Missouri Manufacturing Indicators

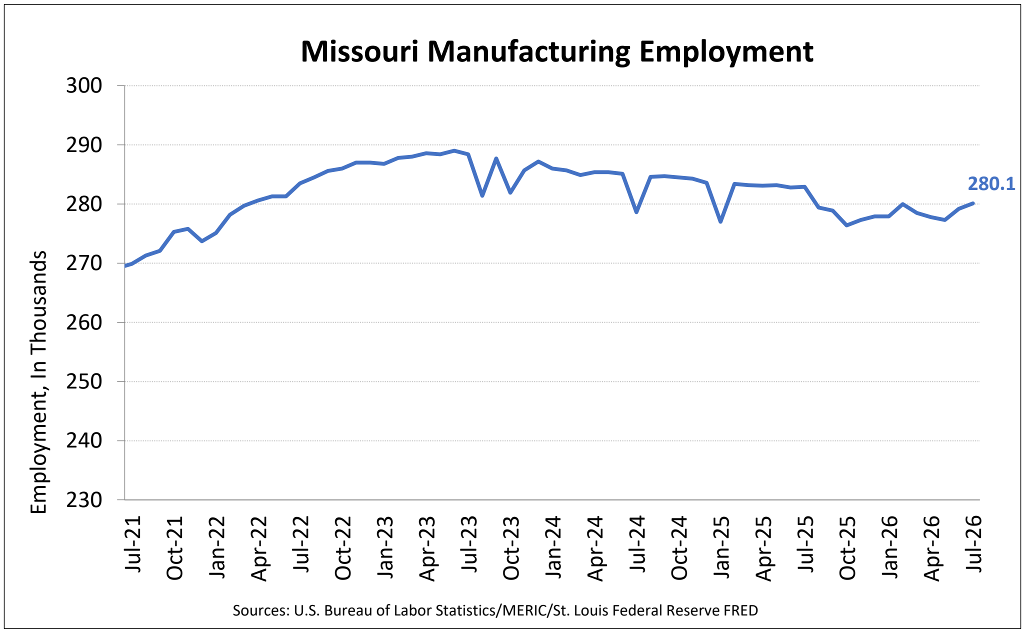
JULY 2026

Missouri Manufacturing Indicators is a monthly brief that utilizes several surveys to highlight recent trends in manufacturing economic activity. The latest figures for this brief include:

- Missouri manufacturers employed 280,100 people in July 2026. Production jobs declined 1.0% over the past year, compared with 1.0% growth in total state employment. Nationally, manufacturing employment contracted by 0.1% over the year.
- The Missouri purchasing management index edged down to 54.1 in July 2026 but remained modestly in expansionary territory. The index has hovered just above neutral in 2026, tracking with national trends.
- The new orders index was 57.5 in July, marking two months of the indicator in expansionary territory. While this is a volatile indicator, readings above 50 signal a positive sales outlook in the coming months.
- Missouri manufacturing hourly earnings increased 4.5% over the year, based on a three-month moving average ending in July. Earnings growth in the production sector outpaced the state's broader private sector (4.0%) and consumer inflation (3.6%) over the same period.

Missouri Manufacturing Employment Up Slightly in July

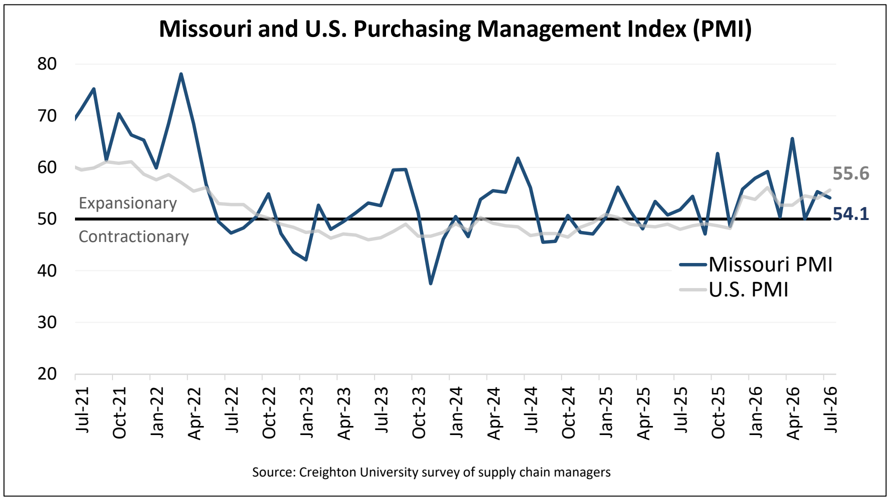
Missouri manufacturers employed 280,100 workers in July 2026, an increase of 900 jobs from the prior month, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Over the past year, Missouri manufacturing jobs decreased by 2,800, representing a 1.0% decline. Nationally, manufacturing declined by 0.1% over the year.



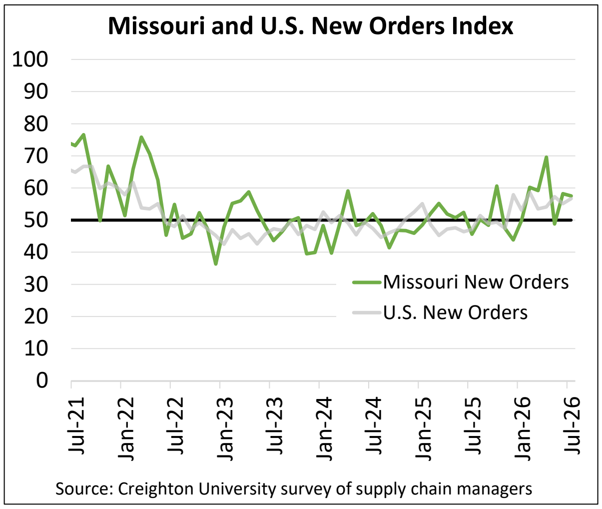
Missouri Purchasing Management Index Remains Modestly Positive in July

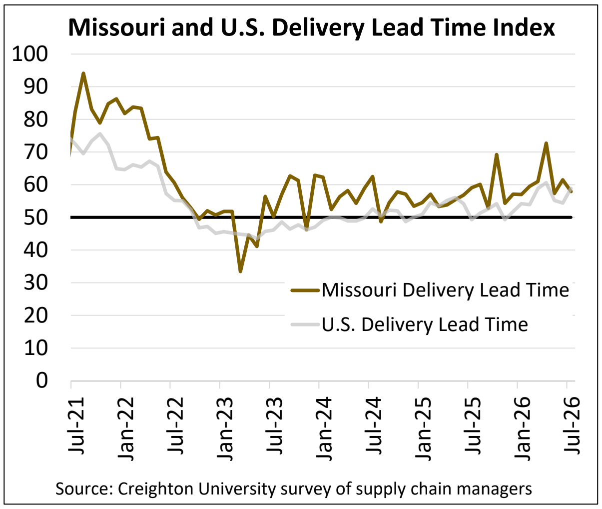
Creighton University produces a monthly purchasing management index (PMI) that averages several key indices to track industry trends, including new orders, production, and inventories. The index ranges from 0 to 100, with values above 50 indicating an expansionary outlook for manufacturing over the next three to six months, and values below 50 indicating a contractionary outlook. The index is a leading indicator of manufacturing activity and mirrors the methodology of the National Institute of Supply Management (ISM) survey.

- In July 2026, Missouri's PMI edged down to 54.1 but remained modestly in expansionary territory. Since the start of 2026, the index has generally hovered just above neutral, broadly tracking the national trend.



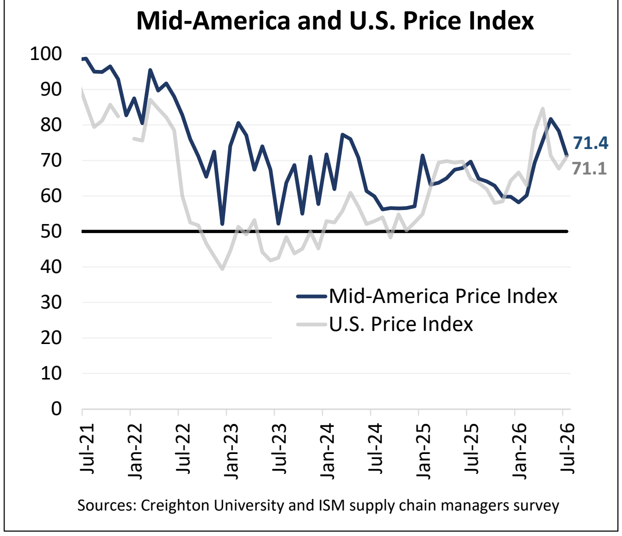
- The Missouri new orders index was 57.5 in July, marking two months of the indicator in expansionary territory. This is a volatile indicator, so data should be used with caution, but increasing orders are a positive sign for sales in the coming months.
- Missouri supplier delivery lead times dropped in July, indicating that manufacturers are receiving inputs at a quicker pace than the prior month. At 57.9, Missouri's index is slightly below the national reading.





Mid-America Manufacturers Continue to See Elevated Wholesale Prices through Mid-2026

According to the Creighton University survey, the Mid-America wholesale price index decreased to 71.4 in July. While this is a decline from the previous month, it still shows that input costs remain elevated for producers. Higher wholesale prices in the Mid-America region have largely mirrored the national trends so far in 2026. State-level price indices are not available.

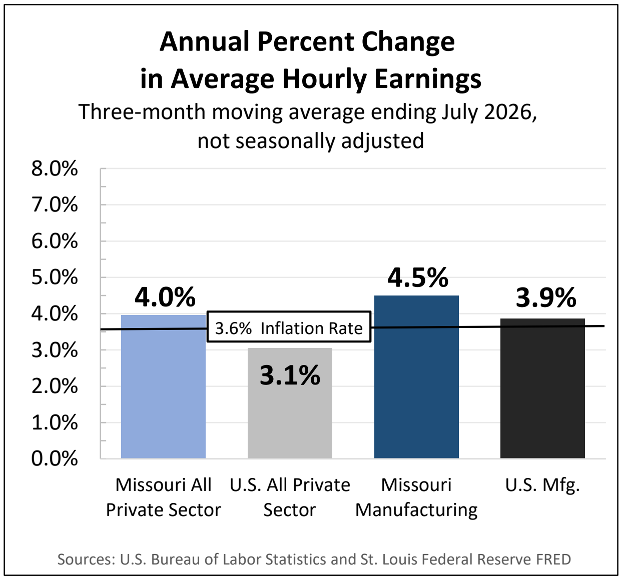


Missouri Manufacturing Workers See Faster Earnings Growth Compared to U.S. Employees

Missouri manufacturing employees earned an average of $39.16 per hour over the three months ending in July 2026, a 4.5% increase from a year earlier. These figures are based on gross payrolls divided by total hours worked, using data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Nationally, average hourly earnings for manufacturing workers rose by 3.9% over the year, reaching $36.77.

Missouri's manufacturing wage growth outpaced the state's broader private sector, where average hourly earnings increased by 4.0% over the year. Nationally, private-sector earnings increased at a slower rate of 3.1%.

With an annual consumer price index (CPI) increase of 3.6%, earnings growth in Missouri's manufacturing sector significantly outpaced inflation in recent months. Pay gains across the broader Missouri private sector slightly outpaced inflation during this time. However, year-to-date through July, private-sector earnings grew slightly below inflation.



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