



United States International Trade Commission

Budget Justification

Executive Summary
Fiscal Year 2025



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Budget Highlights

For FY 2025, the Commission requests \$132 million to carry out our mission and functions. The request is in line with compounding inflation over our FY 2023 appropriation of \$122.4 million and is the level of funding required to sustain the human capital investments we plan to make during FY 2024. The volume and complexity of our workload demand a challenging level of effort by our current number of staff. In FY 2023, we began a long-overdue hiring initiative that aims to provide staffing levels commensurate with our workload. Our FY 2024 staffing goal is to have an average staffing level (i.e., full-time equivalents, or FTE) of 429. As of early-February 2024, our onboard staffing level is 402, with vacancy rates as high as 21 percent in offices responsible for statutory workload. Our hiring initiative is largely focused on offices responsible for statutory investigations pursuant to Title VII (antidumping and countervailing duty, or AD/CVD) and section 332 (factfinding and trade policy support) of the Tariff Act of 1930 but it will also provide additional resources for section 337 investigations, which remain at high levels.

The request also provides resources for IT investments needed to continuously advance the security of and capabilities of our IT infrastructure while maintaining equipment lifecycles. The request ensures the availability and accessibility of our public-facing IT systems, as well as ensuring they are in compliance with mandated standards and best practices. FY 2025 IT investments include continued replacement of end-of-life equipment, maintaining a zero-trust architecture, and the continued enhancement of our telecommunications network to support continuity of operations, redundancy, and enhanced remote access controls. Additionally, this request includes funds to continuously optimize the overall user experience to include the hybrid working capabilities of staff in their support of internal, public, and intra-governmental customers.

Workload Drivers

The Commission continues to experience relatively high and stable caseload levels in AD/CVD investigations and a higher number of unfair import investigations described below, and we have been devoting more resources to conducting or supporting other investigations and Administration initiatives. Due to recent substantial increases in petition filings in import injury investigations coupled with low levels of terminated orders, the average number of instituted and completed investigations has almost doubled in the last decade with commensurate increases in monthly import injury activity levels. This workload is expected to remain at relatively high levels due to an increased number of investigations regularly returning for five-year reviews. Although AD/CVD investigations represent the bulk of import injury activity, the Commission continues to handle litigation-related activity and manages ongoing follow-on safeguard-related investigations, such as end-of-relief evaluations on large residential washers and monitoring investigation on solar products.

In FY 2023, our section 337 monthly workload normalized to just below the ten-year average, mainly due to the low number of new complaints being filed, after a two-year period of high activity. This allowed the Commission to work through a backlog of investigations remaining from the pandemic and high level of activity in FYs 2021 and 2022. The settlement rate in section 337 remained low, so we expect the majority of current unfair import investigations to remain before the Commission for longer, terminating either at or close to their target date. Indeed, for nearly two decades, there has been an overall upward trend in new investigations filed year over year and even with the decline in new investigations filed this year, we expect the trend to continue in FYs 2024 and 2025.

At the same time, the number and increased complexity of factfinding investigations and trade policy support requests have required more research and resources. The increasing number of complex reports with broad scope, such as *Distributional Effects*, *Economic Impact of Section 232 and 301 Tariffs*, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, and *COVID-19 Diagnostics and Therapeutics* have increased requirements for innovative analysis and increased the number of staff and hours devoted to these reports.

In addition, we have had to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) more often in recent years to incorporate changes brought about by Administration initiatives. Prior to FY 2018, we would typically publish the HTS two or three times per year; in FYs 2021 and 2022, the HTS was published 18 and 17 times, respectively. In FY 2023, the Commission continued

to complete revisions to the HTS at an elevated level: publishing the HTS 14 times to implement multiple tariff changes. We expect that a similar number of publications will be necessary for FYs 2024 and 2025.

Program Overview

Antidumping/Countervailing Duty Investigations and Unfair Import Investigations (Section 337)

The Commission provides a venue for private sector firms and other qualifying entities to bring allegations of certain unfair or injurious trade practices involving imports before an independent, objective, and expert quasi-judicial governmental body. Our trade remedy investigations caseload continues to grow in volume and complexity. In FY 2023, the number of AD/CVD investigations remained at relatively high levels. The caseload is expected to stabilize at relatively high levels in FYs 2024 and 2025, though driven primarily by the structural and more predictable increase in reviews of existing orders required every five years after imposition. In FY 2023, new unfair import matters under section 337 fell to just below the ten-year monthly average after a two-year period of peak activity, and we are expecting caseload to increase in FYs 2024 and 2025.

AD/CVD Caseload Remain at Historically High Levels

In FY 2023, 10 petitions were filed under Title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930. Filings in FY 2023 were low compared to recent record-breaking years though consistent with the pre-2015 average. In FY 2023, approximately four-fifths of the petitions involved imports from multiple countries. Domestic industries filing petitions in FY 2023 produced a range of products, including various processed agricultural, steel and metal, intermediate, and retail products. More than one-half of the investigations covered retail products (such as gas-powered pressure washers, paper file folders, paper shopping bags, and mattresses). Additional investigations covered processed agricultural products (pea protein) and steel-related intermediate products (such as tin mill products, brass rod, and aluminum lithographic plates). Some investigations were notable because of the size and/or complexity of the U.S. industry and market, including tin mill products, mattresses, and pea protein. In addition to new investigations, we instituted 35 reviews of existing AD/CVD orders in FY 2023 and anticipate instituting 35 in FY 2024 and 34 in FY 2025. While the number of import injury review activity increased, the amount of safeguard activity was less than recent years. In FY 2023, the Commission completed one safeguard end-of-relief evaluation on large residential washers and, as a result of the extension of

relief, initiated a second monitoring investigation on crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells and modules (solar products). Overall, the Commission instituted 53 investigations and reviews and completed 64 investigations and reviews in FY 2023. Recent activity reflects the normal cyclical activity of cases and continued, but stabilizing, elevated levels. We anticipate continued high caseload levels, driven primarily by returning reviews; in FY 2024, we anticipate instituting 70 proceedings and completing 64. In FY 2025, we anticipate instituting 71 proceedings and completing 73.

During FY 2023, we continued our efforts to increase the transparency of our proceedings and reduce the burden on participating parties, as well as increase investigative efficiency. We rolled out a standard format for collection of quantitative information requested in connection with the Commission's responses to its notice of institution for 5-year reviews. This new approach substantially reduces manual activity by Commission staff and provides consistency and reduced revisions for external parties. We met with stakeholders and used feedback to update this information collection vehicle. In FY 2023, we completed development and launch of the Investigations Database System, or IDS, which provides more complete, timely, and accessible reporting of investigative information across Commission investigative activities, including import injury information.

Unfair Import Investigations Caseload Remains High

After peaking in FY 2022, our section 337 workload returned to the ten-year average levels of monthly activity, due to a decline in the number of complaints filed during the FY 2023. Despite this normalizing, we anticipate that there will likely be an increased number of filings in FY 2024 into FY 2025.

Our proceedings provide for timely resolution of matters involving imported goods alleged to infringe U.S. intellectual property (IP) rights and imports that are involved with other unfair acts or methods of competition, such as trade secret misappropriation, that harm domestic industries. Indeed, it has been reported that nearly a quarter of the patent trials in the United States occur at the Commission. Section 337 authorizes relief in the form of exclusion of infringing or otherwise unfairly traded imports at the border, as well as cease and desist orders that prohibit domestic marketing and sales of the unfairly traded imports. IP-intensive domestic industries that seek relief against unfair imports under section 337 account for a large number of high-wage jobs in U.S. industries that generate significant exports.

The range of technologies covered in these investigations is quite broad, encompassing, among other things, various electronic devices, pharmaceutical and medical devices, transportation-related products, and other consumer goods such as smart

thermostats, hazelnuts, landscape lighting devices, raised garden beds, fitness devices, compact wallets, icemaking machines, and golf clubs. Section 337 investigations typically involve allegations of patent infringement and other unfair acts such as trademark infringement, trade dress infringement, false advertising, and trade secret misappropriation, the latter of which is an area of heightened concern for U.S. companies and Congress.

Work is ongoing to ensure that section 337 investigations are completed expeditiously, in line with congressional intent. We continue to build and develop the necessary staff and resources to conduct evidentiary hearings in section 337 investigations, focusing on making the process more efficient and less costly for both litigants and the agency. Our efforts include improvements to courtroom space to allow for witnesses to appear remotely through our FedRAMP-certified video-teleconference platform, improvements to our rules of procedure, procedural pilot programs, and substantial investments over the past few years in our Electronic Document Information System (EDIS). Further, in FY 2021, we implemented electronic service of public documents through EDIS, and plan to expand to include confidential service in FY 2024. We acquired BOX, a FedRAMP-certified cloud content management system, to enhance the secure transfer, use, and storage of the voluminous electronic documents produced in our investigations. We also launched IDS, which has provided detailed information to the public about investigations instituted since October 1, 2008. These efforts necessitate an adequate level of funding.

Synergies between EDIS and IDS have helped us to better manage our large volume of investigation-related materials while making our investigative process more transparent. These systems also comply with government Open Data rules, furthering our efforts to make our data more accessible to and usable by other agencies and the public. Funding these types of improvements will help us to address the challenges of resolving section 337 matters expeditiously and will keep the public informed on these matters.

Analysis and Information on Tariffs, Trade, and Competitiveness

The Commission supplies the executive branch and Congress with objective analyses of significant trade issues. We provide industry and economic research, tariff and trade information, and trade policy support through investigations and other expert advice. Given our independent economic and trade expertise, we offer cutting-edge data and insights that support the development of sound U.S. trade policy. The caseload for industry and economic analysis was at a high level in FY 2023, and the number of requests will likely remain at similar levels in FYs 2024 and 2025.

We Continue to Develop New Approaches in Our Industry and Economic Analyses

International trade touches nearly all sectors of the U.S. economy. As with section 337 and Title VII investigations, we constantly develop and refine our capabilities to meet requests for increasingly complex analyses in emerging areas of international trade, trade policy, and competitiveness. We gather primary data to provide unique insights into emerging issues, assembling this information via a variety of instruments, including carefully crafted industry surveys.

Our staff also develops new methods to produce high-quality economic analysis to meet analytical priorities relevant to our requestors. During FY 2023, our priority effort for model innovation was estimating the distributional effects of trade on underserved U.S. communities. During FYs 2024 and 2025, we plan to continue our efforts estimating impacts of trade on U.S. workers and communities. We will also improve our analytical capabilities to estimate the effects of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) automotive rules of origin, anti-corruption provisions in international agreements, and evolutions in global supply chains; estimate the greenhouse gas emissions intensity of U.S. industries; and assess industry competitiveness.

Our work in industry and economic analysis spans a wide variety of issues and responds to both specific requests and areas of potential interest from the President and Congress. A few examples include:

- the performance of U.S. industries in critical supply chains and the effects of global disruptions
- how trade and investment barriers, rules of origin, and standards affect U.S. firms, workers, and consumers
- the possibilities—and pitfalls—of new technologies, industries, and business models
- the intersection of trade and the environment
- assessments of industry competitiveness
- economic analysis of U.S. trade agreements, both proposed and completed, as well as technical support to policymakers during trade negotiations

To effectively support the requests of trade policymakers, we must maintain a staff with expert knowledge and skills to provide relevant and timely insights on trade, investment, and the international competitiveness of U.S. companies in the global marketplace.

Tariff and Trade Information Services Benefits from New Technology and Improved Business Processes

Our work to maintain and update the HTS, as discussed above, also impacts other U.S. agencies, private parties, and other stakeholders. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) relies upon the HTS for collecting tariff revenues on imported goods. Private firms use the HTS to learn the duties that they will pay on imported goods. U.S. exporters and importers depend on our work in the World Customs Organization to ensure that international nomenclature is harmonized and considers stakeholder interests and changing patterns of trade. Compared to two or three revisions in a typical year, in FY 2023, we prepared and published the HTS 14 times, including the annual Basic Edition in January 2023. Revisions were made to reflect trade actions with respect to, inter alia, increasing the column 2 rate of duty for imports from the Russian Federation; adjusting tariff rates for Russian aluminum and Ukrainian steel; adjusting tariff rate quota quantity limitations in accordance with the U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement; and, to make conforming and technical amendments to section 301 tariffs, including extending COVID-related product exclusions.

The HTS provides the foundation for the U.S. trade data maintained by the U.S. Census Bureau (Census), and it enables CBP to manage its trade and enforcement activities. We ensure that the HTS is both accurate and up to date so that it meets the demands for trade and tariff information from Census, CBP, U.S. exporters and importers, the Administration, and policymakers in Congress. Due to the size and openness of the U.S. economy and the volume of U.S. trade, the HTS is the most heavily used tariff schedule in the world. Its more than 19,000, 10-digit statistical reporting numbers must be updated and maintained throughout the year to reflect changes from implementing trade agreements and from other congressional and administration actions. In FY 2023, we deployed much needed functional improvements to the HTS Data Management System and limited, necessary improvements to HTS Search. In FY 2023, the Commission administered a user survey to collect stakeholder feedback on how to improve DataWeb (the USITC web application that makes available official U.S. import and export statistics to the public in a queryable web-based interface) to update documentation of new system requirements which will be developed and implemented in FY 2024.

In FY 2024, we will evaluate the effectiveness of the recent HTS updates, documenting any deficiencies, in preparation for future development efforts. By employing this cycle of continued evaluation and improvement, we expect the Data Management System to better serve as the backbone for issuing accurate and timely updates to the HTS for many years to come. The FY 2023 improvements to the HTS Data Management System will be followed by a major version update to DataWeb, which will be implemented in FY 2024. The skills needed to support many of these tariff and trade information services (e.g., HTS maintenance and improvement and working with large volumes of merchandise trade data statistics) are unique and can take years to develop.

Moreover, many of the agency experts that we rely on for tariff and trade information services are approaching retirement eligibility, so we expect human capital planning and recruitment to be a priority over the next few years.

Trade Policy Support Remains a Key Focus Requiring Deep Expertise

Congress and the Administration place a high value on our staff's ability to produce timely, objective, and independent information related to their most urgent issues. We draw heavily on staff in all agency program areas to respond to requests for trade policy support from Congress and the Administration. In FY 2023, we supplied rapid responses on a broad array of issues and topics, ranging from litigation support in international tribunals to assessments of specific industry and economic issues, including the impact of trade on U.S. workers, tariffs imposed under sections 232 and 301, the Russia-Ukraine war, digital services and trade, environmental impacts of trade agreements, trade facilitation measures, the identification and impact of nontariff measures, and the USMCA dairy dispute panels. Moreover, behind-the-border issues related to regulation and services trade have required us to refocus our resources, apply new analytic techniques, and develop new trade-related databases. Our staff often provides support to policymakers developing new or revising existing trade programs and policies as well as negotiators working on proposed trade agreements or adjustments to existing agreements. We supply information, expertise, and software-based tools to support U.S. negotiating teams.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Our Workforce

In FY 2023, our diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) program was primarily led by the Office of Human Resources. The DEI Council, the cross-agency working group formed to make recommendations representative of the broader workforce and carry out a portion of the DEI programming, held regular activities and distributed a newsletter highlighting the significance of each special emphasis and heritage month. Additional programming included agency-wide, DEI-related trainings and events; an agency-wide mentoring program and coaching for supervisors; sponsorship for an employee to attend a leadership program with a focus on DEI; and dedicated intranet resources, including a SharePoint page. Additional efforts in the area of accessibility and inclusion have included training and application of 508 accessibility measures both through our reporting and at hearings. Specifically, all published factfinding investigations, staff working papers, Journal of International Commerce and Economics articles, administrative reports, and Commission reports for Title VII investigations were 508 compliant.

To effectively support and advance these efforts in FYs 2024 and 2025, we must maintain our commitment to hiring diverse staff and reducing our vacancy rate to ensure a lasting and meaningful commitment to these efforts. In the meantime, the executive staff in conjunction with the DEI Council as a consultative body, will continue to assess program diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility across the agency and recommend areas for further examination and review. We will maintain the continuity of programming mentioned previously, alongside improving workforce satisfaction with the Commission's DEI efforts, sponsoring participation in a variety of leadership development programs, and continuing our commitment to diverse recruitment through initiatives such as the Pathways internship program. Over the next two years, the Commission will continue its efforts to increase the accessibility of the written materials it provides the public by achieving full 508 compliance for its public documents. This supports its broader efforts to provide clear and accurate work products and customer service.

Information Technology Security

We demonstrate our commitment to improved IT security by complying with and implementing mandates and best business practices pertaining to IT security in a timely way. We continue to enhance our access controls and core architecture using secure devices and a reduced physical footprint. We continuously mature our monitoring abilities, tracking and reporting on all activities via our security operations center. We maintain and adhere to a zero-trust architecture.

In FY 2025, strengthening our IT security posture by investing in new technologies, processes, and capabilities will continue to be a priority. Planned improvements include the following:

- more stringent remote access controls to further secure our infrastructure
- continued evaluation and maturing of our incident response and intrusion detection processes
- improved flexibility and security in application development utilizing containerization both locally and in the cloud
- enhancements to the Commission's continuous monitoring program
- continued participation in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) program
- refinement of the vulnerability management processes
- coordinating with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to conduct external assessments and scans of agency systems

- continuing independent assessments of our security and privacy controls systems to ensure that security controls are applied correctly, operating as intended, and producing the desired outcome for security requirements

Remote and Cloud Computing

We plan to further advance our continuity and telework capabilities in FY 2025 by maintaining a secure and modernized remote access solution and ensuring improved levels of availability and accessibility by expanding our hybrid cloud-based architecture, as necessary. We will continue to evaluate the need for additional compute capabilities in the cloud to provide even higher levels of redundancy and performance for remote and local users.

The Commission will continue to implement non-proprietary development techniques and technologies to ensure flexibility and portability in cloud deployments, while maintaining the necessary levels of IT security. In FY 2025, we expect to continue utilizing a hybrid cloud-based architecture to improve the availability and accessibility of our systems, increase our redundancy, and reduce our dependence on physical data centers.

Risk Management and Planning

We have an enterprise risk management (ERM) process to establish, maintain, monitor, evaluate, and report on agency risks. The process is led by the Director of the Office of Internal Control and Risk Management, who reports directly to the Chairman. ERM is an integral part of all strategic planning, performance management, budget, IT, and human capital functions and activities. As part of this effort, we maintain an ERM database, which supports categorizing, documenting, and evaluating risks to the agency. Management performs ongoing assessments to identify, manage, and update the risks in this database. Our risk profile is developed from the risk database and ranks risks from an agency-wide perspective. The profile is discussed, prioritized, and reviewed by the Commission's Performance Management and Strategic Planning Committee. The primary purpose of the risk profile is to assess how the risks we face from operations, mission-support activities, and external factors influence our ability to meet the agency's mission and achieve its performance goals.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provides agencies with guidance related to risk management in certain specialized areas, including cybersecurity. OMB directs agencies to assess their cybersecurity risk, to manage the cybersecurity component of enterprise risk, and to adopt the Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity. The Commission manages risk in

a way that is commensurate with the magnitude of the harm that would result from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of a federal information system or federal information. The Commission complies with all cybersecurity reporting requirements.

Each quarter, agency leaders and senior staff review progress on our strategic and management objectives and identify and discuss enterprise risks. These reviews, along with the evidence related to specific performance goals and associated risks identified by our managers, inform the development of our Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Budget Justification. We continue to evaluate how to improve our planning and ERM processes and how to make more effective use of the data we collect.

Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act

The Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act requires each agency to include in its annual budget justification a report that lists each public recommendation issued by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the agency's Office of Inspector General (OIG) that has remained unimplemented for one year or more from the annual budget justification submission date. The Commission does not have any open GAO recommendations. The Commission also does not have any IG recommendations that have been open for more than one year.

Publications Proposed for Elimination

The Commission has identified two publications that it has proposed for elimination or streamlining in response to requirements of the GPRM Modernization Act of 2010. Specifically, the Commission has requested elimination of the requirement found in 19 U.S.C. § 3204 to provide the *Andean Trade Preference Act: Impact on U.S. Industries and Consumers and on Drug Crop Eradication and Crop Substitution* report. The requirement is outdated because the President's authority to provide trade preferences under the Act expired in 2013 and has not been extended by Congress. Thus, none of the four eligible countries has participated in the program since 2013. As a result, there is no continued benefit to issuing the report.

Similarly, the Commission requested that Congress streamline the production of the HTS by eliminating the requirement to print a hard copy of it, which can be found in 19 U.S.C. § 3007(a). The statute requires the Commission to prepare a hard-copy version of the HTS and authorizes it to publish an electronic version. Users of the HTS rely almost exclusively on the electronic version. The requirement of a hard copy duplicates the electronic version. In addition, the hard-copy version often becomes outdated soon after

issuance due to the numerous modifications, and it therefore provides little benefit to the public.

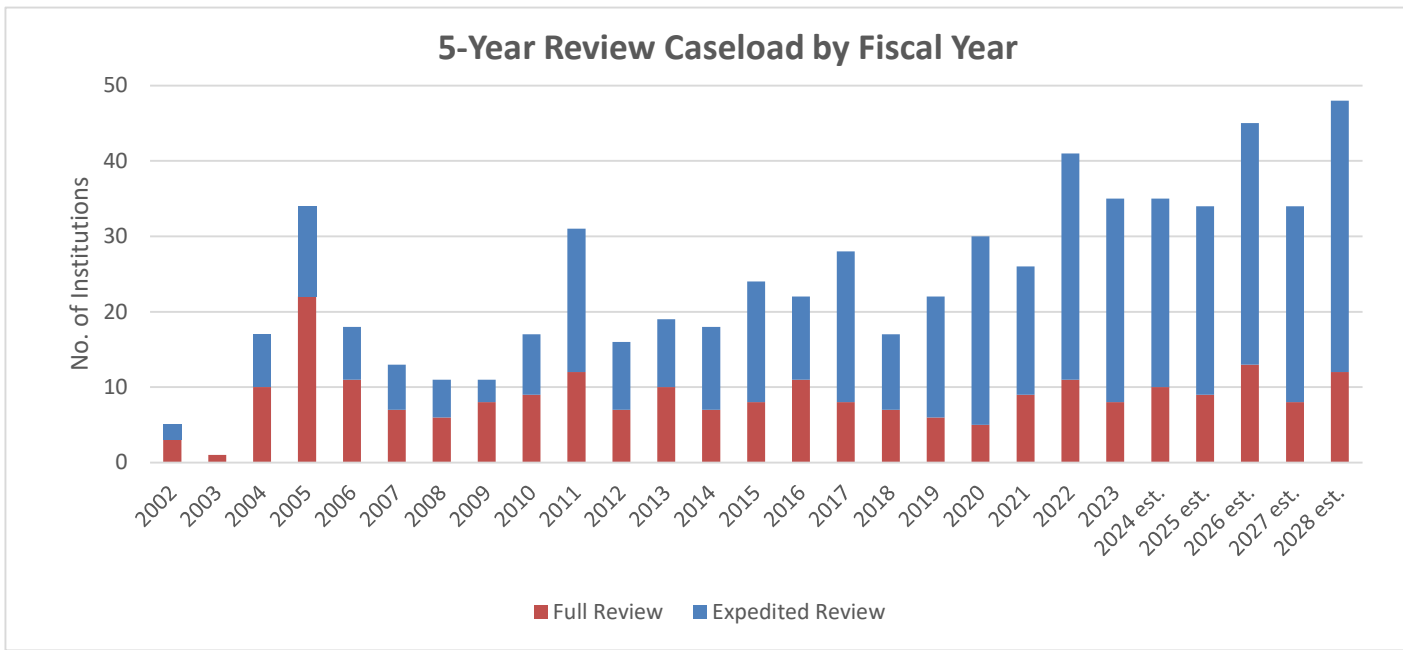
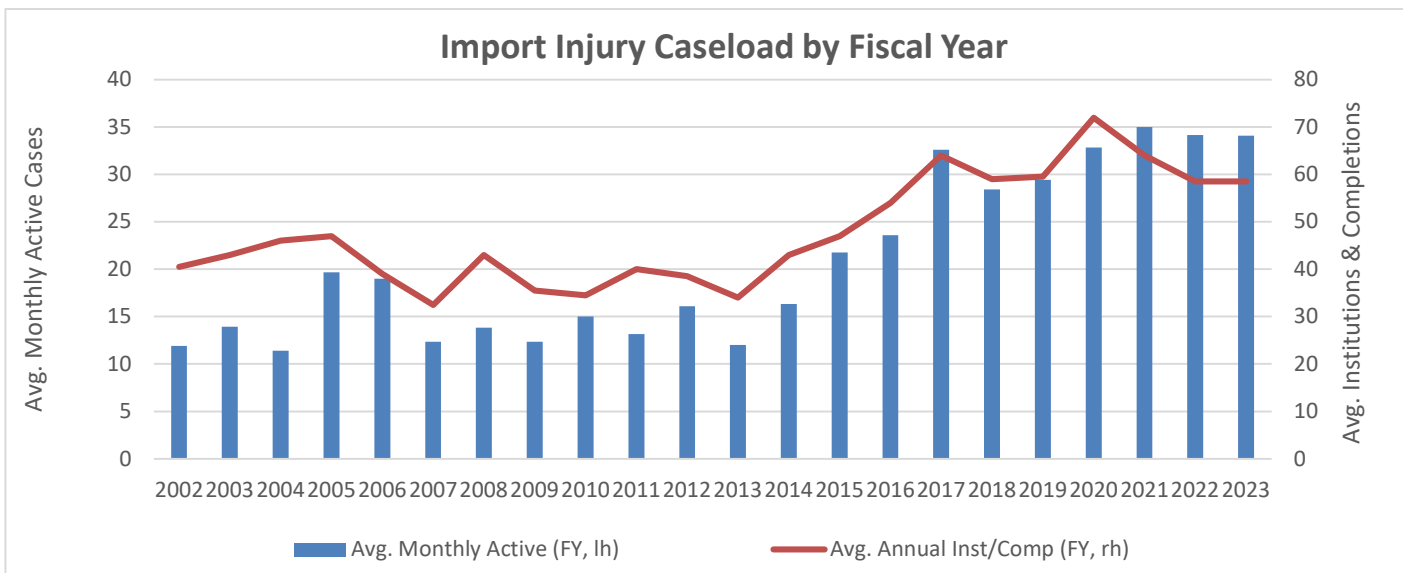
Preparing for Future of Work and Physical Space Reconfiguration

Agency leadership is engaging with mission owners and human capital, IT, and real property mission support functions to determine the most effective and efficient business practices to meet mission requirements in the post-pandemic era. The analysis includes assessing the continued use of telework, remote work, and hybrid work, hallmarks of pandemic and post-pandemic operations for government and non-government employers alike, and the implications of those work models on our physical space requirements. The agency may be able to achieve cost savings through a reduction in leased space. Of particular concern to the agency when assessing future of work and physical space configuration is ensuring optimal hybrid operations of our public courtroom complex.

Import Injury Investigations Caseload

Instituted and Completed Investigations

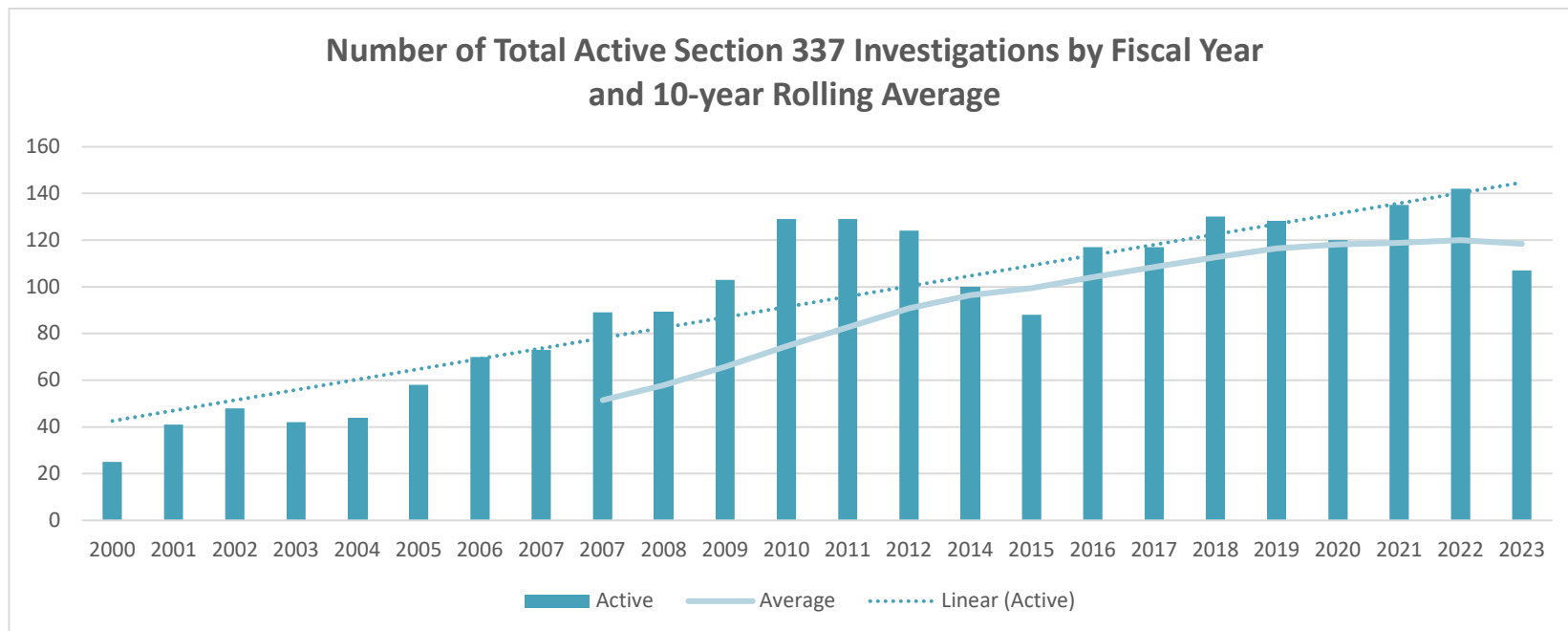
	Instituted							Completed						
	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Estimate	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Estimate	FY 2025 Estimate
Preliminary Title VII	15	26	11	10	10	18	17	19	25	12	10	10	15	18
Final Title VII	19	16	23	14	6	15	18	15	20	25	13	9	12	18
Other	3	3	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2
Full review	6	5	9	11	8	10	9	7	6	5	6	11	9	10
Expedited review	16	25	17	30	27	25	25	17	16	23	22	33	26	25
Total	59	75	61	65	53	70	71	60	69	67	52	64	64	73



Unfair Import Investigations Caseload

Instituted and Completed Original and Ancillary Investigations

Status	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Estimate	FY 2025 Estimate
Instituted	59	52	82	71	55	71	73
Completed	60	67	64	90	60	65	65



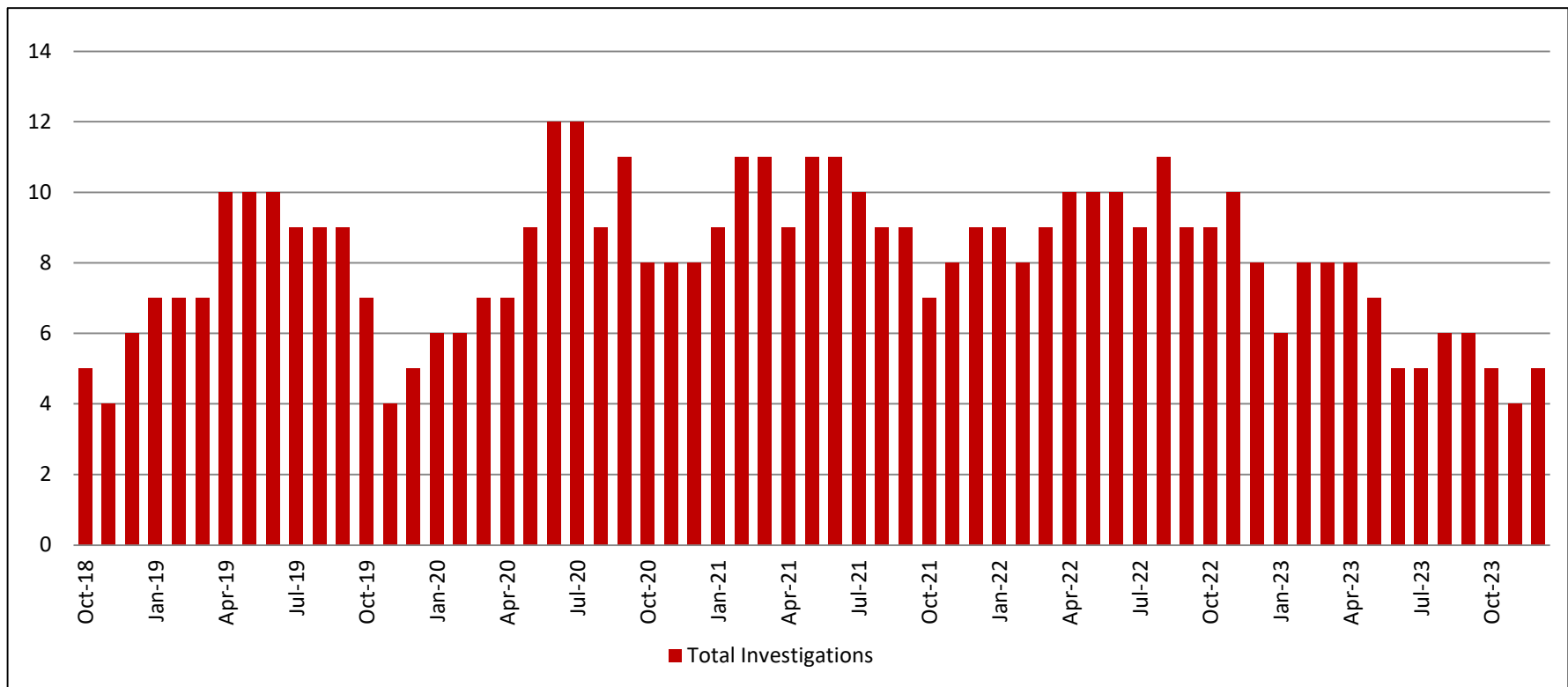
Industry and Economic Analysis Investigations Caseload

Instituted and Completed Investigations

	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Estimate	FY 2025 Estimate
Instituted	16	15	9	11	8	10	9
Completed	13	14	9	9	12	9	9

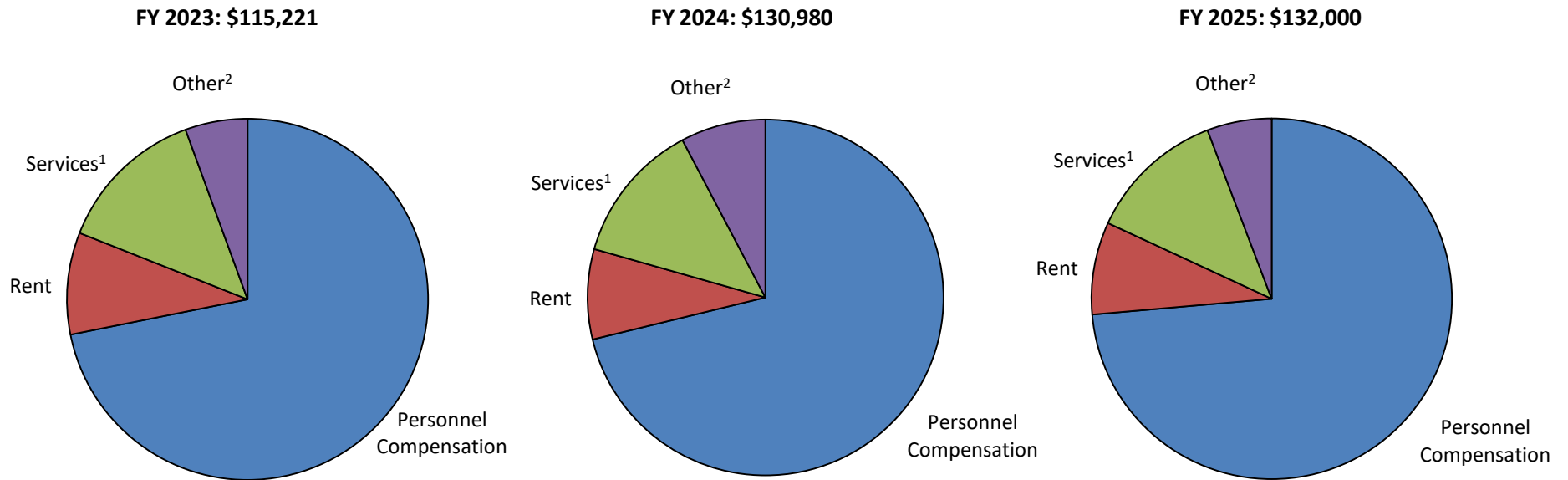
Note: Instituted and completed totals include both recurring and non-recurring reports. Investigation totals reflect the historical record available in IDS, which became available in FY 2023, and may be more complete (higher) than reported in earlier years of this report.





Monthly Active Caseload



Obligations: Comparison by Budget Object Classification, Fiscal Years 2023–25

(Dollar amounts in thousands)



CATEGORY OF OBLIGATION		FY 2023 Actual		FY 2024 Request		FY 2025 Request	
		Dollars	Percent of Total	Dollars	Percent of Total	Dollars	Percent of Total
Personnel Compensation		\$82,796	71.9%	\$95,033	72.6%	\$97,152	73.6%
Rent		10,523	9.1%	10,654	8.1%	10,959	8.3%
Services		15,472	13.4%	17,583	13.4%	16,227	12.3%
Other		6,430	5.6%	7,710	5.9%	7,662	5.8%
TOTAL		\$115,221	100.0%	\$130,980	100.0%	\$132,000	100.0%

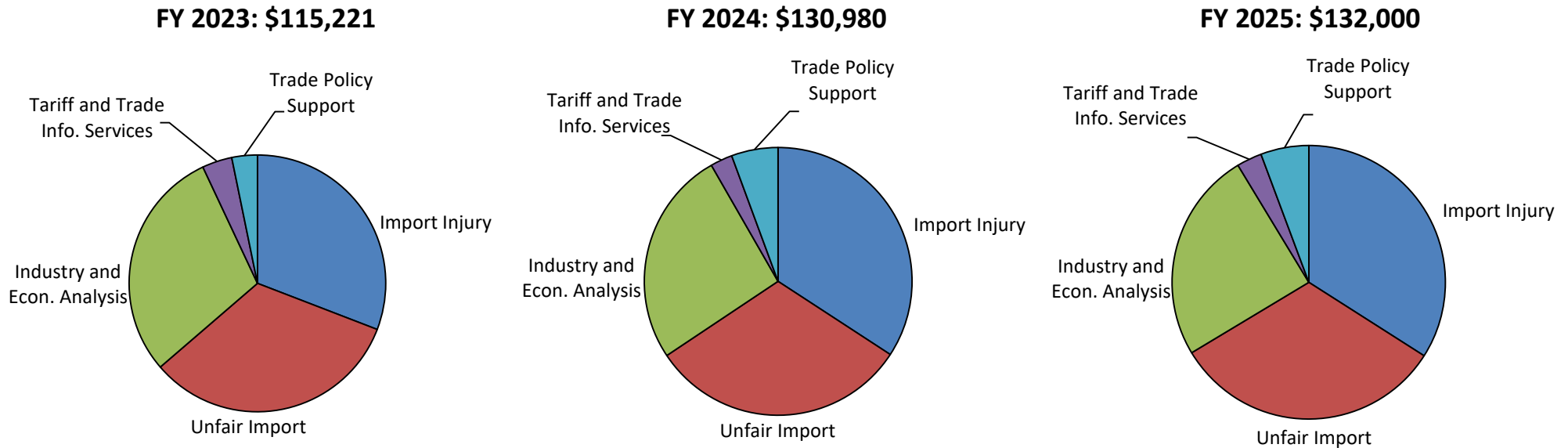
Note: Dollars may not add due to rounding in this and subsequent charts.

¹Services include, but are not limited to, obligations for contractor staff (IT service desk, security guards, financial audits), software licenses, and equipment maintenance.

²“Other” includes budget object classes such as equipment, supplies, communications and equipment rental, travel, training, printing and reproduction, land and structures, postage and contractual mail, and transportation.

Obligations: Comparison by Strategic Goal, Fiscal Years 2023–25

(Dollar amounts in thousands)



CATEGORY OF OBLIGATION	FY 2023 Actual		FY 2024 Request		FY 2025 Request	
	Dollars	Percent of Total	Dollars	Percent of Total	Dollars	Percent of Total
Trade Remedy Investigations (Strategic Goal 1)						
Import Injury	\$35,556	30.9%	\$44,808	34.3%	\$44,933	34.0%
Unfair Import	37,819	32.8%	41,180	31.4%	42,702	32.4%
Tariff, Trade, and Competitiveness related Analysis and Information (Strategic Goal 2)						
Industry and Economic Analysis	33,807	29.3%	34,107	26.0%	32,921	24.9%
Tariff and Trade Information Services	4,356	3.8%	3,497	2.7%	3,920	3.0%
Trade Policy Support	3,684	3.2%	7,387	5.6%	7,524	5.7%
TOTAL	\$115,221	100.0%	\$130,980	100.0%	\$132,000	100.0%

Analysis of Change by Budget Object Classification, Fiscal Years 2023–25

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Request	FY 2025 Request	FY 2024–25 Change	Percentage Change
Personnel Obligations	\$82,796	\$95,033	\$97,152	\$2,119	2.2%
Non-personnel Obligations					
Rent	\$10,523	\$10,654	\$10,959	\$305	2.9%
Services	15,472	17,583	16,227	-1,356	-7.7%
Supplies	1,993	2,035	2,152	117	5.7%
Equipment	1,710	1,538	1,405	-133	-8.6%
Travel	377	673	600	-73	-10.8%
Training	437	789	700	-89	-11.3%
Communications and Equipment Rental	1,601	2,177	2,324	147	6.8%
Printing and Reproduction	280	343	338	-5	-1.6%
Official Reception and Representation	1	4	4	0	0.0%
All Other (Transportation, Postage, Land and Structures, Credit Card Rebates)	30	152	139	-13	-8.6%
Subtotal Non-personnel Obligations	\$32,425	\$35,947	\$34,848	-\$1,100	-3.1%
Total Obligations	\$115,221	\$130,980	\$132,000	\$1,020	0.8%

Summary of Changes from the FY 2024 Budget Request

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Personnel Obligations

Personnel..... +\$2,119

Personnel obligations are expected to increase by about \$2.1 million. This funding is required to sustain the human capital investments that we plan to make in FY 2024. The volume and complexity of our workload demand a challenging level of effort by our current number of staff. In FY 2023, we began a long-overdue hiring initiative that aims to provide staffing levels commensurate with our workload. Our FY 2024 staffing goal is to have an average staffing level (i.e., full-time equivalents, or FTE) of 429 and our plan is to maintain that level in FY 2025. As of early-February 2024, our onboard staffing level is 402, with vacancy rates as high as 21 percent in offices responsible for statutory workload. What was originally expected to be a temporary surge in caseload has proven to be a sustained, though stabilizing, structural change. The substantial increases in activity from approximately FY 2015 to FY 2019 have transitioned to sustained elevated levels. For example, the average monthly anti-dumping/countervailing duty active case count between FY 2010 and FY 2014 was 15 and typically fluctuated plus-or-minus 4; however, the average monthly active case count between FY 2020 and FY 2023 was 34 and fluctuated plus-or-minus 2.

Further, in FY 2023, our section 337 monthly workload normalized to just below the ten-year average, mainly due to the low number of new complaints being filed, after a two-year period of high activity. Based on the number of complaints filed during the first quarter of FY 2024, 15, we expect the level of new filings to increase in FYs 2024 and 2025. Additionally, in FYs 2024 and 2025, we expect the number of new incoming factfinding reports to be similar to that of FY 2023, given the active trade policy agenda of the executive and legislative branches. Lastly, compared to two or three publications in a typical year, in FY 2023, we published the HTS 14 times to implement multiple tariff changes. We expect that a similar number of publications will be necessary for FYs 2024 and 2025.

This funding level will also cover the anticipated pay raise effective January 1, 2025, and pay for the normal cost of employee promotions, within-grade increases, and increased benefits.

Non-personnel Obligations

Rent..... **+\$305**

FY 2025 rent obligations are expected to increase by \$305,000 because of an inflationary increase to operating costs.

Services **-\$1,356**

Services obligations are expected to decrease by \$1.4 million, largely because of the one-time cost that we would incur in FY 2024 to change financial services providers. We are reviewing our processes and procedures and have met with federal financial shared services providers to discuss the financial, procurement, and travel service offerings. While all of the services discussed would result in efficiencies, and some would result in long-term savings, all have an upfront cost.

Supplies **+\$117**

Supplies obligations are expected to increase \$117,000 to accommodate the increased cost of data to support our statutory investigations.

Equipment **-\$133**

Equipment obligations are expected to decrease by \$133,000, which reflects the FY 2024 lifecycle replacement of IT equipment that is not included in the FY 2025 request.

Travel **-\$73**

Travel obligations are projected to decrease \$73,000 and align with post-pandemic travel expectations. This request will sufficiently fund statutory investigations, anticipated studies, knowledge development in emerging trade issues and priority areas, representational travel to international organization meetings, litigation support, and multilateral and regional agreement negotiation support.

Training **-\$89**

Training obligations are expected to decrease \$89,000. The request will provide sufficient funding for developing and advancing staff skills and meeting the licensing, certification, and professional education requirements of existing and newly hired staff.

Communications and Equipment Rental	+\$147
Communications and equipment rental obligations are expected to increase \$147,000, driven by an increase in the recurring cost of our Enterprise Infrastructure Solutions telecommunications contract resulting from increases in managed network and security services, bandwidth, and communications circuits that accommodate higher data, voice, and video usage.	
Printing and Reproduction	-\$5
Printing and reproduction obligations are expected to decrease slightly to reflect updated Government Publishing Office requirements.	
All Other (Official Reception and Representation, Transportation, Postage, Land and Structures, Credit Card Rebates).....	-\$13
Postage obligations are expected to decrease.	
Net Non-personnel Obligations Changes	-\$1,100
Total Adjustment to FY 2024 Base (\$130,980)	+\$1,020
Total FY 2025 Budget Request	\$132,000

The Commissioners

The USITC is headed by six commissioners, who are nominated by the President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. David S. Johanson, a Republican, is serving as Chairman of the Commission by operation of law effective June 17, 2022. A Vice Chairman has not been nominated for the current term. Other commissioners currently serving are, in order of seniority, Rhonda K. Schmidlein, Jason E. Kearns, and Amy A. Karpel, who are Democrats.¹

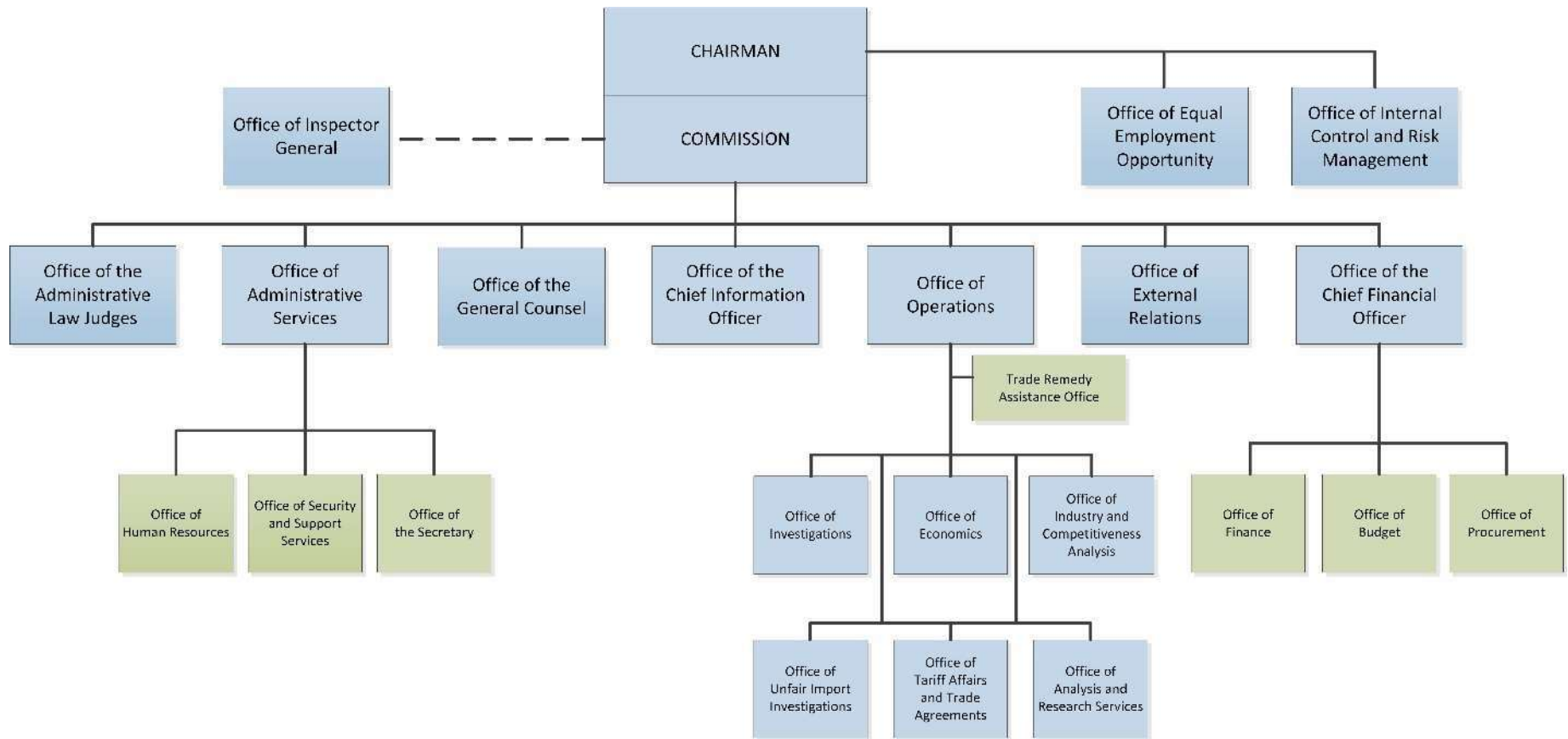
Each commissioner serves a term of nine years, unless appointed to fill an unexpired term. The terms are set by statute and are staggered such that a different term expires every 18 months.² A commissioner who has served for more than five years is ineligible for reappointment. A commissioner may, however, continue to serve after the expiration of his or her term until a successor is appointed and qualified. Congress's desire to create an independent and nonpartisan Commission is evident in the rules that dictate the composition of the Commission. No more than three commissioners may be members of the same political party. The Chairman and the Vice Chairman are designated by the President and serve for a statutory two-year term.³ The Chairman may not be of the same political party as the preceding Chairman, nor may the President designate two commissioners of the same political party to serve as the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Currently three Democrats and one Republican serve as commissioners.

¹ Currently, there are two vacancies.

² 19 U.S.C. § 1330.

³ If the President does not designate a Chairman, the senior commissioner of the relevant political party serves as Chairman, by operation of law.

U.S. International Trade Commission Office-level Organization Chart



Current Permanent and Term Staffing Plan and Onboard Staffing Levels

Office	Permanent and Term Positions		
	FY 2024 Staffing Plan	Onboard as of 2/5/2024	Gap
Commissioners	38	26	12
External Relations	4	3	1
Internal Control & Risk Management	4	4	0
Inspector General	5	5	0
General Counsel	53	50	3
Administrative Law Judges	26	25	1
Equal Employment Opportunity	2	2	0
Chief Information Officer	38	38	0
Subtotal: Other Offices	170	153	17
Operations	7	6	1
Analysis and Research Services	28	27	1
Investigations	31	28	3
Unfair Import Investigations	25	24	1
Economics	44	36	8
Tariff Affairs and Trade Agreements	14	11	3
Industry and Competitiveness Analysis	75	62	13
Subtotal: Operations	224	194	30
Chief Financial Officer	2	1	1
Budget	3	3	0
Finance	7	6	1
Procurement	6	5	1
Subtotal: Chief Financial Officer	18	15	3
Administrative Services	5	5	0
Human Resources	13	9	4
Security and Support Services	11	9	2
Secretary and Dockets	20	17	3
Subtotal: Administrative Services	49	40	9
Commission Total	461	402	59



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