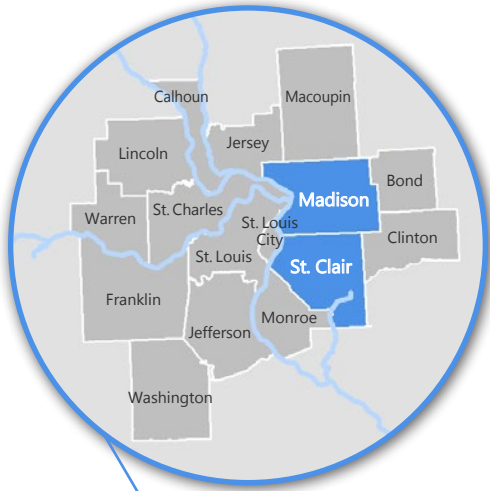


The State of FREIGHT

in the St. Louis Region



To continue advancing freight-based economic development efforts, the Southwestern Illinois Freight Transportation Study identifies quantitative means for the region to understand its position in the marketplace and evaluate performance indicators to prioritize areas of investment.



Six Class I Railroads

Multiple Class I railroads and favorable intermodal rail service to Eastern markets from the St. Louis region provides a rail transit-time advantage over competing logistics hubs to the west.



Major Multi-Directional Interstates

Interstate coverage allows freight to travel radially from the St. Louis region in six different directions. Shipments can be transported by truck anywhere in the U.S. in three days.



Long-Standing Dominant Position

The St. Louis region is located at the most northerly, ice-free, full service port on the Mississippi River, which allows barge traffic to travel lock-free to and from the Gulf of Mexico.



Five Airports in the Region

Multiple airports in the St. Louis region, including MidAmerica Airport, have cargo service capacity available with cold storage capabilities for perishable goods.



Proven Logistics Leader with Available Real Estate

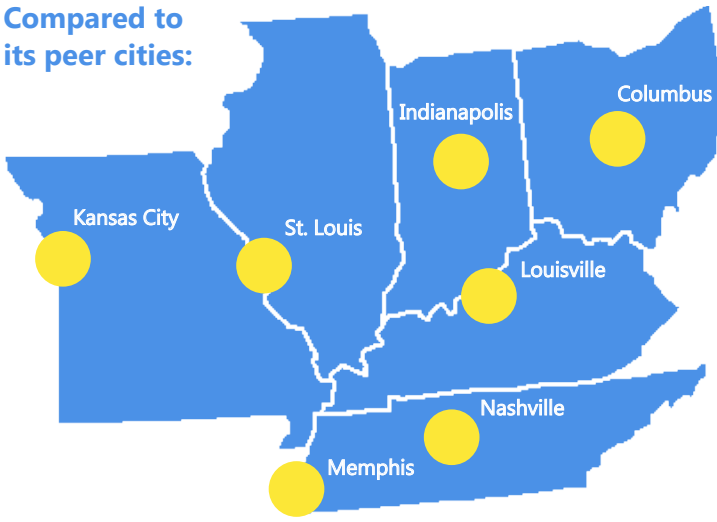
Over 15 million square feet of freight-based modern warehouse development has occurred in Southwestern Illinois in the last two decades. Over 3,000 acres of master planned development exist in the region.



Regional Cooperation and Support

The Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois is a not-for-profit economic development corporation focused on Madison and St. Clair counties. Leadership Council is focused on capturing freight-based economic development opportunities for the region. Strong evidence from the Southwestern Illinois Freight Transportation Study illustrates that the region is a multimodal hub positioned for growth.

Compared to its peer cities:



#1

St. Louis is the largest freight hub with its significant presence of all transportation modes

#1

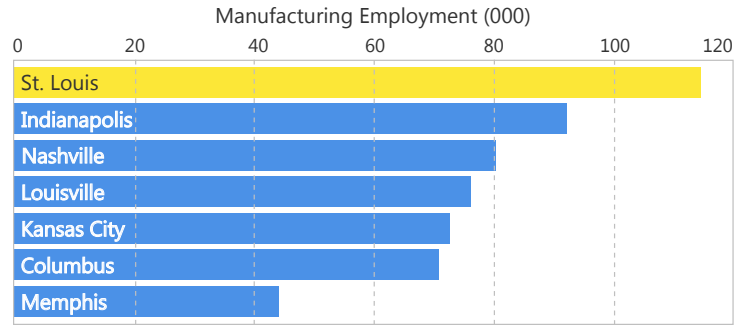
St. Louis is tied with Indianapolis and Columbus as the best location for manufacturing

#2

St. Louis is behind Indianapolis as a top location for warehousing and distribution

Employment Base

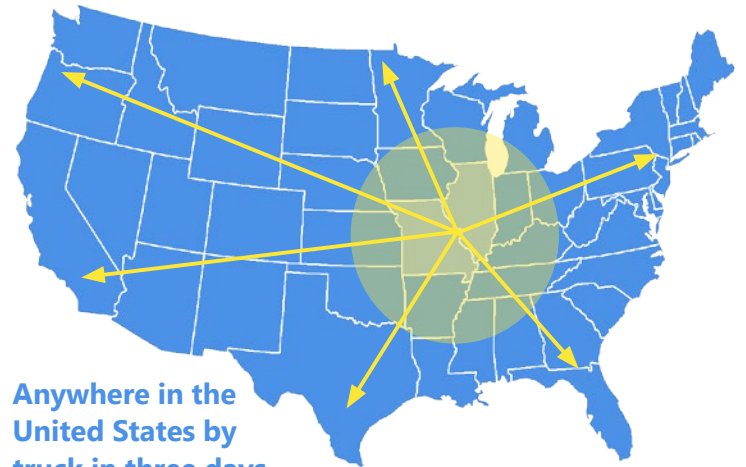
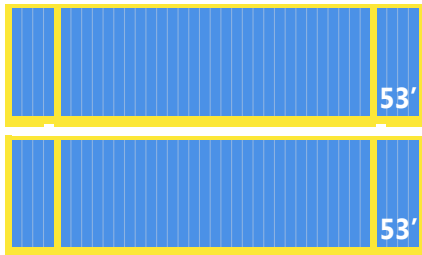
The St. Louis region has the largest number of workers employed in manufacturing of its peer cities.



Shipping Trends

The state of freight transportation has been in flux for the past two decades. Potential cargo diversions from the West Coast to the Port of Houston have big implications for the region.

St. Louis has faster intermodal rail service to and from the Port of Houston than regional rivals.



Anywhere in the United States by truck in three days

The distribution service area is within a 400 mile radius of St. Louis. However, shipments can reach anywhere in the U.S. within a three-day truck drive. The existence of UPS and FedEx hubs make St. Louis an ideal location for eCommerce.

Projected Growth

St. Louis has a long-held, dominant position on bulk commodity shipments. While bulk commodity shipments are still expected to grow, higher value/warehouseable/manufacturing goods are expected to grow at a faster rate.

Lower value/bulk commodities

Higher value/warehouseable/manufacturing

Lowest Shipping Cost



Compared to its peer cities, total truck cost from the St. Louis region produced the lowest cost option for shippers. Successful distribution models are demonstrated by the existing presence of national logistics leaders including: Dial, Genco, Hershey's, Holland, Kraft, Menasha, OHL, Owens & Minor, Procter & Gamble, QPSI, Save-A-Lot, Schneider National, Spectrum Brands, Target, Unilever, USF Logistics, Walgreens, and World Wide Technologies.

Hundreds of millions in roadway and bridge investment was recently completed in Madison and St. Clair counties. Additional roadway and bridge investment is programmed over the next five years along with other investment in rail and port infrastructure.

IMPROVE

Merchants Bridge Rehabilitation • I-270 Widening
America's Central Port Expansion • IL Route 3 Improvements

