

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Our manufacturing future starts in the classroom and grows through a lifetime of learning and support.

TALENT PIPELINE

Last year alone, Workforce Solutions Capital Area and Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area served **44,685** job seekers, offering personalized training and guidance both before and after employment.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Austin **ranks third** among the 50 largest U.S. metros for labor force participation (**71.9%**) and **sixth** nationwide for the share of adults aged 25 and older with a bachelor's degree (**52.1%**).

RELATIONSHIP MANAGERS

Partners are connecting manufacturers to talent pipelines by coordinating registered apprenticeship programs, employee upskilling, industry visibility in K12, and industry advocacy.

WORKFORCE TRENDS

Employment Estimates & Growth by Occupation

Austin Metro, 2019-2024

In-demand and employer-validated, key manufacturing roles—like welding, CNC programming, and industrial engineering—saw significant growth across the Austin metro from 2019 to 2024, with many occupations increasing by 20% or more.

	EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES				2019-2024	
	2019	2024			DIFF.	% CHANGE
Supervisors of Production & Operating Workers	3,414	4,060			646	18.9
Assemblers & Fabricators	9,745	12,013			2,268	23.3
Welding, Soldering & Brazing Workers	2,555	3,357			802	31.4
Semiconductor Processing Technicians	1,901	2,315			414	21.8
CNC Tool Operators & Programmers	715	1,030			315	44.1
Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	1,244	1,341			97	7.8
Industrial Engineers	1,788	2,590			802	44.9
Mechanical Engineers	1,613	2,269			656	40.7

Sources: Chmura, JobsEQ

Manufacturing

AUSTIN METRO LABOR MARKET INSIGHTS + COMMUNITY IMPACTS



INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT

Growing Central Texas' Manufacturing Workforce

Austin Regional Manufacturers Association (ARMA), Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area (WSRCA), Workforce Solutions Capital Area, and Texas State Technical College (TSTC) brought together manufacturing employers to address their major hiring pain points for manufacturing maintenance technicians. More than 70 manufacturing employer representatives showed up at the event for an incredibly robust workforce discussion to introduce the apprenticeship as a developed strategy in response to their workforce needs. Through the apprenticeship model, employers are able to identify incumbent workers with promise, send them to technical training with a certified training provider, and conduct on-the-job training on site using their own machines.

Businesses are able to retain and upskill their best talent with zero outside training costs.

WSRCA developed a registered apprenticeship with the Department of Labor to be able to offer this to employers in the area. WSRCA currently has five employers participating in the July 2025 cohort, with a total of 12 apprentices. Apprentices will receive seven SACA certifications from Texas State Technical College and a journey worker certification from the Department of Labor while businesses are able to retain and upskill their best talent with zero outside training costs.

In addition to maintenance tech, manufacturing has seen growing apprenticeships for CNC machine operators, industrial manufacturing technicians, and electromechanical technicians.

Across Central Texas, a wide range of workforce development efforts—from K12 pathways to veteran upskilling—are preparing residents for advanced manufacturing careers; the examples below highlight just a few of these initiatives.

K12 Talent Development

- Education Service Center Region 13 Regional Electronics/Robotics Career & Technical Education (CTE) Program
- Austin Community College Adv. Manufacturing District Academy, Impact Academy, and Make It Center
- ARMA Teacher Development Day and WFSKA/WFSRCA Teacher Externships

Postsecondary Workforce Training

- Austin Community College Adv. Manufacturing Associate's and Bachelor's Program
- Univ. of Texas, Texas Institute of Electronics Workforce Partnership
- Texas State Univ. Round Rock Campus expansion

Workforce/Veterans Development

- Skills Development Fund Custom Training
- Semiconductor Technician Advance Rapid Start (STARS) Upskilling for Incumbent Workers
- SkillBridge Program for Veterans

GET CONNECTED

Tap into local manufacturing opportunities.

Connect with the Austin Regional Manufacturers Association (ARMA) today. →

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