United States® Census Bureau

MEASURING AMERICA

October 1, 2018

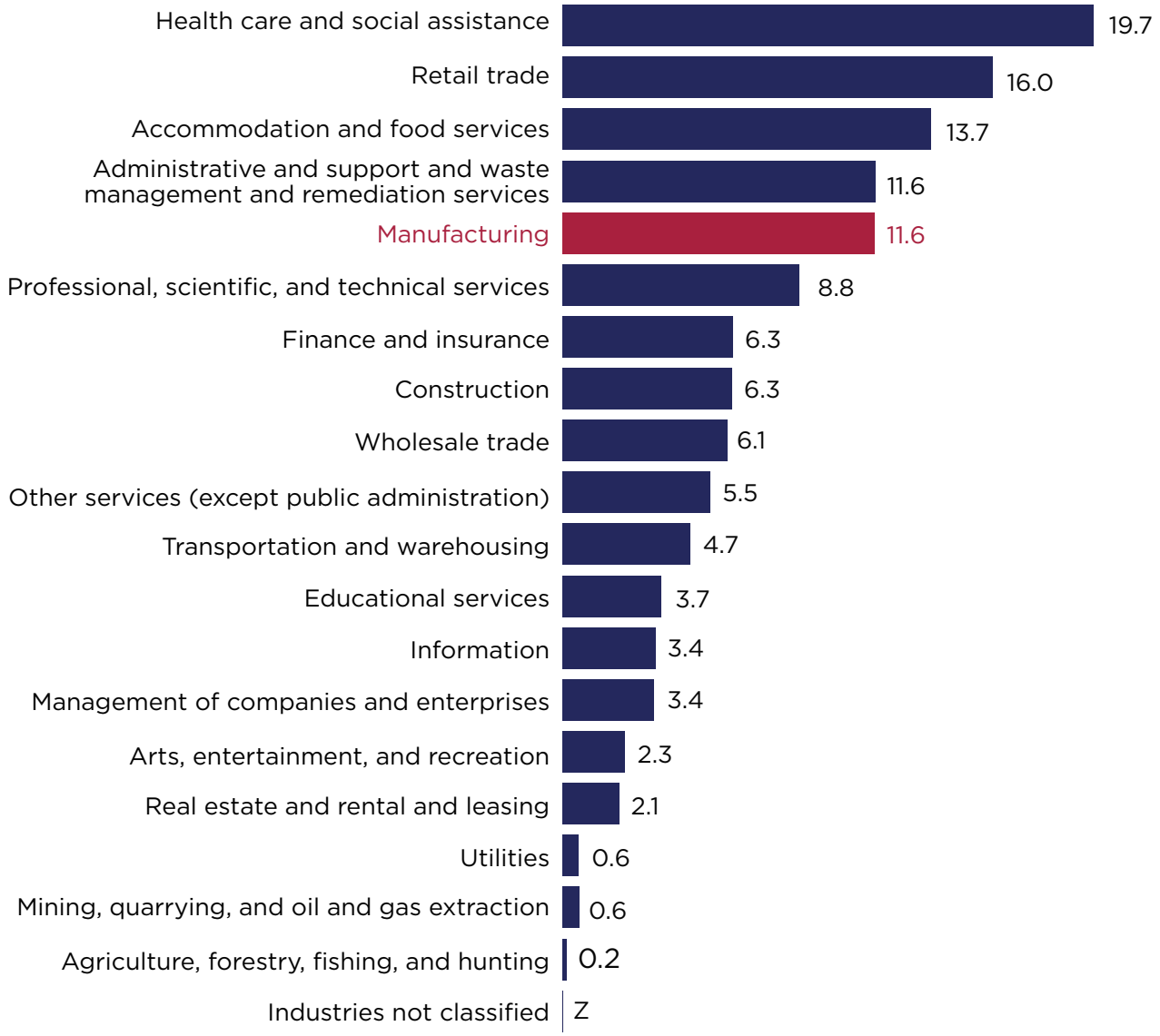
Manufacturing in America

Manufacturing plays a major role in our economy, with 11.6 million employees producing goods that we consume domestically or export abroad. In recognition of the seventh annual Manufacturing Day on October 5, 2018, the U.S. Census Bureau joins a group of public and private organizations in celebrating the importance of the manufacturing sector to the nation's economy. The nation relies on several key Census Bureau programs to track America's manufacturing industries, and the most recent year's data from some of these programs are highlighted below.

How does manufacturing compare to other industries?

Manufacturing Is the Fifth-Largest Employer

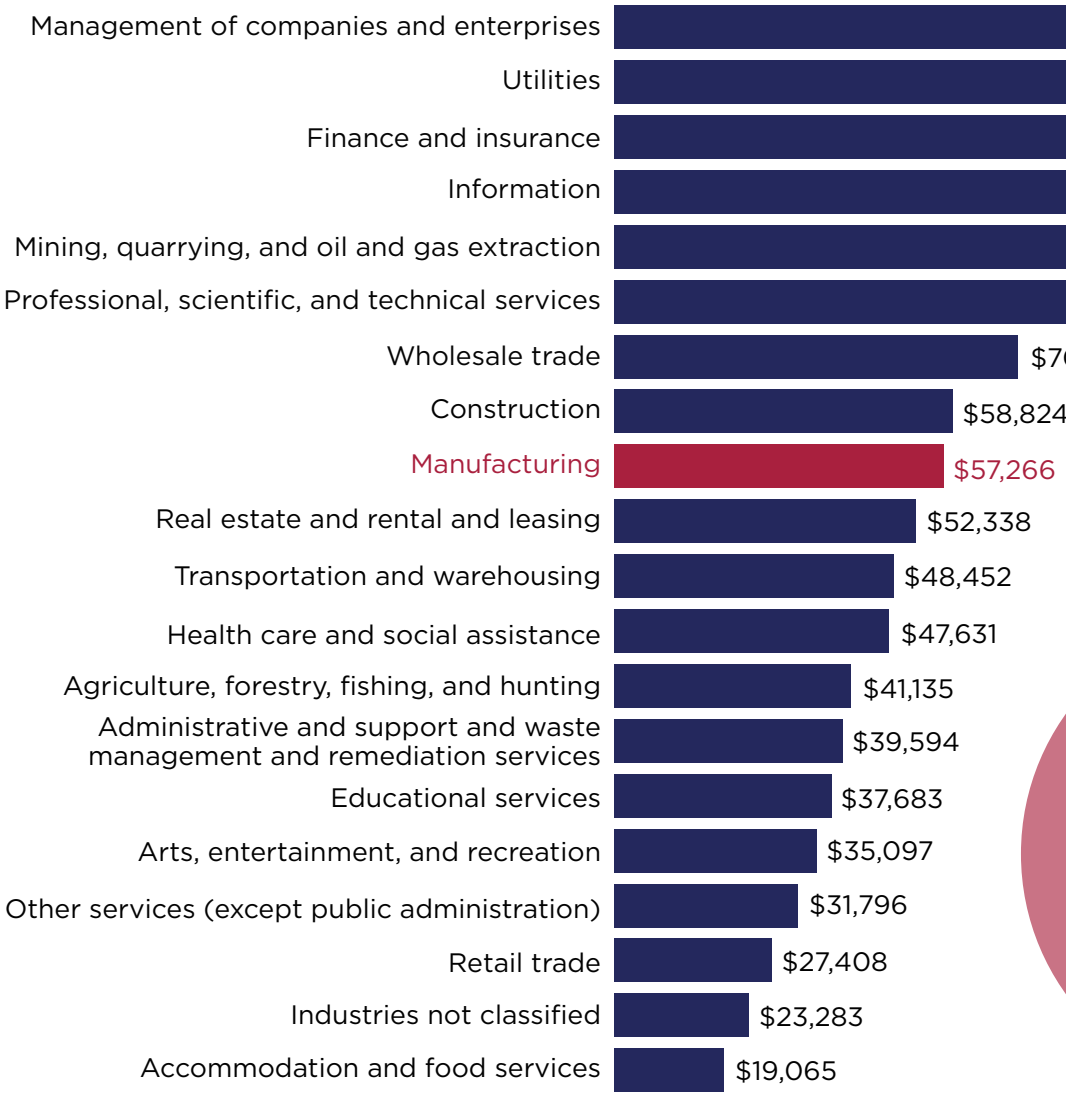
(Millions of employees)



Z Rounds to zero.
Note: Rankings may vary slightly due to nonsampling error and disclosure methods used to protect the confidentiality of the data.
Source: 2016 County Business Patterns, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/>.

How does manufacturing compare to other industries?

Average Annual Payroll Per Employee by Sector



Average annual payroll for all sectors:

$50,769

Manufacturing employed 11.6 million workers in 2016. The annual payroll was $663.7 billion.

Source: 2016 County Business Patterns.

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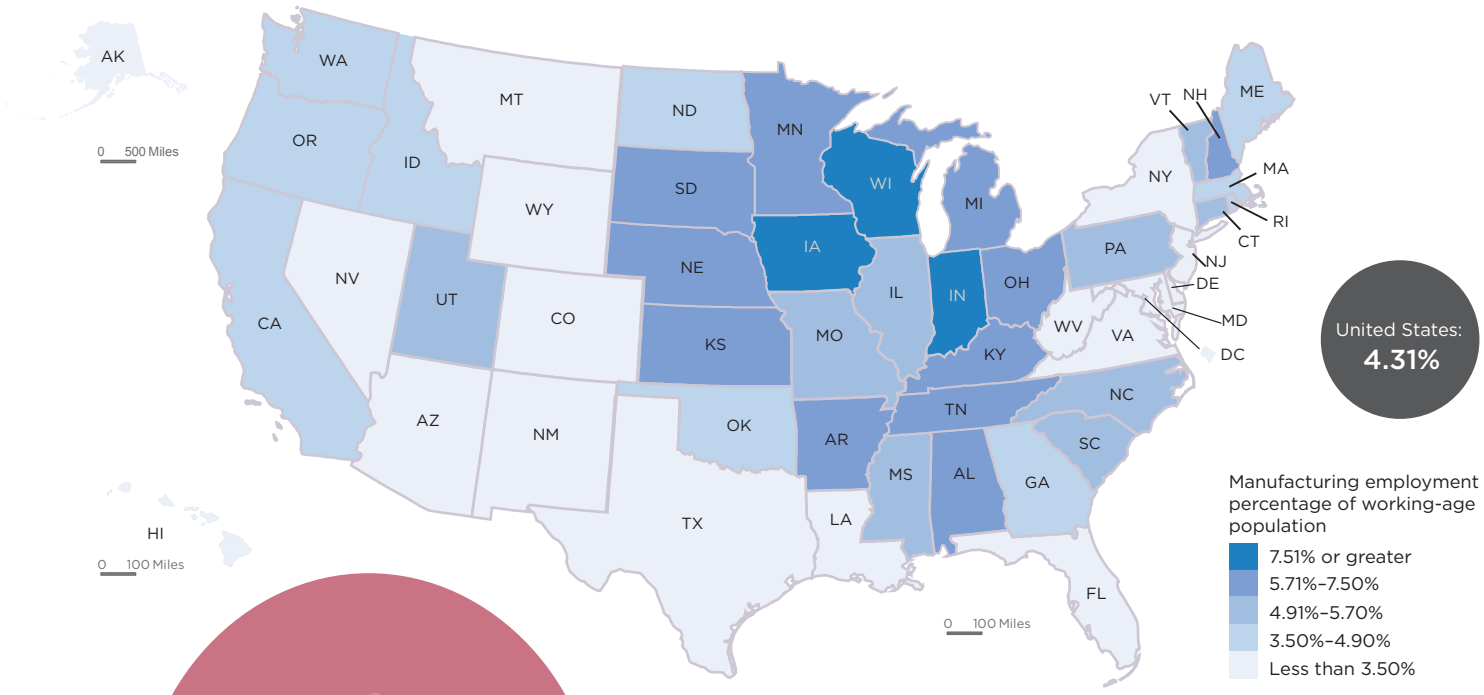
Where does manufacturing occur in the United States?

Manufacturing Employment as a Percentage of Total Working-Age Population by State[1]



In 2016, 29.8 percent of manufacturing employees age 25 and older had a bachelor's degree or higher.

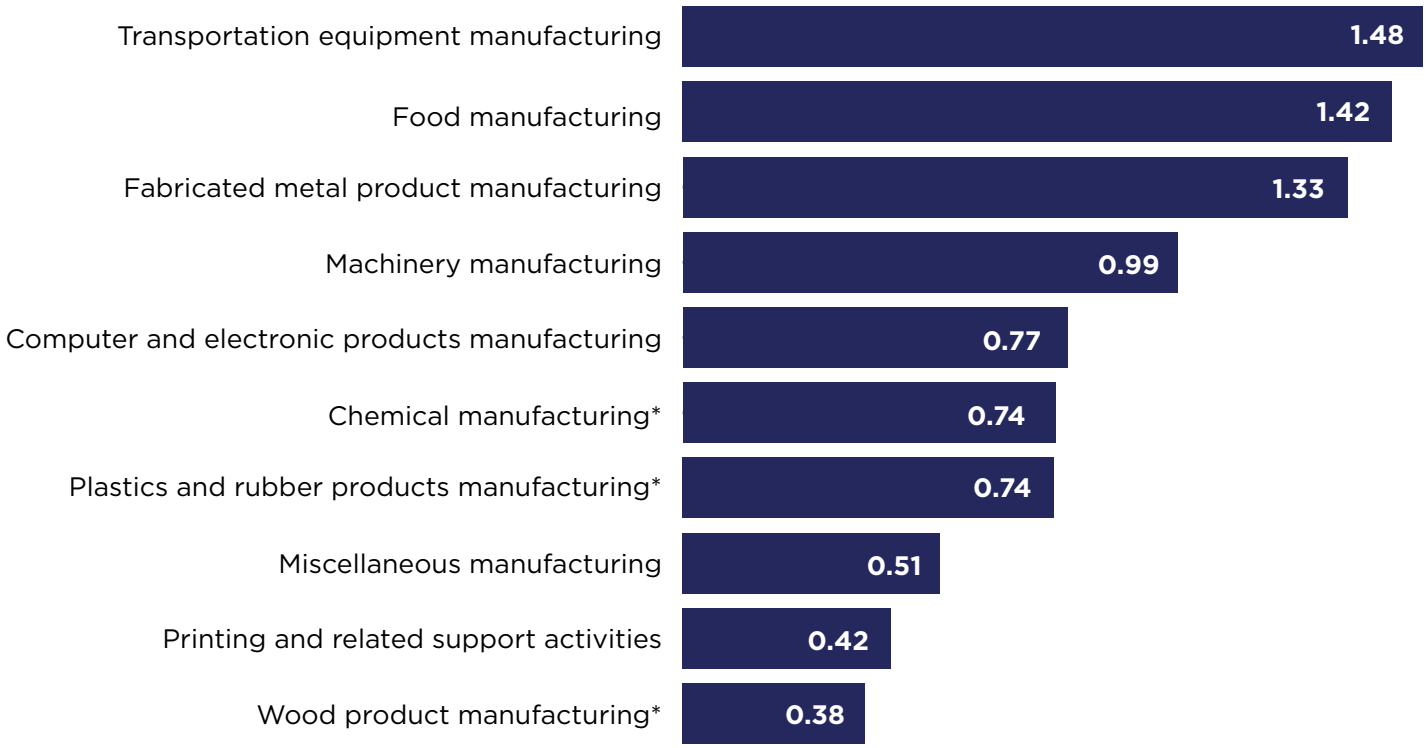
Source: 2016 Current Population Survey.

[1] Total working-age population represents the total state population aged 16 and over in 2016, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Manufacturing employment estimates come from the 2016 Annual Survey of Manufactures.
Source: 2016 Annual Survey of Manufactures, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/asm/>, 2016 American Community Survey, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>, and 2016 Current Population Survey, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/>.

In what subsectors do manufacturers work?

Top 10 Subsectors by Number of Employees

(Millions of employees)



*The difference between the employment estimates, within each pair of subsectors, is not statistically significant at the 90 percent level: Chemical manufacturing and Plastics and rubber products manufacturing; and Wood product manufacturing and nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing (not pictured).
Note: These statistics are estimated from a sample survey and are subject to sampling variability, as well as nonsampling error.
Source: 2016 Annual Survey of Manufactures, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/asm/>.

Which manufacturing subsectors have the largest value of shipments?

Top 10 Subsectors by Value of Shipments

(Billions of dollars)

The total value of shipments for 2016 was $5.4 trillion.

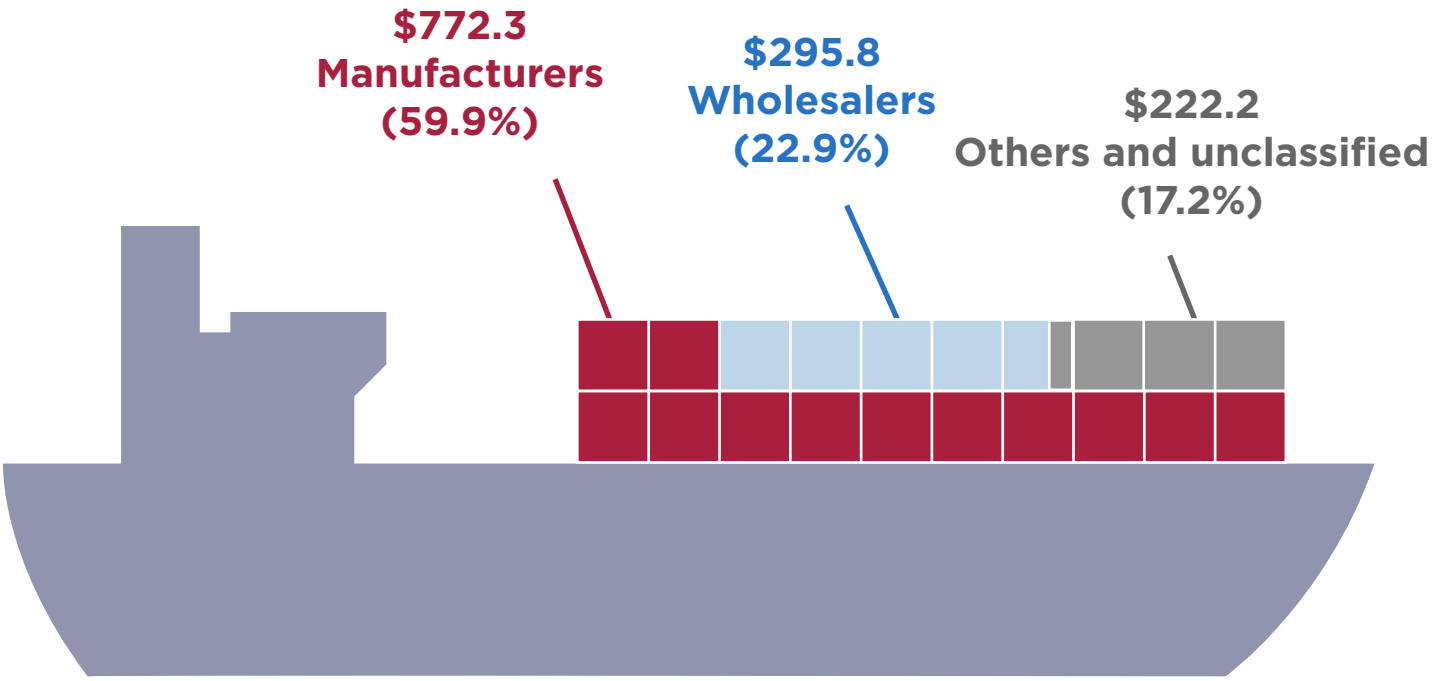
Source: 2016 Annual Survey of Manufactures.

Note: These statistics are estimated from a sample survey and are subject to sampling variability, as well as nonsampling error.
Source: 2016 Annual Survey of Manufactures, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/asm/>.

How does manufacturing contribute to exports?

Nearly 6 in 10 U.S. Export Dollars Come From Manufacturers[1]

(Billions of dollars)



[1] Note: Graphic shows the known value of the portion of U.S. exports that could be matched to specific companies.
Source: A Profile of U.S. Importing and Exporting Companies, 2015-2016, <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/>.

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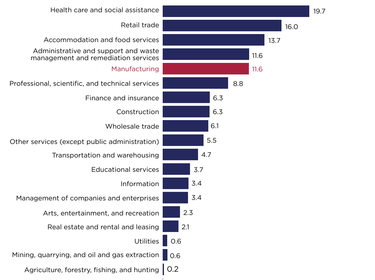

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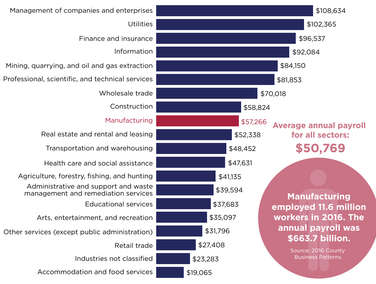

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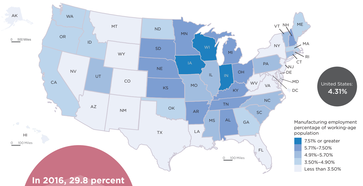

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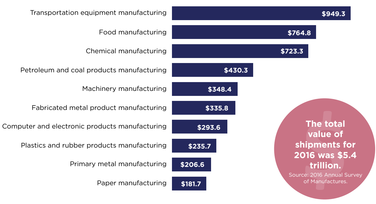

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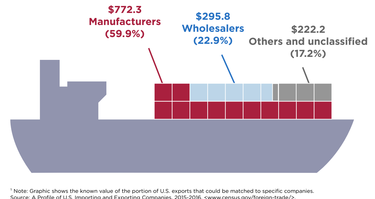

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