

Chemistry Industry Facts and Figures

American Chemistry Council
July 2011

The American Chemistry industry makes the products that make modern life possible, while working to protect the environment, public health and the security of our nation. From medicines, fabrics, plastics and clean drinking water to cell phones, computers, automobiles and aircraft, chemicals and the business of chemistry are at the heart of a safer, more convenient and healthier lifestyle.

\$720 billion

We are one of America's largest industries, a \$720 billion enterprise.

10%

We are one of America's top exporters, with \$171 billion in annual exports, accounting for more than 10 cents of every dollar in total U.S. merchandise exports.

energy efficient

We have reduced our fuel and power energy consumed per unit of output by more than half since 1974.

4x

American Chemistry Council member companies achieved an employee safety record more than four times safer than the average of the U.S. manufacturing sector.

\$55 billion

We invest \$55 billion in research and development annually.

community

We partner with government agencies like the Department of Homeland Security to protect our ability to produce vital products and ensure the safety of community neighbors.

secure

ACC member companies have invested nearly \$10 billion to further enhance security at their facilities over the last eight years.

one-in-five

One-in-five U.S. patents are chemistry or chemistry-related.

784,000

The business of chemistry employs 784,000 people nationwide.

vital

The chemical products manufactured by ACC members are an essential part of every facet of our nation's economy. Over 96% of all manufactured goods are directly touched by the business of chemistry.

30 years

Drug innovations based in chemistry have helped increase the life expectancy in the United States by 30 years over the past century.

26%

Since 1990, the chemical industry has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 26%, excluding emissions from purchased electricity (21% if purchased electricity is included).

\$10.8 billion

We invested \$10.8 billion in environmental, health and safety programs last year.

300

We established 300 community advisory panels in the United States to solicit input from and improve communications with towns and cities where we live and work.

24/7

ACC operates a round-the-clock emergency communications center known as CHEMTREC®.

nearly one-fifth

A top chemical producer, we produce nearly one-fifth of the world's chemicals.

