

Trade Relationship Between Brazil and the U.S.: Updates and Perspectives

The tariffs on products imported by the U.S. that have recently been applied by the Trump administration have generated controversy, especially over the uncertainties about the impact on the trade relationship with Brazil.

Representatives of the Brazilian and U.S. foreign trade authorities have been negotiating the application of a 25% tariff by the U.S. on steel and aluminum exported from Brazil to the U.S. Brazil is the second largest exporter of those products to the U.S., after Canada. Therefore, the measure may significantly impact both Brazilian and North American steel products industries, and consequently affect trade relations that have been established for years, since it may result in more expensive products in U.S. domestic trade.

As former Foreign Trade Secretary Welber Barral pointed out, Brazil imports many inputs from the U.S. to make products, such as equipment and chemicals, so imposing tariffs on these imports would only harm Brazilian industry itself. This perception is corroborated by recent data, which shows that the U.S. is Brazil's second-largest trading partner, behind China. According to Brazilian government data, last year Brazilian exports to the U.S. totaled US\$ 40.3 billion (12% of total exports), while imports of American products reached US\$ 40.6 billion, representing 15.5% of Brazil's total purchases. The deficit in the Brazilian trade balance is around US\$ 253 million.

In addition, the Department of Trade Defense (DECOM) of the Secretariat for Foreign Trade (SECEX), a body within the Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services (MDIC), the Brazilian authority responsible for investigating and applying trade defense instruments (antidumping duties, countervailing measures or safeguards), has 11 antidumping duties in force for products imported from the U.S., while for China there are 52 (according to MDIC data as of March 2025). There are only 4 ongoing dumping investigations against the U.S., while there are 34 against China (MDIC data as of March 2025).

Antidumping duties in force in Brazil as of March 2025 for products imported from the U.S.

Product	Term
Adipic acid	March 31, 2026
Butyl acrylate	April 8, 2026
Empty hard gelatine capsules	May 10, 2028
Offset plates	May 5, 2026
Acetic esters	August 18, 2028
Ethanolamines	November 01, 2024*
n-Butanol	August 18, 2028
Sodium acid pyrophosphate (SAPP)	June 15, 2025
PVC-S	September 19, 2027
Polypropylene resin	October 24, 2027
Blood collection tubes	April 29, 2026

This figure reinforces the strength of the trade partnership between Brazil and the U.S., and the commitment of the Brazilian government to continue nurturing this relationship.

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