Maintaining a vibrant U.S. semiconductor industry is strategic to America’s continued strength.

Semiconductors are the **brains of modern electronics**, enabling advances in communications, computing, health care, defense, transportation, clean energy, and **emerging technologies** such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and advanced wireless networks.

The U.S. semiconductor industry is the **worldwide industry leader** with about **half of global market share** through sales of $209 billion in 2018.

The semiconductor industry directly employs nearly a **quarter of a million people** in the U.S. and supports more than **one million additional jobs** throughout the U.S. economy.

The U.S. semiconductor industry is one of the world’s **most advanced manufacturing sectors**. Nearly half of U.S. semiconductor companies’ manufacturing base is in the United States, and **19 states** are home to semiconductor manufacturing facilities.

Semiconductors are **America’s #4 Export** after airplanes, refined oil, and crude oil, and ahead of cars. **More than 80%** of U.S. semiconductor companies’ sales are to overseas customers. The United States exported **$44 billion** in semiconductors in 2018 and maintains a **consistent trade surplus** in semiconductors.

The U.S. semiconductor industry annually invests about **one-fifth of revenue** in R&D. This was the **second-highest share of any major U.S. industry** in 2018, behind only the pharmaceutical industry.

The rapid pace of innovation has enabled the semiconductor industry to produce exponentially **more advanced products at lower cost**, a principle known as **Moore’s Law**. As a result, a single smartphone today has **far more computing power** than the computers used by NASA to land a person on the moon during the Apollo 11 mission.

The U.S. semiconductor industry is **America’s #1 contributor to labor productivity growth**, as semiconductor technology has made virtually all sectors of the U.S. economy—from farming to manufacturing—more effective and efficient.