

U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement Market Access Results

Building Products

Trade and Tariffs

This sector includes various building and construction products in HS chapters 25, 68 to 70 and 94. Building products accounted for 0.39 percent of total U.S. exports to Australia in 2003, totaling \$49 million. The top U.S. exports in this sector are glassware, ceramics and graphite. Australia's tariffs range between zero and 15 percent with an average of 3.3 percent in 2003.

Australian exports to the United States totaled \$18 million in 2003, or 0.32 percent of the total exports to the United States. Australia's top exports to the United States are glassware, ceramic or porcelain machinery parts and cement or concrete floor and wall tiles. The United States' tariffs range between zero and 38 percent with an average of 2.3 percent in 2003.

Tariff Elimination

Australia eliminated all tariffs immediately upon implementation of this agreement, while the United States is using four staging categories. U.S. tariffs for this sector will be eliminated in four staging categories: immediately, four year linear staging, eight year linear staging and 10 year linear staging.

Overall, 93 percent of U.S. imports in this sector will be duty-free immediately. Tariffs on 4 percent of U.S. exports will be eliminated over four years. Tariffs on 3 percent of U.S. exports will be eliminated over eight years and less than one percent (.31) will be eliminated over 10 years.

Non-Tariff Barriers

The U.S.-Australia FTA will establish a Committee on Trade in Goods to address any non-tariff measures, as well as other market access issues that may arise in the context of this agreement.