

Industry Statistics

Steel Drums; Plastic Drums; Intermediate Bulk Containers

Reconditioned and Newly Manufactured Packagings

Introduction

The Reusable Industrial Packaging Association (RIPA) conducts biennial surveys of its membership to collect quantitative information about industry activities and industrial practices. Over the years, the surveys have evolved to include greater detail about association members' activities. Early efforts focused almost exclusively on reconditioning throughput, i.e. the total number of industrial packagings sold or scrapped on an annual basis. More recent surveys have included additional information on transportation, purchaser profiles and process issues.

Reusable Industrial Packaging Association

RIPA represents industrial packaging reconditioners, distributors and manufacturers in North American. In 2019, RIPA has 60 reconditioner / distributor members in the U.S. that operate a combined 105 reconditioning plants and distribution centers. RIPA members generate approximately 90% of the gross industry sales of reconditioned steel drums, plastic drums and composite IBCs. In addition, they generate revenue from fiber drums, scrap plastic and steel, off-sized units (e.g. 30-gallon drums), and brokered new packagings.

Definitions

The industry data presented here focus on the following products:

- 55-gallon steel drums
 - open (removable) head
 - tight (non-removable) head

- 55-gallon plastic drums
 - open (removable) head
 - tight (non-removable) head

- Composite intermediate bulk containers
 - 275-gallon capacity
 - 330-gallon capacity

NOTE: Data presented here for newly manufactured drums and IBCs are provided by the Industrial Packaging Alliance of North America (IPANA) which is comprised, in part, of the Industrial Steel Drum Institute (ISDI), the Plastic Drum Institute (PDI), and the Rigid Intermediate Bulk Container Association (RIBCA).

Following are production data from 2001 (1997 for steel drums) to 2019 for both new and reconditioned steel drums, plastic drums and IBCs. Click on the links below to find the product type in which you are interested. Other interesting data (as bar graphs) are in the back pages.

[Steel Drum Data](#)

[Plastic Drum Data](#)

[IBC Data](#)

Steel Drum Data

Reconditioned 55-gallon Steel Drum Production in United States 1997 – 2019

Unit: 1000 Drums

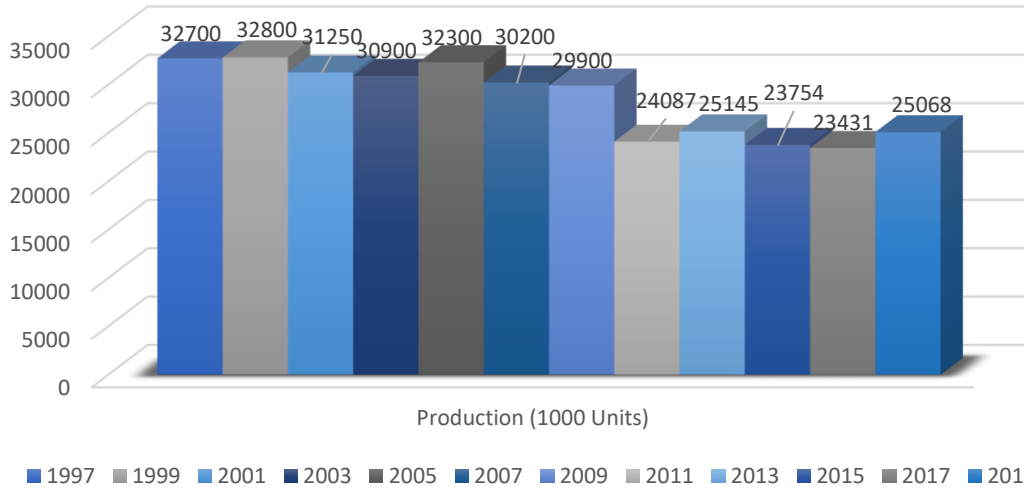
Year	Production
1997	32,700
1999	32,800
2001	31,250
2003	30,900
2005	32,300
2007	30,200
2009	29,900
2011	24,087
2013	25,145
2015	23,754
2017	23,431
2019	25,068

New 55-gallon Steel Drum Production in United States 1997 – 2019

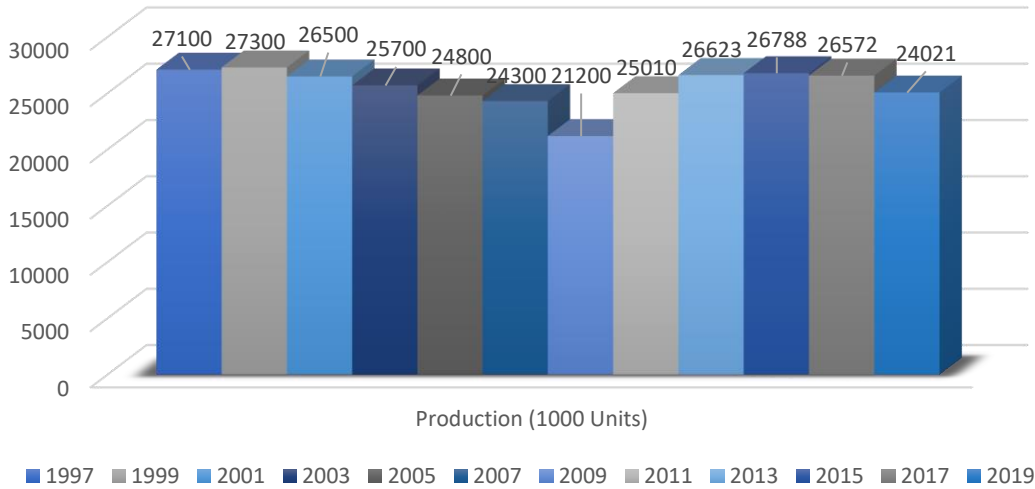
Unit: 1000 Drums

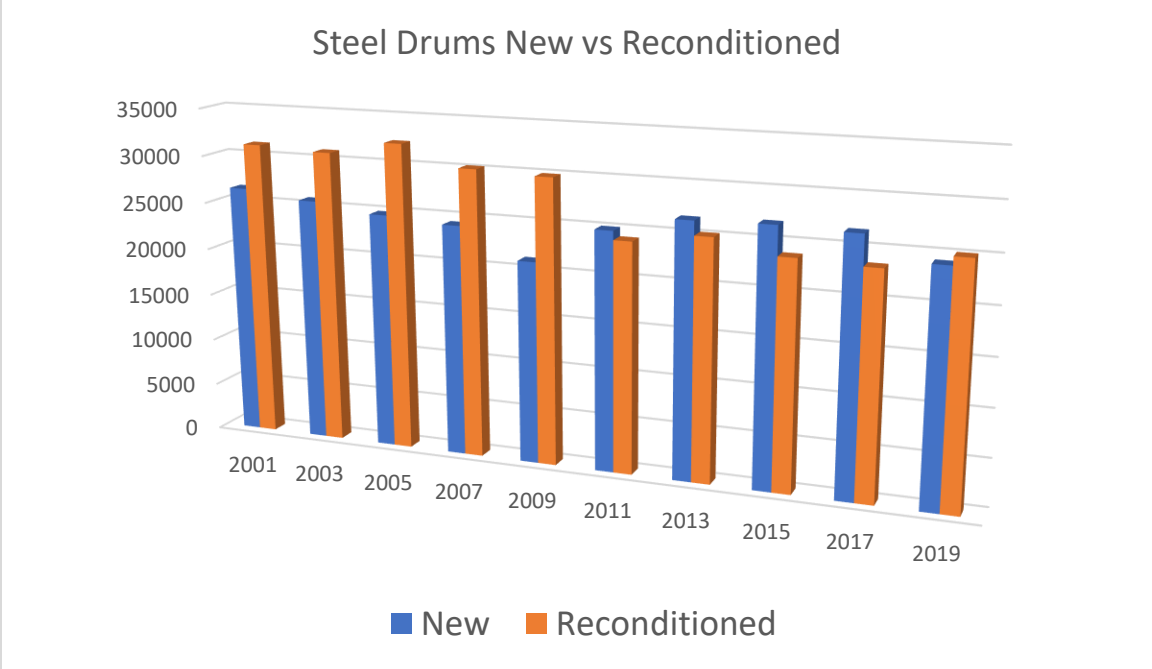
Year	Production
1997	27,100
1999	27,300
2001	26,500
2003	25,700
2005	24,800
2007	24,300
2009	21,200
2011	25,010
2013	26,623
2015	26,788
2017	26,572
2019	24,201

Reconditioned 55-gallon Steel Drum Production in United States 1997 – 2019



New 55-gallon Steel Drum Production in United States 1997 – 2019





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Plastic Drum Data

Reconditioned 55-gallon Plastic Drum Production in United States 2001 – 2019

Unit: 1000 Drums

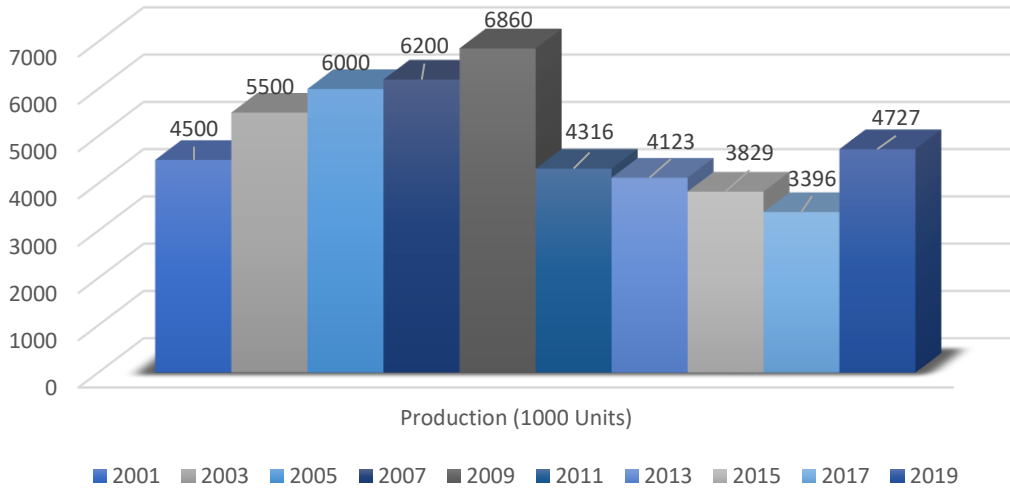
Year	Production
2001	4,500
2003	5,500
2005	6,000
2007	6,200
2009	6,860
2011	4,316
2013	4,123
2015	3,829
2017	3,396
2019	4,727

New 55-gallon Plastic Drum Production in United States 2001 - 2019

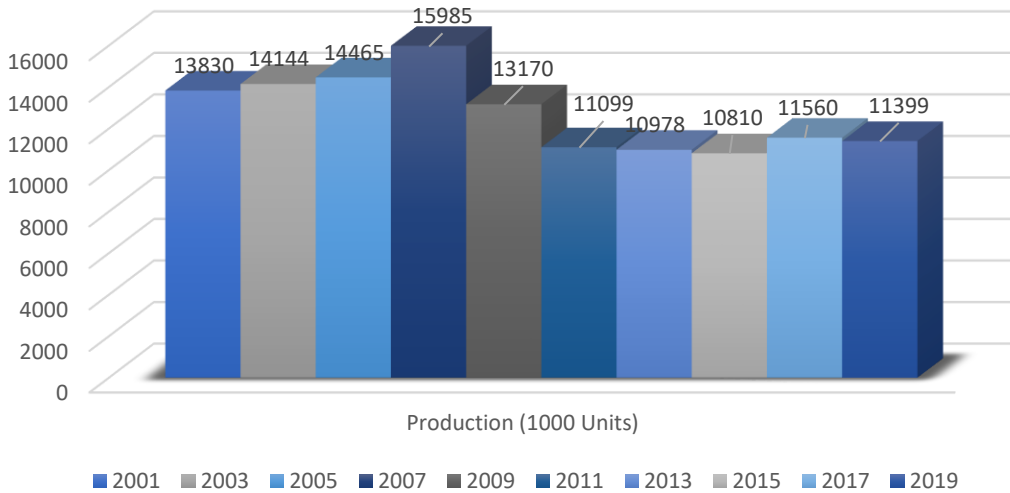
Unit: 1000 Drums

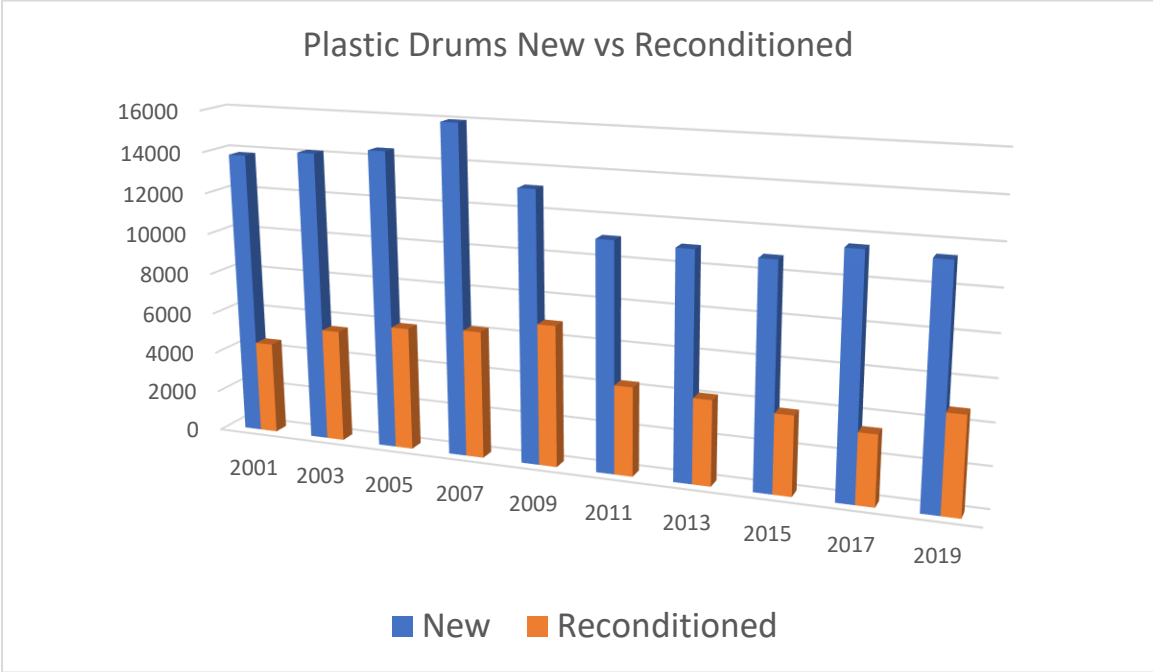
Year	Production
2001	13,830
2003	14,144
2005	14,465
2007	15,985
2009	13,170
2011	11,099
2013	10,978
2015	10,810
2017	11,560
2019	11,399

Reconditioned 55-gallon Plastic Drum Production in United States 2001 - 2019



New 55-gallon Plastic Drum Production in United States 2001 - 2019





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IBC Data

Reconditioned Composite IBC Production in United States* 2001 – 2019

Unit: 1000 IBCs

Year	Production
2001	640
2003	750
2005	940
2007	1,250
2009	1,700
2011	2,168
2013	2,591
2015	3,172
2017	3,497
2019	3,281

*Includes 275 gallon and 330 gallon units.

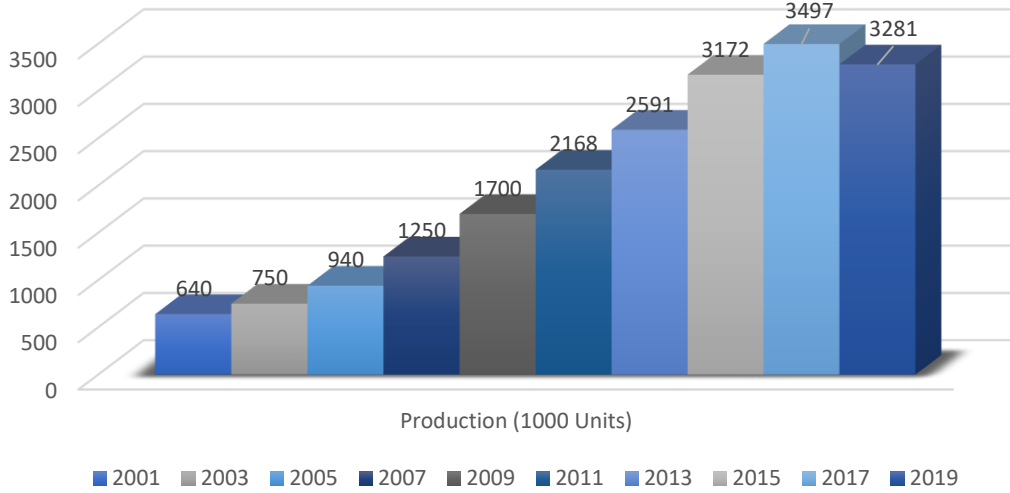
New Composite IBC Production in United States* 2001 – 2019

Unit: 1000 IBCs

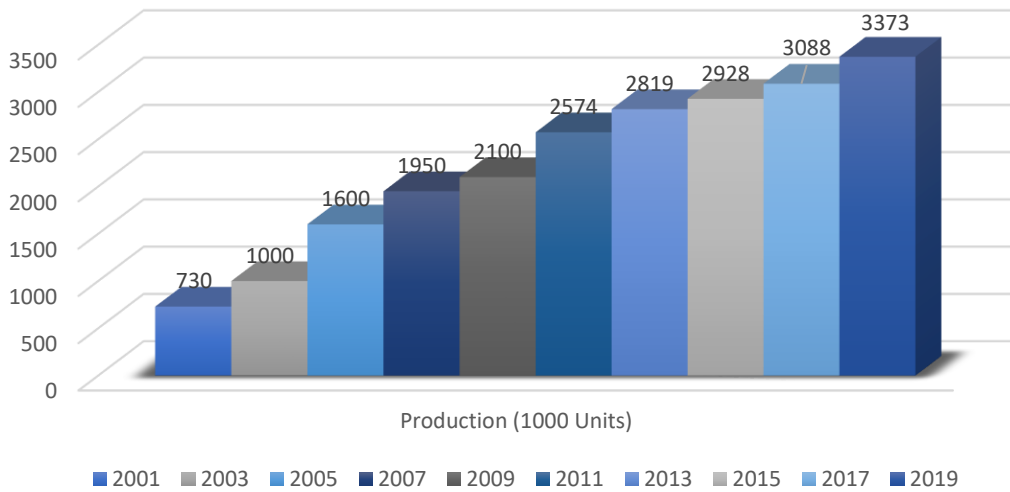
Year	Production
2001	730
2003	1,000
2005	1,600
2007	1,950
2009	2,100
2011	2,574
2013	2,819
2015	2,928
2017	3,088
2019	3,373

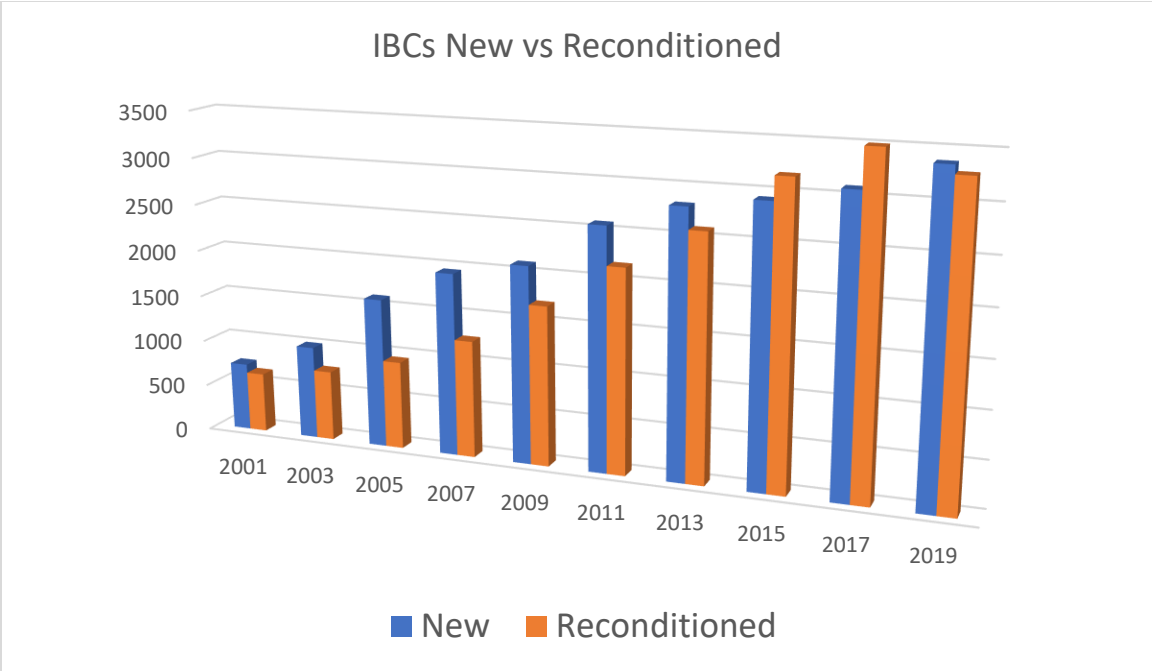
*Includes 275 gallon and 330 gallon units.

Reconditioned Composite IBC Production in United States 2001 - 2019



New Composite IBC Production in United States 2001 - 2019

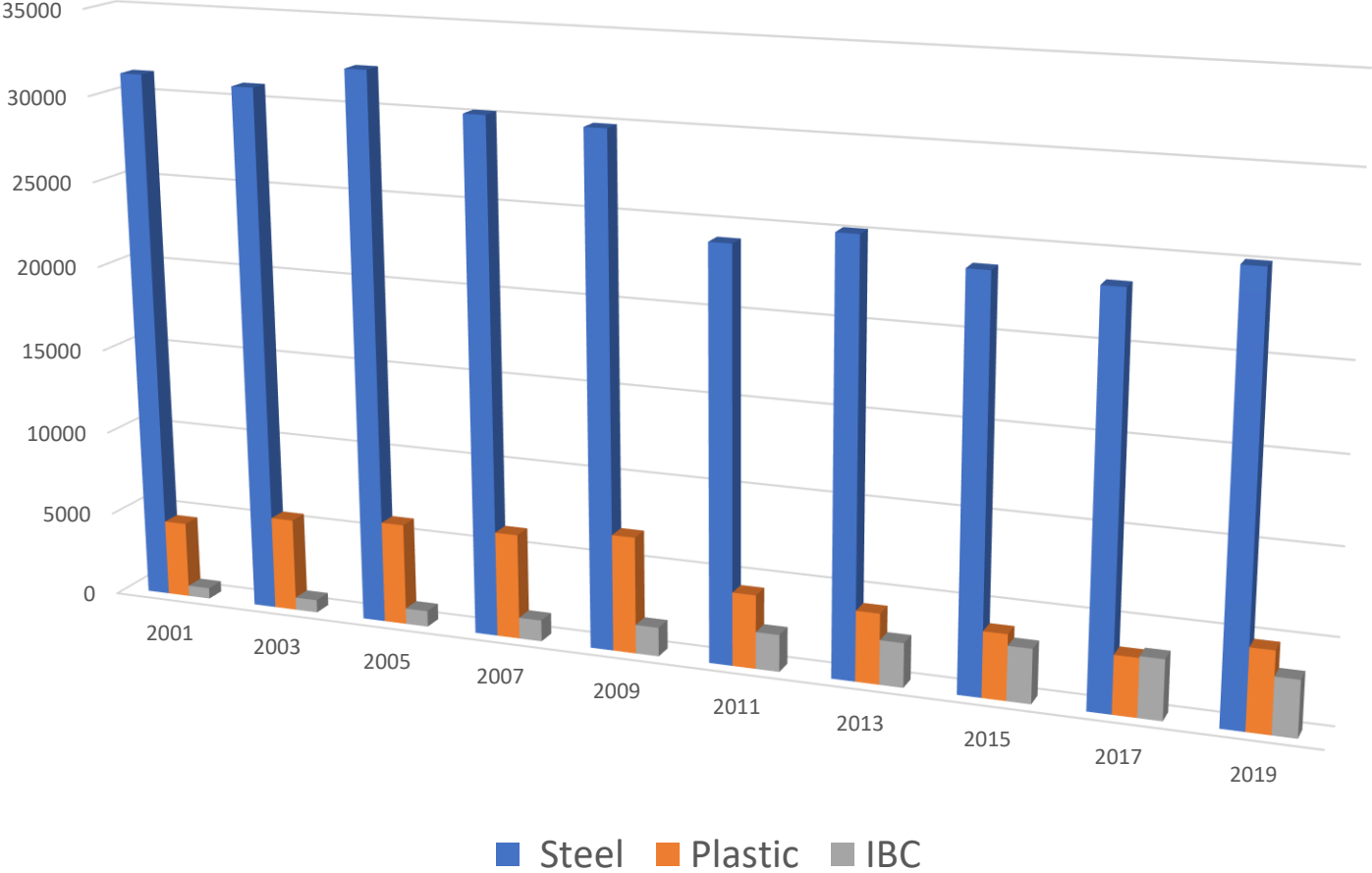




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U.S. Reconditoning 2001 - 2019



U.S. Manufacturing 2001 - 2019

