

THE MAGAZINE OF THE MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

MISSOURI

BUSINESS

SUMMER 2022



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By Dan Mehan, President and CEO

SAFER MISSOURI, STRONGER MISSOURI

THE URGENT BUSINESS CASE FOR A STATEWIDE APPROACH TO CRIME

“WE WERE TAKING FIRE ON THE FOURTH FLOOR.”

I’ll never forget standing with that executive, listening to them describe the terror of bullets pummeling their Missouri factory.

Sadly, that’s not the only time I’ve heard a story like this in recent years.

Like the company owner pointing to the pockmarked bullet holes in their business’ façade. I’ve also seen shot-up workplace windows, shards of glass suspended around a tiny hole where a bullet was fired into an office.

I’ve had CEOs point out where spent casings were found on company property, or describe how employees have heard gunfire while at work.

Despite the damage, these companies often tell me they weren’t being targeted — they were just a backstop for the violent crime crisis happening across Missouri.

It’s time for this to stop. The Missouri business community is collectively calling for action.

The Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry recently surveyed business leaders about their thoughts on public safety. Most said they thought crime is negatively impacting our overall state economy. Three out of four urged the Missouri Chamber to use our collective power to address this issue on a statewide level.

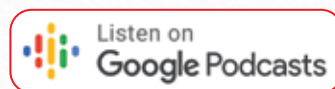
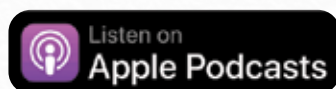
The Missouri Chamber is taking a new stand, starting with the release


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Join your Missouri Chamber Governmental Affairs team for a regular look under the dome with a focus on legislation that impacts your business.

Visit mochamber.com/news/capitolchat to listen.





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\$6M Missouri Chamber apprenticeship grant is a gamechanger for the tech industry

Jazmin Delgado is on the front lines of cybersecurity. As an apprentice at Cyderes — a global cybersecurity solutions provider formed by the recent merger of Fishtech Group and Herjavec Group, with offices in Arkansas and Missouri — Delgado identifies malicious emails, thwarts fishing attacks and takes other steps to keep companies safe from costly threats.

Cybersecurity is a broad, complex industry. Delgado, a recent college graduate who grew up in Guatemala, arrived at Cyderes with no experience in the field. But she's learning on the job as an apprentice.

As she fights cyberattacks, Delgado is able to rely on seasoned colleagues who are mentoring her as she gains experience.

"Having this team around me who has a lot of knowledge has helped me grow and explore," she said. "I'm just glad I'm in this company."

Delgado's apprenticeship is one of more than 1,700 created over the last two years thanks to the Missouri Chamber's Industry Driven IT Apprenticeship Grant.

Launched in 2020, the program is deploying \$6 million in funding from U.S. Department of Labor to expand the use of the apprenticeship model to support our state's fast-growing technology industry.

Designed to provide support to growing tech employers like Cyderes, the grant is creating a sustainable workforce



"It's such a big field. You can go anywhere and everywhere with it."

— Codey Gradey, Cyderes Apprentice



ABOUT THE IT GRANT:

\$6M to expand tech apprenticeships

The Missouri Chamber Foundation was awarded \$6 million from the U.S. Department of Labor to expand tech apprenticeships through the Closing the Skills Gap grant program.

BY THE NUMBERS:

5,335 potential apprentices

We are committed to serving nearly 5,335 apprentices over a four-year period through a unique and innovative industry-driven model. Our employer partners include: **Oracle Cerner, Cyderes, CyberUp, Bitwise Industries, Cognizant, and LaunchCode.**

development system that can remain in place long after the grant concludes.

“Missouri is a top ten state for tech job growth and the demand for technology workers is on the rise,” said Daniel P. Mehan, Missouri Chamber president and CEO. “Thanks to this program and the work being done to capitalize on our growth opportunity, we are bullish about Missouri’s future as an emerging tech hub.”

Employers in tech have been hit especially hard by the workforce shortage, with thousands of jobs in computer

grant partners, is a nonprofit that offers an apprenticeship workforce pipeline to companies in need of tech talent.

Mike Schafer is one apprentice who has benefited from CyberUp’s participation in the Industry Driven IT Apprenticeship Grant program. When he graduated from Missouri S&T in the spring of 2020 with a degree in computer science, the pandemic had largely shut the world down.

“I was talking with companies at the time. All that immediately stopped,” said Schafer, who was pursuing a

"I have always believed in lifelong learning. [In my apprenticeship], I get to work with the latest technology and continue to learn new languages and new applications. One of my greatest skills is my willingness to learn something new and my drive to achieve excellence."

—Amina Rehman, LaunchCode Apprentice



programming, network support, cybersecurity and other tech roles going unfilled. And according to the Missouri Chamber’s 2021 Technology2030 Report, over the next five years, Missouri’s tech sector is projected to grow its workforce by 7.5 percent.

It’s a significant skills gap to close. However, the program is making a significant impact. Through the grant, the Missouri Chamber is on track to develop nearly 5,300 tech apprenticeships across Missouri and beyond to address critical needs in tech workforce shortage areas.

“The Missouri Chamber has really helped us identify where we can beef up our programs, track the metrics better and expand our network,” said Amber Lowry, CyberUp chief of staff. CyberUp, one of the Missouri Chamber’s St. Louis

career in cybersecurity. “So, I ended up graduating without any work experience. And any time I tried to reach out to a company, they either wanted interns who were current students, or people with work experience.”

With no job prospects in sight, Schafer wasn’t sure how to move forward. But luck changed for the 25-year-old St. Louisan when he started training in February 2021 through CyberUp. The experience helped him get a foothold on a career.

“I actually last week accepted an offer for a full hire with SSM,” Schafer said. “I couldn’t be happier.”

Leading health care company Centene, based in St.

ABOUT THE IT GRANT:

BY THE NUMBERS:



1,727 apprentices
already served >>

The Missouri Chamber Foundation has already served 1,727 apprentices and exceeded the financial match goal for the entire grant life cycle. We committed to leveraging \$2.7 million over 4 years and our employer partners matched \$2.9 million in the grant’s first year.



Louis, also hires apprentices via CyberUp. Alan Barry, regional vice president and chief information security officer at Centene, serves as president of CyberUp's board of directors.

"You can't afford to buy ten experienced professionals at a time. Most people can't. So let us help you build three of those ten through the apprenticeship program," he said. "It'll be a much more efficient and effective way — especially financially efficient way — for companies to bring staff on, identify their talents and then place them where they best fit in their company."

The best part for candidates wanting to break into the cybersecurity industry? No prior experience required.

"[Apprentices] can be 17 years old; they can be 60 years old. They could have been an accountant or a plumber or a truck driver — we really don't care. We found that you don't need to have a college degree to be in cybersecurity," said Barry.

Tyler Moore, a security operations lead at Cyderes, agrees. Moore said he appreciates the apprenticeship training model's success in non-traditional industries like IT.

"When you hear 'apprenticeship,' you think an electrician apprentice, a plumber apprentice, that kind of stuff," Moore said. "But the apprenticeship model is really



Jazmin Delgado, Cyderes Apprentice

just taking somebody with a very baseline knowledge and building them up in a certain way. So for us, it's been super beneficial. And the similarities between, let's say, a tech and a tradesman apprenticeship are really not that different. You're talking about a computer versus physical equipment."

In addition to CyberUp and Cyderes, current partners in the Missouri Chamber's grant include Oracle Cerner, Cognizant, Launchcode and Bitwise Industries.

At Oracle Cerner, the apprentices participate in the company's DevAcademy training program, helping them develop the skills needed to succeed.

"DevAcademy was essential for the start of my career at Cerner," said Travis Augustine, Oracle Cerner DevAcademy Software Engineer. "Since my background was in academics, I didn't have the opportunity to develop collaboratively with other software engineers on a daily basis outside of class projects. DevAcademy provided with an engaging environment to improve my technical skills and enabled me to apply these technical skills to the team that I joined."

DevAcademy Mentor Jeffrey Granito stressed how valuable the apprenticeship model was for new employees

Our model is anchored to the goal of building a diverse tech workforce:

Females served:

♀ **683**

People of color:

● **713**

Persons with disabilities:

⚠ **126**

Veterans served:

🇺🇸 **46**

joining the company.

"Starting a new position in a company as large as Oracle Cerner can be daunting for a new associate," said Granito. "Having a mentor with knowledge makes this transition from college to working easier."

The concept of mentorship applies beyond the individual apprenticeships. The companies participating in the Industry Driven IT Apprenticeship Grant are also serving as mentors to other employers who exploring how apprenticeships can help them meet their workforce needs.

"As far as the experience goes with the [Missouri] Chamber, it's been excellent," said Cyderes Corporate Recruiter Jessica

Cassidy. "I really see it being a win-win for everybody involved."

That's certainly the case for Cyderes apprentice Codey Gradey. A recent college graduate, Gradey is currently getting hands-on experience with cybersecurity alongside his fellow apprentice, Delgado. He said it's been a life changing experience.

"It's such a big field. You can go anywhere and everywhere with it," Gradey said. "Right now, we're at the ground level. We're the first line of defense for anything that comes into the system. But in a year, we could be doing something completely different. And I love it here. It's been really great for me."

Read more success stories at www.mochamber.com.



To learn more about how tech apprenticeships could benefit your workforce, contact Katie Kirwan, Missouri Chamber grant outreach and project manager, at kkirwan@mochamber.com or (573) 634-3511.

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WORKFORCE PROGRESS

Missouri Chamber champions laws aimed at helping employers find talent.

With Missouri employers confronting a growing talent shortage, 2022 was not the time to let an innovative workforce training program expire.

Championed by the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry and passed into law in 2019, Fast Track addresses workforce needs by encouraging adults to pursue a certificate, degree, or industry-recognized credential in a job field designated as high need. Fast Track fully covers tuition and fees when combined with other federal and state financial aid.

But Fast Track was set to sunset this year. Passing an extension became a top priority for the Missouri Chamber during the 2022 Missouri Legislative Session. The work led to the successful passage of Senate Bill 672, which extends the program and expands the benefits so they will now be available to Missourians pursuing apprenticeships. The legislation was sponsored by Sen. Lincoln Hough, a Republican from Springfield.

Extending Fast Track was just one part of the Missouri Chamber's plan to address Missouri's workforce challenges. Preparing the Workforce remains one of the key drivers of the Missouri Chamber's **MISSOURI2030** strategic initiative. The Missouri Chamber made progress on this issue from a number of different perspectives during the session.

Backed by new research showing that the childcare shortages are costing Missouri a staggering \$1.35 billion, the Missouri Chamber sought to put Missouri at the lead of addressing this crisis.

The reality is that many Missouri parents want to work, but aren't holding down jobs because they can't find childcare. The problem is so severe that nearly one in 10 working parents in Missouri report quitting a job due to childcare issues, and nearly one in three parents have changed jobs due to childcare in the last year. This is according to research by the Missouri Chamber and the US Chamber Foundation.

In response, the Missouri Chamber successfully worked with the legislature to pass a new \$10 million program that will provide grants up to \$250,000 to help businesses form partnerships with childcare providers or establish dedicated childcare centers to serve employees. Small businesses will also be encouraged to band together to offer this benefit. An additional \$10 million was dedicated to establish a grant program to help provide childcare for essential workers, including state employees.

"Workforce remains the number one issue impacting business growth across Missouri — with the childcare crisis being a major factor. Thanks to this new funding,

Missouri will be on the leading edge as businesses work to develop innovative childcare models that will help parents get back to work," said Mehan. "Missouri lawmakers deserve much credit for their urgent response to this issue after the Missouri Chamber sounded the alarm. We look forward to working with employers across Missouri to take advantage of this opportunity to help solve their workforce challenges by prioritizing childcare."

Further still, the Missouri Chamber also worked to reform the state's One Start workforce assistance program, allowing the program to be used for recruitment purposes. In addition, another successfully passed bill creates new avenues to help adult Missourians attain a high school diploma, which is seen by many employers as a prerequisite for work. The legislation will help upskill our workforce and make the most of our state's existing talent pool.

The Missouri Chamber also championed several budget appropriations aimed at enhancing the state's work to prepare the workforce, including:



\$21M ▶ to help recruit and retain quality K-12 educators



\$7M ▶ to help train more nurses



\$5M ▶ for tech training to help grow the state's geospatial workforce



\$750k ▶ to train Missourians to code via the LaunchCode system

Learn more at mochamber.com.





Missouri Chamber awards scholarships to 20 students

The future of Missouri's STEM workforce is bright. On April 22, the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry recognized 20 outstanding students from across the state as they signed letters of intent to study science, technology, engineering and math. STEM Signing Day puts the spotlight on brilliant Missouri high school seniors as they make the big decision on where to further their education, much in the same way athletes are celebrated as they choose a school.

Each student will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. This event was first created in 2019 by the Missouri Chamber Foundation's Mathematics and Science Coalition in partnership with The Boeing Company.

"Building a world-class STEM workforce is critical to the future of Missouri's economy. STEM Signing Day is a chance for our state to

celebrate and recognize the academic achievements of some of our brightest young scholars," said Daniel P. Mehan, president and CEO of the Missouri Chamber. "This is a great opportunity to let these young people know how much Missouri values their contributions and that there are outstanding career opportunities right here in Missouri when they are ready to enter the workforce."

Applications for STEM Signing Day 2023
will open November 1, 2022.

To learn more please visit www.mochamber.com.

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of our Safer Missouri, Stronger Missouri plan. An excerpt from the plan is included in this edition of Missouri Business. You can download the full report on our website, www.mochamber.com.

Safer Missouri, Stronger Missouri illustrates how public safety issues are impacting businesses across Missouri, and identifies positive steps we can take to address this problem.

The statistics we found are appalling. Missouri is a top 10 state for a host of undesirable crime measures. We rank sixth in violent crimes per capita. We are ninth highest in property crimes per person. We are fourth in gun deaths.

I want to reinforce that these are not St. Louis or Kansas City statistics — these are statewide numbers. While crime is certainly worse in some places, today's businesses are being impacted everywhere, across nearly every Missouri community.

Fortunately, local leaders in our cities and rural areas are already focused on doing what they can to push back against crime. But it's clear that this is more than just a local issue — we need a strong statewide response to what has become a statewide problem.

Our new report includes dozens of ideas — many successfully deployed by other states — that can help improve public safety in Missouri.

While the response to crime has become highly political and divisive, we are focused on ideas that can be passed at a statewide level and with united support from both Republicans and Democrats. Gov. Mike Parson has encouraged us in our work and is a champion for making Missouri open — and safe — for business.

"IF WE WANT A STRONGER MISSOURI,

**IT STARTS
WITH BUILDING
A SAFER
MISSOURI."**

We are taking these ideas straight to the state capitol, where last year lawmakers filed 30 bills to improve public safety, but only two passed.

This has got to change.

The Missouri Chamber is going to make this a top priority going forward — and our approach to finding solutions works. Thanks to our recent efforts, Missouri is leading the post-pandemic economic recovery. We are overtaking other states in rankings of job creation, per-capita income and GDP. Our state is among the leaders for tech industry growth.

As we turn our focus to public safety, we won't stop until we see

similar gains. The business community is united behind addressing this issue.

Our offices, factories and retail stores will no longer be the bullet-laden backdrop for our state's crime problem.

If we want a stronger Missouri, it starts with building a safer Missouri.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daniel P. Mehan".

*Daniel P. Mehan, President and CEO
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry*



SAFER MISSOURI STRONGER MISSOURI

SPECIAL EXCERPT



MISSOURI CHAMBER
FOUNDATION

Ferguson Police officer Greg Casem and Sergeant Dominica Fuller console a mourning child during a candlelight vigil held in honor of Jamyla Bolden in Ferguson, Missouri.

Casem carried Jamyla Bolden, 9, to an ambulance after she was struck by a stray bullet from a drive-by shooting and killed while doing her homework at her home in Ferguson.

(Photo by Michael B. Thomas/Getty Images/2015)



SPECIAL EXCERPT

MISSOURI'S BUSINESS COMMUNITY IS CALLING FOR ACTION ON CRIME

On June 27, the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry revealed the groundbreaking Safer Missouri, Stronger Missouri strategy, establishing a business-led approach to reducing crime.

"Crime is hurting Missouri's economy. It's impacting businesses large and small in communities of all sizes. It's hurting our ability to attract business investment. In some cases, crime is driving jobs out of the state," said Daniel P. Mehan, president and CEO of the Missouri Chamber. "Businesses are united. This is a crisis that must be addressed now. We know that many problems need to be handled locally, but statewide policy must be deployed as well."

The Missouri Chamber Foundation spent months consulting with business leaders, public safety experts and community organizers on the creation of this plan.

An excerpt from the report is printed in this magazine. To download the full study, visit www.mochamber.com.



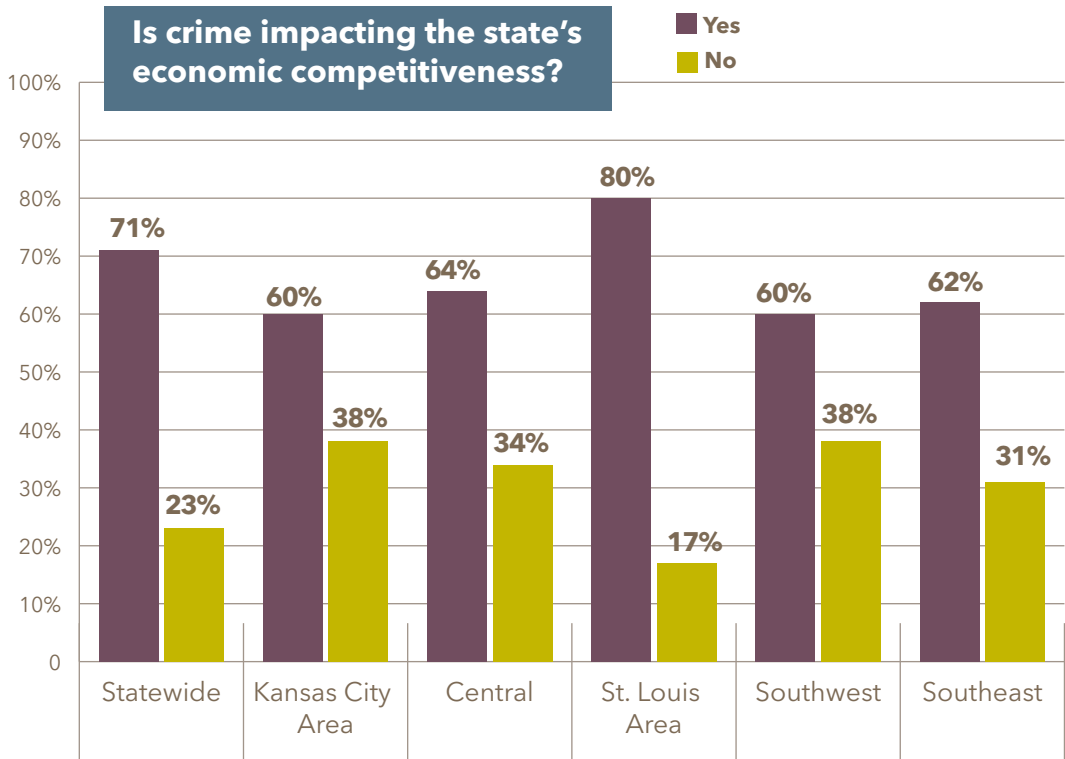
Introduction

Public safety affects every Missourian. Low crime rates are consistently reported as a top factor for people choosing where to live. It influences where they shop, play and work. Safety and security contribute to citizens’ mental health and well-being. Beyond the personal effects, crime can rob a town or neighborhood of its vitality and its sense of community. Public safety is also a significant business issue. It impacts profitability, risk and access to employees and customers. In the past year, concern about public safety in Missouri has risen among

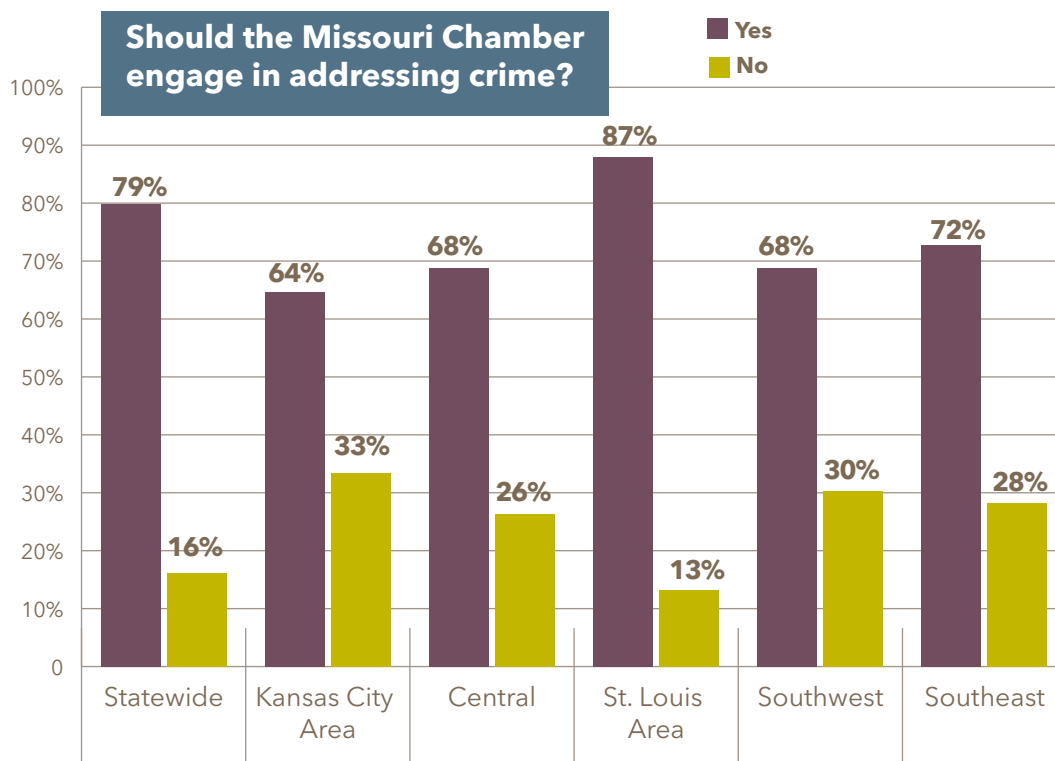
the state’s business leaders. The negative national attention stalls economic growth as it hinders the recruitment of talent and business investment. The persistent headlines raise doubts about the future. But most importantly, the day-to-day impacts on Missouri lives and communities are unacceptable. Something must be done to address public safety issues in Missouri. In a 2021 poll of Missouri CEOs, the Missouri Chamber asked if crime was affecting economic competitiveness. The poll was conducted by CHS and Associates, who reached out to more than

600 CEOs and business leaders from around the state and across industries. The results were overwhelming. The vast majority of business leaders believe crime is hurting our economy and they want to see change.

Nearly three quarters of Missouri business leaders see crime negatively impacting the state’s economy. Concern among St. Louis business leaders hit a remarkable 80 percent.



Source: CHS & Associates



Source: CHS & Associates

Not only do members see crime as an issue, nearly eight of every 10 CEOs surveyed want the Missouri Chamber to engage to find solutions. St. Louis CEOs are most urgently asking for assistance to address crime in their region.

For this report, we conducted one-on-one interviews with a wide variety of stakeholders across the state. We spoke with leaders in local, state and federal law enforcement, as well as with legal, criminal justice and corrections experts. Stakeholders from major civic organizations participated. Leaders from the fields of health, mental health, social services and community service organizations

also provided their frank input. This input was a critical component of the recommendations that follow.

Regardless of whether the interviewee was a law enforcement professional or community leader, there was widespread agreement that public safety is a significant concern across Missouri, perhaps even “the state’s most important issue.” Individuals described crime as “terrible” and “out of control.” Perceptions of violent crime varied by location, with homicide a particularly pressing issue in larger cities. Others noted that property crimes are increasingly turning violent. Stakeholders believe that public safety is a quality of life issue,

affecting people looking to move to Missouri or even stay in parts of the state.

In addition to speaking with stakeholders, we took a close look at crime statistics and tactics in Missouri and nationwide to understand what is driving crime trends and how other states and regions are dealing with it. In the last decade, many states have enacted significant criminal justice reforms. Reforms encompass a wide range of topics, as evidenced by the best practices highlighted in this report. The primary theme in many of these is better use of limited state and local resources by focusing on high-risk individuals and high-crime geographic areas.

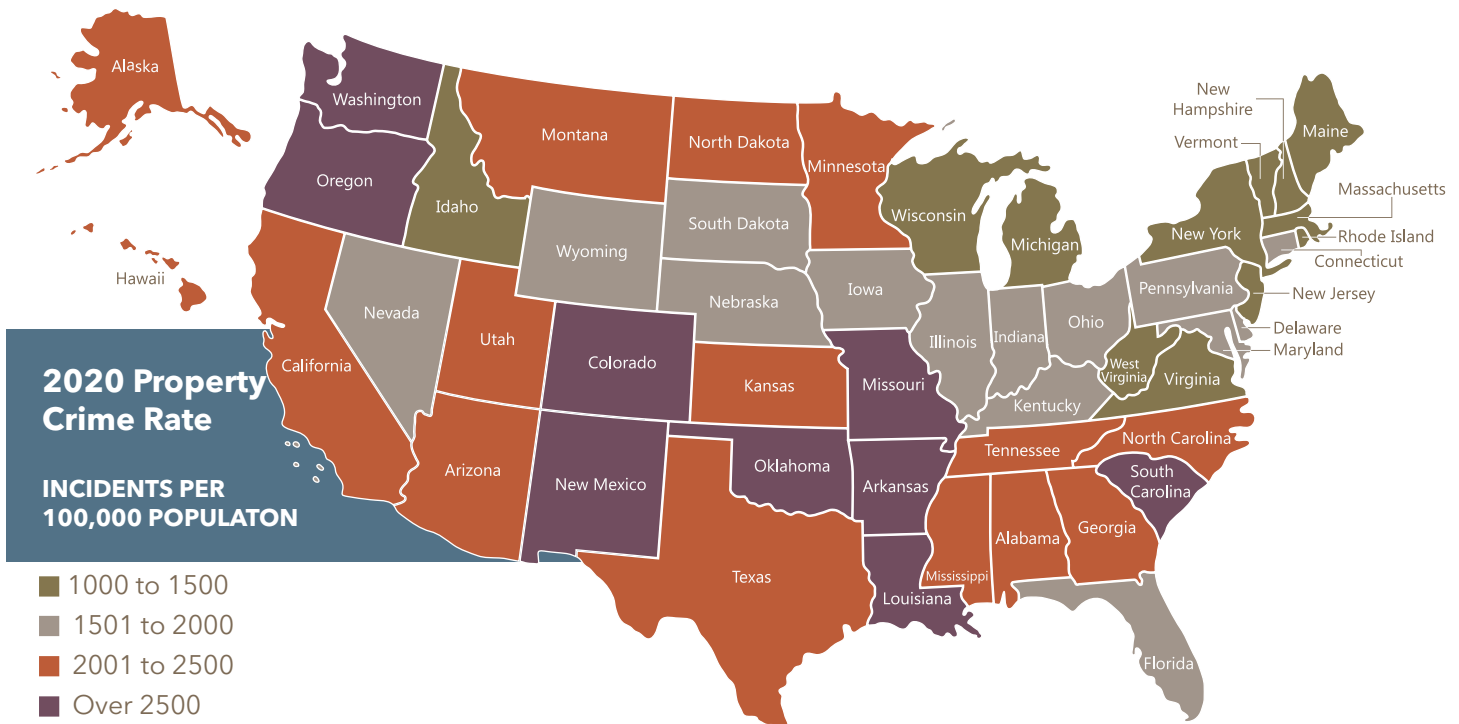
Where Missouri Stands

Missouri's crime challenge is not defined by shocking headlines or political hyperbole – it is in the data. All of our various Missouri 2030 reports, including this one, are rooted in data. We have used the information that businesses and citizens use when they are making decisions about investments or expansion into states and regions. Missouri's crime data reveals a growing problem.

Until the COVID-19 pandemic, crime rates in the United States had been on a long decline. In 2019, the violent crime rate in America was about one-half of its peak in the early 1990s. Property crime fell even further, dropping by 60 percent from its rate in the early

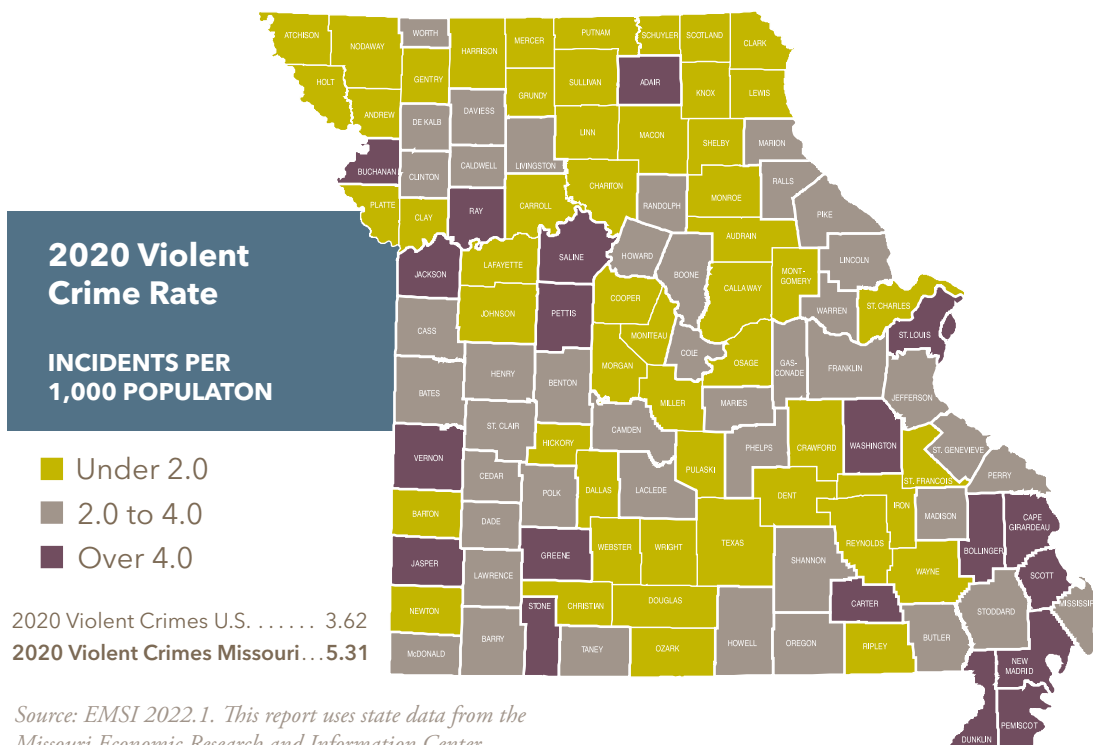
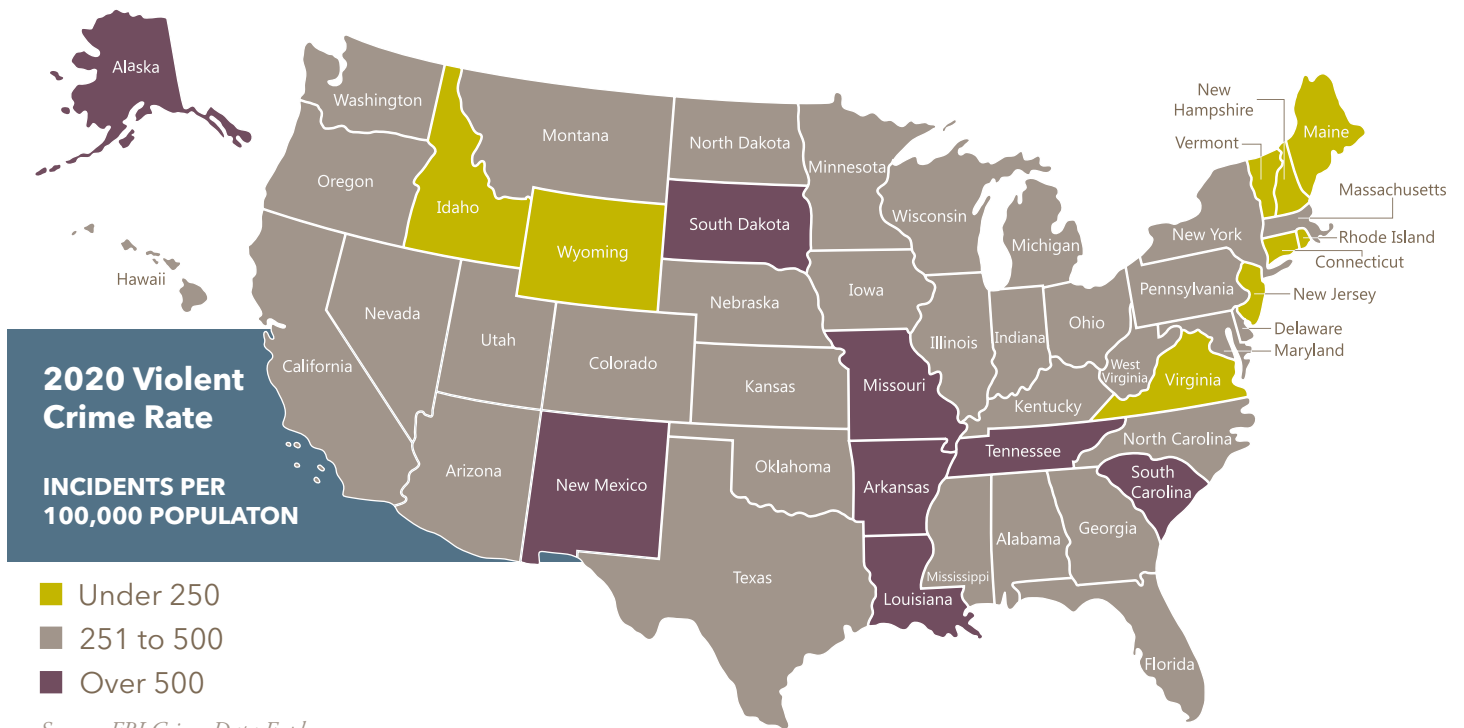
1990s. However, violent crime – and homicide in particular – spiked nationally starting in the summer of 2020. Between 2019 and 2020, a year dominated by lockdowns and economic hardship, the national violent crime rate increased by 4.6 percent. Missouri's rate rose by 8.6 percent. All neighboring states experienced a surge in violent crime, including double digit increases in Tennessee and Arkansas.

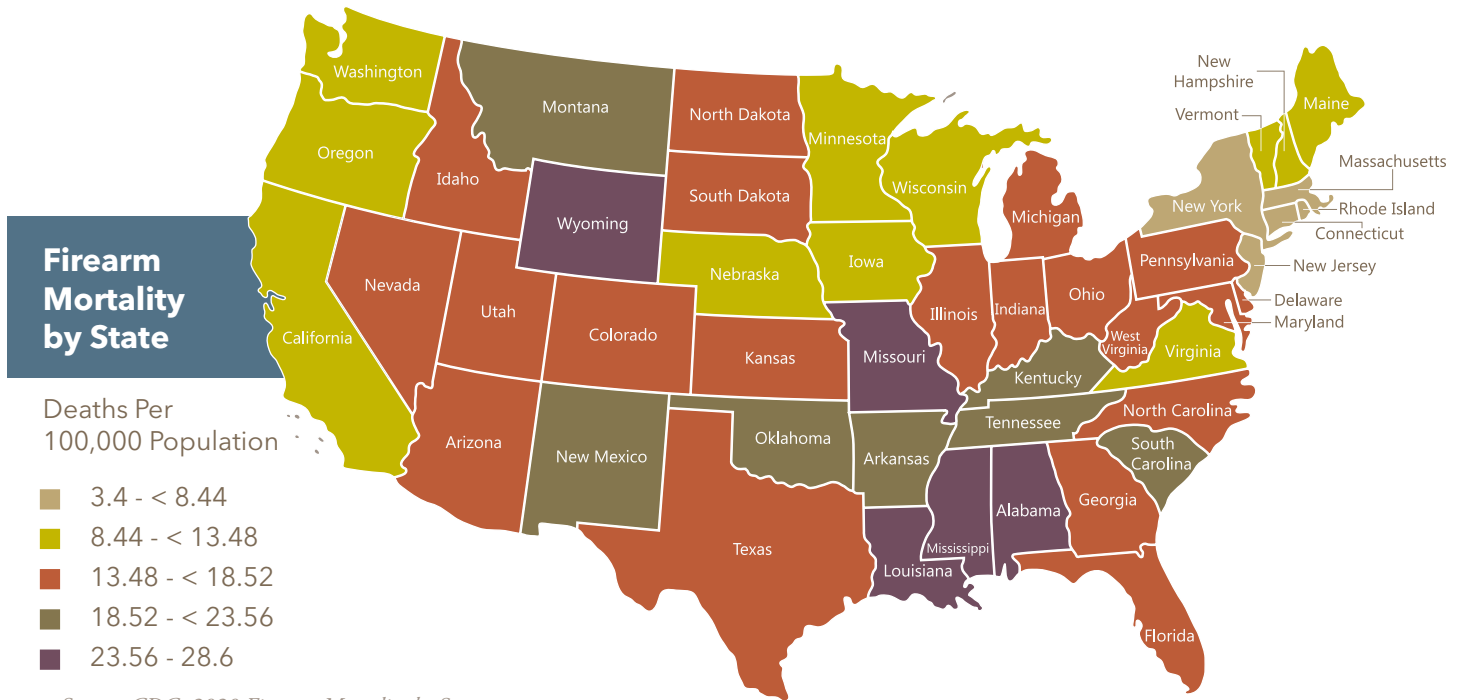
Crime rankings in the United States indicate that Missouri Chamber members are right to focus on public safety as an important business and quality of life issue. For the rate of violent crimes per person, Missouri ranked sixth highest in America among the 50 states in 2020.ⁱ Only Alaska, New Mexico,



Source: FBI Crime Data Explorer

Where Missouri Stands (continued)





Arkansas, and Louisiana ranked higher. For property crimes, Missouri had the ninth-highest rate per capita in 2020.ⁱⁱ

Gun violence continues to grow at an alarming rate in Missouri. In 2020, 1,462 Missourians died by firearms, according to the CDC. With a rate of 23.9 deaths per 100,000 people, Missouri has the fourth highest rate of gun deaths in the United States.

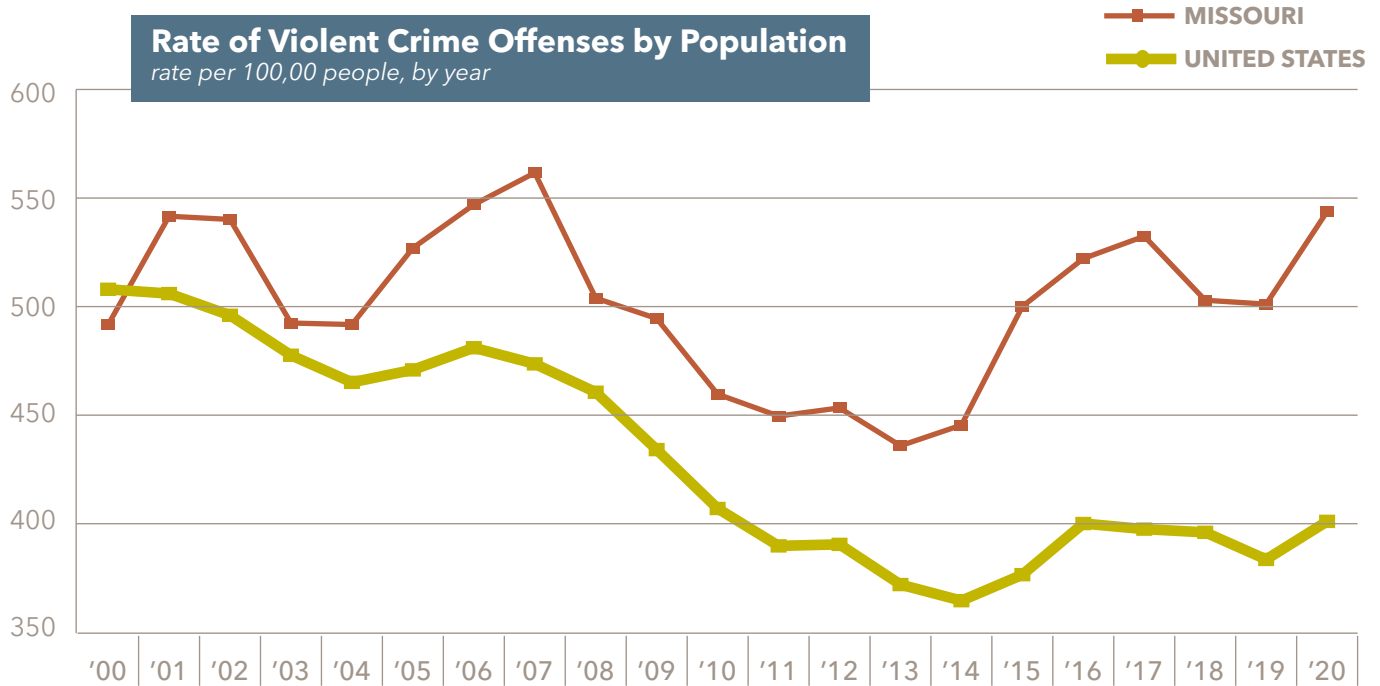
The toll is especially high among minority populations. Across all states, Missouri had the highest rates of gun deaths among Black people in 2020, followed by Indiana and

Illinois.

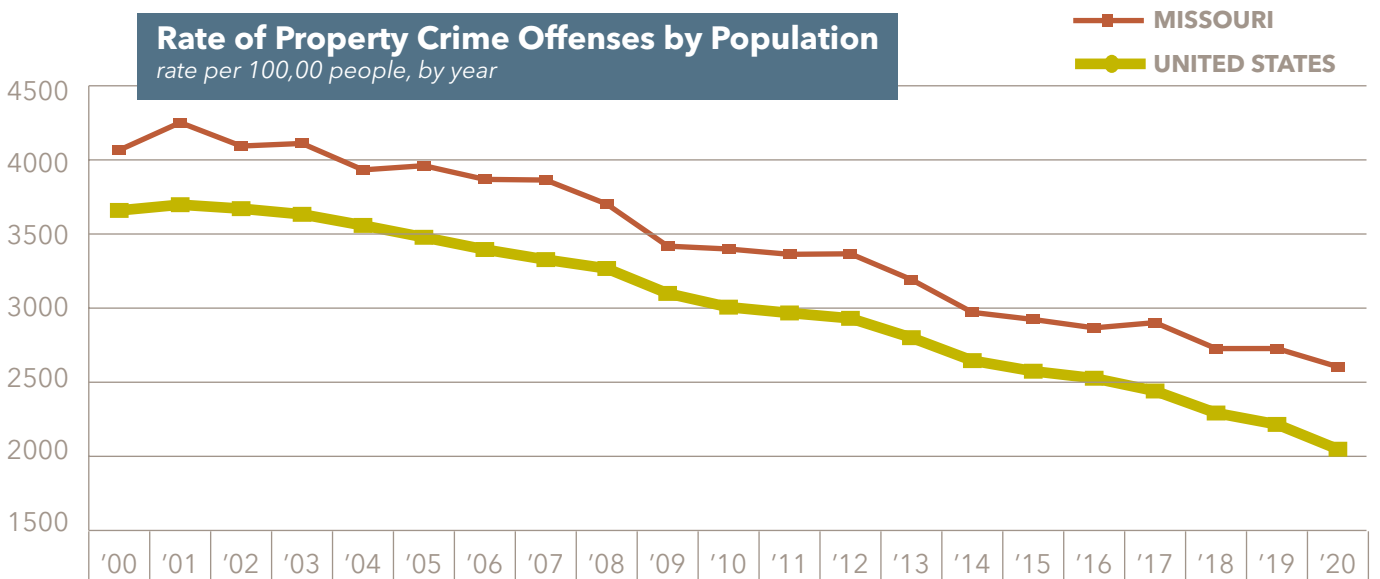
In recent years, the gap between Missouri and the national violent crime rate has widened. Between 2000 and 2019, the United States saw a 24.8 percent drop in violent crime. During the same period, Missouri's violent crime rate rose by 2.0 percent. Among Missouri's neighbors, rates dropped in most states but rose in Arkansas (+30.4%), Iowa (+8.0%) and Kansas (+4.1%).

Property crime rates display a similar pattern, although with a less dramatic gap.

Where Missouri Stands (continued)



Source: FBI Crime Data Explorer



Source: FBI Crime Data Explorer



Investigators on the scene of a Kansas City, Mo. building destroyed by arson.

(Photo by Joe Ledford/Kansas City Star/Tribune News Service/Getty Images/2015)

NATIONAL SENTIMENT ON PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Recent national surveys show increased concerns about crime. According to the Pew Research Center, 61 percent of Americans in July 2021 said that violent crime was a “very big problem” in the nation. In June 2020, that figure was just 41 percent. Also, more Americans said that public safety funding in their own community should be increased. In September 2021, 47 percent wanted to see more police funding, compared with 31 percent in June 2020. Only 15 percent wished to see public safety funding decreased. Opinions vary significantly based on factors such as race, ethnicity and political party. One of the biggest differences is by age: 63 percent of those aged 65 and older want to see greater spending, but 32 percent of people ages 18 to 29 favor decreased police spending in their area.ⁱⁱⁱ Still, the nation as a whole is demonstrating heightened concern about crime and more support for spending on public safety.

Recommendations

THESE NUMBERS ARE DAUNTING AND WILL REQUIRE AN AGGRESSIVE AND COLLABORATIVE APPROACH BY STATE AND LOCAL POLICYMAKERS.

The Missouri Chamber understands the complex nature of the problem and knows that many groups must work together to find solutions.

We also believe that many of those solutions will emanate locally.

Numerous efforts are underway, many with the support of local companies and chambers of commerce.

However, as this study reveals, statewide policy and initiatives must also be deployed to address this problem effectively. The pages that follow detail several of the state

and nation's most pressing crime-related issues. The report highlights best practices in Missouri and across the nation, and you will learn what actions are currently underway and what more needs to happen. Most importantly, this study provides a plan for statewide action to reduce crime and improve our economic competitiveness and the quality of life for Missourians.

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- I. Deploy evidence-based and hot spot approaches to crime reduction
- II. Increase and protect tools to support policing
- III. Address substance misuse and mental health
- IV. Reduce recidivism among those on probation or parole
- V. Improve training and employment opportunities for incarcerated individuals
- VI. Increase public safety staffing
- VII. Improve public perception of law enforcement
- VIII. Increase prosecutorial consistency and transparency

To read the detailed recommendations, download the full report at www.mochamber.com.



THANKS TO OUR RECENT EFFORTS, MISSOURI IS LEADING THE POST-PANDEMIC ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

We are overtaking other states in rankings of job creation, per-capita income and GDP. Our state is among the leaders for tech industry growth. As we turn our focus to public safety, we won't stop until we see similar gains.

	2015	2020	
JOB CREATION	#42	#22	▲
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	#43	#36	▲
PER CAPITA INCOME	#39	#34	▲

For questions about Missouri2030, contact Karen Buschmann Vice President of Marketing and Communications at kbuschmann@mochamber.com or 573-634-3511.

Chamber Benefit Plan.

For Better Employee Benefits *Trust Your Chamber.*

With hundreds of options out there, who will you trust to provide cost-saving health benefits that your staff will love?

In 2017, more than 100 chambers of commerce across Missouri joined together to form the Chamber Benefit Plan. Today we are the fastest growing health plan in the state. Missouri employers say our plan lowers their costs while providing better benefits, backed by Anthem.

This year, don't leave your benefits to just anyone — trust your chamber.

Let's talk: chamberbenefitplan.com





Business Champions

Missouri Chamber recognizes 92 state legislators

The Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry has recognized 92 members of the Missouri General Assembly as Business Champions. The Business Champion designation recognizes state lawmakers who supported policies during the 2022 Legislative Session to grow our economy and make Missouri a more competitive place to do business.

The Business Champions list was created after an analysis of dozens of key votes on these and other important business issues. To be included, state legislators needed to have at least a 70% record of siding with the Missouri Chamber on priority business issues. This year, 24 members of the Missouri Senate and 68 members of the Missouri House of Representatives met that criteria.

“The Business Champion program is our way of thanking Missouri’s top pro-business lawmakers for their commitment to moving Missouri forward,” said Missouri Chamber President and CEO Daniel P. Mehan. “Right now, we are in a critical moment that will determine how well our state will thrive in the post-pandemic economy. The lawmakers we are highlighting as 2022 Business Champions were our most important supporters of the policies needed for Missouri to continue to seize this historic opportunity for growth.”

[Learn more at www.mochamber.com.](http://www.mochamber.com)



Missouri Senate

Lauren Arthur
Jason Bean
Doug Beck
Mike Bernskoetter
Justin Brown
Mike Cierpiot
Sandy Crawford
Karla Eslinger
Elaine Gannon
Dan Hegeman
Lincoln Hough 100%
Tony Luetkemeyer
Karla May
Angela Walton Mosley
Greg Razer
Holly Thompson Rehder
John Rizzo
Steven Roberts
Caleb Rowden 100%
Dave Schatz 100%
Jill Schupp
Barbara Washington
Bill White 100%
Brian Williams

Missouri House of Representatives

Rasheen Aldridge
Marlon Anderson
Allen Andrews 100%
Darrell Atchison
Ashley Aune
Gretchen Bangert
Donna Baringer
John Black
Rusty Black
Bob Bromley
Chris Brown
Paula Brown
Ingrid Burnett
Steve Butz
Shamed Dogan 100%
Bill Falkner
Craig Fishel
Travis Fitzwater
Betsy Fogle
Rick Francis
David Gregory
David Griffith
Kent Haden
Mike Haffner
Willard Haley
Mike Henderson
Dan Houx
Barry Hovis
Josh Hurlbert
Keri Ingle
Michael Johnson
Jim Kalberloh
Jeff Knight
Ian Mackey

Don Mayhew
Peggy McGaugh 100%
Herman Morse
Maggie Nurrenbern
Michael O'Donnell
Bill Owen
Mike Person
Patricia Pike
Dean Plocher
Bradley Pollitt
Jeff Porter
Raychel Proudie
Crystal Quade
Rodger Reedy
Louis Riggs
Alex Riley
Lane Roberts 100%
Wes Rogers
Bruce Sassmann
Adam Schwadron
Mark Sharp
Greg Sharpe
Brenda Shields 100%
Travis Smith
Mike Stephens
Tim Taylor
Marlene Terry
Terry Thompson
Annette Turnbaugh
Dean VanSchoiack
Rudy Veit
Kevin Windham
Dale Wright
Yolanda Young

The 100% mark designates lawmakers who supported the pro-business position on each ranked vote. Being named as a business champion does not constitute an endorsement by the Missouri Chamber.

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Share them with us at @MissouriChamber.

Tweet



Procter & Gamble
@ProcterGamble

For more than 185 years, we have unlocked new solutions for everyday jobs to be done. It's how we continue to deliver superior products that drive value, making them worthy of being on your shopping list. Here's what we mean: [#PGInnovation](https://us.pg.com/blogs/superior..)
<https://us.pg.com/blogs/superior..>



Mardy Leathers
@MardyLeathers

In [#Missouri](#) we are serious about [#apprenticeships](#). Proud of the great work intermediaries, community colleges, workforce boards, high schools, employers, & labor orgs do every day to connect & deliver quality registered [apprenticeships](#)! [#MOWorkforce](#) [#MOApprentices](#)



\$6.6M Investment
270 New Jobs



MO Department of Economic Development
@MoEcoDevo

Today, we recognize another FY22 win for [#MO](#) - the Kawasaki facility in Boonville. This company expansion is a true success story of job creation led by our very own...Missouri One Start program! [#HelpingMissouriansProsper](#) [#LetsGetStarted](#)

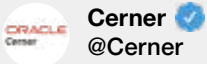


Concordance



Concordance
@ConcordanceAcad

Thank you to [@MissouriChamber](#) for inviting us to be a part of the Safer MO, Stronger MO press conference this week. Ending reincarceration is critical to building stronger communities. Thanks to our hiring partner [@triadmfg](#) & Sen. [@BrianWilliamsMO](#) for supporting our programming.



Today, we proudly hosted the [@KCChamber](#), [@MissouriChamber](#) and [@KauffmannFdn](#) in North Kansas City for the [#ShowMeCareers](#) Educator Experience.

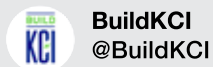
Thanks to the 60 educators, counselors and administrators who joined us to learn about real-world careers in healthcare technology!



Teachers Tracie Olsen and Julie Ross learned about Ameren's apprenticeship learning program students can take advantage of after graduation. [@PattonvilleSD](#) [@Pattonville_HS](#) [@MissouriChamber](#) [@AmerenMissouri](#)



Which design is your favorite? We're partial to the "Jazz cup" design since the creator, Gina Ekiss, is from Springfield, MO which if you don't know is where O'Reilly started. 🍀 [#O'ReillyPowered](#) [@natewithacanon](#) [@thatmintyfreshmiata](#) [@solojazzyprius](#)



See in-progress pic of "Cloud Gazing", a large-scale public [#art](#) piece by artist Michael Szivos of SoftLab, in place in the [@KCIAirport](#) New Terminal's concourse connector. Travelers will enjoy the work from the floor or moving walkways below. [#BuildKCI](#) <https://buildkci.com/art/>





Where we've been...

The Missouri Chamber hosts outstanding events and conferences all across Missouri. View all upcoming Chamber events at www.mochamber.com/events.





MISSOURI CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



MISSOURI CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

WORKFORCE2030 conference

OCT. 25-26 | INDEPENDENCE, MO

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