



Metropolitan Mirror: Facts and Trends Reflecting the St. Louis Region

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A Quick Glance at Manufacturing in the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area from 2007 to 2011

The St. Louis MSA has historically had a high degree of manufacturing businesses and employment. Today, manufacturing is still a significant portion of the St. Louis MSA's economy due to the amount of jobs it provides. By looking at business patterns provided by the U.S. Census Bureau, recent trends can be analyzed and some possible takeaways can be realized.

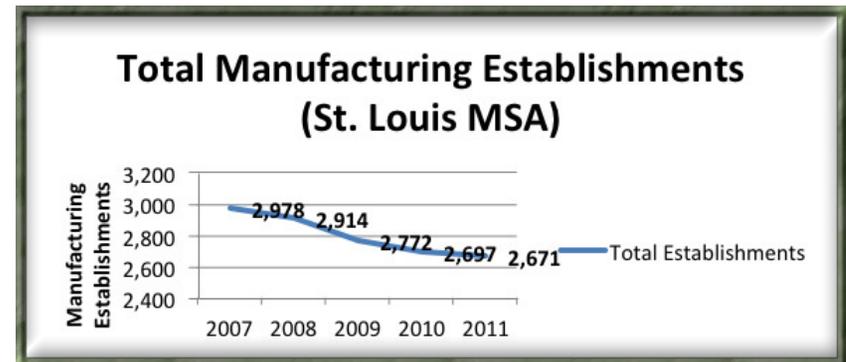
Changes in Paid Employees:

The most current estimates on business patterns for manufacturing show that in 2011 the St. Louis MSA had 2,671 establishments with a combined total of 98,811 paid employees.

- The amount of paid employees fell by 24.13% or 31,423 paid employees from 2007 to 2011.
- The most significant drop in paid employees in manufacturing from 2007 to 2011 was between 2008 and 2009, when it dropped 14.38%. This steep drop might be explained by the economic recession that occurred during that time period.
- Manufacturing paid employees dropped significantly from 2009 to 2010 as well, when it dropped by 8.41%. Again, this steep drop might display the continued negative effects of the recession.
- After two significant drops, manufacturing showed signs of recovery from 2010 to 2011 when it increased by 2.16%.

Changes in Manufacturing Establishments

- The amount of manufacturing establishments fell by 10.3% or 307 establishments from 2007 to 2011.
- The most significant drop in manufacturing establishments from 2007 to 2011 was between 2008 and 2009, when it dropped 4.87%.
- The smallest drop in manufacturing establishments from 2007 to 2011 was between 2010 and 2011, when it fell by .96%.



| Amount of Manufacturing Establishments by Number of Employees in St. Louis MSA | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|--------|----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Number of Employees → | 1 to 4 | 5 to 9 | 10 to 19 | 20 to 49 | 50 to 99 | 100 to 249 | 250 to 499 | 500 to 999 | 1000 or more |
| Establishments (2007) | 1,034 | 497 | 492 | 466 | 219 | 191 | 51 | 13 | 15 |
| Establishments (2008) | 1,007 | 486 | 473 | 487 | 213 | 170 | 50 | 14 | 14 |
| Establishments (2009) | 1,011 | 475 | 452 | 415 | 206 | 147 | 42 | 12 | 12 |
| Establishments (2010) | 971 | 489 | 451 | 390 | 199 | 141 | 39 | 8 | 9 |
| Establishments (2011) | 962 | 494 | 421 | 403 | 183 | 145 | 43 | 10 | 10 |
| Percent Change from 2007 to 2011 | -6.96% | -0.60% | -14.43% | -13.52% | -16.44% | -24.08% | -15.69% | -23.08% | -33.33% |

Changes in Size of Manufacturing Establishments

- The amount of manufacturing establishments with 1000 or more employees dropped by 33.33% from 2007 to 2011. This might indicate that large manufacturing plants have either downsized or gone out of business.
- The amount of manufacturing establishments with 5 to 9 employees remained nearly constant from 2007 to 2011.
- Even though both small and large manufacturing establishments have decreased from 2007 to 2011, it appears that smaller manufacturing establishments have not decreased as much as larger manufacturing establishments. This might indicate that larger manufacturing establishments are downsizing. It might also indicate that smaller manufacturing establishments are not as likely to go out of business.

