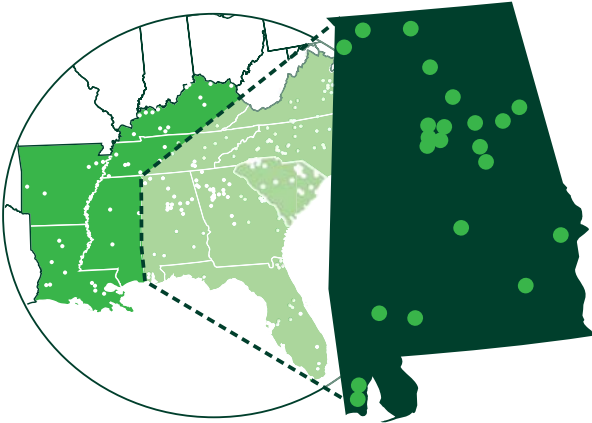


# A PROFILE OF ALABAMA'S RECYCLING ECONOMY

**When communities invest in local recycling collection programs, they're supporting AL manufacturers who use recycled plastic, glass, metal, and paper to make new consumer goods.**  
Recycling isn't just about **smart** use of natural resources – it's about delivering **valuable** commodities to some of our most important businesses.

### LOCAL INVESTMENT, REGIONAL RETURN

The Southeast is unique in its access to healthy recycling markets that feed regional manufacturing needs.



This map highlights key manufacturers who look to recycled materials to make their products.

**Increased recycling rates help Alabama manufacturers source good, affordable manufacturing feedstock.**

A 2010 SERDC study determined that Alabama is home to more than 26 manufacturers who rely on recycled content feedstock.

These companies:

- Generate more than **\$6.6 billion** in yearly sales
- Employ more than **10,700 Alabama citizens** directly working in the manufacture of recycled content products

Source: Hoovers/OneSource Business Databases (SERDC)



## RECYCLING IN ALABAMA a healthy industry poised to grow

**Local commitment to recycling supports Southeastern companies who haul, recycle, and manufacture goods.**

RECYCLING IS AN INVESTMENT THAT RETURNS AGAIN AND AGAIN ♻️

With more than 300 employees, KW Plastics in Troy, Alabama is among the largest HDPE plastics recyclers in the country. Currently, KW receives enough plastic from Alabama to run the plant for only two days out of every year.

Source: KW Plastics

The Barton, Alabama SCA Tissue Plant recycles roughly 250,000 tons of paper per year. This is equivalent to almost 3% of the state's waste generation and represents an opportunity to feed local businesses with materials otherwise buried in landfills.

Source: SCA Tissue/State of Alabama

With strong markets for paper, plastic, and metals in state and in neighboring Tennessee and Georgia, Alabama can benefit tremendously from local and regional transport efficiencies.

**If** Alabama recycled **just 10% more materials each year**, the potential economic impact would equate to\*:

⇒ **over 1,400 new jobs** + **over \$66 million annual personal income** + **\$3 million annual state tax revenue**

\*Using the 1,000 ton metric from S.C.'s Economic Impact Study  
Results from a 2010 SERDC study to map demand of recycled feedstock in the Southeast US

