

# Measuring nearshoring and the 2026 USMCA "review"

June 2024



# Alternative nearshoring measures for Mexico

## Increasing order of accuracy

- Investment in Mexico
  - Investment as a percentage of GDP
  - Investment in Machinery and Equipment
  - Imports of capital goods
  - Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
- Market share of US imports
  - Total
  - Sectorial
  - Benchmark versus other suppliers
- Complexity of export matrix
- US trade deficit by country and market share of US trade deficit by country and sector
- US trade deficit over US exports by country and by sector

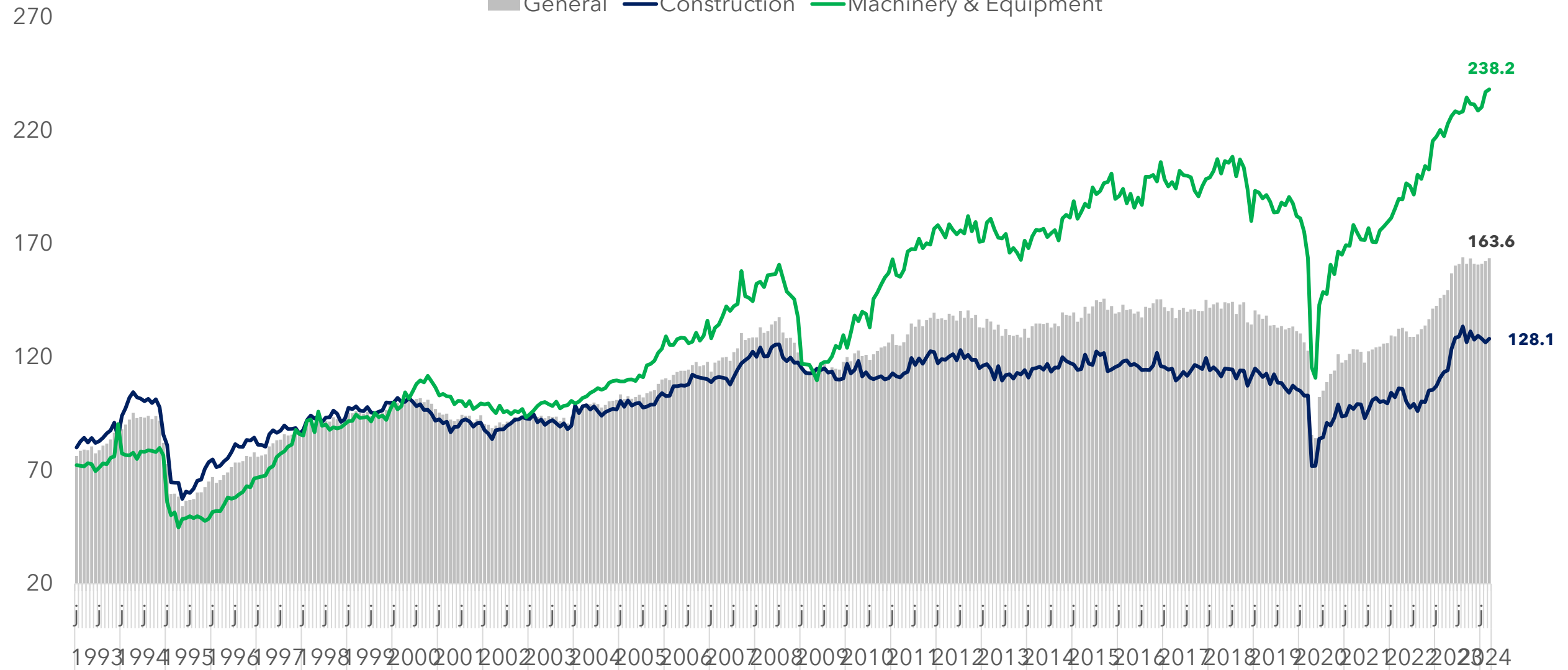
# Investment in Mexico

- Investment as a percentage of GDP
  - Mexico needs to invest 25% of GDP to become a highly attractive destination
  - Government investment well below: 5% of GDP target
  - Key obstacles include logistics, energy and water supply
- Investment in Machinery and Equipment
- Imports of capital goods
  - Monthly, by sector and country of origin
- FDI, an incomplete, lagged indicator
  - Administrative number based on self declaration, significant and variable lags
  - Investments are recorded in the year they occur, not when declared
  - Refers to the equity component:  $\text{assets} = \text{liabilities} + \text{equity}$
  - Includes divestment
  - Under maquiladora regime (5,200 + plants), investment under “comodato” in “cost centers”; this underestimates actual investment

# Gross Fixed Investment

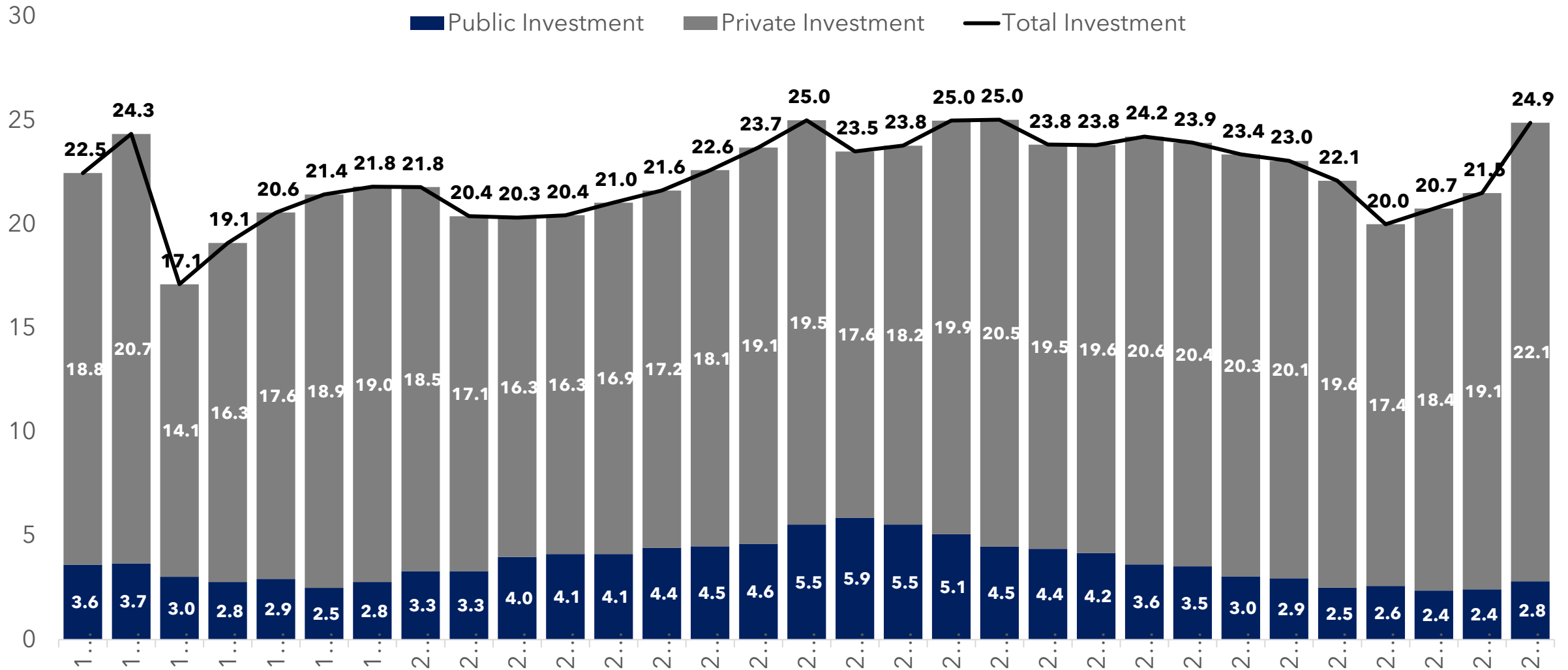
1993-2024, indexed series, 100 = January 2000

■ General — Construction — Machinery & Equipment



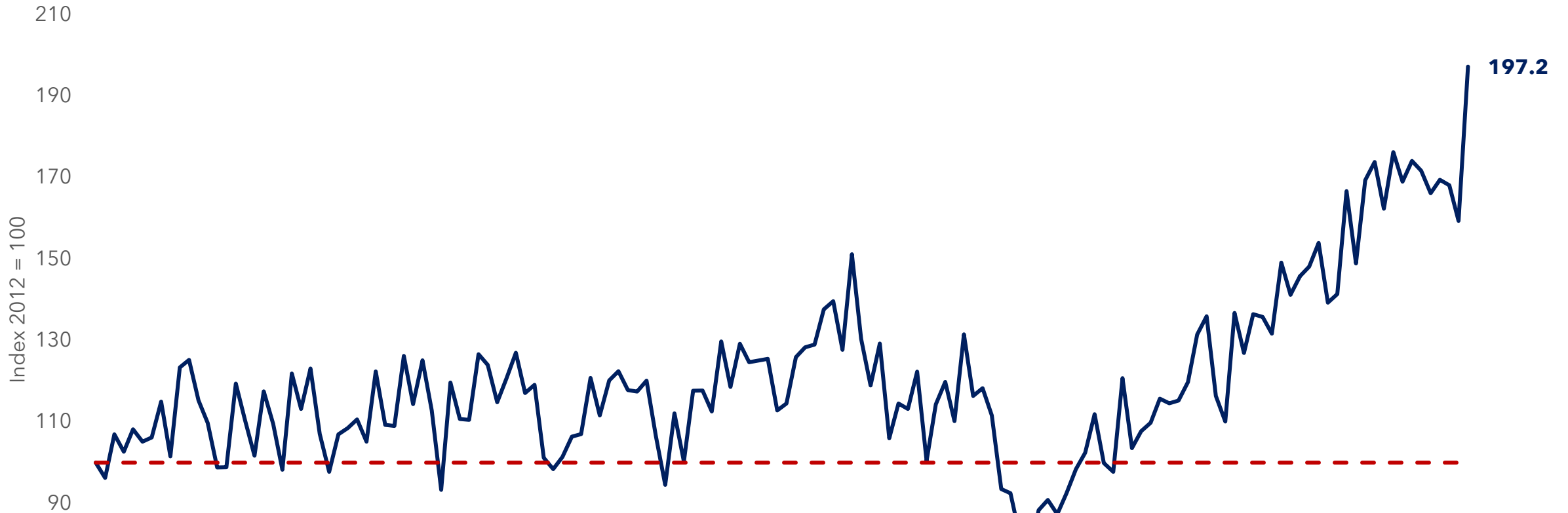
# Gross Fixed Investment (24.9% of 2023 GDP)

1993-2023, GDP percentage, by type of investment



# Mexican imports of capital goods

Index 2012=100



**197.2**

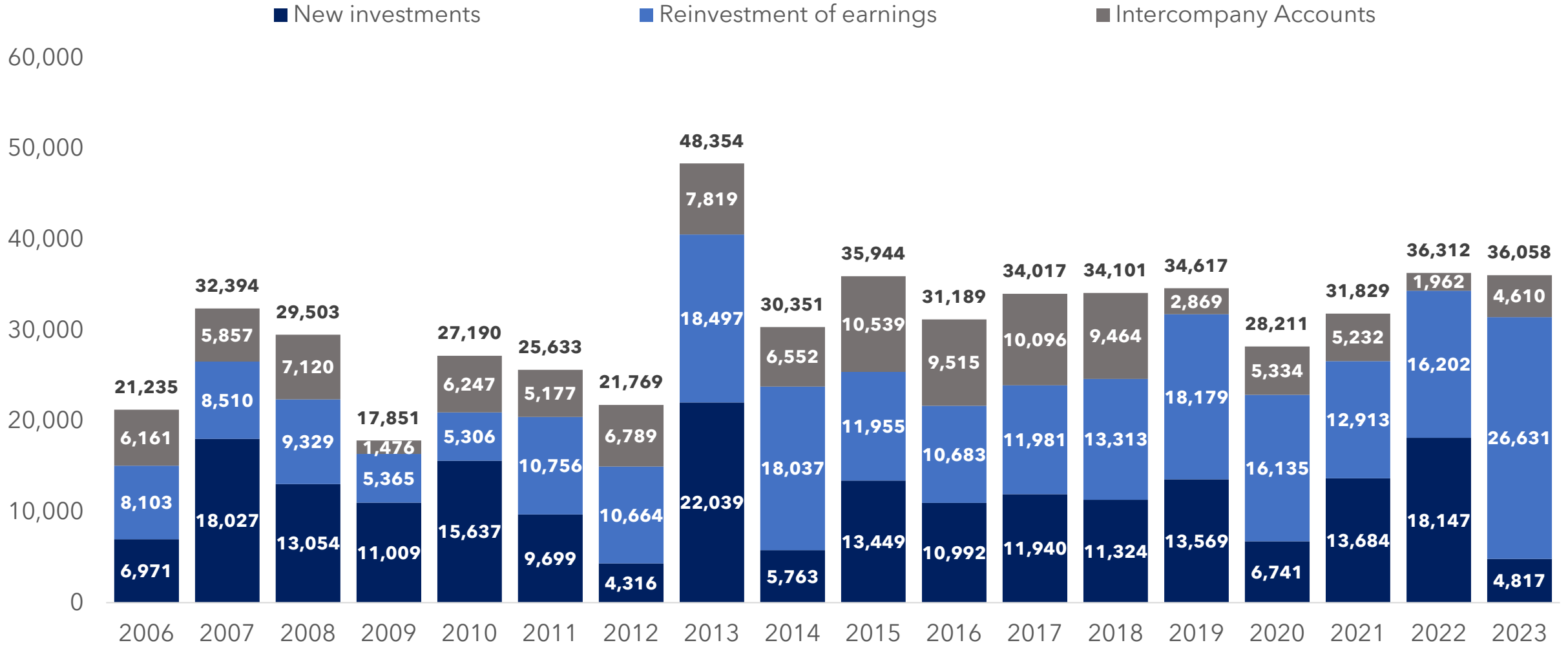
Average annual growth	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4 7 10	1 4
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	10.8	1.5	1.7	4.2	-3.5	3.3	11.5	-9.1	-19.1	22.8	19.1	20.3	17.2

Source: Banxico

April 2024

# Mexico's FDI

2006-2023, million of dollars, by component



Source: Secretary of Economy

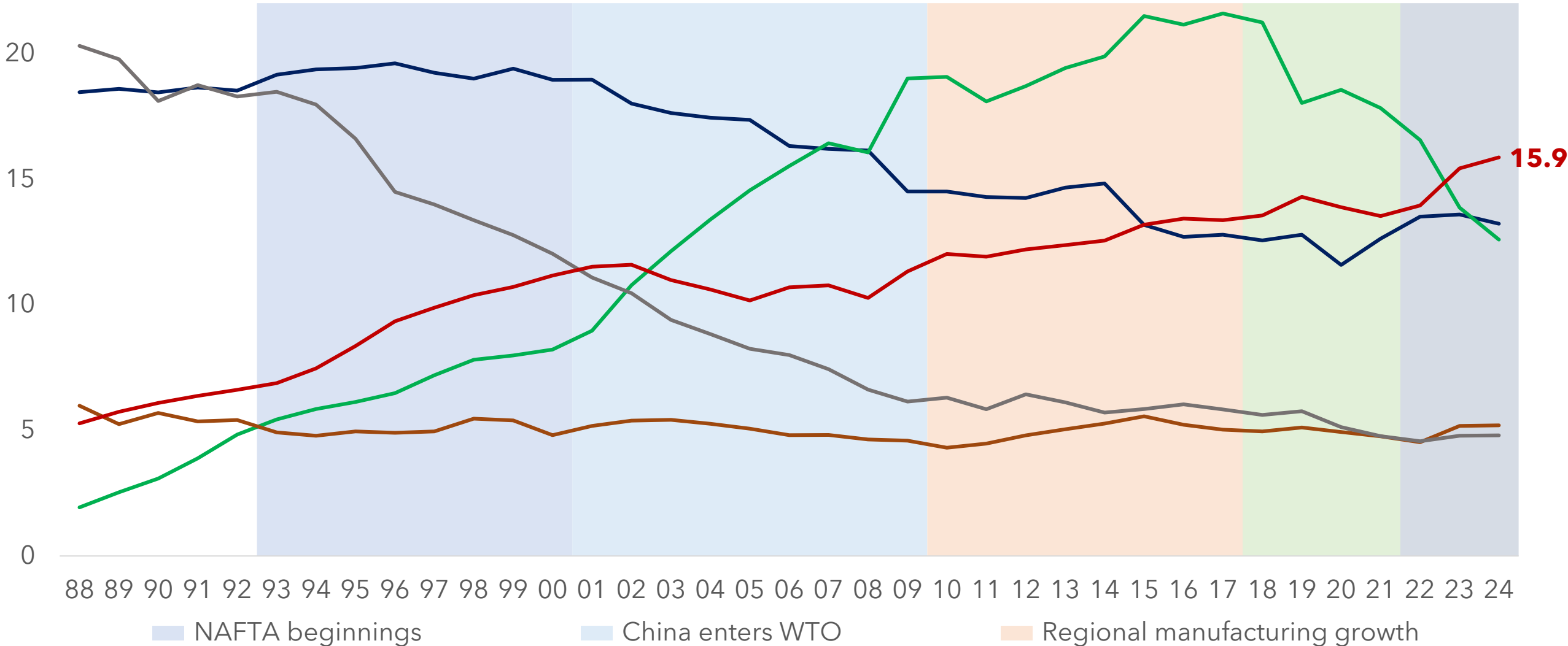
## Market share of US imports

- Mexico is now the largest supplier to US
- Trade conflicts between the US and China have benefited Mexico
- Has increased market share across relevant sectors
- Market share is greatly influenced by phases of Chinese economy
- Notable US import decline since late 2022 has not impacted Mexico as much thanks to sharp increase in market share
- Slowdown in Mexican exports tied to slowdown in US industrial production and negative US import growth



# Market share of total U.S. imports

Share of imports, top 5 countries  
In percentage

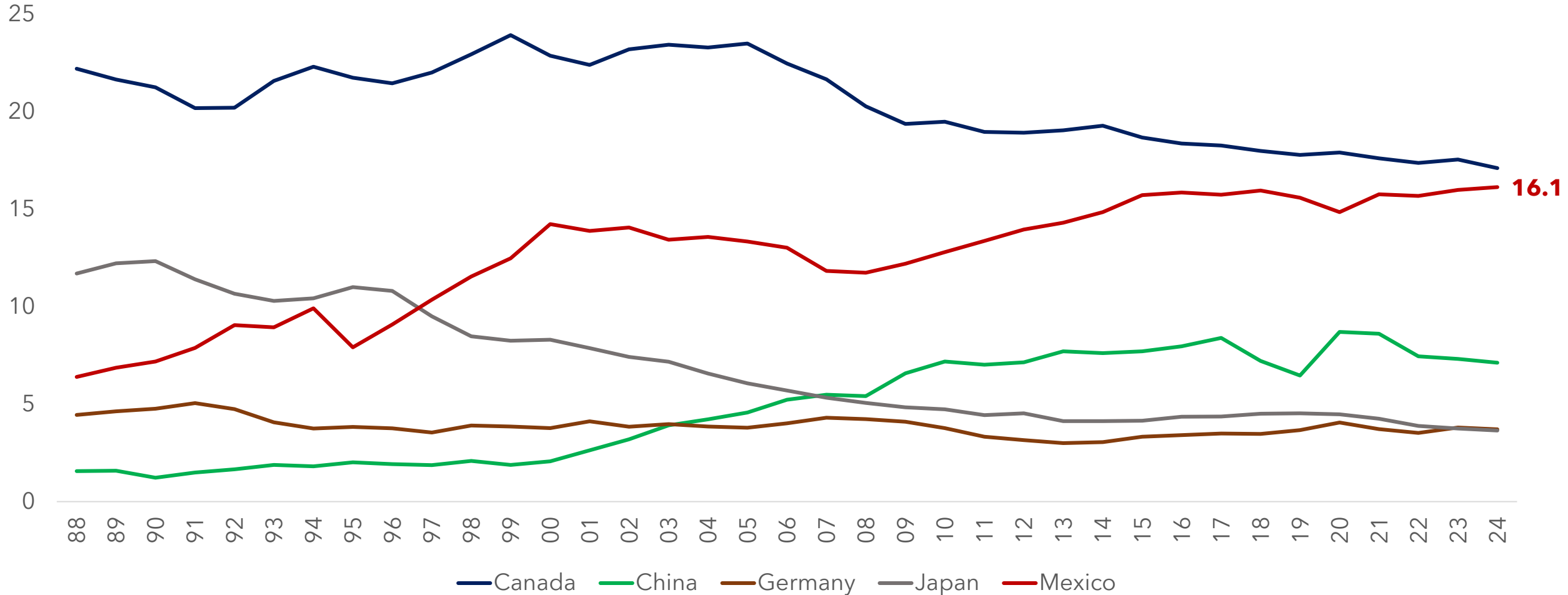


Source: US Census

2024: cumulative through April

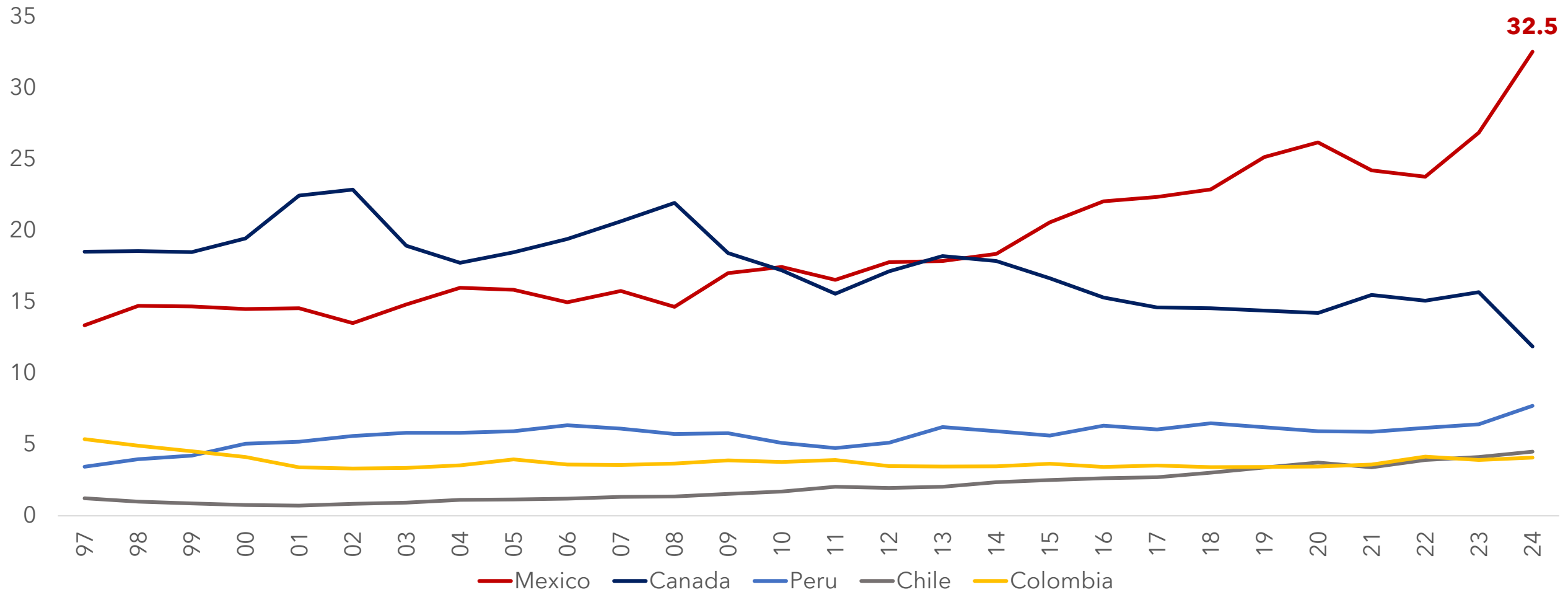
# Main export destinations of the United States

Participation in exports, top 5 countries  
In percentage



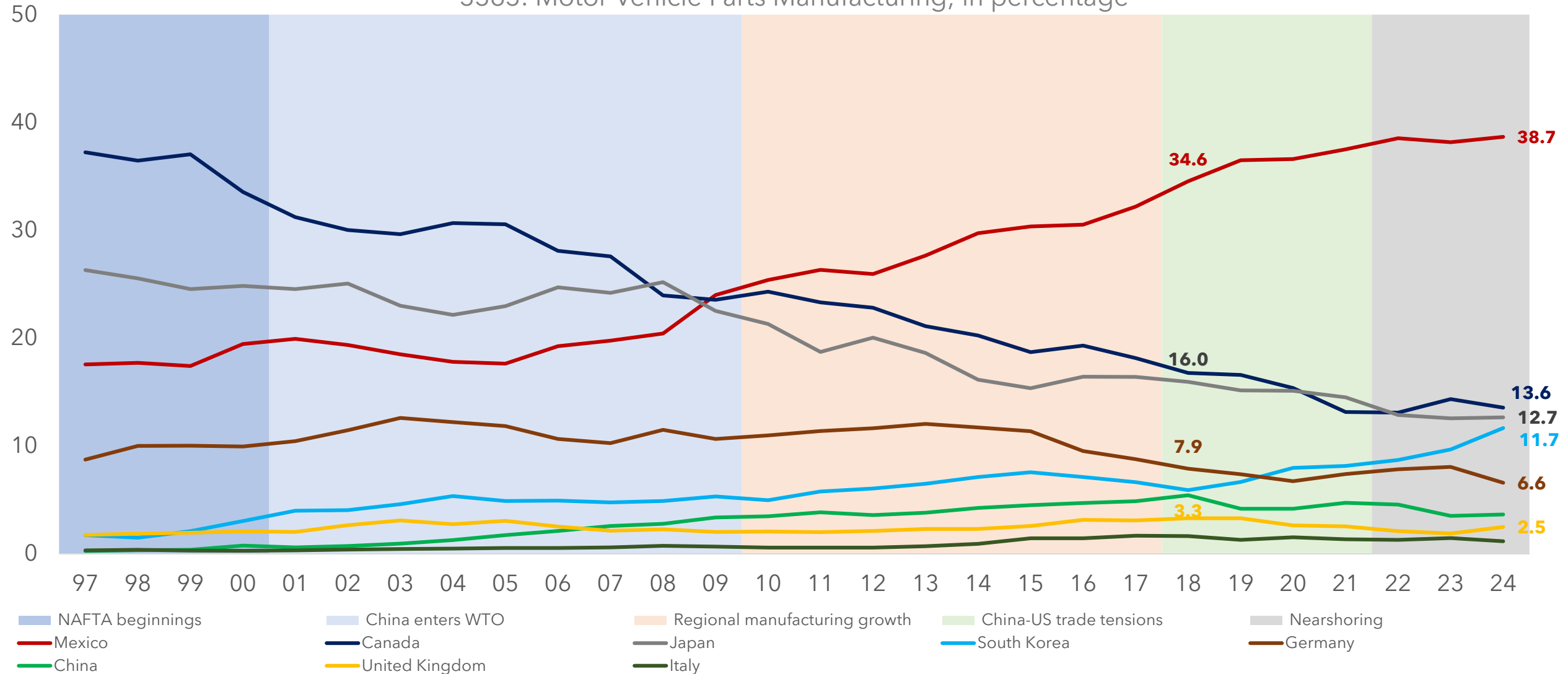
# Market share of U.S. agricultural imports

Share of imports, top 5 countries  
In percentage



# Market share of U.S. imports of motor vehicle and auto parts

Share of imports, selected countries, NAICS 3361: Motor Vehicle; 3362: Motor Vehicle Bodies & Trailers; 3363: Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing; in percentage

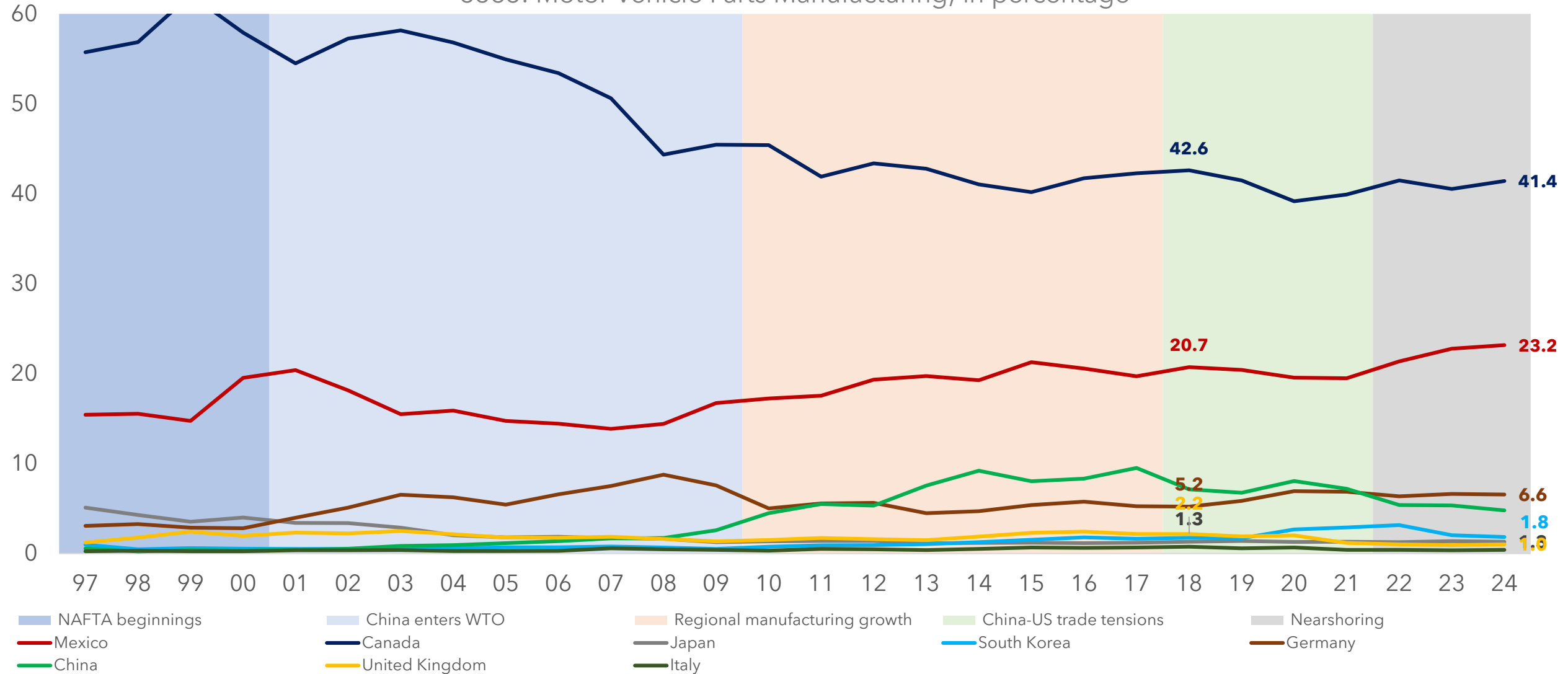


Source: US Census

2024: cumulative through March

# Market share of U.S. exports of motor vehicle and auto parts

Share of exports, selected countries, NAICS 3361: Motor Vehicle; 3362: Motor Vehicle Bodies & Trailers; 3363: Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing; in percentage

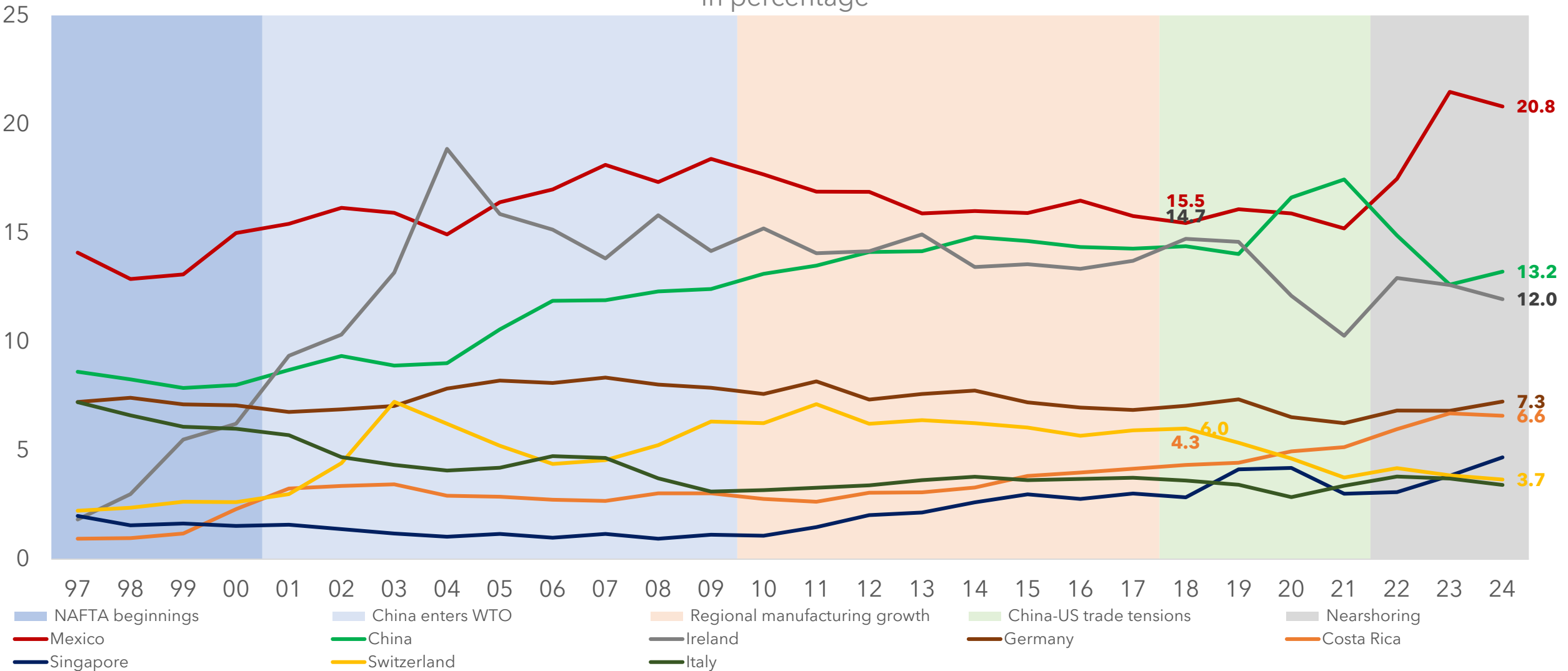


Source: US Census

2024: cumulative through March

# Market share of U.S. imports of medical devices

Share of imports, selected countries, NAICS 3391: Medical Equipment & Supplies  
In percentage

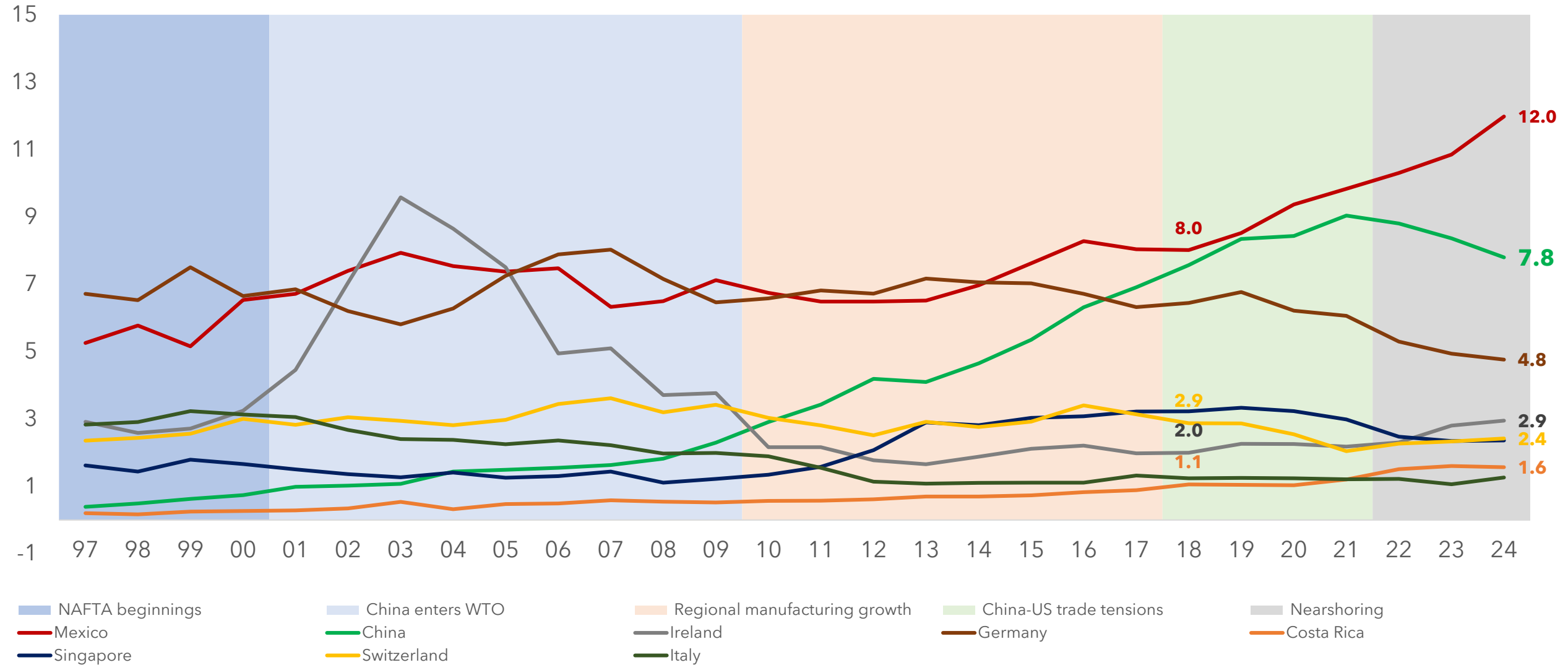


Source: US Census

2024: cumulative through March

# Market share of U.S. exports of medical devices

Share of exports, selected countries, NAICS 3391: Medical Equipment & Supplies  
In percentage

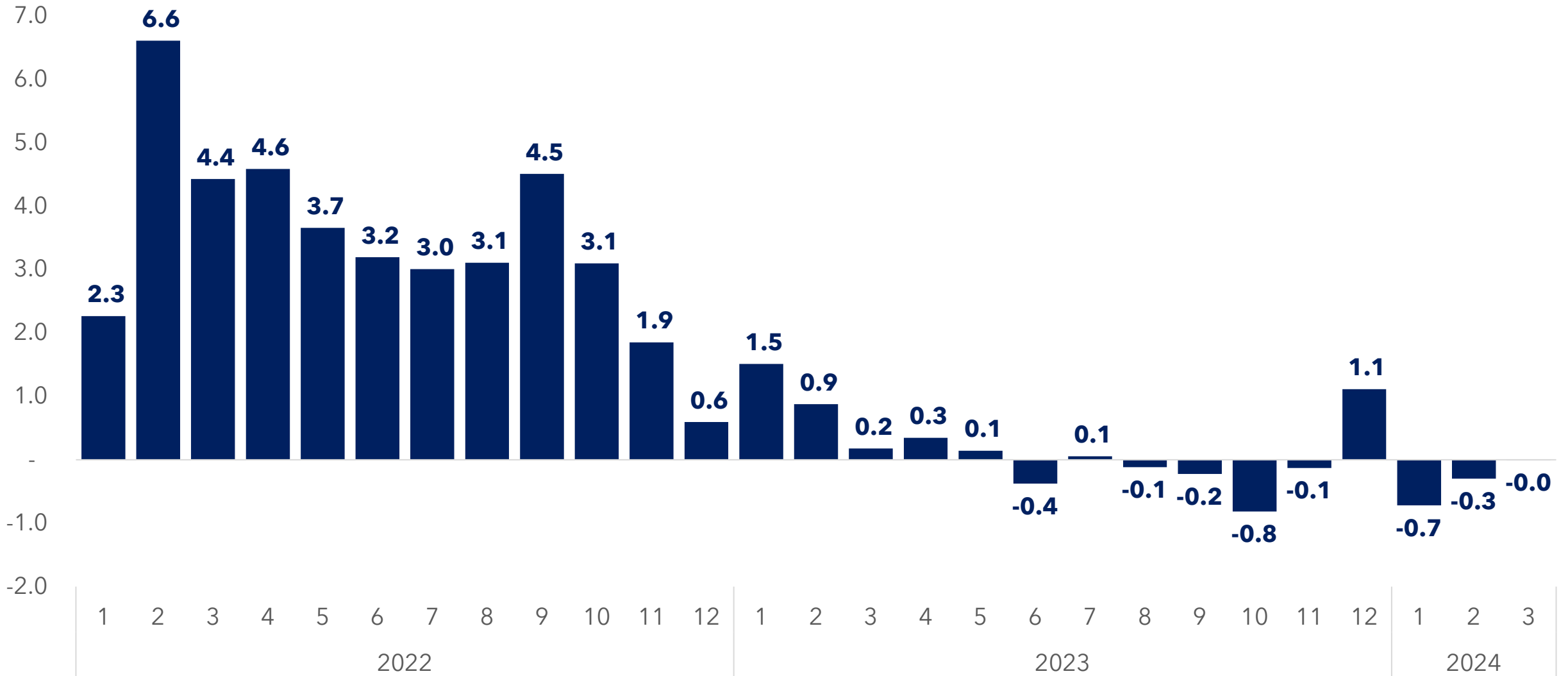


Source: US Census

2024: cumulative through March

# U.S. Industrial production

Annual variation



Source: FRED

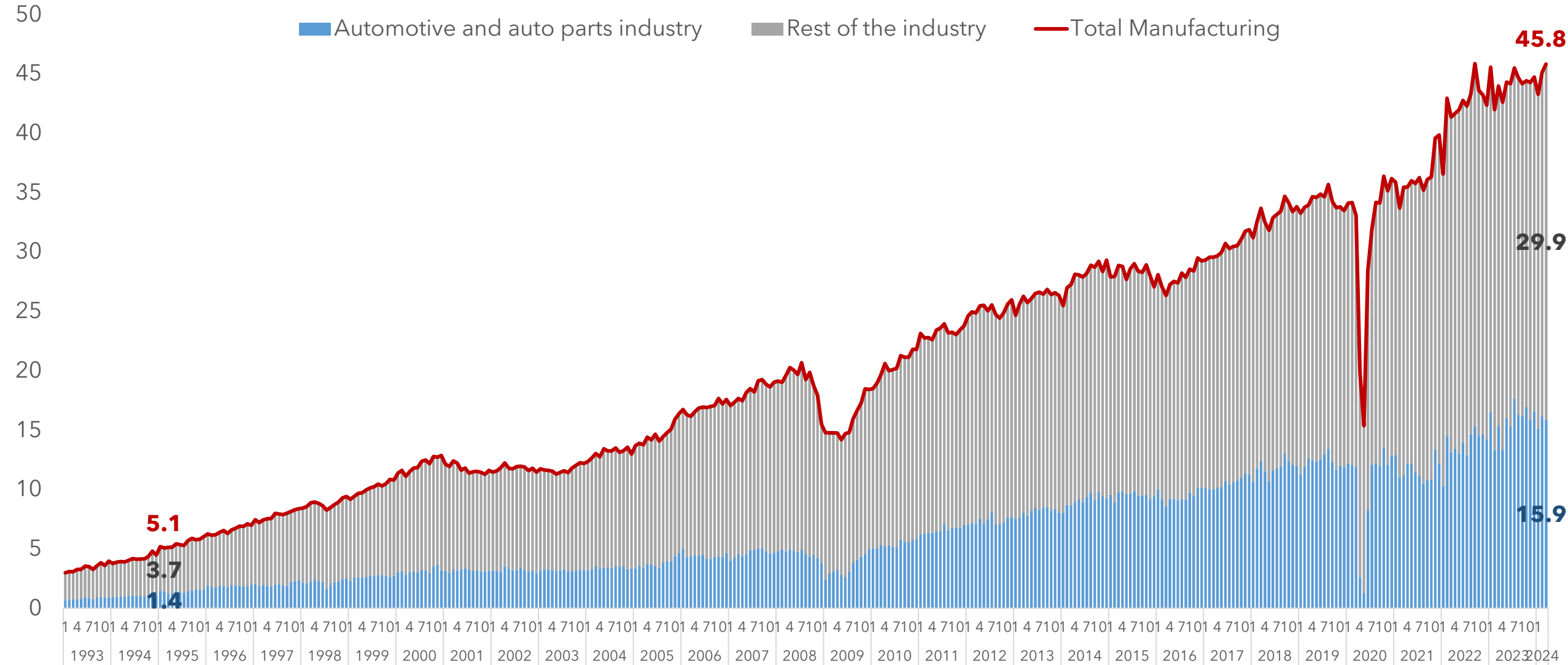
March 2024



# Mexico's manufacturing exports

1993-2024, billions of dollars

Automotive and auto parts industry   Rest of the industry   Total Manufacturing



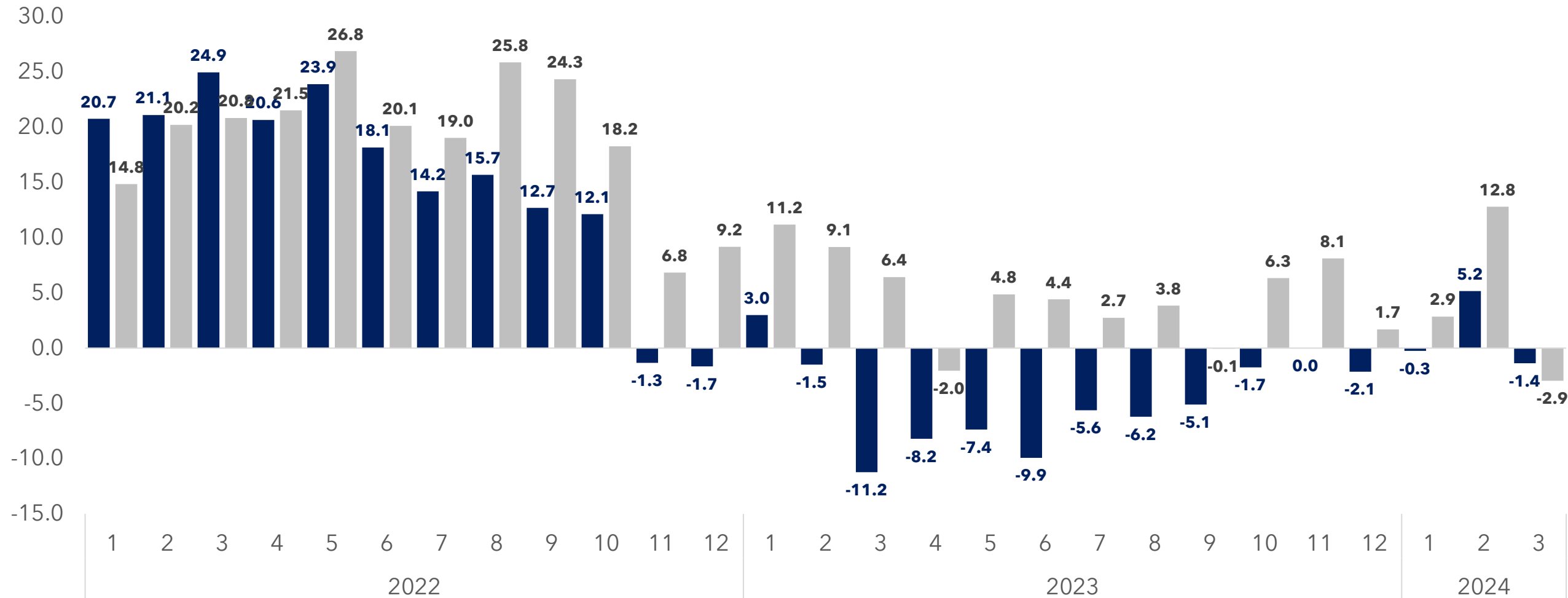
Source: INEGI

March 2024

# U.S. import growth

Annual variation

■ Total imports ■ Imports from Mexico



## **Nearshoring as a process: complexity of export matrix**

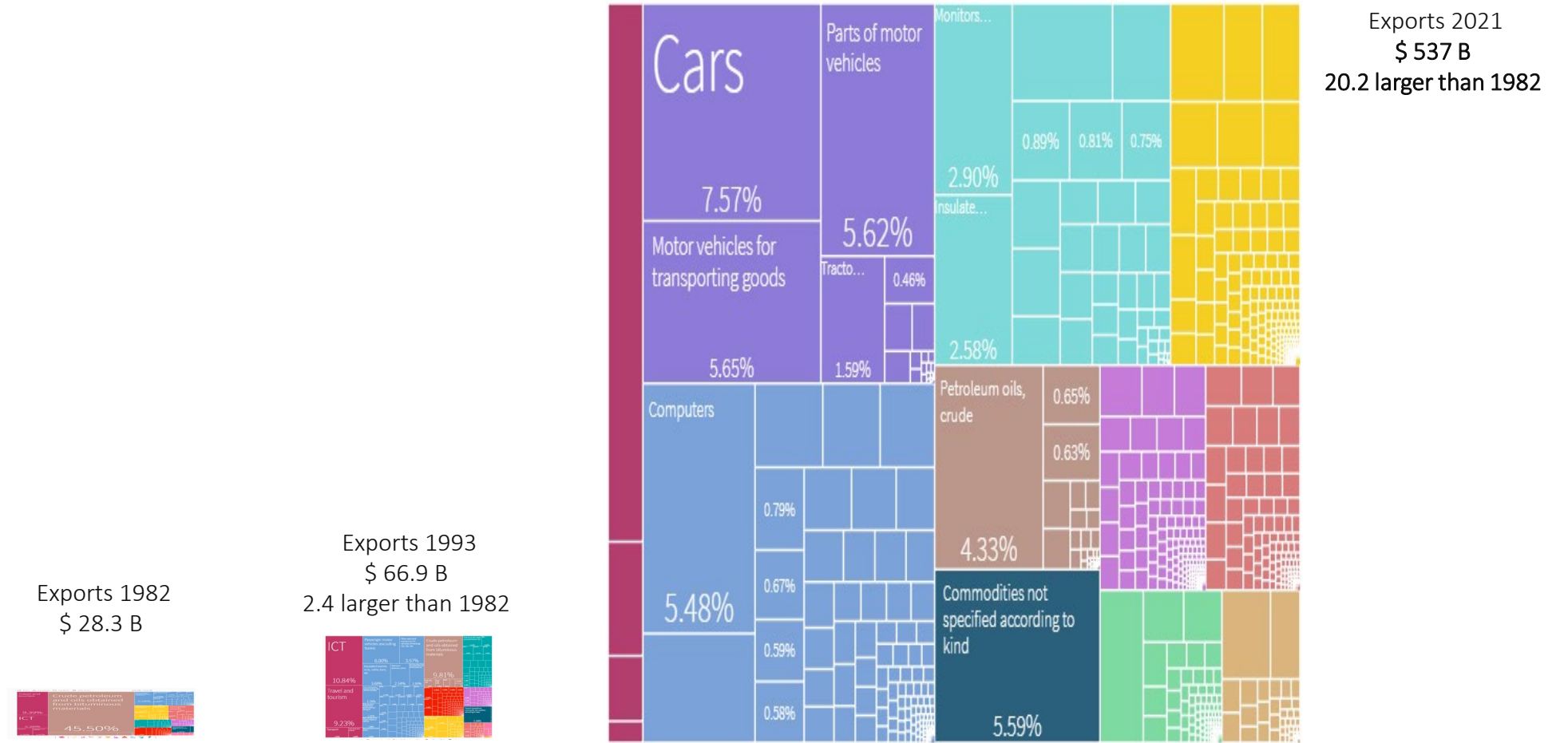
- Gain in market share of US imports is generalized across multiple sectors
- Mexico's economic complexity is comparable to that of Asian economies
- Only Latin American economy with large nearshoring potential
- Future growth is expected in:
  - Agricultural diversification towards value-added products
  - Technological sophistication in manufacturing
  - High value-added services sectors





# Mexico is more complex than what is believed...

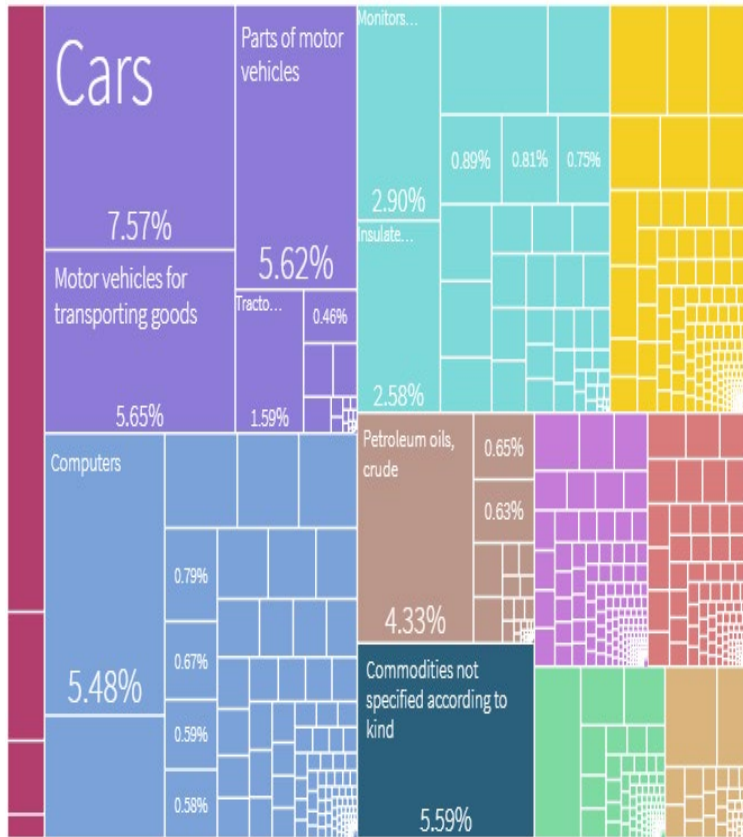
Total exports, in billions of dollars



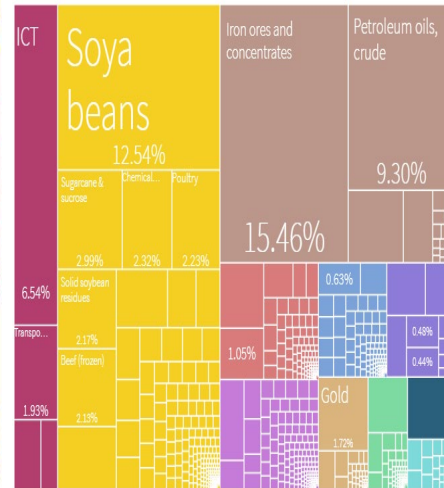
# More complex than its Latin American peers...

Total exports, in billions of dollars

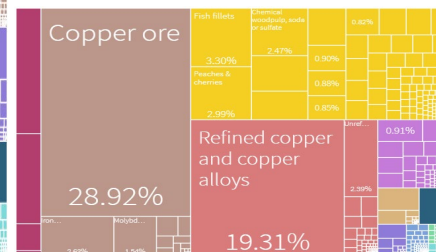
Mexico exports 2021  
\$ 537 B



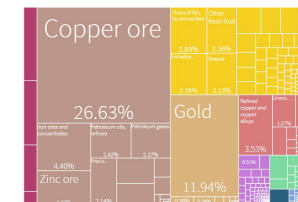
Brazil exports 2021  
\$ 335 B



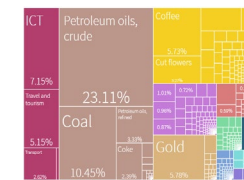
Chile exports 2021  
\$ 104 B



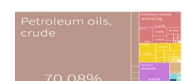
Peru exports 2021  
\$ 64.7 B



Colombia exports 2021  
\$ 53.3 B



Venezuela exports 2021  
\$ 12 B

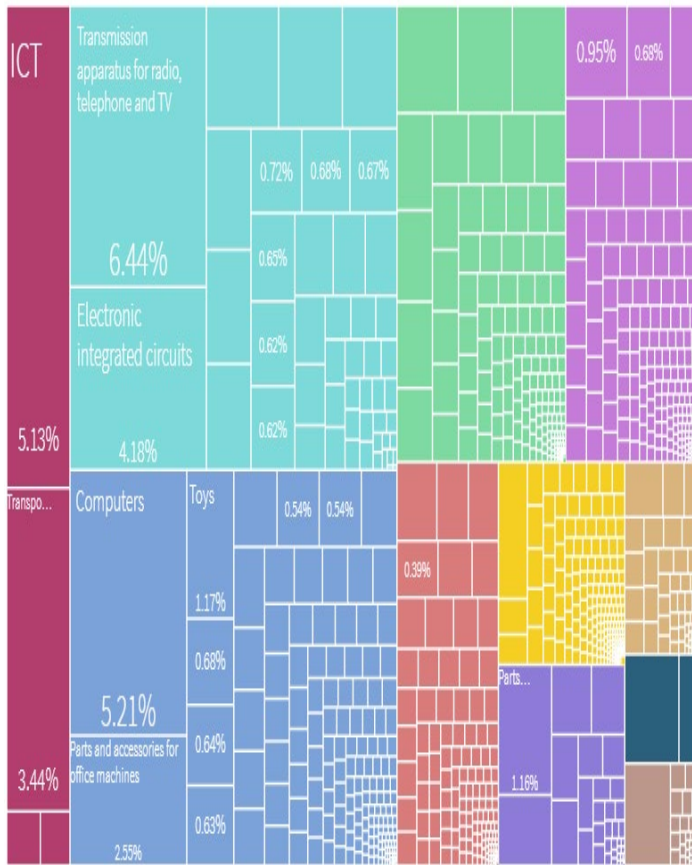


Source: Atlas of Economic Complexity, Harvard University

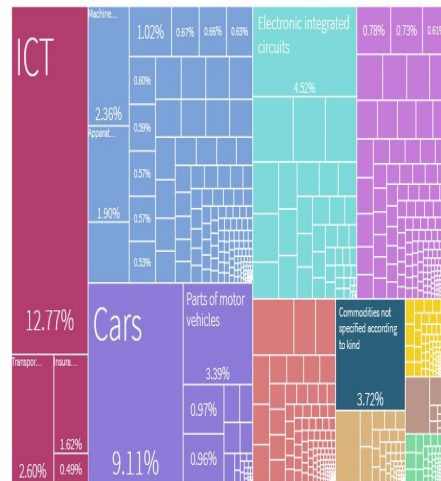
# ... comparable with Asian export economies ...

Total exports, in billions of dollars

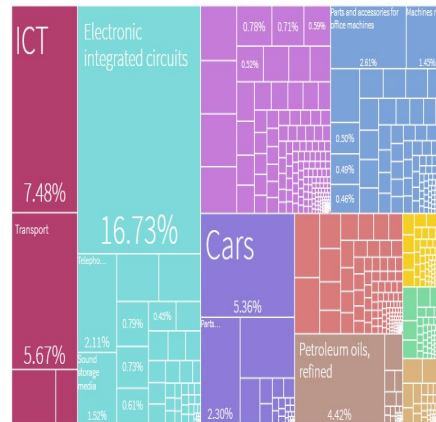
China exports 2021  
\$ 3,700 B



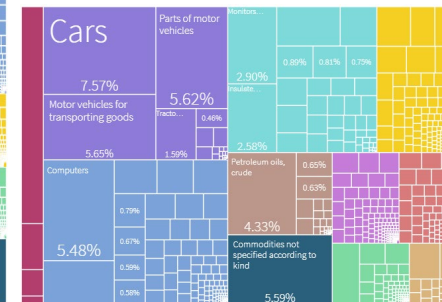
Japan exports 2021  
\$ 973 B



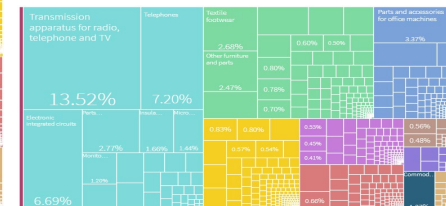
South Korea exports 2021  
\$ 803 B



Mexico exports 2021  
\$ 537 B



Vietnam exports 2021  
\$ 391 B



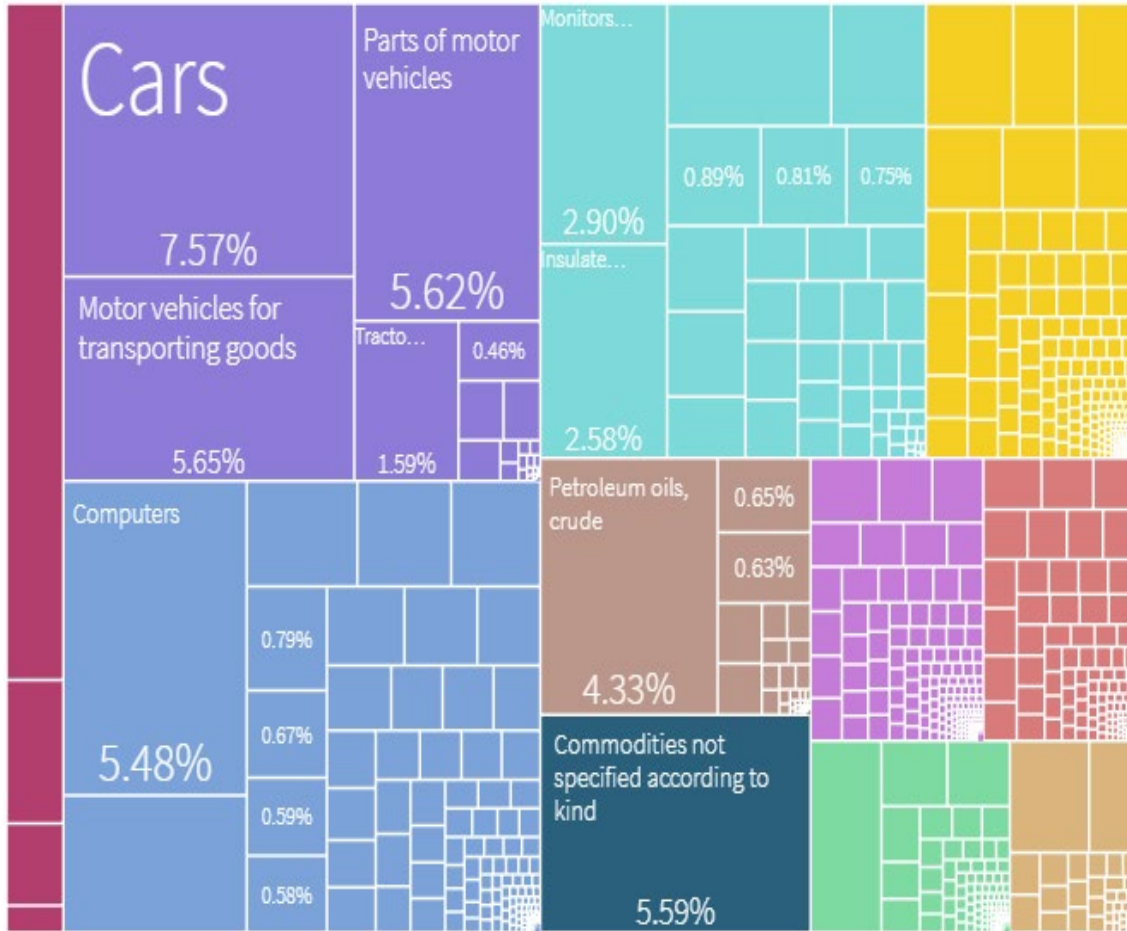
Source: Atlas of Economic Complexity, Harvard University



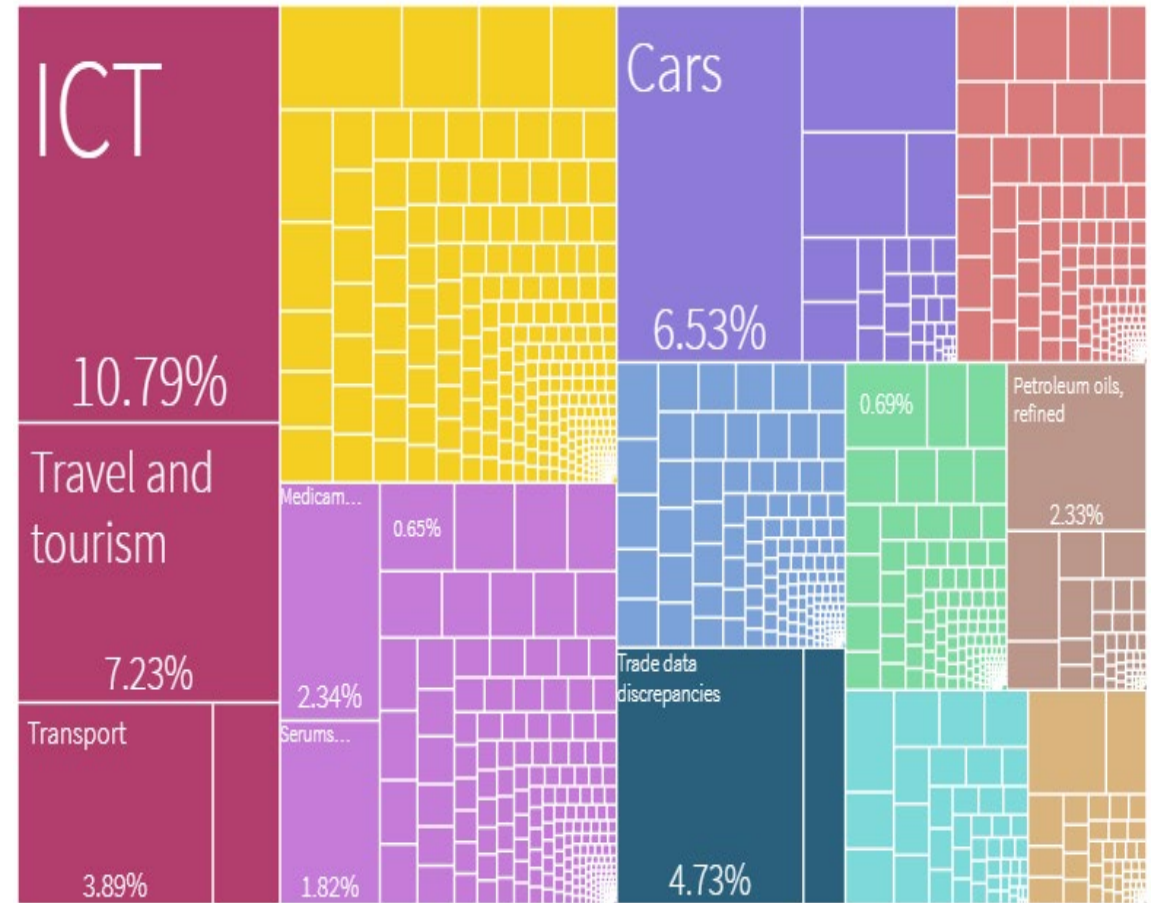
# ... and as complex as Spain

Total exports, in billions of dollars

Mexico exports 2021  
\$ 537 B



Spain exports 2021  
\$ 510 B

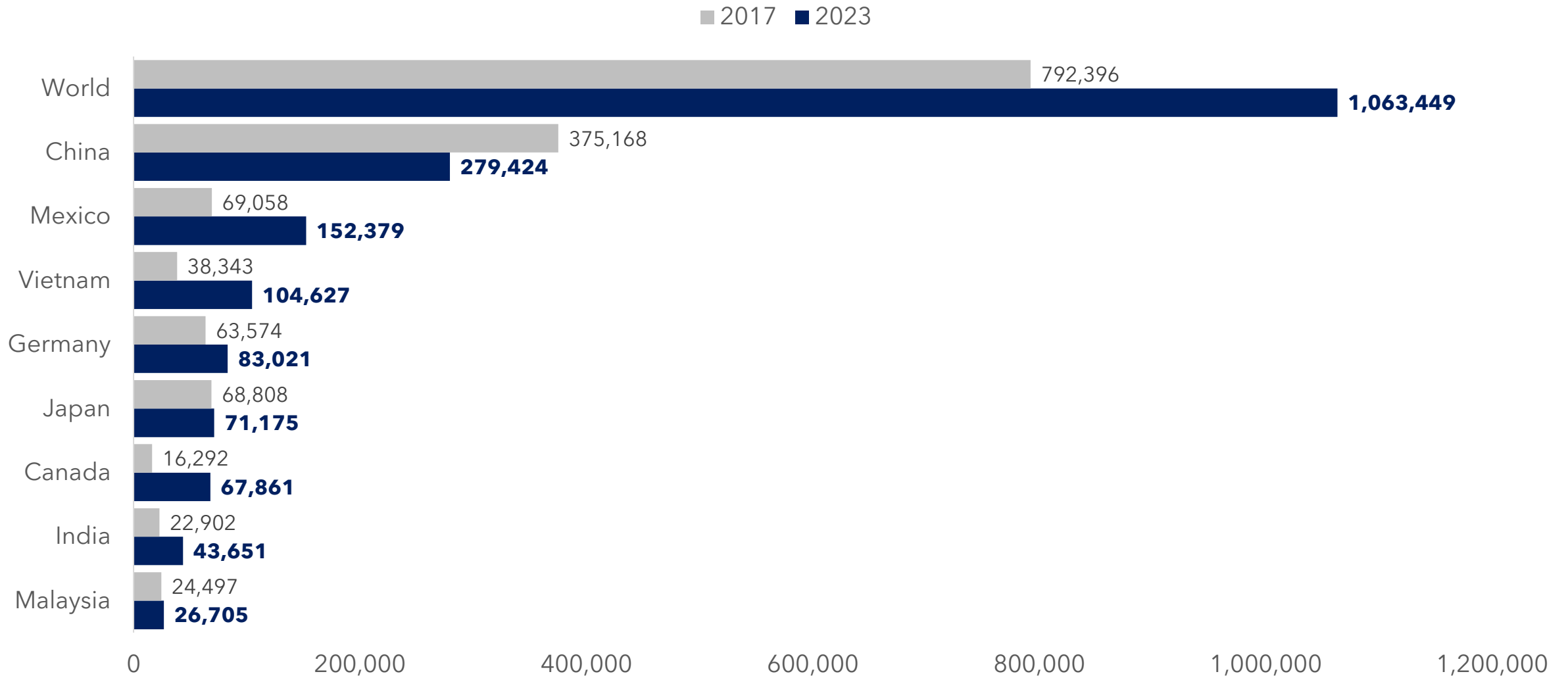


## US trade deficit by country and sector

- The more nearshoring, the larger the US trade deficit with nearby countries
- A manufacturing investment in one of the US's 50 states, generates a trade deficit for the other 49
- The same investment in Mexico would generate a US deficit with Mexico
- If the investment is from Japan or Germany, say, Mexico (or Texas, or Alabama) will run a trade deficit with Japan or Germany but a trade surplus with the US
- Slowdown in Mexican exports tied to slowdown in US industrial production and negative US import growth
- Changes in market share of the US trade deficit, total and/or by sector, measure nearshoring penetration

# U.S. Trade deficit by country

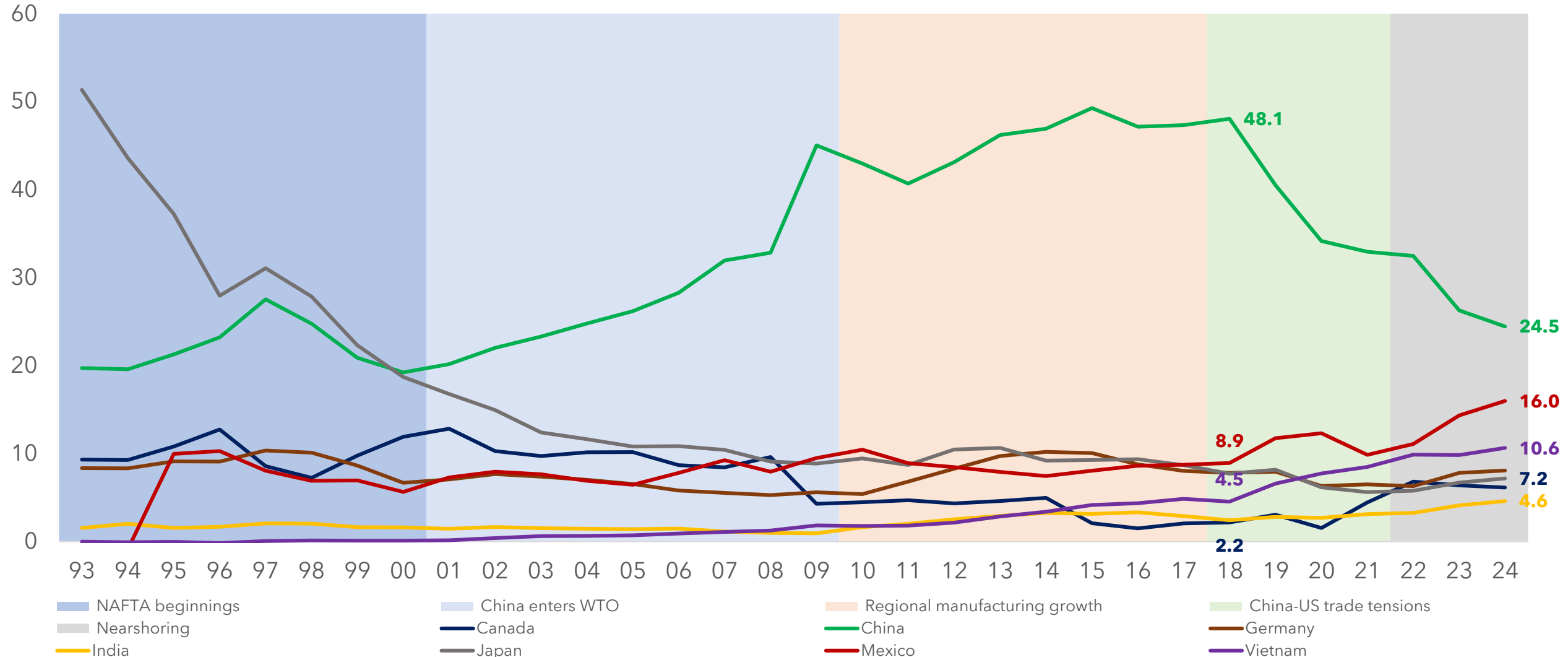
2017, 2023; thousand of dollars, selected countries



Source: USITC

# Market share of U.S. trade deficit

Selected countries  
In percentage

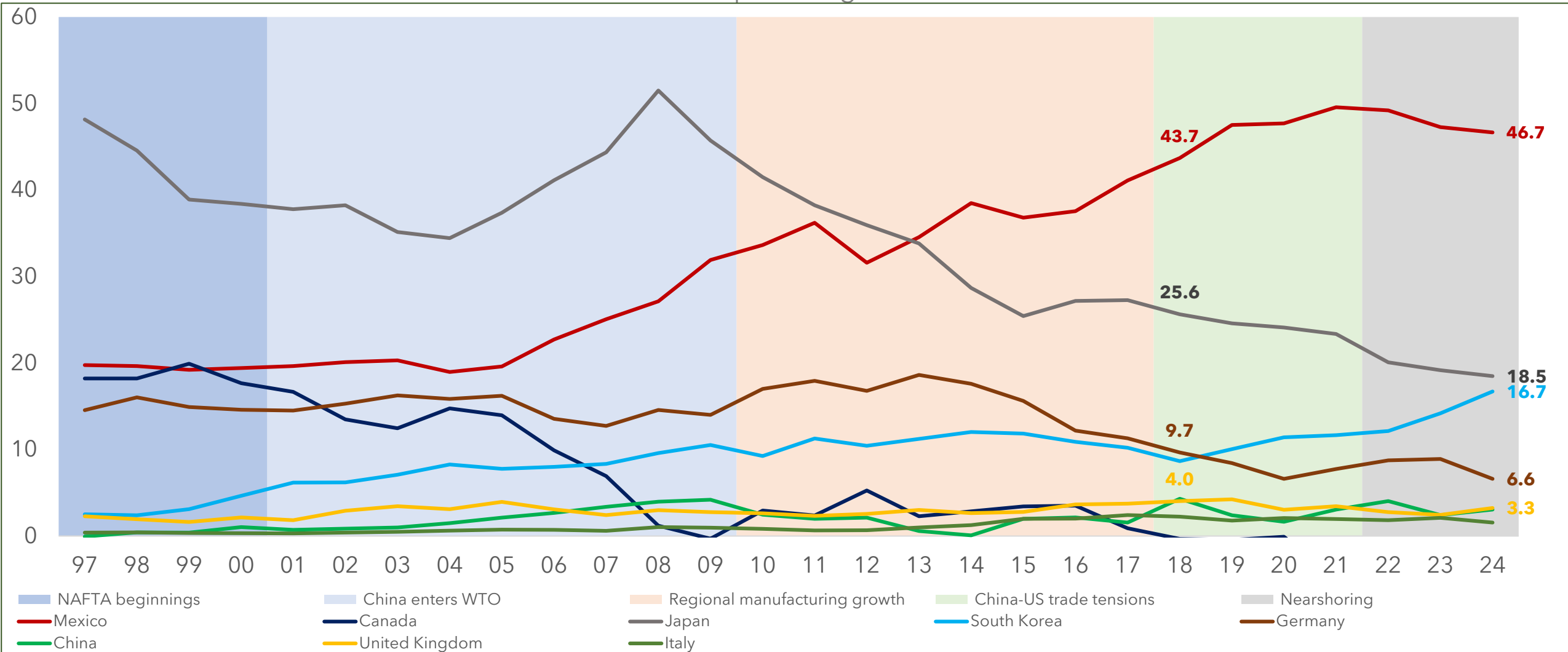


Source: USITC

2024 cumulative through March

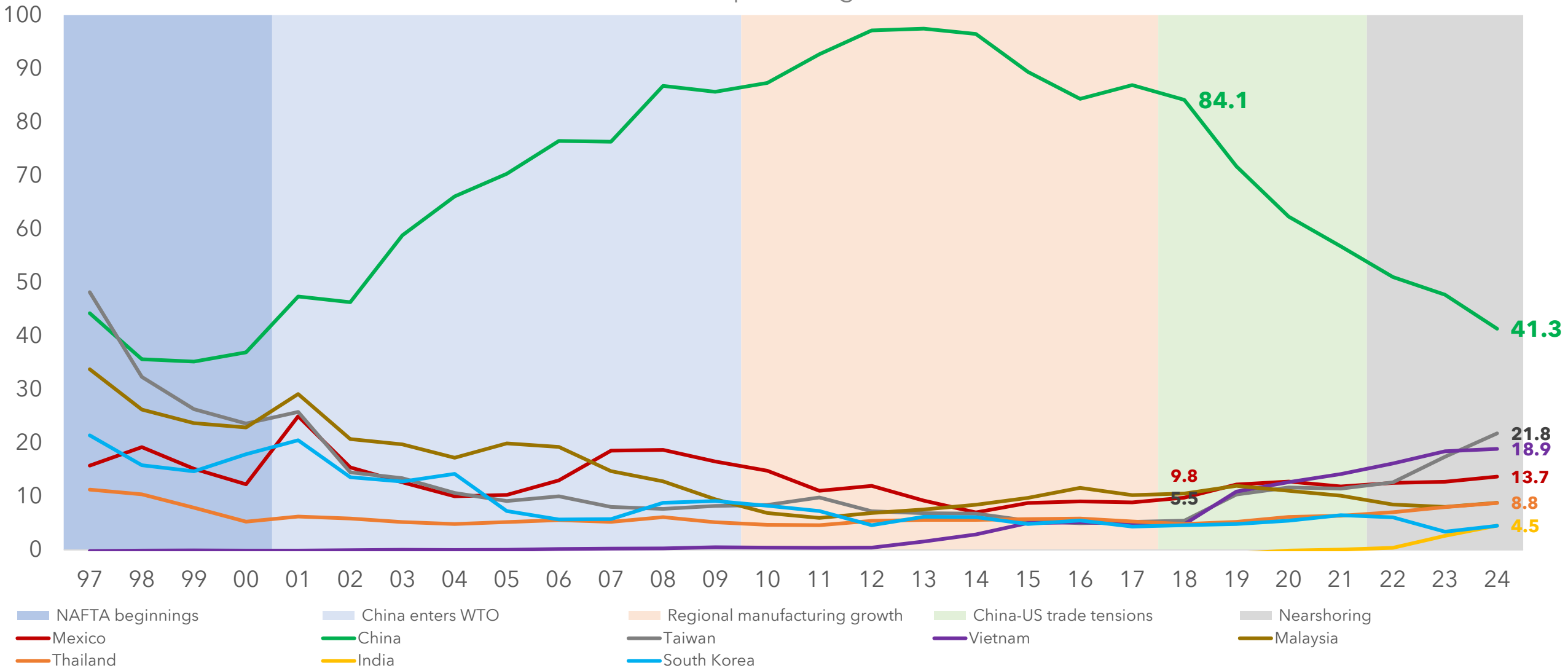
# Market share of U.S. trade deficit in motor vehicle and auto parts

Selected countries, NAICS 3361: Motor Vehicle; 3362: Motor Vehicle Bodies & Trailers; 3363: Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing  
In percentage



# Market share of U.S. trade deficit in computer and electronics

Selected countries, NAICS 334: Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing  
In percentage

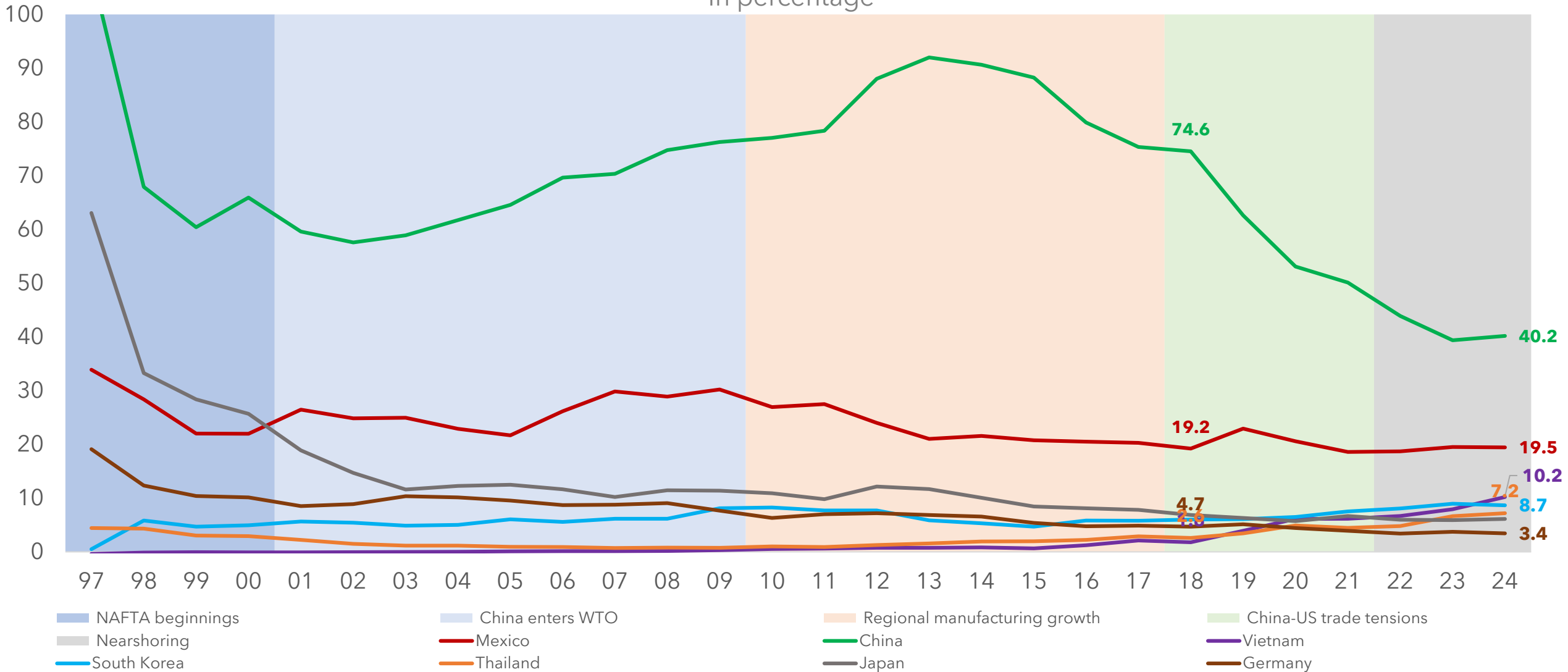


Source: USITC

2024 cumulative through March

# Market share of U.S. trade deficit in electrical equipment

Selected countries, NAICS 335: Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing  
In percentage

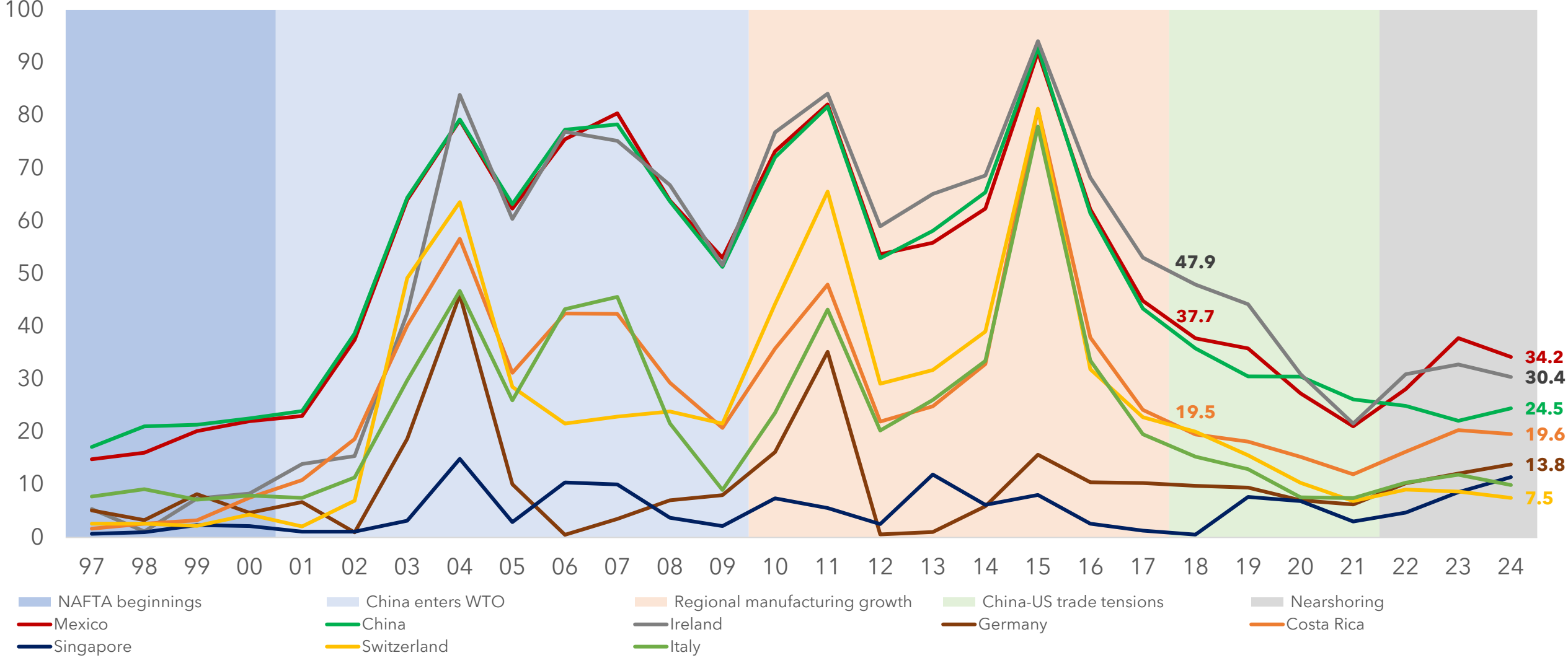


Source: USITC

2024 cumulative through March

# Market share of U.S. trade deficit in medical devices

Selected countries, NAICS 3391: Medical Equipment & Supplies  
In percentage



Source: USITC

2024 cumulative through March

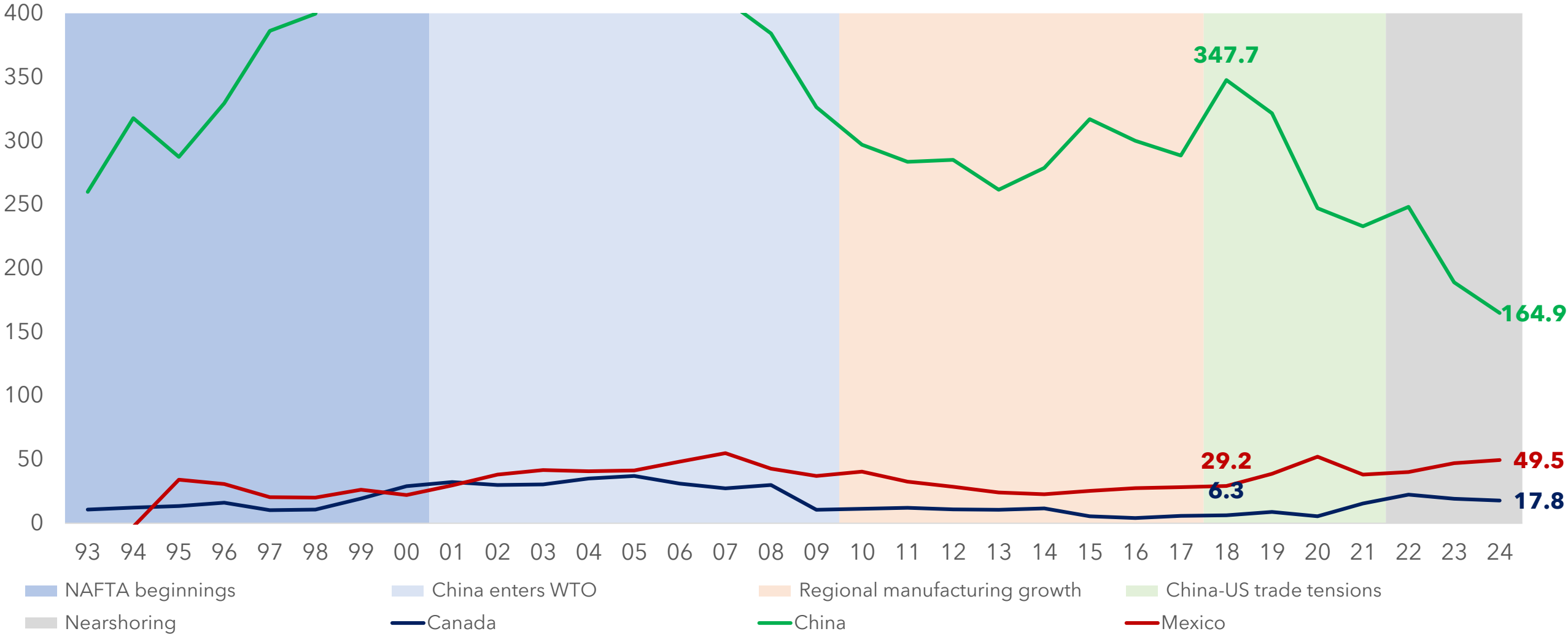


## **US trade deficit by country and sector as a proportion of US exports**

- Trade deficits do not capture fully the nature of nearshoring, as they only partially account for the US's role in global supply chains
- Trade deficit over US exports by country and sector is a more precise measure of nearshoring and its economic effects
- US's trade deficits reflect the US as a market
- US's trade deficit over US export by country and sector better reflect US's role in supply chains

# Total U.S. trade deficit as a proportion of U.S. exports to each country

Selected countries  
In percentage



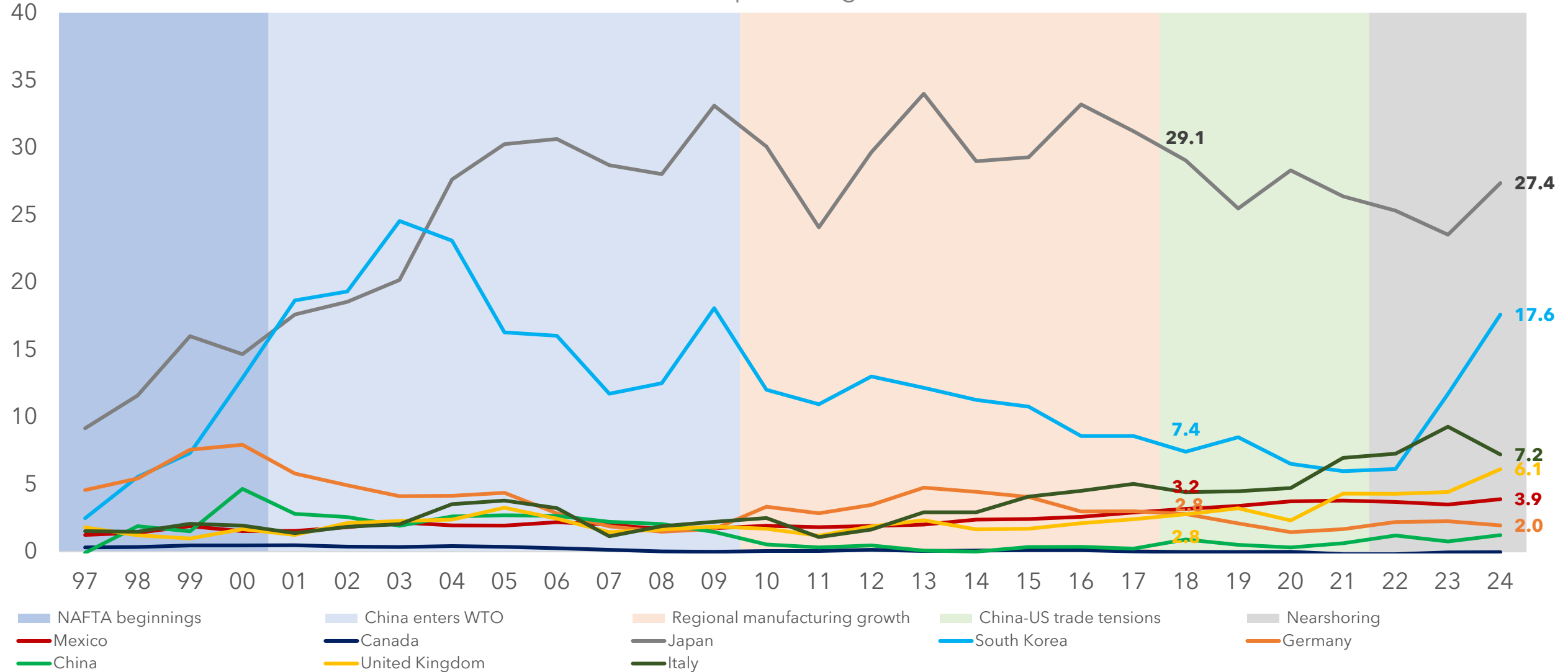
Source: USITC

2024 cumulative through March

# U.S. trade deficit as a proportion of U.S. exports to each country of motor vehicle and auto parts

Selected countries, NAICS 3361: Motor Vehicle; 3362: Motor Vehicle Bodies & Trailers; 3363: Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing

In percentages

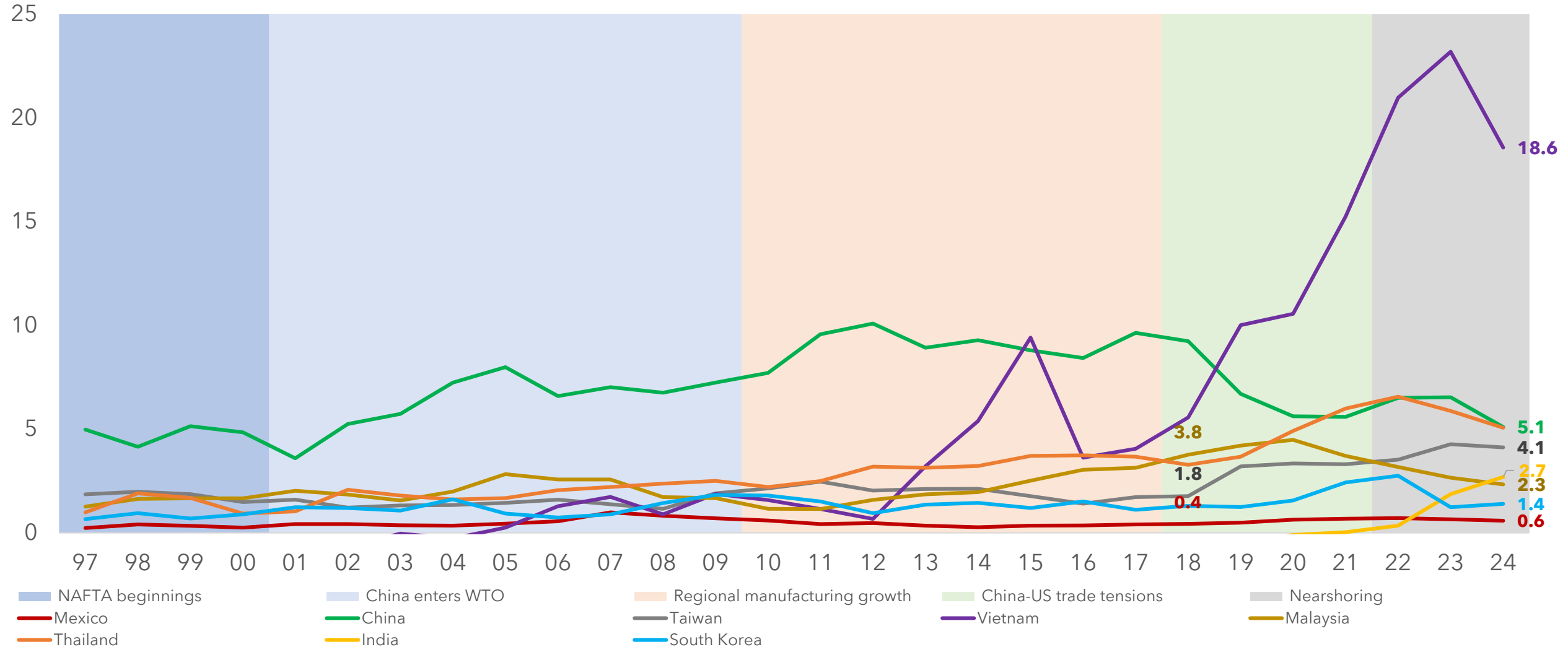


Source: USITC

2024 cumulative through March

# U.S. trade deficit as a proportion of U.S. exports to each country of computer and electronics

Selected countries, NAICS 334: Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing  
In percentages

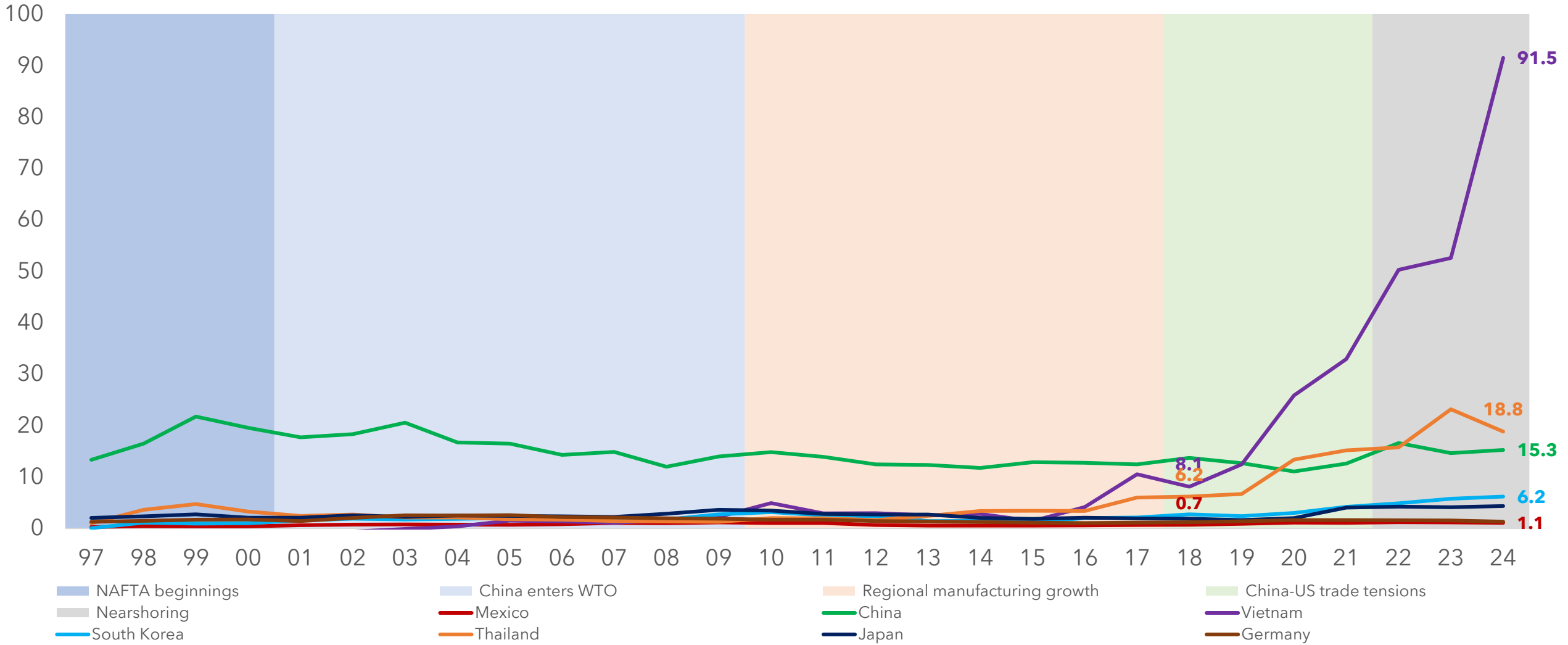


Source: USITC

2024 cumulative through March

# U.S. trade deficit as a proportion of U.S. exports to each country of electrical equipment

Selected countries, NAICS 335: Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing  
In percentages

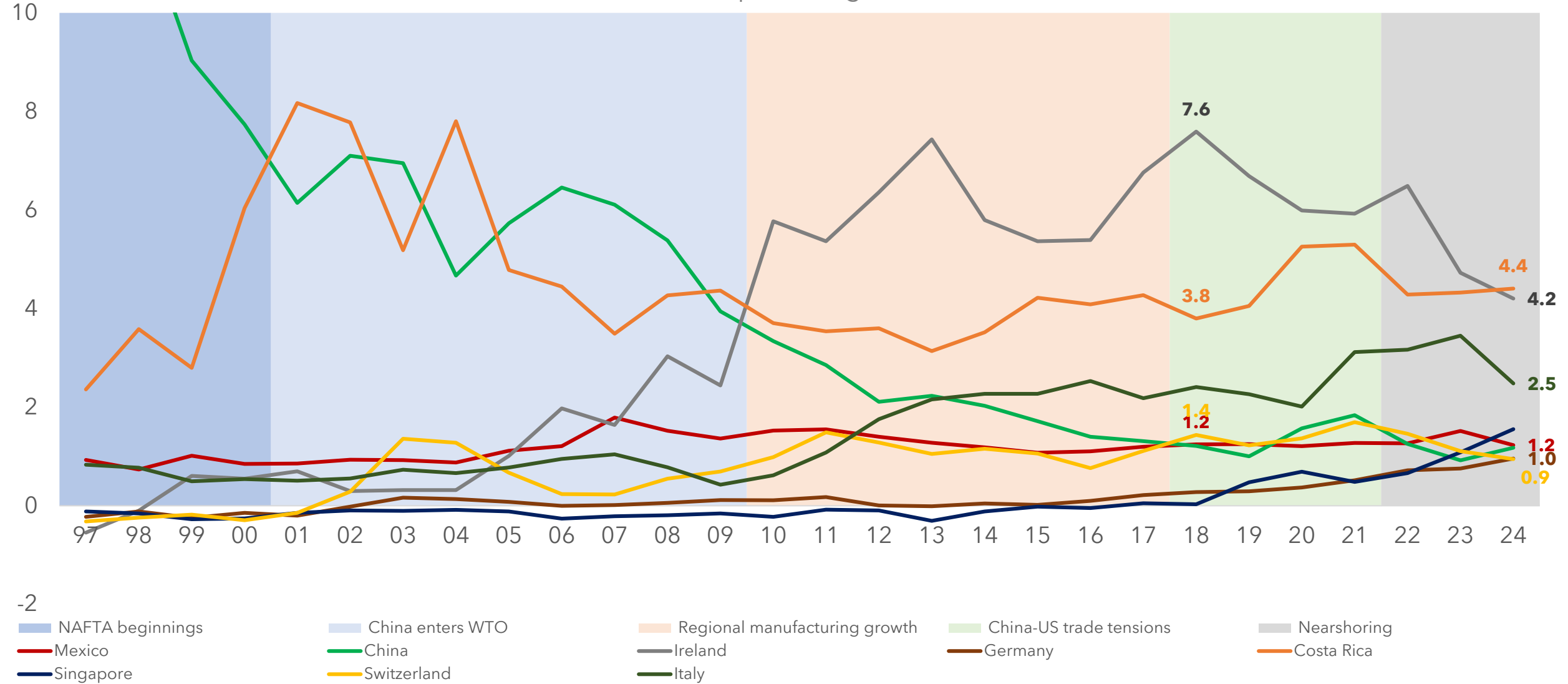


Source: USITC

2024 cumulative through March

# U.S. trade deficit as a proportion of U.S. exports to each country of medical devices

Selected countries, NAICS 3391: Medical Equipment & Supplies  
In percentages



Source: USITC

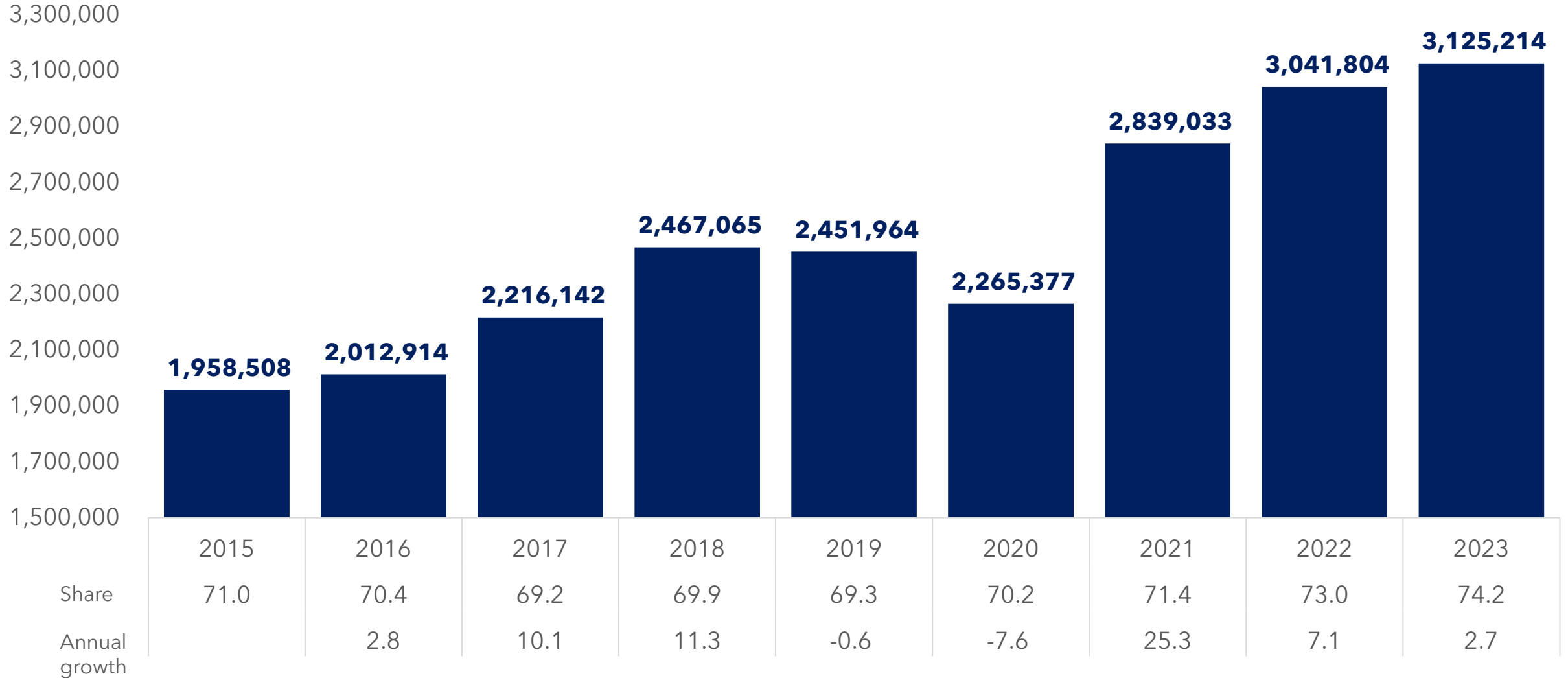
2024 cumulative through March

# Maritime import containers of Mexico in the Pacific region

2015-2023, TEUs

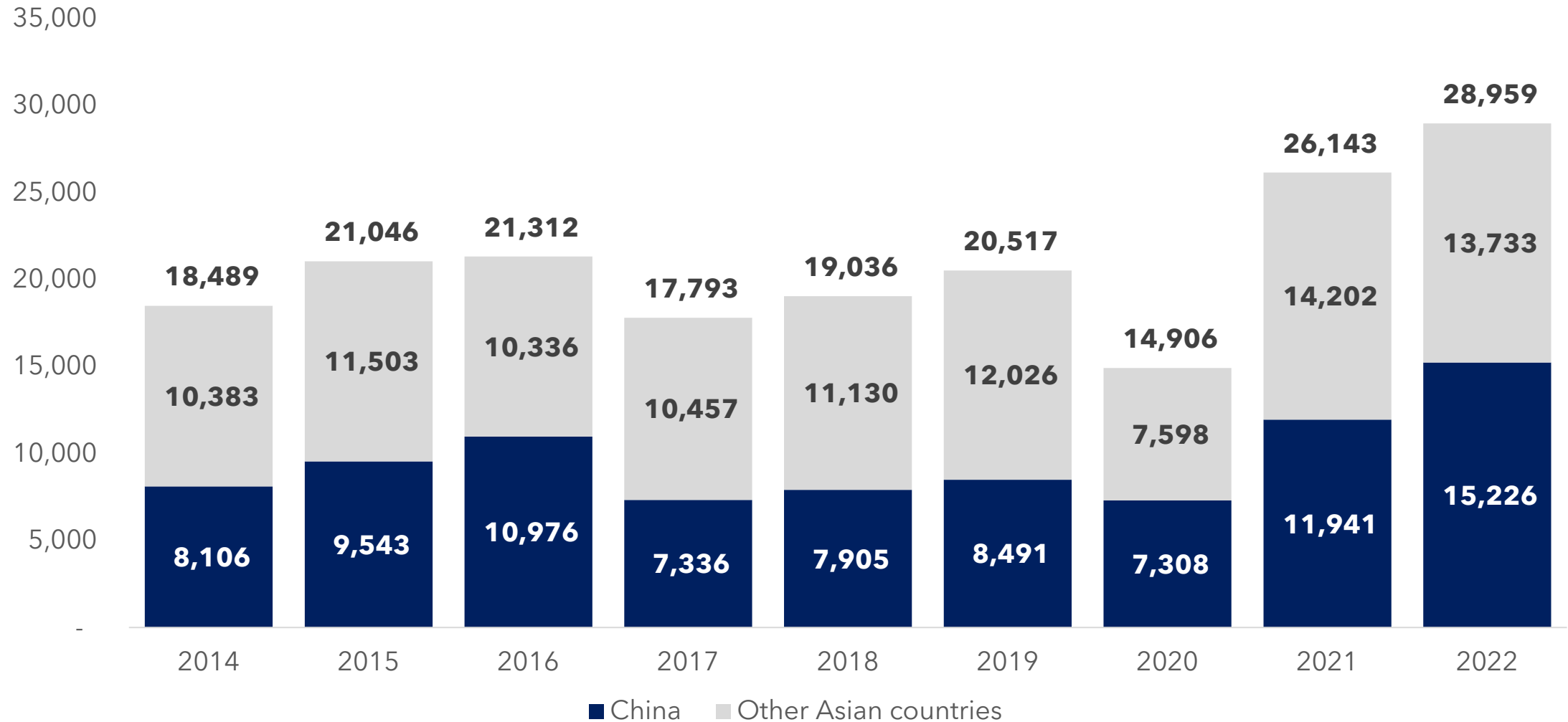
Share of total maritime import containers, in percentage

Annual growth, in percentage



# Maritime imports of Mexico from Asia

2015-2022, thousands of tons





# Nearshoring

## Key takeaways

### **Nearshoring Opportunities**

- Mexico stands at a critical juncture with the potential to become a global leader in nearshoring. Leveraging its strategic location, skilled workforce, and favorable business climate, Mexico can attract international investment and drive economic growth. To capitalize on this opportunity, Mexico must address obstacles and create an environment that fosters innovation, productivity, and competitiveness.
- By investing in infrastructure, streamlining regulations, and promoting public-private partnerships, Mexico can become the preferred destination for companies optimizing their supply chains and tapping into the growing consumer market in the Americas. The surge in investment activity, evidenced by the growth in capital goods imports and investment announcements, highlights the confidence global businesses have in Mexico's potential. This analysis explores the compelling case for nearshoring in Mexico, emphasizing its potential as a leading destination for international investment and a driving force in global trade reconfiguration.

### **Transforming the Investment Landscape**

- In 2023, Mexico's investment landscape underwent significant transformation, with investment contributing 24.9% to GDP, the highest in a decade. This surge underscores Mexico's growing attractiveness as a nearshoring destination. The increase in Gross Fixed Investment, highlighted by recent data, reflects the growing confidence of investors in Mexico's economic prospects.

### **Capital Goods Imports and Investment Trends**

- The extraordinary surge in capital goods imports, exceeding 20% in 2023 and continuing into 2024, indicates a fundamental shift in the global manufacturing landscape. This growth signifies that companies are investing in expanding their production capabilities in Mexico, laying the foundation for long-term growth and competitiveness.

### **Global Investment Partners**

- The United States was the dominant investor, accounting for 52% of total FDI, followed by Germany (9%) and Canada (8%). Japan, Argentina, Switzerland, South Korea, the Netherlands, and Spain also contributed, showcasing Mexico's diverse range of international investors.

# Nearshoring

## Key takeaways

### Investment Announcements

- Between 2023 and Q1-2024, investment announcements in Mexico totaled \$138.666 billion across various sectors, including utilities, logistics, retail, automotive, and industrial park development. These commitments reflect growing confidence in Mexico's economic future and its role in international trade.

### Challenges and Opportunities

- While the increase in FDI is encouraging, FDI alone is an incomplete indicator of Mexico's investment landscape. It's essential to consider domestic investment, reinvestment, and contributions from the maquiladora sector. Policymakers and investors must take a holistic view to foster sustainable economic growth.

### Mexico's Rising Prominence in U.S. Trade

- Mexico has emerged as the largest supplier to the United States, benefiting from global trade dynamics and geopolitical uncertainties. This shift is driven by companies seeking to mitigate risks and diversify their supply chains. Despite recent slowdowns in U.S. industrial production and negative import growth, Mexico has increased its market share, highlighting its role as a reliable trading partner.

### Sectoral Diversity and Future Growth

- Mexico's gain in U.S. market share spans multiple industries, reflecting the complexity and diversity of its export matrix. The country is well-positioned to capitalize on nearshoring, with a sophisticated manufacturing sector and proximity to the U.S. market. Future growth is expected in agriculture, value-added manufacturing, and services sectors like information technology and financial services.

### Trade Deficits and Nearshoring Penetration

- Changes in U.S. trade deficits with Mexico indicate nearshoring trends. As companies relocate production to Mexico, the U.S. trade deficit with Mexico is likely to increase, reflecting the importance of nearshoring in bilateral trade.

# USMCA Sunset Clause and 2026 review

- Unlike other trade agreements, USMCA has a termination date:
- The Agreement “shall terminate 16 years after the date of its entry into force, unless each Party confirms it wishes to continue this Agreement for a new 16-year term” according to some procedures (Article 34.7: Review and Term Extension)
- Procedures for **joint review** and extension in 2026:
  - “On the sixth anniversary of the entry into force of this Agreement, the [Free Trade] Commission shall meet to conduct a **joint review** of the operation of this Agreement, review any recommendations for action submitted by a Party, and decide on any appropriate actions.”
  - “Each Party shall confirm, in writing, through its head of government, if it wishes to extend the term of this Agreement for another 16-year period... ...The Commission shall conduct a **joint review** and consider extension of this Agreement term no later than at the end of the next six-year period.”
  - “If, as part of a six-year review, a Party does not confirm its wish to extend the term of this Agreement for another 16-year period, the Commission shall meet to conduct a **joint review** every year for the remainder of the term of this Agreement. If one or more Parties did not confirm their desire to extend this Agreement for another 16-year term at the conclusion of a given **joint review**, at any time between the conclusion of that review and expiry of this Agreement, the Parties may automatically extend the term of this Agreement for another 16 years by confirming in writing, through their respective head of government, their wish to extend this Agreement for another 16-year period.”

## USMCA Sunset Clause and 2026 review

- A **joint review** does not lead to a renegotiation, unless the three Parties agreed to such an action ( Article 34.3: Amendments).
- The **joint review** refers to a survey, critical evaluation or a report on the operation of the USMCA. The review by itself is not a renegotiation.
- In the Spanish language "*revisión*" can be either review or revise in the sense of to examine to amend something, to improve it or to update it. This has created confusion as the use of "*revisión*" is sometimes interpreted as implying reopening and renegotiation. **Lost in translation.**
- Any renegotiation of the USMCA would only occur -if at all- if the Parties agree to do it at any time, regardless of the **joint review**.