



ST. LOUIS REGIONAL FREIGHTWAY

TAKE FLIGHT

FORUM

November 8, 2024



BI-STATE
DEVELOPMENT



ST. LOUIS REGIONAL
FREIGHTWAY



ST. LOUIS REGIONAL
AEROSPACE and AVIATION
TaskForce



TAKE FLIGHT FORUM

Filling the St. Louis Region's Aerospace and Aviation Talent Pipeline

November 8, 2024

The St. Louis Regional Freightway's third annual Take Flight Forum brings together representatives of some of the region's most significant aerospace manufacturing and service companies and the higher education institutions they are collaborating with to prepare for future growth. The panel includes a student and a recent graduate of programs that are providing a direct pipeline to family sustaining careers in the growing aerospace sector.

With a rich history deeply rooted in aviation innovation and production, the St. Louis region is home to 49 aerospace manufacturing businesses that combined account for more than 17,700 employees who make an average annual salary of \$137,848. Regional employment within Aerospace Manufacturing grew by more than 1,800 new jobs, or 11.9 percent, over the last five years. This represents a growth rate that is 10-times faster than the national growth rate of only 1.1% since 2019.

More than 321,000 individuals are also employed in industries secondary, tertiary or supportive to aerospace manufacturing here, further illustrating the vital role of this ecosystem. With a location quotient of 3.8, the concentration of aerospace manufacturing jobs is nearly four times the national average, a major competitive advantage. Plus, our aerospace manufacturing workers are nearly 5% more productive.

These factors are driving continued investments. We are in a period of tremendous expansion in the region's aerospace and aviation industry, as an estimated \$5 billion is invested in recently completed projects and those to be delivered over the next five to 10 years. Those investments by the region's airports and their tenants – major aerospace manufacturing and service companies – create additional job opportunities in our region. Beyond the nearly 1,000 new jobs being added to help build aircraft and their components and handle maintenance and repairs, we will see demand growing for construction workers to deliver the new facilities, airport operations personnel, and the many positions in other industries that will be impacted by the ripple effects of this growth.

We're pleased to have the opportunity to provide insight on the tremendous career opportunities available in this vibrant, regional ecosystem and key initiatives helping to build the talent pool.

FEATURED PANELISTS



BRIAN BAUWENS
General Manager – East Alton and
St. Louis Downtown Airport sites
West Star Aviation

As General Manager, Brian oversees all of aspects of West Star Aviation's East Alton and St. Louis Downtown Airport sites, including day-to-day operations, planning and project management, quality control and building maintenance. Before being promoted to his current position in 2022, he served four years as Director of Bombardier Product Development and two years as Global Program Manager with West Star Aviation, which has roots dating back to 1952. Brian has more than 30 years' experience in the aviation industry, with extensive knowledge of both production and maintenance operations and a vast understanding of interiors and completions. Brian received his FAA Airframe and Powerplant License in 1996 through OJT and Baker's School of Aeronautics.



ANTHONY "TONY" RAY
Vice President and General Manager
St. Louis Completions
Gulfstream Aerospace Corp.

Tony has been an employee of the GD Aerospace Division for 18 years serving in roles with both Gulfstream Aerospace and Jet Aviation. From his early years in operations, manufacturing engineering and project management – supporting both Completions back shops and Installation teams – to his more recent ever increasing customer support and operational roles, Tony has continuously assumed greater responsibilities. Tony began his career in aviation following his graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He served as a U.S. Army officer and pilot flying the UH-60 Blackhawk both at home and abroad. His last tour of duty was in Afghanistan 2009-2010 with the Army Reserves while working full time for Gulfstream in Savannah, GA.



Sean Guess

**District Director, Workforce & Talent Development, Workforce Solutions Group
St. Louis Community College
Boeing Pre-Employment Training Program**

Sean Guess came to St. Louis Community College in 2022 and is the District Director of Workforce and Talent Development. He oversees several short-term career training programs in healthcare, transportation, and advanced manufacturing, which is home to the Boeing Pre-Employment program. Sean has spent the last 10 years in workforce development overseeing the San Jose and Gilroy job centers in California before taking on his current position. Prior to that, he had a career which involved various aspects of finance on the consumer level from residential mortgages to personal finance. Sean is a graduate of the University of Missouri Columbia with degrees in Political Science and Law.



THE FEATURED PANELISTS WILL BE JOINED BY:

David Maag, a recent graduate of the West Star Aviation Academy who is now employed as an Aircraft Maintenance Technician I at West Star Aviation.

Asher Gunn, a current student in the Boeing Pre-Employment Training Program at St. Louis Community College.



MARY LAMIE, Moderator
Executive Vice President of Multimodal Enterprises, Bi-State Development

As Executive Vice President of Multimodal Enterprises for Bi-State Development (BSD), Mary oversees the management and operations of several Bi-State Development enterprises: St. Louis Downtown Airport, Gateway Arch trams, Riverboats at the Gateway Arch, and the St. Louis Regional Freightway. She is a professional engineer with more than 25 years of experience in transportation, engineering and management, including 22 years with the Illinois Department of Transportation.

BOEING AEROSPACE COMPANY

Boeing St. Louis is Missouri's largest manufacturer and sixth largest employer, with a staff of nearly 17,000. Employees work at three facilities in the St. Louis region: St. Louis, St. Charles, Missouri, and Mascoutah, Illinois. Serving as the headquarters of Boeing's Air Dominance division, Boeing produces a number of military aircraft and weapons systems locally including the F/A-18 Super Hornet, EA-18G Growler, F-15 Eagle, eT-7A Red Hawk, MQ-25 Stingray, Joint Direct Attack Munition, Harpoon missile and Small Diameter Bomb. Additionally, the St. Louis Composite Center of Excellence manufactures composite parts for the Boeing 777X commercial aircraft. Boeing Air Dominance encompasses a portfolio of strike-fighters, advanced flight trainers, unmanned aerial refueling aircraft, and is also responsible for the modernization and modification of several U.S. Department of Defense and international aircraft programs.

Boeing Global Services delivers complete, cost-competitive service solutions for commercial, defense and space customers, regardless of their equipment's original manufacturer. With engineering, digital analytics, supply chain and training support spanning across both the government and commercial service offerings, Boeing Global Services is uniquely positioned to keep passengers flying and nations safe.





Additionally, Boeing St. Louis is the home of Phantom Works, the division that addresses emerging market opportunities to capture vital new business that will enhance BDS' core and extend the company's presence in new and untraditional frontiers. By partnering with Boeing Research and Technology, Phantom Works leverages enterprise-wide innovation and concept development to rapidly prototype and apply these new technologies to affordably meet customers' needs.



GULFSTREAM AEROSPACE CORP.

Inspired by the belief that aviation could fuel business growth, Gulfstream Aerospace Corp. invented the first purpose-built business aircraft, the Gulfstream I, which first flew in 1958. Today, more than 3,200 aircraft are in service around the world. Together with parent company General Dynamics, Gulfstream consistently invests in the future, dedicating resources to researching and developing innovative new aircraft, technologies and services. With a fleet that includes the super-midsize Gulfstream G280, the record-setting Gulfstream G650 and Gulfstream G650ER, and a next-generation family of aircraft including the category-leading Gulfstream G400, the award-winning Gulfstream G500 and Gulfstream G600, the ultralarge-cabin Gulfstream G700 and the ultralong-range Gulfstream G800, Gulfstream offers an aircraft for every mission. All are backed by Gulfstream's Customer Support network and its worldwide team.



The Gulfstream St. Louis Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul facility at St. Louis Downtown Airport has been owned and operated since 2017. This site offers a dedicated hangar and service team to support the entire line of in-production and legacy mid-cabin aircraft.

In June 2023, Gulfstream announced further expansion of its completions and outfitting operations at St. Louis Downtown Airport. With this latest expansion, Gulfstream will increase completions operations at the site while modernizing its existing spaces by adding new, state-of-the-art equipment and tooling, representing a total capital investment of \$28.5 million. The facility will include greater capacity for exterior aircraft painting, furniture installations and avionics integrations, among other work, that will enable full aircraft completion and customer deliveries directly from the St. Louis facility. Once complete, this expansion will bring Gulfstream's total St. Louis footprint to 642,657 square feet/59,705 square meters.

Today, more than 600 employees work at Gulfstream St. Louis.





AVMATS

AVMATS is a trusted provider of parts and services for Challenger, Falcon, Hawker, Gulfstream, Learjet, and Sabreliner aircraft. The company's capabilities include parts sales, maintenance, interiors, avionics, components, accessories, structures, engines, auxiliary power units, and aircraft sales.

Today, the AVMATS family of companies occupies more than ten acres spread over four physical locations in the greater St. Louis area. Between Spirit of St. Louis Airport and MidAmerica St. Louis Airport, the company operates 91,000 square feet of hangar and attached shops. Three locations in O'Fallon, Missouri, combine to make up more than 100,000 square feet of warehouse facilities, 20,000 square feet of dedicated component and accessory overhaul space, and 42,000 square feet of engine, APU, and machine shop space. The company employs just over 200 people with a wide variety of abilities. AVMATS highly



skilled staff specializes in flight structure repair, airframe maintenance, interior refurbishment, avionics modification, component servicing, as well as turbine engine or APU repair and overhaul. Parts specialists are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing customers with round-the-clock support.

With an emphasis on quality, technical accuracy, and competitive prices, AVMATs has created a loyal customer base spanning decades. After more than 45 years, they remain a St. Louis-based, family-owned and operated business dedicated to providing the best value and top-notch service to their clients. In addition, by adopting a no-frills approach, they have been able to explore new avenues to serve customers and expand their “Total Aircraft Support” concept. This philosophy has created a company sure to continue its success well into the future.



WEST STAR AVIATION – ALN

West Star Aviation - ALN is a full-service, fixed-base operator (FBO) conveniently located at St. Louis Regional Airport in East Alton, Illinois. It is at this location that West Star specializes in the maintenance, repair and refurbishment of multiple aircraft, including the Cessna Citation, Dassault Falcon, Bombardier Challenger and Global Express models, and aircraft manufactured by Gulfstream and Embraer.



In August 2024, West Star Aviation celebrated the completion of its new hangar at the East Alton facility. The new hangar, officially named Hangar 67, adds 75,700 square feet of space, including 40,000 square feet of dedicated hangar space and 35,700 square feet of support space for the company's advanced modification capabilities. That brings the company's total footprint to more than 450,000 square feet at ALN, where West Star also maintains more than 200,000 square feet of ramp space. The company also recently launched the West Star Aviation Academy, a dedicated in-house learning center for West Star's innovative apprenticeship program.

The company, originally named Walston Aviation, was established in 1947 at its current East Alton location and changed its name to Premier Air Center in 1986. In late 2004, Premier Air Center acquired West Star Aviation and operated under a dual name before renaming to West Star Aviation in 2007. The East Alton facility, which is an FAA-certified Repair Station, had held European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) approval since October 2004 and was approved to work on Brazilian registered aircraft by the Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) in July 2018.

West Star Aviation - ALN currently employs more than 600 individuals and has been awarded the AMT Diamond Award of Excellence for its East Alton facility.



Future home of the Boeing Pre-Employment Training Program at the new Center for Advanced Manufacturing at the Florissant Valley Campus
(Photos courtesy of STLCC)

ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

For more than 60 years, STLCC's preeminent, industry-linked degrees and certificates have contributed to a higher quality of life for St. Louis, Missouri residents. STLCC offers high-quality, affordable programs that act as a key lever to regional economic development. As Missouri's largest community college district, STLCC has served more than 1.3 million students in credit and non-credit courses, and over 50% of households in the St. Louis area represent our former and current student body. The college offers courses leading to an associate degree and/or transfer credits to a four-year institution, skills training for industry-linked credentials, and continuing education courses.

Thanks to the support of the St. Louis community and the passing of Proposition R, St. Louis Community College is modernizing facilities and programming to improve the overall student experience and meet workforce demands in Missouri. The \$450 million project is expected to reach completion by 2026.

STLCC Transformed brings the development and construction of six new buildings and renovations to existing spaces at each of the College's four main campuses.

Boeing had a need to create a sustainable pipeline for the future hiring needs to replace retiring employees, support new program contracts and program growth. The Boeing pre-employment program was created in 2007.



The Boeing Company in conjunction with St. Louis Community College designed the five-week Structures Assembly Mechanic Program. The Assy Mech program teaches students how to drill holes, countersink, install fasteners, read blueprints and planning.

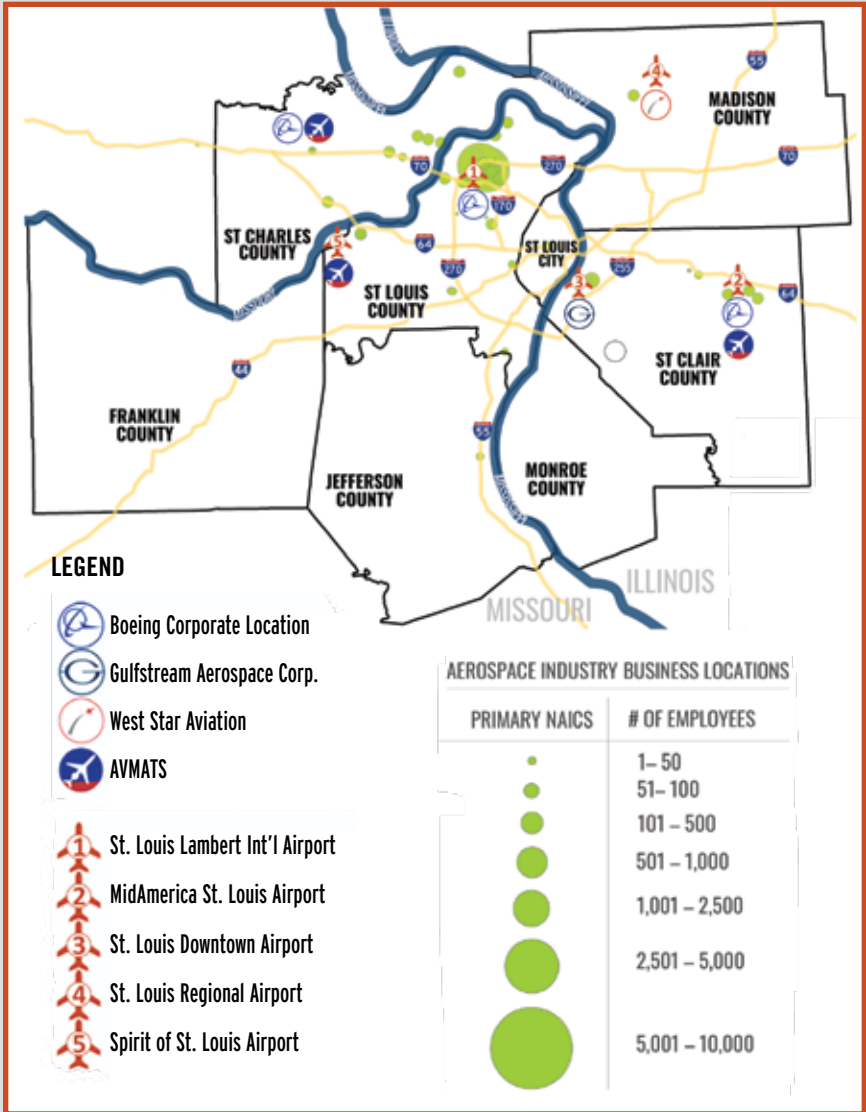
The Composite Assembly Mechanic program is a three and a half-week training program and was implemented in the summer of 2015. The Composite Assy Mech program entails learning how to layup/vacuum bag carbon epoxy materials on to bond tools to produce aircraft parts.

Both programs are funded by Boeing at no cost to students who successfully test into it. Students are guaranteed an interview with Boeing upon graduation.



AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING

PRIMARY AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING — BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE



PRIMARY AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE

- 49 Aerospace Manufacturing Businesses
- 17,712 primary Aerospace Manufacturing employees* (NAICS 3364: Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing)
- Regional employment within Aerospace Manufacturing grew by more than 1,800 new jobs, or 11.9 percent, over the last five years. This represents a growth rate that is 10 times faster than the national growth rate of only 1.1% since 2019.
- The average annual wages for those employed in the Aerospace Manufacturing sector in the St. Louis region is \$137,848. This is 2.1 times higher than the average wage across all industries in the region (\$65,522).

Compare the number of aerospace manufacturing jobs in the St. Louis region to job numbers in peer cities in the Midwest.

- Omaha: 6
- Louisville: 14
- Memphis: 213
- Des Moines: 320
- Nashville: 403
- NW Arkansas (Fayetteville/ Bentonville): 458
- Kansas City: 962
- Cleveland: 3,526
- Indianapolis: 4,139
- **St. Louis: 17,712**

EXPANSION IMPACTS



Boeing, Missouri's largest employer, has announced plans to invest \$2 billion at its facilities in St. Louis County, Missouri, and St. Clair County, Illinois, creating an additional 650 jobs in the region.



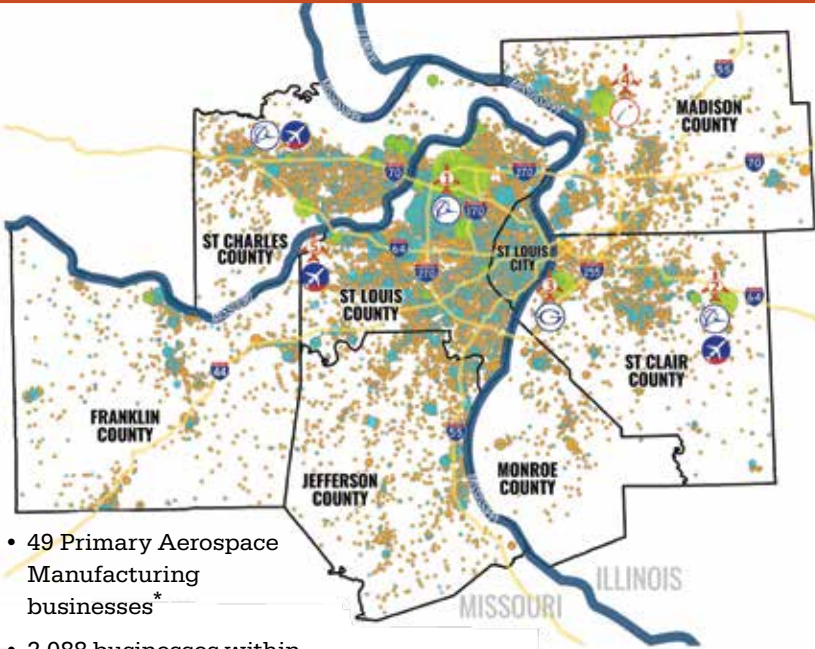
In 2023, **Gulfstream** announced a \$28.5 million expansion at its facility at St. Louis Downtown Airport in St. Clair County, which would bring 200 new jobs.

Sources: Number of businesses is from Database USA (2023). All other data is sourced to JobsEQ, Q1 2024.

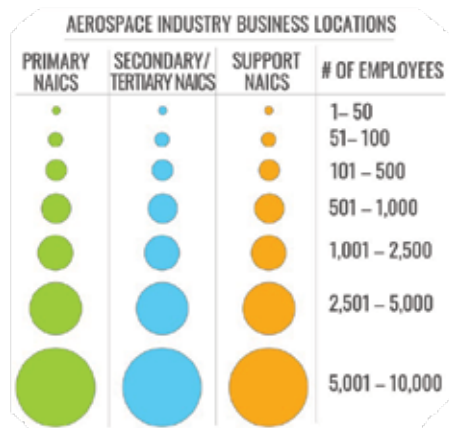
*Total jobs number does not include the additional 650 jobs expected due to Boeing's expansion.

AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING

SECONDARY, TERTIARY, SUPPORTING SECTORS: BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE



- 49 Primary Aerospace Manufacturing businesses*
- 2,088 businesses within the Secondary and Tertiary industry classifications
- 15,127 businesses within the Supportive classifications
- 17,264 total businesses within the Primary, Secondary, Tertiary, and Supportive sectors to Aerospace Manufacturing
- 338,228 Primary, Secondary, Tertiary and Supportive employees**



* The business totals are from Database USA (2023).

** Employee numbers are from JobsEQ, Q1 2024. 338,228 total does not include almost 1,000 new jobs coming due to expansions by Boeing, Gulfstream and West Star Aviation



PHOTO CREDIT: AVMATS



PHOTO CREDIT: BOEING

AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING

NAICS CODE CLASSIFICATIONS

AEROSPACE CORE: JOBS 17,772

AEROSPACE PRODUCT AND PARTS
MANUFACTURING — NAICS CODE 3364

SECONDARY AND TERTIARY CODES: JOBS 49,941

Code	Description
3255	Paint, Coating, and Adhesive Mfg.
3261	Plastics Product Mfg.
3314	Nonferrous Metal (except Aluminum) Prod. and Processing
3321	Forging and Stamping
3323	Architectural and Structural Metals Mfg.
3326	Spring and Wire Product Manufacturing
3327	Machine Shops; Turned Product; Screw, Nut, and Bolt Mfg.
3328	Coating, Engraving, Heat Treating, and Allied Activities
3329	Other Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.
3332	Industrial Machinery Mfg.
3335	Metalworking Machinery Mfg.
3344	Semiconductor and Other Electronic Component Mfg.
3345	Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical, and Control Instruments Mfg.
3369	Other Transportation Equipment Manufacturing
4235	Metal and Mineral (except Petroleum) Merchant Wholesalers
4236	Household Appliances and Electrical/Electronic Goods Wholesalers
5415	Computer Systems Design and Related Services
5417	Scientific Research and Development Services

PHOTO CREDIT: AVMATS



SUPPORTIVE INDUSTRIES CODES: JOBS 270,575

Code	Description
2211	Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Dist.
2212	Natural Gas Dist.
2213	Water, Sewage and Other Systems
2361	Residential Building Constr.
2362	Nonresidential Building Constr.
2371	Utility System Constr.
2372	L and Subdivision
2373	Highway, Street, and Bridge Constr.
2379	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Constr.
2381	Foundation, Structure, and Bldg Exterior Contractors
2382	Building Equipment Contractors
2383	Building Finishing Contractors
2389	Other Specialty Trade Contractors
3141	Textile Furnishings Mills
3149	Other Textile Product Mills
3151	Apparel Knitting Mills
3152	Cut and Sew Apparel Mfg.
3159	Apparel Accessories and Other Apparel Mfg.
3161	Leather and Hide Tanning and Finishing
3162	Footwear Manufacturing
3169	Other Leather and Allied Product Mfg.
3231	Printing and Related Support Activities
3251	Basic Chemical Manufacturing
3252	Resin, Synthetic Rubber, and Artf./Syn. Fibers and Filaments Mfg
3253	Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Other Agricultural Chemical Mfg.
3254	Pharmaceutical and Medicine Mfg.
3255	Paint, Coating, and Adhesive Mfg.
3256	Soap, Cleaning Compound, and Toilet Prep. Mfg.
3259	Other Chemical Product and Preparation Mfg.
3329	Other Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.
3333	Commercial and Service Industry Machinery Mfg.
3336	Engine, Turbine, and Power Transmission Eq. Mfg.
3341	Computer and Peripheral Equipment Mfg.
3353	Electrical Equipment Mfg.

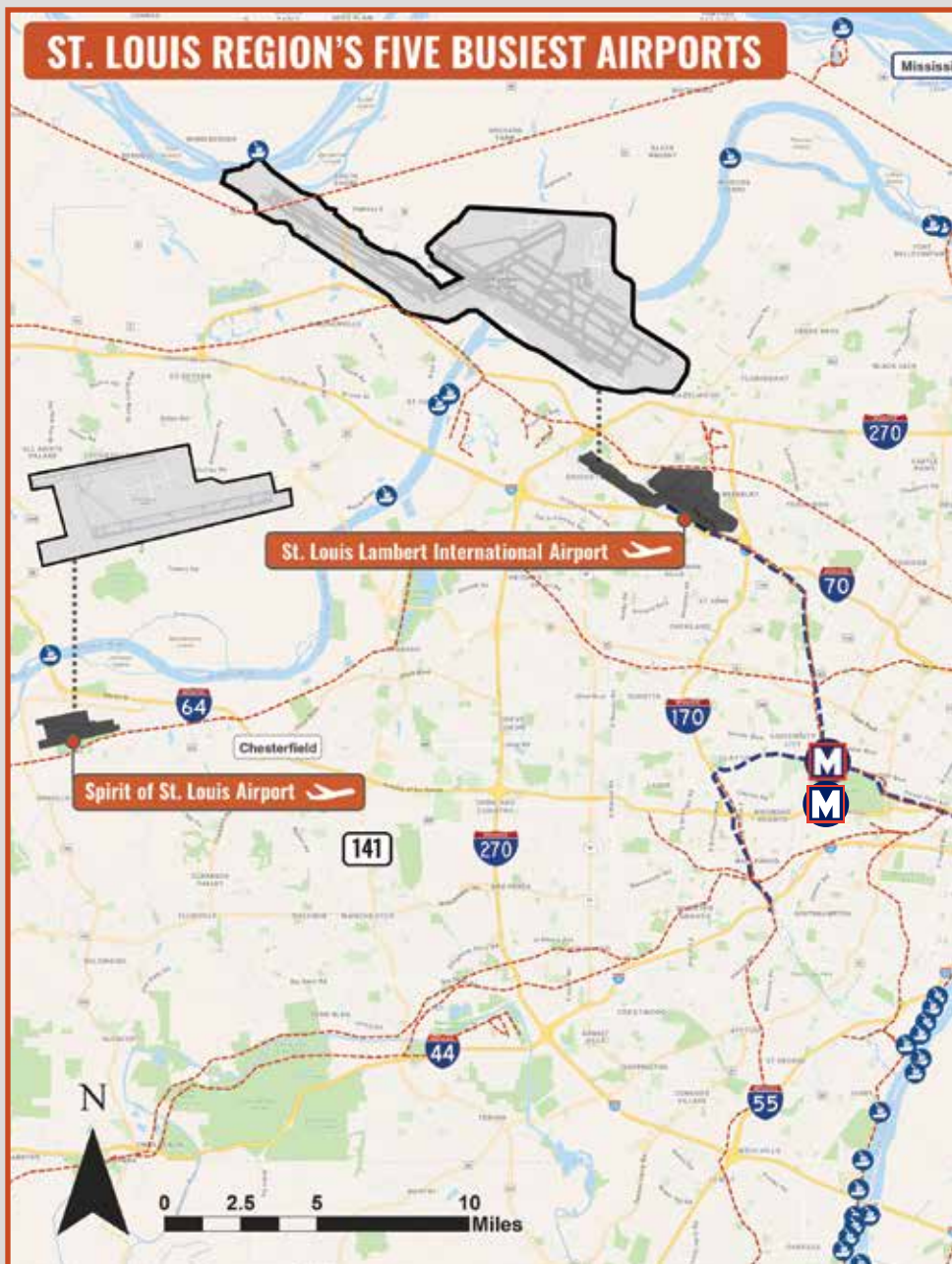
Code	Description
3366	Ship and Boat Building
4231	Motor Vehicle and Parts and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers
4237	Hardware/Plumbing/Heating Eq. and Supplies Wholesalers
4238	Machinery, Equipment, and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers
4245	Farm Product Raw Material Merchant Wholesalers
4247	Petroleum and Petroleum Products Merchant Wholesalers
4441	Building Material and Supplies Dealers
4881	Support Activities for Air Transportation
4884	Support Activities for Road Transportation
4931	Warehousing and Storage
5413	Architectural, Engineering, and Related Serv.
5414	Specialized Design Services
5416	Management, Scientific, and Technical Consulting Serv.
5611	Office Administrative Services
5612	Facilities Support Services
5613	Employment Services
5614	Business Support Services
5615	Travel Arrangement and Reservation Serv.
5616	Investigation and Security Services
5617	Services to Buildings and Dwellings
5619	Other Support Services
8113	Comm. and Ind. Machinery and Eq. Repair and Maint.

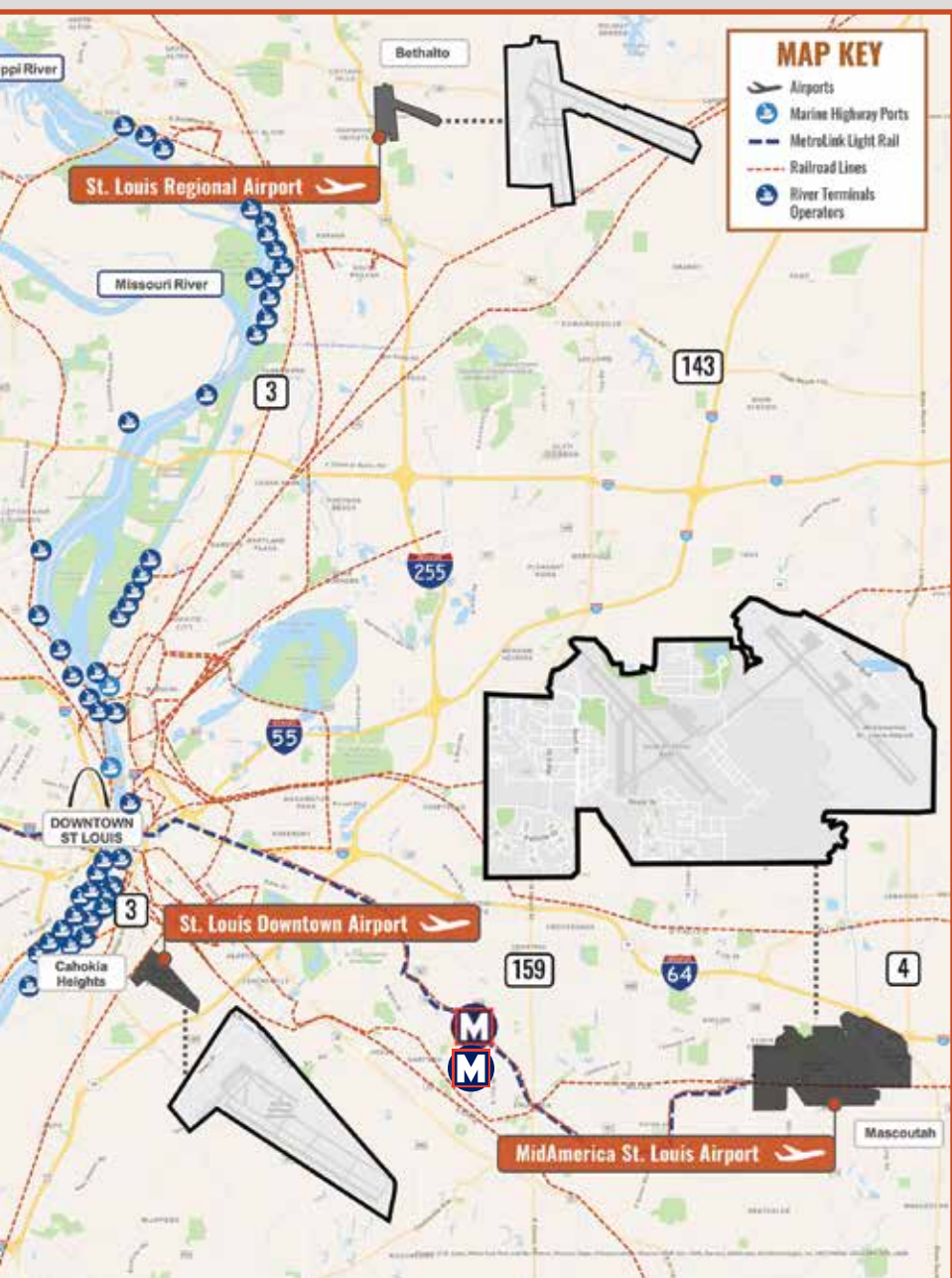
- **338,228 total jobs**, which is higher than the total population of St. Louis City (298,018)
- **Competitive Advantage:** Aerospace Manufacturing has a Location Quotient of 3.80, one of the highest across all industry sectors in the St. Louis region. This metric indicates that St. Louis has a concentration of aerospace manufacturing jobs nearly 4 times the national average[†]

Codes Source: North American Industry Classification System (NAICS); Aerospace Core Jobs include JobsEQ/Chumurra data, but does not reflect job additions from Boeing, Gulfstream and West Star Aviation expansions.

[†] All data is sourced to: JobsEQ, Q1 2024.

ST. LOUIS REGION'S FIVE BUSIEST AIRPORTS







ST. LOUIS LAMBERT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (STL)

The primary commercial airport providing scheduled air service for the bi-state St. Louis region, St. Louis Lambert International Airport (STL) is the largest and busiest airport in Missouri. Hosting operations of 14 airlines with Southwest Airlines offering the most daily flights, it served 15.9 million passengers in calendar year (CY) 2019 and was ranked as the 33rd busiest airport nationwide in terms of total passengers by the Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA). The latest economic impact study for the airport projects passenger service will grow to more than 21 million annually by 2040.

In June 2022, STL added direct international service to Frankfurt, Germany, marking the first time in nearly two decades that the airport offers non-stop flights to continental Europe. Many St. Louis businesses have an international reach, so this direct connection to Europe is a crucial step in growing the region and making it easier to do business here.



flystl.com



In 2020, the airport also added livestock as a new source of air cargo. In all, the airport handled 160 million pounds of air cargo in 2023. With all this activity, the airport generates significant business revenues, jobs, and incomes as an economic hub.

In May 2023, St. Louis Lambert International Airport received initial federal approval for an estimated \$2.8 billion plan to consolidate its two terminals into one new, single passenger concourse and replace the parking garage with a larger one. Federal Aviation Administration approval is contingent to environmental approval and lease agreement negotiations with airlines. Once completed, architectural designs could start in 2024.

According to a new report released by Greater St. Louis, Inc. in early 2023, St. Louis Lambert International Airport could add nearly \$5 billion in annual economic impact and support nearly 30,000 new jobs in the metro area by 2032.

ST. LOUIS DOWNTOWN AIRPORT (KCPS)

Located just minutes from downtown St. Louis and the Gateway Arch in Cahokia Heights and Sauget, Illinois, St. Louis Downtown Airport (KCPS) is positioned as the St. Louis region's downtown front door for business aviation. An FAA-designated reliever airport and National General Aviation Airport, KCPS is the busiest general aviation airport in Illinois outside of Chicago due to its strategic location. KCPS' annual regional economic impact exceeds \$422 million, according to the latest study released in 2021 by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

The airport supports significant activity from recreational and business flying to flight instruction from Saint Louis University's Oliver L. Parks Department of Aviation Science, the nation's oldest flight school, along with Ideal Aviation and St. Louis Flight Training. Among the aircraft and helicopter maintenance organizations who are tenants is Gulfstream Aerospace Corp., one of the largest maintenance, repair, and overhaul organizations in the world. The airport is served by Jet Aviation, a world-class Fixed Base Operator.



ST. LOUIS DOWNTOWN AIRPORT

StLouisDowntownAirport.com



St. Louis Downtown Airport's operations are driven by a wide variety of general aviation activities ranging from business, medical, and charter traffic to fixed and rotor wing flight instruction and banner towing fun. The airport is a major employer, contributing to more than 1,500 full-time and part-time jobs in the region, a number that continues to grow in the wake of a \$28.5 million expansion by Gulfstream.

To support Gulfstream and other aircraft maintenance providers, construction was completed in 2023 on a new Ground Engine Run-Up and Compass Calibration Pad. This project supports existing and future high-tech aerospace manufacturing jobs at the airport by improving production safety, reliability and efficiency.

St. Louis Downtown Airport is owned and operated by Bi-State Development.



MIDAMERICA ST. LOUIS AIRPORT (BLV)

MidAmerica St. Louis Airport is a commercial service airport located in St. Clair County, Illinois, and governed by the St. Clair County Public Building Commission. The airport is a joint-use military/civilian facility including MidAmerica St. Louis Airport and Scott Air Force Base (SAFB), which collectively serve as a \$3.1 billion economic engine for the bi-state St. Louis region. In addition to significant air carrier activity, BLV sees regular use for corporate/business, military, air cargo operations, aerospace manufacturing, and aerospace technology research. The facility accounts for approximately 23,500 jobs between the operations at the airport, SAFB and the various tenants onsite.

BLV is located in Mascoutah, Illinois, in the eastern portion of the St. Louis metropolitan area, where it enjoys easy access to five interstate highways via I-64. Low-cost passenger service to approximately a dozen different destinations is offered by Allegiant. The airport has an annual capacity of 200,000-plus operations. Significant tenants include Boeing, North American Helicopter and North Bay Produce.





Boeing announced in 2021, it would be investing \$200 million in a new manufacturing facility totaling approximately 300,000 square-foot at MidAmerica. Upon completion, it initially will employ approximately 150 mechanics, engineers and support staff who will build the MQ-25 Stingray, the Navy's first operational, carrier-based unmanned aircraft.

Construction was completed in 2023 on the \$34 million expansion of the terminal at MidAmerica St. Louis Airport and the \$37 million Taxiway Lima project to serve the Boeing expansion and other future tenants. Construction is also underway on the \$96 million MetroLink extension from Scott Air Force Base to MidAmerica St. Louis Airport, which will serve both passengers and tenants at the airport.



flymidamerica.com



ST. LOUIS REGIONAL AIRPORT (ALN)

At the crossroads of major interstate and Illinois highways, St. Louis Regional Airport is centered on 2,300 acres in flourishing southwestern Illinois only 30 minutes from downtown St. Louis. This general aviation airport provides more than 1,500 jobs and has an annual economic impact of \$480 million, serving a diverse clientele from private aviators to Fortune 500 companies, the U.S. military, and regional aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul customers.

Its role as an economic engine for the region is largely driven by tenant West Star Aviation, which has more than 600 employees on site and is adding more in the wake of an expansion completed in August 2024. West Star Aviation has ranked as the top maintenance, repair and overhaul services provider for eight consecutive years in an annual survey compiled for *Professional Pilot* magazine.

With West Star serving as the airport's Fixed Base Operator (FBO), pilots can expect prompt fueling, quality maintenance, aircraft rental and a full-service pilot's lounge. Pilots also appreciate the fast, tower-guided approach to St. Louis Regional with wide, long runways able to accommodate aircraft as large as a C-5A or Boeing 747. Around the clock security, firefighting and rescue capabilities rank St. Louis Regional with large hub airports in readiness.



The airport has several sites totaling more than 600 acres available for future development and is focused on facility improvements. This includes a \$5.5 million runway rehabilitation project completed in September 2023, and the recently completed \$20 million expansion by West Star Aviation, which was augmented by a 56,000-square foot apron expansion. Overall, St. Louis Regional Airport invested \$8.5 million in improvements since fall of 2023, and has an additional \$22 million in projects in the planning stages.

St. Louis Regional also hosts an annual Fly-In and Car Show event for families, featuring an assortment of modern Cessna, Piper and Beach aircraft, a number of ultra-lights, several helicopters, and, occasionally, even historic planes and specialty aircraft.



stlouisregional.com



SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS AIRPORT (SUS)

Spirit of St. Louis Airport celebrated its 60th Anniversary on November 5, 2024! Spirit is the busiest business aviation airport in the FAA Central Region and is consistently second or third busiest of all airports in the region and one of the highest rated when it comes to FAA Annual 139 Air Carrier Certification Inspections.

Spirit is the Business Aviation Center of the Midwest and, as one of five Ports of Entry in Missouri, clears more than 330 international arrivals per year. As one of the busiest airports in the region, only behind STL, Spirit has nearly 155,000 operations per year.

A self-supporting Enterprise Fund of St. Louis County Government, Spirit has strong reserves and receives no taxpayer dollars from the General Revenue Fund. It also gives back to the community through the Spirit of St. Louis Air Show, supporting STEM education and our veterans. The airport also is proud to be a partner in the Red Tail Cadet Program, which offers young people from Ferguson, Missouri, the opportunity to learn to fly and gain other valuable life experiences at Spirit.



SPIRIT
Of St. Louis
Airport

spiritairport.com

EVENT HOST

ST. LOUIS REGIONAL FREIGHTWAY

A Bi-State Development enterprise, the St. Louis Regional Freightway is a regional freight district and comprehensive authority for freight operations and opportunities within eight counties in southwestern Illinois and eastern Missouri which comprise the St. Louis metropolitan area. Public sector and private industry businesses are partnering with the St. Louis Regional Freightway to establish the bi-state region as one of the premier multimodal freight hubs and distribution centers in the United States through marketing and advocacy for infrastructure development that supports the movement of freight.

The St. Louis Regional Freightway hosts the annual FreightWeekSTL each May to spotlight the latest freight industry trends and innovations while highlighting the global access available from the St. Louis bi-state region. The organization also compiles an annual list of priority projects that represent the infrastructure needs of the manufacturing and logistics industries in the eastern Missouri and southwestern Illinois area. The St. Louis Regional Freightway's 2025 Priority Projects List include 27 projects, topping \$8 billion (including \$2.8B for the new airport terminal at St. Louis Lambert International Airport.)

One of the most significant advancements on the list is the 2022 completion of the \$222 million replacement of the Merchants Bridge connecting Missouri and Illinois near Downtown St. Louis. It had been the region's highest priority infrastructure project since 2016 and is a model for public-private partnerships. More than \$1 billion in funded projects on I-270 and more than \$600 million in funded improvements to I-70 represent other landmark investments in the region's freight network, including some that will benefit the region's airports.

The airports are a key component of the region's freight network, helping to move diverse types of cargo and/or providing commercial and private aviation flight options for the executives of major manufacturers and other corporations in the logistics and supply chain arena.

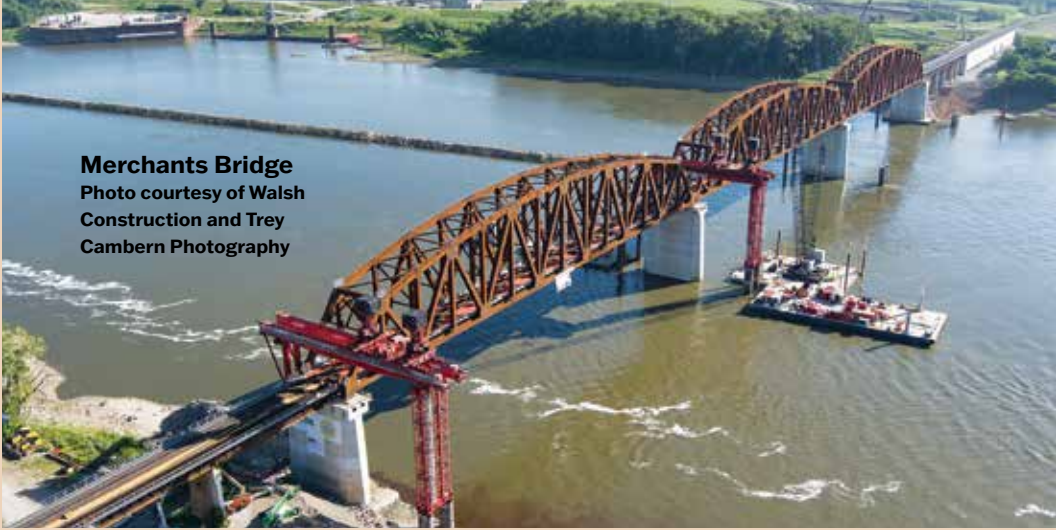
For more information, contact:

Mary Lamie

314.982.1562

[MCLamie@TheFreightway.com](mailto:MC_Lamie@TheFreightway.com)

Visit [TheFreightway.com](https://www.thefreightway.com)



Merchants Bridge
Photo courtesy of Walsh
Construction and Trey
Cambern Photography



**West Florissant
interchange over I-270**



**Progress on the new
5.5-mile MetroLink Extension**



BI·STATE
DEVELOPMENT

BiStateDev.org



ST LOUIS REGIONAL
FREIGHTWAY

TheFreightway.com

