Persistent trade deficits have a variety of negative economic consequences including the loss of domestic jobs, higher interest rates, a weaker currency and inflation risks.

What's at stake

U.S. and China trade standoff: What's at stake

U.S. imported record $539 billion in goods from China in 2018, in billions

- Computers & electronics: $186.5
- Electrical equipment: $49.9
- Miscellaneous manufacturing: $44
- Machinery: $38.7
- Clothing: $29.8
- Fabricated metal: $26.5
- Furniture: $25.8
- Transportation equipment: $21.7
- Chemicals: $21.4
- Plastic & rubber products: $20.2
- Leather and similar goods: $20

U.S. exported $120 billion in goods to China in 2018, in billions

- Transportation equipment: $27.8
- Computers & electronics: $17.9
- Chemicals: $16.2
- Machinery: $11.1
- Oil & gas: $7.1
- Farm crops: $5.9
- Miscellaneous manufacturing: $3.7
- Waste & scrap: $3.5
- Electrical equipment: $3.4

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS