

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Winter 2022

Contemporary Economic Policy

University of Pittsburgh, PA
January-February, 2022

Host: Jon Haveman, Ph.D.
National Economic Education Delegation



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National Economic Education Delegation

- **Vision**

- One day, the public discussion of policy issues will be grounded in an accurate perception of the underlying economic principles and data.

- **Mission**

- NEED unites the skills and knowledge of a vast network of professional economists to promote understanding of the economics of policy issues in the United States.

- **NEED Presentations**

- Are nonpartisan and intended to reflect the consensus of the economics profession.



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Who Are We?

• Honorary Board: 54 members

- 2 Fed Chairs: Janet Yellen, Ben Bernanke
- 6 Chairs Council of Economic Advisers
 - o Furman (D), Rosen (R), Bernanke (R), Yellen (D), Tyson (D), Goolsbee (D)
- 3 Nobel Prize Winners
 - o Akerlof, Smith, Maskin

• Delegates: 649+ members

- At all levels of academia and some in government service
- All have a Ph.D. in economics
- Crowdsource slide decks
- Give presentations

• Global Partners: 48 Ph.D. Economists

- Aid in slide deck development

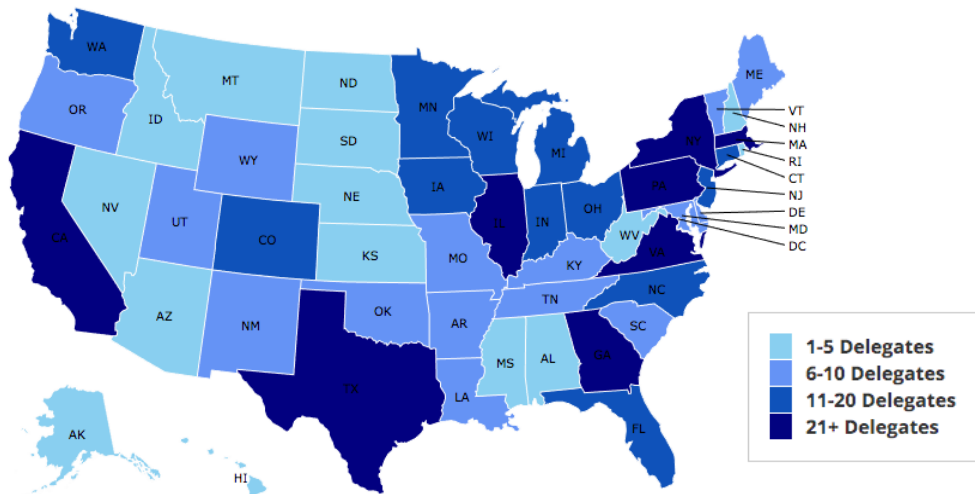


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Where Are We?



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Available NEED Topics Include:

- Coronavirus Economics
- US Economy
- Climate Change
- Economic Inequality
- Economic Mobility
- Trade and Globalization
- Minimum Wages
- Immigration Economics
- Housing Policy
- Federal Budgets
- Federal Debt
- Black-White Wealth Gap
- Autonomous Vehicles
- US Social Policy



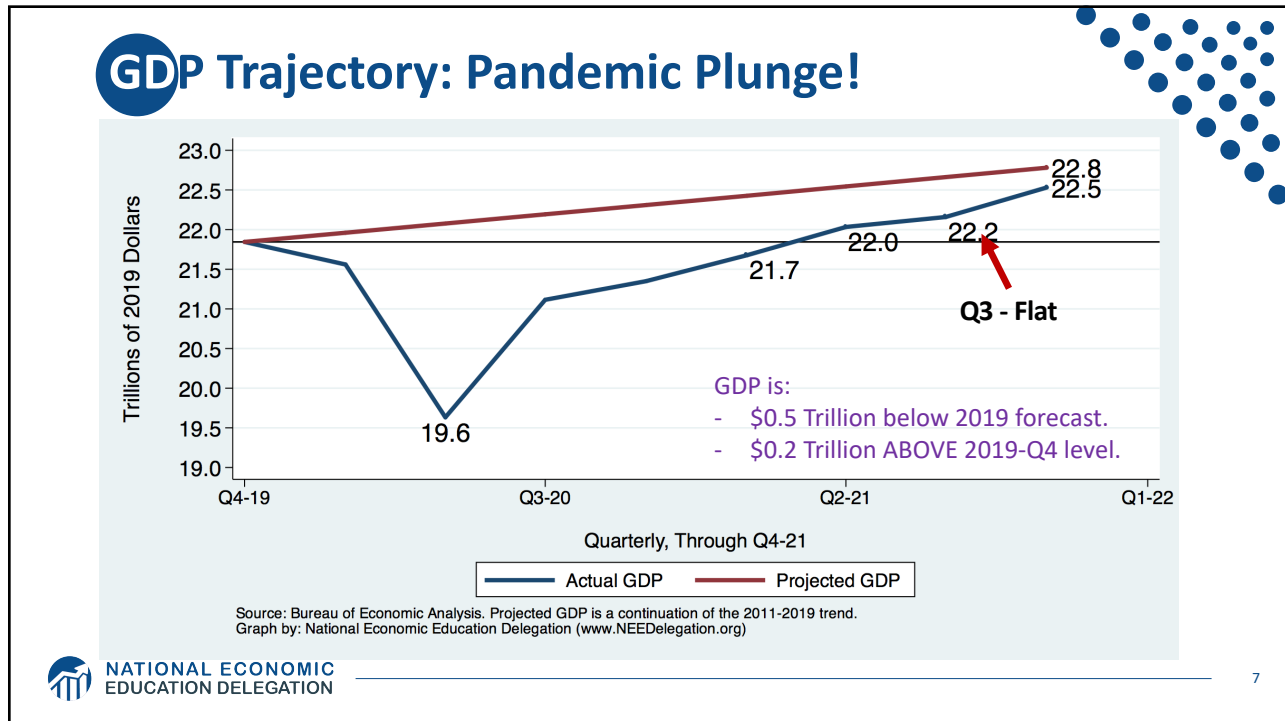
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Course Outline

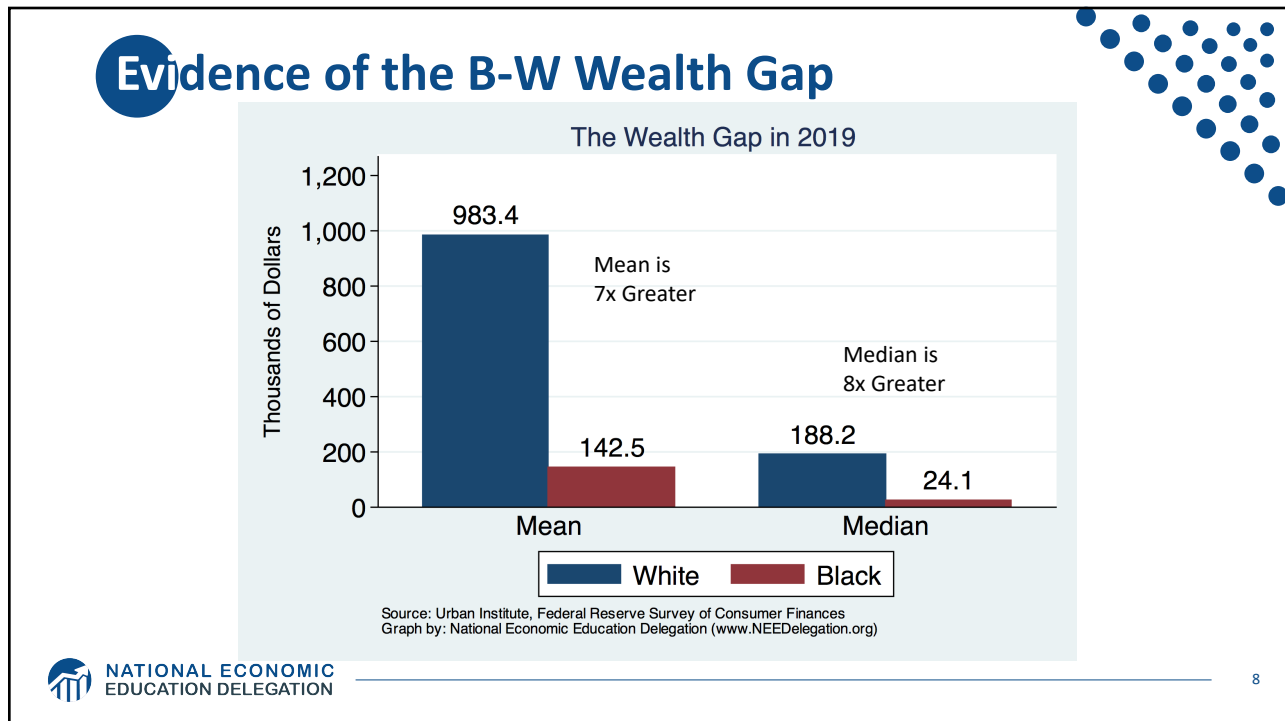
- **Contemporary Economic Policy**
 - Week 1 (2/2): Trade and Globalization (Alan Deardorff, University of Michigan)
 - Week 2 (2/9): US Economy & Coronavirus Economics (Me)
 - Week 3 (2/16): The Black-White Wealth Gap (Stephanie Seguino, U-Vermont)
 - Week 4 (2/23): Health Economics (Veronika Dolar, SUNY, Old Westbury)
 - Week 5 (3/2): Economic Inequality (Me)



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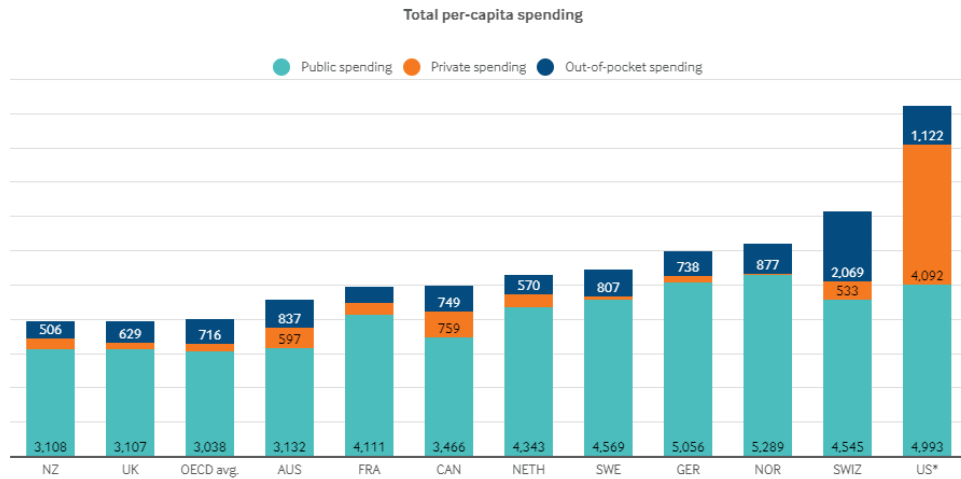
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International Comparison: Health Spending

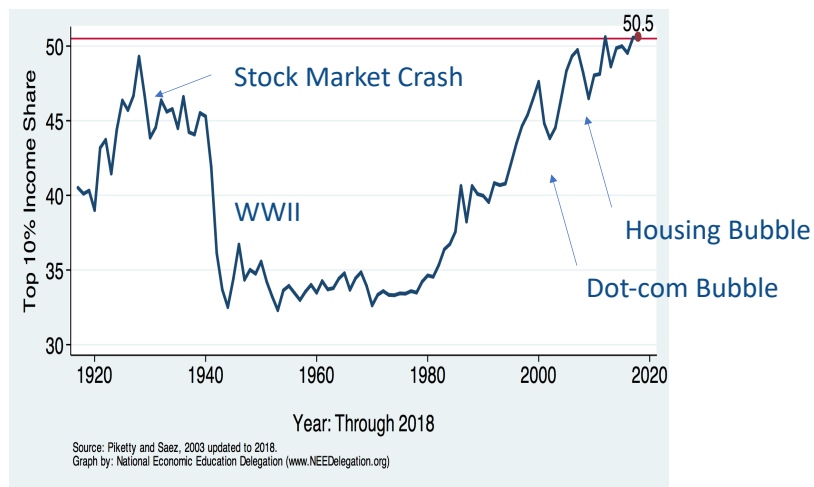
Dollars (US\$), adjusted for differences in cost of living



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National Income Inequality: Share of Top 10%



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Submitting Questions

- **Please submit questions in the chat.**
 - I will try to handle them as they come up, but may take them in a bunch as time permits.
- **We will do a verbal Q&A once the material has been presented.**
 - And the questions in the chat have been addressed.
- **OLLI allowing, we can stay beyond the end of class to have further discussion.**

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Trade and Globalization

Alan Deardorff, Ph.D.
University of Michigan



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Trade and Globalization

Alan V. Deardorff
University of Michigan

Presentation to Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Pittsburgh, PA
February 2, 2022



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Outline

- **What is Globalization?**
- **Pros and Cons of Trade**
- **Trade Policies**
- **The Role of Trade Agreements**
- **(Effects of the Pandemic)**



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What Globalizations Is

- **Growth over time of many interactions between countries**
 - Trade
 - Global Value Chains
 - Foreign Direct Investment
 - Financial Flows
 - International Travel
 - Migration
- **I will focus here on trade**



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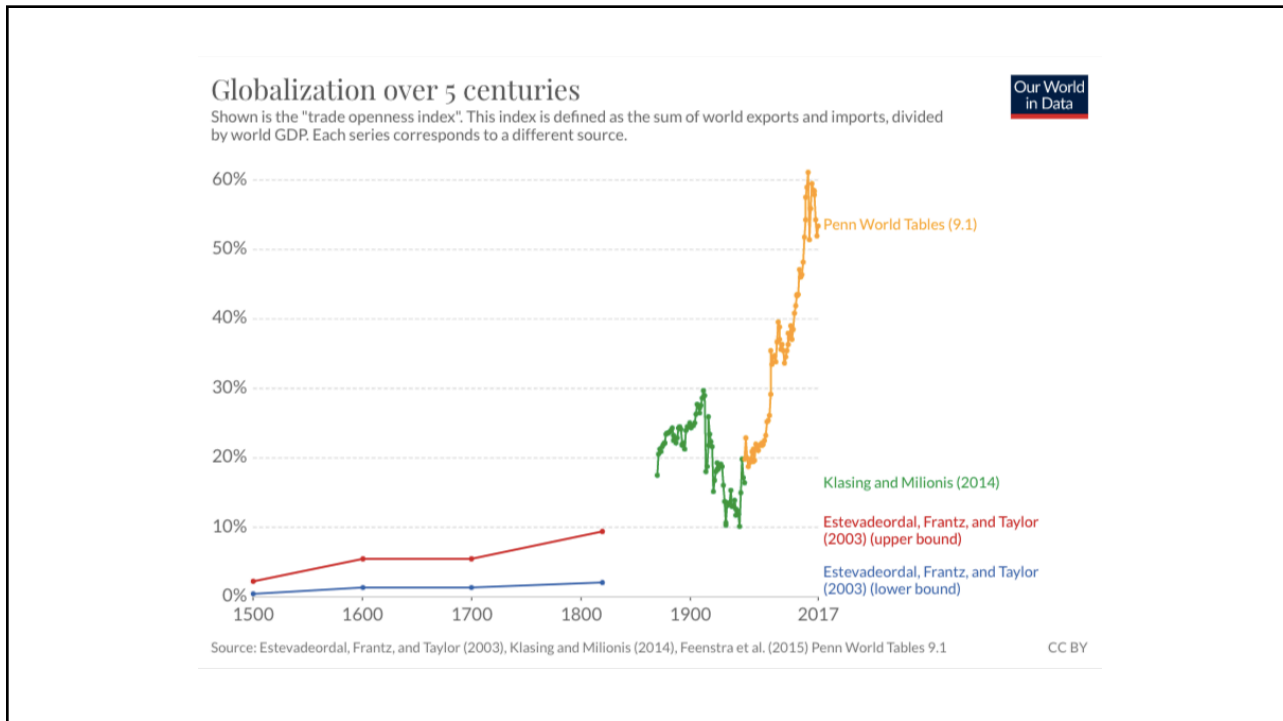
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Trade

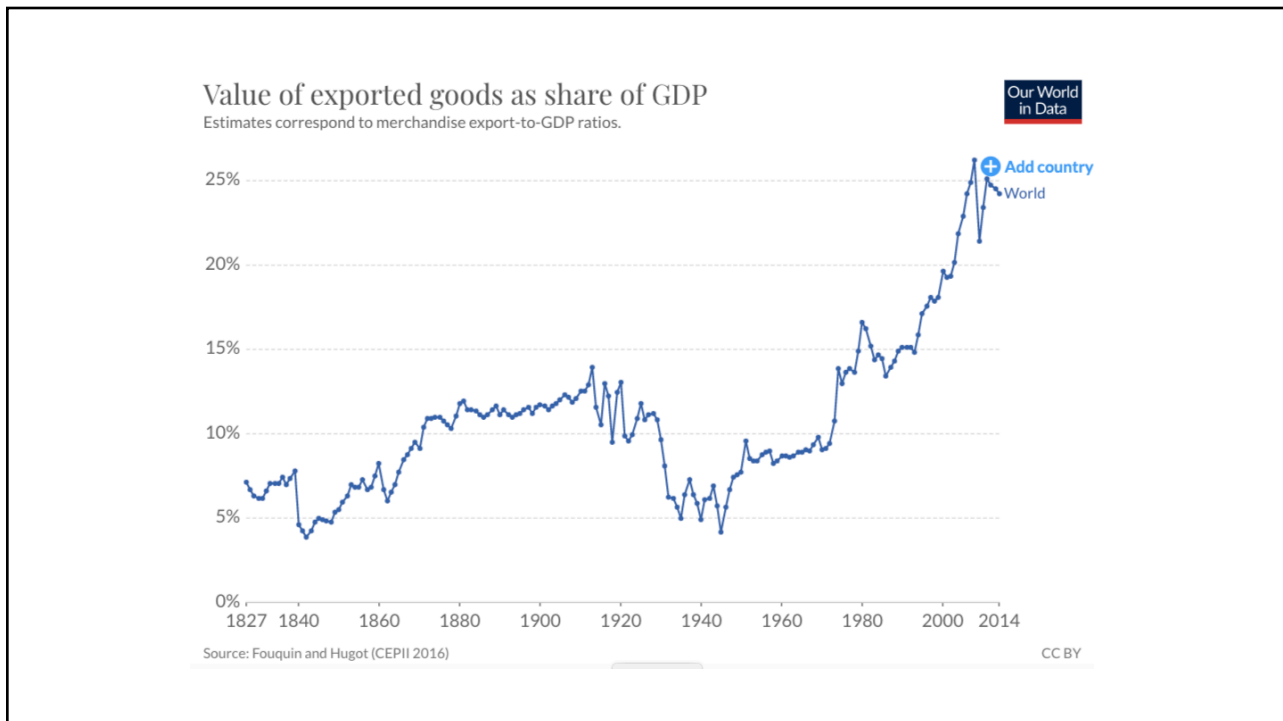


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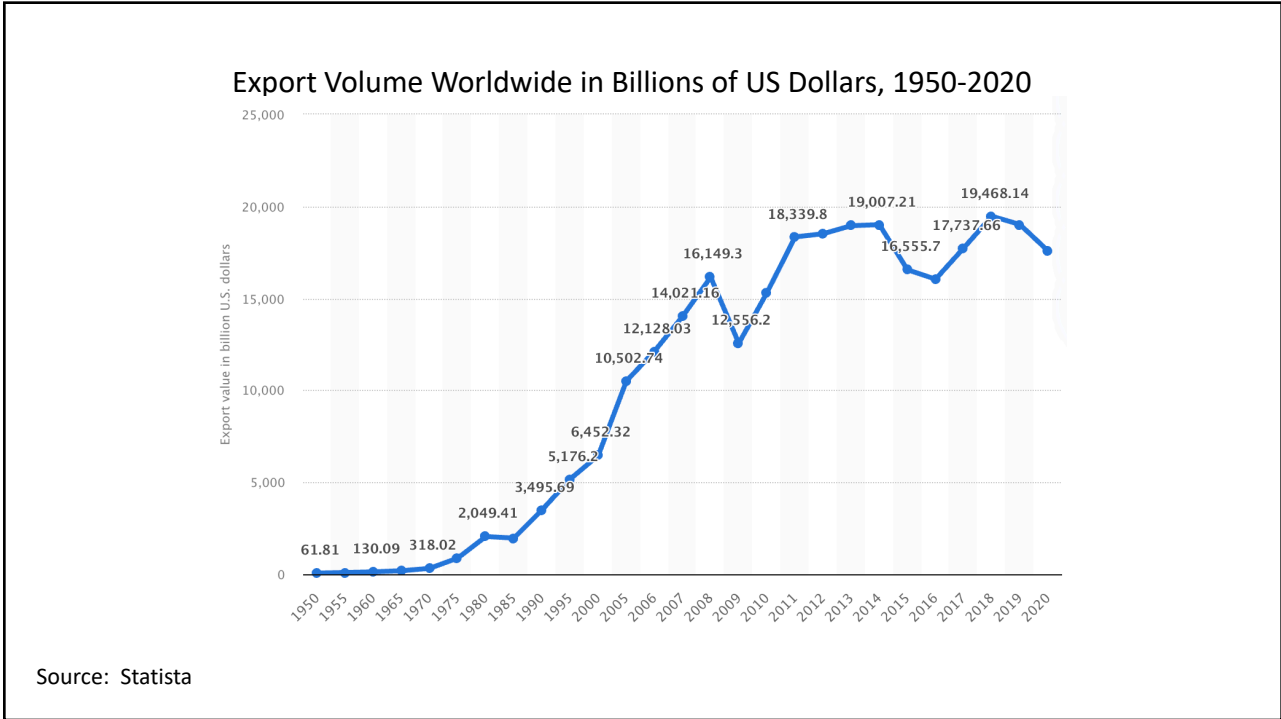
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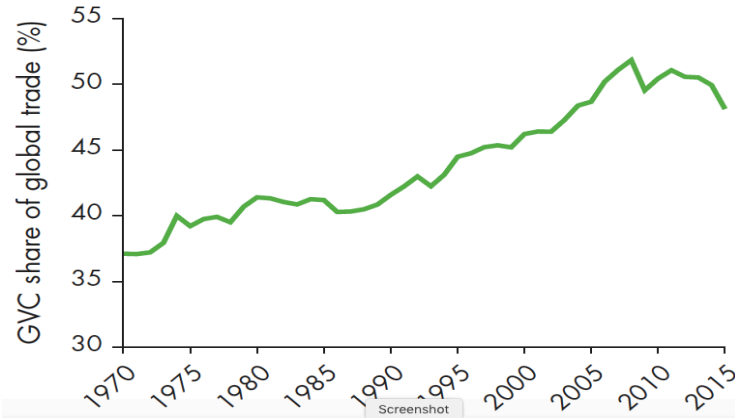
Global Value Chains

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Growth of Global Value Chains, 1970-2015

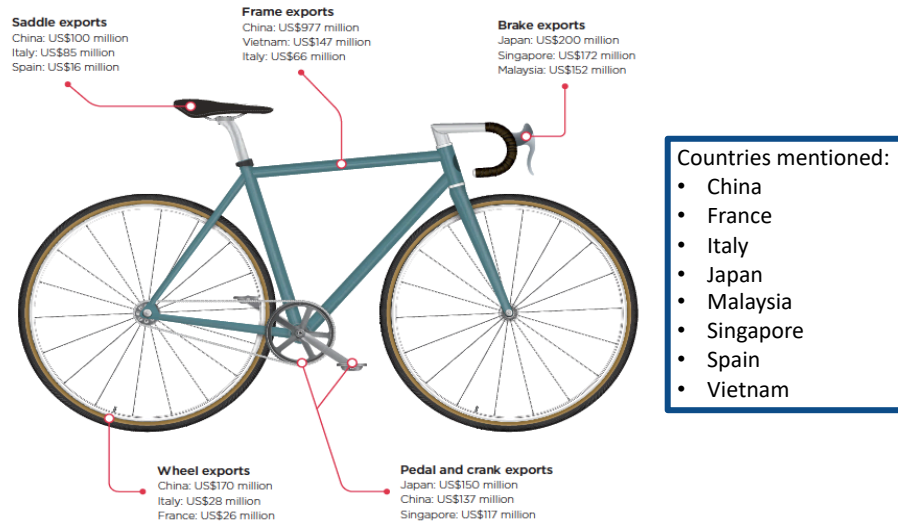
Figure 1.2 GVC trade grew rapidly in the 1990s but stagnated after the 2008 global financial crisis



Source: World Development Report 2020

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Figure 1.1 Where do bicycles come from?



Source: World Development Report 2020

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Supply Chains

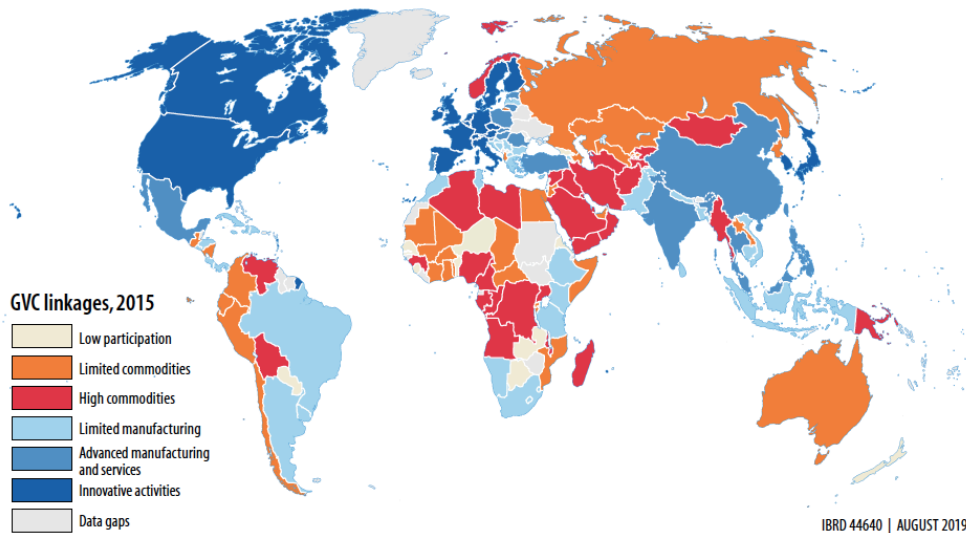
• Example: The iPhone assembled in China from parts:

Part	Come from
Accelerometers	Germany, the US, South Korea, China, Japan, and Taiwan.
Audio chips	US, UK, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Japan, and Singapore.
Batteries	Samsung (South Korea), which has factories in eighty countries.
Cameras	Qualcomm (US) and Sony (Japan), both with plants in many countries
Chips for 3G/4G/LTE networking	Qualcomm (US)
Compasses	AKM Semiconductor (Japan) with plants in the US, France, England, China, South Korea, and Taiwan.
Glass screen	Corning (US) with plants in twenty-six countries.
Gyroscopes	Switzerland
... and many more	

Source: Krueger 2020, International Trade (What Everyone Needs to Know), p. 254

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Map 1.1 All countries participate in GVCs—but not in the same way



IBRD 44640 | AUGUST 2019

Source: World Bank

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Pros and Cons of Globalization

- **Pros and Cons of Globalization**

- Gains from Trade
 - Theory of Comparative Advantage
 - Other Sources of Gain from Trade
- Costs of Trade



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Gains from Trade

Theory of Comparative Advantage



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Comparative Advantage

- **The Theory of Comparative Advantage says:**
 - Countries can, by producing
 - More than they need of what they do relatively best, and
 - Less than they need of what they do relatively worst
 - And exporting the extra to other countries in exchange for what they need
 - All countries can
 - Get more of everything if that's what they want, and
 - Gain from trade
- **Illustration with a graph of just 2 countries & 2 goods**
 - (I'm eager to know whether this helps you understand.)

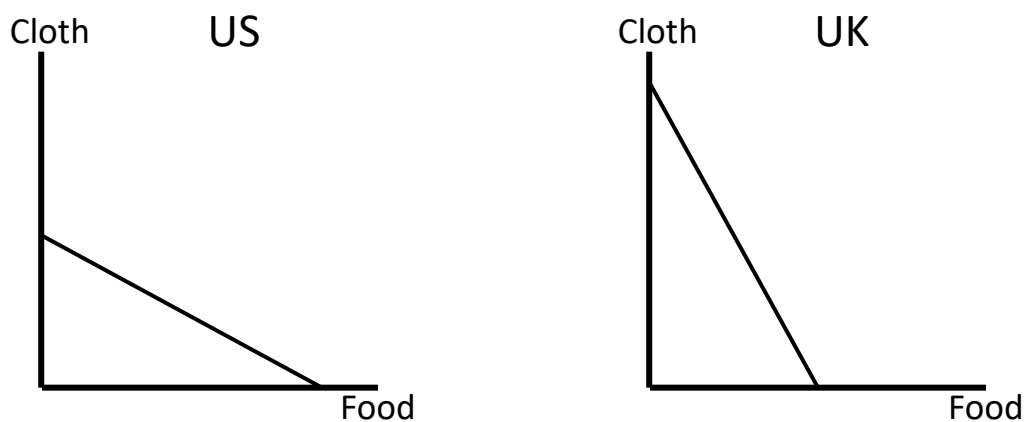


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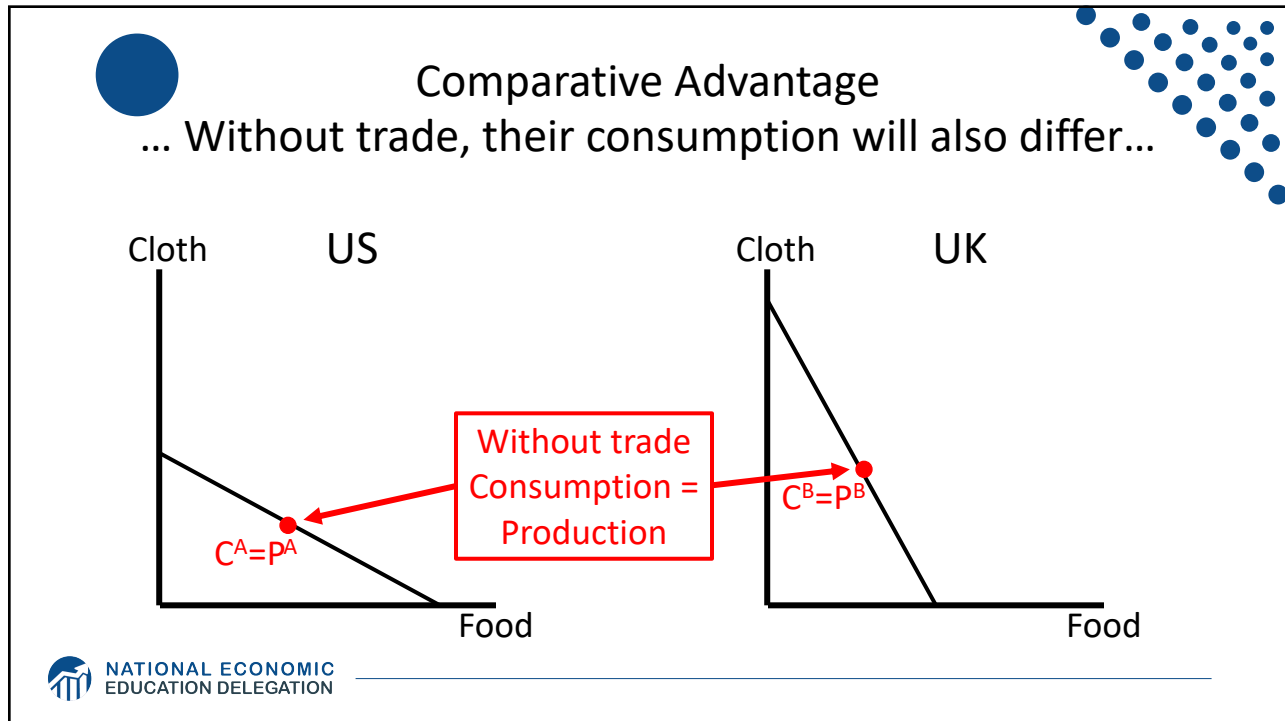


Comparative Advantage If US & UK differ in what they can produce...

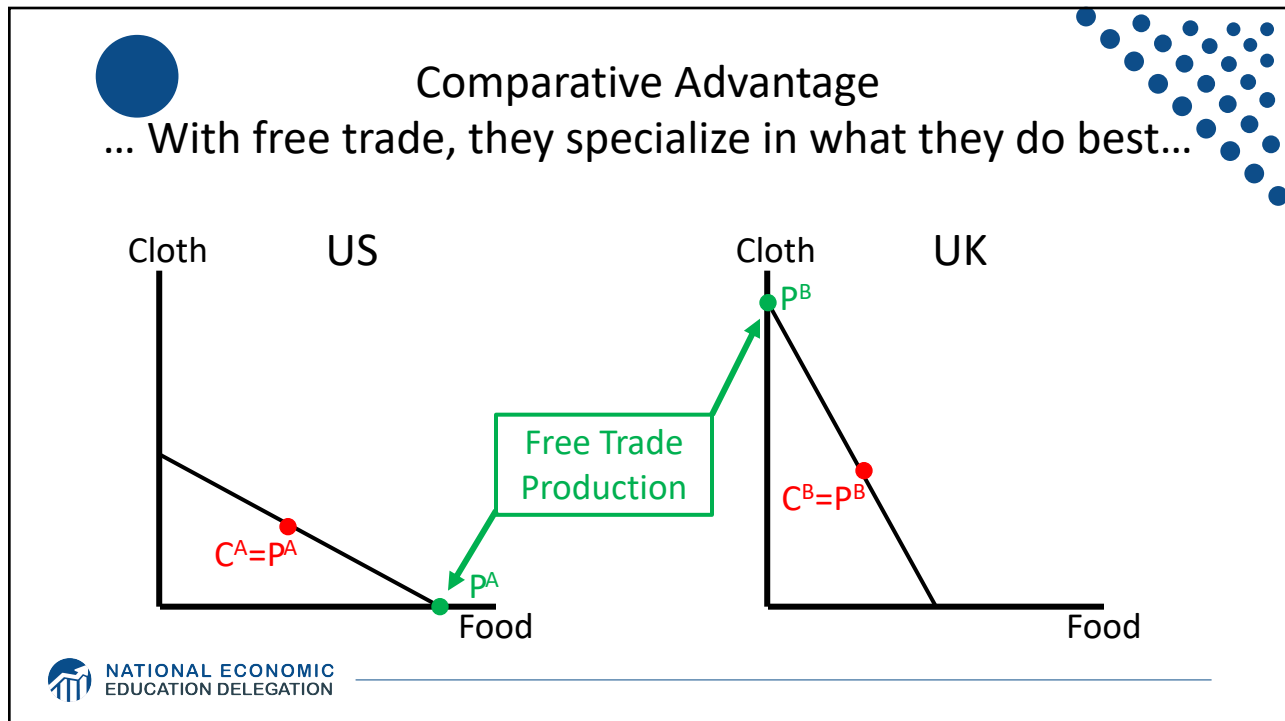


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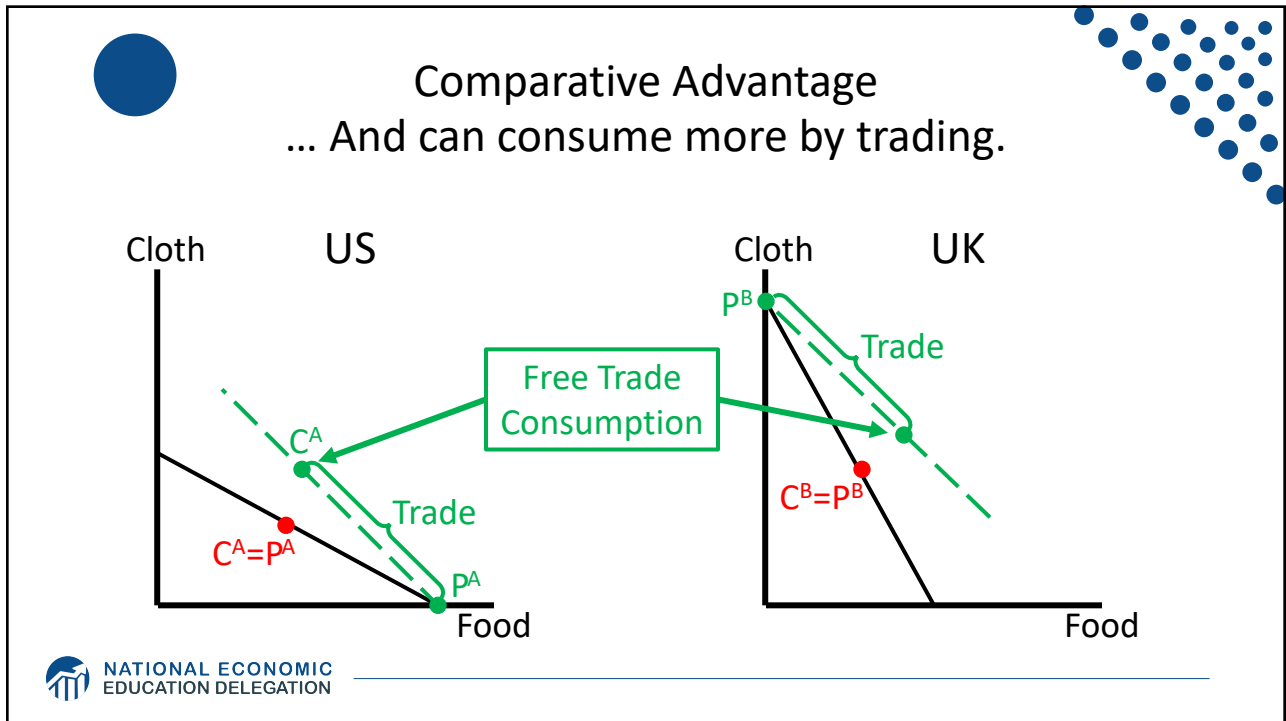
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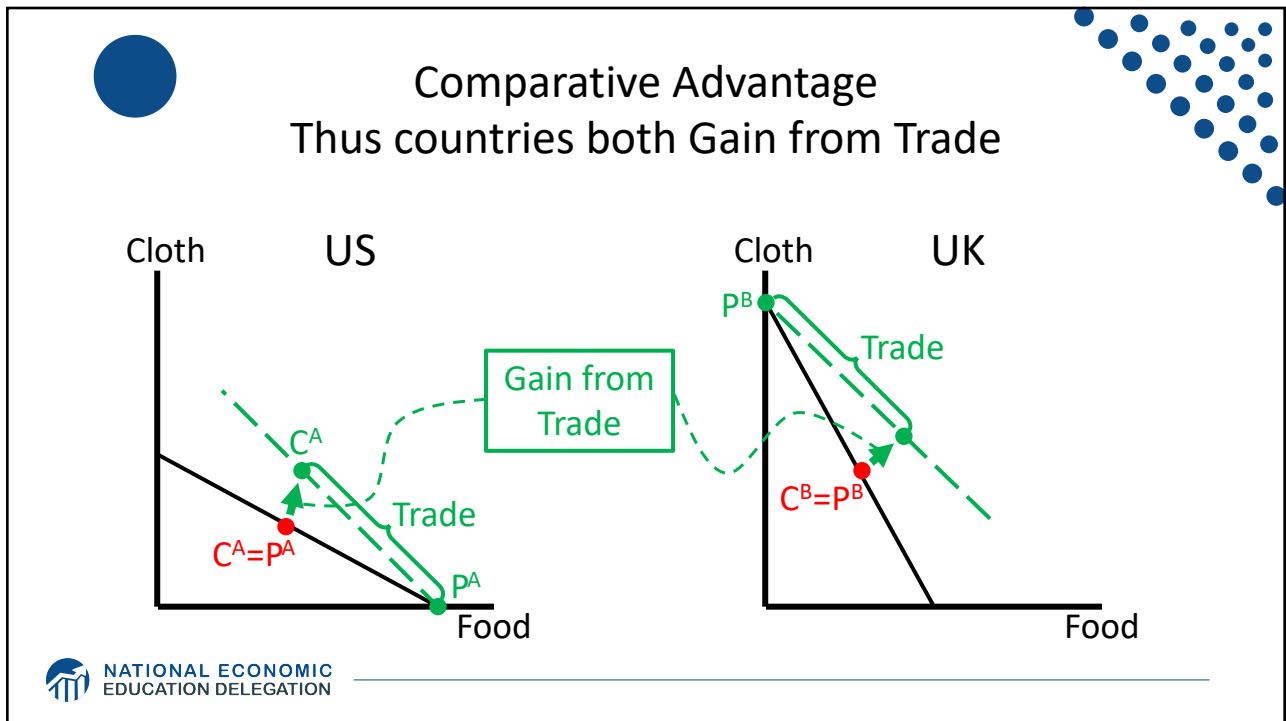
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Generality of Comparative Advantage

- **The Theory of Comparative Advantage requires:**

- “Perfect competition” (i.e., all buyers and sellers are very small)
- Absence of market “distortions” (externalities, etc.)
 - i.e., reasons why supplies and demands don’t reflect true costs and benefits

- **The Theory of Comparative Advantage does not require:**

- Any limit on numbers of goods, factors, and countries
- That only final goods are traded (thus consistent with supply chains)
- That factors (labor, capital) be immobile between countries
 - (However, the gains from trade then accrue to countries including their mobile-factor owners.)



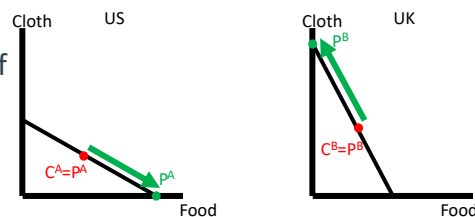
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Generality of Comparative Advantage

- **But note:**

- Nothing in the theory says that everyone in each country gains
- Opening to trade requires
 - Some industries to shrink or disappear while others expand
 - Firms and workers in shrinking industries
 - Certainly lose during the transition
 - May be permanently worse off
 - In example, losers are producers of
 - Cloth in US
 - Food in UK



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Gains from Trade

Other Sources of Gain from Trade

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Other sources of Gain from Trade

- **Productivity** (most productive firms expand and export)
- **Returns to scale** (small countries can support larger firms)
- **Competition** (monopolies in small countries lose market power)
- **Variety** (buyers can access more choices)
- **Supply chains** (firms can source parts from cheapest or best sources)
 - (That's really just the above, but within industries and firms.)
- **Technology** (producers get access foreign technologies)

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Costs of Trade



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But there are Costs

- **Economic:**

- When trade expands (or contracts)
 - o Some firms lose market share or shut down
 - o Other firms supplying inputs shrink or shut down
 - o Workers in both lose jobs
 - o Their communities lose customers
- Macroeconomic cost: Vulnerability to foreign recession/inflation

- **Non-economic**

- Dependence on other countries willingness to trade
- Loss of cultural differences
- Vulnerability to trade disruption
 - o Crisis induced (earthquake, flood, disease)
 - o Policy induced (sanctions, tariffs, export bans)



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Pause

- **Pause for**
 - Questions
 - 5-Minute Break
- **Next: Trade Policies**



Trade Policies that Affect Globalization

- **Policies that Encourage It**
 - Tariff Reductions
 - Trade Agreements
 - Other
- **Policies that Discourage It**
 - Trump's Tariffs
 - Trade War





Policies that Encourage Globalization



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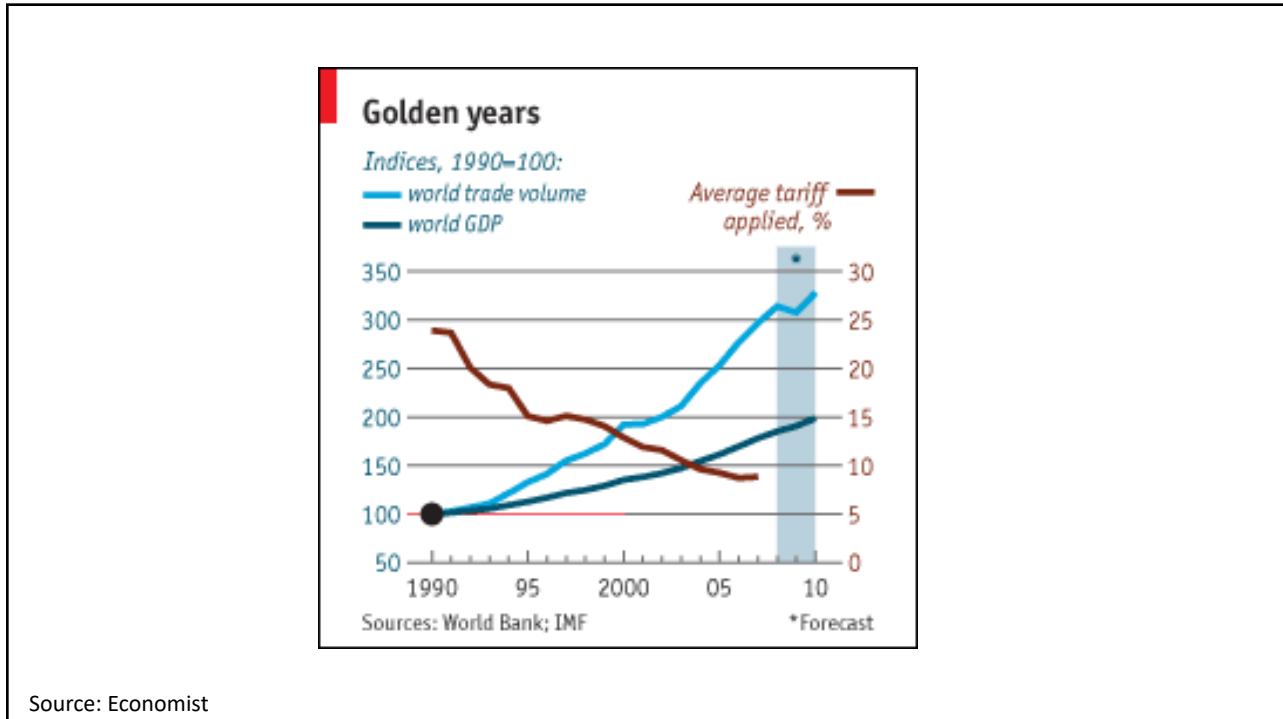


Tariff Reductions

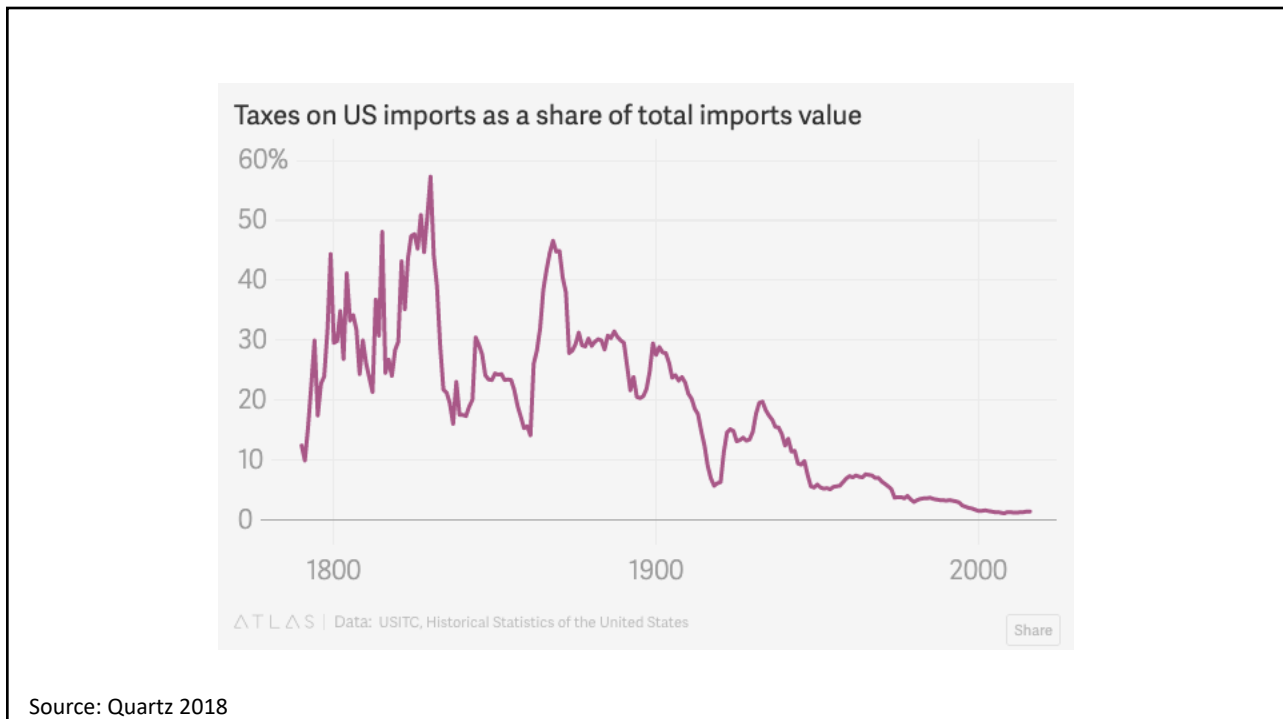


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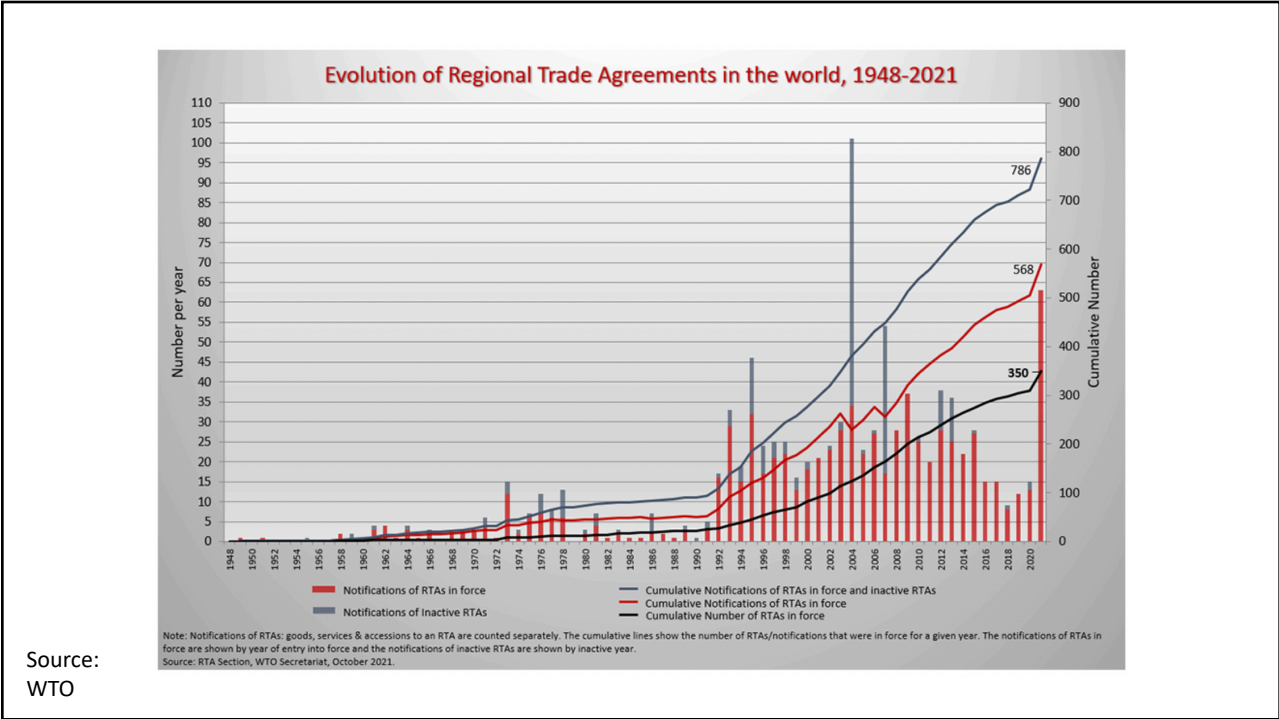


Trade Agreements



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Source:
WTO

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European Union



Source: Europa.eu

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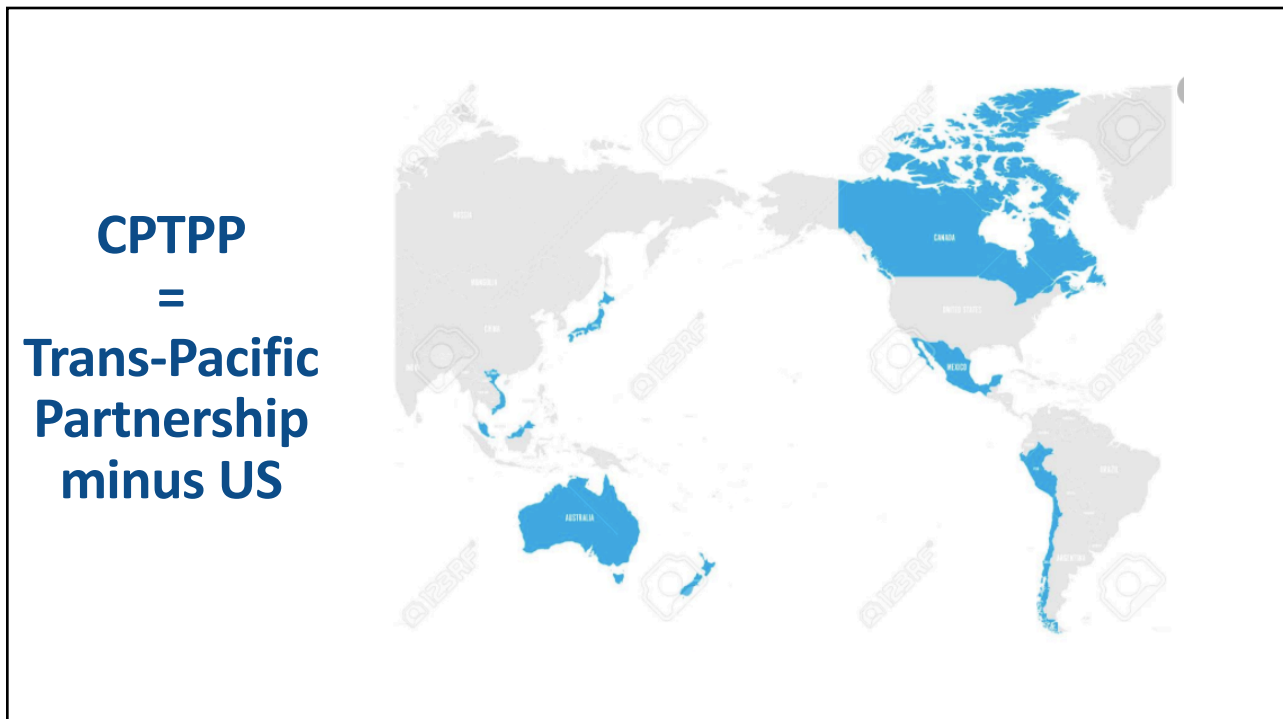
NAFTA (now USMCA)



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RCEP
=
**Regional
Comprehensive
Economic
Partnership**



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Other Policies to Encourage Globalization

- **IMF/World Bank**
 - Policy advice to open markets (the "Washington Consensus")
 - Loans to countries conditional on
 - Reducing trade barriers
 - Permitting capital flows
- **GATT/WTO (World Trade Organization) [More on this later]**
 - Negotiate reciprocal trade liberalization
 - Settlement of trade disputes (usually about interfering with trade)
- **Bilateral Investment Treaties**
 - Better treatment of multinational corporations



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Policies that Discourage Globalization



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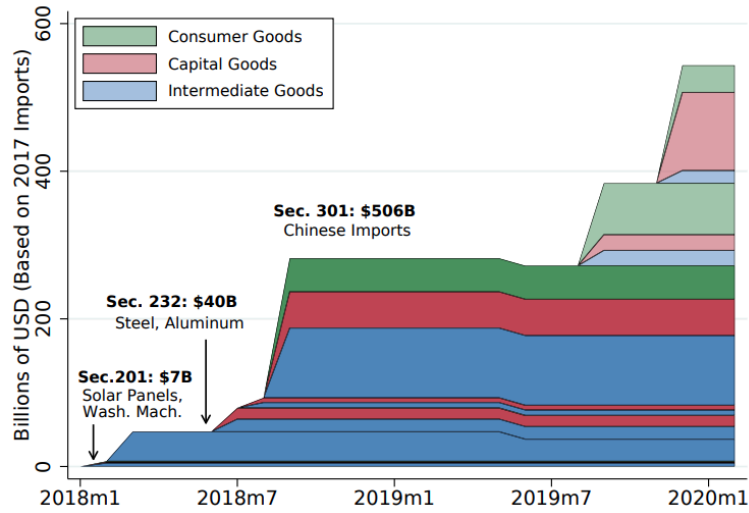
Trump's Tariffs and Trade War



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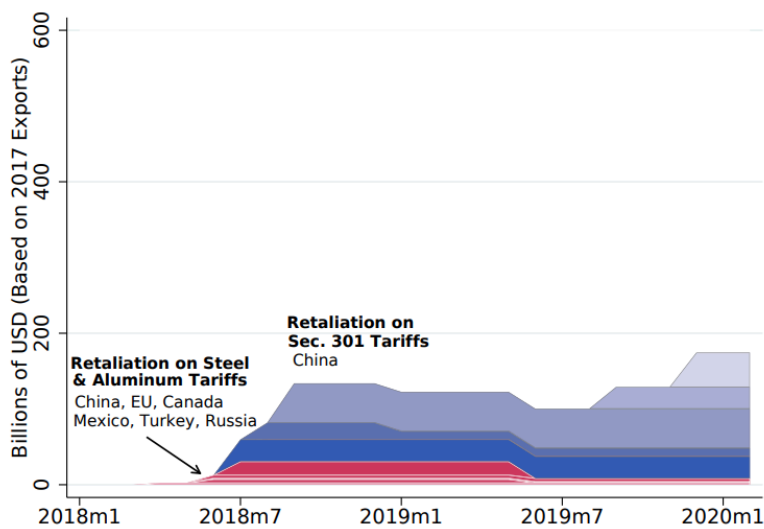
Figure B1: Composition of New U.S. Import Tariffs: 2018-2019



Source:
Flaan &
Pierce
2020

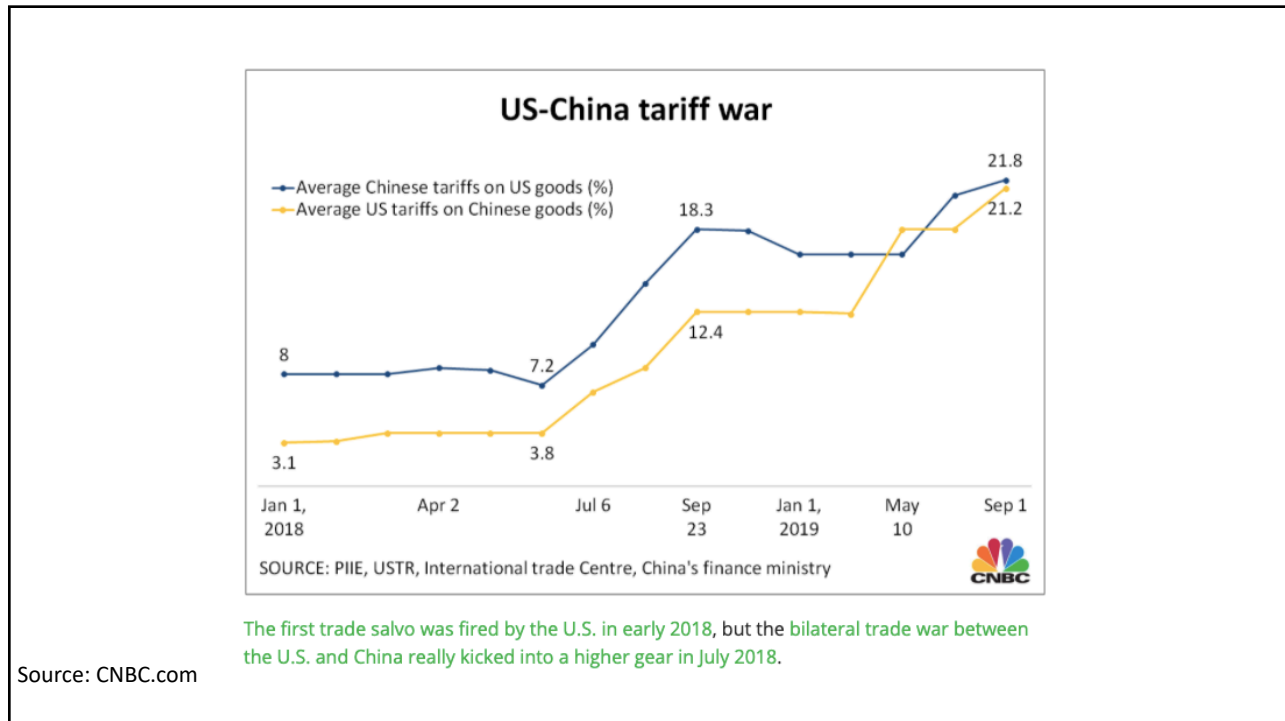
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Figure 3: Timeline of Retaliatory Tariffs on U.S. Exports: 2018-2019

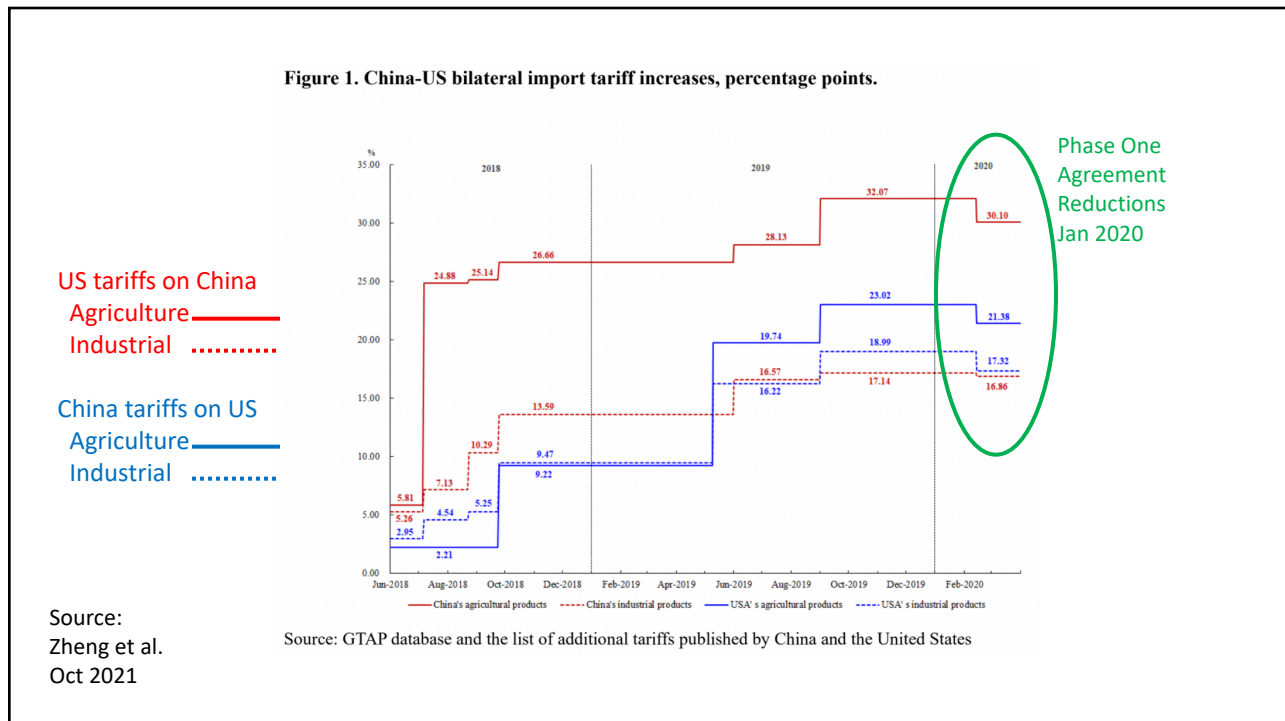


Source:
Flaan &
Pierce
2020


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Effects of Tariffs


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Effects of a tariff

- **A tariff is a tax on imports. It causes**
 - A rise in the price of the imported good in the importing country
 - A fall in the price of the imported good in the exporting country
 - The quantity imported to fall
 - The revenue of the tariff-levying government to rise
- **Almost always: the rise at home is much larger than the fall abroad**
 - That's especially true if importing country is small
 - But it's also true if importing country is large, such as U.S.
 - Example: Trump's tariffs caused US prices to rise, with hardly any perceptible fall in prices abroad.

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Effects of a tariff

- **The rise in price in the importing country causes**

- A rise in price of competing goods produced there
- Benefits to those producers
- Harm to buyers of both the import and the competing goods
 - o Including producers that use the higher-priced goods as inputs
 - Their prices also rise, hurting their buyers
- Employment changes
 - o Increase in the protected industry
 - o Decrease in industries that use imports as inputs
- Example: Trump's 25% tariff on steel
 - o Helps US steel firms and their workers
 - o Hurts US auto firms and workers
 - and many other industries that use steel



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Effects of a tariff

- **The fall in price in the exporting country causes**

- Harm to sellers there
- Benefit to buyers there
- Shift of sales to other countries

- **If the tariff is on exports from only one country (e.g., China)**

- Buyers shift to imports from other, more costly, countries (e.g., Vietnam)



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Arguments for and against tariffs

- If economists are so opposed to tariffs, why are they used?
- **Arguments for protection**
 - Many have been used, both past and present
 - See the list in my Glossary of International Economics

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Arguments for and against tariffs

Arguments for Protection

<u>Balance of payments</u>	<u>Monopoly</u>
<u>Cultural</u>	<u>National defense</u>
<u>Decreasing cost</u>	<u>Noneconomic objectives</u>
<u>Domestic distortions</u>	<u>Optimal tariff</u>
<u>Employment</u>	<u>Patriotism</u>
<u>Environmental protection</u>	<u>Pauper labor</u>
<u>Externalities</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
<u>Fairness</u>	<u>Second-best</u>
<u>Foreign investment</u>	<u>Self-sufficiency</u>
<u>Graham's</u>	<u>Strategic industry</u>
<u>Income redistribution</u>	<u>Strategic trade policy</u>
<u>Infant industry</u>	<u>Sunset industry</u>
<u>Labor standards</u>	<u>Terms of trade</u>

Government Revenue

Distribution

Infant Industry

Source: Deardorff's *Glossary of International Economics*

National security

Strategic trade policy

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Arguments for and against tariffs

- **Arguments against tariffs**

- Economic gains from trade (see above)
- Tariffs prompt retaliation
- Some valid arguments for tariffs depend on information that is either
 - o Unavailable, or
 - o Available only from the protected industry
- Even when net beneficial, tariffs are politically hard to remove
- Enables transfer of technology
- **Reduces likelihood of war**



The Role of Trade Agreements

- **Countries have negotiated trade agreements throughout history**

- At least back to the 1500's between the Ottoman Empire and the powers of Europe
- The first "free trade agreement" (FTA) was between Britain and France in 1860, soon followed by many more
 - o Removed tariffs on trade with each other
- US used "reciprocal trade agreements" starting in 1934 to reduce tariffs and dig out of the Great Depression
- US led negotiation of multilateral agreements via
 - o GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) 1948
 - o WTO (World Trade Organization) 1995



The Role of Trade Agreements

• Trade Agreements (both WTO & FTAs)

- Promote trade by
 - Reducing tariffs
 - Blocking policies that discriminate against imports
- But they also do much else, mostly to serve business interests:
 - Permit anti-dumping duties to deter competition
 - Protect intellectual property (patents, etc.)
 - Allow investor action against governments

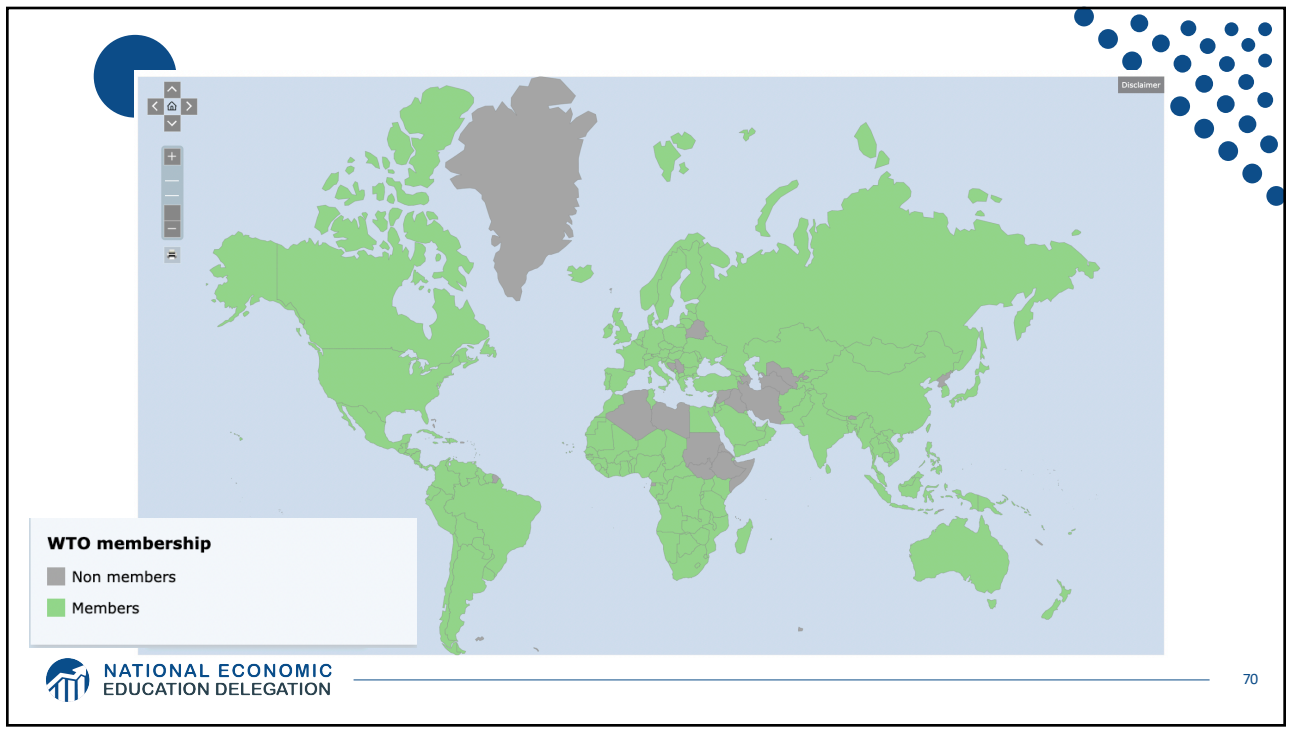
The Role of Trade Agreements

• WTO

- 164 member countries
- Includes
 - China since 2001
 - Russia since 2012
 - Not Iran, N. Korea
- Headquarters Geneva, Switzerland



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The Role of Trade Agreements

• The WTO has

- Three Parts:

1. GATT (Still exists, as largest part of WTO)
 - limits tariffs
2. GATS = General Agreement on Trade in Services
3. TRIPs Agreement = Trade Related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights

- Two Basic Principles

1. Most Favored Nation
2. National Treatment



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The Role of Trade Agreements

• The WTO's Main Functions

- Negotiation of reduced trade barriers
 - Tariffs (GATT did this well; WTO not)
 - Removal of other barriers
- Dispute settlement
 - Countries bring cases against others
 - WTO "panels" and "Appellate Body" decide



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The Role of Trade Agreements

• WTO Dispute Settlement

- There have been 609 cases initiated since 1995 (as of 1/30/22)
- About 90% have been decided in favor of the complainant, both by (132) and against US (168)
- The mechanism has been unable to decide cases since December 10, 2019 when
 - o President Trump blocked appointments to Appellate Body
 - o President Biden has not changed this



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Effects of the Pandemic

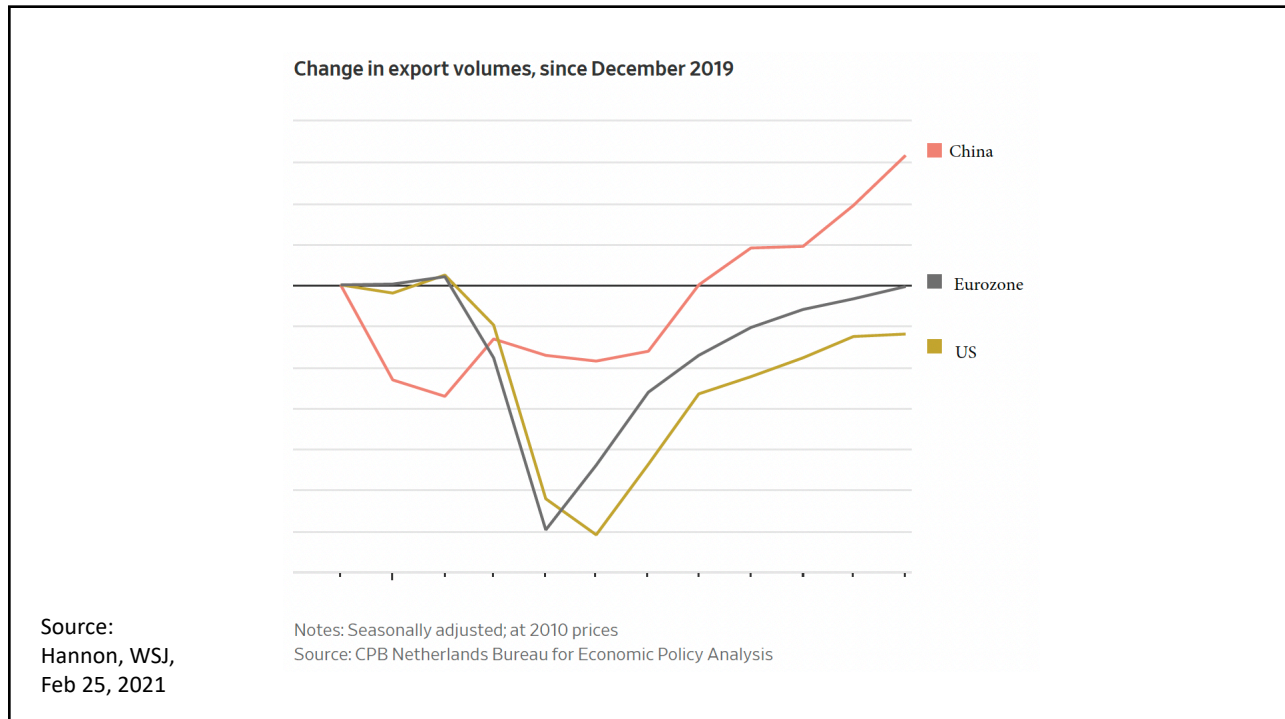
• Effects of the Pandemic on Economies

- Travel halted
- Stock markets fell but came back strongly
- Factories shut down
- Supply chains were interrupted
- Trade plummeted but came back



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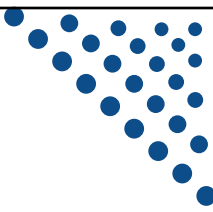
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The Pandemic and Globalization

- **Trade and Covid-19**
 - Globalization helped it spread
 - Trade in PPE and medical supplies helped to fight it
 - Trade in vaccines is essential globally
 - Trade policies have often interfered



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Globalization's Future?

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Globalization's Future?

- **Will trade, travel, etc. come back?**
 - Yes, partly
- **Will it reach the previous trend**
 - Probably not.
 - It didn't after the financial crisis
- **Will attitudes change?**
 - Yes.
 - Firm's will try to limit exposure
 - Consumers will learn to live differently
- **Will economists' views of globalization change?**
 - I think so.
 - We still think globalization is good,
 - But we're learning that it needs to include greater protections for those who are hurt.

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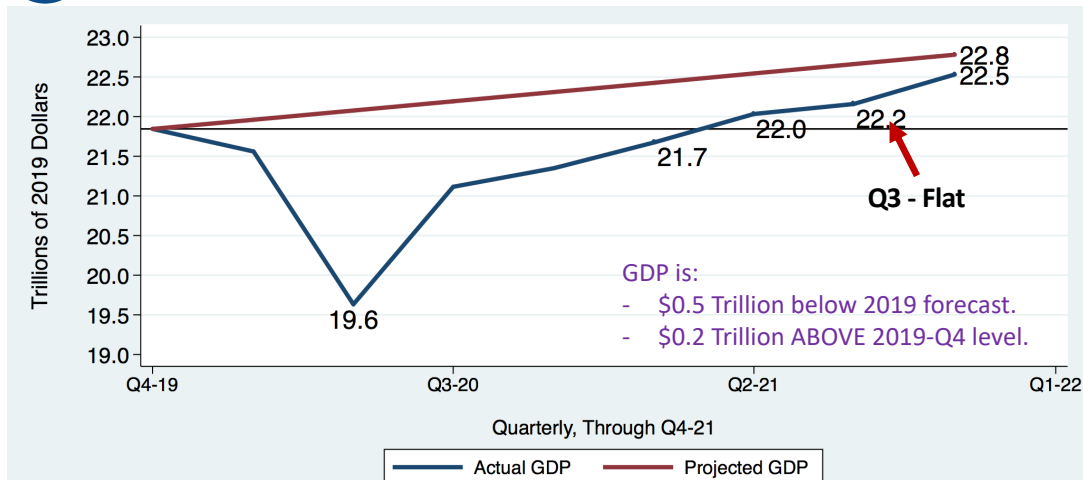
Thank you!

Any Questions?

Alan V. Deardorff
Ford School of Public Policy
University of Michigan

www.NEEDelegation.org

Pandemic Plunge – next week: Jon Haveman



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis. Projected GDP is a continuation of the 2011-2019 trend.
Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDelegation.org)

Thank you!

Any Questions?

www.NEEDelegation.org

Alan Deardorff
alandear@umich.edu

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