



## Week in Regulation

# Record Week for Costs

SAM BATKINS | OCTOBER 3, 2014

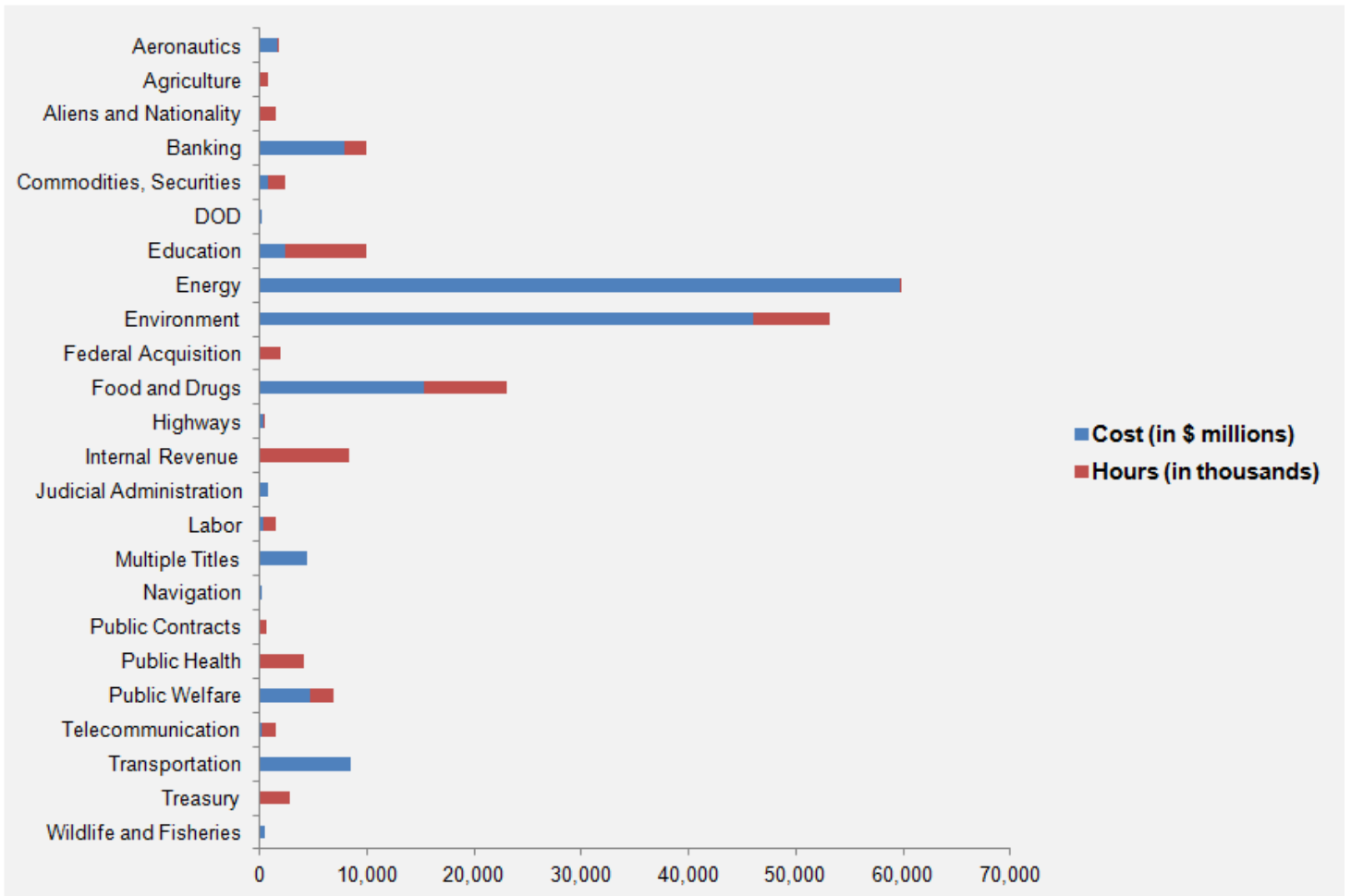
It was a historic week for regulation, with \$18.9 billion in total published costs. Regulators added \$1.7 billion in annual burdens, compared to \$4.9 billion in benefits, and 4.4 million paperwork burden hours.

For perspective, this week's burden equates to \$57.74 per person in the U.S. Last year, AAF predicted roughly [\\$143 billion](#) in total regulatory costs for 2014, and barring a significant deregulatory surge, the administration will blow past that prediction. Currently, regulators have proposed or finalized more than \$150 billion in costs.

## REGULATORY TOPLINES

- New Proposed Rules: 56
- New Final Rules: 79
- 2014 Significant Documents: [497](#)
- 2014 Total Pages of Regulation: 60,056
- 2014 Proposed Rules: \$81 Billion
- 2014 Final Rules: \$69.4 Billion

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 biggest cost drivers this week were from FDA’s revised food safety proposals. Although slightly less expensive than early iterations, they still impose substantial costs. AAF reviewed all four [here](#) and [here](#). If finalized as written, they would impose a combined \$1.2 billion in costs and 4.2 million paperwork burden hours, relative to \$930 million in monetized benefits.

The Department of Energy (DOE) proposed the second notable rulemaking this week, new efficiency standards for air conditioners. The figure of \$507 million in annual burdens might not be headline-grabbing, but this is the first DOE rule that [AAF reviewed](#) which acknowledged it could reduce industry employment. It also conceded that it would have a significant impact on small businesses and would raise prices on consumers.

## AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Since passage, based on total lifetime costs of the regulations, the Affordable Care Act has imposed revised costs of [\\$27.2 billion](#) in private-sector burdens, approximately \$13 billion in costs to the states, and 162.1 million annual paperwork hours.

## DODD-FRANK

There was a proposed rule from Dodd-Frank this week, but it imposed just minor paperwork burdens. [Click here](#) to view the total estimated revised costs from Dodd-Frank; since passage, the legislation has produced more

than 63.8 million paperwork burden hours and imposed \$29.9 billion in direct compliance costs. Based on calculations from the [Financial Services Roundtable](#), Dodd-Frank regulations would require 31,940 employees to file federal paperwork.

## A NOTE ON PAPERWORK

This week federal agencies published 513 notices. The Office of Management and Budget approved 98 paperwork requirements, decreasing the total paperwork burden by 4.9 million hours.

There were three major changes in paperwork burdens, which is defined as an hourly burden increase or decrease of 500,000 hours or greater. The Department of Health and Human Services had the largest decrease, at 1.9 million hours.

## TOTAL BURDENS

Since January 1, the federal government has published \$150.5 billion in compliance costs and has imposed 30.4 million in net paperwork burden hours. [Click here](#) for our comprehensive database of regulations and rulemakings promulgated in 2014.