

Definitions of Petition Statistics

(updated 11/8/2023)

For the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program, this document provides an explanation of how the Department of Labor (DOL) calculates some of the key petition statistics provided on the DOL website. For information on specific data elements, please see the [field definitions](#) for the TAA petition and determinations data.

In May 2020, in order to make calculation of metrics more accessible, an interactive dashboard was added to the [petition and determinations data page](#) and a statistics tab was added to the [downloadable data](#) that can be used to calculate the below statistics for specified dates with the exception of petitions filed.

- Petitions Filed – the count of worker groups for which petitions were filed. One petition (TAW column in the spreadsheet) may result in more than one worker group. The number of rows (TAW + Suffix combinations) where Institution Date is within the relevant period represents the number of petitions filed. NOTE: because the publicly available dataset does not include information on petition investigations in process, this calculation will not include the total number of petitions filed when using that dataset for periods where investigations are still in process. Because of this limitation, we do not provide this as a calculation on our dashboard or calculated tab.
- Determinations – the count of worker groups for which determinations were rendered: the number of rows where Determination Date is within the relevant period.
- Certifications – the count of worker groups that were determined eligible for TAA: the number of rows where Determ Code is in the set {C, C1, C2, CU, CD, P} and Determination Date is within the relevant period.
- Denials – the count of worker groups that were determined ineligible for TAA: the number of rows where Determ Code is “D” and Determination Date is within the relevant period.
- Terminations – the count of worker groups where the petition is terminated before a TAA eligibility determination was reached: the number of rows where Determ Code is “T” and Determination Date is within the relevant period.
- Estimated Certified Workers – the number of estimated affected workers in worker groups that were certified: the sum of Est# No# Workers where Determ Code is in the set {C, C1, C2, CU, CD, P} and Determination Date is within the relevant period.
- Estimated Denied Workers – the number of estimated affected workers in worker groups that were denied: the sum of Est# No# Workers where Determ Code is “D” and Determination Date is within the relevant period.
- Processing Days – the number of processing days is calculated by subtracting the Institution Date from the Initial Determination Date where Suffix is blank. Processing days are only calculated for the initial worker group (Suffix is blank) to avoid counting the petition multiple times in processing times when the decision covers more than one worker group. Using Determination Date rather than Initial Determination Date will align prior to 2013 when we began tracking when dates were updated due to revisions on remand and reconsideration, but will over count processing times if used in more recent years.

Note: The Department only estimates worker group sizes when rendering an eligibility determination. Therefore, terminated investigations (Determ Code is “T”) will not have an estimated number of workers.

FAQs:

Q1: *Does the website data include all petitions and determinations?*

ANSWER: No. The publicly available dataset does not include information on petitions where a determination has not yet been rendered or petitions where the determination date is after the date specified on the website. Data is updated monthly with a one month delay and will not include pending cases until they are determined.

Q2: *The calculated petition filing number does not match what OTAA is reporting. Why?*

ANSWER: Because the publicly available dataset does not include information on petition investigations in process, this calculation will not include the total number of petitions if looking at a period where investigations are still in process. Numbers may also change due to data updates discussed in Q3, resulting in discrepancies between searches done on different dates.

Q3: *The calculated determination and workers numbers are not matching what OTAA is reporting. Why?*

ANSWER: While determination and worker numbers are generally relatively stable over time, there are some processes that may update counts. For example, a determination may be amended to adjust the number of estimated workers or add additional worker groups. Denials may be [challenged](#) and subsequently certified. OTAA reports the date of the data used when reporting official statistics.

Q4: *I have questions about these calculations or the data, who can I contact?*

ANSWER: For question on TAA petition and determination data, you can email taa.petition@dol.gov.