

# Trade Myths

Addressing free trade myths  
within the auto care industry

**MYTH:**  
**Free trade  
destroys  
U.S. jobs.**

**FACT:**

Business Roundtable found that 36 million – nearly one in five – U.S. jobs are supported by international trade. Restrictions on trade negatively affect those who work in domestic services, including distribution and retail.

**25%  
tariff**  
on auto parts  
could mean:

**17,800 fewer jobs**

in the auto parts manufacturing sector, resulting in \$1.4 billion in lost wages

**6,800 fewer jobs**  
by vehicle repair shops

**85,200 fewer jobs**

due to lower demand in the auto care wholesale and retail segments

**MYTH:**  
**Tariffs  
benefit U.S.  
companies.**

**FACT:**

The domestic automotive industry relies on a complex international supply chain that ensures U.S. drivers can obtain affordable, convenient vehicle service. Trade barriers inhibit the ability of U.S. companies to import raw materials and components used in manufacturing and repair here at home.

**TOP 5 MARKETS: U.S. imports and exports of auto parts**

	imports	exports
Mexico	\$52.2 Billion	\$31.3 Billion
China	\$16.7 Billion	\$29.6 Billion
Canada	\$15.1 Billion	\$3.5 Billion
Japan	\$13.2 Billion	\$2.3 Billion
Germany	\$9.3 Billion	\$2.1 Billion

**MYTH:**  
**Imports  
are bad.  
Exports  
are good.**

**FACT:**

U.S. consumers and families benefit from imports through a broader selection of goods at lower prices, giving U.S. consumers greater spending power to support other industries.



**\$700 increase**

in cost per year of owning a vehicle  
should tariffs go into effect



**\$7,000 increase**

of price of an average vehicle should  
tariffs go into effect

Source: Driving American Jobs

Visit [autocare.org/trade](http://autocare.org/trade) to learn more about how trade impacts the auto care industry.