



If you would like to share news or information with our readers, please send the unique stories, business

news organization events, and school news to us including your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

For news and information consideration, please send to [News@scdaily.com](mailto:News@scdaily.com) or contact

John Robbins **832-280-5815**  
Jun Gai **281-498-4310**

U.S. to remove tariffs on Canadian metals, Mexico deal imminent

# Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Saturday, May 18, 2019 | [www.today-america.com](http://www.today-america.com)

Southern News Group

Inside C2

## China's tough rhetoric leaves trade talks with U.S. in limbo

WASHINGTON/BEIJING (Reuters) - China struck a more aggressive tone in its trade war with the United States on Friday, suggesting a resumption of talks between the world's two largest economies would be meaningless unless Washington changed course.

The tough talk capped a week that saw Beijing unveil fresh retaliatory tariffs, U.S. officials accuse China of backtracking on promises made during months of talks and the Trump administration level a potentially crippling blow against one of China's biggest and most successful companies.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang, asked about state media reports suggesting there would be no more trade negotiations, said China always encouraged resolving disputes with the United States through dialogue and consultations.

"But because of certain things the U.S. side has done during the previous China-U.S. trade consultations, we believe if there is meaning for these talks, there must be a show of sincerity," he told a daily news briefing.

IMF's Lagarde says U.S.-China trade war could be risk for world economic outlook

The United States raised Beijing's ire this week when it announced it was putting Huawei Technologies Co Ltd, the world's biggest telecoms equipment maker, on a blacklist that could make it extremely hard to do business with U.S. companies.

China has yet to say whether or how it will retaliate, although its state media is sounding an increasingly strident note. The ruling Communist Party's People's Daily published on Friday a front-page commentary that evoked the patriotic spirit of the country's past wars.

"The trade war can't bring China down. It will only harden us to grow stronger," it said.

Global stocks, which rebounded this week on the prospect of another round of U.S.-China talks, suffered a fresh bout of selling and China's yuan slid to its weakest against the U.S. dollar in almost five months. Prices of U.S. government debt were trading higher. [MKTG/GLOB]



A container is carried onto a truck in a logistics center near Tianjin Port, in northern China, May 16, 2019. REUTERS/Jason Lee

## Insurer says Iran's Guards likely to have organized tanker attacks

LONDON/OSLO (Reuters) - Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) are "highly likely" to have facilitated attacks last Sunday on four tankers including two Saudi ships off Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates, according to a Norwegian insurers' report seen by Reuters.

The UAE, Saudi Arabia and Norway are investigating the attacks, which also hit a UAE- and a Norwegian-flagged vessel.

A confidential assessment issued this week by the Norwegian Shipowners' Mutual War Risks Insurance Association (DNK) concluded that the attack was likely to have been carried out by a surface vessel operating close by that despatched underwater drones carrying 30-50 kg (65-110 lb) of high-grade explosives to detonate on impact.

The attacks took place against a backdrop of U.S.-Iranian tension following Washington's decision this month to try to cut Tehran's oil exports to zero and beef up its military presence in the Gulf in response to what it called Iranian threats.

U.S. has heard nothing from Iran on overtures for talks -official

Iran's elite naval forces said to pass skills to proxy fighters

See more stories

The DNK based its assessment that the IRGC was likely to have orchestrated the attacks on a number of factors, including:

- A high likelihood that the IRGC had previously supplied its allies, the Houthi militia fighting a Saudi-backed government in Yemen, with explosive-laden surface drone boats capable of homing in on GPS navigational positions for accuracy.
- The similarity of shrapnel found on the Norwegian tanker to shrapnel from drone boats used off Yemen by Houthis, even though the craft previously used by the Houthis were surface boats rather than the underwater drones likely to have been deployed in Fujairah.
- The fact that Iran and particularly the IRGC had recently threatened to use military force and that, against a militarily stronger foe, they were highly likely to choose "asymmetric measures with plausible deniability". DNK noted that the Fujairah attack had caused "relatively limited damage" and had been carried out at a time when U.S. Navy



ships were still en route to the Gulf.

Both the Saudi-flagged crude oil tanker Amjad and the UAE-flagged bunker vessel A.Michel sustained damage in the area of their engine rooms, while the Saudi tanker Al Marzoqah was damaged in the aft section and the Norwegian tanker Andrea Victory suffered extensive damage to the stern, DNK said.

The DNK report said the attacks had been carried out between six and 10 nautical miles off Fujairah, which lies close to the Strait of Hormuz.



www.afnb.com

Available on the App Store

Get it on Google play

Available on the App Store

Get it on Google play

Houston Area:  
Main Office 713-596-2888  
Dallas Area:  
Richardson Branch 972-348-3488

Spring Branch 713-273-1838  
Katy Branch 281-762-6688  
Harry-Hines Branch 972-348-3433

Harwin Branch 713-273-1888  
Legacy Branch 972-348-3466

Carrollton Branch 972-428-5088

Arlington Branch 817-261-5585

Nevada Area:  
Las Vegas Branch 702-777-9988

Garland Branch 972-272-3375

Pahrump Branch 775-751-1773  
Plano Branch 469-429-2422

Amargosa Valley Branch 775-372-1100  
City of Industry Branch 626-667-3988

Alhambra Branch 626-863-1980

恒豐銀行 American First National Bank

85%

借記卡手機管理 小時保護你的賬戶

mymobilemoney FDIC

# U.S. to remove tariffs on Canadian metals, Mexico deal imminent

WASHINGTON/OTTAWA (Reuters) - The United States and Canada on Friday announced a deal to remove tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum in exchange for new curbs to keep dumped metals from China and other countries out of the United States, paving the way for a similar pact with Mexico.

The quota-free deal will eliminate the U.S. metals tariffs within 48 hours as well as Canada's retaliatory tariffs on some \$12 billion worth of U.S. products, including pork, beef and bourbon.

Trump says U.S. has reached agreement with Mexico, Canada on tariffs.

The 25% tariff on steel and 10% tariff on aluminum from Canada and Mexico were a major hurdle to ratification of the new trilateral trade deal to replace the 25-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement.

Several prominent U.S. lawmakers had said that a vote on the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) was impossible until after the metals tariffs — and retaliatory measures aimed largely at U.S. farmers — were lifted.

News of the deal to put in place a "monitoring system" for

steel and aluminum transshipments broke after U.S. President Donald Trump and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau discussed the tariffs earlier on Friday. Trudeau is scheduled to speak to reporters on Friday afternoon after he meets with steel workers at Stelco Holding Inc steel mill in Hamilton, Ontario, his spokesman said on Twitter.

The two leaders spoke "about Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum, and Canada's retaliatory tariffs," Cameron Ahmad, Trudeau's communications director, wrote. "They also discussed China, uranium, and the new NAFTA."

A senior Mexican official said that once the deal is announced and implemented, Canada and Mexico will lift retaliatory tariffs on billions of dollars of U.S. products.

The deal announced on Friday leaves room for the reimposition of tariffs if imports of steel or aluminum "surge meaningfully beyond historic volumes" over a period of time, according to the joint statement. But any retaliation for such action would be limited to the steel and aluminum sectors.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Wall Street struggled for gains in an up-and-down session on Friday as mixed headlines on trade dampened positive consumer sentiment data, sending investors into the weekend with little enthusiasm.

The Dow inched up, while the Nasdaq lost ground and the bellwether S&P 500 was nominally lower, hovering more than 2% below its record high reached on April 30. All three were on course for their second successive weekly declines after failing to fully recover from Monday's steep sell-off.

China added fuel to the fire of the increasingly rancorous trade war with the United States with a defiant front-page commentary on the Communist Party's People's Daily, ratcheting up tensions the day after U.S. President Donald Trump officially blacklisted Chinese telecom Huawei Technologies Co Ltd from doing business with U.S. companies.

Elsewhere in the multi-front U.S. tariff war, Trump confirmed he would delay imposing imported auto tariffs by



as much as six months, and agreed to lift metal tariffs on Canada and Mexico.

Consumer sentiment jumped 5.3% in May to its highest reading in 15 years, according to the University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index. However, "the gains were recorded mostly before the trade negotiations with China collapsed and China responded with their own tariff," the university said.

"While the headlines are about trade the movement is more about global growth than those headlines," said Oliver Pursche, vice chairman and chief market strategist at Bruderman Asset Management in New York.

Tariff jitters dragged on key industrial shares.

Farm equipment maker Deere & Co was the biggest percentage loser on the S&P 500, dipping 6.4% after cutting its full-year forecast.

Caterpillar Inc, 3M Co, Textron, General Dynamics and FedEx Corp all helped pull the industrial sector 0.5% lower.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 23.01 points, or 0.09%, to 25,885.69, the S&P 500 lost 2.54 points, or 0.09%, to 2,873.78 and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 28.94 points, or 0.37%, to 7,869.11.

## Wall Street mixed as strong consumer data dampened by trade jitters

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Wall Street struggled for gains in an up-and-down session on Friday as mixed headlines on trade dampened positive consumer sentiment data, sending investors into the weekend with little enthusiasm.

The Dow inched up, while the Nasdaq lost ground and the bellwether S&P 500 was nominally lower, hovering more than 2% below its record high reached on April 30. All three were on course for their second successive weekly declines after failing to fully recover from Monday's steep sell-off.

China added fuel to the fire of the increasingly rancorous trade war with the United States with a defiant front-page commentary on the Communist Party's People's Daily, ratcheting up tensions the day after U.S. President Donald Trump officially blacklisted Chinese telecom Huawei Technologies Co Ltd from doing business with U.S. companies.

Elsewhere in the multi-front U.S. tariff war, Trump confirmed he would delay imposing imported auto tariffs by



## SOUTHERN NEWS GROUP

Media | Newspaper | Television | Yellow Pages | Printing

The Largest Asian Independent Multi-media Group In Houston & USA.

**Media & Services Offered:**

- KVVV 15.3 STV** (Houston)
- 美南國際電視網 Southern Television**
- 美南新聞日報(總社) Southern Chinese Daily News**
- 休士頓黃頁 Houston Chinese Yellow Pages**
- 休士頓旅遊指南 Houston Travel Guide**
- 今日美國網站 today-america.com**
- 美南國際貿易中心 International Trade Center** [www.itchouston.org](http://www.itchouston.org)
- 美南印刷廠 U.S.A. Printing**
- 美國美南拉瑪爾大學環球職業教育中心 Global center for Professional Education Lamar University –SNG**
- 美南光聲電訊傳媒集團 Phonoscope-Southern News Group Telecom Media Group**



SOUTHERN NEWS GROUP

T 281-498-4310  
F 281-498-2728

ad@scdaily.com  
[www.today-america.com](http://www.today-america.com)

11122 Bellaire Blvd  
Houston, TX 77072



72nd Cannes Film Festival - Screening of the film "Pain and Glory" (Dolor y gloria) in competition - Red Carpet Arrivals



New York City Mayor and Democratic Presidential candidate Bill de Blasio arrives at Liberty Island with his wife Chirlane McCray to attend the dedication of the new Statue of Liberty Museum in New York Harbor, U.S., May 16, 2019. REUTERS/Mike Segar TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Caption : 72nd Cannes Film Festival - Beach front cinema screening - Cannes, France, May 16, 2019. People gather to attend a beach front cinema screening. Cannes, France, May 16, 2019. REUTERS/Eric Gaillard TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



A same-sex marriage supporter holds rose to mourn those who committed suicide due to discrimination during a parliament vote on three draft bills of a same-sex marriage law, outside the Legislative Yuan in Taipei



Triplet sisters Natalia, Irina and Tatiana Mironenko attend a rehearsal while preparing for examination performances staged by the graduates of the folk dance faculty of the Krasnoyarsk choreographic college in Krasnoyarsk, Russia May 13, 2019. All three 19-year-old



A model presents a creation during an international competition of young designers in Almaty



72nd Cannes Film Festival - Photocall for the film "Rocketman" out of competition



French President Emmanuel Macron and Canada's PM Justin Trudeau attend a news conference at the Elysee Palace in Paris

# COMMUNITY

Long-term care is already prohibitively expensive for many seniors, and the problem is expected to explode in scope in the next couple of decades, the New York Times reports.

**The big picture:** The problem is especially acute for the group of seniors that have incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid or subsidized housing, but too low to afford pricey long-term care.

• In a decade, 80% of seniors that fall into the middle-income category will have less than \$60,000 a year in income and assets, according to a recent study. But assisted living plus out-of-pocket medical expenses is projected to cost \$62,000.

• Depending on how long-term care is defined, between half and two-thirds of older Americans are expected to need it.

**The bottom line:** Medicare and Social Security funding is already in trouble, making it hard to imagine where the money for any additional long-term care benefits would come from. Smaller solutions are easier to picture.

• Regardless of whether the U.S. budget has room for it or not, the problem of how to pay for seniors' care is barreling towards us, and it's only going to get worse.

## Seniors Are The Health Care Industry's "Gold Rush"



Health care companies are rushing to buy or invest in areas that focus on the elderly population, as baby boomers are reaching an age when they require more health care services.

**The big picture:** More of the nation's health care spending is going toward government programs, especially Medicare and Medicaid, so the industry is naturally running to where the dollars will be. But that doesn't guarantee seniors will get better care.

**Driving the news:** Companies are in-



(Photo/The Denver Post via Getty Images)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

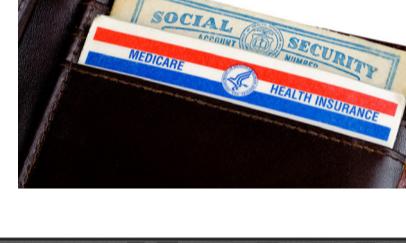
vesting in seniors in a few ways, many of which involve home health, assisted living, nursing homes, hospice and drugs:

• Some of the biggest industry mergers prioritize the prescription drug market of people 65 years and older — a demographic where more than nine out of 10 have taken at least one prescription drug in the past month.

• Other deals — like Humana's acquisitions of Kindred Healthcare and Curo Health Services, or ProMedica's buyout of bankrupt senior living care provider HCR ManorCare — are aimed at tracking older people once they leave the hospital so they avoid setbacks and stay in the comfort of their homes.

• More hospitals are selling Medicare Advantage plans, figuring they may as well get taxpayer premium dollars if they have to coordinate care for their elderly populations.

• Health care startups are no longer catering only to working-age people in urban settings, CNBC recently reported.



**Government sources report that Medicare and Social Security funds are already in trouble.**

**By the numbers:** Aging accounts for 40% of the increase in federal health care spending over the next three decades, per the Congressional Budget Office. Most spending on seniors occurs in Medicare, but a growing number of retirees have no major assets or income and face poverty, resulting in more Medicaid spending.

The number of family members and friends who can act as caregivers for their relatives also is expected to drop sharply by 2030, according to AARP. Yet it can be "draining on the financial resources of a family" to rely on outside care, said Stephen Buck, a co-founder of a handful of health care startups.

**The bottom line:** Many of these strategies ultimately are looking for quick returns, especially from Medicare. And companies could abandon their ideas if financial problems pop up, said Joanne Lynn, director of elder care programs at Altarum.

"Those making money on medical procedures, drugs and durable medical equipment will do well for a while, and more mergers and acquisitions will consolidate power and investment returns,"

Lynn said. "But the average American faces an increasingly difficult last few years of life."

**Study: Most seniors won't be able to afford long-term care by 2029**



Veterans at the Greenridge Place Memory Care Community on November 10, 2017. (Photo/The Denver Post via Getty Images)

A recent Health Affairs analysis found that most middle-income seniors aged 75 to 84 will not be able to afford long-term care including senior housing or assisted living in the next decade.

**The big picture:** The authors project that there will be 14.4 million middle-income seniors in America by 2029. Roughly 60% of those seniors "will have mobility limitations" and 20% "will have high health care and functional needs." However, 54% of those seniors will not have the financial resources to pay for senior

housing — and the often necessary care provided there.

**Details:** The authors identify middle-income seniors as those in the 41st to the 80th percentile of the individual financial resource distribution of 2014 seniors. The authors also state that this diverse group of seniors will become more educated in the next decade, which should result in lower poverty levels.

## Soaring Federal Spending On Seniors



(Photo/Getty Images)

More than half of federal spending will soon be dedicated to seniors, according to the latest estimates from Congress' official budget scorekeeper.

**Why it matters:** That spending will be driven largely by the steadily rising cost of health care. And futzing around the edges of the system won't change that trend.

**Between the lines:** Medicare and Social Security alone cost the federal government roughly \$1.3 trillion last year, according to the Congressional Budget Office's latest estimates.

• CBO expects those two programs to reach \$2.7 trillion by 2029.

• Throw in a handful of other programs that Congress funds each year, and federal spending on people over 65 is expected to account for more 10% of the total U.S. economy in a decade.

• Once you subtract the money the government spends on interest payments on the debt, programs for seniors would take up 50% of all remaining spending. Aging baby boomers and rising health care costs are the main drivers of that spending. Per-person health care costs "are projected to grow faster than the economy over the long term," CBO said. (Courtesy axios.com)

想改變肺功能擔心戒煙  
增進體能降低患病風險  
改善血液循環延長壽命  
容呼吸  
喚醒  
重拾健康  
兒女的  
好榜樣  
提升味覺  
戒煙與否不用煩 來電馬上解疑難  
不論你正考慮戒煙或還沒想過戒煙，都歡迎先撥通電話與我們交談，並獲得以下協助。  
請立即致電或上網登記！  
· 國、粵語專業顧問解答疑問  
· 免費專業建議及全力幫助、支持  
· 免費一對一電話輔導  
· 免費兩週戒煙貼  
· 免費中文戒煙資料  
華語戒煙專線服務由 Asian Smokers' Quitline (ASQ) 所提供  
www.asq-chinese.org

貼片幫助好戒煙，來電索取不花錢！  
1.800  
838.8917  
華語戒煙專線  
ASIAN SMOKERS' QUITLINE

珍寶  
Ocean Palace  
珍寶海鲜城  
OCEAN PALACE

天天茶市 正宗粵菜 港式點心

二樓大型豪華宴會廳  
大型舞台，可容納百餘席

精心承辦婚禮/壽宴/社團等各類型宴會

本海鮮酒樓常備各種生猛游水海鮮

珊瑚蝦、帶子、彩龍魚、龍躉斑、紅斑魚、象拔蚌  
刀蜆、龍蝦、加州大蟹、阿拉斯加皇帝蟹

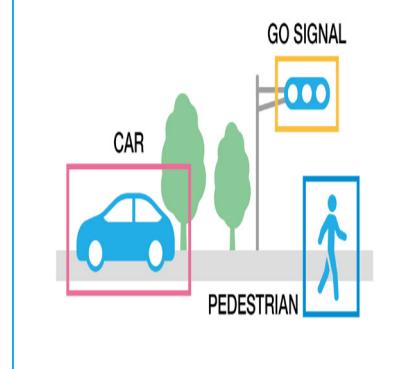
地址:11215 Bellaire Blvd. (位於香港城商場)  
訂座電話:281-988-8898  
歡迎預訂全年酒席、社團聚餐

**SPECIAL  
REPORT****The Artificial Intelligence  
“Sharecroppers”**

Invisible to most of us, an underclass of labor has evolved behind the artificial intelligence revolution — thousands of low-wage workers in the U.S. and across the globe who painstakingly inventory millions of pieces of data and images, and give power to AI programs. Critics call them the new “sharecroppers.”

**Why it matters:** These workers — people who affix labels to data so computers can understand what it is — are starting to attract the interest of social scientists and other experts. They say labelers may at least in part explain the nagging conundrum of American income inequality — and perhaps how to fix it.

**Background:** We think that AI is all-knowing, but actually it's only partly so. When it comes to the AI behind driverless technology, for instance, sensors can take fantastically granular pictures of streets and hazards of all types, and AI can be fed with the experience of every type of driving situation. But autonomous technology companies still need humans to inform the AI what it's looking at — to circle things like trees, stop signs and crosswalks.



•**Without human labeling,** AI is dumb: It doesn't know a skyscraper from a spider.

•**But that doesn't mean companies pay them well.** Instead, they are compensated like bottom-of-the-barrel workers.

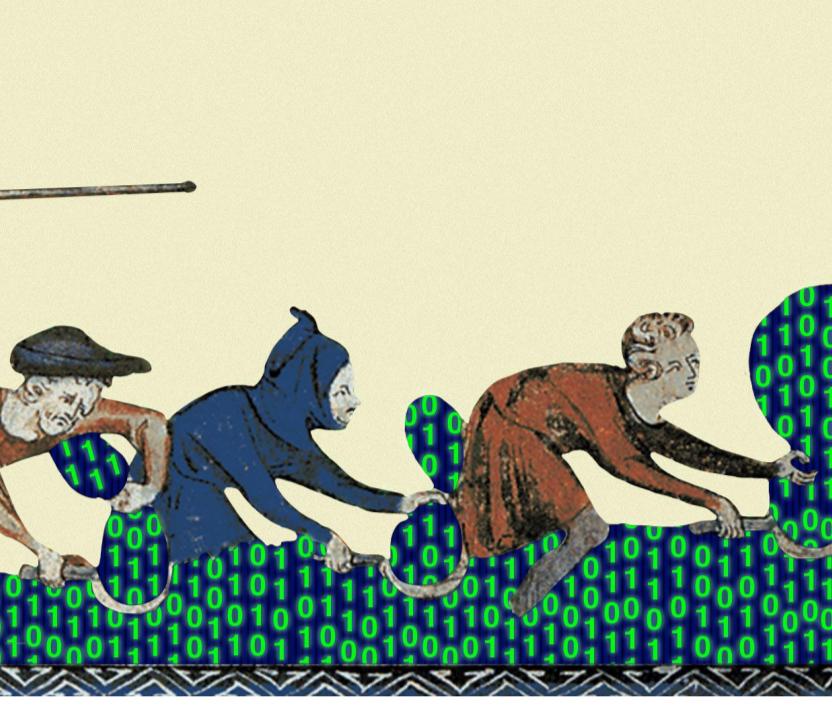
•**In the U.S.,** companies say they are paying such workers \$7 to \$15 an hour, but that may be the top of the pay scale: Labelers also take on piecework from crowdsourcing platforms. In Malaysia, for example, the pay can be around \$2.50 an hour.

**The big picture:** The winners are AI com-

panies, which are mostly in the U.S., Europe, and China. The losers are workers in both rich and relatively poor countries, who are paid little.

**How the companies** are managing the labelers: Nathaniel Gates, CEO of Alegion, a Texas-based crowdsourcing platform, said his firm intentionally reduces the job of labeling to the simplest, most routine task possible. While this narrows a worker's chance to move up the skills — and wage — ladder, Gates argues that he is at least “opening new doors that were never available to them.”

•**We are creating digital jobs** that didn't exist before. Often times the folks doing this work are coming from farms and agriculture or factories that dried up because of automation,” Gates says.



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



Workers performing AI labeling work.

But some experts say such practices builds inequality into the AI economy.

•**In a new book called “Ghost Work,”** Microsoft's Research's Mary Gray and Siddharth Suri argue that workers such as labelers are a significant part of one of the most dynamic parts of the economy.

•**Economists don't have a handle** on how to price the market,” Gray tells Axios.

“We've been pricing this labor as a durable good, but it's the collective intelligence

that's the value proposition.”

**James Cham,** a partner with Bloomberg Beta, the venture capital firm, thinks that AI companies are gaming the difference between the low pay to the labelers and the immense, long-term revenue from the eventual product.

•**The companies derive benefit** over a long time, while workers are paid just once. They are paid like sharecroppers, making subsistence wages. The landowners get all the returns because of how the system is set up,” Cham says.

•**It's one big arbitrage.**

**What's next:** Gray said the market may not be able to raise the wages of labelers by itself.

•**In an age where** the old political and economic rules don't hold, and societies are fraying, experts need to figure out what is a

living wage for such workers.

•**What people are paid** “is a moral question, not just an economic one,” she said. (Courtesy axios.com)

**Related**

**Data Labeling For AI Is Set To Become A Billion-Dollar Market By 2023**



The view from the backseat of a driverless car. (Photo/Getty Images)

Once crowdsourced for pennies on platforms like Amazon Mechanical Turk, labeling data for AI is swiftly becoming a hugely lucrative market — with much of the work done in places with cheap labor like China, India and Malaysia.

**Why it matters:** It's a necessary step for algorithms that learn from enormous troves of examples. A system that's seen a million cat photos, hand labeled as such, will be able to identify the million-and-first.

**Details:** The global market for AI data labeling is predicted to explode from \$150 million in 2018 to more than \$1 billion by the end of 2023, according to research company Cognilytica.

•**It's tedious work:** Imagine spending all day at a screen just highlighting stop signs in images taken by autonomous vehicles.

•**Workers abroad** who label data for Alegion, a Texas-based crowdsourcing platform, earn between \$3 and \$6 an hour, Alegion CEO Nathaniel Gates told the media.



•**But it's pitched as** an economic boost for rural areas, because the work can employ large numbers of people without much formal education.

•**For a driverless car,** “one hour of video data can lead up to 800 man-hours of work,” Siddharth Mall, co-founder of data-labeling outfit Playment, told India's Factor Daily.

(Courtesy axios.com)



美南新闻  
Southern News Group