# Trump announces new tariffs impacting global trade and consumer prices



In a significant economic move, President Donald Trump has announced a series of new tariffs that could potentially reshape consumer prices and affect the global economy. During a press conference at the White House, Trump outlined tariffs ranging from 10% to nearly 50% on the United States' largest trading partners, aiming to bolster domestic industry by discouraging foreign imports. This new layer of tariffs includes a hefty 34% additional border tax on imports from China and a 10% levy on goods coming from the United Kingdom.

The immediate implications of these tariffs are expected to be felt across the board, as they are anticipated to increase prices for a vast array of consumer goods. Josh Stillwagon, an economics professor at Babson College, remarked, “It is going to affect everything in the economy,” highlighting the likelihood that retailers will pass these higher costs onto consumers as they restock with new inventory.

Experts warn that the impact of these tariffs will not be uniform. Low-income households are expected to experience the most considerable strain, as they often dedicate a larger proportion of their income to essential goods such as food and basic products. Gustavo Flores-Macías, a professor of government and public policy at Cornell University, noted that even minor price hikes can disproportionately affect these families, significantly straining their budgeting abilities.

Beyond rising prices, uncertainties loom regarding job security. While Trump contends that the tariffs will stimulate domestic manufacturing, economists caution that any profit losses might lead companies to shift their supply sources or reduce their workforce, particularly impacting vulnerable low-income families. Economist Susan Helper, former senior advisor for industrial strategy at the White House Office of Management and Budget, expressed scepticism regarding positive outcomes for employment, stating that the uncertainty surrounding the tariffs will likely inhibit business investment and job creation.

Consumers can expect noticeable price increases on various goods, from fresh produce to electronics, and estimates suggest that costs for essential household items like clothing and building materials could rise significantly. With the new tariffs in place, the average cost of a new home could see an increase of approximately $9,200, according to the National Association of Home Builders. In groceries, specifically, analysts project that clothing prices could see an increase of around 17%.

In the UK, concerns have emerged regarding how these tariffs will affect British consumers. UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy highlighted that the imposition of 10% tariffs has raised anxieties over household finances. While some experts like Sarah Coles from Hargreaves Lansdown noted that there are potential avenues for mitigating inflation, including competing pricing strategies among retailers, the overarching sentiment remains one of caution in anticipating the economic fallout.

Market responses have been volatile, with a significant sell-off in global stock markets following Trump's announcement. Investors are increasingly aware of the potential for a decline in global growth as these tariffs come into play. Jordi Gual, a former chair of CaixaBank, succinctly characterizes the uncertainty surrounding these measures, stating, "In economic terms, it makes no sense at all," reflecting the complex landscape of the global economy that will be affected by these tariffs.

Internationally, reactions have been swift, with countries like China retaliating with their own tariffs on US imports. As experts predict that these measures could push global GDP growth below 2% this year—the lowest since the global financial crisis—the ramifications are expected to extend far beyond US borders, disrupting established trade relationships and potentially leading to a broader economic slowdown.

Amid this uncertainty, the question remains: how will consumers and businesses adapt to these new economic conditions? Experts suggest that consumers might consider stocking up on essentials while being cautious to avoid panic buying, and explore alternative choices, including second-hand goods or generic brands. The coming months will be vital for assessing how these tariffs manifest in everyday life, from grocery store shelves to housing markets.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.hklaw.com/en/insights/publications/2025/04/president-trump-announces-10-percent-global-tariff-11-percent> - This article details President Trump's recent executive order to impose a 10% global tariff and up to 50% reciprocal tariffs on certain countries to address large U.S. trade deficits. It corroborates the economic measures outlined to bolster domestic industries.
* <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/04/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-declares-national-emergency-to-increase-our-competitive-edge-protect-our-sovereignty-and-strengthen-our-national-and-economic-security/> - This fact sheet from the White House provides an overview of President Trump's decision to declare a national emergency to strengthen the U.S. economic position by imposing tariffs, supporting the notion of combating large trade deficits.
* <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/economy/a-timeline-of-trumps-tariff-actions-so-far> - This timeline chronicles Trump's tariff actions, including recent measures against China, Canada, and Mexico, which contextualizes the broader impacts of these policies on global trade and economies.
* <https://www.hklaw.com/en/insights/publications/2025/04/president-trump-announces-10-percent-global-tariff-11-percent> - The article further supports the discussion on how these tariffs might affect consumer prices and global trade relationships, particularly concerning non-USMCA compliant goods from Canada and Mexico.
* <https://www.hklaw.com/en/insights/publications/2025/04/president-trump-announces-10-percent-global-tariff-11-percent> - It provides details on exemptions from the tariffs, such as steel, aluminum, pharmaceuticals, and minerals, which are essential for understanding the complex nature of these economic policies.
* <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/economy/a-timeline-of-trumps-tariff-actions-so-far> - This resource highlights the ongoing trade tensions and retaliatory measures from countries like China, underscoring the global implications of Trump's tariff policies on economies worldwide.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/donald-trump-new-york-experts-consumers-evidence-b2727539.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data