



## Plastic in Action

### Healthcare

**Plastic plays a pivotal role in public health and safety, as a component of sterile medical supplies and protective equipment, making life saving innovations possible through products like vaccine transport to single-use syringes and blood preservation, plastic reduces contamination risks and improves healthcare efficiency.**



Patients and healthcare workers are protected by disposable face masks, face shields, gloves, and hospital gowns—all of which are made with plastic material.



Innovative plastics like expanded polystyrene help safely deliver temperature sensitive vaccines and medicines.



Plastic PVC medical tubing, which is used to draw blood, administer drugs, and provide patients with oxygen, can be easily recycled and made into new products all over again.



Plastic has the ability to replicate components of the human body, making it perfect for joint replacements, vascular stents, and tissue expanders for reconstructive surgery.

## Plastic is essential to public health and safety.

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.