Week in Regulation

$755 Million in Burdens

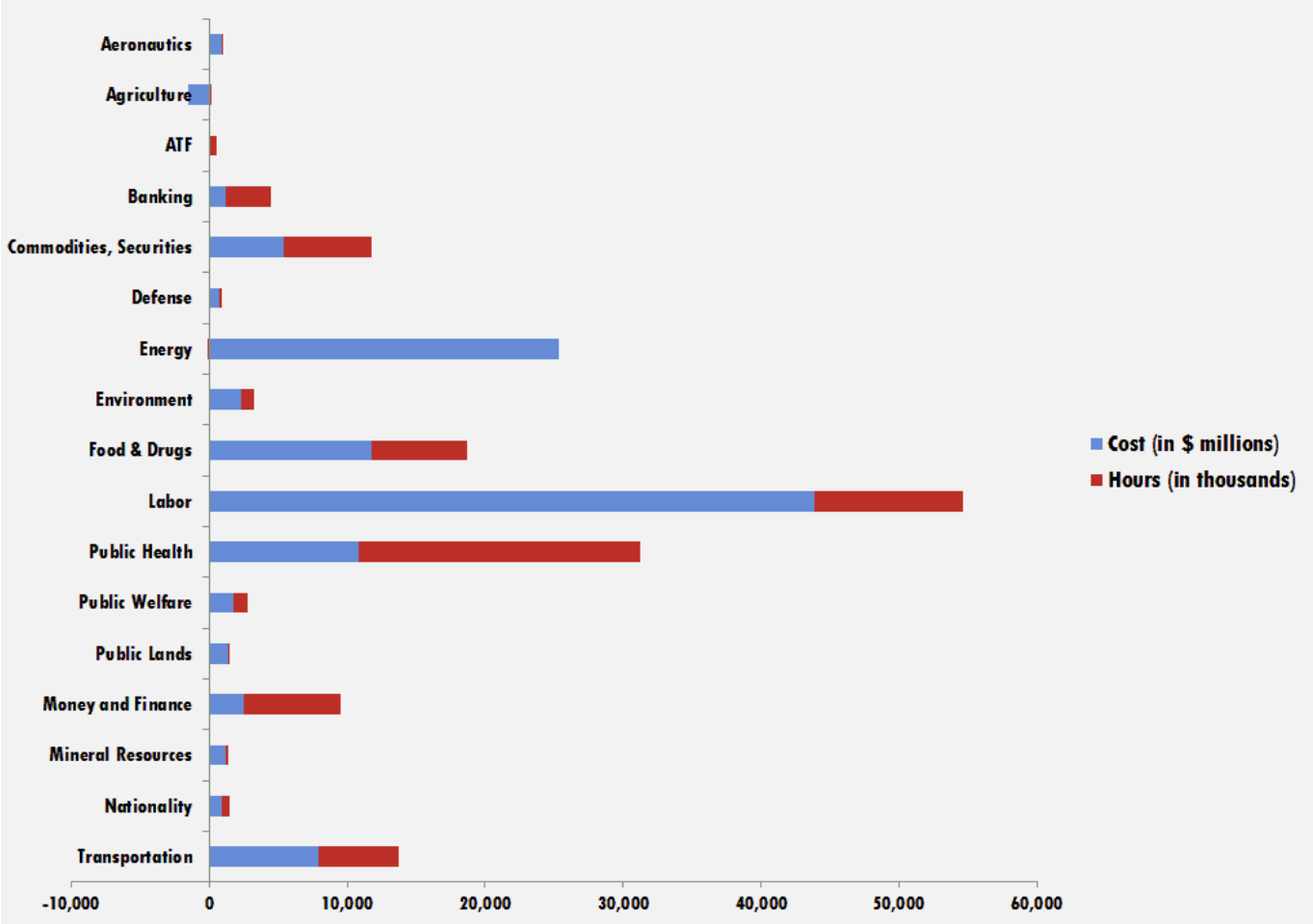
SAM BATKINS | JUNE 27, 2016

In an odd twist, a pair of Coast Guard rulemakings took center stage in a week where regulators published $755 million in total costs. Annual burdens were $147 million compared to $58 million in monetized benefits; paperwork accelerated by more than 580,000 hours. **The per capita regulatory burden for 2016 is $369**.

Regulatory Toplines

- New Proposed Rules: 55
- New Final Rules: 77
- 2016 Total Pages of Regulation: 41,410
- 2016 Final Rules: $87.29 Billion
- 2016 Proposed Rules: $32.1 Billion

The American Action Forum (AAF) has catalogued regulations according to their codification in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The CFR is organized into 50 titles, with each title corresponding to an industry or part of government. This snapshot will help to determine which sectors of the economy receive the highest number of regulatory actions.



The Coast Guard published a final rule on "Inspection of Towing Vehicles," which covers electrical and machinery requirements for vehicles. This action was taken because recent Homeland Security law allowed the Secretary to establish requirements for towing vehicles. Annual costs of the measure are $41.5 million, paired with $46.4 million in benefits, and more than 180,000 paperwork burden hours.

Coast Guard also implemented a regulation governing commercial fishing vessels. The measure governs emergency survival craft, vessel examinations, training, and load lines. Annual costs are $34.2 million, with $7.1 million in benefits, and roughly 20,000 paperwork hours. The public will have until September 19th to file formal comments.

Affordable Care Act

The administration proposed a rule, tangentially related to the ACA, that aims to update Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control and the Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) programs. Costs are minimal: $9.4 million and 174,000 paperwork burden hours.

Since passage, based on total lifetime costs of the regulations, the Affordable Care Act has imposed costs of $48.5 billion in final state and private-sector burdens and 171.4 million annual paperwork hours.

Dodd-Frank

Click here to view the total estimated revised costs from Dodd-Frank; since passage, the legislation has produced more than 73.9 million final paperwork burden hours and imposed $36.2 billion in direct compliance costs.

Total Burdens

Since January 1, the federal government has published $119.4 billion in compliance costs ($87.29 billion in final rules) and has imposed 66.5 million in net paperwork burden hours (46.4 million from final rules). At the current pace, the nation is well on its way to $200 billion in regulatory costs and more than 100 million paperwork hours in the president's final year in office. Click below for the latest Reg Rodeo findings.

