

## Why the St. Louis Region?

Whether you are sourcing raw materials or manufacturing metals products, the St. Louis region boasts a strategic position in the United States, offering economically viable rare earth elements, unparalleled transportation access, and a skilled workforce cultivated by leading technical institutions. Establishing your metals manufacturing or transportation operation in the St. Louis region ensures efficiency, abundant energy resources, innovation, and sustained growth opportunities within a dynamic industrial landscape.

## Key Existing Sub-Sectors

### Nonferrous Metals

- Copper supplier **Wieland** announced an investment of **\$500 million** at its East Alton, Illinois, facility in 2024 that will retain **800 jobs** in the region. The investment supports continued growth in the metals sector as Wieland, which manufactures crucial products for the burgeoning electric vehicle industry, contributes to the nearly **16,000 metals industry workers** in the region.
- Missouri is **one of only 10 states** to have potentially economically viable rare earth element deposits, which are minerals in the Earth's crust that are critical components in a wide range of modern technologies, including smartphones, wind turbines, electric vehicles, and military equipment.
- According to the most recent available data from the U.S. International Trade Administration, Minerals and Ores are among the **top 5 largest export categories** in the region.

### Iron & Steel Mills & Ferroalloy

- The St. Louis region has about **twice as many iron and steel mill employees** as other similar-sized markets

### Foundries

### Forging & Stamping

### Coating, Engraving, Heat Treating & Allied Activities

## Our Advantages

### Access to Markets

- The metro area is ranked **3rd in the U.S.** for minerals and ores exports, which primarily includes metals and metal products.
- The region exported more than **\$15 billion** in minerals and ores from 2014 to 2024, according to the International Trade Administration.

### Skilled Workforce

- **1st in the nation** for on-the-job training programs
- **3rd in the nation** for completed internships
- Nearly **16,000** skilled workers in the Metals Manufacturing industry



“Wieland is committed to a sustainable future and is taking significant steps to modernize its East Alton facility. This effort solidifies our ability to supply the advanced energy sectors and underscores our dedication to environmental responsibility and innovation.”

—Greg Keown, President, Wieland Rolled Products North America



## In Good Company



## GET IN TOUCH

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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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