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The News - Messenger

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Canada fights back in Trump’s trade war

Wisconsin exports nearly \$670 million worth of dairy products a year, although they aren’t broken out by recipient. COLLEEN KOTTKE/WISCONSIN STATE FARMER FILE

Specific states, industries targeted by new tariffs

Bart Jansen
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Canadian officials say they targeted specific states and industries with retaliatory tariffs – such as those on food products, beverages and appliances – to apply political pressure on U.S. officials.

While the growing conflict between Canada and the United States represents a small fraction of the trade between the countries, the escalating trade war has already been disruptive.

Canada’s recent response came after

President Donald Trump imposed 50% tariffs on about \$20 billion of imports from Canada on Aug. 22, after the collapse of trade talks a day earlier. Canada responded with “dollar for dollar” tariffs up to 50% on about the same value of imports set to start Sept. 8.

“We’re also targeting products that will target states in the U.S.,” Melanie Joly, Canada’s minister of industry, said while unveiling the retaliatory tariffs Aug. 25. “We’re being wise and strategic to put political pressure.”

Trump said the same day on social media that “we don’t expect to be doing

much business with Ontario any longer.”

The United States exported nearly \$334 billion worth of products to Canada in 2025, and its second-largest trading partner sent nearly \$382 billion back across the border, according to the U.S. trade representative. Both figures represented a drop from 2024 in a year when Trump imposed tariffs on countries around the world.

The cross-border dispute is playing out amid a worldwide conflict over tariffs. The Supreme Court overturned Trump’s emergency tariffs in February, but companies are seeking \$166

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Fremont safety director to retire

Roger LaPointe
Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

The roster will be changing up in the administration of Fremont Mayor Danny Sanchez, and it’s all starting with a retirement for Safety Service Director Ken Frost.

Frost

Frost is only formally retiring from one of his jobs. While most people in Fremont know about his law enforcement background that led to his decade working directly under the mayor as safety service director, he has simultaneously had a demanding position with the military.

The exact date Frost will retire from the Coast Guard is unknown, but the paperwork is in process.

Sanchez was informed that he would leave the administration at the beginning of the month. His last official day will be about the end of the month, and likely correspond closely with his military retirement.

“It will be soon,” Frost said with that broad smile he is known for. “I’m waiting for paperwork.”

He also joked about how readers with a military background will know all about that sort of timeline.

Those readers may also recognize

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Child care could influence Ohio governor’s race, poll finds

Alex Perry
USA TODAY NETWORK

Affordability remains a top concern for Ohio voters heading into the 2026 governor’s race, and a new poll suggests that many see child care affordability as a major part of the problem.

The survey, conducted by UpONE Insights for Groundwork Ohio and the First Five Years Fund, found agreement across party lines that child care affordability is a problem, with voters linking it to both family finances and Ohio’s workforce.

Many also said state leaders should do more to address it.

The findings come as candidates Amy Acton and Vivek Ramaswamy continue positioning themselves for the 2026 governor’s race. Here’s a breakdown of the findings.

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Most Ohio voters say child care affordability is a problem

Finding and affording child care remains a challenge for many Ohio families, according to respondents.

Eight in 10 poll respondents said child care costs are contributing to the nation’s broader affordability crisis, while 64% identified lowering the cost of living as one of the two most impor-

tant issues facing their families. Nearly three-quarters said a candidate’s plan to support working families with young children would influence their vote.

More than three-quarters of respondents, 76%, said access to affordable, quality child care is a crisis or major problem. That view crossed party lines, including 62% of Republicans, 78% of independents and 94% of Democrats.

Among parents paying for child care, half say those costs prevent them from saving money or improving their financial situation. More than a third, 36%, said they’re cutting back on other household essentials to afford care, while 33% said they’re struggling to

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