Washington, D.C. Update: COVID and Policy Developments

Prepared by
The Franklin Partnership, LLC
Policy Resolution Group at Bracewell
December 17, 2021







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Nothing contained in here shall be deemed legal or financial advice.

Contents

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- EEOC FAQ Released
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One Voice Survey – Final Reminder Sent Today at Noon

Please let us know on what issues you think we should invest our lobbying time as an association by ranking the following issues from 1-10, with 1 being the most important.											
Answer	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 4	Rank 5	Rank 6	Rank 7	Rank 8	Rank 9	Rank 10	Weighted Rank(Score)
Raw material prices	14	17	10	8	4	9	8	3	0	0	1 (539)
Workforce recruitment/training	20	11	13	5	8	5	5	0	0	6	2 (537)
Taxes	18	16	6	11	3	8	2	4	3	2	3 (535)
Health care	9	6	12	17	7	8	5	3	6	0	4 (482)
OSHA	5	3	11	7	12	17	5	9	3	1	5 (425)
Labor law issues (NLRB)	1	3	7	9	17	8	7	7	10	4	6 (371)
Energy supply/costs	0	9	3	8	9	8	13	13	7	3	7 (363)
Trade	3	7	3	1	5	5	13	9	16	11	8 (301)
EPA	3	1	4	3	6	1	10	15	13	17	9 (261)
Export promotion	0	0	4	4	2	4	5	10	15	29	10 (201)

CDC, EEOC and OSHA Agency Actions

CDC: Additional Doses and Losing Vaccine Cards

If You Need Another Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine

Bring your CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record card with you to your appointment if you need another shot of COVID-19 vaccine so your provider can fill in the information about your additional shot.

If you have lost your CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record card or don't have a copy, contact your vaccination provider directly to access your vaccination record.



- If you cannot contact your vaccination provider site directly, contact your state health department's <u>immunization information system (IIS)</u>. Vaccination providers are required to report COVID-19 vaccinations to their IIS and related systems.
- If you enrolled in <u>v-safe</u> or <u>VaxText</u> after your first vaccine dose, you can access your vaccination information using those tools.
- If you have made every effort to locate your vaccination information, are unable to get a copy or replacement of your vaccination card, and need another COVID-19 vaccine dose, talk to a vaccination provider.

CDC does **not** maintain vaccination records or determine how vaccination records are used, and CDC does **not** provide the white CDC-labeled COVID-19 Vaccination Record card to people. These cards are distributed to vaccination providers by state health departments.

Please <u>contact your state health department</u> if you have additional questions about vaccination records. Your local or state health department can also provide more information about the laws or regulations in your area.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/vaccination-card.html

CDC Booster Recommendations (Updated Dec. 9)

Everyone Ages 16 and Older Can Get a Booster Shot

IF YOU RECEIVED

Pfizer-BioNTech

Who can get a booster:

• Teens 16-17 years old

Who should get a booster:

 Adults 18 years and older

When to get a booster:

At least 6 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series

Which booster can you get:

- Teens 16–17 years old can get a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine booster
- Adults 18 years and older can get <u>any of</u> <u>the COVID-19</u> <u>vaccines</u> authorized in the United States

IF YOU RECEIVED

Moderna

Who should get a booster:

Adults 18 years and older

When to get a booster:

At least 6 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series Which booster can you get:

Any of the COVID-19
vaccines authorized in the
United States

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html

CDC Update: When to Self-Test

Self-Testing

Updated Dec. 6, 2021

Languages <

Print

When to Consider Self-Testing

Self-tests may be used if you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed or potentially exposed to an individual with COVID-19.

Even if you don't have symptoms and have not been exposed to an individual with COVID-19, using a self-test before gathering indoors with others can give you information about the risk of spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. This is especially important before gathering with <u>unvaccinated children</u>, <u>older individuals</u>, those who are <u>immunocompromised</u>, or <u>individuals</u> at risk of severe disease.

A positive test result indicates that you likely have a current infection, and you should <u>isolate</u> and inform <u>close contacts</u>.

A negative test result indicates that you may not be infected and may be at low risk of spreading disease to others, though it does not rule out an infection. Repeating the test will increase the confidence that you are not infected. Performing serial tests, meaning two or more tests over several days with at least 24 hours between tests—with one test as close as possible to the event you will attend—improves the reliability of testing and reduces your risk of transmitting disease to others even further. Some self-tests require this type of repeat testing in the manufacturer's instructions.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/self-testing.html

International Travel: Now Must Test w/in 24 Hours

International Travel

Updated Dec. 10, 2021

Languages *

Print

Travel requirements have changed. Starting December 6, all air passengers, regardless of vaccination status, must show a negative COVID-19 test taken **no more than 1 day** before travel to the United States.

International Travel Requirements and Recommendations

U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals, U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents, and Immigrants

Non-U.S. Citizen, Non-U.S. Immigrants: Travel to the United States

Learn how U.S. travel requirements apply to you

Get Started



https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel/index.html

EEOC Clarifies When COVID-19 May be a Disability

EEOC Adds New Section Clarifying When COVID-19 May Be a Disability, Updating Technical Assistance Key information includes:

Press Release

12-14-2021

- In some cases, an applicant's or employee's <u>COVID-19</u> may cause impairments that are themselves disabilities under the ADA, regardless of whether the initial case of COVID-19 itself constituted an actual disability.
- An applicant or employee whose COVID-19 results in <u>mild symptoms</u> that resolve in a few weeks—with no other consequences—will not have an ADA disability that could make someone eligible to receive a reasonable accommodation.
- Applicants or employees with disabilities are not automatically entitled to reasonable accommodations under the ADA. They are entitled to a reasonable accommodation when their disability requires it, and the accommodation is not an undue hardship for the employer. But, employers can choose to do more than the ADA requires.

https://www.eeoc.gov/newsroom/eeoc-adds-new-section-clarifying-when-covid-19-may-be-disability-updating-technical

EEOC FAQ: When COVID-19 May be a Disability

14 New FAQs Released Dec. 14, 2021

N.3. Is COVID-19 always an actual disability under the ADA? (12/14/21)

No. Determining whether a specific employee's COVID-19 is an actual disability always requires an individualized assessment, and such assessments cannot be made categorically. See 29 C.F.R. § 1630.2 for further information on the ADA's requirements relating to individualized assessment.

EEOC FAQ: When COVID-19 May be a Disability

N.4. What are some examples of ways in which an individual with COVID-19 might or might not be substantially limited in a major life activity? (12/14/21)

Examples of Individuals with an Impairment that Substantially Limits a Major Life Activity:

- An individual diagnosed with COVID-19 who experiences ongoing but intermittent multiple-day headaches, dizziness, brain fog, and difficulty remembering or concentrating, which the employee's doctor attributes to the virus, is substantially limited in neurological and brain function, concentrating, and/or thinking, among other major life activities.
- An individual diagnosed with COVID-19 who initially receives supplemental
 oxygen for breathing difficulties and has shortness of breath, associated
 fatigue, and other virus-related effects that last, or are expected to last, for
 several months, is substantially limited in respiratory function, and possibly
 major life activities involving exertion, such as walking.

https://www.eeoc.gov/wysk/what-you-should-know-about-covid-19-and-ada-rehabilitation-act-and-other-eeo-laws#N

EEOC FAQ: When COVID-19 May be a Disability

N.4. What are some examples of ways in which an individual with COVID-19 might or might not be substantially limited in a major life activity? (12/14/21)

Examples of Individuals with an Impairment that Substantially Limits a Major Life Activity:

- An individual who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 experiences heart
 palpitations, chest pain, shortness of breath, and related effects due to the virus
 that last, or are expected to last, for several months. The individual is
 substantially limited in cardiovascular function and circulatory function,
 among others.
- An individual diagnosed with "long COVID," who experiences COVID-19-related
 intestinal pain, vomiting, and nausea that linger for many months, even if
 intermittently, is substantially limited in gastrointestinal function, among other
 major life activities, and therefore has an actual disability under the ADA. For
 other examples of when "long COVID" can be a substantially limiting
 impairment, see the DOJ/HHS <u>Guidance</u>.

https://www.eeoc.gov/wysk/what-you-should-know-about-covid-19-and-ada-rehabilitation-act-and-other-eeo-laws#N

EEOC FAQ: Employer Regarding a Person w/Disability

N.7. What are some examples of an employer regarding a person with COVID-19 as an individual with a disability? (12/14/21)

The situations in which an employer might "regard" an applicant or employee with COVID-19 as an individual with a disability are varied. Some examples include:

- An employer would regard an employee as having a disability if the employer fires the individual because the employee had symptoms of COVID-19, which, although minor, lasted or were expected to last more than six months. The employer could not show that the impairment was both transitory and minor.
- An employer would regard an employee as having a disability if the employer fires the individual for having COVID-19, and the COVID-19, although lasting or expected to last less than six months, caused non-minor symptoms. In these circumstances, the employer could not show that the impairment was both transitory and minor.

https://www.eeoc.gov/wysk/what-you-should-know-about-covid-19-and-ada-rehabilitation-act-and-other-eeo-laws#N

Three Vaccine Mandates Fully or Partially On Hold

Three Vaccine Mandates

- 1. Healthcare Workplace
- 2. Federal Contractors
- 3. 100 or more employee employer mandate

Recent Timeline

- Nov. 6 Louisiana Court blocks employer mandate
- Dec. 7 Georgia Court issues nation-wide order halting federal government contractor mandate
- Dec. 10 OSHA argues even if vaccine stay remains in place, allow testing and masking to go forward
- Dec. 15 Federal Appeals Court reinstates healthcare worker mandate in 26 states

Next Steps on Employer Mandate

- OSHA delays comment period into January
- Multiple lawsuits consolidated to move more expeditiously
- 6th Circuit Court considering arguments in employer Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) case(s)
- Appeals to U.S. Supreme Court expected in coming weeks

Labor Department Looking at "Long COVID"

Returning to Work after Ilness

Five states are testing coordinated stay-at-work/return-to-work services for ill or injured workers, including those recovering from COVID-19.

ODEP conducts an initiative called **Retaining Employment and Talent after Injury/Illness Network (RETAIN)** in partnership with the Employment and Training Administration and Social Security Administration. Individuals from these states who are experiencing symptoms from COVID-19 and wish to participate in a return to work program can visit the links below for more information:

- Kansas RETAINWORKS.
- RETAIN Kentucky.
- Minnesota MN RETAIN.
- · Ohio RETAIN.
- Vermont RETAIN.

https://www.dol.gov/agencies/odep/topics/cor onavirus-covid-19-long-covid

What is Long COVID-19?

Long COVID-19 is a range of symptoms that can last weeks or months after first being infected with the virus that causes COVID-19.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has more information and a list of symptoms associated with the condition.

Are you experiencing long-term symptoms of COVID-19? Contact the Job Accommodation Network to learn about workplace flexibilities, tools and accommodations that can help you keep working during your recovery.

OSHA Extends Comment Period for Indoor Heat Rule

U.S. Department of Labor

December 2, 2021

US Department of Labor extends comment period for rulemaking to protect indoor and outdoor workers from heat hazards

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration is extending the period for submitting comments on the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Heat Injury and Illness Prevention in Outdoor and Indoor Work Settings. Comments on the ANPRM must now be submitted by Jan. 26, 2022.

The 30-day extension provides stakeholders more time to review the ANPRM and collect information and data necessary for comment.

Currently, OSHA does not have a heat-specific standard to protect millions of workers in indoor and outdoor work settings from exposure to hazardous heat conditions. In recent months, OSHA has initiated several efforts to protect workers from heat-related illnesses and deaths while working in hazardously hot indoor and outdoor environments. In addition to pursuing a heat-specific workplace rule, OSHA instituted a heat-related enforcement initiative and plans to issue a National Emphasis Program for heat-related safety efforts in 2022.

The agency began the process of considering a heat-specific workplace rule to address heat-related illnesses when it published the ANPRM on Oct. 27, 2021.

IRS Employee Retention Tax Credit PPP Loan Forgiveness

Repaying 4Q Employee Retention Credit Advance

IR-2021-242, December 6, 2021

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service today issued guidance for employers regarding the retroactive termination of the Employee Retention Credit. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which was enacted on November 15, 2021, amended the law so that the Employee Retention Credit applies only to wages paid before October 1, 2021, unless the employer is a recovery startup business.

Notice 2021-65 PDF applies to employers that paid wages after September 30, 2021 and received an advance payment of the Employee Retention Credit for those wages or reduced employment tax deposits in anticipation of the credit for the fourth quarter of 2021 but are now ineligible for the credit due to the change in the law. The notice also provides guidance regarding how the rules apply to recovery startup businesses during the fourth quarter of 2021.

Employers who Received Advance Payments

Generally, employers that are not recovery startup businesses and received advance payments for fourth quarter wages of 2021 will avoid failure to pay penalties if they repay those amounts by the due date of their applicable employment tax returns.

Repaying Employee Retention Credit Advance Payment

B. Repayment of Advance Payments for Employers other than Recovery Startup Businesses

Employers may have requested advance payments of the employee retention credit for wages paid in the fourth calendar quarter of 2021 prior to the enactment of the Infrastructure Act. An advance payment of any portion of the employee retention credit to a taxpayer in excess of the amount to which the taxpayer is entitled is an erroneous refund that the employer must repay. Accordingly, if an employer requested and received an advance payment of the employee retention credit for wages paid in the fourth calendar quarter of 2021, and the employer is not a recovery startup business, the employer is not eligible for an employee retention credit and must repay the amount of the advance. Employers who need to repay these excess advance payments of the employee retention credit must do so by the due date for the applicable employment tax return that includes the fourth calendar quarter of 2021. Employers should refer to the instructions to the applicable employment tax form for additional information. Failure to repay the advance payment by the due date of the applicable employment tax return may result in the imposition of failure to pay penalties under section 6651.

IRS Notice 2021-65

https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/n-21-65.pdf

77% of all Paycheck Protection Program Loans Forgiven

Forgiveness Platform Lender Submission Metrics | December 12

Data as of December 12, 11:59 PM ET Summary

Total PPP Loan Population		Forgiveness Ro	equests To Date	Payments To Date			
Count of Loans	Total Loan Value	Count of Applications	Total Forgiveness Amount Requested	Count of Payments	Total Forgiveness Paid		
11,453,936 \$791,420,024,727	9,087,832	\$662,273,930,930	8,879,806	\$644,590,207,095			
	\$791,420,024,727	79% of all PPP loans have submitted forgiveness applications	Forgiveness has been requested for 84% of the total loan value of all PPP loans	77% of all PPP loans have been fully or partially forgiven	81% of the total PPP loan value has been forgiven, in full or in part		
		4 788 lenders have requeste	d forgiveness for all PPP loans				

Status of Democrats' Build Back Better Bill

Build Back Better (BBB) Status Update

- Nov. 19 U.S. House passed Build Back Better by 220-213 Vote
- Senate had to make changes to conform to their Reconciliation rules
- All non-controversial Senate legislative text is drafted and public
- Congressional Budget Office has completed their review of short/long-term costs
- Parliamentarian rejects multiple immigration provisions
- Sources indicate 49 Senators willing to vote "Yes" on BBB once complete
- Sen. Joe Manchin still says not ready to vote yes, inflation concerns
- Manchin supports \$1.75T in spending but does not support temporary programs

Senate Democrats Release Tax Provisions

- Still not a finished product, changes being made
- 15% Corporate minimum tax if book income over \$1 billion
- International tax provisions (modifies 245A; limits 954(d); BEAT)
- Green energy incentives
- Child Tax Credit, Earned Income Tax Credit extended through 2022

Senate Democrats Release Tax Provisions

- Small Business Stock: Modifies Sec. 1202 by disallowing 75% and 100% exclusions for taxpayers with AGI over \$400,000 or for trusts or estates
- Net Investment Income Tax: Income over \$400,000 single filers/\$500,000 joint derived in the ordinary course of business subject to a surtax of 3.8%
- Surcharge 1: Impose a tax on modified AGI over \$10 million of 5% for individuals (\$5 million for married taxpayers filing separately) and \$200,000 for an estate or trust
- Surcharge 2: Additional 3% of modified AGI over \$25 million for individuals (\$12.5 million for married taxpayers filing separately) and \$500,000 for an estate or trust

Still No Agreement on State and Local Tax Deduction

Placeholder in place of actual bill text...

TAXES, ETC.

Tob Effective Date.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

PART 6—DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL TAXES, ETC.

SEC. 127601. [PLACEHOLDER FOR COMPROMISE ON DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL TAXES].

R&D Tax Credit Switches to Amortization Jan. 1, 2022

- 2017 GOP Tax Cuts and Jobs Act switched R&D to amortization after five years
- Democrats included 4-year delay in pending Build Back Better bill
- Build Back Better not passing means R&D converts to amortization on Jan. 1
- Broad bipartisan support for R&D Tax Credit
- R&D extended retroactively multiple times prior to 2017
- Will need a vehicle, either Build Back Better or "tax extenders"
- Congress will not move tax extenders until BBB passes or is officially "dead"

Prospects for Passage of Build Back Better in 2022

- The longer the delays the more difficult it is to pass BBB
- U.S. House returns after holidays on January 10
- Monthly inflation numbers released on January 12
- Unlikely Manchin commits prior to seeing at least next inflation numbers
- Negotiations over coming weeks will continue
- Many see BBB slipping into February
- Could time passage with State of the Union (Possibly scheduled for Feb. 1 or 8)

Tariffs and Trade

Steel, Aluminum Tariffs Replaced for EU with Quotas

- U.S. lifting 25% steel tariffs, 10% aluminum on Jan. 1, 2022
- EU lifting 25% retaliatory tariffs on U.S. exports Jan. 1, 2022
- Tariffs replaced with Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs)
- 3.3 million metric tonnes of EU steel to enter tariff-free
- 366,000 metric tonnes of EU aluminum to enter tariff-free
- Once limit reached, 25% or 10% tariffs reinstated

Steel, Aluminum EU Quotas Begin on January 1, 2022

- EU allocating allowable exports among its 27-members
- Quotas for steel administered quarterly, aluminum annually
- Not an absolute quota that blocks entry once limit reached
- Quotas often lead to larger buyers importing early and often
- Smaller buyers may pay tariffs when quotas reached

Steel Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs) – Key Links

Section 232 EU Agreement Supporting Documents

*BIS is posting the anticipated quota volumes in preparation for the implementation of the EU agreement on January 1, 2022. The official volumes will be in published in the

Federal Register.

Steel Extended Exclusions Listing

Steel TRQ by Country Listing

Steel Annual TRQ HTS Classifications

Steel TRQ by Category Listing

Main Commerce Department BIS Steel 232 Page https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/232-steel

Aluminum Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs) – Key Links

Section 232 EU Agreement Supporting Documents

*BIS is posting the anticipated quota volumes in preparation for the implementation of the EU agreement on January 1, 2022. The official volumes will be in published in the Federal Register.

Aluminum TRQ by category

Aluminum TRQ by country

Aluminum TRQ HTS Classifications

Main Commerce Department BIS Aluminum 232 Page https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/232-aluminum

Steel TRQ Tables Sample by Country

Bars, hot-rolled, not of stainless steel	Germany	69,617
Blooms, billets and slabs of stainless steel and other products	Germany	29,923
Blooms, billets and slabs, semi-finished	Germany	14,759
Cold-rolled black plate	Germany	2,646
Cold-rolled plate of stainless steel, in coils	Germany	106
Cold-rolled sheet of stainless steel	Germany	3,563
Cold-rolled sheet, and other products	Germany	53,540
Cold-rolled strip of stainless steel	Germany	4,175
Cold-rolled strip, and other products	Germany	52,793
Flat-rolled products of stainless steel	Germany	1,540
Flat-rolled products, coated	Germany	5,107
Flat-rolled products, hot-dipped	Germany	25,444
Hot-rolled plate of stainless steel, in coils, and other products,	Germany	106
Hot-rolled plate, in coils	Germany	35,061
Hot-rolled sheet	Germany	40,280
Hot-rolled sheet of stainless steel	Germany	106
Hot-rolled strip	Germany	7,912
Hot-rolled strip of stainless steel and other products	Germany	106
Ingot and other primary forms of stainless steel	Germany	106
Ingots	Germany	106

https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/232-steel-public-comments/2875-steel-trq-by-country-listing/file

Steel TRQ Tables Sample by HTS Code and Category

Plate in cut lengths	7208403030
Plate in cut lengths	7208403060
Plate in cut lengths	7208510030
Plate in cut lengths	7208510045
Plate in cut lengths	7208510060
Plate in cut lengths	7208520000
Plate in cut lengths	7210901000
Plate in cut lengths	7211130000
Plate in cut lengths	7211140030
Plate in cut lengths	7211140045
Plate in cut lengths	7225403005
Plate in cut lengths	7225403050
Plate in cut lengths	7225506000
Plate in cut lengths	7226915000

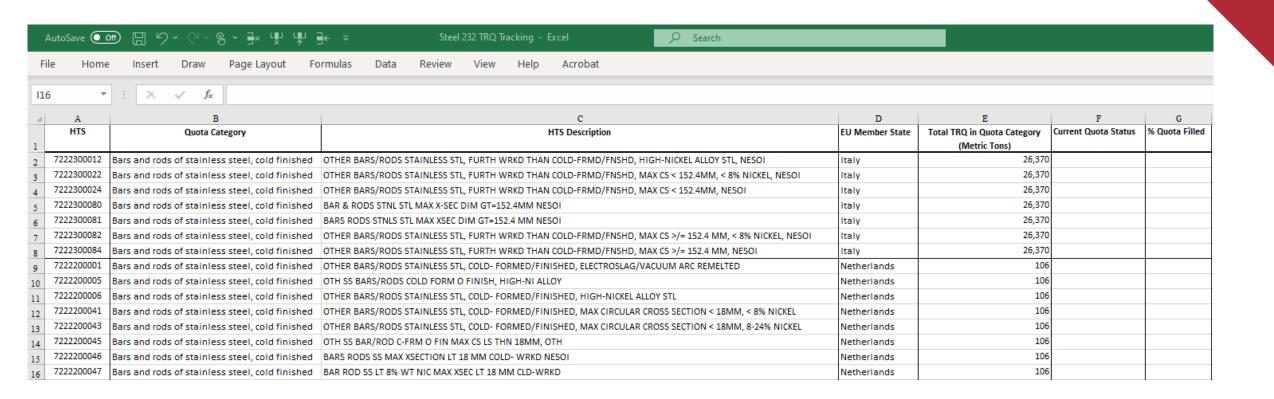
https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/232-steel-public-comments/2876-steel-annual-trq-hts-classifications/file

Aluminum TRQ Tables Sample by Category

	-	
Sheet	Austria	15,727
Sheet	Belgium	7,874
Sheet	Bulgaria	110
Sheet	Croatia	5,458
Sheet	Czech Republic	53
Sheet	Denmark	53
Sheet	Finland	53
Sheet	France	25,675
Sheet	Germany	61,310
Sheet	Greece	25,550
Sheet	Hungary	86
Sheet	Ireland	53
Sheet	Italy	19,574
Sheet	Latvia	53
Sheet	Malta and Gozo	53
Sheet	Netherlands	4,594
Sheet	Poland	2,041
Sheet	Romania	7,222
Sheet	Slovenia	10,500
Sheet	Spain	11,884
Sheet	Sweden	8,659

https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/232-aluminum-public-comments/2880-aluminum-trq-by-category/file

Consolidated Info in Single Excel Sheets



Steel Excel Sheet: https://www.tariffsaretaxes.org/sites/default/files/2021-12/Steel%20232%20TRQ%20Tracking.xlsx

Aluminum Excel Sheet: https://www.tariffsaretaxes.org/sites/default/files/2021-12/Aluminum%20TRQ%20Tracking.xlsx

Media Update: Manufacturers Responding

Tai-Raimondo Op-Ed: What The New Steel And Aluminum Deals Mean For American Families | Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

WASHINGTON – United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai and United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo published an op-ed in today's Pittsburgh Post-Gazette touting the agreement reached with the European Union that preserves the long-term viability of our steel and aluminum industries by tackling global excess capacity and creates a framework for reducing the carbon intensity of those sectors.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Trade deal won't help small plants

December 5, 2021

By: Kevin Hartford

Regarding the article (Nov. 28, "What new steel and aluminum deals mean for American families"), Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo and U.S. Trade Ambassador Katherine Tai call the recent US-EU agreement to replace steel tariffs with a tariff rate quote "a huge win for American workers, farmers, businesses, families, and the environment." As a recently retired owner of a precision manufacturing plant in Allegheny Township, I saw first-hand how the steel and aluminum tariffs hurt small businesses like ours.

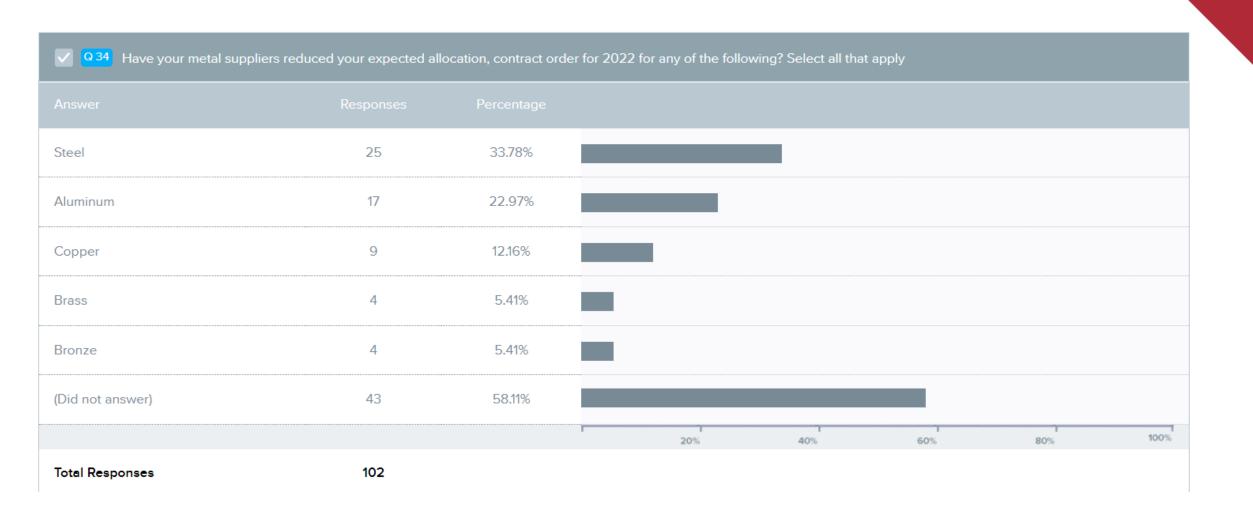
The latest agreement will not address the supply shortages we face and the U.S. will remain the highest priced steel market in the world. As is typical with government-managed trade, it is small businesses who bear the brunt of protecting one industry at the expense of another. Smaller buyers of steel are always at

the end of the line and will likely be the ones paying the 25 percent tariffs after the larger companies place their orders and fill the EU quota. Hundreds of Pittsburgh — area steel—and aluminum-using manufacturers employ thousands of critical workers, without which no planes would fly, no cars would drive, and no hospital could operate.

We should all be in this together. It is clear that the U.S. steel producers cannot produce enough materials to meet demand and more steel imports from our allies were necessary. It's time to end altogether the unnecessary trade restrictions on our trading partners and focus on the real culprit: China.

Kevin Hartford
Retired President
Alle-Kiski Industries
New Kensington
The writer is president of National Tooling
and Machining Association, Pittsburgh
Chapter

Survey Results: 2022 Metal Allocations Being Reduced



Steel, Aluminum Tariffs on non-EU Countries

- U.S. hoped to finalize talks with Japan by Dec. 31
- Japan talks have slowed, U.S. pushing TRQs
- U.S.-UK negotiations largely on hold
- U.S. saying no to changing South Korea from absolute quota
- No other substantive talks on 232 steel, aluminum tariffs

Stay Connected – One Voice Podcast



Reminder – Fill Out the Survey!



Donate to NTMA, PMA to Support Advocacy in DC

NTMA's Government Affairs Administrative Fund (GAAF) allows the association to undertake initiatives aimed at educating elected officials on tooling and machining and the industry's priority issues. It also permits us to support a variety of activities to inform and mobilize our members, as well as to protect and promote the industry with key lawmakers. You can use corporate OR personal funds to donate to the GAAF.

Donate Today!

https://ntma.org/programs/advocacy/

PMA ADVOCACY FUND

PMA's Advocacy Fund supports the association's day-to-day lobbying and public relations efforts in Washington, D.C., increasing the industry's visibility in Congress, the Administration and the public. You can use corporate OR personal funds to donate to the advocacy fund.

Donate Today!

https://www.pma.org/advocacy/donate-today.asp

Questions?

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https://www.pma.org/advocacy/donate-today.asp

https://ntma.org/programs/advocacy/

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