

FACT SHEET - North Dakota Ethanol Industry

1. Economic Impact

The North Dakota ethanol industry contributes \$1.7 billion annually to the state's economy. In addition, state and local tax revenues contribute \$8.5 million annually.

2. Employment

North Dakota ethanol plants employ more than 340 workers directly in high-paying positions such as chemists, engineers, accountants, managers, as well as support staff. The industry also supports thousands of jobs across all sectors of the economy.

3. Rural Economic Development

Five of North Dakota's six ethanol plants are located in a community with a population of less than 2,500. The plants contribute an average of 57 jobs and an average annual payroll of \$6.4 million to the community. In addition, the plants purchase the majority of their feedstocks, primarily corn, from North Dakota farmers and sell distillers grains to North Dakota livestock producers.

4. Production

The six North Dakota ethanol plants have the capacity to produce 550 million gallons of ethanol per year, which is a 50% increase over the production a decade ago.

5. Consumption

Approximately 10% of ethanol produced annually in North Dakota is blended with gasoline and sold within the state, while the remaining 90% is shipped primarily to the east or west coast.

6. Corn and Byproduct Use

North Dakota ethanol plants use 160-180 million bushels of corn annually with more than 80% of the corn purchased from North Dakota farmers. Forty to 60% of North Dakota's total annual corn production is purchased by North Dakota ethanol plants. In addition, more than 550,000 tons of byproduct, including sugar beet tailings and potato processing waste, is purchased from processing facilities across the region.

7. Coproducts

Each bushel of corn processed by North Dakota ethanol plants produces 3 gallons of ethanol, 15 pounds of livestock feed (dried distillers grains), 18 pounds of carbon dioxide and up to 1 pound of corn oil. North Dakota ethanol plants produce nearly 1.5 million tons of livestock feed, including dry distillers grains.

8. Infrastructure

North Dakota is a national leader in the establishment of biofuel infrastructure due to the ND Biofuel Blender Pump Program (2009-2013). The state was the ninth to offer E15. State fleet vehicles are authorized to use E15 (marketed as Unleaded88) when cost effective and available. There are more than 40 locations statewide that offer E15-E85, with more than 20 of those locations offering E15 specifically.

9. Carbon

North Dakota's ethanol industry is a national leader in efforts to decrease its carbon footprint and that of other industries as well. Corn ethanol's carbon footprint is currently a third less than gasoline and continues to decrease with increased carbon-conscious efforts from corn growers and ethanol plants, such as carbon sequestration and storage projects underway at two North Dakota ethanol plants. In addition, corn oil produced is used in renewable diesel production to lower the carbon intensity of that product.

This information was compiled by the North Dakota Ethanol Council from sources including the Renewable Fuels Association, Growth Energy, American Coalition for Ethanol, National Corn Growers Association and North Dakota State University.