

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

The human-animal bond is closer than ever before, and animals have become a central part of our daily lives. The business of keeping those animals healthy – which also keeps humans healthy – is also an integral part of the U.S. economy. A comprehensive study, **“The Economic and Social Contributions of the Animal Health Industry,”** examines the role that the companies that produce pharmaceuticals, vaccines, and flea and tick products play in the U.S. economy and beyond. The results are clear: by improving the health of nearly 10 billion companion and food-producing animals, the animal health industry contributes significant economic and social benefits across America.

KEY FINDINGS

Industry Performance

In 2016, the animal health industry produced \$11.4 billion of medicine with total U.S. sales of \$9.9 billion. The industry is highly innovative, investing 8.5% of sales and over \$970 million in R&D; this outperforms the average manufacturing industry across economic indicators of wage, output, and exports per worker.

Direct Economic Impact

The industry employed 21,257 workers, paid over \$1.2 billion in wages, and paid \$1.2 in taxes in 2016. It employs workers of all skill levels to maintain and operate manufacturing plants, R&D facilities, and corporate offices.

Broader Economic Impact

Animal medicines contribute to the economic activity of other industries, including veterinary services, animal production, meat and dairy production, and pet services. Combined, these sectors generated \$548 billion in output, created almost 1.4 million jobs, and paid over \$52 billion in wages in 2016.

Social Benefits

Animal health products improve public health by ensuring that food-producing animals are healthy and that dairy and meat products are safe for consumers. Furthermore, pets improve mental and physical health of individuals and families.

NATIONAL AND STATE DATA

This study includes detailed data broken out by state that addresses the following:

- Households with pets
- Household expenditures on pet medicines and supplies
- Food-producing animal inventory
- Veterinary industry statistics
- Animal production industry statistics
- Meat and dairy production industry statistics
- Pet services statistics
- Consumption of meat and dairy products