



Maine Fair Trade Campaign

*Working together for fair trade
and a just, sustainable and democratic
global economy*

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Fast Track Negotiating Authority Must Be Replaced to Create Fair Trade Policies and Economic Security

The lived experience of Fast Track and the trade pacts it enabled proves that Fast Track must be replaced. Fast Track has enabled trade pacts which have hurt Maine businesses, workers and Maine's middle class.

- Between 1994 and 2000, trade deficits costs Maine a net 22,357 actual and potential jobs. Maine's 3.6% state labor force loss was the third highest percentage behind only Rhode Island and North Carolina.¹
- Between 2000 and 2003, Maine lost 17, 800 manufacturing jobs, or 22.1% of the state's total manufacturing jobs. This dramatic loss, the greatest of any state in this period, is in part caused by growing trade deficits enabled by Fast Track.²
- Maine lost 14,951 jobs to China because of US trade deficits with China between 1989 – 2003. This is 2.47% of our total state employment. As a percentage of total state employment, Maine lost more jobs because of our trade deficits with China than any other state.³
- From January 1993 through June 2005 there were 145 Maine companies certified under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program trade act. It is estimated that 18,800 jobs were lost in these companies. This does not cover all trade related layoffs during this time. The TAA program only includes manufacturing and not service jobs, despite the fact that *offshoring* of services has increased in Maine. Also, upstream and downstream suppliers and customers of manufacturing plants were not eligible for TAA until 2002 and many have not applied for TAA assistance. Other jobs that have been lost due to the impact of manufacturing jobs leaving our communities is not included.⁴
- According to a 2002 survey, Maine laid-off manufacturing workers who find new employment lose, on average, \$2.05 per hour or 16% of wages, 17% of vacation pay, and 29% of vacation time. One out of three laid-off workers loses pension benefits.⁵

¹ Scott, Robert E., "Fast Track to Lost Jobs: Trade deficits and manufacturing decline are the legacies of NAFTA and the WTO," Economic Policy Institute, Washington, DC: October, 2001.

² Wickenheiser, Matt, "State 1st in percentage of lost factory positions," Kennebec Journal, October 10, 2003 citing National Association of Manufacturers study.

³ Scott, Robert E., "U.S.-China trade, 1989-2003: Impact on jobs and industries, nationally and state-by-state," Economic Policy Institute, Washington, DC: January, 2005.

⁴ Maine Department of Labor, Labor Information Services

⁵ Maine AFL-CIO "Laid Off! Conversation with Maine Workers in Crisis" August Maine: April 2003