

Recycling is the First Link in the U.S. Manufacturing Supply Chain

FACTS & FIGURES



Recyclable material is the lifeblood of American manufacturing.

The recycling industry produces high-quality, commodity grade material that is used as the feedstock by manufacturers to make new products.



70%

of the 138 million metric tons

of scrap processed annually is used in domestic manufacturing.

The remaining 30% is sold in the export market to manufacturers located in more than 150 countries across the globe.



On top of the 164,000 recycling industry jobs,

recycling supports nearly

30,000 jobs

in the manufacturing sector.

Recycling provides a **\$15 billion**

economic boost to U.S. manufacturing.

Scrap processors and brokers sell scrap commodities to a wide range of industrial consumers such as paper mills, plastic compounders, steel mills, foundries, copper wire and brass mills, secondary aluminum smelters, and other manufacturers across the country and around the world. Manufacturers prize scrap as a valuable raw material input due to its quality, cost and energy savings, and environmental benefits.

How much scrap is used in U.S. production?

67% Steel

33% Copper

55% Aluminum

40% Paper

100% Plastic lumber & fencing

Other ways scrap is used in manufacturing:

1.2 billion pounds

of crumb rubber from scrap tires is used annually in the creation of new products ranging from sidewalks to horse tracks.

