

2022 ECONOMIC REPORT NORTHWEST REGION



The Northwest Region is comprised of 18 counties in the northwest corner of Missouri. The region is home to several cities including St. Joseph, Chillicothe, Trenton, and Maryville.

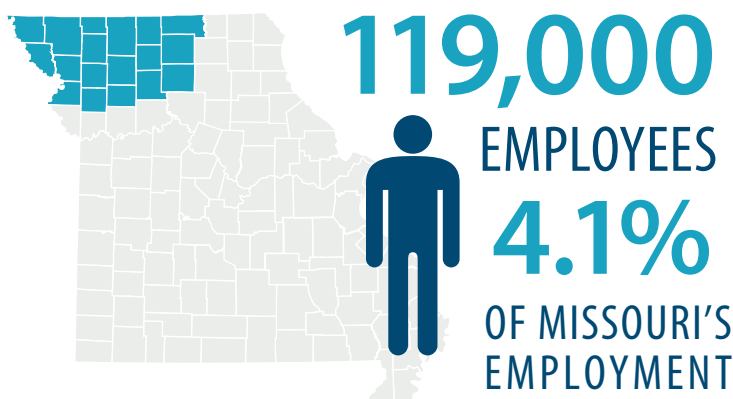
The Northwest Region workforce has almost 119,000 employees, making up 4.1 percent of Missouri's employment. In 2021, 48.4 percent of the workforce was female and 51.6 percent was male. The regional average unemployment rate in 2021 was 3.8 percent.

The workforce is getting older in the Northwest Region, a trend continuing throughout Missouri and the U.S. In 2021, 24 percent of the workforce in the region was age 55 or older, up from 21 percent a decade earlier.

For the region, 9.2 percent of the workforce was non-white and 5.3 percent was Hispanic or Latino. This compares to the state averages of 17.6 percent non-white and 4.5 percent Hispanic or Latino.

For the Northwest Region, 5.3 percent of the region's population (ages 18 to 64) speaks a language other than English at home. By comparison, Missouri was at 6.9 percent and the U.S. population at 23.1 percent.

The Northwest Region has a similar percentage of the population with a disability compared to the state and a higher percentage than the nation. For the region, 12.2 percent of the population has a disability similar to 12.2 percent in Missouri, and higher than the U.S. average of 10.3 percent.



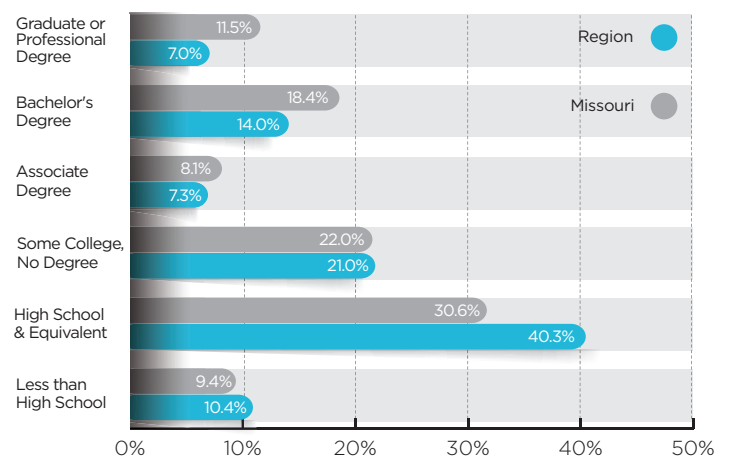
Workforce Demographics

| | NW Region | Missouri | Nationwide |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Average Monthly Employment in 2021 | 118,960 | 2,928,368 | 152,580,667 |
| Average Unemployment Rate in 2021 | 3.8% | 4.4% | 5.3% |
| Male | 51.6% | 51.0% | 50.3% |
| Female | 48.4% | 49.0% | 49.7% |
| Non-White | 9.2% | 17.6% | 23.7% |
| Hispanic or Latino | 5.3% | 4.5% | 16.7% |
| Ages 55 or Older | 24.0% | 23.0% | 23.0% |
| With Disabilities (Ages 18-64) | 12.2% | 12.2% | 10.3% |
| Below Poverty Level (Ages 18-64) | 13.1% | 12.6% | 12.1% |
| Language other than English | 5.3% | 6.9% | 23.1% |
| Education Associate Degree or Higher | 28.3% | 38.0% | 41.6% |

SOURCES: CENSUS ACS 2020-5YR EST.; LEHD 2ND QUARTER; BLS LAUS 2021

Educational attainment rates for the Northwest Region are lower than those of the state for those with bachelor's or advanced degrees. Twenty-eight percent of the region's population, age 25 and older, has an associate, bachelor's, or advanced degree compared to 38 percent for the state, and about 42 percent for the nation.

Educational Attainment



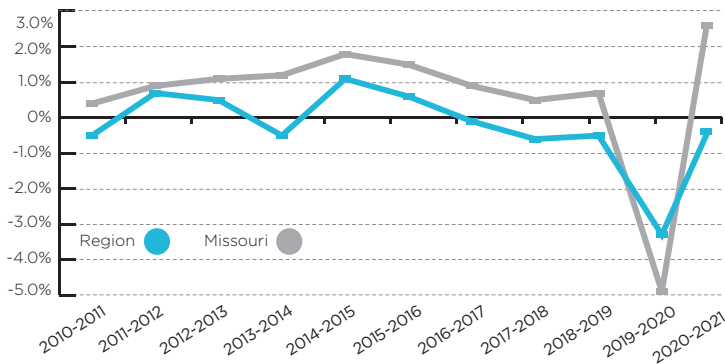
SOURCE: US CENSUS BUREAU, ACS 2020 5-YEAR ESTIMATES

NORTHWEST REGION

INDUSTRY ANALYSIS

The Northwest Region averaged over 90,800 jobs in 2021. The region lost only 23 jobs from 2020 to 2021 at a rate of -0.03 percent, whereas the region had lost 3,065 jobs from 2019 to 2020, resulting in a -3.3 percent growth rate due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, Missouri employment decreased by 4.9 percent, however Missouri employment increased by 2.5 percent in 2021, showing recovery from the pandemic impacts. From 2017 to 2021, the Northwest Region averaged -1.1 percent compound annual loss for an overall decrease of 4.3 percent. During that same period Missouri's employment declined by 1.4 percent.

Northwest Employment Annual Growth Rate



SOURCE: U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, QCEW

Manufacturing, Health Care and Social Assistance, and Retail Trade are the largest industry sectors in the region, with an employment of 16,309, 14,859, and 10,709, respectively, in 2021.

Only Construction; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services; and Transportation and Warehousing had positive growth from 2017 to 2021 in the region.

Northwest Region Top Employing Industries

| Industry | Employment 2017 | Employment 2021 | Net Change | 2017-2021 Empl. CAGR | 2020 Annual Wages |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Manufacturing | 16,890 | 16,309 | -581 | -0.9% | \$56,544 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 15,783 | 14,859 | -924 | -1.5% | \$44,616 |
| Retail Trade | 10,801 | 10,709 | -92 | -0.2% | \$32,112 |
| Educational Services | 8,146 | 7,142 | -1,004 | -3.2% | \$36,564 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 6,933 | 6,214 | -719 | -2.7% | \$16,848 |
| Public Administration | 5,952 | 4,759 | -1,193 | -5.4% | \$36,888 |
| Construction | 4,509 | 4,752 | 243 | 1.3% | \$62,640 |
| Administrative Support & Waste | 7,180 | 3,663 | -3,517 | -15.5% | \$32,304 |
| Wholesale Trade | 3,674 | 3,556 | -118 | -0.8% | \$55,020 |
| Finance & Insurance | 3,339 | 2,862 | -477 | -3.8% | \$59,052 |
| Professional, Science & Tech. Servs. | 2,490 | 2,783 | 293 | 2.8% | \$65,892 |
| Transportation & Warehousing | 2,618 | 2,683 | 65 | 0.6% | \$44,664 |

SOURCE: LEHD QWI, 2017-2021 ANNUAL AVERAGES

LOCATION QUOTIENT

To understand the major industries within a region, an analysis of industry concentration or clustering can be useful. The Location Quotient (LQ) describes the concentration of an industry in a geographic region, in relation to the nation, with 1.0 being the national average. Industries with higher than 1.0 LQ indicate a concentration.

The Northwest Region has higher concentrations in several industry sectors, including *Food Manufacturing*; *Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing*; and *Gasoline Stations*.



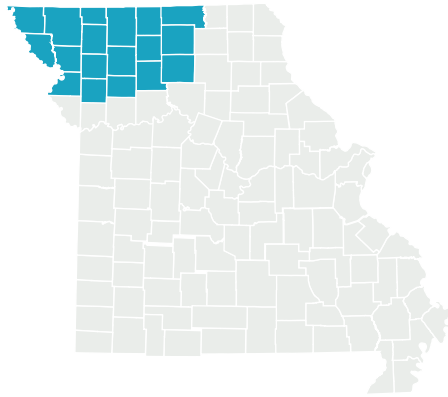
2021 Northwest Region Location Quotients

| Industry | Employment | Location Quotient |
|--|------------|-------------------|
| Food Manufacturing | 4,594 | 4.7 |
| Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing | 2,969 | 3.6 |
| Gasoline Stations | 1,775 | 3.2 |
| Chemical Manufacturing | 1,476 | 2.8 |
| Building Material & Garden Equip. & Supplies | 1,299 | 1.5 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 2,797 | 1.5 |
| Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods | 1,775 | 1.4 |
| Transit & Ground Passenger Transportation | 292 | 1.3 |
| Animal Production & Aquaculture | 186 | 1.2 |
| Utilities | 383 | 1.2 |
| Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers | 1,347 | 1.2 |
| Crop Production | 369 | 1.1 |
| Nursing & Residential Care Facilities | 2,006 | 1.1 |
| Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction | 634 | 1.0 |
| Social Assistance | 2,415 | 1.0 |

SOURCE: U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, QCEW

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Projected growth in industry helps to identify future employment needs for an area. Projections indicate that the largest industry growth in the Northwest Region between 2020-2030 will be in the *Food Manufacturing; Social Assistance; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services; Food Services and Drinking Places;* and *Machinery Manufacturing* industries.



Northwest Region Largest Growth Industries 2020-2030

| Industry | Employment | | Change 2020-2030 | |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------|
| | 2020 Estimated | 2030 Projected | Numeric | Percent |
| Food Manufacturing | 6,380 | 6,929 | 549 | 8.6% |
| Social Assistance | 3,094 | 3,500 | 406 | 13.1% |
| Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services | 2,308 | 2,644 | 336 | 14.6% |
| Food Services & Drinking Places | 6,087 | 6,387 | 300 | 4.9% |
| Machinery Manufacturing | 1,639 | 1,874 | 235 | 14.3% |
| Hospitals | 4,764 | 4,955 | 191 | 4.0% |
| Ambulatory Health Care Services | 3,246 | 3,375 | 129 | 4.0% |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 2,011 | 2,139 | 128 | 6.4% |
| Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing | 3,132 | 3,254 | 122 | 3.9% |
| Couriers & Messengers | 366 | 482 | 116 | 31.7% |

SOURCES: MERIC INDUSTRY PROJECTIONS, 2020-2030

PROJECTED GROWTH BY INDUSTRY HELPS TO IDENTIFY FUTURE EMPLOYMENT NEEDS FOR AN AREA.

OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS

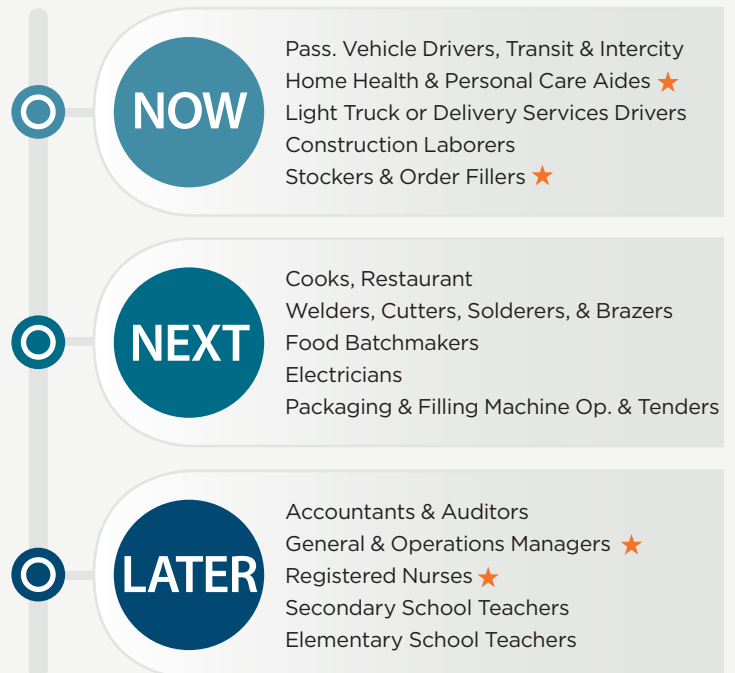
MERIC produces occupational projections that estimates labor demand over a 10-year period. MERIC categorizes these occupations using its Now-Next-Later method to help job seekers understand the training, education, and experience requirements for various occupations.

Now jobs typically require short-term, on-the-job training, little to no experience, and/or a high school diploma. Now occupations with the most projected openings are *Retail Salespersons; Home Health and Personal Care Aides;* and *Cashiers. Passenger Vehicle Drivers; Home Health and Personal Care Aides;* and *Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers* are projected to be the fastest growing Now occupations over the next decade.

Next jobs typically require a non-degree certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, some experience, or moderate to long-term training. *Cooks; Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers;* and *Nursing Assistants* are projected to have the most openings for the Next category of occupations. *Cooks; Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers;* and *Food Batchmakers* are the fastest growing Next occupations.

Later jobs typically require a bachelor's degree or higher. For Later occupations, *General and Operations Managers; Registered Nurses;* and *Secondary School Teachers* are projected to have the most openings. *Accountants and Auditors; General and Operations Managers;* and *Registered Nurses* are the fastest growing Later occupations.

Northwest Region Fastest Growing Occupations



NOTE: OCCUPATIONS WITH ANNUAL TOTAL OPENINGS OF LESS THAN 50 ARE OMITTED

SOURCE: MERIC OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS, 2020-2030

★ DENOTES OCCUPATIONS TOP TEN ONLINE JOB ADS FOR 2021-2022 IN THE REGION AND WITHIN THE NOW-NEXT-LATER CLASSIFICATIONS

NORTHWEST REGION

Northwest Region Long-Term Occupational Projections by Top Openings

| Occupation | 2020 Estimated Employment | 2030 Projected Employment | Growth Openings | Exits | Transfers | Total Openings | Median Wages |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| NOW | | | | | | | |
| Retail Salespersons | 3,722 | 3,638 | -8 | 206 | 304 | 502 | \$24,397 ★ |
| Home Health & Personal Care Aides | 2,732 | 3,120 | 39 | 187 | 166 | 392 | \$24,008 ★ |
| Cashiers | 2,276 | 2,099 | -18 | 186 | 209 | 377 | \$22,767 |
| Fast Food & Counter Workers | 1,611 | 1,603 | -1 | 156 | 170 | 325 | \$20,328 ★ |
| Office Clerks, General | 2,340 | 2,166 | -17 | 123 | 134 | 240 | \$30,940 |
| NEXT | | | | | | | |
| Cooks, Restaurant | 852 | 1,102 | 25 | 58 | 84 | 167 | \$23,639 |
| Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 1,507 | 1,513 | 1 | 62 | 102 | 165 | \$43,252 ★ |
| Nursing Assistants | 1,458 | 1,376 | -8 | 91 | 80 | 163 | \$26,265 ★ |
| Maintenance & Repair Workers, General | 1,462 | 1,454 | -1 | 51 | 85 | 135 | \$38,756 ★ |
| Miscellaneous Assemblers & Fabricators | 1,219 | 1,114 | -10 | 44 | 83 | 117 | \$46,550 |
| LATER | | | | | | | |
| General & Operations Managers | 1,679 | 1,754 | 8 | 34 | 106 | 148 | \$62,773 ★ |
| Registered Nurses | 1,961 | 2,005 | 4 | 53 | 50 | 107 | \$63,364 ★ |
| Secondary School Teachers | 1,603 | 1,604 | 0 | 42 | 65 | 107 | \$44,407 |
| Elementary School Teachers | 929 | 925 | 0 | 28 | 37 | 65 | \$40,513 |
| Accountants & Auditors | 617 | 646 | 3 | 18 | 37 | 58 | \$57,648 |

SOURCE: MERIC OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS 2020-2030

★ DENOTES OCCUPATIONS IN THE TOP TEN FOR 2021-2022 ON-LINE JOB ADS IN THE REGION & WITHIN THE NOW-NEXT-LATER CLASSIFICATION

ONLINE JOB POSTINGS

Job postings are an indicator of demand and opportunities in an area and can assist individuals seeking job opportunities in current in-demand occupations. According to information based on online job posting data collected and aggregated by Lightcast™ for the Northwest Region, jobs like *Registered Nurses*; *Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers*; and *Retail Salespersons* had a high number of job postings in the region during the last year.

Northwest Region Top Five Online Job Postings in Now-Next-Later Classification

| Occupation Title | Online Job Postings |
|---|---------------------|
| NOW | |
| Retail Salespersons | 438 |
| Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand | 342 |
| Fast Food & Counter Workers | 293 |
| Customer Service Representatives | 275 |
| Home Health & Personal Care Aides | 194 |
| NEXT | |
| Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 511 |
| Merchandise Displayers & Window Trimmers | 359 |
| First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers | 324 |
| Maintenance & Repair Workers, General | 240 |
| Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses | 233 |
| LATER | |
| Registered Nurses | 549 |
| Medical & Health Services Managers | 209 |
| Software Developers & Software Quality Assurance Analysts & Testers | 195 |
| Personal Service Managers, All Other; Entertainment & Recreation Managers, Except Gambling; & Managers, All Other | 190 |
| General & Operations Managers | 141 |

SOURCE: LIGHTCAST™ (FORMERLY EMSI BURNING GLASS TECHNOLOGIES), ONLINE JOB ADS FROM JUNE 1, 2021 TO MAY 31, 2022

This report was prepared by the staff of the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC) as part of the Missouri Workforce Report. All data in this report was current at the time of publication and is subject to revision. Additional details on data sources can be found in the full report. This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership.