

Sept. 9, 2019

U.S.-China trade war: Tracking a year and a half of escalation

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The U.S. and China traded tariff threats throughout the summer of 2019, culminating in a new round of U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods on Sept. 1. Rates will rise on existing tariffs in October, and another, new round of tariffs will hit in December. Beginning with a round of Chinese tariffs on \$3 billion in U.S. goods in April 2018, through the present, the trade dispute between the U.S. and China has now lasted 18 months.

Timeline: U.S. and Chinese tariffs now cover about \$700 billion collectively

U.S. and Chinese tariffs on one another now cover a combined \$700 billion in goods. The latest development was a tit-for-tat exchange of tariffs which took effect on Sept. 1, in which the U.S. set tariffs on \$112 billion in Chinese goods and China set tariffs on part of a list of \$75 billion in U.S. goods.

The U.S. had planned to set \$300 billion in tariffs on Sept. 1, but chose to delay a portion representing about \$160 billion in Chinese goods until Dec. 15, which could mitigate the effect on consumer prices ahead of holiday shopping. The total dollar value of U.S. goods hit by Chinese tariffs in the latest round is unclear: Tariffs took effect on Sept. 1 for a little over 1,000 of the more than 5,000 tariff lines from the \$75 billion list, while the rest will take effect in December to match America's \$160 billion round. U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods* Chinese tariffs on U.S. goods Based on current tariffs and plans for future tariffs, Based on current tariffs and plans for future tariffs, by the end of 2019 the U.S. will have set tariffs on by year-end 2019 China will have set tariffs on \$522 billion in Chinese products. Tariff rates will \$188 billion in U.S. products. Tariff rates set in this span from 15 to 30 percent at that time. dispute will span from 5 to 30 percent at that time. *U.S. tariffs illustrated here do not include tariffs on solar panels and washing machines, or the steel and aluminum tariffs. \$130B U.S. EXPORTS TO CHINA, 2017 **APRIL 2, 2018** The first round of retaliatory \$3B tariffs, of 15 or 25 percent, levied on \$3 billion in goods, \$505B took effect. U.S. IMPORTS FROM CHINA, 2017 \$37B JULY 6, 2018 25 percent tariff on 25 percent tariff on an \$34 billion in goods additional \$34 billion in goods took effect. took effect. \$34B TOTAL: \$53B AUG. 23, 2018 +\$34B TOTAL: \$50B 25 percent tariff on an 25 percent tariff on additional \$16 billion an additional \$16 billion in goods took effect. in goods took effect. \$34B TOTAL: TOTAL: \$113B \$250B +\$60B SEPT. 24, 2018 +\$200B 10 percent tariff on an Tariffs between 5 percent additional \$200 billion and 10 percent took effect in goods took effect. on \$60 billion in goods. \$34B MAY 10, 2019 Tariffs on \$200 billion in goods rose from 10 percent to 25 percent. **JUNE 1, 2019** TOTAL: TOTAL: \$362B Tariffs on \$60 billion in goods \$188B increased to between +\$112B +\$75B 5 percent to 25 percent. +\$60B SEPT. 1, 2019 +\$200B Tariffs on about one-third of a 15 percent tariffs on an additional +\$34B list of \$75 billion in U.S. goods \$112 billion in goods took effect. +\$16B Trump increased the tariff came into effect, with rates rate from a planned 10 ranging from 5 to 10 percent. Note that dotted circle \$34B percent to 15 percent. shows value of goods exported in 2017 for OCT. 1, 2019 illustrative purposes.

reports; the Wall Street Journal; Reuters; CNBC; China Briefing, Denzan Shira and Associates

Sources: USA Trade database; U.S. Census

Bureau, U.S. Trade Representative; POLITICO Pro

Tariffs are set to increase to 30 percent on

15 percent tariffs are set to take

billion in goods, bringing the total

value of goods facing tariffs to

\$522 billion. This covers almost

effect on an additional \$160

all of Chinese imports and

exceeds the total value of imports in 2017. Trump increased the tariff rate from a planned 10

percent to 15 percent.

\$250 billion in goods.

DEC. 15, 2019

Tariffs on remaining goods on \$75 billion list are set

to come into effect.

TOTAL: \$522B

+\$160B

+\$112B

+\$200B

+\$16B

\$34B