



# Economic Overview

**October 1, 2023**

## City of Merriam Woods, MO



Taney County Partnership  
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# Demographic Profile

The population in the Merriam Woods city, MO was 2,133 per American Community Survey data for 2017-2021.

The region has a civilian labor force of 1,085 with a participation rate of 69.3%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in the Merriam Woods city, MO, 11.1% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.1% in the nation.

The median household income in the Merriam Woods city, MO is \$45,625 and the median house value is \$83,000.

## Summary<sup>1</sup>

	Percent			Value		
	Merriam Woods city, MO	Missouri	USA	Merriam Woods city, MO	Missouri	USA
<b>Demographics</b>						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	2,133	6,141,534	329,725,481
Male	50.3%	49.3%	49.5%	1,072	3,027,741	163,206,615
Female	49.7%	50.7%	50.5%	1,061	3,113,793	166,518,866
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	34.2	38.8	38.4
Under 18 Years	31.3%	22.7%	22.5%	667	1,392,375	74,234,075
18 to 24 Years	7.7%	9.1%	9.2%	164	561,340	30,339,089
25 to 34 Years	12.0%	13.3%	13.8%	255	814,351	45,360,942
35 to 44 Years	14.6%	12.4%	12.9%	312	763,084	42,441,883
45 to 54 Years	13.8%	12.1%	12.6%	294	744,131	41,631,458
55 to 64 Years	10.7%	13.6%	13.0%	229	832,417	42,829,413
65 to 74 Years	7.6%	10.0%	9.6%	162	611,609	31,590,619
75 Years and Over	2.3%	6.9%	6.5%	50	422,227	21,298,002
Race: White	95.1%	80.3%	68.2%	2,028	4,930,466	224,789,109
Race: Black or African American	0.0%	11.3%	12.6%	0	695,678	41,393,012
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.0%	0.3%	0.8%	0	19,904	2,722,661
Race: Asian	0.4%	2.0%	5.7%	9	123,406	18,782,924
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0	8,468	615,557
Race: Some Other Race	1.3%	1.4%	5.6%	27	84,084	18,382,796
Race: Two or More Races	3.2%	4.6%	7.0%	69	279,528	23,039,422
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	12.1%	4.4%	18.4%	259	271,566	60,806,969
<b>Economic</b>						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	69.3%	63.1%	63.4%	1,085	3,084,786	166,672,597
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	82.1%	83.3%	82.5%	707	1,923,985	106,173,534
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.4%	0.5%	0	19,409	1,196,529
Veterans, Age 18-64	3.1%	5.0%	4.4%	39	183,888	8,848,937
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	66.7%	75.7%	77.0%	26	139,144	6,809,906
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	\$45,625	\$61,043	\$69,021
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$18,280	\$33,770	\$37,638
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	25.3	23.8	26.8
Commute via Public Transportation	0.0%	1.0%	4.2%	0	30,417	6,472,373
<b>Educational Attainment, Age 25-64</b>						
No High School Diploma	15.0%	8.1%	10.3%	164	255,995	17,756,046
High School Graduate	41.5%	28.6%	25.3%	452	902,608	43,535,564
Some College, No Degree	25.3%	21.6%	20.1%	276	682,400	34,637,141
Associate's Degree	7.1%	9.0%	9.3%	77	283,994	15,944,395
Bachelor's Degree	9.1%	20.5%	22.0%	99	646,564	37,890,674
Postgraduate Degree	2.0%	12.1%	13.1%	22	382,422	22,499,876
<b>Housing</b>						

## Summary<sup>1</sup>

	Percent			Value		
	Merriam Woods city, MO	Missouri	USA	Merriam Woods city, MO	Missouri	USA
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	858	2,782,081	139,647,020
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	\$83,000	\$171,800	\$244,900
Homeowner Vacancy	8.2%	1.3%	1.2%	43	21,727	1,021,651
Rental Vacancy	5.7%	5.5%	5.7%	11	46,437	2,674,125
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	27.4%	32.4%	35.4%	181	788,386	43,858,831
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	5.6%	6.5%	8.3%	37	157,937	10,349,174
<b>Social</b>						
Poverty Level (of all people)	23.4%	12.8%	12.6%	499	762,023	40,661,636
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	24.2%	10.1%	11.4%	160	246,960	14,105,231
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%	28	75,800	4,425,322
Disconnected Youth <sup>3</sup>	12.8%	3.0%	2.5%	17	9,755	432,389
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	53.9%	33.4%	34.0%	353	436,459	23,909,672
Uninsured	25.4%	9.5%	8.8%	541	575,152	28,489,142
With a Disability, Age 18-64	18.6%	12.3%	10.3%	233	447,983	20,537,729
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	51.9%	42.6%	44.2%	121	190,784	9,068,973
Foreign Born	1.2%	4.2%	13.6%	25	256,802	44,844,808
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	0.8%	2.1%	8.2%	15	122,969	25,535,259

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2017-2021, 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.

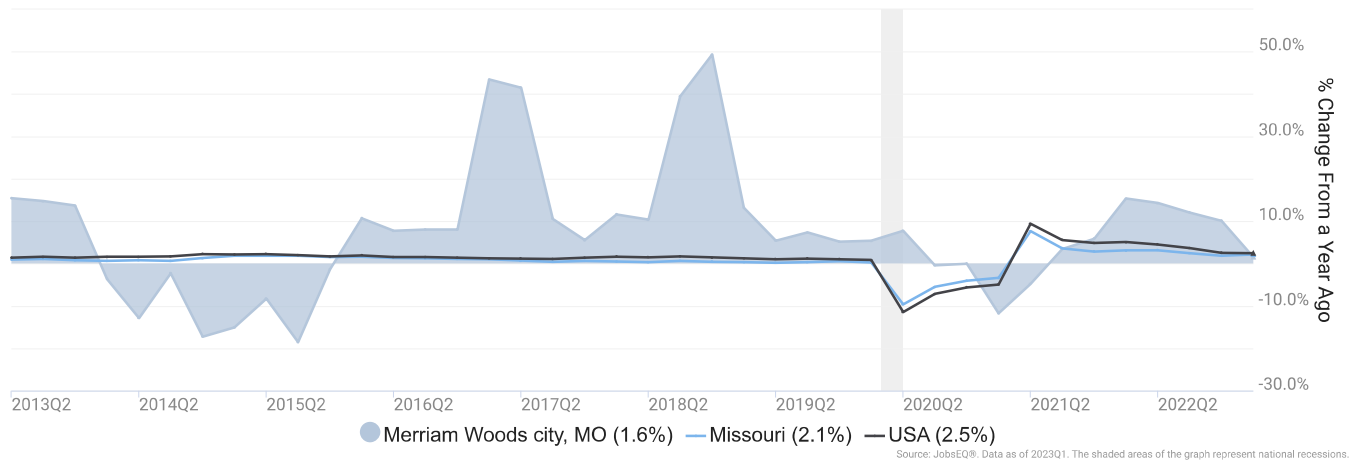
3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census Population Estimate for 2022, annual average growth rate since 2012. Post-2019 data for Connecticut counties are imputed by Chmura.

# Employment Trends

As of 2023Q1, total employment for the Merriam Woods city, MO was 93 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2023Q1, employment increased 1.6% in the region.

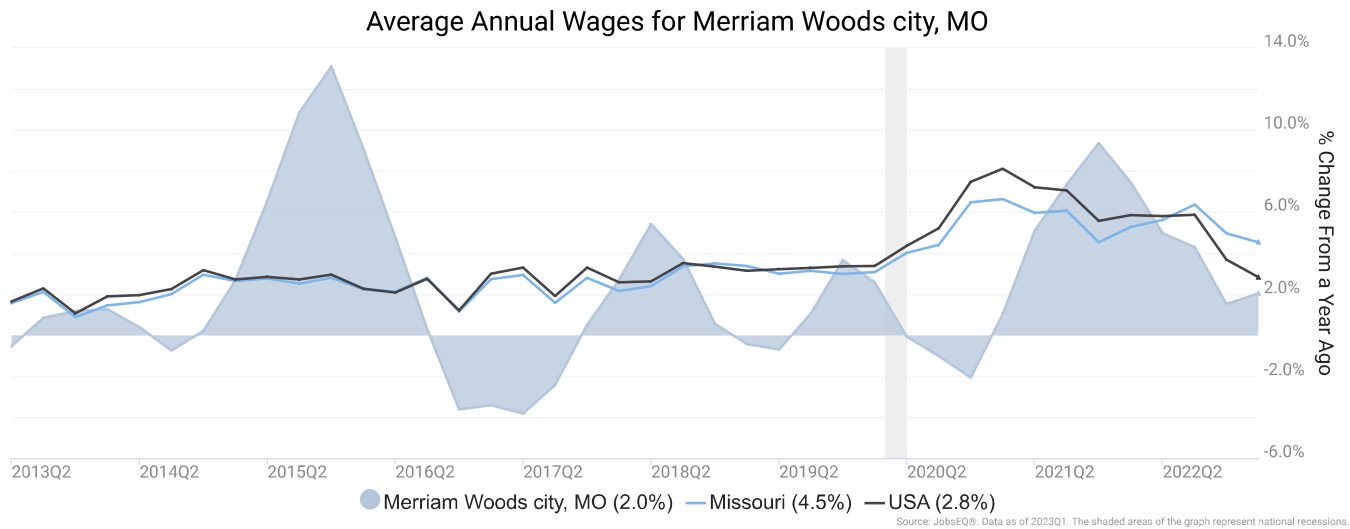
Employment for Merriam Woods city, MO



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 2022Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1.

# Wage Trends

The average worker in the Merriam Woods city, MO earned annual wages of \$34,609 as of 2023Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 2.0% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$68,501 in the nation as of 2023Q1.



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 2022Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1.

# 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 14.0% lower in Merriam Woods city, MO than the U.S. average.

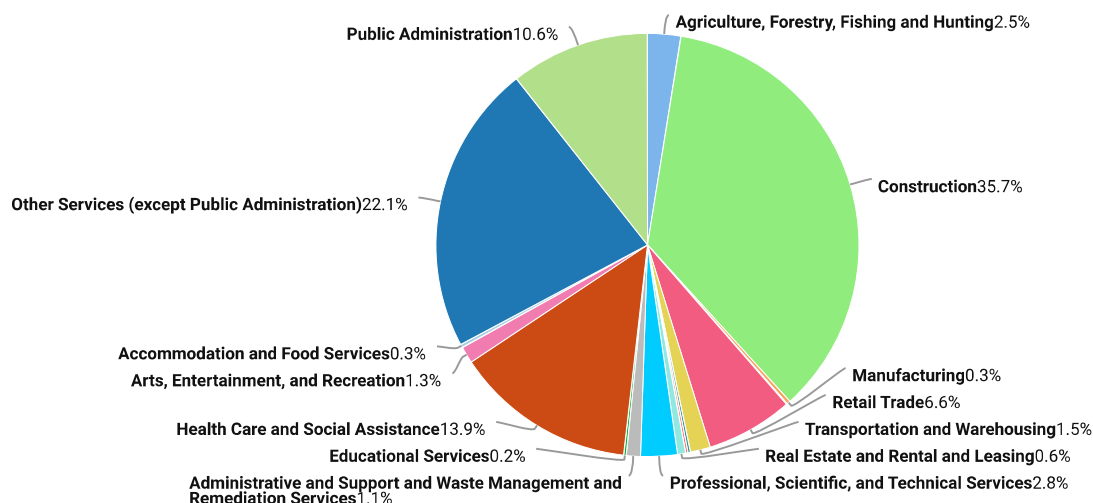
Cost of Living Information			
	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Merriam Woods city, MO	\$34,609	86.0	\$40,242
Missouri	\$58,116	88.6	\$65,563
USA	\$68,501	100.0	\$68,501

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)  
Data as of 2023Q1  
Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2023Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

# Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in the Merriam Woods city, MO is Construction, employing 33 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Other Services (except Public Administration) (20 workers) and Health Care and Social Assistance (13). 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 Construction (LQ = 6.01), Other Services (except Public Administration) (5.16), and Public Administration (2.32).

Total Workers for Merriam Woods city, MO by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2023Q1

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 2022Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1.

Sectors in the Merriam Woods city, MO with the highest average wages per worker are Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$74,492), Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$69,157), and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$54,396). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 10 years are Construction (+19 jobs), Health Care and Social Assistance (+11), and Other Services (except Public Administration) (+10).

Over the next 10 years, employment in the Merriam Woods city, MO is projected to contract by 4 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +1.6% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+2 jobs), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (0), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (0).



# Merriam Woods city, MO, 2023Q1<sup>1</sup>

NAICS	Industry	Current			10-Year History		10-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
23	Construction	33	\$41,021	6.01	19	8.6%	29	11	20	-2	-0.7%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	20	\$21,586	5.16	10	6.9%	23	10	14	-1	-0.5%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	13	\$54,396	0.96	11	19.5%	16	7	8	2	1.6%
92	Public Administration	10	\$43,615	2.32	3	4.1%	8	4	5	-1	-0.9%
44	Retail Trade	6	\$33,416	0.67	2	5.4%	7	4	5	-1	-1.2%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	3	\$74,492	0.38	1	3.6%	2	1	1	0	-0.7%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	2	\$9,891	1.95	0	2.2%	3	1	2	0	-1.3%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	1	\$54,316	0.31	0	1.5%	1	1	1	0	-1.6%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1	\$69,157	0.35	0	n/a	0	0	0	0	-1.4%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	1	\$28,851	0.17	0	1.2%	1	0	1	0	-1.1%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1	\$30,782	0.66	0	-0.9%	2	1	1	0	0.1%
61	Educational Services	0	n/a	0.00	-1	n/a	0	0	0	0	-0.3%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	0	n/a	0.00	-2	n/a	0	0	0	0	-2.1%
<b>Total - All Industries</b>		<b>93</b>	<b>\$34,609</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2023Q1

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 2022Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in the Merriam Woods city, MO is Construction and Extraction Occupations, employing 19 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (12 workers) and Healthcare Support Occupations (9). 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 Construction and Extraction Occupations (LQ = 4.66), Community and Social Service Occupations (3.79), and Healthcare Support Occupations (2.14).

Occupation groups in the Merriam Woods city, MO with the highest average wages per worker are Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$89,800), Management Occupations (\$85,600), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$82,900). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 2.1% among Management Occupations to 8.0% among Personal Care and Service Occupations.

Over the next 10 years, the fastest growing occupation group in the Merriam Woods city, MO is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +2.3% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+2 jobs) and Community and Social Service Occupations (0). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Construction and Extraction Occupations (18 jobs) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (13).

## Merriam Woods city, MO, 2023Q1<sup>1</sup>

SOC	Occupation	Current						10-Year History		10-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	19	\$53,500	4.66	4	6.4%	n/a	10	7.6%	17	6	12	-1	-0.6%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	12	\$38,500	1.07	5	4.8%	n/a	5	5.8%	12	6	7	-2	-1.6%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	9	\$33,800	2.14	1	5.0%	n/a	8	24.5%	15	7	6	2	2.3%
11-0000	Management	8	\$85,600	1.28	1	2.1%	n/a	3	4.2%	6	3	4	-1	-0.7%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	6	\$48,300	3.79	0	n/a	n/a	4	10.5%	6	3	4	0	-0.1%
41-0000	Sales and Related	6	\$39,800	0.65	10	6.5%	n/a	1	2.6%	7	4	4	-1	-1.4%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	5	\$67,500	0.81	0	n/a	n/a	3	9.2%	4	1	3	0	-0.6%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	4	\$47,500	1.12	2	3.0%	n/a	2	7.4%	3	1	2	0	-0.8%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	3	\$52,500	2.14	0	n/a	n/a	1	2.1%	4	2	2	0	0.0%
33-0000	Protective Service	3	\$41,300	1.63	1	5.4%	n/a	1	4.0%	3	1	2	0	-0.7%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	3	\$32,100	1.06	7	6.7%	n/a	1	4.9%	4	2	2	0	-0.6%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	3	\$31,900	1.21	2	8.0%	n/a	1	4.5%	4	2	3	0	-0.7%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	3	\$40,300	0.37	6	6.8%	n/a	2	11.4%	4	2	2	0	-0.5%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	2	\$55,400	0.48	0	n/a	n/a	1	5.9%	2	1	1	0	-0.3%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	1	\$82,500	0.34	0	n/a	n/a	1	7.6%	1	0	1	0	-0.7%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	1	\$82,900	0.65	0	n/a	n/a	0	5.6%	1	0	0	0	-0.7%

## Merriam Woods city, MO, 2023Q1<sup>1</sup>

SOC	Occupation	Current						10-Year History		10-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	1	\$89,800	0.15	1	2.7%	n/a	0	n/a	1	0	0	0	0.0%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	1	\$31,900	0.11	17	7.4%	n/a	-1	-7.3%	1	1	1	0	-0.9%
51-0000	Production	1	\$42,800	0.15	2	5.5%	n/a	0	1.6%	1	0	1	0	-1.0%
<b>Total - All Occupations</b>		<b>93</b>	<b>\$46,300</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2023Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

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

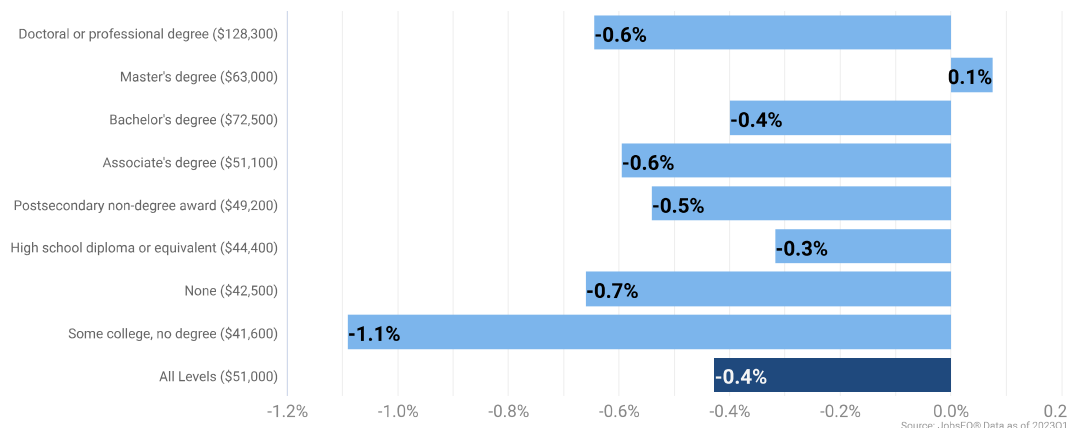
2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

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 2022Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2023 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.

# Education Levels

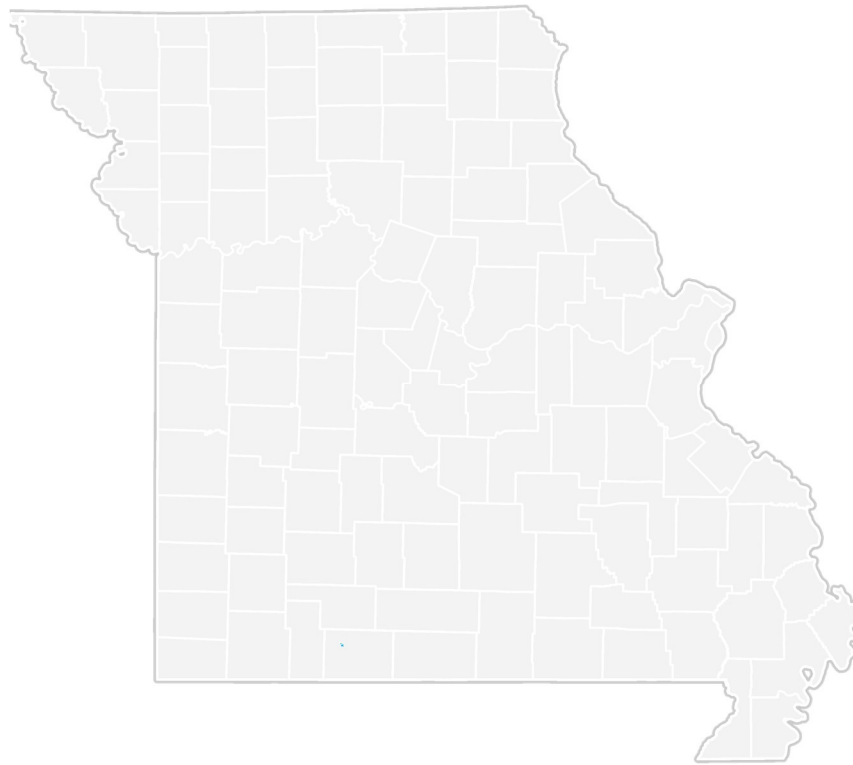
Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in the Merriam Woods city, MO is projected to contract 0.4% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to contract 0.6% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to contract 0.4% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to contract 0.6% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2023Q1. 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.

# Merriam Woods city, MO Regional Map



# FAQ

## 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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