



## **The Brewers Association Opposes the Imposition of Tariffs on Aluminum**

The Brewers Association (BA) represents the interests of the more than 6,000 small and independent craft breweries located across the United States. There are independent craft breweries in almost every Congressional district in the country, and craft brewers directly employ more than 130,000 people and have a major positive impact on their local communities.

**The BA strongly opposes the imposition of tariffs on imported aluminum can sheet and the materials used to make it, and cautions against any action that would result in increased prices for small and independent brewers and consumers.** The BA and our individual members will continue to press Congress and the Trump Administration to reconsider the broad-based tariffs and to adopt narrower alternatives. Specifically, we ask that the administration not impose tariffs on can sheet aluminum, or the products used to make it.

There are many ways that independent breweries get their product to the consumer ranging from on-premise sales to packaging to retail. As the industry has grown, so have the options for access to marketplace. Cans are growing in popularity, especially with our smallest brewers.

### Independent Brewers and Aluminum Cans

- Aluminum cans are 28.5% of packaged production for brewers.
- Brewers that produce 10,000 bbl/year or less (more than 90% of breweries) are the largest growing segment of brewers that packages their beer in cans. The smallest packaging brewers would be the ones most directly impacted by a price increase.
- Cans are the top packaging method for new breweries (breweries that have been open for less than one year). They would be adversely affected by a spike in aluminum prices triggered by new tariffs.
- Although bottles remain the majority of craft beer packaging, craft continued to see share shift toward cans. This shift has been driven partially by shifting package mix from brewers, but has been equally driven by growth dynamics wherein (smaller) brewers that use cans more are growing faster.
- Breweries make a significant capital investment when they decide to package their beer.

### Can sheet Facts

- Aluminum can sheet used to make beer cans does not pose a national security threat.
- 98% of can sheet is produced and made into cans in the United States. Targeted tariffs on the 2% of imported can sheet could incentivize a broad-based rise in aluminum prices.
- Can sheet is made from recycled cans, scrap metals and primary aluminum.
- 66% of primary aluminum, a main ingredient in can sheet, is imported from Canada. No primary aluminum is imported from China.
- Aluminum is bought and sold in a global market, so brewers' costs are affected by forces far beyond their local markets.