

Pittsburg State University

Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

Pittsburg Micropolitan Reports

Business and Economic Research Center
(BERC)

2021

The Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Economic Profile, 2021

Pittsburg State University. Gladys A. Kelce College of Business

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/micropolitan_reports



Part of the [Business Commons](#), and the [Economics Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Pittsburg State University. Gladys A. Kelce College of Business, "The Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Economic Profile, 2021" (2021). *Pittsburg Micropolitan Reports*. 42.
https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/micropolitan_reports/42

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Business and Economic Research Center (BERC) at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Pittsburg Micropolitan Reports by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@pittstate.edu.

ECONOMIC PROFILE

2021

Pittsburg
Micropolitan
Area



KELCE
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Pittsburg State University

Here today. Here tomorrow.

In times of uncertainty, the world seems to change faster than ever. New challenges can emerge unexpectedly. For more than 150 years, our experience has taught us a thing or two about being prepared for these challenges. Whether it is today or a distant tomorrow, Commerce Bank is here for you.

620.235.6317

commercebank.com

© 2022 Commerce Bancshares, Inc.



**Commerce
Bank**[™]
Member FDIC

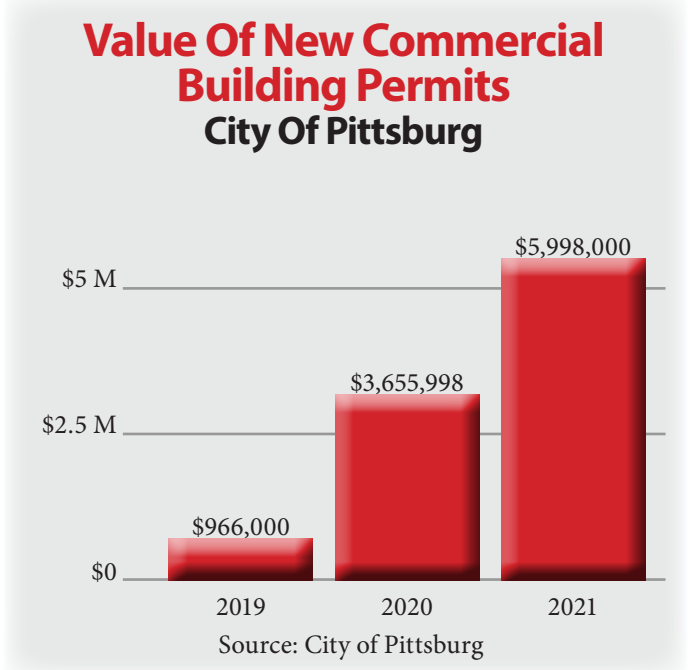
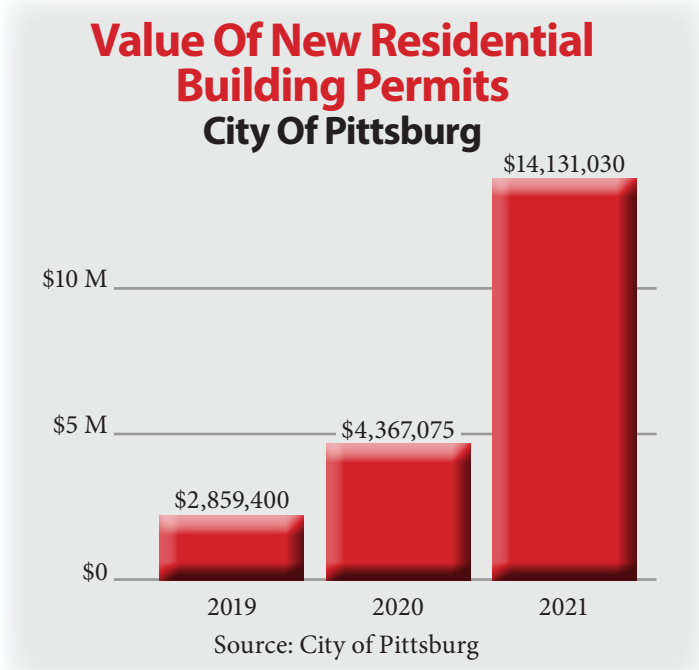
Challenge Accepted.[®]

2021 ECONOMIC SUMMARY

THE CITY OF PITTSBURG is gaining a reputation nationwide for economic growth and high quality of life. Unacast reported in 2021 that Pittsburgh was the fourth fastest growing small city nationwide, *PCMag* ranked Pittsburgh as the

history of this indicator locally and up from 71.2 percent in 2017.

The Pittsburgh area is a good location for business headquarters and functional specialization. Several major



31st best city nationwide in which to work from home, the MBA at Pittsburg State University was ranked the best statewide by the *Wichita Business Journal*, and *Business View Magazine* called Pittsburgh a “diamond in the rough.”

In 2020, SmartAsset ranked Pittsburgh as the ninth best city to live in for seniors who have over \$1 million in retirement. In a comprehensive 2019 study on the health of communities nationwide, *U.S. News and World Report* found that among 813 communities in the same peer group the Pittsburgh micropolitan area had 36.1 percent greater access to local hospital beds per capita, 15.4 percent less violent crime per capita, a 32.1 percent lower homicide rate, 85.3 percent better access to food outlets, 105.8 percent better access to childcare facilities, and 17.3 percent greater jobs diversity.

Pittsburg is also a regional center for retail trade and consumer services according to the Kansas Department of Revenue, which states that Pittsburgh has the retail sales volume of a city almost twice its size. The economy has improved significantly in the last few years, including a robust improvement in household finances. *Demographics Now* reports that during the 2017-2021 period, the number of households in the middle-income bracket increased 6.7 percent in Pittsburgh and 4.7 percent in the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area but declined 1.7 percent statewide and 0.2 percent nationwide. Furthermore, the Equifax credit agency reports that in 2021, 74.8 percent of the population in the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area had a prime or near-prime FICO credit score (above the sub-prime FICO credit score of 639), the highest level in the

companies have headquarters in Pittsburgh, including Miller’s Professional Imaging (the nation’s largest professional photo lab), Jake’s Fireworks, and Watco Companies. Flynn Restaurant Group, the largest restaurant franchisee nationwide with 2,360 restaurants, also has some functional specialization locally.

The local economy improved considerably in 2021, with the value of new residential housing permits in Pittsburgh increasing to \$14.2 million (up 223.6 percent from 2020) and the value of new commercial building permits increasing to \$6.0 million (up 64.1 percent). Furthermore, preliminary estimates by Woods & Poole show that the GDP in the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area increased 7.1 percent in 2021, the number of local jobs increased 1.6 percent, and FedEx announced that a new 250,000 square foot distribution center in Pittsburgh will bring in 150 jobs once completed in September.

Manufacturing creates more value-added (wages, proprietor income, profits, and taxes) than any other industry in the Pittsburgh micropolitan area. In 2019, the last year before the economy was affected by the pandemic, manufacturing had the largest payroll of all private local industries, was the second largest private employer, and paid the second highest wages. Pittsburgh also has a high-quality labor force. One of the area’s major employers states, “Thanks to the success we have had with the local labor force, Pitt Plastics can continue with the mission of delivering excellence as one team and one culture!”

RETAIL AND OFFICE SPACE MARKETS

RETAIL SPACE: The Pittsburg Micropolitan Area retail space market is in full recovery from COVID-19 and was stable and on a good foundation in 2021. Jones Heritage Realtors (a local authority on retail and commercial space) reports that average rental rates were \$5.00 per square foot downtown in 2021, \$12.00 per square foot on North Broadway, and \$13.50 per square foot in area strip malls. The Kansas Department of Revenue reports that the City of Pittsburg is growing as a regional shopping center and that the income-adjusted retail trade pull factor for Pittsburg was 1.90 in 2021, meaning that the population in Pittsburg would have to be 90 percent larger if all the consumption were local. Downtown Pittsburg is a popular retail center. There are over 40 small specialty retailers in downtown Pittsburg, including boutiques and specialty clothing stores, jewelry stores, specialty candy and ice cream stores, bridal shops, sporting goods stores, specialty foods and art shops. The downtown area is also host to several events and festivals during the summer, including Little Balkans Days, which celebrates Pittsburg’s historic roots and regional identity, Artwalk, and Paint the Town Red, which celebrates Pittsburg’s role as home to Pittsburg State University.

The Pittsburg micropolitan area has a total of 332 retail establishments, employing 4,325 people. These include 88 eating and drinking establishments, employing 1,172 people; 68 miscellaneous retail establishments, employing 264 people; 67 wholesale trade establishments, employing 1,078 people; 34 automotive dealers and gasoline service stations, employing 234 people; 26 food stores establishments, employing 640 people; 14 building materials, hardware, garden supply, and mobile home dealer establishments, employing 208 people; 13 apparel and accessory stores establishments, employing 71 people; 12 home furniture, furnishings, and equipment store

establishments, employing 131 people; and 10 general merchandise store establishments, employing 527 people.

OFFICE SPACE: A healthy office space market is important for a vibrant city. Training in an increasingly high-tech

Office Business Demographics Pittsburg Micropolitan Area

	Establishments 2021	Employees 2021
Health Services	140	2,008
Membership Organizations	86	293
Business Services	51	540
Educational Services	50	1,564
Personal Services	49	128
Social Services	45	740
Real Estate	43	186
Engineering, Accounting, Research, Management Etc.	42	201
Automotive Repair, Services & Parking	40	117
Insurance Carriers & Insurance Agents, Brokers Etc.	32	82
Depository and Nondepository Credit Institutions	28	215
Other Office Businesses	95	514
Total	701	6,588

Source: Demographics Now

World is expensive, and some firms rely heavily on business services. As a regional center, Pittsburg office space caters to all businesses in Southeast Kansas, offering business services such as technical consulting, bookkeeping and payroll services, management services, office administrative services and medical services. The performance of the local office market was relatively good in 2021, according to Jones Heritage Realtors, which states that average gross rental rates (the owner pays basic taxes, insurance, and exterior and all major maintenance) started at \$6.00 per square foot in downtown Pittsburg in 2021, \$11.00 per square foot on North Broadway (which is the prime office market locally and has the highest traffic counts as well as highest visibility) and \$13.00 per square foot for top quality medical spaces containing elaborate plumbing and mechanical systems. The Pittsburg micropolitan area currently has 701 office business establishments, according to Demographics Now, employing 6,588 people. This includes 140 health service establishments, employing 2,008 people; 86 membership organizations establishments, employing 293 people; 51 business services establishments, employing 540 people; 50 educational service establishments, employing 1,564 people; 49 personal service establishments, employing 128 people; 45 social services establishments, employing 740 people; 43 real estate establishments, employing 186 people; 42 engineering, accounting, and related establishments, employing 201 people; 40 automotive repair and related services establishments, employing 117 people; 32 insurance agents, brokers, and insurance carrier establishments, employing 82 people; 28 depository institutions and non-depository credit institution establishments, employing 215 people; and 95 other establishments, employing 514 people.

Retail Business Demographics Pittsburg Micropolitan Area

	Establishments 2021	Employees 2021
Eating and Drinking Places	88	1,172
Miscellaneous Retail	68	264
Wholesale Trade	67	1,078
Automotive Dealers & Gasoline Service Stations	34	234
Food Stores	26	640
Building Materials, Hrdwr, Garden Supply, Etc.	14	208
Apparel and Accessory Stores	13	71
Home Furniture, Furnishings & Equipment Stores	12	131
General Merchandise Stores	10	527
Total	332	4,325

Source: Demographics Now

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL LAND MARKETS

RESIDENTIAL MARKETS: Pittsburg’s population is growing, with the population increasing 2.4 percent in 2020, according to the Census Bureau, (well above the 0.4 percent nationwide) and 2.0 percent in 2021, according to preliminary estimates from Unacast (compared to 0.6 percent nationwide). Jones Heritage Realtors reports that the local residential land market is doing relatively well, with residential land values currently ranging from an average of \$0.65 per square foot in older neighborhoods to an average high of \$1.75 in primary sites, and going as high as \$2.25 per square foot in high-end locations. Multi-family residential land prices start at an average of \$0.75 per square foot in secondary locations and increase to an average of \$1.75 per square foot but can go as high as \$2.25 in the best locations. Local city leadership and economic development officials know that it is not enough to recruit people to move to Pittsburg. The city also has to be ready to receive them. The city has been a catalyst for numerous recently completed and in-progress housing developments, including downtown campus housing at Block 22, with 99 units; Silverback Landing, with 140 homes at prices ranging from \$260,000 to \$350,000 and HOA; Creekside East, with 120 homes at \$210,000; Payton’s Hamlet, building 4 homes at \$350,000; Lakewood Drive Addition, with 5 homes, at \$165,000 to \$200,000; and Pitt Highlands with 25 low-income homes. The land bank program has also yielded 40 additional homes, at \$87,000 to \$165,000, and one commercial property, and Villas at Creekside is building more than 29 high-end villas for residents aged 55 and up with amenities. The City of Pittsburg reports that a total of 49 new residential permits were issued in 2021, with a stated value of \$14.1 million, up a significant 223.6 percent from 2020.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL MARKETS: Local businesses seem to be very optimistic about the economic future, and commercial construction activity in

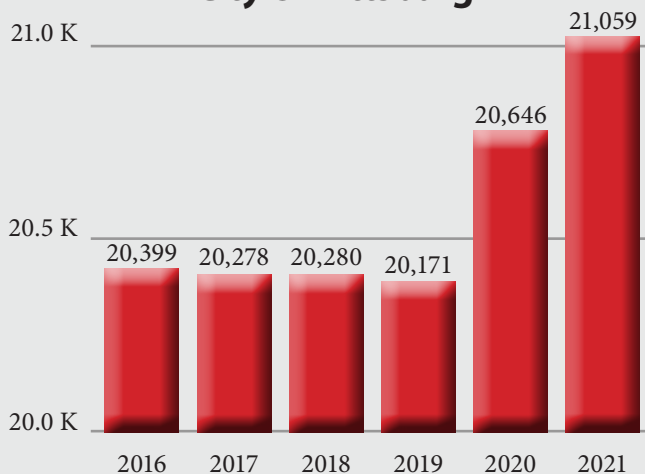
Three Year Investment City Of Pittsburg

Education	\$82,600,000
General Infrastructure	\$33,709,415
Housing	\$32,635,508
Medical	\$30,606,733
Entertainment	\$25,029,573
Retail	\$19,293,995
Hospitality	\$17,766,686
Industry	\$17,574,142
Recreation	\$2,500,000
Service	\$1,265,400

Source: City of Pittsburg

creased considerably in 2021. The City of Pittsburg reports that the stated value of new commercial and industrial building permits increased to \$5,998,000, up a significant 64.1 percent from 2020. The biggest commercial permits issued during 2021 were to the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas for a new building at 3015 N. Michigan, with a stated value of \$4,500,000, and for a new Dairy Queen restaurant at 2111 N. Broadway, with a stated value of \$850,000. Commercial activity has picked up during the last few years, with almost \$263 million invested in the City of Pittsburg in the last three years alone (most of it private), which has to be a national record for a city with a population of 21,000. This includes \$82.6 million in education (all levels), \$33.7 million in general infrastructure, \$32.6 million in housing infrastructure, \$30.6 million in medical infrastructure, \$25.0 million in entertainment infrastructure, \$19.3 million in retail infrastructure, \$17.8 million in hospitality infrastructure, \$17.6 million in industry infrastructure, \$2.5 million in recreation infrastructure, and \$1.3 million in service infrastructure. The Pittsburg micropolitan area is well suited to manufacturing and warehousing, and due to the widening of US Highway 69 from Fort Scott to Arma, which will provide for a four-lane highway all the way to Kansas City, the future also looks promising for the local industrial land market. Jones Heritage Realtors reports that average high rental rates for light industrial and warehouse space in Pittsburg have increased to an average low of \$2.00 per square foot for secondary sites and an average high of \$4.50 per square foot for primary sites, with an average areawide warehouse rent of \$3.00 per square foot. Furthermore, commercial land prices are \$3.00 per square foot for secondary sites, \$7.00 per square foot for primary sites, and as high as \$10.50 per square foot for high-end sites.

Population City Of Pittsburg



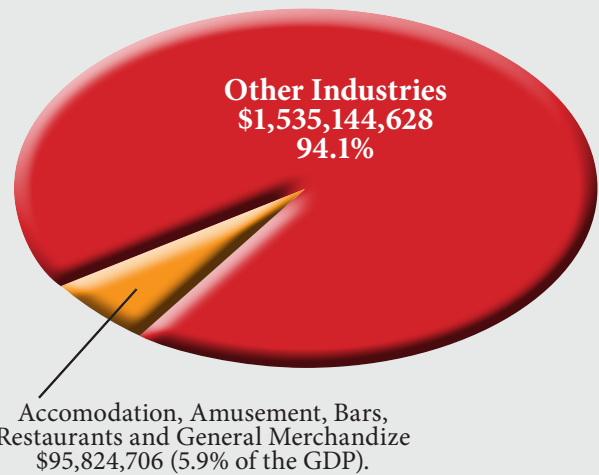
Source: The Bureau of the Census and Unacast.

QUALITY OF LIFE AND TOURISM

PITTSBURG IS THE HOME of Pittsburg State University. Kiplinger’s Personal Finance Magazine says, “Nothing matches the vibe of a college town. Universities throw off energy that infuses their communities with culture, creativity, and a love of learning.” The reputation of the City of Pittsburg as a vibrant university town and a regional shopping center with high-quality, live entertainment, attractive downtown, and national sports events is spreading. As a matter of fact, there is a significant sports-related component of tourism in the city. The most direct tourism industry is the hotel and motel industry, which saw room revenues increase 52.0 percent during the 2016-2019 period, well above the decline of 1.1 percent overall in Southeast Kansas, the 6.3 percent increase statewide, and the 13.0 percent increase nationwide. In 2019, the local accommodation industry (hotels, motels, and oth-

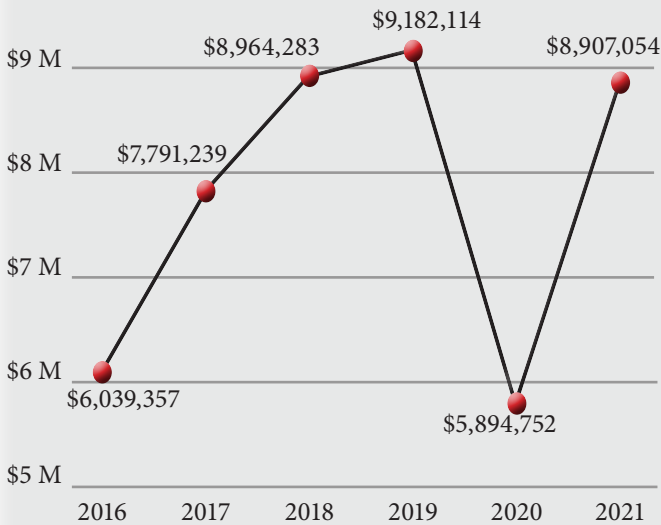
Additionally, these industries created \$35.1 million in value-added indirect and induced impacts. There are significant opportunities ahead for the local tourism industries according to Buxton, a respected consumer analytics organization. They report that one out of every six people

Gross Domestic Product Contribution Pittsburg Micropolitan Area



Source: Implan

Room Revenues Hotels & Motels Pittsburg Micropolitan Area



Source: Woods & Poole

er businesses that provide accommodation services as a part of their primary business) contributed \$20.9 million directly in value-added (wages, salaries, profits, and taxes to all government levels), or 1.3 percent of the Pittsburg micropolitan area gross domestic product. Furthermore, the accommodation industry created \$7.0 million in value-added through indirect means (buying from suppliers) and induced impacts (employees spending their wages). Visiting tourists also support a wide variety of industries. The most affected include accommodation, restaurants (all types), bars, gambling, amusement, and general merchandise stores. These industries combined paid directly \$95.8 million in value-added, or 5.9 percent of the local GDP.

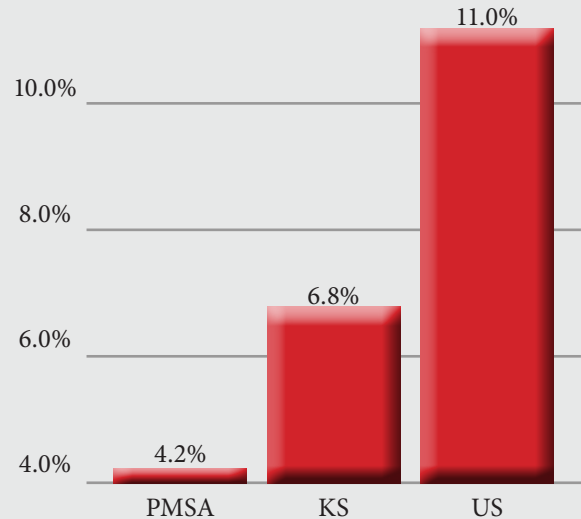
visiting downtown Pittsburg in the 2019-2021 period was not local. They note, too, that besides the Midwest region, a significant number of tourists visited from the eastern U.S. The largest groups visiting downtown are classified by Buxton as ambitious dreamers, digitally-savvy, potlucks who love the great outdoors, and modest income retirees. The lodging industry in the Pittsburg micropolitan area took a bad hit during COVID-19, but like the rest of the nation, the local lodging industry is rebounding. The local industry posted an average occupancy rate of 49.4 percent in 2021, up from 36.1 percent from 2020. The average daily room rate increased to \$83.93 (up 10.5 percent), and total room revenues increased to \$8,907,054 (up 51.1 percent). The Southeast Kansas lodging industry posted an average occupancy rate of 46.6 percent (up from 37.2 percent), an average room rate of \$74.53 (up from \$69.57), and total systemwide room revenues of \$15 million (up 34.3 percent). The statewide average occupancy rate was 52.0 percent (up from 40.6 percent), the average daily room rate was \$85.49 (up from \$76.33) and total room revenues statewide was 57.6 percent (up from 44.0 percent) Nationwide, the average daily room rate was \$124.67 (up from \$103.3), with total system-wide revenues of \$142 billion (up 66.2 percent). Tourism is expected to pick up nationwide in 2022.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC has proved to be expensive for the nation. The total cost of WWII was \$4.7 trillion, but the national debt has risen more than \$7 trillion since the beginning of 2020. In 2020, the gross domestic product, a measure of total economic output, declined 3.4 percent nationwide due to the pandemic; at the same time, however, COVID-19 spending is boosting the national economy, which improved significantly in 2021, with the real gross domestic product (inflation adjusted) increasing 5.7 percent. Personal consumption expenditures on durable goods increased 18.0 percent, personal consumption expenditures on nondurable goods 9.0 percent, personal consumption expenditures on services increased 5.9 percent, non-residential investment increased 7.3 percent, residential investment increased 9.0 percent, government expenditure increased 0.5 percent (excludes transfer payments such as stimulus payments and assistance to the business community), and net exports declined 35.9

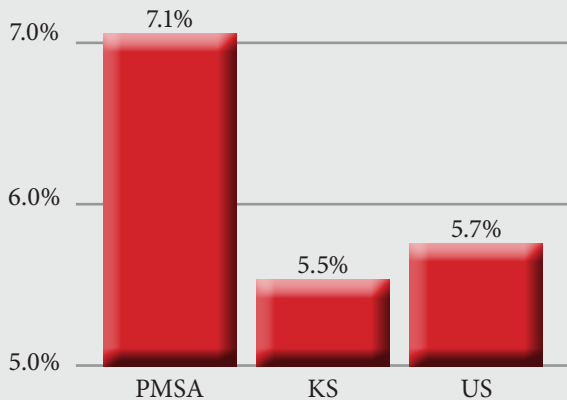
percent. The gross domestic product in Kansas (preliminary estimates) increased to almost \$166 billion (up 5.5 percent), and the gross domestic product the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area increased to \$1.6 billion (preliminary estimates), up 7.1 percent.

Gross Domestic Product Projections 2021 - 2025



Source: Woods & Poole

Gross Domestic Product Growth 2021



Source: Woods & Poole and BEA

PROJECTIONS:

The local gross domestic product is projected to continue to increase at a healthy rate relative to other micropolitan areas. The Pittsburg micropolitan area's GDP is projected to increase 1.1 percent in 2022, better growth than in 44.8 percent of micropolitan areas nationwide, and 4.2 percent in the 2021-2025 period, better than in 33.2 percent of micropolitan areas. However, the pandemic has made economic projection especially difficult and unreliable.

Gross Domestic Product In Millions Of 2012 Dollars

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US	Change
2016	\$1,433	1.8%	\$152,930	2.3%	\$17,894,517	1.7%
2017	\$1,500	4.7%	\$154,710	1.2%	\$18,332,208	2.4%
2018	\$1,541	2.7%	\$158,647	2.5%	\$18,935,042	3.3%
2019	\$1,586	3.0%	\$160,665	1.3%	\$19,402,219	2.5%
2020	\$1,512	-4.7%	\$157,243	-2.1%	\$18,741,653	-3.4%
2021	\$1,619*	7.1%	\$165,967*	5.5%	\$19,804,413	5.7%

Source: Woods & Poole and BERC in millions of dollars. *Estimate

Gross Domestic Product Projections

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US	Change
2022	\$1,636	1.1%	\$168,707	1.7%	\$20,683,422	4.4%
2025	\$1,687	4.2%	\$177,318	6.8%	\$21,984,561	11.0%

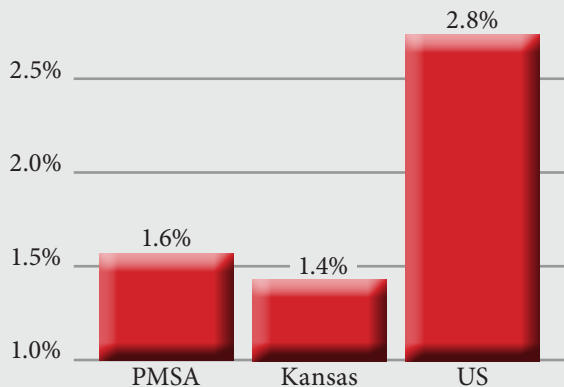
Source: Woods & Poole in millions of dollars.

JOB GROWTH

THE NATIONAL ECONOMY improved significantly in 2021 despite having to deal with new COVID virus variations. The number of jobs increased to 146.1 million nationwide (up 2.8 percent from 2020), 1.4 million statewide (up 1.4 percent), and preliminary estimates show that the number of jobs increased to 16,817 in the Pittsburg micropolitan area (up 1.6 percent). Pittsburg is the seat of the Pittsburg micropolitan area and is the engine of economic growth in Southeast Kansas. The economy of the Pittsburg micropolitan area is substantially a small business economy, with 23.1 percent of total jobs in businesses that employ fewer than 20 employees (84.2 percent of all businesses in the micropolitan area.) The local economy is doing relatively well and there are new business expansions in the pipeline, including FedEx which announced a new distribution center in Pittsburg which will bring 150 full- and part-time jobs, and its annual impact on the local economy is expected to be significant. It is estimated that it will result in a total of 174 direct, indi-

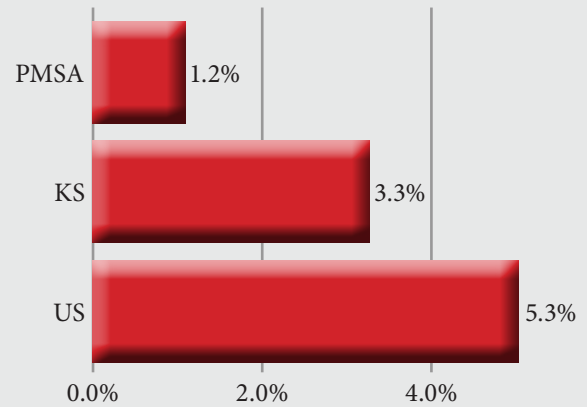
rect, and induced local jobs, with \$16.4 million in annual payroll and \$20.0 million in other annual value added. The construction is estimated to need another 174 construction workers, and is expected to generate \$2.7 million in payroll and \$3.8 million in other value-added spending.

Job Growth 2021



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, BERC

Job Growth Projections 2021 - 2025



Source: Woods & Poole

PROJECTIONS:

Most projections show that the national economy will continue to grow in the near future, and that is good news for the micropolitan area's largest private employers, which derive their income mostly from selling their products nationwide. The national economy is now projected to grow at a relatively steady rate, and in the Pittsburg micropolitan area this is expected to result in steadier job growth, which is important in making future investment less risky. The number of jobs in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area is projected to increase to 16,939 in 2022 (up 0.7 percent) and to 17,015 in 2025 (up 1.2 percent).

Total Jobs

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US	Change
2016	16,969	0.8%	1,405	0.3%	144,336	1.8%
2017	17,233	1.6%	1,404	-0.1%	146,608	1.6%
2018	17,051	-1.1%	1,415	0.8%	148,908	1.6%
2019	17,113	0.4%	1,424	0.6%	150,905	1.3%
2020	16,557	-3.2%	1,359	-4.5%	142,186	-5.8%
2021	16,817	1.6%	1,379	1.4%	146,124	2.8%

Source: BLS-QCEW & BERC

Total Jobs Projections

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US	Change
2022	16,939	0.7%	1,391	0.9%	148,074	1.3%
2025	17,015	1.2%	1,425	3.3%	153,806	5.3%

Source: BLS-QCEW & Woods and Poole

JOB GROWTH BY INDUSTRY

EIGHT INDUSTRIES ADDED JOBS in the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area during 2021, according to preliminary estimates. Leisure and hospitality, with 1,917 jobs, had the largest growth in job numbers, adding 102 jobs from 2020 (up 5.6 percent), followed by trade, transportation and utilities, up 66 jobs (up 2.4 percent); government, with 4,084 jobs, up 48 jobs (up 1.2 percent); construction, with 730 jobs, up 27 jobs (3.8 percent); manufacturing, with 2,638 jobs, up 16 jobs (up 0.6 percent); education and health services, with 2,334 jobs, up 9 jobs (up 0.4 percent); other services, with 225 jobs, up 7 jobs (up 3.2 percent); and natural resources and mining, with 96 jobs, up 1 job (0.6 percent). Information services posted the largest loss of jobs at 19 jobs lost (down 3.4 percent), followed by professional and business services, with 1,232 jobs, down 3 jobs (down 0.2 percent); and financial activities, with 442 jobs, down 2 jobs (down 0.5 percent). Information services posted the highest annual wages at \$57,346, followed by construction

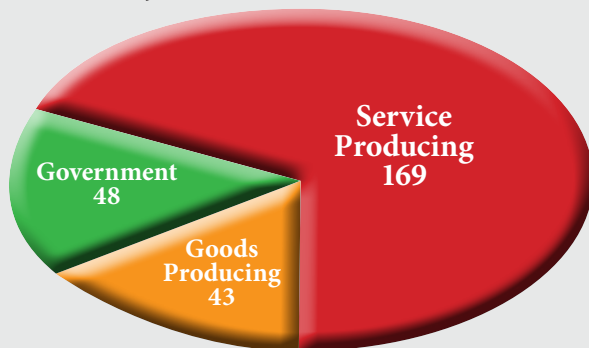
at \$51,477; manufacturing at \$48,891; education and health services at \$48,417; professional and business services at \$45,977; financial activities at \$42,766; natural resources and mining at \$42,544; government at \$37,695; trade, transportation, and utilities, at \$37,297; other services at \$30,103; and leisure and hospitality services at \$17,327.

Job Growth By Industry 2021 - 2025 Pittsburg Micropolitan Area

Industry	Jobs
Leisure and hospitality	42
Education and health services	41
Professional and business services	38
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26
Financial activities	21
Total Government	0
Natural resources and mining	0
Other services	0
Information	-2
Construction	-6
Manufacturing	-75

Source: BLS, Woods & Poole, BERG

Composition Of Job Growth Pittsburg Micropolitan Area By Super Sector, 2021



Source: BLS, Woods & Poole, BERG

PROJECTIONS:

The Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area has comparatively high concentration in manufacturing, i.e. approximately 80 percent higher concentration in the local economy than on average nationwide; Government has 70 percent higher concentration; Leisure and Hospitality has one percent higher concentration. All other industries have lower concentration. This trend is expected to continue. Manufacturing is projected to lose 75 jobs during the 2021-2025 period (down 2.9 percent), Government (all levels) is projected to lose 15 jobs (down 0.4 percent), and Leisure and Hospitality is projected to add 42 jobs (up 2.2 percent).

Pittsburg Micropolitan Area 2021

Industry	Establishments	Jobs 2021*	Growth 2021	Percentage Growth in 2021	Average Annual Wages 2021
Natural resources and mining	25	96	1	0.6%	\$42,544
Construction	81	730	27	3.8%	\$51,477
Manufacturing	43	2,638	16	0.6%	\$48,891
Trade, transportation, and utilities	226	2,845	66	2.4%	\$37,297
Information	19	277	-10	-3.4%	\$57,346
Financial activities	99	442	-2	-0.5%	\$42,766
Professional and business services	135	1,232	-3	-0.2%	\$45,977
Education and health services	123	2,334	9	0.4%	\$48,417
Leisure and hospitality	90	1,917	102	5.6%	\$17,327
Other services	67	225	7	3.2%	\$30,103
Total Government	72	4,084	48	1.2%	\$37,695
Goods-producing	149	3,463	43	1.3%	\$49,269
Service-providing	759	9,270	169	1.9%	\$37,206
Total Covered, All Industries	980	16,817	260	1.6%	\$39,751

Source: BLS - BERG
*Estimate

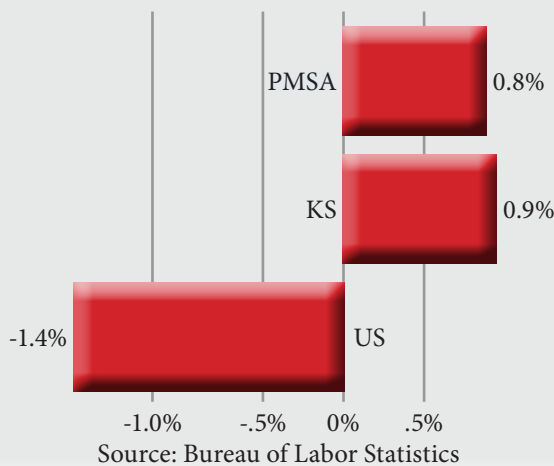
LABOR FORCE

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE who dropped out of the national labor force during the COVID-19 pandemic are not coming back for some reason. There were 161.2 million people in the national labor force in 2021 down 2.3 million from 2019, but up 0.3 percent from 2020. A December U.S. Chamber of Commerce labor force survey found that 53 percent of workers who dropped out of the labor force during the pandemic are not making much effort to find another job. This is a major problem for firms nationwide, which are struggling to find employees, and some firms such as Amazon have stopped drug testing for marijuana, while CVS no longer requires a high school diploma for entry level jobs, and the UpJohn Institute for Employment Research says that employers are currently hiring people with bad attitudes.

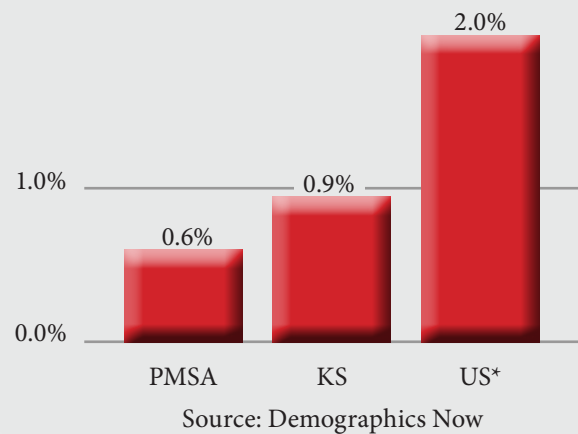
However, the Pittsburg micropolitan area labor force is growing at a healthy rate, increasing to 19,015 in 2021, up 0.8 percent from 2019 and 0.4 percent from 2020. Kansans are some of the hardest working people nationwide accord-

ing to WIBW which ranked Kansas having the 10th hardest working labor force nationwide. There is plenty labor force in the Pittsburg region. There are 326,914 people in the labor force within one hour from downtown Pittsburg according to Demographics, of those 49.0 percent are blue collar and 51 percent are white collar.

Labor Force Growth 2019 - 2021



Labor Force Growth Projections 2021 - 2025



PROJECTIONS:

In 2025, the labor force is projected to increase to 19,120 in the Pittsburg micropolitan area (up 0.6 percent from 2021), to 1.5 million statewide (up 0.9 percent), and to 164.5 million nationwide (up 2.0 percent). The micropolitan area skilled labor force in 2021 is relatively well educated according to the Demographics Now. Approximately, 28.2 percent have a four-year college degree or higher; 34.3 percent have some college or an associate degree, 27.7 percent have a high school diploma, and only 8.9 percent have not completed high school.

Labor Force

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US*	Change
2016	19,001	0.1%	1,491,961	-0.1%	159,187	1.3%
2017	19,142	0.7%	1,483,648	-0.6%	160,320	0.7%
2018	18,806	-1.8%	1,483,633	0.0%	162,075	1.1%
2019	18,864	0.3%	1,493,666	0.7%	163,539	0.9%
2020	18,946	0.4%	1,497,003	0.2%	160,742	-1.7%
2021	19,015	0.4%	1,507,166	0.7%	161,204	0.3%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
BERC, *Thousands

Labor Force Projections

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US	Change
2022	19,041	0.1%	1,510,569	0.2%	162,017	0.5%
2025	19,120	0.6%	1,520,778	0.9%	164,455	2.0%

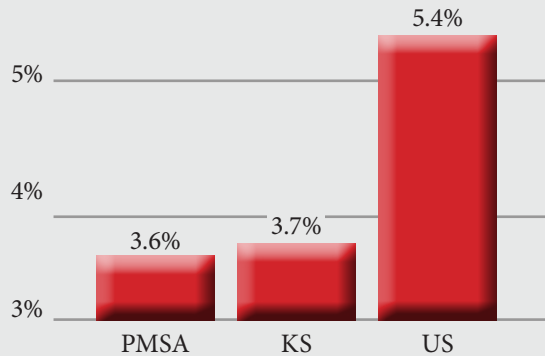
Source: Demographics Now
BERC

UNEMPLOYMENT

THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE in the Pittsburg Metropolitan Area declined to 3.6 percent in 2021, down from 5.5 percent in 2020. There are more people in the local labor force now than in 2020, so the decline in unemployment at a time when the workforce is growing indicates an increase in the total number of jobs available. The unemployment rate statewide declined to 3.7 percent in 2021, down from 5.9 percent. The national labor market is also showing some signs of recovery, with unemployment decreasing almost every month since May 2020. The average national unemployment rate declined to 5.4 percent in 2021, down from 8.1 percent in 2020. The highest unemployment rate in 2021 was in the mining industry, which posted an unemployment rate of 11.2 percent, followed by leisure and hospitality, 10.1 percent; management and administrative services, 9.3 percent; agriculture, 7.6 percent; transportation and warehousing, 6.8 percent; construction, 6.5 percent; retail trade, 6.2 percent; information services, 5.4 percent; other services (dry cleaning, auto repair, etc.), 5.4 percent; self-employed, 4.9 percent; nondurable goods manufacturing, 4.7 percent;

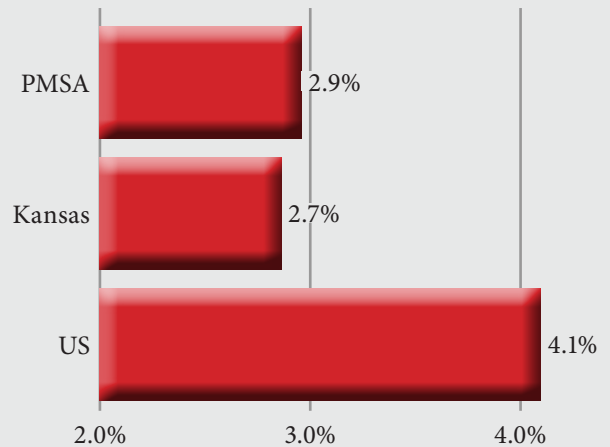
wholesale trade, 4.3 percent; durable goods manufacturing, 4.1 percent; real estate, 3.9 percent; education and health services, 3.5 percent; professional and technical services, 3.2 percent; utilities 3.0 percent; government, 2.7 percent; and finance and insurance, 2.5 percent;

Unemployment Rates 2021



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Woods and Poole, BERG

Unemployment Rate Projections 2025



Source: BLS, Woods & Poole, BERG

PROJECTIONS:

The decline in the unemployment rate in 2021 is not only because the unemployed found jobs; it is also because millions of people who became unemployed during COVID-19 decided not to look for another job. This shrank the pool of unemployed job seekers nationwide, and there are now 0.6 job seekers per one job opening. The US government stimulus payments are now winding down, and Demographics Now projects that the annual national unemployment rate will decline in the near term. In 2025, the unemployment rate is expected to be 4.1 percent nationwide, 2.7 percent statewide, and 2.9 percent in the Pittsburg metropolitan area.

Unemployment

	Pittsburg Micro	Kansas	US
2016	4.8	4.0	4.9
2017	4.2	3.6	4.4
2018	3.9	3.3	3.9
2019	3.9	3.2	3.7
2020	5.5	5.9	8.1
2021	3.6	3.7	5.4

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Projections

	Pittsburg Micro	Kansas	US
2022	3.4	3.5	5.0
2025	2.9	2.7	4.1

Source: Demographics Now, BERG

Pittsburg Metropolitan Area Economic Profile

is written and produced by:
Dr. Michael Davidsson
 Writer and Editor

Dr. Janet Zepernick
 Contributing Editor/Proofreading

Ms. Sipra Paul, MBA, MS
 Special Assistant

Ms. Melissa Payne, BBA
 Assistant to the Editor

Mr. Joshua Miller

Mr. David Oldham
 Art Director/Layout

Mr. Rigo E. O. Brou
 Economic Development Assistants

Thanks to our local corporate sponsors
Commerce Bank
PITCO
Meadowbrook Mall

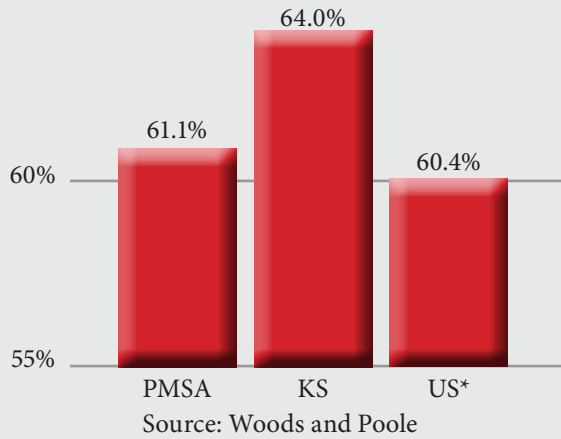
ON THE COVER: LimeLight Marketing,
 one of Pittsburg's fastest-growing businesses.
 Photo credit: Brett Dalton,

EMPLOYMENT

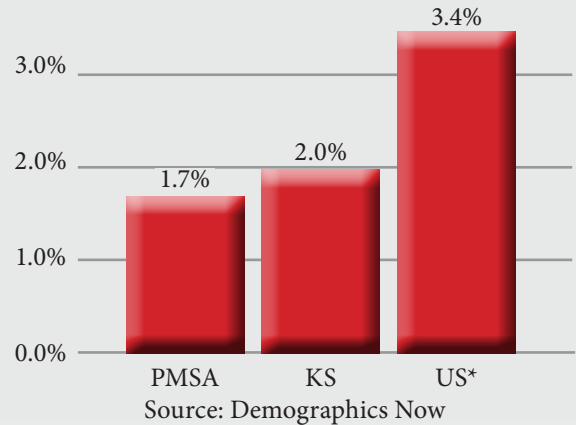
THE LABOR FORCE consists both of the employed and unemployed. Employment is calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from a nationwide household survey and includes the self-employed, people working in home-based businesses, farm employment, domestic employment, and people who are temporarily out of work. An employed resident of Crawford County is counted employed if he has a job, but the job does not have to be in Crawford County. A bigger share of the adult population of the Pittsburg micropolitan area is employed than on average in other parts of the nation. The employment-population ratio was 61.1 percent in the Pittsburg micropolitan area in 2021, compared to only 60.4 percent nationwide. Total employment increased to 18,328 in the Pittsburg micropolitan area in 2021 (up 2.4 percent from 2020). Approximately 8.6 percent of all employed people in the Pittsburg micropolitan area work in management occupations; 4.2 percent in business and financial; 2.4 percent in computer, engineering, and science; 12.2 percent in education, legal, and community service; 4.4

percent in health diagnosing; 2.0 percent in health technology; 5.5 percent in healthcare support; 20.1 percent in service occupations other than healthcare; 8.1 percent in sales-related occupations; 10.7 percent in office and administrative support; 9.3 percent in production; 3.5 percent in transportation; 4.6 percent in material moving; and 4.3 percent in other occupations.

Employment Population Ratio 2021



Employment Projections 2021 - 2025



PROJECTIONS:

There is a need for skilled labor locally. However, there are plenty of training programs in the region, including in the Pittsburg State University's College of Technology and in the Southeast Kansas Career and Technical Education Center. Total employment is projected to continue to increase at a healthy rate. In 2022, employment is projected to increase to 18,474 in the Pittsburg micropolitan area (up 0.8 percent), to 1,458,087 statewide (up 0.5 percent), and 153.9 million nationwide (up 0.9 percent). During the 2021-2025 period, employment is projected to increase 1.7 percent in the micropolitan area, 2.0 percent statewide, and 3.4 percent nationwide.

Employment

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US*	Change
2016	18,087	0.4%	1,431,920	0.0%	151,436	1.7%
2017	18,342	1.4%	1,429,911	-0.1%	153,337	1.3%
2018	18,072	-1.5%	1,434,852	0.3%	155,761	1.6%
2019	18,137	0.4%	1,446,448	0.8%	157,538	1.1%
2020	17,901	-1.3%	1,408,995	-2.6%	147,795	-6.2%
2021	18,328	2.4%	1,450,809	3.0%	152,581	3.2%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
BERC, *Thousands

Employment Projections

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US	Change
2022	18,474	0.8%	1,458,087	0.5%	153,891	0.9%
2025	18,648	1.7%	1,479,918	2.0%	157,823	3.4%

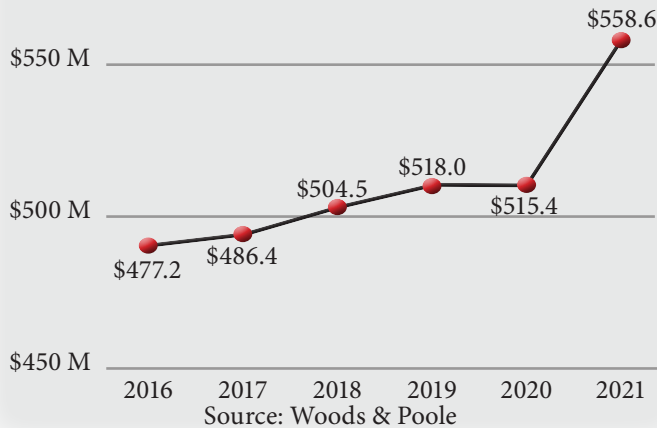
Source: Source: Demographics Now
BERC

RETAIL SALES

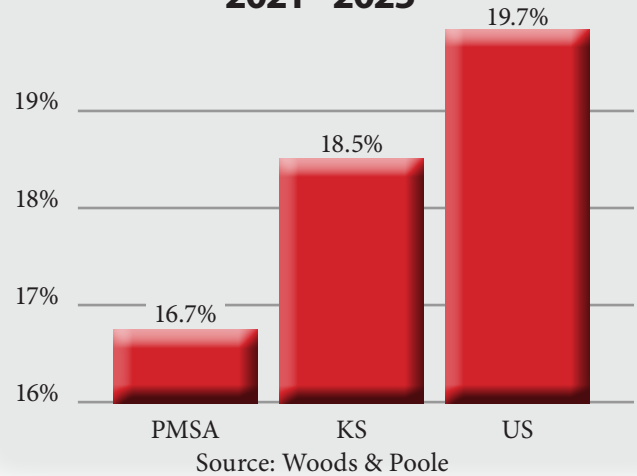
PITTSBURG IS A 21st CENTURY CITY and a regional center for retail and consumer services in Southeast Kansas. Nearly 40,000 people are estimated to visit the city annually for shopping and other services. First estimates indicate that local retail sales increased significantly in 2021. Preliminary estimates by Woods & Poole show that local retail sales in the Pittsburg micropolitan area increased to \$558.6 million in 2021, up 8.4 percent from 2020. Clothing and clothing accessories had the highest growth during the year, with \$10.1 million in total sales, up 47.3 percent (up \$3.2 million), followed by eating and drinking establishments, with sales of \$69.3 million, up 34.3 percent (up \$17.7 million); gasoline stations, with sales of \$56.6 million, up 25.9 percent (up \$11.7 million); furniture and home furnishing stores, with sales of \$7.5 million, up 22.2 percent (up \$1.4 million); electronics and appliance stores, with sales of \$3.5 million, up 21.3 percent (up \$0.6 million); motor vehicles and parts, with sales of \$105.2 million, up

8.6 percent (up \$8.4 million); miscellaneous stores (artists' supplies, pets, etc.), with sales of \$5.0 million, up 7.1 percent (up \$0.3 million); general merchandise, with sales of \$104.3 million, up 6.3 percent (up \$6.2 million); and health and personal care, with sales of \$24.7 million, up 6.0 percent (up \$1.4 million). All other types of retail sales declined.

Total Retail Sales Pittsburg Micropolitan Area



Retail Sales Projections 2021 - 2025



PROJECTIONS:

The future of local retail sales looks good. Personal savings have accumulated during COVID-19, because people did not have the same opportunities to go out and shop as they did before COVID-19. Overall retail sales are projected to increase to \$580.6 million in the Pittsburg micropolitan area in 2022 (up 3.9 percent from 2021), to \$53.7 billion statewide (up 4.3 percent), and \$6.9 trillion nationwide (up 4.6 percent). By 2025, total retail sales are expected to be \$652.2 million in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area (up 16.7 percent), \$61.6 billion statewide (up 18.5 percent), and \$7.9 trillion nationwide (up 19.7 percent).

Retail Sales

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US	Change
2016	\$477.2	0.4%	\$43,547	0.2%	\$5,398,341	3.0%
2017	\$486.5	1.9%	\$44,197	1.5%	\$5,627,747	4.2%
2018	\$504.5	3.7%	\$45,956	4.0%	\$5,877,610	4.4%
2019	\$518.4	2.7%	\$47,377	3.1%	\$6,084,323	3.5%
2020	\$515.3	-0.5%	\$46,913	-1.0%	\$6,106,918	0.4%
2021	\$558.6*	8.4%	\$51,480	9.7%	\$6,645,373	8.8%

Source: Woods and Poole
in millions of dollars. *Estimate

Retail Sales Projections

	Pittsburg Micro	Change	Kansas	Change	US	Change
2022	\$580.6	3.9%	\$53,699	4.3%	\$6,949,494	4.6%
2025	\$652.2	16.7%	\$61,006	18.5%	\$7,956,620	19.7%

Source: Woods and Poole
in millions of dollars

Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Snapshot 2021

	Pittsburg Micropolitan Area	70 Miles Radius Pittsburg, Kansas	100 Miles Radius Pittsburg, Kansas
Labor Force	20,329	326,914	1,214,383
Total Population	39,166	654,751	2,281,313
Population Densityx (per Sq. Mi.)	65.83	42.50	72.56
Total Households	15,926	259,208	889,736
POPULATION BY GENDER			
Male	19,558	324,308	1,129,110
Female	19,608	330,443	1,152,203
POPULATION PERCENT BY RACE AND ETHNICITY			
White	88.9%	86.6%	
Black	2.3%	1.6%	84.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.1%	3.9%	2.2%
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	2.2%	1.4%	3.4%
Some Other Race	2.5%	2.7%	2.4%
Two or More Races	3.0%	3.9%	3.7%
Hispanic Ethnicity	6.1%	5.9%	3.9%
Not of Hispanic Ethnicity	93.9%	94.1%	7.8%
HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME			
Average Household Income	\$61,980	\$62,590	\$76,433
Median Household Income	\$46,775	\$47,443	\$55,541
Per Capita Income	\$25,823	\$25,045	\$30,053
EMPLOYMENT			
Total Population 16+	31,581	519,365	1,804,400
% Blue Collar	44.8%	49.0%	42.6%
% White Collar	55.2%	51.0%	57.4%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT			
% Grade K - 8	2.2%	3.3%	3.1%
% Grade 9 - 11	6.0%	8.6%	7.3%
% High School Graduate	28.2%	35.5%	32.2%
% Some College, No Degree	25.5%	24.0%	23.1%
% Associates Degree	8.8%	8.6%	7.7%
% Bachelor's Degree	17.6%	12.6%	16.8%
% Graduate Degree	10.8%	6.4%	8.9%
% No Schooling Completed	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%
Population Age 25+	23,593	444,441	1,522,263

Source: Demographics Now

Annual Mean Wages For Pittsburg Micropolitan Area 2021

Accountants and Auditors	\$54,023	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	\$70,931
Advertising, Marketing, Promotions, Public Relations, & Sales Managers	\$105,898	Healthcare Support Occupations	\$26,857
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	\$62,870	Industrial Engineers	\$73,419
Cashiers	\$22,160	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$29,832
Chief Executives	\$180,028	Loan Officers	\$28,003
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	\$43,815	Machinists	\$30,643
Coaches and Scouts	\$25,886	Management Occupations	\$88,367
Computer Programmers	\$70,297	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$55,068
Computer User Support Specialists	\$38,791	Medical Assistants	\$28,660
Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	\$23,723	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	\$31,039
Counselors, Social Workers & Other Community Social Service Specialists	\$40,954	Pharmacists	\$137,370
Customer Service Representatives	\$28,937	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$40,405*
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	\$41,661	Postal Service Mail Carriers	\$51,758
Electricians	\$45,465*	Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$26,650
Engineers	\$66,831	Retail Sales Workers	\$20,926
Financial Managers	\$108,779	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	\$35,212
Firefighters	\$33,428*	Software Devs., Software Quality Assurance Anals. & Testers	\$71,189
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	\$19,969	Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$54,362
General and Operations Managers	\$90,781	Waiters and Waitresses	\$17,999
Graphic Designers	\$35,184	Woodworkers	\$26,619*

* 2020 data

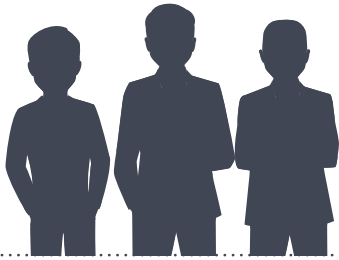
Source: Kansas Labor Market Information Center



Leading education that positively affects learners

Proudly employing 150 team members!

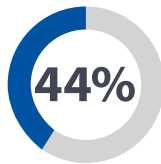
Pitsco Education serves nearly 3,500,000 students annually with innovative, hands-on curricula and products. Our STEM, coding, and robotics programs align with business and industry initiatives to expand problem-solving skills, enhance communication skills, support college and career pathways, and ultimately build a solid future workforce.



Pitsco was started in
1971
by three educators.
One was Harvey Dean.


1,016 different careers
to explore within
our curriculum

44% of our
current customers
have been
customers since
2000 or before!

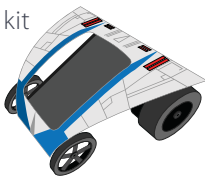


Number of products
that Pitsco manufactures:
500+
(counting the **five** lines of furniture)



280 
Pitsco kits are
outsourced to sheltered
workshops that employ
disabled individuals.

We physically kit
416
products.



More than
160 million
students served since 1992

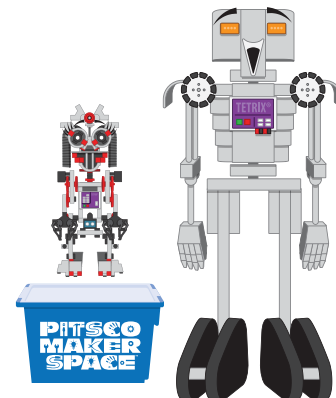



Since 2005, we have
provided curriculum
professional development
for **7,800+** teachers.



700+
Pitsco kits

Number of
countries
we ship to:
72 



4,000+
products

PITSCO.COM



MEADOWBROOK SHOPPING COMPLEX

202 EAST CENTENNIAL - PITTSBURG, KS 66762



MEADOWBROOK MALL

JCPenney	231-2300	Claire's Accessories.....	231-1522
AMC 8 Theaters	232-2256	Fashion Nails	231-9141
Theater Arcade.....	232-2256	KS Drivers License.....	231-0711
Maurices	231-1940	Tech World	687-3100
The Buckle	231-0210		
The Mall Deli.....	231-7590	OPEN	
Cafe Del Rio.....	232-5895	MON-SAT 10am to 9pm	
Hibbett Sports.....	232-6760	SUN 12p to 5pm	
Bath & Body Works.....	232-6589		



MEADOWBROOK COMMONS

Comeau Jewelry Co.	231-2530	Advance America	231-4477
Sally Beauty Supply.....	235-0417	Mag-Lab	232-1900
OneMain Financial.....	235-0425	SEK Urgent Care	231-8003
U.S. Recruiting Ofc	231-3600	Hospices Compassus.....	232-9898



WESTCO HOME FURNISHINGS 231-8950



MEADOWBROOK ANNEX

Edward Jones.....	231-8604
Herron Regional Dental	231-6400
Cryo & Chiropractic.....	308-6576

**SERVING SOUTHEAST KANSAS
 FOR OVER 50 YEARS!!!**

www.meadowbrookcomplex.net
twitter.com/pittsburgmall