# FACTS ABOUT THE PAINT & COATINGS INDUSTRY



### **ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS**

Paints and coatings provide real value and are necessary for protecting and preserving the objects to which they are applied. Coatings are applied to almost everything we own and use, prolonging usefulness and providing protection from scratches, rust, and corrosion, and serving hundreds of other industries — from automotive and aerospace, to furniture and architectural paints and finishes — coatings are essential and a built-in part of our world and infrastructure.

The following sampling of facts highlight the significant contributions the nearly \$32 billion U.S. paint and coatings industry and workforce makes to the nation's economy.

- The U.S. paint and coatings industry employed 312,000 workers in 2023. Paint and coating manufacturers directly employed 41,900 people in 2023.
- Product shipments by U.S. paint and coatings producers totaled \$31.5 billion in 2023.
- In 2023, there were some 53,700 paint and coatings establishments in the United States.
- The payroll for the U.S. paint and coatings industry was nearly \$19.1 billion in 2023.
- The U.S. paint and coatings industry paid an average annual wage of \$61,300 in 2023, adjusted for inflation. Notably, the highest average annual wage was paid by the paint and coatings manufacturing sector at \$83,900 in 2023.

- The highest paid paint and coatings industry wages were those in Ohio, where the annual average wage for the state's paint and coatings industry workers was \$73,200 in 2023; Michigan's paint and coatings industry workers received the second highest annual average wages at \$72,600.
- New Jersey and Tennessee each had strong paint and coatings industry average annual wages of more than \$70,000 in 2023.
- California ranked first among the states for paint and coatings industry payroll, at \$2.7 billion in 2023.
- Texas, Florida, Ohio, and Illinois completed the list of top five states in paint and coatings industry payroll in 2023.
- Total U.S. paint and coatings employment increased 16% over the last decade, adding 43,900 jobs since 2013.

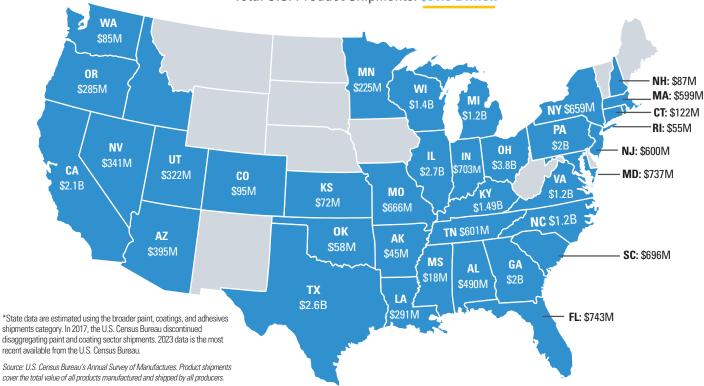
#### Top 10 States with the Highest Number of Paint and Coatings Industry Employees



For more facts about the Paint &Coatings Industry, visit www.paint.org/economicfacts.

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#### Top 35 States with the Highest Number of Paint and Coatings Estimated\* Product Shipments: 2023



Total U.S. Product Shipments: \$31.5 Billion

## **U.S. EXPORTS: 2024\***

- The United States exported \$2.8 billion in paint and coatings products in 2024.
- The U.S. paint and coatings industry posted a positive trade surplus of nearly \$1.6 billion in 2024.
- The U.S. paint and coatings industry exports to Canada (\$1.24 billion) and Mexico (\$722 million) in 2024 totaled \$2 billion combined. These USMCA partners have consistently been the two largest export markets for the U.S. industry, accounting for nearly 70% of all U.S. paint and coatings industry exports in 2024.
- The third largest export market for U.S. paint and coatings products was China at \$127 million in 2024.
- Japan and South Korea rounded out the top five leading export markets for U.S. paint and coatings products in 2024, at \$52 million and \$46 million, respectively.
- Illinois led the states with the most paint and coatings exports, with \$353 million in 2024; Ohio was second at \$295 million; and Texas was third with \$231 million paint and coatings exports.

Source: Data based on the following four-digit Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes: 3208, Oil-based Paint and Varnishes; 3209, Water-Based Paint and Varnishes; and 3210, Paints and Varnishes for Leather. Trade statistics were derived from U.S. Bureau of the Census data and are reported on a Census or Customs basis. State export statistics are drawn from the Origin of Movement (OM) series compiled by the Foreign Trade Division of the U.S. Census Bureau.

The American Coatings Association (ACA) is a voluntary, nonprofit trade association working to advance the needs of the paint and coatings industry and the professionals who work in it. The organization represents paint and coatings manufacturers, raw materials suppliers, distributors, and technical professionals. ACA serves as an advocate and ally for members on legislative, regulatory, and judicial issues, and provides forums for the advancement and promotion of the industry and coatings science.