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## Statistics and Trends

- Trends and reports from the U.S. Department of Commerce include:
- Annual Survey of Manufacturers; [Current Industrial Reports](#); [Manufacturers Shipments, Inventories, and Orders](#); [U.S. Economic Census, Manufacturing Geographic Series](#); and the [U.S. Economic Census, Manufacturing Industry Series](#).
- In addition, [Manufacturing.net](#) provides manufacturing statistics, industry news and resources.
- [Forbes Manufacturing](#) - Contains current headlines in the industry, trends, and also financial information

## Manufacturing Best Practices and Government Resources:

[Best Manufacturing Practices](#) - a source of information for best practices in manufacturing.

[Trade Adjustment Centers](#) a listing of programs which assist manufacturers severely impacted by international trade.

[National Institute of Standards & Technology](#). NIST's mission is to develop and promote measurement, standards, and technology to enhance productivity, facilitate trade, and improve the quality of life. NIST carries out its mission in four cooperative programs:

- [NIST Laboratories](#), conducting research that advances the nation's technology infrastructure and is needed by U.S. industry to continually improve products and services;
- [Baldrige National Quality Program](#), which promotes performance excellence among U.S. manufacturers, service companies, educational institutions, and health care providers; conducts outreach programs and manages the annual Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award which recognizes performance excellence and quality achievement;
- [Manufacturing Extension Partnership](#), a nationwide network of local centers offering technical and business assistance to smaller manufacturers; and
- [Advanced Technology Program](#), which accelerates the development of innovative technologies for broad national benefit by co-funding R&D partnerships with the private sector.

[Technology Transfer Information Center](#) Informational links prepared by the National Agricultural Library.

SBA SBIR/STTR innovation research and technology transfer information.

[Thomas Register](#) - directory of manufacturing firms. Good source for contract and prototype manufacturing.

### **Manufacturing Information by Industry (Selected Industries):**

- [National Association of Manufacturers](#) - Offers stats, skilled workforce center, and other industry information
- [Plastics Industry Economic Statistics](#) From the American Chemistry Council.
- [Plastics News](#) - online trade magazine. Find industry trends, suppliers and companies here.
- [Plastics Data Source](#) Statistics on the industry from the Society of the Plastics Industry.

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