

2025 Workforce Summary

Huntsville, Alabama Workforce Region

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Demographic Profile

The population in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) was 1,305,833 per American Community Survey data for 2018-2022.

The region has a civilian labor force of 620,273 with a participation rate of 59.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties), 29.0% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.8% in the nation.

The median household income in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) is \$64,542 and the median house value is \$188,248.

Summary1

Summary ¹							
	Percent Value						
	Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16- counties)	Alabama	USA	Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16- counties)	Alabama	USA	
Demographics							
Population (ACS)	_	-	-	1,305,833	5,028,092	331,097,593	
Male	49.4%	48.6%	49.6%	644,963	2,445,995	164,200,298	
Female	50.6%	51.4%	50.4%	660,870	2,582,097	166,897,295	
Median Age ²	_	_	-	40.4	39.3	38.5	
Under 18 Years	21.9%	22.1%	22.1%	286,092	1,110,642	73,213,705	
18 to 24 Years	9.0%	9.7%	9.4%	118,049	488,930	31,282,896	
25 to 34 Years	12.6%	12.9%	13.7%	164,195	648,666	45,388,153	
35 to 44 Years	12.1%	12.3%	12.9%	158,524	616,406	42,810,359	
45 to 54 Years	12.8%	12.4%	12.4%	167,471	624,704	41,087,357	
55 to 64 Years	13.9%	13.3%	12.9%	181,789	667,710	42,577,475	
65 to 74 Years	10.3%	10.3%	9.7%	134,740	519,600	32,260,679	
75 Years and Over	7.3%	7.0%	6.8%	94,973	351,434	22,476,969	
Race: White	78.0%	66.2%	65.9%	1,018,120	3,329,012	218,123,424	
Race: Black or African American	12.6%	26.4%	12.5%	163,907	1,326,341	41,288,572	
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.7%	0.4%	0.8%	8,806	21,122	2,786,431	
Race: Asian	1.1%	1.4%	5.8%	14,985	69,808	19,112,979	
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	1,116	2,253	624,863	
Race: Some Other Race	2.8%	1.9%	6.0%	36,873	93,924	20,018,544	
Race: Two or More Races	4.7%	3.7%	8.8%	62,026	185,632	29,142,780	
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	6.6%	4.6%	18.7%	86,454	232,407	61,755,866	
Population Growth							
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	_	_	_	1,356,073	5,108,468	334,914,895	
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	1.0%	0.6%	0.6%	13,143	27,688	1,885,495	
People per Square Mile ⁴	_	_	_	125.9	100.9	94.8	
Economic							
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	59.0%	57.8%	63.3%	620,273	2,329,696	167,857,207	
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	79.3%	78.3%	82.8%	387,643	1,470,012	106,380,520	
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.1%	0.4%	0.5%	1,418	15,390	1,236,378	
Veterans, Age 18-64	6.2%	5.6%	4.3%	48,796	168,717	8,636,019	
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	76.2%	72.0%	77.1%	37,176	121,456	6,656,238	
Median Household Income ²	_	_	_	\$64,542	\$59,609	\$75,149	
Per Capita Income	-	-	-	\$34,940	\$33,344	\$41,261	
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	_	_	_	24.6	25.3	26.7	
Commute via Public Transportation	0.1%	0.3%	3.8%	754	6,982	5,945,723	



Summary¹

		Percent			Value	
	Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16- counties)	Alabama	USA	Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16- counties)	Alabama	USA
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	12.0%	11.3%	10.1%	80,955	289,401	17,373,867
High School Graduate	28.5%	29.1%	25.1%	191,221	744,509	43,176,248
Some College, No Degree	20.9%	21.6%	19.7%	140,127	552,717	33,916,989
Associate's Degree	9.6%	9.8%	9.2%	64,663	249,585	15,886,884
Bachelor's Degree	18.3%	17.7%	22.4%	122,641	452,584	38,451,123
Postgraduate Degree	10.8%	10.5%	13.4%	72,372	268,690	23,058,233
Housing						
Total Housing Units	_	_	—	581,600	2,296,920	140,943,613
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ^{2,5}	_	_	_	\$188,248	\$179,400	\$281,900
Homeowner Vacancy	0.8%	1.3%	1.1%	2,939	17,803	931,393
Rental Vacancy	4.8%	8.4%	5.5%	7,223	54,803	2,623,236
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	27.7%	30.3%	35.2%	141,468	585,358	44,238,593
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	4.5%	5.6%	8.3%	23,085	107,641	10,474,870
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	13.7%	15.7%	12.5%	174,113	768,897	40,521,584
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	11.1%	13.3%	11.5%	56,874	257,704	14,486,880
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	17,196	67,657	4,476,703
Disconnected Youth ³	2.7%	2.6%	2.5%	1,830	7,338	430,795
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	32.5%	38.1%	34.0%	86,644	390,340	23,568,955
Uninsured	9.6%	9.5%	8.7%	123,420	472,079	28,315,092
With a Disability, Age 18-64	13.9%	14.1%	10.5%	108,592	420,822	20,879,820
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	39.1%	37.5%	45.5%	42,479	157,876	9,492,098
Foreign Born	4.3%	3.5%	13.7%	56,780	177,207	45,281,071
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	2.8%	2.1%	8.2%	34,530	101,319	25,704,846

Source: JobsEQ®

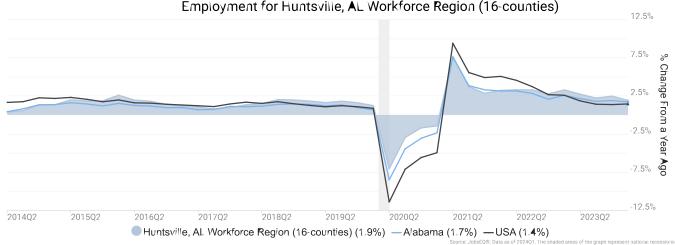
Source: IdoSEQ2 1. American Community Survey 2018-2022, unless noted otherwise 2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties. 3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force. 4. Census Population Estimate for 2023, annual average growth rate since 2013. Post-2019 data for Connecticut counties are imputed by Chmura. 5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.





Employment Trends

As of 2024Q1, total employment for the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) was 590,075 (based on a fourquarter moving average). Over the year ending 2024Q1, employment increased 1.9% in the region.

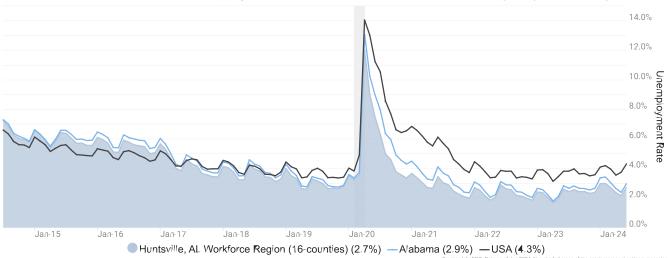


Employment for Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q1

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) was 2.7% as of June 2024. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 4.3%. One year earlier, in June 2023, the unemployment rate in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) was 2.6%.



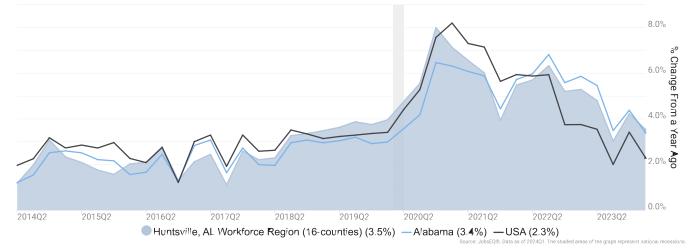
Unemployment Rate for Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties)

Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2024



Wage Trends

The average worker in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) earned annual wages of \$59,731 as of 2024Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 3.5% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$70,857 in the nation as of 2024Q1.



Average Annual Wages for Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties)

Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q1.



Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 12.5% lower in Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Cost of Living Index					
	Annual Average Salary	(Base US)	US Purchasing Power			
Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties)	\$59,731	87.5	\$68,270			
Alabama	\$58,736	88.8	\$66,127			
USA	\$70,857	100.0	\$70,857			

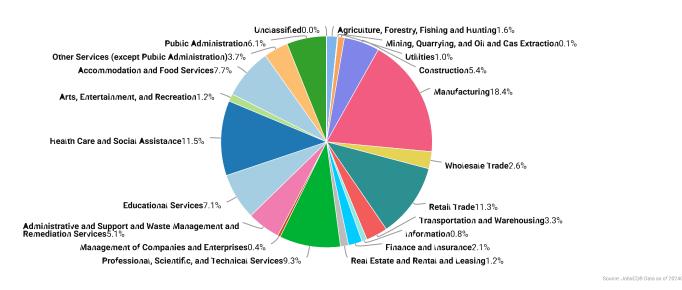
Source: JobsEQ[®] Data as of 2024Q1

Cost of Living per <u>COLI</u>, data as of 2024Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.



Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) is Manufacturing, employing 108,355 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Health Care and Social Assistance (67,660 workers) and Retail Trade (66,933). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Manufacturing (LQ = 2.30), Utilities (1.86), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (1.33).



Total Workers for Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) by Industry

Sectors in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) with the highest average wages per worker are Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$107,859), Utilities (\$102,280), and Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$92,664). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+10,371 jobs), Manufacturing (+9,029), and Health Care and Social Assistance (+5,626).

Over the next 5 years, employment in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) is projected to expand by 29,186 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services with a +1.8% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+5,030 jobs), Health Care and Social Assistance (+4,999), and Manufacturing (+2,843).



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q1.

Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties), 2024Q1¹

			Current		5-Year	History			5-Year Forecas	t	
			Avg Ann		Empl		Total			Empl	Ann %
NAICS	Industry	Empl	Wages	LQ	Change	Ann %	Demand	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Growth
31	Manufacturing	108,355	\$68,252	2.30	9,029	1.8%	58,050	22,096	33,111	2,843	0.5%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	67,660	\$59,068	0.78	5,626	1.8%	39,158	16,449	17,710	4,999	1.4%
44	Retail Trade	66,933	\$36,238	1.15	4,690	1.5%	48,087	20,609	25,851	1,626	0.5%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	55,125	\$107,859	1.28	10,371	4.3%	28,368	9,453	13,885	5,030	1.8%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	45,460	\$22,114	0.89	830	0.4%	43,115	18,458	22,513	2,143	0.9%
61	Educational Services	42,067	\$50,419	0.89	3,643	1.8%	22,456	9,942	10,310	2,204	1.0%
92	Public Administration	35,896	\$88,265	1.31	2,043	1.2%	18,497	7,434	9,415	1,648	0.9%
23	Construction	32,005	\$60,920	0.90	4,279	2.9%	15,684	5,727	8,400	1,557	1.0%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	29,811	\$39,343	0.81	-2,667	-1.7%	18,967	7,522	9,958	1,487	1.0%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	22,096	\$33,700	0.89	-130	-0.1%	14,097	5,638	7,282	1,176	1.0%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	19,600	\$56,415	0.67	3,437	3.9%	12,485	4,833	6,235	1,417	1.4%
42	Wholesale Trade	15,363	\$69,823	0.69	1,294	1.8%	8,315	3,159	4,708	448	0.6%
52	Finance and Insurance	12,435	\$74,059	0.53	354	0.6%	5,930	2,232	3,081	617	1.0%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	9,697	\$49,828	1.33	-629	-1.2%	5,933	2,832	2,994	107	0.2%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7,332	\$57,776	0.70	1,302	4.0%	4,075	1,738	1,894	443	1.2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	6,833	\$24,408	0.58	543	1.7%	5,832	2,236	3,040	556	1.6%
22	Utilities	5,670	\$102,280	1.86	219	0.8%	2,788	1,036	1,494	258	0.9%
51	Information	4,639	\$77,878	0.40	-167	-0.7%	2,390	836	1,288	266	1.1%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	2,437	\$92,664	0.27	130	1.1%	1,279	440	639	200	1.6%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	658	\$74,704	0.31	110	3.7%	337	119	193	25	0.7%
99	Unclassified	4	\$22,805	0.00	3	n/a	2	1	1	0	1.0%
	Total - All Industries	590,075	\$59,731	1.00	44,310	1.6%	358,053	145,009	183,858	29,186	1.0%

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2024Q1

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

Exits and transfers are approximate estimates based upon occupation separation rates.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.



Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) is Production Occupations, employing 70,813 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (60,344 workers) and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (53,431). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Architecture and Engineering Occupations (LQ = 2.41), Production Occupations (2.17), and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations (1.27).

Occupation groups in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$117,200), Legal Occupations (\$106,100), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$106,000). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 0.6% among Legal Occupations to 4.1% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) is expected to be Computer and Mathematical Occupations with a +2.4% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (+3,218 jobs) and Management Occupations (+2,445). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (41,886 jobs) and Production Occupations (38,915).

				Cu	urrent			5-Year l	History		5	-Year Foreca	st	
			Mean Ann			Unempl	Online	Empl		Total			Empl	Ann %
SOC	Occupation	Empl	Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Rate	Job Ads ³	Change	Ann %	Demand	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Growth
51-0000	Production	70,813	\$44,900	2.17	2,070	2.8%	1,400	3,565	1.0%	39,871	15,297	23,618	957	0.3%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	60,344	\$42,300	0.85	1,376	2.1%	2,383	887	0.3%	34,664	16,395	18,018	251	0.1%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	53,431	\$42,200	1.04	2,406	4.0%	3,396	5,768	2.3%	38,879	14,670	20,991	3,218	1.2%
41-0000	Sales and Related	52,333	\$44,700	1.01	1,734	3.0%	5,201	1,805	0.7%	37,319	16,355	19,714	1,249	0.5%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	43,247	\$28,000	0.90	1,921	4.0%	3,454	734	0.3%	43,891	18,977	22,909	2,004	0.9%
11-0000	Management	40,589	\$117,200	0.92	459	1.1%	3,845	5,523	3.0%	19,143	7,027	9,671	2,445	1.2%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	32,350	\$84,200	0.93	326	0.9%	5,389	3,263	2.1%	12,005	5,412	4,260	2,333	1.4%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	29,264	\$58,000	1.27	526	1.7%	2,075	3,168	2.3%	14,911	5,798	7,307	1,806	1.2%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	27,097	\$50,500	1.01	1,145	3.7%	809	2,934	2.3%	13,521	4,886	7,177	1,457	1.1%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	27,094	\$86,500	0.72	454	1.5%	2,999	4,171	3.4%	13,303	4,408	7,135	1,761	1.3%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	27,088	\$54,000	0.86	416	1.5%	883	2,236	1.7%	13,655	6,126	5,909	1,620	1.2%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	22,992	\$106,000	2.41	258	1.1%	1,876	2,807	2.6%	9,363	3,292	4,441	1,629	1.4%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	19,246	\$32,000	0.72	478	2.3%	1,537	1,793	2.0%	16,015	6,401	7,788	1,826	1.8%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	17,986	\$105,600	0.96	269	1.4%	3,416	2,448	3.0%	8,015	2,121	3,651	2,243	2.4%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	17,700	\$34,000	0.92	714	3.6%	844	379	0.4%	13,300	5,698	6,676	927	1.0%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	11,122	\$32,800	0.76	325	2.7%	478	570	1.1%	11,041	4,024	6,178	839	1.5%
33-0000	Protective Service	10,839	\$47,900	0.85	239	2.1%	500	1,112	2.2%	6,582	2,779	3,342	461	0.8%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	8,310	\$52,500	0.78	124	1.4%	733	-66	-0.2%	4,433	1,726	2,092	615	1.4%

Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties), 2024Q1¹

Source: JobsEQ[®], http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq

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Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties), 2024Q1¹

			Current					5-Year History				5-Year Forecast		
SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	7,474	\$54,300	0.69	188	2.3%	614	312	0.9%	4,370	1,712	2,225	434	1.1%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	5,305	\$81,400	1.02	92	1.6%	451	771	3.2%	2,829	570	1,869	390	1.4%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	2,800	\$38,500	0.80	123	4.1%	66	85	0.6%	2,175	794	1,303	79	0.6%
23-0000	Legal	2,655	\$106,100	0.55	17	0.6%	72	44	0.3%	1,024	403	435	186	1.4%
	Total - All Occupations	590,075	\$57,600	1.00	15,660	2.4%	42,422	44,310	1.6%	360,520	144,871	186,709	28,940	1.0%

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2024Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

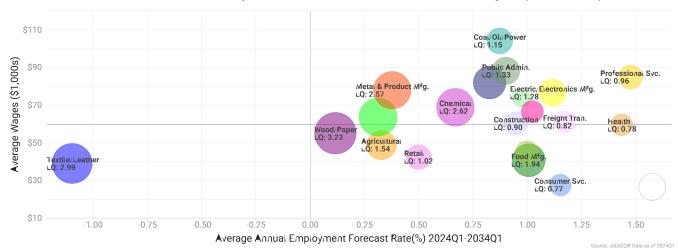
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2023Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2024 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.



Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) with the highest relative concentration is Wood/Paper with a location quotient of 3.23. This cluster employs 14,221 workers in the region with an average wage of \$55,046. Employment in the Wood/Paper cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.1% per year over the next ten years.



Industry Clusters for Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) as of 2024(

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2023Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.



Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) is projected to grow 1.0% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.5% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 1.5% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 1.3% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels

Doctoral or professional degree (\$144,500)		
	1.5%	
Master's degree (\$84,800)		
Bacheior's degree (\$96,100)		
	1.5%	
Associate's degree (\$58,600)		
1.3%		
Postsecondary non-degree award (\$48,200)		
1.2%		
High school diploma or equivalent (\$47,600)		
0.7%		
Some college, no degree (\$41,400)		
0.6%		
None (\$31,900)		
0.8%		
Ali Levels (\$57,600)		
1.0%		
Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2024Q1		

Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2024Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.



Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2022, nominal GDP in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) expanded 10.2%. This follows growth of 10.7% in 2021. As of 2022, total GDP in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) was \$68,784,067,000.



1 year % Change in GDP

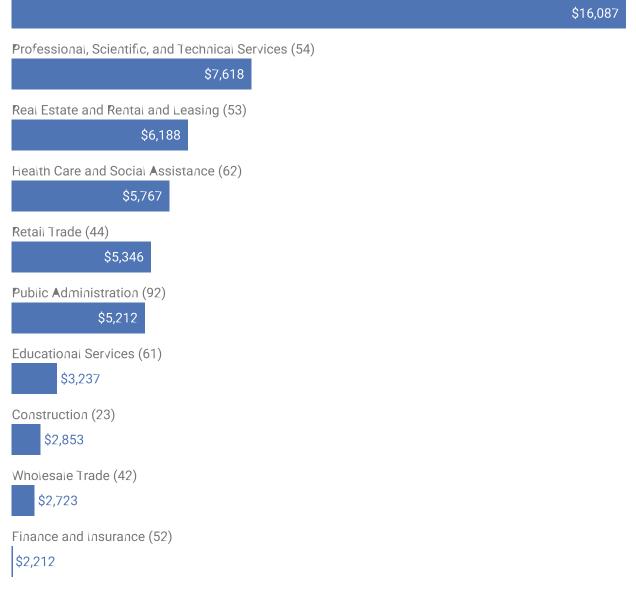
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

Of the sectors in the Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties), Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2022, \$16,087,247,000 The next-largest contributions came from Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$7,617,543,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$6,187,559,000); and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$5,766,772,000).



GDP (in \$ millions)

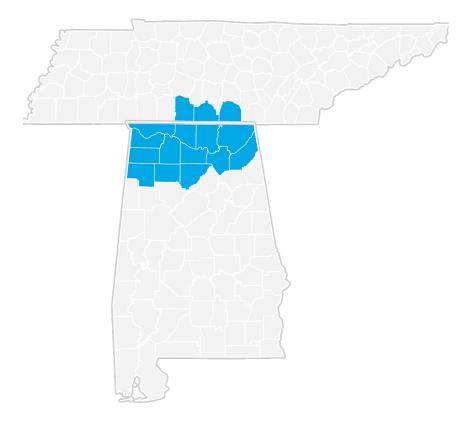
Manufacturing (31)



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.



Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) Regional Map





Region Definition

Huntsville, AL Workforce Region (16-counties) is defined as the following counties:

Colbert County, Alabama	Madison County, Alabama
Cullman County, Alabama	Marion County, Alabama
DeKalb County, Alabama	Marshall County, Alabama
Franklin County, Alabama	Morgan County, Alabama
Jackson County, Alabama	Winston County, Alabama
Lauderdale County, Alabama	Franklin County, Tennessee
Lawrence County, Alabama	Giles County, Tennessee
Limestone County, Alabama	Lincoln County, Tennessee



What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the "all industry" level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the "sector," which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

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