

Manufacturing

AUSTIN LABOR MARKET INSIGHTS + COMMUNITY IMPACTS



KEY TAKEAWAYS

Preparing Our Future Workforce to Support Industry Growth

- The COVID-19 pandemic exposed vulnerabilities in global supply chains, leading to material shortages and logistics disruptions that have impacted Austin's growing manufacturing sector.
- As regional and industry growth continue (24% industry growth over the next 10 years), local manufacturers must address labor shortages and invest in developing their workforce to build a more resilient and adaptable supply chain infrastructure.
- Austin Regional Manufacturers Association (ARMA), Workforce Solutions Capital Area (WFS), and Opportunity Austin (OA) are providing manufacturers an easy connection to the future workforce by coordinating K-12 facility tours, manufacturing day events, teacher externships, and more.

PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS

In-Demand Career Pathways

	CURRENT EMPLOYMENT	10-YEAR FORECAST EMPLOYMENT	ANNUAL GROWTH RATE	AVG ANNUAL SALARY
ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC TECHS	1,329	1,572	1.7%	\$68,000
MACHINISTS	1,419	1,798	2.4%	\$58,100
WELDERS	2,912	3,642	2.3%	\$46,350
SEMICONDUCTOR TECHS	1,359	1,696	2.2%	\$70,900
TOTAL INDUSTRY	74,228	92,143	2.2%	\$123,779

Source: JobsEQ, 2024Q3, Austin metro; Lightcast

HIRING TRENDS

- From Jan–Sept 2024, the Austin metro saw more than **7,700** job postings in production and manufacturing, with over **1,400** in Sept alone, signaling steady and growing demand for talent in key industry areas. The highlighted occupations on the left account for **10%** of total job postings in Sept.
- Job postings for the occupations highlighted on the left increased **21%** from Aug–Sept 2024, highlighting the expanding demand, with Electrical and Electronic Technicians in highest demand among them.

Source: [Opportunity Austin](#); The Conference Board–Lightcast Help Wanted OnLine (HWOL) Data Series

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT

Industry Engagement Develops Future Talent

WFS, ARMA, and OA are connecting local ISDs to the Make It Center at Austin Community College (ACC) to build a pipeline program with Samsung Austin Semiconductor. The goal of this partnership is to increase awareness of internship and apprenticeship opportunities in Semiconductors with P-TECH students in manufacturing. In May 2024, OA collaborated with Austin ISD, Hutto ISD, Manor ISD, and Del Valle ISD to host a tour at Samsung for **66** high school seniors that included an informative career pathway session presented by Samsung, along with insights from ACC and Texas State Technical College.

INDUSTRY IMPACT

In previous years, Cedar Creek Middle School in Bastrop had 20-25 applications for their manufacturing P-TECH program. Before WFS and ARMA held a February 2024 field trip, they had **two** applicants. Two weeks after this field trip, they had **38** applicants.

RECENT K-12 AWARENESS IMPACTS

- 17K** Austin-area students reached by WFS in 2023
- 585** students connected to Make It Center mfg. tours by ARMA in Spring 2024
- 47** low-income, first-generation students reached by OA through partnership with Texas State Univ. TRIO program to promote mfg. career opportunities, as of Oct 2024

GET INVOLVED. Looking to connect with future talent + strengthen your workforce? Click or scan to become a Talent Ambassador for OA to get better access to local talent!

