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Insights: How Steel and Aluminum Tariffs Might Impact State Economies; More Negative News on Infrastructure.

How Steel and Aluminum Tariffs Might Impact State Economies

The Brookings Institution [released some very interesting state-specific details](#) on the potential impact of steel and aluminum tariffs. Here is some of what they had to say.

When measured by total volume, the nation's largest states dominate steel and aluminum imports — Texas, California, Illinois, Michigan, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New York all import more than \$2 billion annually in steel and aluminum products, together accounting for 60% of the nation's total.

Louisiana presents a particularly notable example. Oil and gas drillers, and petrochemical producers in that state, rely on imported steel and aluminum to support their operations. The Port of New Orleans imported 2.48 million tons of steel in 2017, accounting for 30% of its tonnage. Maryland's imports are also disproportionately weighted toward aluminum and steel. As the Baltimore Sun reported, Maryland manufacturers of steel products are concerned that they will be put at a disadvantage, both due to higher input costs and by potentially limiting their access to important export markets should retaliatory measures be put in place.

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