



THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON

## USITC INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION REGARDING EQUITY FOR WORKERS IN TRADE AND TRADE POLICY

In October 2021, the U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai requested that the independent U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) conduct a two-part investigation of the distributional effects of goods and services trade and trade policy on U.S. workers by skill, wage and salary level, gender, race/ethnicity, age, and income level, especially as they affect underrepresented and underserved communities in the United States.

The results of this unprecedented, independent investigation will inform the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative's (USTR) work to develop inclusive, worker-centered trade policy that strengthens the nation's competitiveness, advances racial and gender equity, and expands the benefits of trade to underserved and marginalized communities. This document provides general information, including approaching deadlines and dates, for those interested in participating and observing the USITC's distributional effects of trade and trade policy on workers investigation (Inv. No. 332-587).

### When may the public participate?

There are many opportunities for public participation. As part of its information-gathering, [the USITC will seek public participation and input in a series of roundtables, an academic symposium, a public hearing, and written submissions](#) during the fact-finding for an independent report on the distributional effects of trade and trade policy on workers in underrepresented and underserved communities.

<b>March 1 – April 1, 2022</b>	Seven roundtable discussions, of which five are virtual and two are in-person/hybrid that will occur in Fresno, CA and Detroit, MI
<b>April 5–6, 2022</b>	An academic symposium, via online videoconferencing platform, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (ET)
<b>April 19, 2022</b>	USITC public hearing, via online videoconferencing platform, beginning at 9:30 a.m.
<b>May 17, 2022</b>	Additional written comments are due by 5:15 p.m.
<b>Fall 2022</b>	USITC will complete its final independent report.

There are rolling deadlines to request participation in the USITC's public information-gathering; **the first deadline is 5:15 p.m. on February 11, 2022 for those interested in presenting during the academic symposium.** *Since all events will be live-streamed, interested observers do not need to RSVP.*

**Who should participate?**

The USITC will seek input from interested individuals, stakeholders, representatives of and experts on underrepresented and underserved communities, think tanks, academics and researchers, unions, Tribal, State and local governments, non-Federal governmental entities, civil society experts, community-based stakeholders, such as minority-owned businesses, business incubators, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), other minority serving institutions (MSIs), and local and national civil rights organizations.

**What is the focus of the investigation?**

The USITC will investigate the distributional effects of goods and services trade and trade policy on U.S. workers, by skill, wage and salary level, gender, race/ethnicity, age, and income level, especially as they affect underrepresented and underserved communities. Specific roundtables will explore trade and trade policy and race, ethnicity, gender, orientation, disability, age, education, and impacts on underserved communities.

**Will USTR play a role in the investigation?**

No. The U.S. Trade Representative requested that the USITC conduct this investigation on the distributional effects of trade and trade policy on U.S. workers. USTR plays no role in determining the investigation’s schedule, participants, and related activities. The USITC and the USTR will post the resulting report on their respective websites when it is publicly available.

**How will this investigation inform U.S. trade and trade policy?**

As outlined in the President’s 2021 Trade Agenda, independent data and information are critical to an intersectional, interconnected, and informed approach to advancing worker-centered trade policy that fosters inclusive prosperity.

Executive Order (EO) 13985 on [Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Community through the Federal Government](#) defines underserved communities to include Black, Latino, Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons in specific age, skill, or income groups; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality, and populations and communities sharing characteristics or geography “that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life.”

The results of the USITC investigation will inform the President's Trade Policy Agenda and trade policy under EO 13985 and Presidential initiatives that include:

- The [Gender Policy Council](#) and the [National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality](#)
- The [White House Initiative and President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders](#)
- The [White House Council on Native American Affairs](#) and the Presidential Memorandum on [Tribal Consultation and Strengthening the Nation-to-Nation Relationship](#)
- [The White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence and Economic Opportunity for Hispanics](#)
- [The White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Black Americans](#)
- The Presidential Memorandum on [Advancing the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Persons around the World](#)
- EO 14036 on [Promoting Competition in the American Economy](#)

*USITC Distributional Effects of Trade and Trade Policy on U.S. Workers*

**ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM**

- Dates:** April 5-6, 2022
- Time:** Beginning both days at 9:00 a.m. (ET)
- Location:** Online Video-Conference Platform
- Who:** Academics, Think Tanks, and Researchers
- Participant Guidance:**
1. Email a CV and abstract to [DE@usitc.gov](mailto:DE@usitc.gov) by 5:15 p.m. on February 11, 2022.
  2. Email papers and presentations to [DE@usitc.gov](mailto:DE@usitc.gov) by 5:15 p.m. on March 1, 2022.

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The USITC will conduct an academic symposium focused on academic or similar research on the distributional effects of trade and trade policy on underrepresented and underserved communities. The academic symposium will be held via an online videoconferencing platform, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (ET) on April 5–6, 2022. The academic symposium will include:

- results of existing analysis
- evaluation of methodologies
- the use of public and restricted data in current analysis
- identifying gaps in data and/or in the economic literature, and
- proposed analysis that could be done with restricted data

The academic symposium will feature a combination of:

- short presentations of published and ongoing work, and
- moderator-led topic-specific expert panels

Persons interested either in presenting work (published or ongoing) or serving on a panel discussion at the symposium should **submit a curriculum vitae (CV) and an abstract by emailing [DE@usitc.gov](mailto:DE@usitc.gov) by 5:15 p.m. on February 11, 2022.** The abstract should be a document of approximately **one page in length that includes the presenter’s name, affiliation, email contact information, and job title.**

Following the *February 11<sup>th</sup> submission of abstracts and CVs*, potential participants should submit papers and presentations **by 5:15 on March 1<sup>st</sup> by emailing [DE@usitc.gov](mailto:DE@usitc.gov).**

*Since the academic symposium will be live-streamed, observers do not need to register in advance.*

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**NATIONAL ROUNDTABLES**

**Dates:** Rolling, beginning on March 1, 2022 through April 1, 2022

**Location:** Virtual and in-person/ hybrid

**Who:** Interested individuals and organizations throughout the country

**Participant Guidance:** Submit a request by emailing [DE@usitc.gov](mailto:DE@usitc.gov) or calling (202) 536-9960 ahead of the below registration deadlines.

Theme	Format	Roundtable Date	Participant Registration Deadline
<b>Race and Ethnicity</b>	Virtual	March 1, 2022	February 15, 2022
<b>Impacts on Underserved Communities, Fresno, CA</b>	In-Person/Virtual Hybrid	March 8, 2022	February 22, 2022
<b>Race and Ethnicity</b>	Virtual	March 10, 2022	February 24, 2022
<b>Gender and Orientation</b>	Virtual	March 14, 2022	February 28, 2022
<b>Disability, Age, and Education</b>	Virtual	March 22, 2022	March 8, 2022
<b>Impacts on Underserved Communities, Detroit, MI</b>	In-Person/Virtual Hybrid	March 30, 2022	March 15, 2022
<b>Local Impacts on Underserved Communities</b>	Virtual	April 1, 2022	March 18, 2022

Individuals and organizations interested in participating in the roundtable discussion must submit a request by emailing [DE@usitc.gov](mailto:DE@usitc.gov) or calling (202) 536-9960 by the respective participant registration deadline for the roundtable of interest.

*Since the roundtables will be live-streamed, observers do not need to register in advance.*

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## **PUBLIC HEARING**

<b>Dates:</b>	<b>April 19, 2022, beginning at 9:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Online, videoconferencing platform</b>
<b>Who:</b>	<b>Interested individuals and organizations</b>
<b>Participant Guidance:</b>	<b>Create a free account at <a href="https://edis.usitc.gov">https://edis.usitc.gov</a> to submit an electronic written request to testify regarding <i>Inv. No. 332-587</i> by <b>5:15 p.m. on April 1, 2022</b></b> <b>Create a free account at <a href="https://edis.usitc.gov">https://edis.usitc.gov</a> for written submissions for the record regarding <i>Inv. No. 332-587</i> are accepted until <b>5:15 p.m. on May 17, 2022</b></b>

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The USITC will provide additional information on how to participate in or view the hearing by March 1, 2022. Check this page for updates:

[https://www.usitc.gov/research\\_and\\_analysis/ongoing/distributional\\_effects\\_332](https://www.usitc.gov/research_and_analysis/ongoing/distributional_effects_332)

Once guidelines are provided, requests to appear at the hearing should be filed **no later than 5:15 p.m. on April 1, 2022**, with the *Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436*. No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings are currently accepted.

- Those interested in testifying, submitting comments, or reviewing written submissions regarding the hearing will need to create a free account through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, <https://edis.usitc.gov>).
- To view current USITC materials once logged-into EDIS, individuals may track the progress of the Distributional Effects of Trade and Trade Policy on Workers, by selecting "Advanced Search" in the "Search" section on the EDIS homepage and entering: **332-587** into the search criteria "Number" field and click the "Search" button at the left bottom of the page.

Please contact the Office of the Secretary, Docket Services Division [EDIS3Help@usitc.gov](mailto:EDIS3Help@usitc.gov) with any questions or concerns, or consult the Commission's [Handbook on Filing Procedures](#) for additional EDIS guidance.