposed a temporary 10% duty scheme (irrespective of further duties for certain countries on different grounds). Bilateral negotiations continued, and on 21 July 2026 Jordan and the U.S. have concluded an Agreement on Reciprocal Trade, setting a **10% tariff** schedule for Jordan.

For certain products other rates apply, such as **0% on textile and apparel** (for which Jordan achieved a specific exemption), or (generally, i.e., not only affecting Jordan) **50% on steel and aluminium** contents.

Some types of tariffs are adding on each other, some are not. For various products, different rates apply for respective parts of these products; for example, the “metal” content of a product might be under a 50% steel and aluminium tariff rate, whilst the other part of the product would be under the (Jordanian) 10% rate.

How was the initial “reciprocal” tariff of 20% for Jordan calculated?

U.S. exports to ./. imports from Jordan (trade deficit)   2.0 bn ./. 3.4 bn (trade deficit 1.3)*
-- = --- = -0.38*
U.S. imports from Jordan   3.4 bn*

0.38 / 2 = 0.19*, 20%** used as “reciprocal” tariff rate

** There are rounding differences included and the U.S. Trade Representative´s (USTC) numbers also do not necessarily fully reflect the numbers used in Jordanian statistics. ** The 20% were later adjusted to 15%.*

The underlying numbers are from the USTC, which stated that in 2024 the U.S. goods trade deficit with Jordan was $1.3 billion and that imports from Jordan were $3.4 billion.

How does Jordan´s tariff rate compare to other countries?

The most recent U.S. tariff scheme relies much on forced labour prevention regulations (Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Act 1974) – even though many U.S. trade partners deny such implication. It leads to tariffs of generally either 10 or 12,5% for affected countries (in addition to other rates, which may be based on other grounds). Jordan has a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the U.S., so the 10% tariff comes on top of a usually only 0% rate on all goods which are fully privileged by the FTA. For countries without an FTA, the respective rate usually would be added to the previous or the respective MFN (Most-Favoured-Nation) rate.

Most regional competitors and partners have higher rates than Jordan. Even Bahrain, Morocco, and Oman, who have also FTAs with the U.S., are facing the 12,5% instead of the 10% rate schedule.

With which countries do the U.S. and Jordan have Free Trade Agreements, with which countries do the U.S. have (additional) Agreements on Reciprocal Trade?

The **U.S.** have Free Trade Agreements with the following 20 countries: Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Peru, Singapore, and South Korea. It currently has concluded Reciprocal Trade Agreements with Argentina, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Jordan, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Taiwan.

Jordan is party to the following 8 FTAs: Agadir Agreement, Agreement with the European Free Trade Association EFTA, EU-Jordan Association Agreement, Greater Arab Free Trade Agreement (GAFTA), Jordan-Canada Free Trade Agreement, Jordan-Singapore Free Trade Agreement, Jordan-UK Association Agreement, and Jordan-US Free Trade Agreement (JUSFTA).

How strong is Jordan´s dependency on the U.S. as an export market?

The U.S. is Jordan's largest trading partner. In 2024, bilateral trade in goods was about JOD 3.5 billion, with **exports** to the U.S. accounting for around **one quarter** of Jordan's total exports. Most significant were apparel and accessories (approximately 70% of Jordanian exports to the U.S. stemmed from the clothing sector), jewellery, chemical fertilizers and pharmaceuticals. IT-services, food products, live animals, and engineering goods also contributed significantly.

What does Jordan import from the U.S.?

Jordanian **imports** in goods from the U.S. mainly comprise metal products and transportation equipment, machinery and electrical appliances, grains and processed food, chemicals, medical devices, and furniture.

Outlook!

Whilst new tariffs are challenging for Jordanian exporters, Jordan´s competitive situation is not seen as eroding under the current U.S. tariff regime. The tariffs for Jordan are lower than for most of its competitors in the region. For textile and apparel, Jordan even managed to obtain an explicit tariff exemption.

JORDAN EXPORTS (JE) is assisting Jordanian exporters in tackling the U.S. market, as well as in diversifying their exports. The **Jordan Export Portal** (https://jordanexportportal.gov.jo/), managed by JE, supports through the provision of extensive market intelligence.