

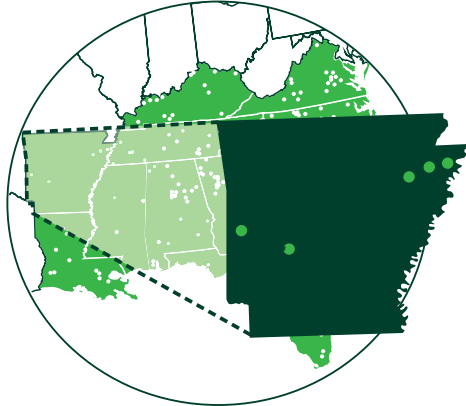
# A PROFILE OF ARKANSAS'S RECYCLING ECONOMY

**When communities invest in local recycling collection programs, they're supporting AR 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 Arkansas manufacturers source good, affordable manufacturing feedstock.**

A 2010 SERDC study determined that Arkansas is home to 5 manufacturers who rely on recycled content feedstock.

These companies:

- Make more than **\$381 million** in yearly sales
- Employ more than **1,200 Arkansas citizens** directly in the manufacture of recycled content products

Source: Hoovers/OneSource Business Databases (SERDC)



## RECYCLING IN ARKANSAS 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 ♻️

Plastic recycling currently makes up only 2% of the materials recycled by citizens of Arkansas. With the development of a new PET recycling facility in nearby Oklahoma in 2010, the state has an opportunity to divert additional plastic beverage containers, film, and food containers from the landfill.

Source: ADEQ

Due to Wal-Mart's corporate leadership in sustainability, the company recycles roughly 18% of the state's cardboard (based on 2008 data). Wal-Mart has made a commitment to making packaging more sustainable, with the use of recycled materials.

Source: ADEQ/SERDC

Arkansas enjoys access to key manufacturers of steel, aluminum, and glass in state and has access to plastic and paper manufacturing in neighboring states (Oklahoma, Alabama, and Louisiana).

If Arkansas recycled just **10%** more municipal solid waste each year,



the potential economic impact would equate to\*:

over **620** new jobs + over **\$29 million** annual personal income + **\$1.3 million** roughly 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

