

Gratiot County Talent Profile

**Labor Force, Education
& Training, and Wage
Data for Gratiot County**



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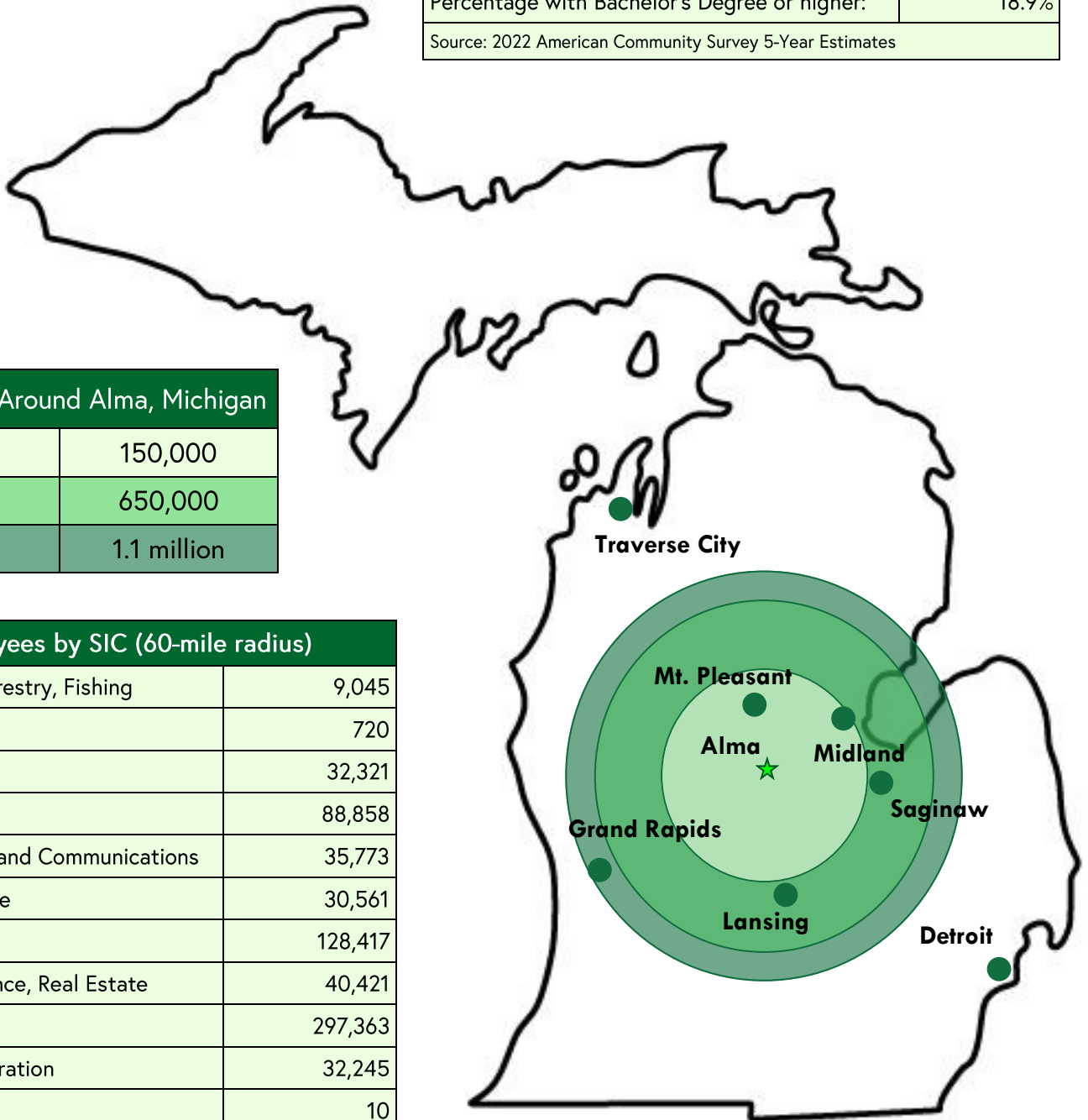
Local & Commuter Labor Force Data

Gratiot County Employment Data

Total Labor Force:	18,000
Total Employed:	17,200
Unemployed:	800
Unemployment rate:	4.4%
Source: Michigan Labor Market Information	

Gratiot County Labor Force and Education Data

Labor Force 16 & Older:	16,782
Average time spent commuting (in minutes):	24.6 minutes
Percentage who work at home:	6.9%
Educational Attainment:	
Persons 25 years of age or older:	21,311
Percentage with high school diploma or higher:	92%
Percentage with Bachelor's Degree or higher:	18.9%
Source: 2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates	



Labor Force Around Alma, Michigan

30-mile	150,000
50-mile	650,000
60-mile	1.1 million

Employees by SIC (60-mile radius)

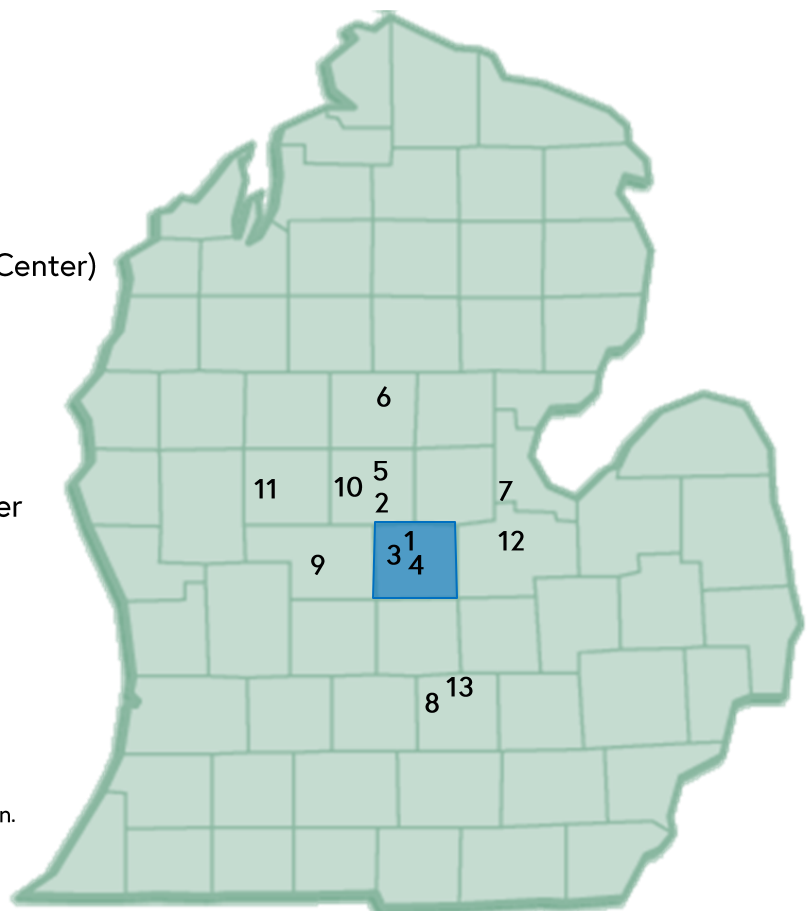
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	9,045
Mining	720
Construction	32,321
Manufacturing	88,858
Transportation and Communications	35,773
Wholesale Trade	30,561
Retail Trade	128,417
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	40,421
Services	297,363
Public Administration	32,245
Unclassified	10
Source: Applied Geographic Solutions, 2024	

Training and Education

Higher/Technical Education Institutions near Gratiot County (highlighted in blue):

1. Gratiot/Isabella Regional Education Service District Vocational Education Center 1 (Alma High School)
2. Gratiot/Isabella Regional Education Service District Vocational Education Center 2 (Mt. Pleasant Tech Center)
Over 50% of students within the GIRESD are enrolled in CTE programs
3. Alma College
Enrollment: 1,500
4. Merrill Institute of Welding
Enrollment: 267
5. Mid Michigan College (Mt. Pleasant campus)
Enrollment: 4,100
6. Mid Michigan College (Harrison campus)
7. Delta College: Junior College
Enrollment: 10,000
8. Lansing Community College (with Michigan Technical Education Center)
Enrollment: 1,500
9. Montcalm Community College (with Michigan Technical Education Center)
Enrollment: 1,600
10. Central Michigan University
Enrollment: 27,000
11. Ferris State University
Enrollment: 14,000
12. Saginaw Valley State University
(with Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center)
Enrollment: 9,800
13. Michigan State University
Enrollment: 50,000

For more information on these institutions, refer to the next page.



*The UP was not used in data collection and thus, is not shown.

Institutions in Gratiot County

Gratiot-Isabella Technical Education Center: GI-TEC offers career and technical education courses to students in school districts throughout Gratiot County. Programs of interest include: agriscience, mechatronics/pre-engineering, welding, machine trades, drafting, and electronics. In addition to classroom learning, the programs also offers opportunities for hands-on simulations and cooperative education with local businesses. For more information, click [here](#).

Alma College: Alma College is a four-year private liberal arts institution with 1,500 students. Alma offers 45 academic programs, including: business administration, computer science, pre-engineering, and biotechnology. For more information, click [here](#).

Merrill Institute: The Merrill Institute offers students comprehensive, state-of-the-art, hands-on welding training. Merrill Institute offers a 12-week American Welding Society accredited welding program, course offerings pertaining to commonly used welding processes, and corporate programs for custom training needs. For more information, click [here](#).

Community Colleges Near Gratiot County

Mid-Michigan College: Mid Michigan College is a community college located in Mt. Pleasant and Harrison, MI. Mid offers nearly 50 degrees and credentials, and can provide customized training for business needs. Programs of interest for industry include: advanced integrated manufacturing, commercial driver license, computer aided drafting and design, machine tool, and welding. For more information, click [here](#).

Delta College: Delta College is a community college offering 150+ programs of study. Programs of interest for industry include: agricultural technology, CAD engineering, CNC manufacturing training, manufacturing and industrial technology, mechatronics, and welding. For more information, click [here](#).

Lansing Community College (LCC): LCC is a community college in Lansing, MI that offers more than 200 associate degree and certificate programs in addition to career and workforce development options. Programs of interest for industry include: agricultural technology, automotive technologies, Computer Automated Design, engineering, precision machining, robotics & automation, and welding. For more information, click [here](#).

Montcalm Community College: Montcalm Community College (MCC) is a community college located in Sidney, MI. MCC offers over 50 degree, certificate, and job training programs. Programs of interest for industry include: skilled trades, technical drafting & design, welding, and industrial automation maintenance. For more information, click [here](#).

Colleges and Universities Near Gratiot County

Central Michigan University (CMU): CMU is located in Mt. Pleasant, MI and has a student population of 27,000. CMU offers approximately 300 academic programs at the undergraduate, master's, specialist, and doctoral levels. Programs of interest include: business, management, electrical engineering, industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, and logistics. For more information, click [here](#).

Ferris State University (FSU): FSU is a mid-sized four-year public university in Big Rapids, MI. Programs range from associate to doctoral degrees. Programs of interest for industry include: global logistics, automotive engineering, geographic information systems, industrial electronics technology, lean systems, manufacturing engineering technology, mechanical engineering technology, plastics and polymer engineering technology, and welding. For more information, click [here](#).

Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU): SVSU is located in Saginaw, MI and offers over 100 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Programs of interest for industry include: agricultural studies, electrical engineering, engineering technology management, management, and mechanical engineering. For more information, click [here](#).

Michigan State University (MSU): MSU is located in Lansing, MI and has an enrollment of 50,000. Programs range from undergraduate to doctoral degrees. Programs include agriculture and natural resources, applied engineering sciences, chemical engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering, engineering mechanics, management, materials science and engineering, packaging, and supply chain management. For more information, click [here](#).

Top 5 Programs by Graduates (within 60 miles)	
Business, Management, Marketing	7,500
Health Professions	5,600
Liberal arts & Sciences, General	2,400
Biological & Biomedical Sciences	2,150
Education	2,050
Source: Applied Geographic Solutions, 2024	

Top 5 Universities (within 60 miles)	
Michigan State University	13,000
Central Michigan University	5,000
Ferris State University	3,000
Baker College	1,700
Saginaw Valley State University	1,500
Source: Applied Geographic Solutions, 2024	

Area Wage Data by Industry and Select Occupations

OCCUPATION	MEAN HOURLY	MEDIAN HOURLY	MEAN ANNUAL	MEDIAN ANNUAL
All Occupations	\$ 21.36	\$ 17.51	44,430	36,420
Management Occupations	\$ 46.84	\$ 41.10	97,430	85,490
Chief Executives	\$105.49	\$ 98.65	219,410	205,190
General and Operations Managers	\$ 46.13	\$ 36.20	95,960	75,290
Sales Managers	\$ 60.32	\$ 57.88	125,460	120,390
Industrial Production Managers	\$ 51.71	\$ 47.24	107,550	98,260
Purchasing Managers	\$ 52.72	\$ 51.46	109,660	107,030
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$ 42.34	\$ 42.02	88,070	87,390
Human Resources Managers	\$ 50.04	\$ 47.08	104,090	97,940
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	\$ 31.54	\$28.62	65,610	59,530
Buyers and Purchasing Agents	\$ 28.60	\$ 27.58	59,480	57,360
Human Resources Specialists	\$ 28.43	\$ 27.51	59,130	57,220
Accountants and Auditors	\$ 33.03	\$ 31.16	68,690	64,810
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	\$ 31.59	\$ 29.12	65,710	60,560
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	\$ 34.52	\$33.94	71,800	70,590
Chemical Engineers	\$ 42.01	\$ 43.47	87,370	90,420
Electrical Engineers	\$ 38.99	\$ 37.30	81,100	77,580
Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	\$ 37.41	\$ 35.39	77,820	73,620
Industrial Engineers	\$ 36.78	\$ 36.33	76,510	75,570
Materials Engineers	\$ 42.23	\$ 44.47	87,830	92,500
Mechanical Engineers	\$ 36.15	\$ 35.13	75,200	73,070
Engineers, All Other	\$ 38.85	\$ 35.05	80,800	72,910
Mechanical Drafters	\$ 21.04	\$ 20.93	43,770	43,540
Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technologists and Technicians	\$ 30.10	\$ 28.86	62,610	60,020
Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians	\$ 25.54	\$ 23.41	53,130	48,700
Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians	\$ 28.10	\$ 24.41	58,440	50,780
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	\$ 31.89	\$29.34	66,330	61,020
Food Scientists and Technologists	*	*	*	*
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	\$ 30.45	\$ 29.98	63,340	62,360
Occupational Health and Safety Technicians	\$ 21.41	\$ 19.97	44,520	41,540
Community and Social Service Occupations	\$ 23.86	\$23.67	49,640	49,230
Legal Occupations	\$ 32.20	\$25.35	66,970	52,720
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	\$ 25.49	\$22.58	53,020	46,970
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	\$ 22.24	\$ 18.59	46,270	38,660
Healthcare Support Occupations	\$ 14.67	\$ 14.03	30,510	29,190
Protective Service Occupations	\$ 22.90	\$ 23.12	47,630	48,080
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	\$ 12.58	\$ 11.53	26,170	23,980
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	\$ 15.50	\$ 13.95	32,240	29,020
Personal Care and Service Occupations	\$ 15.14	\$ 12.59	31,480	26,190
Sales and Related Occupations	\$ 17.47	\$ 12.68	36,330	26,370
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	\$ 38.63	\$ 31.66	80,340	65,860
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	\$ 33.05	\$ 28.39	68,740	59,050
Sales Engineers	\$ 38.36	\$ 35.60	79,800	74,050
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	\$ 18.23	\$ 17.13	37,920	35,630
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$ 25.42	\$ 22.77	52,880	47,370
Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service	\$ 18.12	\$ 18.17	37,680	37,800
Bill and Account Collectors	\$ 19.63	\$ 18.97	40,840	39,460
Billing and Posting Clerks	\$ 17.48	\$ 17.08	36,350	35,520
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	\$ 18.10	\$ 17.66	37,650	36,730
Payroll and Timekeeping Clerks	\$ 18.83	\$ 18.06	39,160	37,560
Procurement Clerks	\$ 18.60	\$ 18.03	38,690	37,500
Customer Service Representatives	\$ 16.78	\$ 15.16	34,900	31,530
Human Resources Assistants, Except Payroll and Timekeeping	\$ 20.16	\$ 18.74	41,930	38,970
Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$ 13.85	\$ 13.64	28,810	28,370
Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	\$ 23.16	\$ 21.93	48,180	45,610
Shipping, Receiving, and Inventory Clerks	\$ 17.52	\$ 17.11	36,440	35,600
Office Clerks, General	\$ 17.13	\$ 16.63	35,630	34,580
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	\$ 19.97	\$ 17.28	41,530	35,940
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	\$ 16.39	\$ 14.22	34,090	29,570
Agricultural Inspectors	\$ 29.26	\$ 29.48	60,860	61,320
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	\$ 11.66	\$ 11.22	24,260	23,350
Agricultural Equipment Operators	\$ 19.61	\$ 20.60	40,800	42,860

Area Wage Data by Industry and Select Occupations

OCCUPATION	MEAN HOURLY	MEDIAN HOURLY	MEAN ANNUAL	MEDIAN ANNUAL
Construction and Extraction Occupations	\$ 22.49	\$20.95	46,780	43,580
First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	\$ 32.11	\$ 29.17	66,790	60,660
Construction Laborers	\$ 19.43	\$ 19.13	40,410	39,790
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	\$ 25.17	\$ 23.61	52,360	49,100
Electricians	\$ 25.95	\$ 26.12	53,980	54,320
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	\$ 22.28	\$20.69	46,330	43,040
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$ 19.91	\$ 18.32	41,420	38,110
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$ 23.03	\$ 21.47	47,910	44,660
Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	\$ 19.70	\$ 18.53	40,970	38,530
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$ 23.69	\$ 23.21	49,270	48,270
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	\$ 22.60	\$ 22.18	47,000	46,130
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$ 18.03	\$ 17.44	37,510	36,270
Production Occupations	\$ 18.47	\$ 17.23	38,420	35,840
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	\$ 28.54	\$ 27.83	59,370	57,900
Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	\$ 16.71	\$ 16.69	34,760	34,720
Engine and Other Machine Assemblers	\$ 23.47	\$ 22.91	48,810	47,660
Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	\$ 21.80	\$ 20.30	45,330	42,220
Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	\$ 15.56	\$ 14.89	32,370	30,970
Food Processing Workers, All Other	\$ 18.57	\$ 17.33	38,620	36,040
Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$ 18.33	\$ 18.13	38,130	37,710
Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$ 16.44	\$ 15.48	34,190	32,190
Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$ 16.01	\$ 15.07	33,310	31,340
Lathe and Turning Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$ 18.41	\$ 17.87	38,290	37,160
Milling and Planing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$ 19.30	\$ 18.62	40,150	38,720
Machinists	\$ 19.42	\$ 18.76	40,380	39,020
Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$ 16.87	\$ 17.03	35,080	35,420
Tool and Die Makers	\$ 24.15	\$ 23.96	50,230	49,850
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$ 18.48	\$ 18.22	38,440	37,900
Heat Treating Equipment Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$ 18.75	\$ 18.71	39,000	38,920
Plating Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$ 15.98	\$ 16.69	33,240	34,710
Tool Grinders, Filers, and Sharpeners	\$ 18.18	\$ 18.12	37,820	37,680
Sewing Machine Operators	\$ 14.33	\$ 13.70	29,800	28,500
Upholsters	\$ 16.39	\$ 17.00	34,090	35,360
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	\$ 16.86	\$ 15.37	35,070	31,970
Furniture Finishers	\$ 18.19	\$ 18.23	37,820	37,920
Sawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Wood	\$ 15.47	\$ 14.58	32,170	30,330
Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing	\$ 17.24	\$ 16.58	35,870	34,480
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	\$ 24.33	\$ 23.71	50,610	49,320
Separating, Filtering, Clarifying, Precipitating, and Still Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	\$ 18.39	\$ 18.72	38,240	38,940
Crushing, Grinding, and Polishing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	\$ 18.89	\$ 18.82	39,290	39,140
Grinding and Polishing Workers, Hand	\$ 15.12	\$ 14.74	31,450	30,670
Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	\$ 18.95	\$ 18.44	39,420	38,360
Cutting and Slicing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	\$ 16.44	\$ 16.25	34,190	33,790
Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	\$ 16.93	\$ 16.79	35,220	34,920
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	\$ 18.07	\$ 17.75	37,590	36,910
Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	\$ 20.28	\$ 18.47	42,180	38,420
Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	\$ 17.55	\$ 16.70	36,500	34,730
Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Programmers	\$ 24.56	\$ 24.14	51,080	50,200
Helpers--Production Workers	\$ 16.43	\$ 16.47	34,180	34,250
Production Workers, All Other	\$ 20.49	\$ 20.05	42,610	41,710
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	\$ 17.24	\$ 16.20	35,850	33,700
First-Line Supervisors of Transportation and Material Moving Workers, Except Aircraft Cargo Handling Supervisors	\$ 26.13	\$ 25.30	54,360	52,630
Driver/Sales Workers	\$ 15.21	\$ 13.24	31,630	27,540
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$ 21.43	\$ 21.27	44,580	44,240
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	\$ 18.52	\$ 18.86	38,530	39,220
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$ 16.49	\$ 15.81	34,300	32,880

*Geographical Area MSA: Alma, Data provided by GIS Planning 2024