



Southwest Pays High Price for US Trade Deficit with China

The bill for the nation's rapidly growing trade deficit with China is being paid for with U.S. jobs. A new study by the Economic Policy Institute reports that because the amount of goods we buy from China is growing so much faster than what we sell to China, the nation as a whole lost more than 2 million jobs since 1997, and 1.8 million jobs since 2001. Every state in the nation lost jobs that would have been here if we had been making those goods domestically instead of importing them.

Job losses in the four southwestern states of Texas, Arizona, Oklahoma, and New Mexico added up to just over 190,000 Since 2001. Texas alone lost nearly 137,000 jobs – the second highest loss of any state in the nation. (The highest losses came in California, with a total of nearly 270,000 jobs lost.) In both Texas and Arizona, the job losses were the equivalent of 1.4% of the state's total employment.

STATE DATA:

Jobs lost in the Southwest from 2001 to 2006 due to the growing U.S. trade deficit with China

State	Number of jobs lost	Share of total state employment
Texas	136,900	1.40%
Arizona	31,800	1.40%
Oklahoma	16,200	1.10%
New Mexico	6,100	0.80%
TOTAL FOR REGION	191,000	

The Economic Policy Institute is an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan research institute – or “think tank” – that researches the impact of economic trends and policies on working people in the United States and around the world.

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