



# 2021 COMMERCE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Bureau of Economic Analysis

- **Pandemic Recovery:** Produced special data tables and other materials that better depict how pandemic relief payments and programs show up in BEA statistics, including national and state gross domestic product (GDP) and personal income data.
- **Fuller View of Economic Activity:** Accelerated the release of industry and state GDP statistics to align with the quarterly estimates of national GDP. With every third estimate of national GDP, industry GDP statistics are now included in the news release and state GDP statistics are released within two days.
- **Real Consumer Spending by State:** Produced for the first time official real, or inflation-adjusted, statistics tracking consumer spending over time in each state.

## Bureau of Industry and Security

- **Supply Chain Resiliency:** Completed the 100-day report on vulnerabilities in the semiconductor supply chain pursuant to President Biden's Executive Order 14017, identifying the vulnerabilities in the U.S. semiconductor supply chain and recommended actions to address those vulnerabilities.
- **Short-Circuiting Chinese Military-Civilian Fusion Efforts and Human Rights Abuses:** Imposed comprehensive restrictions on exports, reexports and in-country transfers to entities involved in China's supercomputing and quantum computing efforts, as well as additional parties supporting forced labor and other forms of repression against Muslim minority groups in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China (XUAR).
- **Cybersecurity and Human Rights in the Digital Economy:** Through the Wassenaar Arrangement, issued an interim final rule that will place new controls on a variety of hardware, software, and related technologies that can be used to conduct malicious cyber activities, including being used by authoritarian governments and other malign actors to undermine human rights.

## U.S. Census Bureau

- **2020 Census:** Completed constitutional mandate of delivering 2020 Census state population counts used to reapportion seats in the House of Representatives to the President of the United States on April 26, 2021, ahead of the revised April 30, 2021, deadline.
- **Redistricting Data:** Delivered the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data that states may use for redrawing congressional and legislative district boundaries on August 12, 2021, ahead of the revised September 16, 2021, deadline.
- **New Data Products—Community Resilience Estimates (CRE) and Business Formation Statistics (BFS):** Introduced two new data products, formerly experimental data products, that help communities rebuild after natural disasters and monitor the health of an area's economy. CRE data are now a regular component of the Census Bureau's response to natural disasters. Specific to the pandemic response, CRE data were used by FEMA to determine the best areas to send mobile vaccination units. BFS provides monthly data on new business applications and business formations to monitor shifts in economic activity. BFS seasonally and nonseasonally adjusted data are released at the national, regional and state levels.

## Economic Development Administration

- **American Rescue Plan:** Announced six programs to equitably distribute \$3 billion in [American Rescue Plan](#) funding to invest in distressed and underserved communities impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. This is the largest local economic development initiative that the Department of Commerce has ever made. The first awards included [\\$24 million in grants](#) to states and territories across the nation, including EDA's [first local investment](#) as part of the Coal Communities Commitment, an additional [\\$30 million](#) in statewide planning grants, and \$314 million in [State Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation](#) grants.
- **Build to Scale:** EDA [announced](#) that 50 organizations will receive grants totaling \$36.5 million to support programs that fuel innovation and tech-based economic development.
- **Providing Greater Opportunity to Native American Communities:** [Published updated regulations](#) to create greater opportunities for tribal participation in EDA grant programs.

## International Trade Administration

- **Strengthened Rules to Fight Unfair Trade:** Completed the broadest overhaul of AD/CVD regulations in more than two decades designed to defend U.S. companies from unfair trade practices. The strengthened rules codify existing practice, streamline procedures, and improve overall administrability.
- **U.S.-EU Arrangements on Global Steel and Aluminum Excess Capacity and Carbon Intensity:** Supported the Commerce-led negotiations to address global steel and aluminum excess capacity, and the serious threat those market distortions pose to workers, producers and the climate. In October, the United States agreed to adjust the tariffs on steel and aluminum to allow duty-free trade at a sustainable historic level and the EU agreeing to suspend its retaliatory tariffs.
- **Indo-Pacific Economic Framework:** Coordinated the Secretary's successful visit to Asia, which was focused on the introduction of President Biden's Indo-Pacific Economic Framework – an important effort to define common objectives, reflect shared interests, and expand on the vision for security, stability and prosperity across the region. During the trip, Secretary Raimondo initiated strategic engagements with a number of U.S. regional allies and partners on economic and commercial issues and was able to meet with key leaders from Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Australia.

## Minority Business Development Agency

- **Minority Business Development Act of 2021:** The historic Minority Business Development Act of 2021 was included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law signed by President Biden on November 15, 2021, making MBDA permanent and expanding the agency's capacity to promote and administer programs to assist the development and resiliency of minority business enterprises.
- **Minority Business Grants:** Issued over \$31 million dollars in grants and cooperative agreements in FY 21 and over \$18 million in Coronavirus Response and Relief funding.
- **MBDA Business and Specialty Centers:** Helped minority-owned businesses secure over \$2 billion, \$708 million in financing, and supported the creation and retention of nearly 14,000 jobs.

## National Institute of Standards and Technology

- **Artificial Intelligence:** Proposed an approach for reducing risk of bias in Artificial Intelligence; proposed a method for evaluating user trust in AI systems, and is supporting the Department of Commerce in the establishment of a National AI Advisory Committee.
- **National Institute for Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals:** As part of its pandemic response, awarded \$153 million to promote innovation in biopharmaceutical manufacturing to the DOC/NIST-sponsored National Institute for Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals.
- **Cybersecurity:** [Published foundational framework for ensuring the cybersecurity of Positioning, Navigation, and Timing](#) services, which are key to many components of the nation's critical infrastructure. NIST recommended steps to boost resilience of U.S. timekeeping.

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

- **Climate crisis:** Contributed essential data, services and solutions to addressing the climate crisis through an [upgraded climate.gov website](#), highlighted the U.S. commitment to addressing climate change as part of the U.S. delegation to the [COP26 climate conference](#), and initiated a series of listening sessions with private sector industries to further dialogue on how these sectors can better utilize NOAA's weather and climate data. Additionally, NOAA continued to improve forecasts for extreme weather and climate events.
- **New Blue Economy:** Coordinated the siting and permitting process for offshore wind projects to support the Administration's clean energy goal of 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030, including by developing a [comprehensive interagency approach](#) to mitigate impacts of offshore energy development on fisheries scientific surveys.
- **Centering equity:** Hosted a series of eight [Climate and Equity roundtables to listen and learn from vulnerable communities about how the agency can better meet their needs to address climate risks](#).

## National Telecommunications and Information Administration

- **Broadband Grant Programs:** Launched three broadband grant programs funded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021. The Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program will award nearly \$1 billion to expand broadband access and adoption on Tribal lands. The Broadband Infrastructure Program will direct \$288 million in grant funding toward the deployment of broadband infrastructure. The Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program will direct \$268 million toward expanding broadband access and connectivity to eligible Historically Black Colleges or Universities, Tribal Colleges or Universities, and minority-serving institutions.
- **Indicators of Broadband Need Map:** Created a tool that puts on one map, for the first time, data from both public and private sources to help illustrate the reality of what communities experience when going online, ranging from accessibility to quality of coverage.
- **Interagency Collaboration for 5G:** Collaborated with the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Defense to help ensure a successful auction of mid-band spectrum in the 3.45 GHz band. With the auction nearing its conclusion, the approximately \$22 billion in gross proceeds makes it among the highest-grossing in history.

## U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

- **Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI2):** Launched CI2 which will assist the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in developing a comprehensive national strategy to build a more diverse and trademark innovation ecosystem.
- **Trademark Modernization Act:** Implemented the [Trademark Modernization Act](#) of 2020. This is the most sweeping trademark legislation in a generation. It strengthens the integrity of the federal trademark register by giving brand owners new tools to help "de-clutter" the register from unused marks and allowing the USPTO to move applications through the trademark registration process more efficiently.
- **General Requirements Bulletin:** Updated the [General Requirements Bulletin](#) to expand eligibility rules for the patent bar to include more women and other underrepresented demographic groups widening the practitioner field.