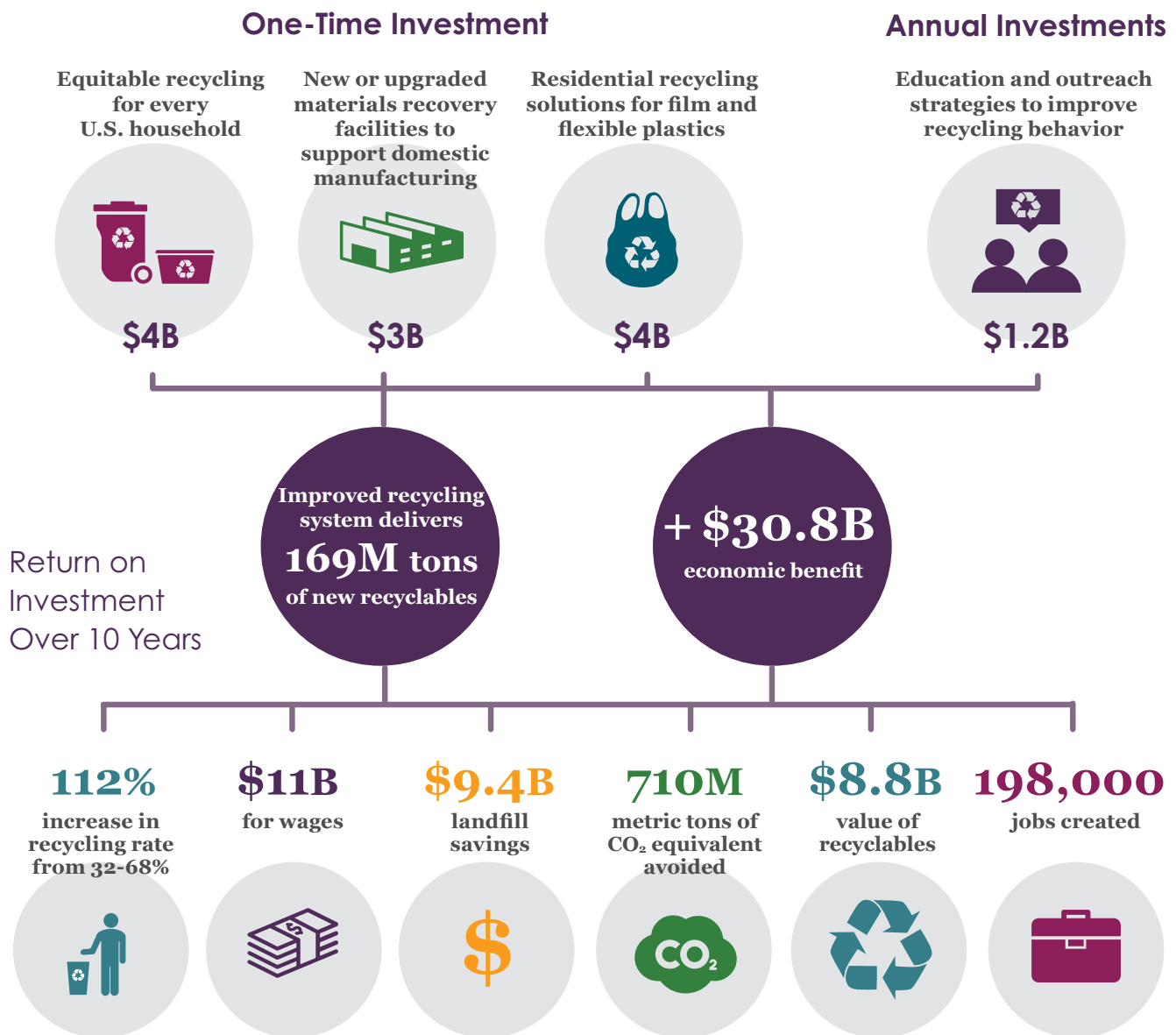


Improving Our Recycling System Will Pay Dividends

\$17 billion applied to proven recycling solutions will have immediate positive impact, including an economic benefit of \$30.8 billion over 10 years (including wages, taxes, landfill savings, and the value of recyclables).*

\$17B investment is needed over 5 years



This fact sheet details the \$17 billion investment called for in The Recycling Partnership's [Paying it Forward: How Investment in Recycling Will Deliver Dividends report](#), which details the scale of challenges associated with creating an equitable recycling system and the proven approach to meeting them.

*Wages and taxes were calculated from here: 2020 EPA Recycling Economic Information Report www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-11/documents/rei_report_508_compliant.pdf

Learn more at: recyclingpartnership.org/accelerator-policy



Solving today's recycling system challenges will double the return on investment within 10 years and deliver almost 200,000 new jobs

We estimate the needed improvements will cost \$11B for infrastructure and \$6B for education investments over 5 years.

What is the relationship between the Accelerating Recycling Report's Policy Approach and the \$17B investment?

- The **Accelerating Recycling Policy Proposal** (Proposal) is a shared responsibility model that was developed with industry through a consensus-driven process. It calls for an eco-modulated packaging and printed paper fee and disposal surcharge to fund physical and communications recycling infrastructure in the U.S. The Proposal provides a sustainable funding model to help pay for those needed investments over time.
- \$17 billion investment called for in the forthcoming **Paying it Forward: How Investment in Recycling Will Deliver Dividends report** (Report) answers the question: what will it cost to fix recycling in the U.S. for common paper and packaging materials? It does **not** include the cost of ongoing operations, which are typically funded by local governments.
- While the Report describes the costs associated with today's recycling challenges, the Proposal provides a roadmap to meet them. For instance, the Report includes the capital needed to create a residential recycling solution for film and flexible plastics, which accounts for \$4 billion of the \$11 billion fixed infrastructure costs. It also includes a more robust annual recycling education budget to achieve high levels of participation and material capture.
- The Proposal addresses materials like film and flexible plastics by providing a voluntary special assessment fee option for industries to work collectively to solve material-specific recycling challenges. It also calls for a more modest education budget focused on material quality.

About The Recycling Partnership

The Recycling Partnership is the action agent transforming the recycling system and activating a circular economy for packaging. We work on the ground with thousands of communities to transform underperforming recycling programs and tackle circular economy challenges. We work with companies to make their packaging more circular and help them meet their climate and sustainability goals. And we work with government to develop the policy solutions that will address the systemic needs of our residential recycling system.