

U.S. Trade With Singapore: 2009 (Jan-Sep) vs. 2008 (Jan-Sep)

Trade

- Singapore was the United States' 11th largest export market in the first nine months of 2009, down from 10th place in 2008. U.S. exports to Singapore shrank 29.8 percent, from \$22.8 billion in 2008 to \$16.0 billion in 2009.
- Singapore's exports to the United States shrank 5.6 percent to \$11.7 billion, from \$12.4 billion in 2008.
- Singapore was our fourteenth largest trading partner in the first nine months of 2009, unchanged from the same period in 2008. However, two-way trade fell 21.3 percent to \$27.7 billion.
- During the first five years of the U.S.-Singapore FTA, which came into effect January 1, 2004, two-way trade has increased 41 percent and U.S. exports by nearly 74 percent.

Trade Balance (Goods)

- The U.S. goods trade surplus with Singapore fell 55 percent in the first nine months of 2009 to \$4.3 billion from \$9.5 billion in 2008.
- The United States ran its sixth largest surplus in the first nine months of 2009 with Singapore (\$4.3 billion) after Hong Kong (\$12.5 billion), Netherlands (\$12.3 billion), Australia (\$8.1 billion), the U.A.E. (\$7.6 billion), and Belgium (\$6.6 billion).
- Primary U.S. exports to Singapore in the first nine months of 2009 consisted of machinery (\$3.5 billion, down 25.5 percent from 2008); electrical machinery (\$3.1 billion, down 40.4 percent); aircraft/aircraft parts (\$2.2 billion, down 29 percent); and mineral fuel/oil (\$1.7 billion, down 5.6 percent).

Singapore vs. ASEAN and Other Trade Partners

- The United States exported more to Singapore (\$16.0 billion) in the first nine months of 2009 than to many other economies with significantly larger populations, including Taiwan (\$12.6 billion), Australia (\$13.9 billion), India (\$12.5 billion), Italy (\$9.0 billion), and Malaysia (\$7.3 billion).
- U.S. exports to Singapore (population 4.9 million) were 34 percent of those to China (population 1.3 billion) in 2008; 43 percent of those to Japan (population 128 million); and 79 percent of those to South Korea (population 49 million).
- Singapore is the largest ASEAN market for U.S. exports. It has taken 42.1 percent of total exports to ASEAN thus far in 2009, a marginal drop from 42.5 percent in 2008.

- With exports of \$38.0 billion to ASEAN member countries in 2009, the United States sold nearly as much to this region (population 583 million and, taken together, our fourth largest trading partner) as to China (\$47.0 billion). The United States exported more to ASEAN than to Japan (\$37.4 billion), Germany (\$31.6 billion), and the United Kingdom (\$34.0 billion).

Trade in Services (2007 latest available)

- Two-way trade in services between the United States and Singapore shrank 5.9 percent to \$11.1 billion in 2007, from \$11.8 billion in 2006.
- During the first four years of the U.S.-Singapore FTA, which came into effect January 1, 2004, two-way trade in services increased 35.4 percent and U.S. exports of services by 20 percent to US\$7.2 billion.
- Singapore was the United States' 19th largest trading partner in services in 2007, down from 18th place in 2006 and remained our 16th largest export market at \$7.2 billion. The United States ran its tenth largest surplus in services in 2007 with Singapore (\$3.3 billion).
- Sixty-seven percent of services exports consisted of royalties (\$1.9 billion) and business services (\$3 billion) relating to IT, management, operational leasing and R&D.
- Singapore is the largest ASEAN market for U.S. exports of services. It took 50 percent of total exports to ASEAN (\$14.5 billion) in 2007.
- With services exports of \$14.5 billion in 2007, the United States sold more services to ASEAN countries (taken together, our 9th largest trading partner (\$23.8 billion) in services) than to China (\$14.2 billion), South Korea (\$12.7 billion), the Netherlands (\$12.3 billion), or Australia (\$10.4 billion).

Cumulative Foreign Direct Investment (2007 latest available)

- U.S. FDI in Singapore grew 5.4 percent to \$82.6 billion in 2007, compared to \$78.4 billion in 2006. Singapore was the second largest recipient of U.S. investment in Asia after Japan (\$101.6 billion), and the twelfth largest recipient worldwide.
- The United States has invested nearly three times the amount of FDI in Singapore as it has in China (\$28.3 billion).
- U.S. investment in ASEAN (\$130 billion) exceeded that invested on a combined basis in Greater China (\$92.1 billion) – China (\$28.3 billion), Hong Kong (\$47.4 billion), and Taiwan (\$16.4 billion).

Sources: Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, BEA, and ITA