



Proposal for a broad PFAS restriction in EU

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The broadest restriction proposal in EU history

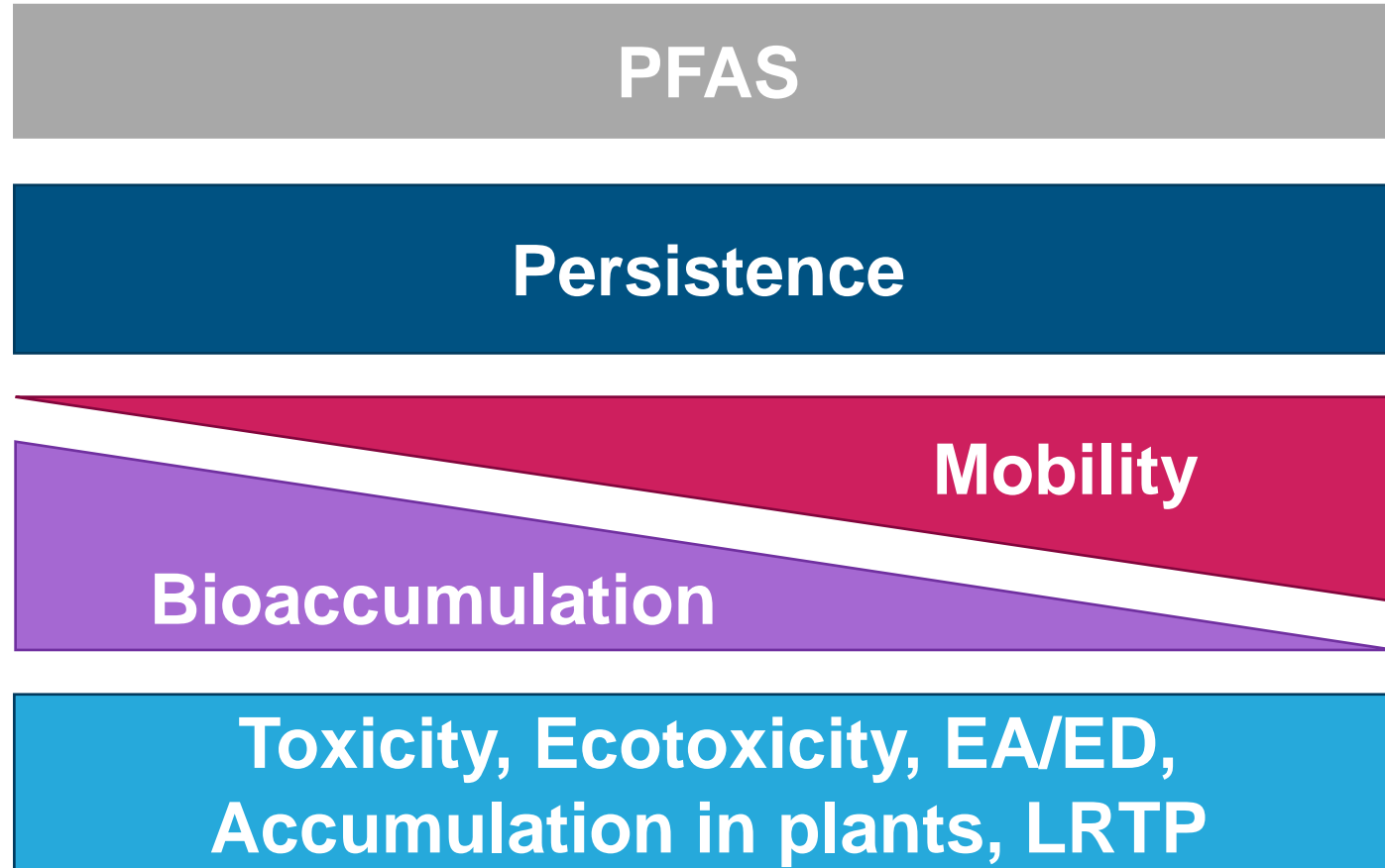
Over 10 000 PFASs



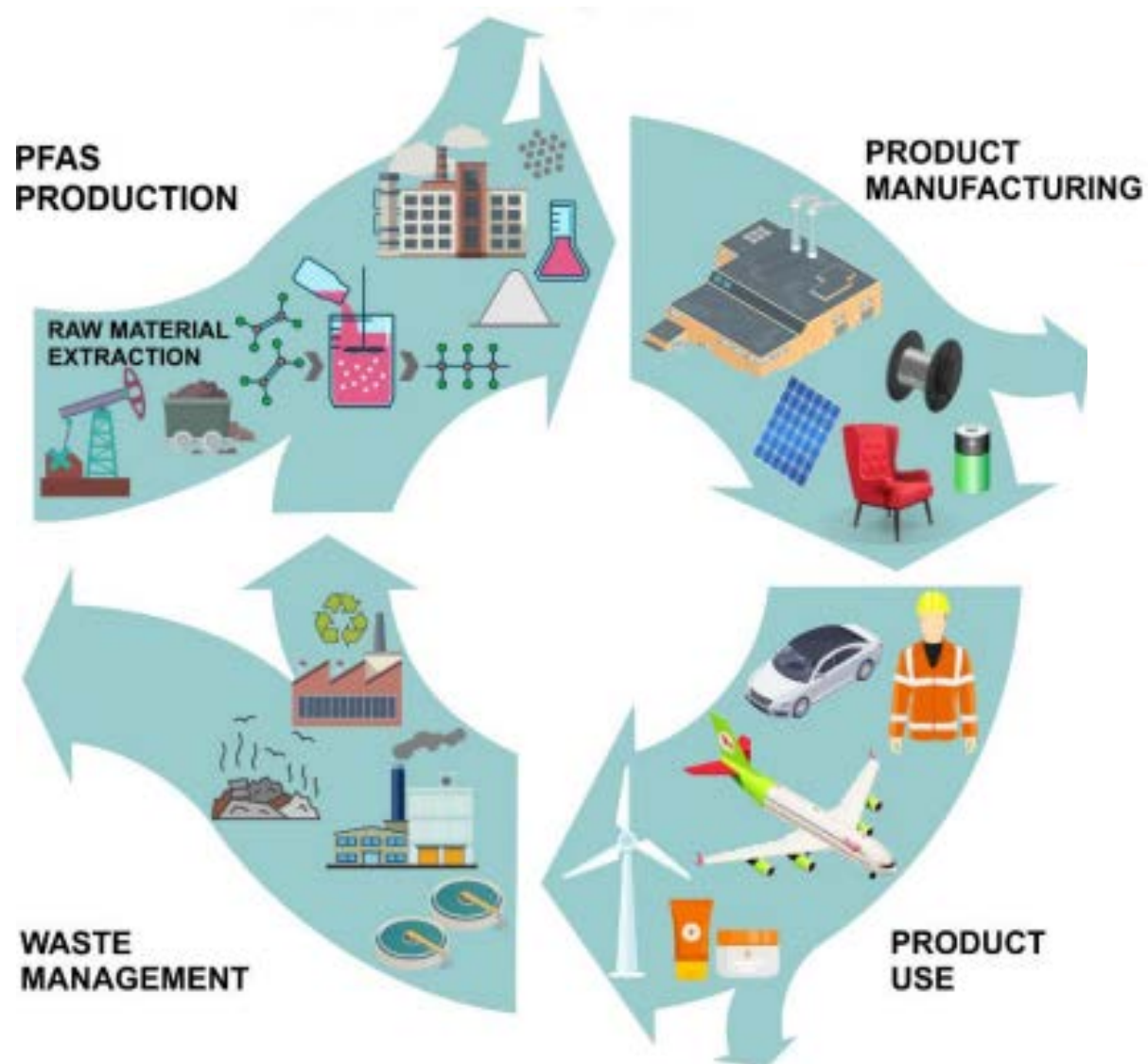
Why do PFASs need to be restricted?

- High volumes in a variety of applications
 - Emissions occur in all life cycle stages
 - Extremely difficult to degrade ("Forever chemicals")
 - Found everywhere in the environment and most people have PFAS in their bodies
 - Difficult to remove once they are released into the environment - levels will increase over time
 - Harmful effects on the environment and human health
- Uncontrolled risk from the use of PFAS in the EU
- Need for EU-wide regulatory measure(s)

Hazard assessment



75 000 tonnes/year of emissions in the EEA



Tonnages and emissions

| Application | Tonnage range | Emission range % emitted in manufacturing and use phase | Emission contribution Contribution to total emission [%] |
|--|----------------|---|--|
| Applications of fluorinated gases | > 10 000 | 5 – 25 | > 50 |
| Textiles, upholstery, leather, apparel & carpets | > 10 000 | 5 – 25 | 10 – 50 |
| Medical devices | > 10 000 | 5 – 25 | 5 – 10 |
| Manufacture | > 10 000 | 0 – 5 | 1 – 5 |
| Food contact materials and packaging | > 10 000 | 0 – 5 | 0 – 1 |
| Transport | > 10 000 | 0 – 5 | 0 – 1 |
| Construction products | 1 000 – 10 000 | 25 – 75 | 1 – 5 |
| Electronics and semiconductors | 1 000 – 10 000 | 5 – 25 | 0 – 1 |
| Lubricants | 1 000 – 10 000 | 5 – 25 | 0 – 1 |
| Petroleum and mining | 1 000 – 10 000 | 0 – 5 | 0 – 1 |
| Energy sector | 1 000 – 10 000 | 0 – 5 | 0 – 1 |
| Metal plating and manufacture of metal products | 100 – 1 000 | 0 – 5 | 0 – 1 |
| Cosmetics | 10 – 100 | > 95 | 0 – 1 |
| Consumer mixtures | 10 – 100 | 75 – 95 | 0 – 1 |
| Ski wax | 0 – 10 | 25 – 75 | 0 – 1 |

Chemical Scope

PFAS Definition (OECD (2021)):

Any substance that contains **at least one fully fluorinated methyl (CF₃-) or methylene (-CF₂-) carbon atom** (without any H/Cl/Br/I attached to it).

Exceptions:

A substance that only contains the following structural elements is **excluded from the scope** of the restriction: **CF₃-X or X-CF₂-X'**,

where X = -OR or -NRR' and X' = methyl (-CH₃), methylene (-CH₂-), an aromatic group, a carbonyl group (-C(O)-), -OR'', -SR'' or -NR''R'''; and where R/R'/R''/R''' is a hydrogen (-H), methyl (-CH₃), methylene (-CH₂-), an aromatic group or a carbonyl group (-C(O)-).

Includes persistent PFASs and their precursors
Includes polymeric PFASs

Restriction Options assessed

RO1

Full ban of all uses

- Transition period: 18 months

RO2

Ban with use-specific derogations

- Transition period: 18 months
- Duration of derogation:
 - 5-years (based on set criteria relating to alternatives)
 - 12-years (based on set criteria relating to alternatives)
 - Time-unlimited derogations (specifically justified)

Restriction proposal



Manufacture, use and placing on the market

- as substances on their own

Placing on the market

- as **constituent** in
 - Substances
 - Mixtures
 - Articles
- } Above certain concentration levels

Proposed restriction conditions - derogations

Two standard derogation timeframes chosen

Examples:

**Food contact materials
for industrial food and feed
production**

Alternatives under development
but not available at entry into
force

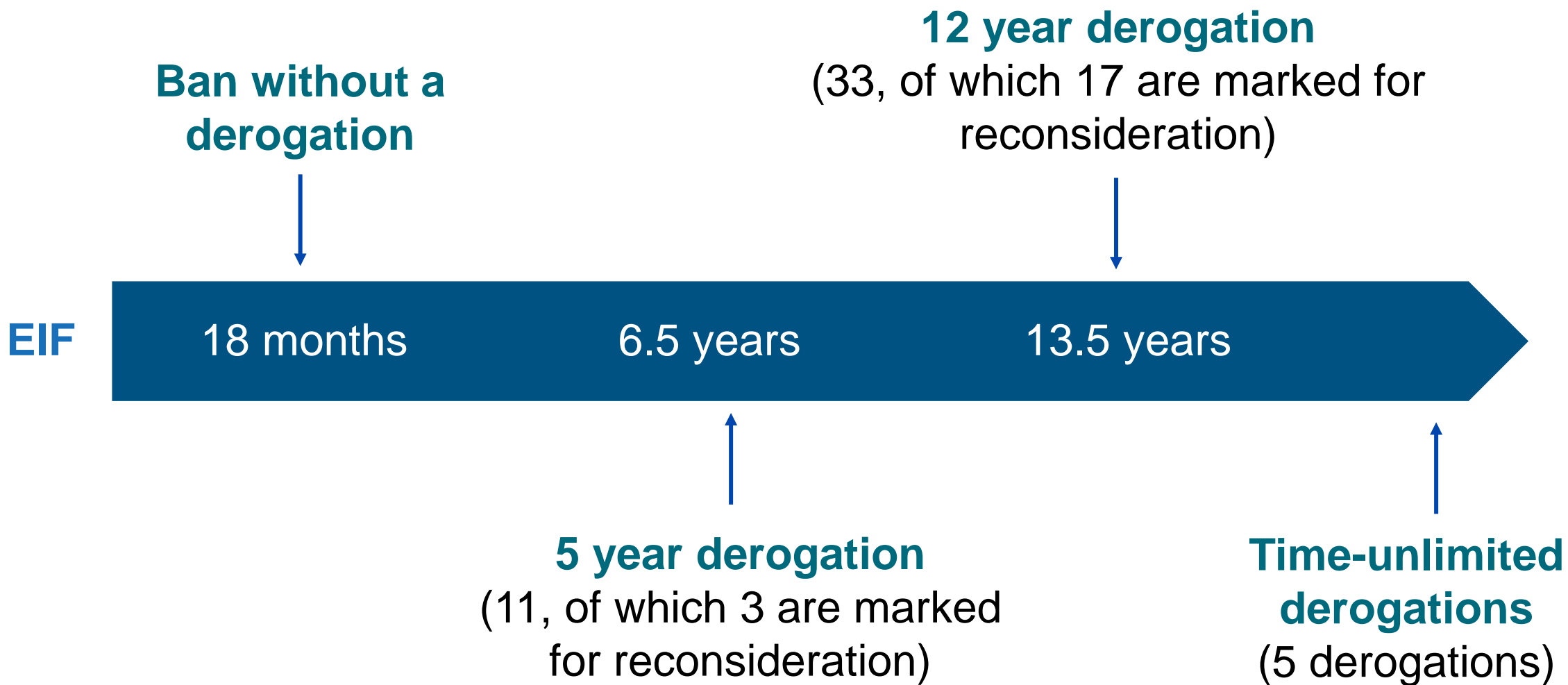
5 years

**Implantable medical
devices**

Identification, development
and certification of
alternatives needed

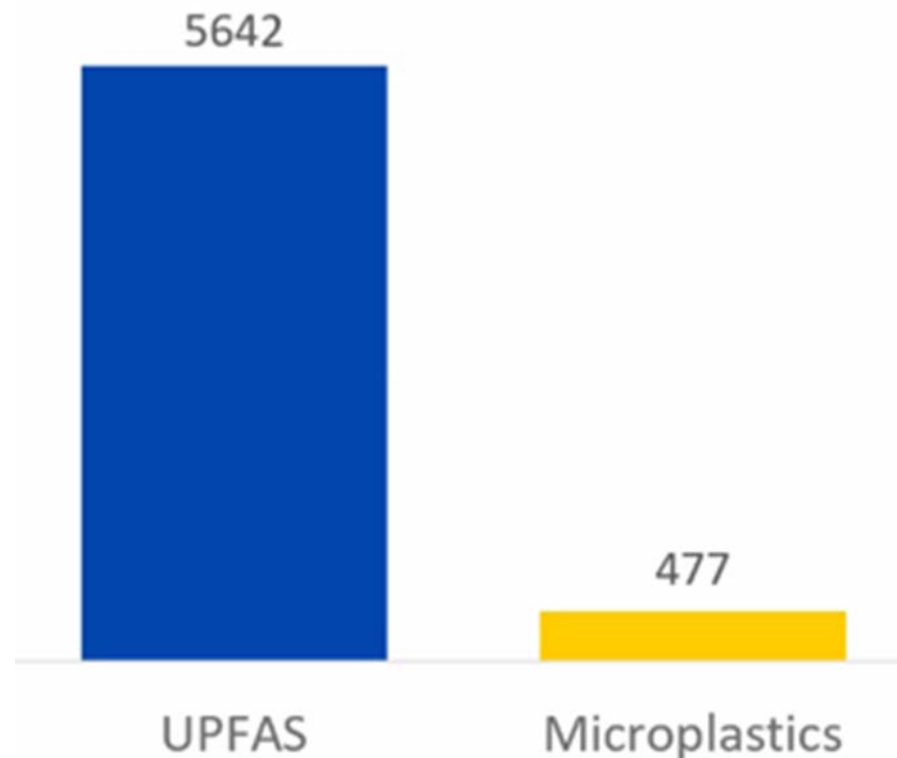
12 years

Phase-out timelines

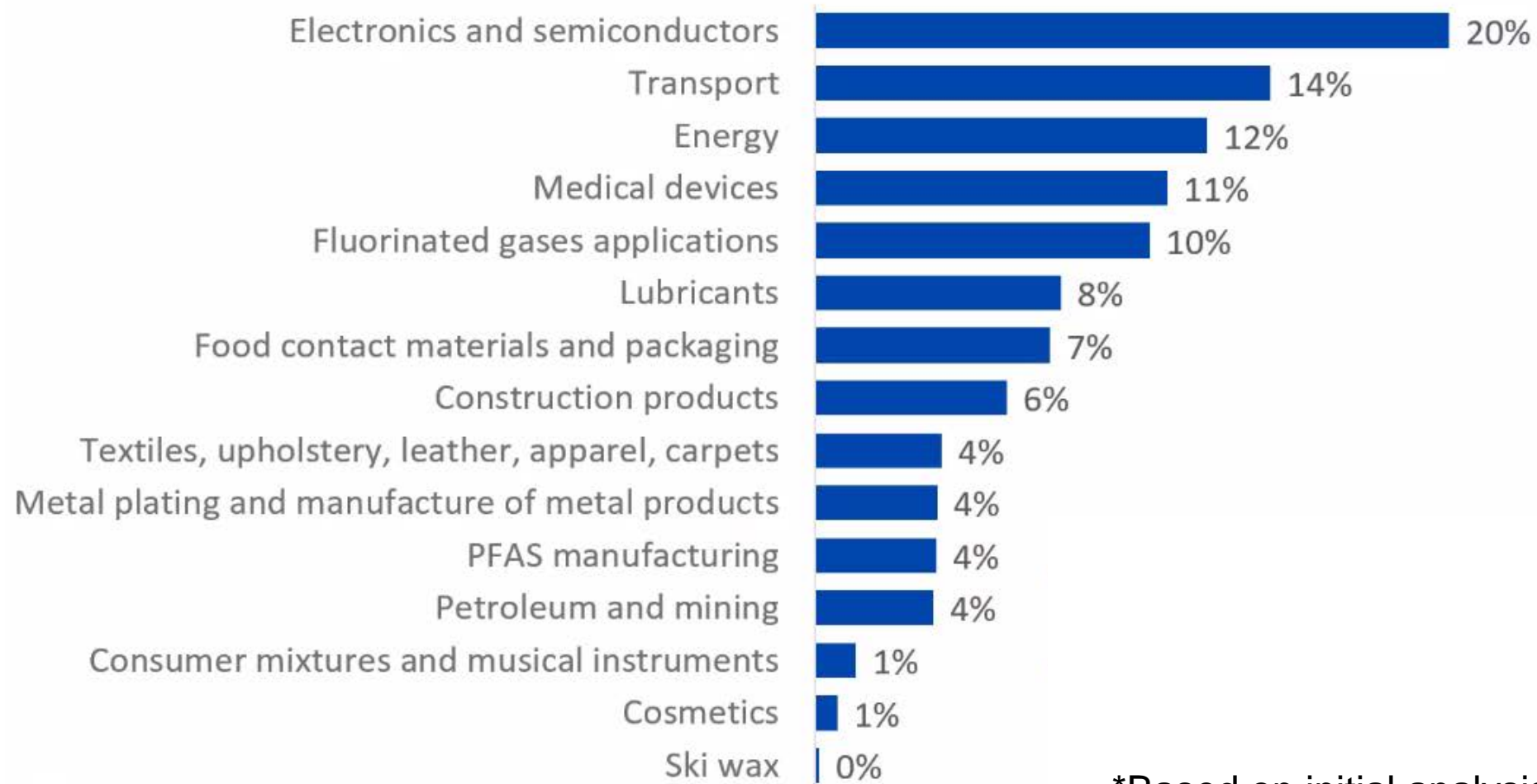


Public consultation

- 6-month consultation ended on 25 September
- Over 5,600 comments received
- From over 4,400 organisations, companies and the general public
- About 6,400 attachments,
- A total of over 100,000 pages



Comments per sector*



*Based on initial analysis of all comments

The process forward

- Evaluation of the proposed restriction
 - Drafting of opinions by scientific committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC)
- Two public consultations in the restriction process
 - The restriction proposal (Appendix XV report): 6 months, may lead to an update of the proposal, e.g. new or revision of derogations (ended)
 - Draft Socio-Economic Analysis Committee (SEAC) opinion: 60 days, may lead to revision of opinion

The process forward

- The five national authorities are updating the initial report to address the consultation comments
- Timetable published for the next 6 months: [All news - ECHA \(europa.eu\)](#)
- More information will be announced as work advances

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