

For immediate reporting

MEDIA STATEMENT ON US SECTION 301 INVESTIGATIONS

1. On 11 March 2026 (US time), the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) announced the initiation of investigations under Section 301¹ of the Trade Act of 1974 into the acts, policies, and practices of 16 economies, including Singapore, relating to structural excess capacity and production in manufacturing sectors.
2. In the Office of the USTR's Federal Register Notice, Singapore is highlighted as having a bilateral trade surplus with the US in both goods and services amounting to US\$27 billion in 2024. On the contrary, according to US Bureau of Economic Analysis data, Singapore had a bilateral goods trade deficit of US\$1.7 billion and a services trade deficit of US\$25.1 billion with the US in 2024, amounting to a total trade deficit with the US of about US\$27 billion.
3. The Notice also suggested that Singapore has continued to expand manufacturing capacity despite a drop in industrial occupancy rates. In fact, Singapore's industrial space occupancy rates are very healthy at around 90% and have been consistently so. Land is a scarce resource in Singapore and the amount of land set aside for industrial use has decreased over time due to other land use needs.
4. The Ministry of Trade and Industry has provided the USTR with this information and will be engaging the USTR to seek further clarification on the trade data and on the Section 301 investigations. We will provide further updates when available. Businesses and other stakeholders are welcome to provide feedback to MTI at go.gov.sg/contactmti.

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
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¹ According to the USTR, Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 is a US trade law designed to address unfair foreign practices affecting US commerce. An investigation under Section 301(b) examines whether the acts, policies, or practices of a foreign country are unreasonable or discriminatory and burden or restrict US commerce.