Introduction

The Workforce Intelligence Network for Southeast Michigan (WIN) partnership is a collaboration of six Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs) and ten community colleges across a 16-county region in Michigan. The counties in the WIN partnership include: Genesee, Hillsdale, Huron, Jackson, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Saint Clair, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Tuscola, Washtenaw, and Wayne, along with the City of Detroit.

The WIN partnership region’s labor shed highlights why, when it comes to talent, we must think regionally: The workforce is mobile. Although 91.0% of the region’s workforce live and work in the 16-county area, not all residents work in their home county. It is not uncommon for workers to commute one or two counties over for work. This means that the residents in every county should be ready for the job demands of employers hiring throughout southeast Michigan.

This document provides detailed information on where employees in the area commute to and from each day for work, how far they travel, along with other information about workers and businesses in the area. For more detail on the labor market please see WIN’s Quarterly Labor Market Report publications.

Where Residents Work

In 2015, Lenawee County’s workforce consisted of 36,587 residents. 15,612 (42.7%) of the residents lived and worked within Lenawee County, while the remaining 20,975 residents (57.3%) traveled outside of the county for work. Since 2014, the number of residents that traveled outside of the county for work decreased by 356 (1.7%) individuals from 21,331 to 20,975. Additionally, the number of residents who live and work in Lenawee County decreased by 791 individuals.

Lenawee County residents were slightly less mobile in 2015 than in 2014. In 2015, 39.8% of the county’s workforce (14,566 individuals) traveled more than 25 miles to their place of employment compared to 40.7% (15,200 individuals) in 2014. Washtenaw County was the most popular destination outside of Lenawee County for residents to find employment. 5,408 residents (14.8% of the county’s workforce) traveled to Washtenaw County for employment in 2015, followed by 2,313 residents (6.3% of the county’s workforce) that traveled to Wayne County.

Where Lenawee Residents Work

![Map showing commuting patterns]

Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap, 2015
Analysis: Workforce Intelligence Network
Where Workers Live

In 2015, 24,900 workers were employed in Lenawee County. 9,288 (37.3%) of those workers were employed in Lenawee, but lived outside of its borders. Of those that traveled to Lenawee County for work, 2,230 (24.0%) of the workers were 29 or younger. While Lenawee County employers were able to attract a sizable amount of young workers in 2015, 4,927 (53.0%) of the internal jobs were filled by workers between the ages of 30 and 54. This indicates a desire for experienced workers in Lenawee County.

The great majority of workers that travel to Lenawee reside in either Washtenaw or Hillsdale counties. 1,101 (4.4%) of Lenawee County workers travel in from Washtenaw County followed by 1,008 (4.0%) that travel in from Hillsdale County. 6,675 (26.8%) of the 24,900 workers in Lenawee County traveled more than 25 miles to their place of employment in 2015.

1 This fact and labor shed statistics throughout this brief are analyzed from the U.S. Census OnTheMap, Center for Economic Studies (2015).