

Why the St. Louis Region?

The St. Louis region ranks among the top 30 metro areas in the U.S. for chemical exports, according to the International Trade Administration, with significant sub-sector clusters in pharmaceutical, soap and cleaning compounds, petroleum and coal products, and fertilizer and agricultural chemicals. The regional chemical industry benefits from a skilled workforce that can support manufacturing and research and development, with the presence of established chemical companies and research facilities fostering continued innovation, investment, and growth.

Key Existing Sub-Sectors

Pharmaceutical & Medicine



- Our region is home to major international corporations such as **Pfizer** and **GlaxoSmithKline** and other U.S. corporations like **Mallinckrodt**.
- **Procter & Gamble** invested **\$180 million** to expand its North St. Louis facility, a major project completed in 2024 that will bring in an estimated **100 new jobs** and **retain 530 existing jobs**.
- **MilliporeSigma**, the U.S./Canada biotech and life sciences business of **Merck**, announced in 2024 that it will invest **\$76 million** and create **170 new jobs**, which will **triple its manufacturing capacity** for antibody drug conjugates for cancer treatment at the Bioconjugation Center of Excellence facility in St. Louis.

Soap & Cleaning Compounds



- The region has over **3x more** soap and cleaning compound manufacturing jobs than other similar-sized markets and has seen **18% growth** in the industry's jobs from 2015-2025, supported by major employers in the sector such as **Dial/Henkel**, **Procter & Gamble**, and **Phillips 66 Wood River Refinery**.

Basic Chemical

Petroleum & Coal Products

Pesticide, Fertilizer, & Other Agricultural Chemicals

Our Advantages

Skilled Workforce

- **1st in the nation** for on-the-job training programs
- **3rd in the nation** for completed internships
- The region is home to **21,200 professionals** specializing in chemistry, pharmacology, plastics, soap and cleaning compounds, and other chemical-related sectors.

Innovation Ecosystem

- Regional bioscience companies raised **\$2.6 billion** in venture capital from 2015-2023, according to BioSTL.
- Ranked among the **Top 25** metro areas in the United States for chemical exports
- Organizations like **BioSTL** and proximity to top-tier universities foster collaboration, access to cutting-edge research, and ensure a steady pipeline of talent and technologies.

In Good Company



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One Location. Global Access.



6 Class I Railroads

Union Pacific, Burlington Northern Santa Fe, CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern, Canadian National, and CPKCS



5 Regional Airports and 2 International Cargo Airports

St. Louis Lambert International Airport ranks among the top cargo airports in North America. In 2023, the airport moved **160,000 million pounds** of cargo for dedicated freighters such as UPS, FedEx, Amazon, DHL and more as well as belly cargo moved from passenger airlines. It began live animal exports in 2020.



4 Ice-free Ports on the Mississippi River

- **#1 most efficient** inland port in the nation
- Home to the Ag Coast of America, having the highest level of grain handling capacity along the Mississippi River
- 3 ports with container on barge capabilities
- Northernmost lock and ice-free port on the Mississippi River



4 Major Interstates

- I-44 (St. Louis, Tulsa, Oklahoma City)
- I-55 (Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans)
- I-64 (Missouri, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia)
- I-70 (Denver, Kansas City, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Columbus, Baltimore)

Transportation that Transforms



Investments & Impact

- The St. Louis Regional Freightway is helping to advance almost **\$9 billion** in planned infrastructure investments (\$3.2 billion already funded).
- 5 Regional Airports deliver an economic impact of more than **\$10 billion**.
- **7,000 acres** of Foreign Trade Zone Sites
- **Top 2** in the nation for mineral & ore exports
- **Top 17** for processed food exports
- **Top 25** for chemical exports

All economic data is sourced from Chmura JobsEQ, Q3 2025 dataset unless otherwise noted

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