

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TRUMP'S TARIFFS

## The quick version.

On April 2, Trump announced sweeping tariffs on every country except Russia, North Korea, Cuba, and Belarus. Tariffs are a tax that are paid by the importer when goods enter our country. Prices on everyday items will increase radically and responsive tariffs will harm US businesses. ***Ask your federal representatives (numbers at [reps.fyi](http://reps.fyi)) to revoke Trump's ability to apply tariffs.***

## Who pays tariffs?

The country of origin *does not* pay tariffs. Whoever is importing the goods in the US pays the tariff, and passes the cost along to regular consumers—in other words, we, the people will pay the tariff.

## How did Trump calculate his tariffs?

Trump's tariff sheet claims that countries charge the US exorbitant tariffs. This is a lie. The number he lists has nothing to do with tariffs, but is instead a trade deficit ratio, calculated as the dollar amount we import from that country divided by the amount we export to that country.

## What is the difference between a trade deficit and a tariff?

Trade deficits are not tariffs. We buy more from some countries than they buy from us because many Americans have disposable income and purchasing power. It is not possible, or beneficial, for countries to have perfectly balanced imports and exports.

## What impact will this have on your life?

You will pay more for everything you buy, and American businesses will lose overseas customers. The last time America passed sweeping tariffs was in 1930; this is part of what made the Great Depression last so long. Trump's tariffs are higher than the failed 1930 tariffs.

## Who is responsible?

- Donald Trump and his cabinet for imposing the tariffs.
- Every Senator and Representative who fails to block Trump's tariffs.

## What can you do?

- Contact your Senators and Representative (info at <http://reps.fyi>), and ask them to revoke the so-called national emergency that Trump is using to impose these tariffs.
- Distribute this fact sheet so that people know who is responsible and how to join in.
- Join a protest against Trump's damaging policies.