

# Plastic in Action

## Food & Hospitality

**Plastic plays a vital role in delivering safe and fresh food to our homes, restaurants, and schools. Plastic preserves ingredients and supports safe food handling while enabling affordable, lightweight, and recyclable packaging. Plastic food packaging enhances efficiency and reduces waste throughout the food supply chain around the world.**



Plastic food packaging helps extend shelf life, reduce spoilage, and lowers our rate of food waste by protecting products from moisture, air, and contaminants.



Plastic takeout containers are lightweight, durable, recyclable, and cost-effective, making it easier for restaurants to offer delivery and take-home options without leakage or spills.



Plastic packaging reduces transportation emissions because plastic weighs significantly less than glass or metal alternatives, providing greater fuel efficiency during transport.



Nitrile, vinyl, and polyethylene gloves are commonly used in food service to prevent cross-contamination, support safe food handling, and help reduce the spread of germs to meet public health standards.

**Plastic keeps our food fresh, safe, and protected, requiring less energy and greater fuel efficiency for transport.**

More than one million Americans work in jobs directly or indirectly connected to the plastics industry, spanning a wide range of sectors. From the engineers who design the machinery that manufactures essential plastic products, to the material suppliers distributing raw plastics, to the processors shaping materials into goods, and the recyclers giving used plastic a second life, the plastics supply chain is a vital aspect within both the U.S. and global economy.