

Agriculture Trade Snapshot

Nebraska - Harvest 2025



The Fifth Largest Ag Exporting State in America

The Importance of Trade to Nebraska Farming

Nebraska farmers depend on export markets for nearly a third of their agricultural production, with agricultural exports making up about 30 percent of their earnings. **Nebraska is the country's 5th largest agricultural exporting state**, shipping \$6.8 billion in domestic agricultural exports abroad in 2024. Corn, soybeans, and beef remain entrenched as Nebraska's top agricultural exports, accounting for nearly half of total exports.

Major Markets

- 1. Mexico:** \$1.9 billion (18% of total goods exports)
 - Top export market for corn, with 35% of Nebraska corn exports going to Mexico
 - Top destination for soybean oilcake and other solid residue
- 2. Canada:** \$1.6 billion (15% of total goods exports)
 - Top export destination for agricultural machinery, including harvest machinery
 - Important market for Nebraska beef, with 14% of beef exports going to Canada
- 3. China:** \$1.5 billion (14% of total goods exports)
 - Top soybean export market, making up about 30% of Nebraska's international soybean exports along with Mexico and Germany
 - Important market for animal feed preparations
- 4. Japan:** \$1.1 billion (10% of total goods exports)
 - Important corn and soybean export market, making up 23% of Nebraska's international corn exports and 3% of soybean exports
 - Top export market for Nebraska pork

Nebraska Ag Trade Trends

Here are some of the major trends among key Nebraska farm exports in the first half of 2025 compared to 2024:

- Corn exports from Nebraska are up 70%, driven by rising exports to Mexico, Japan and Korea.
- Soybean exports are down 15%. This is wholly attributable to a 52% decline in exports to China. There were no soybean exports to China in June 2025.
- Fresh, boneless beef exports are up by 3%. A 66% decline in exports to China – there were no exports to China in April, May or June 2025 – have been offset by growth to Korea and a few other markets.
- Sunflower and safflower oil exports to Canada, the sole export market for Nebraska, were down 50%.
- Based on the China data in particular, the risk to Nebraska farmers will grow if more countries choose to retaliate against U.S. exports in the future.

Tariffs on Farm Inputs

Current tariffs are raising the cost of inputs farmers rely on, including machinery, fertilizer, and other essential farm equipment. Additional tariffs on steel and aluminum could increase the cost of farm machinery, equipment, and building materials, while additional tariffs on automobiles and parts could increase the costs of vehicles.

- **Farm Machinery & Equipment:** \$6.7 million in extra tariffs paid due to Section 301, IEEPA, or other executive authority tariffs in the first six months of 2025.
- **Fertilizer & Chemical Inputs:** \$3.2 million in extra tariffs paid in the first six months of 2025.
- **Steel & Building Materials:** \$25 million in extra tariffs paid on products subject to the steel and aluminum 232 tariffs in the first six months of 2025.
- **Vehicle & Transportation Costs:** \$16 million in extra tariffs paid on products on the autos and auto parts section 232 list in the first six months of 2025.

Motorcade for Trade Brings Agricultural Voices to Nebraska

Harvest Listening Tour Highlights Critical Need for Open Markets

Today's stop in Nebraska represents a pivotal moment in Farmers for Free Trade's ambitious "Motorcade for Trade" campaign, a comprehensive 18-state, 2,800-mile journey across America's agricultural heartland. This harvest listening tour is designed to amplify the voices of farmers who need access to global markets and face mounting challenges from trade barriers and tariffs that threaten their livelihoods.

The Nebraska visit is part of a broader effort to demonstrate that American farmers feed the world, but they need open markets to thrive. As our wrapped campaign RV travels from farm to farm and community to community, we're documenting firsthand how trade policies directly impact agricultural families and rural economies across the heartland.

Trade Feeds America's Future

The Motorcade for Trade campaign responds to a critical reality facing Nebraska farmers and agricultural producers nationwide: domestic markets alone cannot sustain American agriculture. With one in three acres of American farmland depending on export markets, farmers are experiencing the devastating effects of policies that both reduce export opportunities and increase input costs.

Nebraska's agricultural success story – ranking as the 5th largest agricultural exporting state with \$6.8 billion in exports – demonstrates exactly why this campaign matters. When trade barriers limit access to key markets like Mexico, Canada, and China, which collectively purchase 71% of soybean exports, 39% of corn exports, and 26% of beef exports, the economic impact reverberates throughout rural communities.



**Scan the QR code
to learn more
about the
Motorcade for
Trade!**



For more information about the Motorcade for Trade campaign and to share your agricultural trade story, visit farmersforfreetrade.com or text "AgTrade" to 52886.

Building Grassroots Pressure for Change

The campaign provides a supportive, bipartisan platform for members of Congress to demonstrate their commitment to farmers and agricultural trade during a period of unprecedented economic uncertainty. Through listening sessions with local agricultural producers and stakeholders, the Motorcade creates opportunities for lawmakers to hear directly from constituents about how trade policies affect their operations.

These events serve multiple purposes: elevating farmer voices who argue that tariffs and trade barriers hurt agricultural communities, providing data-driven evidence of trade's importance to rural economies, and building grassroots pressure encouraging supportive members of Congress to oppose current and future trade policies that burden American farmers.

A Journey Across Agricultural America

The Motorcade's 18-stop tour includes visits to agricultural equipment manufacturers, export-dependent farms, state agricultural associations, and agricultural fairs, creating a comprehensive picture of how trade impacts every aspect of the agricultural supply chain. From Nebraska's corn and soybean operations to equipment manufacturing facilities, each stop demonstrates how interconnected the agricultural economy truly is.

The campaign concludes with a press event on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., where participating members of Congress will join farmers to deliver a unified message: American farmers are the most productive and innovative in the world, but they can't compete with one hand tied behind their backs.