

3D printing by the numbers:

Making 3D printing work for your organization

Manufacturers have successfully implemented 3D printing into their business since 1986 — yes, this innovative trend has existed for more than 30 years — now it's time to truly adopt. From sustainability benefits to increased speed to market, here are some surprising stats about the 3D printing industry.



90%

of companies using 3D printing consider it a competitive advantage.¹

WHY

3D printing speeds up the development and production process, gets designs to market faster and creates flexibility in production, allowing a quicker response to change with product lineups.

30%

of manufacturers leverage 3D printing, and 40% plan to in the next 12-24 months.²

WHY

Resources. From adoption challenges to lack of skillset, knowledge base, and expertise in effectively using 3D printing.

76%

of CPGs (consumer packaged goods) already use 3D printing for a host of smart reasons.³

WHY

Allows for more competitive pricing, accelerated development cycles, greater flexibility in design and customization — simplifies the supply chain by eliminating multilevel production planning.



68%

of manufacturers utilizing 3D printing are using it for prototyping.⁴

WHY

It's a fast and reliable way to produce multiple design iterations before proceeding into production tooling, speed decision-making, and minimizing risk and resource usage.

60%

of waste can be reduced by using 3D printing, compared to traditional methods.⁵

WHY

Regulatory agencies continue to force manufacturers to adopt more ecofriendly business practices — moving to more sustainable manufacturing meets consumer expectations and regulatory requirements.

35%

the number of unfilled job openings in the durable goods manufacturing sector even if every skilled worker in America was employed.⁶

WHY

Studies predict a shortage of more than two million American manufacturing workers by 2030, representing an opportunity cost of \$1 trillion annually.⁷

Ricoh found that bringing rapid prototyping in-house vs. offsite with a service bureau can result in up to⁸

90% 
time savings

90% 
cost savings

85% 

of outsourced 3D print is now brought on-site



Introducing RICOH All-In 3D Print

Elevate your business through the power of 3D printing innovation

41% of manufacturers cite a lack of talent, while **42%** say lack of current expertise is their roadblock to adopting 3D printing.⁹

Team up with Ricoh — a leader in on-site printing operations and 3D printing technology innovation — and take advantage of our fully managed solution for on-site production of 3D printed deliverables.

You get skilled personnel, support, printing hardware, production software, maintenance, and supplies. Managing and maintaining 3D equipment is complex and requires time-consuming strategic cleaning tactics using hazardous materials — safety protocols must be in place. We have the expertise to manage the 3D printing process efficiently.

Additionally, we streamline usage into a fully integrated 3D printing enterprise tool. Our on-site experts are augmented and supported remotely by Ricoh's National 3D Print Center of Excellence facility specialists at North Carolina State University Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics. With print and ship options, you can get started immediately.



Please explore our [web page](#) to learn more.

¹ Wohlers Associates. Analysis. Trends. Forecasts. Additive Manufacturing and 3D Printing State of the Industry 2018 Wohlers Report. 2018.

² Deloitte. 2023 manufacturing industry outlook. 2023.

³ Digital, Data, and Design Institute at Harvard. Can Nike use 3D-printing to sustainably mass customize its offer to consumers? 2017.

⁴ Outlook for Brands. Digital Transformation And Industry 4.0: Revolutionizing Manufacturing. 2023.

⁵ Protolabs. Market Insights and Forecasts for 3D Printing Trends in 2023. 2023.

⁶ Forbes. The Labor Shortage is Killing American Manufacturing Here's How AI Can Bring it Back to Life. 2022.

⁷ Deloitte. Creating pathways for tomorrow's workforce today. 2021.

⁸ Ricoh case study www.ricoh-usa.com/en/insights/case-studies/rapid-prototyping-additive-manufacturing-lab

⁹ PwC. 3D Printing comes of age in US industrial manufacturing. 2016.

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