

## FACT SHEET

### Strong Bioproducts Sector Growth Leads to Equally Strong Job Gains

*U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) report analyzes economic impact of biobased products industry on U.S. economy. Results show the growing bioeconomy leads to higher revenues, more jobs, innovative partnerships, and key environmental benefits.*

#### Report Highlights

- ▶ Biobased products, a segment of the bioeconomy, contributed \$459 billion to the U.S. economy in 2016, a 17% increase from 2014. The biobased products sector impacts every state in the nation and is not just confined to states where agriculture is the main industry.
- ▶ Strong bioproducts sector growth led to a total of 4.65 million jobs in 2016, an increase of more than 10% in two years. This includes the 1.68 million people directly employed within the industry, plus 2.98 million employed in jobs supported by the industry.
- ▶ The growing bioeconomy also leads to environmental benefits, which include reducing the use of fossil fuels and associated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The report shows potential reductions of GHG emissions of 60%, with analyses indicating that up to 12 million metric tons of CO2 equivalents may have been reduced in 2016.

#### About the Report

The report—*An Economic Impact Analysis of the U.S. Biobased Products Industry (2018)*—was prepared for the USDA's BioPreferred® Program. Its conclusions and recommendations are those of the authors and have not been endorsed by the USDA. The report is the fourth volume in a series of reports tracking the impact of the biobased product industry on the U.S. economy and seeks to address seven important questions regarding the contributions of the biobased products industry:

- ▶ The quantity of biobased products sold;
- ▶ The value of the biobased products;
- ▶ The quantity of jobs contributed;
- ▶ The quantity of petroleum displaced;
- ▶ Other environmental benefits;
- ▶ The economic impacts of biobased exports;
- ▶ Areas in which the use or manufacturing of biobased products could be more effectively used, including identifying any technical and economic obstacles and recommending how those obstacles can be overcome.

To download a full copy of the report, go to the USDA BioPreferred Program website: <https://www.biopreferred.gov/BioPreferred/>



## The Seven Major Sectors

The biobased products industry includes the following seven major sectors of the U.S. economy:

- ▶ Agriculture and Forestry
- ▶ Biorefining
- ▶ Biobased Chemicals
- ▶ Enzymes
- ▶ Biobased Plastic Bottles and Packaging
- ▶ Forest Products
- ▶ Textiles

## About the USDA BioPreferred Program

The BioPreferred® Program was created by a statute and reauthorized in the 2018 Farm Bill, which shapes federal food and agricultural policy. The Program works to increase the development, use, and purchase of biobased products through a Federal procurement program and a voluntary certification and labeling program. From the farm gate through the manufacturing process, the growing market for biobased products increases the use of agricultural resources and creates jobs and economic growth throughout rural America.

The BioPreferred Program has identified 15,000 biobased products; and certified approximately 3,500 as meeting minimum levels of biobased content and being eligible to display the USDA Certified Biobased Product label. (The report analyses exclude energy, livestock, food, feed, and pharmaceuticals.)

## What is a Biobased Product?

Biobased products are derived from plants and other agricultural, marine, and forestry materials. Biobased products include a diverse range of offerings such as construction and janitorial products purchased by Federal agencies, to personal care and packaging products used by consumers every day. Biobased products also include biobased intermediate or 'upstream' materials such as biopolymers and biobased chemicals used to create commercial, industrial, or consumer goods.

## Did You Know?

Biobased products are in use all around us. From soy-based insulation to biobased printer ink cartridges, you can find a wide range of bioproduct manufacturers and suppliers through our online catalogue: <https://www.biopreferred.gov/BioPreferred/faces/catalog/Catalog.xhtml#>