

# Dodge County Labor Basin Labor Availability Analysis – 2018

## *With Emphasis on Manufacturing Employment*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Dodge County Labor Basin includes all or portions of Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Jefferson, Washington, and Waukesha Counties in Wisconsin. The purpose of this report is to assess the “Available Labor Pool” in this labor basin, with an emphasis on those interested in manufacturing employment. The “Available Labor Pool” represents those who are looking for employment or are interested in new jobs for the right employment opportunities.

The Docking Institute’s independent analysis of this labor basin shows that:

- The population of the Dodge County Labor Basin is 657,906. The Civilian Labor Force is 384,778. The Available Labor Pool contains 223,727 individuals.
- Of the *non-working* members of the Available Labor Pool, an estimated 12,540 (5.6%) are currently looking for work and 41,495 (18.5%) are interested in working for the right opportunities. Of the *working* members of the Available Labor Pool, 32,381 (14.5%) are currently looking for work, while 137,311 (61.4%) are interested in different jobs given the right opportunities.
- About four-fifths (80.8%) of the Available Labor Pool have at least some college experience and 98.6% have at least a high school diploma. The average age for members of the Pool is about 49 years old, and women make up about two-fifths (43.1%) of the Pool.
- A fifth (20%) of the Available Labor Pool are currently employed as general laborers, while an additional 7% work in government services or technical/highly skilled blue-collar occupations. Almost 30% of the Pool work in service sector jobs, while 19% work in professional white-collar jobs. About a quarter (24.2%) are not currently working.
- About three-quarters (75.9%) of the Available Labor Pool are “willing to work outside of their primary field of employment for a new or different employment opportunity.”
- More than a third (37%) of the members of the Available Labor Pool will commute up to 45 minutes, one-way, for an employment opportunity, while 79% will commute up to 30 minutes for employment.
- An estimated 12,976 members (6%) of the Available Labor Pool are interested in a new job at \$10 an hour, 55,932 (25%) are interested at \$15 an hour, and 95,979 (43%) are interested at \$20 an hour.
- About 41% of the Available Labor Pool report having training or experience, and 47% report being interested in employment in manufacturing. Of those with manufacturing experience, 47% report working in production.
- The average age for those interested in manufacturing employment is about 50 years old, and 28% are women. Practically all (99.3%) have a high school diploma.
- The five most important benefits, for those interested in manufacturing employment are, in order: good salary/hourly pay, good vacation benefits, good health benefits, good retirement benefits, and on-the-job (OJT) or paid training.
- The mean average desired hourly wage for those willing to work in manufacturing in Dodge County for a day shift job is \$25.65. The average hourly wage for the second shift is \$28.50. The average hourly wage for the third shift is \$30.80.

**For the complete study, email your request to: [julieo@ghdpartnership.org](mailto:julieo@ghdpartnership.org).**

**Please include your name, title, company/organization and contact information. In addition, please indicate which study/studies you would like: Dodge County, Jefferson County, Regional (combined).**



The Docking Institute of Public Affairs, Dodge  
County Labor Basin Study ©2018

