

TRADE ADVISORY

New U.S. Tariffs Take Effect on Imports From 60 Countries

REGION COVERAGE: North America | Europe & UK | Latin America | Asia | South Asia | Africa | Middle East | Oceania

U.S. Customs and Border Protection has begun enforcing a new round of Section 301 tariffs tied to forced labor concerns. If you're importing from one of the 60 affected countries, here's what you need to know.

WHAT CHANGED

The U.S. Trade Representative determined that 60 trading partners haven't adequately banned or enforced prohibitions on goods made with forced labor. As a result, starting at 12:01 a.m. EDT on July 24, 2026, most goods from those countries now carry an extra 10% or 12.5% duty on top of whatever you were already paying. The rate depends on the country of origin, and it applies broadly — essentially all products under HTSUS Chapters 1 through 97, unless your goods fall under one of the exemptions below.

Since this is already in effect, we wanted to flag it as soon as possible so you have time to review your exposure and confirm any exemptions that may apply.

This isn't a narrow, sector-specific action. **Some of the largest U.S. trading relationships are on the list, including Canada, Mexico, China, India, Vietnam, the EU, UK, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and Switzerland.**

WHERE YOU MIGHT BE EXEMPT

Not everything is caught by this. You're likely in the clear if your goods fall into one of these categories:

- Qualify for duty-free treatment under USMCA (Canada/Mexico)
- Textile or apparel goods qualifying under CAFTA-DR
- Civil aircraft and aircraft parts
- Pharmaceutical-use products
- Books, publications, films, and other informational materials
- Goods already covered by separate tariff programs (certain steel, aluminum, vehicle, wood, and semiconductor products)
- Goods properly entered under most Chapter 98 provisions

IF YOUR CARGO IS ALREADY ON THE WATER

There's a narrow window of relief for ocean freight specifically — it does not extend to air, truck, or rail. To qualify, both of these need to be true:

- Your goods were loaded onto the vessel and already in transit before 12:01 a.m. EDT on July 24, 2026
- They're entered for consumption (or pulled from a bonded warehouse for consumption) before 12:01 a.m. EDT on July 28, 2026

Miss either condition, and the new duty applies regardless of when the shipment left origin.

WHAT WE'D RECOMMEND DOING NEXT

- **Take stock** of which lanes and SKUs are touched by this — origin matters more than product category here
- **Check** whether any of your shipments qualify for the exemptions above before assuming the duty applies
- **Loop in your customs broker** now, since CBP has introduced new Chapter 99 reporting requirements alongside this that need to be reflected correctly on entries
- **Pull the CBP guidance** (CSMS #69326983) if you want the full HTSUS breakdown by country

RESOURCES

- [CSMS #69326983 – GUIDANCE: Section 301 Forced Labor Import Duties](#)
- [Forced Labor HTS List \(PDF\)](#)
- [USTR: Initiates 60 Section 301 Investigations Relating to Failures to Take Action on Forced Labor](#)
- [Forced Labor 301 Investigation Final Action – Federal Register Notice, 7/23/26 \(PDF\)](#)

Questions about how this affects your specific shipments? Reach out to our import team at import@mltrucking.com.



800.756.1331 www.mlwwwlogistics.com