



# Make the Sugar Program Work for America

April 4, 2017

## Get the Facts on U.S. Sugar Policy

A House Agriculture subcommittee held a hearing today on commodities in anticipation of the next farm bill. Here are a few facts about the only commodity not reformed in the most recent farm bill: **sugar**.

- U.S. sugar policy consists of **four components** that amount to a **complex web of tight controls on sugar supplies**: price supports; marketing allotments; import quotas; and the Feedstock Flexibility Program, which forces taxpayers to foot the bill for excess sugar.
- America has **never been self-sufficient** in sugar production, and must rely on **needed imports** to meet market demand each year. Despite demand, the sugar program puts constraints on supplies to keep prices artificially high for domestic producers - the opposite of a free market.
- Unlike other farm programs, the sugar program imposes its costs on consumers through **higher food and beverage prices** - putting a squeeze on hardworking American families. Since the implementation of the 2008 farm bill, U.S. refined sugar prices have averaged **65 percent higher** than the world price.

Calendar Year	U.S. Price	World Price	U.S. % Higher
2009	38.1 ¢/lb	22.1 ¢/lb	72.1%
2010	53.2 ¢/lb	27.3 ¢/lb	91.6%
2011	56.2 ¢/lb	31.7 ¢/lb	77.5%
2012	43.4 ¢/lb	26.5 ¢/lb	63.7%
2013	27.2 ¢/lb	22.2 ¢/lb	22.8%
2014	32.9 ¢/lb	20.2 ¢/lb	63.9%
2015	33.9 ¢/lb	16.9 ¢/lb	100%
2016	26.7 ¢/lb	22.7 ¢/lb	30.6%

**Congress, Make the Sugar Program Work for America.**

Learn more at [www.sugarreform.org](http://www.sugarreform.org).

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*The Coalition for Sugar Reform is an alliance of consumers, food and beverage manufacturers, trade advocates, environmental groups, taxpayer watchdog organizations, responsible government advocates, think tanks and other interests. Our objective is to reform the federal government's intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program - a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.*