

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

Chemicals

Trade and Tariffs

The chemicals sector is defined by the Chemical Harmonization and Pharmaceutical Uruguay Round sector agreements and includes cosmetics, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, plastics, and rubber. Chemical products accounted for 7.6 percent of total non-textile U.S. industrial good exports to Oman in 2003, totaling about \$28 million. Additives for lubricating oils, prepared explosives, and calcium chloride lead U.S. exports in this sector.

Oman applies an average 4.84 percent tariff to chemical goods.

United States imports from Oman in this sector totaled nearly \$100,000 in 2003, or about 0.17 percent of the U.S. total industrial imports from the country. Plastic bags, cyclanic, and carbon dioxide were leading chemical imports from Oman in 2003.

The United States, as a party to the Chemical Harmonization Agreement, applies duties ranging from zero to 6.5 percent on most chemicals, with some 8 and 14 percent duties on rubber products. The average duty for the chemical sector is 3.5 percent.

Tariff Elimination

The U.S.-Oman FTA will eliminate all industrial tariffs in the United States and Oman within 10 years of implementation. Tariffs will be phased out according to three tariff elimination categories: 1) immediate elimination, 2) equal cuts over 5 years, and 3) equal cuts over 10 years.

Upon implementation of the agreement, Oman and the United States will both grant 100 percent of chemical lines duty-free treatment.