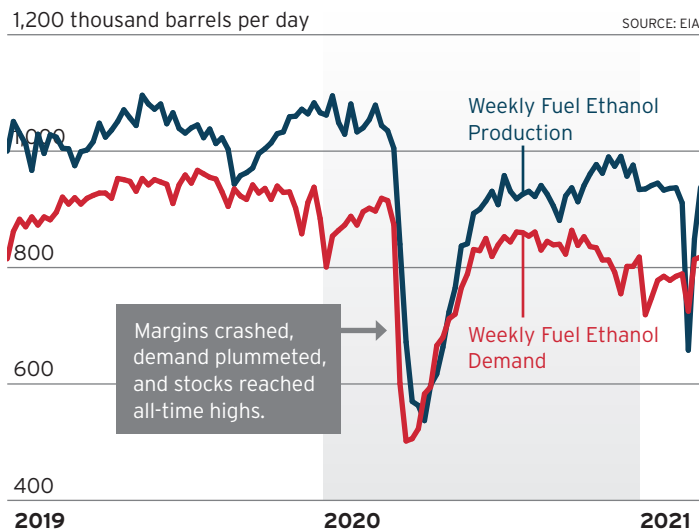


# EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19



Due to stay-at-home orders and American drivers staying off the road, the fuel market experienced a historic drop in demand, crippling our nation's ethanol plants and disrupting markets for ethanol's coproducts. As the nation looks to recovery, the biofuels industry also needs support to get back on track.

## AN INDUSTRY NOT FULLY RECOVERED



### APRIL 2020: LOWEST POINTS

- Margins crashed to \$-0.37 per gallon
- Demand was down to 7.76 billion gallons annualized (44% lower than 2019)
- Production was down to 8.23 billion gallons annualized (about 50% of full capacity)
- Ethanol stocks reached an all-time high at 1.16 billion gallons

### MARCH 2021: NOT FULLY RECOVERED

- Ethanol production is down to 14.38 billion gallons (10.2% lower than this time last year)
- Ethanol blending is down to 12.54 billion gallons (11% lower than this time last year)

## GROWTH ENERGY'S ASK:

- Urge USDA to use funds already provided to make necessary COVID-19 financial assistance available to the biofuels industry and make these payments equitable, fair, and publicly available.

## ETHANOL COPRODUCTS' ESSENTIAL ROLE IN SUPPLY CHAINS

### CARBON DIOXIDE (CO<sub>2</sub>)

About 50 of the nation's 200 ethanol plants produce one of the most efficient and local sources of 99%-pure CO<sub>2</sub>. This is used as a preservative for meatpackers, carbonation for food and beverage companies, treatment measure for municipal water facilities, and **importantly, a crucial coolant for COVID-19 vaccination storage.**

### HAND SANITIZER

During the height of the COVID-19 crisis, many ethanol plants reoriented production capabilities to provide alcohol into the hand sanitizer market including donations to hospitals and first responders. FDA temporary guidance specifies that alcohol may be used for hand sanitizer if it meets U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) or Food Chemicals Codex (FCC) grade requirements, or a plant may provide laboratory analysis to FDA for a case-by-case evaluation.



**CRITICAL COMPONENTS** Excess carbon dioxide from ethanol production is used in dry ice coolants for vaccine storage.