

COMMUTING PROFILE

SOUTHEAST REGION

MARCH 2025

Overview

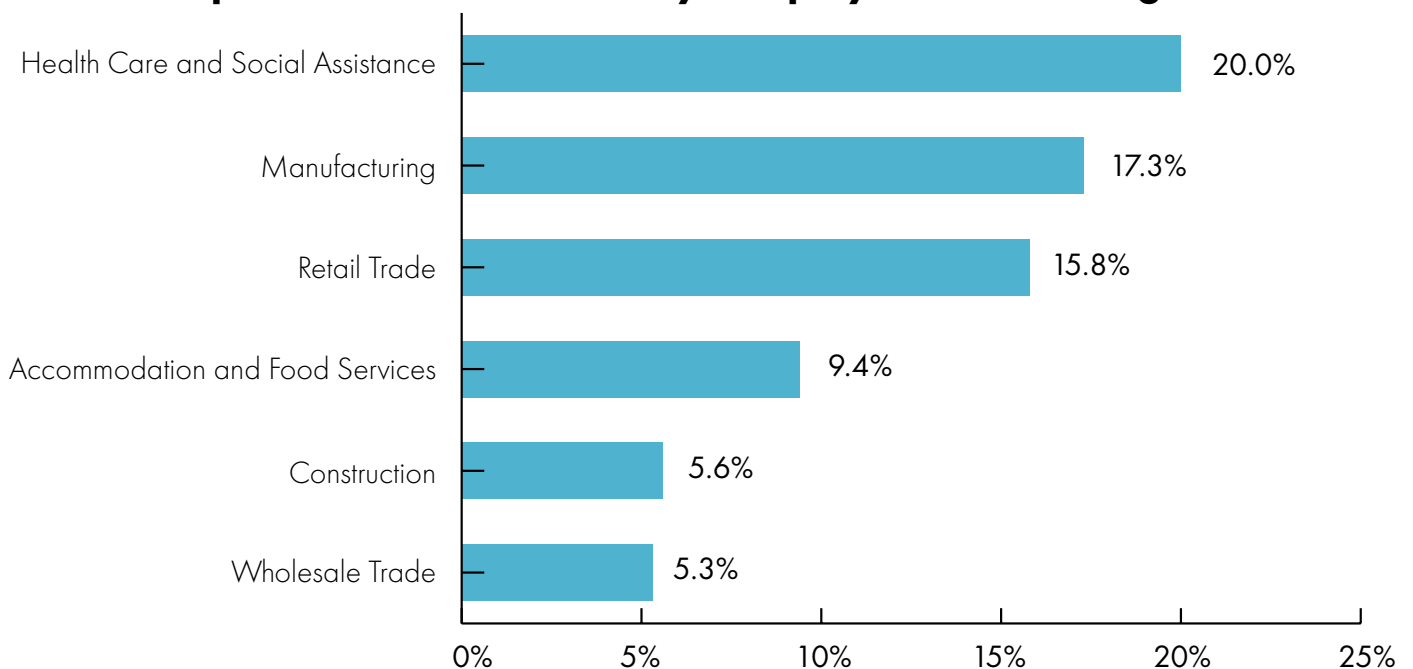
The Southeast Workforce Development Area (WDA) consists of 13 counties: Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Dunklin, Iron, Madison, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Scott, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, and Stoddard. The region is home to Dexter, Perryville, Jackson, Sikeston, and Cape Girardeau, which is the largest city in the Southeast Region. In 2022, the Southeast WDA employed 4.5 percent of Missouri's workforce. Nearly half (49.3%) of the workers in the region were aged 30 to 54. Workers aged 29 or younger were 26.7 percent of the workforce and those 55 or older were 23.9 percent. In 2022, 40.8 percent of workers in the Southeast WDA earned more than \$3,333 per month. Of the remaining workers, 20.6 percent earned \$1,250 per month or less and 38.7 percent earned between \$1,251 and \$3,333 per month. In 2022, there were more men (51.9%) than women (48.1%) in the Southeast WDA workforce.

In 2022, 27.3 percent of employees living in the Southeast WDA commuted more than 50 miles to work, 14.9 percent of workers traveled 25 to 50 miles to work, 21.2 percent commuted 10 to 24 miles, and 36.6 percent commuted fewer than 10 miles to work.

Industry

Health Care and Social Assistance was the largest employing industry in the region at 20,283 jobs (20% of total jobs in the region). *Manufacturing, Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Services, Construction, and Wholesale Trade* were other major industry sectors having at least 5 percent of the region's employment share. Cape Girardeau, Sikeston, Jackson, Farmington, Perryville, Dexter, and Kennett were the top cities for employment in the Southeast WDA.

Top Southeast WDA Industry - Employment Percentage



Where the Southeast Labor Force Works and Lives

Of the 101,630 workers employed in the Southeast WDA in 2022, 76.4 percent commuted to work from within the region. The remainder (23.6%) commuted into Southeast WDA from homes outside of the region.

| Description | 2022 | |
|--|---------|--------|
| | Count | Share |
| Southeast WDA Labor Market Size | | |
| Employed in the Southeast WDA | 101,630 | 100.0% |
| Living in the Southeast WDA | 115,664 | 113.8% |
| Net Job Inflow (+) or Outflow (-) | -14,034 | - |
| In-Area Labor Force Efficiency | | |
| Living in the Southeast WDA | 115,664 | 100.0% |
| Living and Employed in the Southeast WDA | 77,682 | 67.2% |
| Living in the Southeast WDA but Employed Outside | 37,982 | 32.8% |
| In-Area Employment Efficiency | | |
| Employed in the Southeast WDA | 101,630 | 100.0% |
| Employed and Living in the Southeast WDA | 77,682 | 76.4% |
| Employed in the Southeast WDA but Living Outside | 23,948 | 23.6% |

Of the region's residents who are in the workforce, 32.8 percent, or 37,982, commuted to jobs outside of the region. The Southeast WDA attracted 23,948 workers from outside of the region. More than 77,000 Southeast WDA residents lived and worked in the region.

The top Missouri counties where Southeast WDA workers resided (in descending order) were Cape Girardeau, Scott, St. Francois, and Stoddard. These counties were home to over 48 percent of the region's workforce.

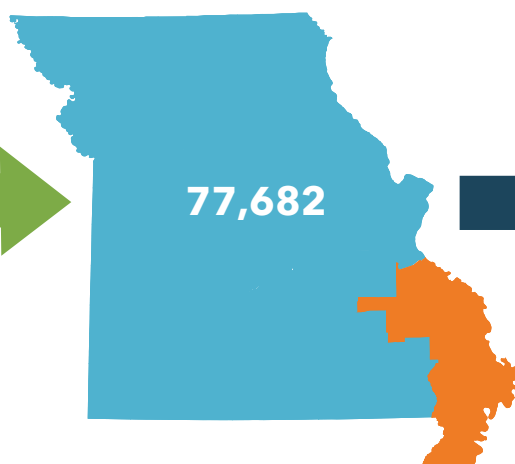
Inflow/Outflow

Overall, 115,664 employees lived in the Southeast WDA and 101,630 workers were employed in the region, resulting in a net outflow of 14,034 workers from the region.

Internal Jobs Filled by
Outside Workers



Internal Jobs Filled by
Residents



External Jobs Filled by
Residents



The following table shows the worker composition for the job inflow and outflow groups as well as worker characteristics of the interior job flow. Of the 77,682 individuals who lived and worked in the region, 26 percent were aged 29 years or younger, 49.8 percent were aged 30 to 54 years, and 24.3 percent were aged 55 years or older. Almost half worked in the Services industry.

| <i>Southeast WDA Description</i> | 2022 | |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | Count | Share |
| Outflow Job Characteristics | | |
| External Jobs Filled by Residents | 37,982 | 100.0% |
| Workers Aged 29 or younger | 10,903 | 28.7% |
| Workers Aged 30 to 54 | 19,229 | 50.6% |
| Workers Aged 55 or older | 7,850 | 20.7% |
| Workers Earning \$1,250 per month or less | 6,950 | 18.3% |
| Workers Earning \$1,251 to \$3,333 per month | 12,495 | 32.9% |
| Workers Earning More than \$3,333 per month | 18,537 | 48.8% |
| Workers in the "Goods Producing" Industry Class | 8,132 | 21.4% |
| Workers in the "Trade, Transportation, and Utilities" Industry Class | 12,105 | 31.9% |
| Workers in the "All Other Services" Industry Class | 17,745 | 46.7% |
| Inflow Job Characteristics | | |
| Internal Jobs Filled by Outside Workers | 23,948 | 100.0% |
| Workers Aged 29 or younger | 7,015 | 29.3% |
| Workers Aged 30 to 54 | 11,496 | 48.0% |
| Workers Aged 55 or older | 5,437 | 22.7% |
| Workers Earning \$1,250 per month or less | 5,233 | 21.9% |
| Workers Earning \$1,251 to \$3,333 per month | 8,547 | 35.7% |
| Workers Earning More than \$3,333 per month | 10,168 | 42.5% |
| Workers in the "Goods Producing" Industry Class | 4,749 | 19.8% |
| Workers in the "Trade, Transportation, and Utilities" Industry Class | 8,199 | 34.2% |
| Workers in the "All Other Services" Industry Class | 11,000 | 45.9% |
| Interior Flow Job Characteristics | | |
| Internal Jobs Filled by Residents | 77,682 | 100.0% |
| Workers Aged 29 or younger | 20,164 | 26.0% |
| Workers Aged 30 to 54 | 38,649 | 49.8% |
| Workers Aged 55 or older | 18,869 | 24.3% |
| Workers Earning \$1,250 per month or less | 15,666 | 20.2% |
| Workers Earning \$1,251 to \$3,333 per month | 30,742 | 39.6% |
| Workers Earning More than \$3,333 per month | 31,274 | 40.3% |
| Workers in the "Goods Producing" Industry Class | 21,447 | 27.6% |
| Workers in the "Trade, Transportation, and Utilities" Industry Class | 18,943 | 24.4% |
| Workers in the "All Other Services" Industry Class | 37,292 | 48.0% |

Commuter Pattern

The top five counties where Southeast WDA residents worked (in descending order) were Cape Girardeau, St. Francois, Scott, St. Louis County, and Stoddard. All but Cape Girardeau County had at least half of their residents commuting outside their county of residence for work.

The table below indicates that many workers commuted to another county for employment. Larger cities, such as Cape Girardeau, Sikeston, and Perryville, attracted workers from the surrounding counties. The counties containing these cities also had a lower percentage of workers who left the county to find work. The Southeast location in the state with Interstate 55 access improves the ability of Southeast Region residents to commute to their workplaces.

| Southeast WDA | |
|--|------------|
| Percent of Employees Working Outside of Home County | |
| Bollinger | 83% |
| Cape Girardeau | 42% |
| Dunklin | 67% |
| Iron | 75% |
| Madison | 68% |
| Mississippi | 71% |
| New Madrid | 67% |
| Pemiscot | 65% |
| Perry | 52% |
| Scott | 61% |
| St. Francois | 60% |
| Ste. Genevieve | 66% |
| Stoddard | 56% |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES), (Beginning of Quarter Employment, 2nd Quarter of 2022*), URL: <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>

**2022 is the latest year for which LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (commuting data) is available from the U.S. Census Bureau. To maintain the consistency of data in this report, all relevant data used is also from 2022, although later data for some data points was available.*

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