Industrial Gases are Essential to the U.S. Economy

The American industrial gases industry supplies essential gases like oxygen, nitrogen, and hydrogen to manufacturers, innovators and services that help drive the U.S. economy.

The industry directly contributes to the U.S. economy with:

- $12.2 billion in shipments
- 60,000 workers
- $5.6 billion payroll

The contributions of the industrial gases industry go well beyond its direct economic footprint. Looking upstream, the economic output of the industry fosters indirect economic activity through its purchases and through the payrolls paid by the industry itself and its suppliers. As a result, each job in the industrial gas industry generates an additional 2.1 jobs elsewhere in the U.S. economy, and $24.3 billion in additional upstream output.

Moreover, the economic contributions of the industrial gases industry extend downstream to customers. Industrial gases are used in a wide variety of applications ranging from fuel in NASA’s rockets to filling balloons at a birthday party. Industrial gases are extensively used in the health, environment and food sector and are primary inputs in the steel manufacturing, construction and chemical manufacturing sectors. Industrial gases are primary inputs in the processes and products of these industries and thereby contribute significantly towards one-fourth of U.S. GDP, and over 115 million workers in downstream customer industries.

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1 Economic Contributions of Industrial Gases - American Chemistry Council Economics and Statistics