

USITC Determines Increased Imports of Quartz Surface Products Injure U.S. Industry

April 1, 2026

News Release 26 - 051

Inv. No(s). TA-201-79

Contact: Jennifer Andberg, 202-205-1819

USITC DETERMINES INCREASED IMPORTS OF QUARTZ SURFACE PRODUCTS INJURE U.S. INDUSTRY

The U.S. International Trade Commission (Commission or USITC) today determined that quartz surface products are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury to the domestic industry producing products like or directly competitive with the imported products.

The determination was made in the context of an investigation initiated on November 17, 2025, under section 202 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2252) in response to a petition filed by

Quartz Manufacturing Alliance of America (QMAA). Information about this investigation and global safeguard investigations is available in the [fact sheet](#).

The Commission's determination resulted from a 2-1 vote. Chair Amy A. Karpel and Commissioner Jason E. Kearns voted in the affirmative. Commissioner David S. Johanson voted in the negative.

As a result of today's vote, the Commission will proceed to the remedy phase of the investigation. The Commission will hold a public hearing on remedy on April 14, 2026. The Commission will submit its report containing its injury determination, remedy recommendations, certain additional findings, and the basis for them to the President by May 18, 2026.

When the Commission makes an affirmative injury determination in a global safeguard investigation, it is required to make certain additional findings under the statutes implementing certain free trade agreements (FTAs).

Pursuant to these statutes, the Commission finds that imports of quartz surface products from neither Canada nor Mexico account for a substantial share of total imports or contribute importantly to the serious injury caused by imports. It also finds that imports of quartz surface products from each other FTA partner country, individually, are not a substantial cause of serious injury or threat thereof.

These findings will be forwarded to the President as part of the Commission's report.

The President, not the Commission, will make the final decision concerning whether to provide relief to the U.S. industry and the kind of relief to provide, including with respect to imports from FTA countries.

A public report concerning this investigation will be available after the Commission submits its findings and recommendations to the President; when available, it may be accessed on the USITC website at the [Commission's Publications Library](#).

Status of proceedings, links to relevant documents, and more information for this investigation can be found at the [Commission's Investigations Database System \(IDS\)](#).

8 April 2026

(26-2759)

Page: 1/3

Committee on Safeguards

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(B) OF THE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS
UPON MAKING A FINDING OF SERIOUS INJURY OR THREAT
THEREOF CAUSED BY INCREASED IMPORTS**

UNITED STATES

Quartz Surface Products

The following communication, dated and received on 6 April 2026, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United States.

Pursuant to Article 12.1(b) of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards (Safeguards Agreement), the United States notifies that there has been a finding of serious injury or threat thereof caused by increased imports.

1. Provide evidence, citing relevant data and the applicable period of investigation of serious injury or threat thereof caused by increased imports.

On April 1, 2026, the US International Trade Commission (Commission) determined that imports of quartz surface products (QSP) are being imported in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury to the domestic industry.

The initiation that led to this determination was notified to the Committee on Safeguards in [G/SG/N/6/USA/15](#) (dated 2 December 2025).¹

The Commission is now considering the appropriate remedy to recommend to the President, and will forward its serious injury findings and remedy recommendations to the President by May 18, 2026. This report will include the Commission's serious injury determination, remedy recommendations, certain additional findings, and the basis for its serious injury determination, remedy recommendations, and findings as well as the factual information compiled in the Commission's posthearing serious injury report. The United States will provide a copy of this report, excluding confidential business information, to the Committee on Safeguards shortly after it is submitted to the President.

2. Provide information on whether there is an absolute increase in imports or an increase in imports relative to domestic production.

The Commission's report described above in item 1 will contain information regarding increased imports.

3. Provide precise description of the product involved.

The product covered by this investigation is QSP, which consists of slabs and other surfaces created from a mixture of materials that includes predominately silica (e.g., quartz, quartz powder, cristobalite, glass powder) as well as a resin binder (e.g., an unsaturated polyester). The

¹ See also [G/SG/N/6/USA/15/Suppl.1](#) (dated 2 December 2025).

incorporation of other materials, including, but not limited to, pigments, cement, or other additives does not remove the merchandise from the scope. However, the scope only includes products where the silica content is greater than any other single material, by actual weight. QSP is typically sold as rectangular slabs with a total surface area of approximately 45 to 60 square feet and a nominal thickness of one, two, or three centimeters. However, the scope includes surface products of all other sizes, thicknesses, and shapes. In addition to slabs, the scope includes, but is not limited to, other surfaces such as countertops, backsplashes, vanity tops, bar tops, work tops, tabletops, flooring, wall facing, shower surrounds, fireplace surrounds, mantels, and tiles. QSP may be polished or unpolished, cut or uncut, fabricated or not fabricated, cured or uncured, edged or not edged, finished or unfinished, thermoformed or not thermoformed, packaged or unpackaged, and may have any type of surface finish. In addition, QSP is covered by the scope whether or not it is imported attached to, or in conjunction with, nonsubject merchandise such as sinks, sink bowls, vanities, cabinets, and furniture. If QSP is imported attached to, or in conjunction with, such nonsubject merchandise, only the QSP is covered by the scope.

Subject merchandise includes material matching the above description that has been finished, packaged, or otherwise fabricated in a third country, including by cutting, polishing, curing, edging, thermoforming, attaching to, or packaging with another product, or any other finishing, packaging, or fabrication that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope if performed in the country of manufacture of the QSP. The scope does not cover quarried stone surface products, such as granite, marble, soapstone, or quartzite.

For customs purposes, QSP covered by the investigation is provided for under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTSUS") statistical reporting numbers 6810.99.0020, 6810.99.0040, and 7020.00.6000. These HTSUS numbers are provided for convenience and the written description of the scope is dispositive.

- 4. If the final measure replaces a provisional measure, or if a final measure is extended, provide a written description of any part of the imported product that will no longer be subject to the measure and the Harmonized System numbers under which it enters at least at the 6-digit level, and at a sub-national level (e.g., 8-digit, 9-digit, or 10-digit level) if practicable.**

Not applicable.

- 5. Provide precise description of the proposed measure.**

The Commission has not yet proposed measures in response to the Commission's determination of serious injury. The Commission is now considering recommendations as to the appropriate measures, which the President will consider after receipt of the Commission's report described in item 1.

- 6. Provide proposed date of introduction of the measure.**

See response to item 5 above.

- 7. Provide expected duration of the measure.**

See response to item 5 above.

- 8. For a measure with a duration of more than three years, provide the proposed date for the review (under Article 7.4) to be held not later than the mid-term of the measure, if such a date for the review has already been scheduled.**

See response to item 5 above.

- 9. If the expected duration is over one year, provide expected timetable for progressive liberalization of the measure.**

See response to item 5 above.

10. If the notification relates only to a finding of serious injury or threat thereof, and does not relate to a decision to apply or extend a safeguard measure:

- (i) provide the deadline for interested parties to comment or any other procedures relevant to the decision to apply the measures, and**
- (ii) provide information regarding procedures for prior consultation with those Members having a substantial interest as exporters of the product concerned.**

Information regarding the procedures and relevant deadlines with regard to the investigation is contained in the notice of initiation.

As the Commission has not yet made a recommendation as to the proposed measure in response to the Commission's determination of serious injury, the United States has not established procedures for prior consultations. Once the Commission's recommendation to the President has been made, the United States will provide further information regarding the consultation process.
