



# The Condition of Oregon's Manufacturing Sector

Prepared for the Oregon Business &  
Industry Research & Education  
Foundation



# Purpose of the Report

- Update to 2021 report and assessment of current conditions
- Traded sector employment is key to economic health
- Comparison of sector-wide trends, workforce, and regional dynamics
- Call to action through 2030 and beyond

<https://oregonbusinessindustry.com/2024manufacturingreport/>

**204,000**  
manufacturing jobs  
in Oregon



**\$36.3 BILLION**  
contributed  
to Oregon's GDP



**RANK: 19TH**

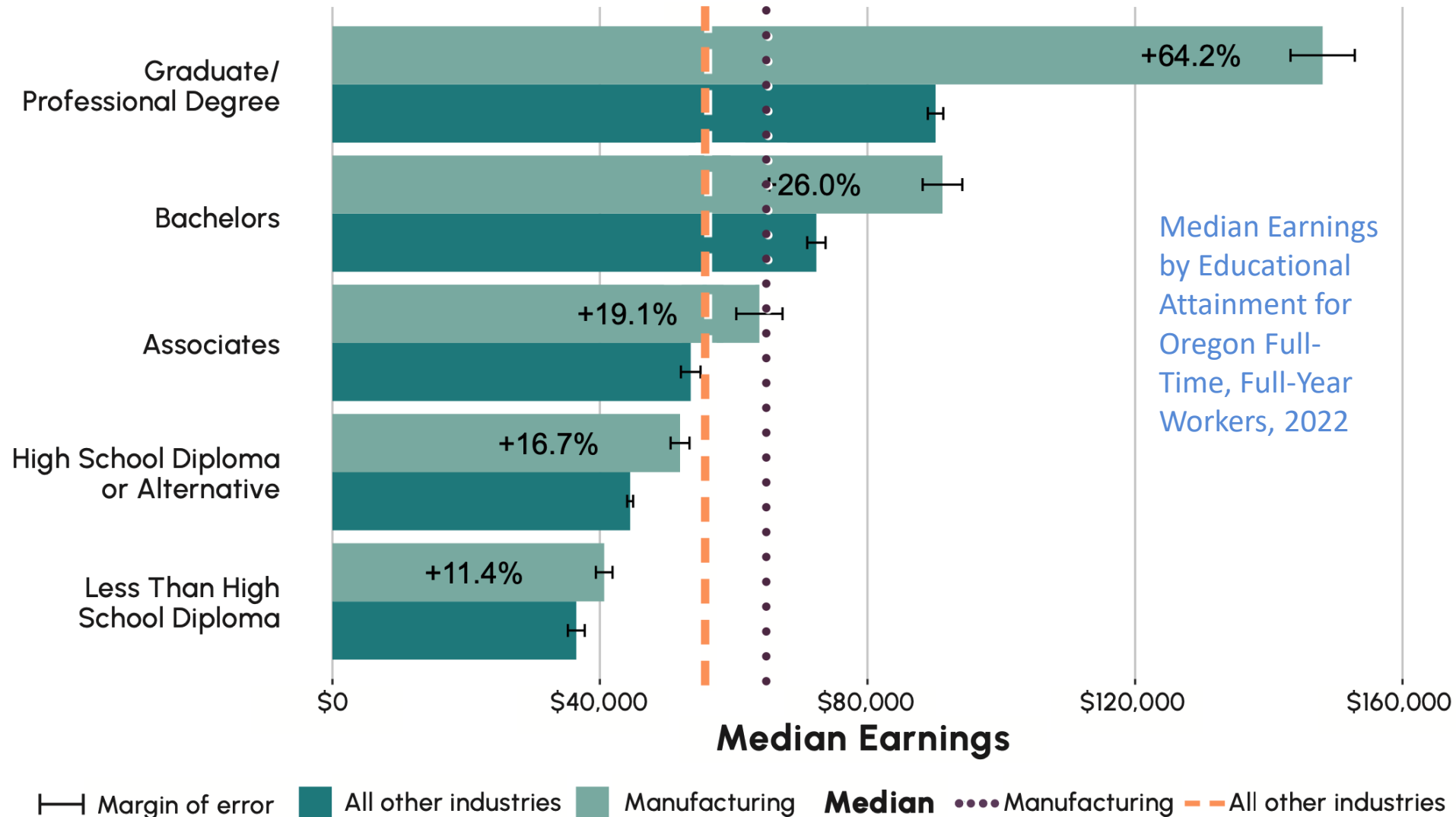
Oregon ranks 19th in the  
U.S. for manufacturing as  
a share of state GDP

**\$65,000**

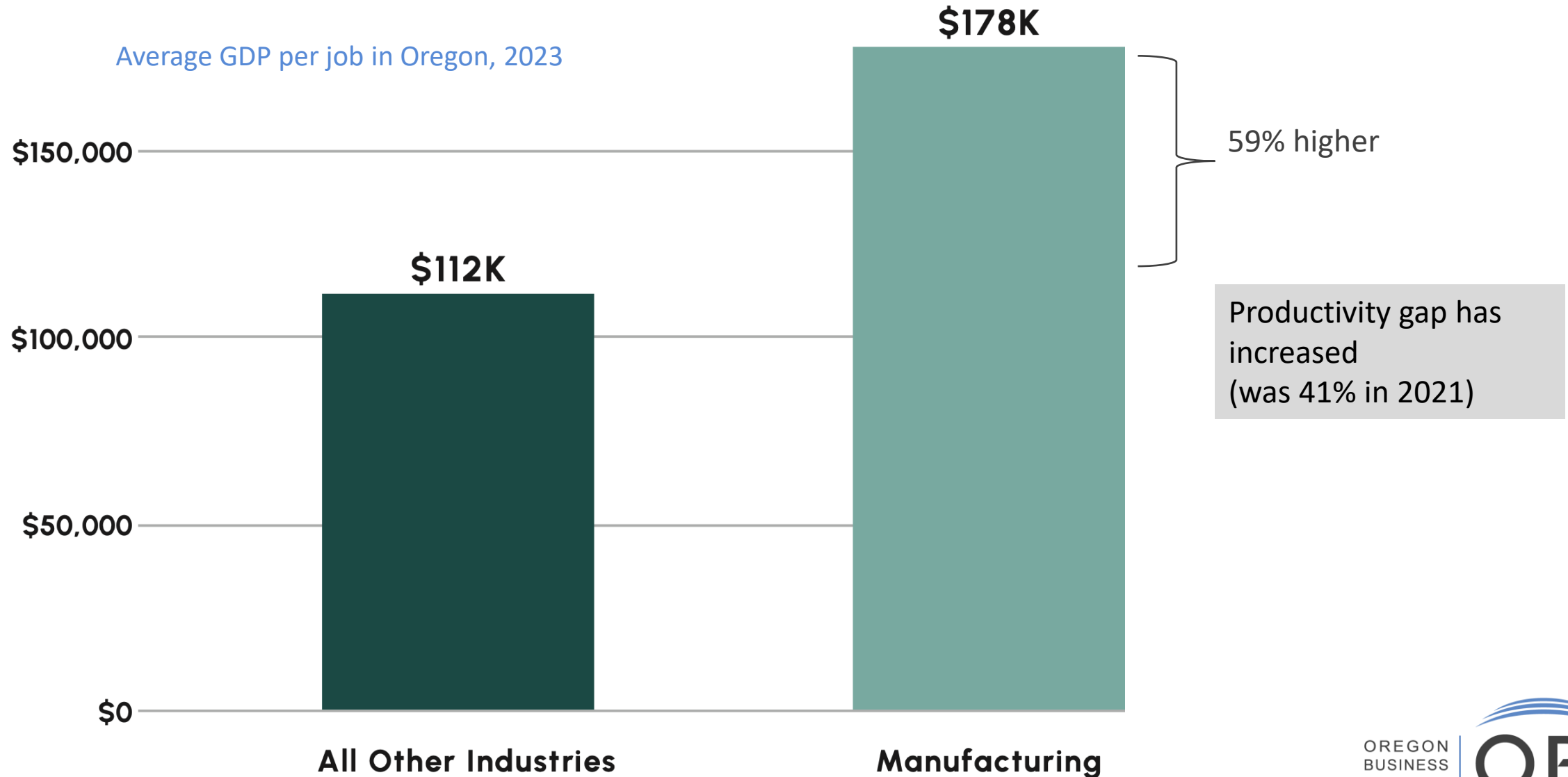
**\$55,700**

Manufacturing jobs have a median  
income of ~\$65k, compared to ~\$56k  
for all other industries

# Earnings premium in manufacturing amplified with educational attainment



# Manufacturing: The most productive sector in OR's economy



# Oregon's manufacturing sectors are well balanced



# Since the pandemic, manufacturing jobs in Oregon haven't kept pace with U.S.

Manufacturing employment compared to 1969 – Oregon vs. U.S.

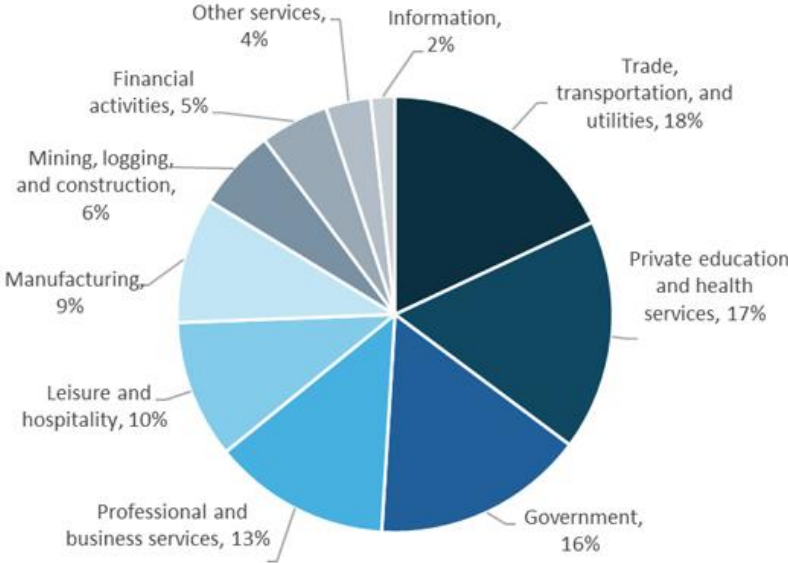
YEAR	OREGON	U.S.
2019–2020	-5.9%	-4.9%
2020–2021	0.2%	1.5%
2021–2022	3.0%	3.6%
2022–2023	-1.3%	1.2%

# Current Employment



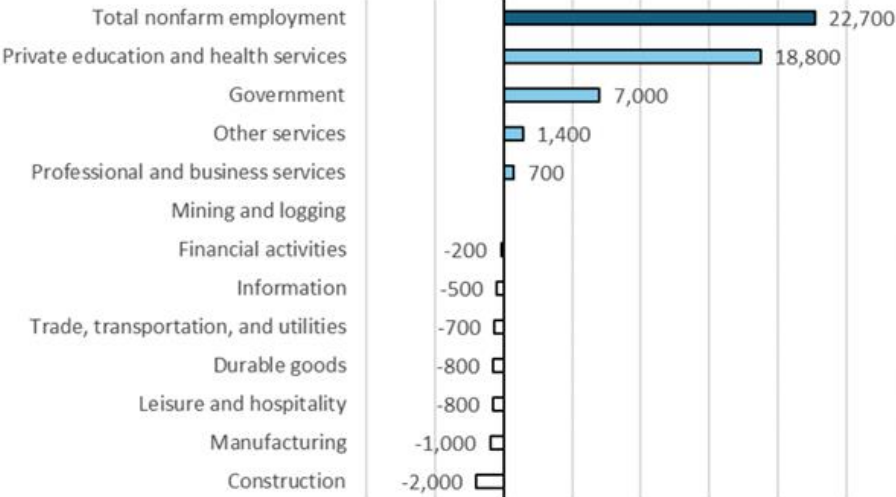
## Industry Share in Oregon

Share of Oct' 2024 Total Nonfarm Employment (SA)



## Oregon Net Employment Change by Industry

October 2023 to October 2024, Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Oregon Employment Department

Labor market health varies greatly by sector





# AP

## Battery parts maker Entek breaks ground on \$1.5B manufacturing campus in western Indiana

Updated 2:33 PM PST, September 6, 2023

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (AP) — Oregon-based battery parts producer Entek broke ground Wednesday on a \$1.5 billion manufacturing campus in western Indiana that officials said will create more than 640 jobs and give a boost to Indiana's growing electric vehicle industry.

Entek is the only U.S.-owned and operated manufacturer of wet-process lithium-ion battery separators, according to a news release on the groundbreaking. The Biden administration has been working to strengthen U.S. energy independence and reduce dependence on China for critical components.

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https://www.bizjournals.com/bizjournals/news/2024/12/05/put-ohios-growth-ecosystem-partner-network-to-work.html

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# Key takeaways

- Manufacturing pays better than average, across education levels
- Manufacturing is incredibly productive
- GDP in high-tech/electronics is higher in Oregon than any other state
- Oregon manufacturing is balanced; picking winners/losers is fraught
- Widespread industry and population decline contributes to manufacturing lag
- Oregon is at risk of losing its position as a leader in manufacturing – this has widespread consequences across the economy and public budgets

# It is past time to be intentional about Oregon's edge in manufacturing

Oregon policymakers need to re-examine our competitive position and consider steps to revitalize the sector.

- Available, ready, certain land
- Predictable and reasonable tax and regulatory environment
- Better, more competitive incentives (R&D tax credit)
- Educational and workforce pipeline that prepares Oregonians to succeed