

USTR Finalizes Significant Tariff Increases On PPE And Syringes

Sept. 13, 2024

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) finalized modifications to Section 301 tariffs that includes increases for several medical products including facemasks, gloves, and syringes. The Federal Register notice published today contains specific details as well as USTR's response to the numerous comments it received on its May 28 proposal. The effective date for any 2024 tariff increases in the notice is September 27, 2024. The effective date for any 2025 and 2026 tariff increases is January 1 of that year.

Key takeaways on facemasks, gloves, and needles are below:

Facemasks:

- Increase tariff rates in 2024 to 25%
- Further increase tariff rates in 2026 to 50%
- Add statistical reporting number 6307.90.9870 (face masks of textile, disposable) for a total of 5 HTSUS facemask codes
- Replace statistical reporting number 6307.90.9845 (N95 Respirators of textiles) with 6307.90.9842 (surgical N95 respirators) and 6307.90.9844 (other N95 respirators) USTR stated this is more technical in nature and does not change the scope of products covered

Medical Gloves:

- Increase tariff rates to 50% in 2025
- Increase tariff rates to 100% in 2026

Syringes and Needles:

- Increase tariff rates to 100% in 2024
- USTR excluded enteral syringes through January 1, 2026

A full list of tariff rates that includes steel, critical minerals, and electric vehicle batteries is in Annex A of USTR's notice. The codes for facemasks, medical gloves, and syringes are below.

Facemasks

HTSUS Subheading	Product Description	Rate	Timing
6307.90.9842	Surgical N95 Respirators of Textile	25%	2024
		50%	2026
6307.90.9844	Non-surgical N95 Respirators of Textiles	25%	2024
		50%	2026
6307.90.9850	Respirators of Textiles, Other than N95	25%	2024
		50%	2026
6307.90.9870	Face Masks of Textiles, Disposable	25%	2025
		50%	2026
6307.90.9875	Face Masks of Textiles, Other than Disposable	25%	2024
		50%	2026

Medical Gloves

HTSUS Subheading	Product Description	Rate	Timing
4015.12.10	Medical or surgical gloves of vulcanized rubber other than hard rubber	50%	2025
		100%	2026

Syringes And Needles

HTSUS Subheading	Product Description	Rate	Timing
9018.31.00	Syringes, with or without their needles; parts and accessories thereof; except enteral syringes provided for in heading 9903.91.10, entered before January 1, 2026 (described in statistical reporting number 9018.31.0080)	100%	2024
9018.32.00	Tubular metal needles and needles for sutures, used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences, and parts and accessories thereof	100%	2024

Additional Reading

- USTR Press Release (Sept. 13)
- USTR Federal Register Notice
- USTR Four Year Review

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