

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF ETHANOL STABILIZING RURAL ECONOMIES

While the 2015 crash in oil prices led to thousands of layoffs in the petroleum sector and economic challenges for many communities, growth in the ethanol sector continued to serve as a crucial wealth generator for rural areas across the nation. The ethanol industry is responsible for creating well paying, stable jobs in areas where such employment is often hard to come by.

In 2015, the production of 14.7 billion gallons of ethanol supported 85,967 direct jobs in renewable fuel production and agriculture, as well as 271,440 indirect and induced jobs across all sectors of the economy. Not surprisingly, five of the top 10 states with the lowest unemployment rates also rank in the top 10 ethanol-producing states.

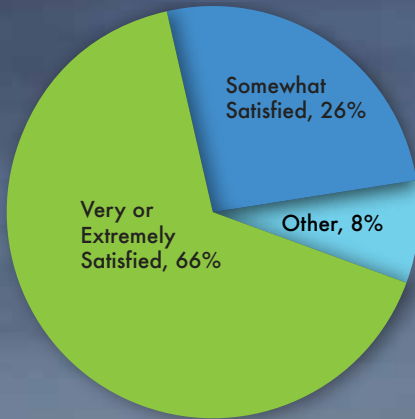
The industry added \$44 billion to the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2015 and paid \$10 billion in taxes. The sector's economic activity and job creation helped raise household income by \$24 billion. Meanwhile, the U.S. ethanol industry spent \$25 billion on raw materials, other inputs, and other goods and services.

But more importantly, ethanol industry workers take great pride in what they do. A recent survey by Ethanol Producer Magazine found that more than 90% of ethanol employees are "satisfied" with their jobs, with 66% being "very" or "extremely satisfied." Amongst the reasons for their job satisfaction, "job security" ranked highest, with "competitive salaries" and "positive work environment" following closely behind.

Jobs in the ethanol industry are not solely limited to those found inside the gates of the biorefinery. America's renewable fuel industry supports jobs in the following sectors of the economy:

- Electric and water utilities
- Enzyme, yeast, chemical manufacturing
- Engineering and construction
- Machinery repair and maintenance
- Feed merchandising
- Transportation and handling
- Row crop farming
- Seed production
- Farm equipment manufacturing
- Livestock production
- Legal and accounting
- Government and regulatory
- Retail and wholesale fuel marketing
- Natural gas production

Ethanol Industry Job Satisfaction

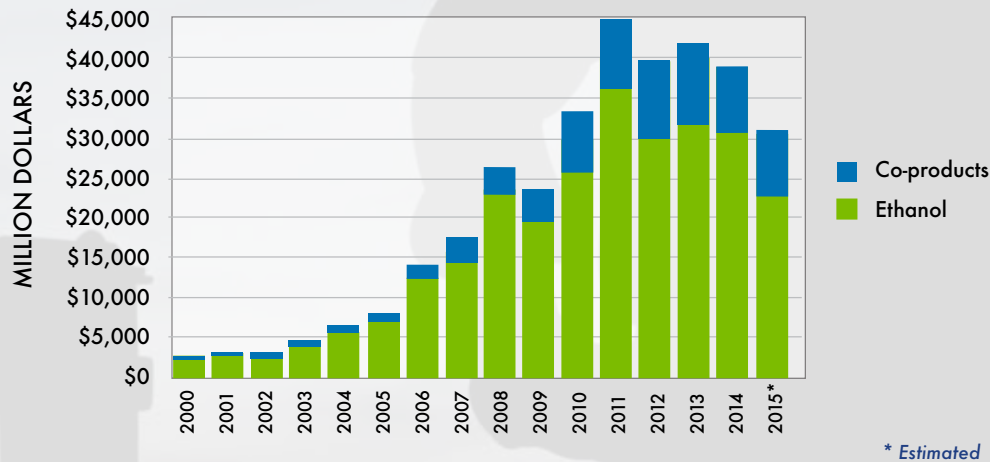


Source: Ethanol Producer Magazine

The ethanol industry “helps stabilize farm income and create job opportunity in rural places.”

– U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack

Gross Value of U.S. Ethanol Industry Output



Source: RFA calculations based on U.S. Dept. of Agriculture data

In 2015, the production of 14.7 billion gallons of ethanol had substantial economic impacts, including:

- 85,967 direct jobs
- 271,440 indirect and induced jobs
- \$44 billion contribution to GDP
- \$24 billion in household income
- \$10 billion in tax revenue

Source: J. Urbanchuk, ABF Economics LLP