

# Economic Opportunities in U.S. Plastics Recycling

## Recycling Strengthens American Manufacturing and Jobs

**Plastics are vital** to U.S. manufacturing — from cars and construction to packaging and healthcare. Yet much of this valuable material is still lost to landfills instead of being recycled back into the manufacturing sectors that power the U.S. economy.

**Expanding recycling** strengthens U.S. manufacturing, creates jobs, and builds a circular economy that keeps materials in use and waste out of the environment.

New economic analysis shows that even recycling 50% of plastics currently being sent to landfills could deliver major economic benefits:

	JOBS	PAYROLL (\$B)	OUTPUT (\$B)
Direct	43,300	2.9	16.4
Indirect	61,300	5.3	17.8
Induced	68,600	4.6	14.5
Total	173,200	\$12.8	\$48.7

Recycling more plastics means more U.S. jobs, stronger local economies, and less waste.



View the full economic analysis.

# Recycling More Plastics Has Major Benefits For the Environment AND the U.S. Economy

Expanding and modernizing recycling requires action from both industry and policymakers. Working together, we can build a stronger system that keeps valuable materials out of landfills and supports American manufacturing.

## Why Policymakers Should Act

By modernizing and expanding recycling, policymakers can:

### DRIVE JOB GROWTH

and expand local economic opportunity.

### REDUCE LANDFILL DEPENDENCE

and conserve natural resources.

### SUPPORT U.S. MANUFACTURING

with reliable, recycled feedstocks.

### POSITION THE U.S.

as a global leader in sustainable innovation.



**SUPPORTING ACTIONS TO STRENGTHEN U.S. RECYCLING COULD MEAN A WIN FOR THE ECONOMY TOO:**

**173K**  
JOBS CREATED

**\$13B**  
IN ADDED PAYROLL

**\$49B**  
IN OUTPUT

## Policymakers Can Help by Supporting Efforts to:

### EXPAND ACCESS

to recycling in more communities.



### MODERNIZE INFRASTRUCTURE

for collection, sorting, and processing.



### INVEST IN INNOVATION

to recycle more materials.



### ESTABLISH CONSISTENT NATIONAL STANDARDS

for clarity and transparency.



### PARTNER WITH INDUSTRY

to grow the circular economy and strengthen manufacturing.

These actions will help reduce waste, create jobs, and make recycling a driver of U.S. economic growth.



**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE STATE OF PLASTICS RECYCLING AND OUR PLAN TO STRENGTHEN RECYCLING AND AMERICAN MANUFACTURING.**