



Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

Industry Definition

Transportation, distribution, and logistics is a broad industry sector responsible for managing the flow of goods, information, and people between a point of origin and a point of consumption in order to meet the requirements of consumers. Major sub-sectors within the industry include air, rail, water, and truck transportation, urban transit and ground passenger transportation, warehousing and storage, and motor vehicle repair. Logistics involve the integration of these sub sectors, including information, transportation, inventory, warehousing, material-handling, and packaging.

Industry Profile

In all, transportation, distribution, and logistics contain 30 sub-sectors engaged in the movement of goods, information, and people. Nationwide, 4.5% of firms fall into transportation, distribution, and logistics, while the sector accounts for 4.5% of employment and 4.1% of wages. Truck transportation makes up the largest percentage of employment (28.0%), followed by automotive repair and maintenance (17.4%), warehousing and storage (12.4%), couriers and messengers (11.3%), support activities for transportation such as ports, airport, and cargo handling (11.2%), and air transportation (9.5%).

Industry Trends

The transportation, distribution, and logistics industry contributes to about 5.1 million jobs in the U.S. economy and makes up more than 380,000 establishments with \$198 billion in wages. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects employment in the industry to expand by 1.1% annually between 2006 and 2016, with automotive repair increasing 2.1% annually and support activities for transportation increasing 1.6% annually. Factors contributing to industry growth include globalization and continued growth in the importation of products produced overseas. Technologies such as electronic data interchange that allow better tracking of product information, and radio frequency identification that streamlines the distribution process will continue to transform the transportation, distribution, and

logistics industry. Employment in the automotive repair sector is expected to increase due to a rise in the driving age population nationwide, as well as the growing sophistication and dependency on electronic controls and systems in motor vehicles requiring skilled professionals to perform repair and maintenance services.

Local Occupational Trends

In Greater Phoenix, employment in the transportation, distribution, and logistics industry stood at over 68,000 in 2006. Employment concentration is comparable to the nation as a whole, as the region's population growth, proximity to western markets, and presence of large industry employers such as Knight and Swift Transportation and Sky Harbor International Airport makes it an attractive location for the sector. Among occupations within transportation, distribution, and logistics, employment for shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks are expected to be the fastest in Greater Phoenix, increasing 37.4% between 2004 and 2016. This is followed by bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists (28.4% increase), mobile heavy equipment mechanics (28.2%), truck drivers (27.9%) and automotive service technicians and mechanics (27.8%). Turnover in the sector generally reflects a breakdown in skill levels with lower turnover in higher skilled jobs. Lower turnover occupations include air traffic controllers, automotive service technicians and mechanics, bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists, mobile heavy equipment mechanics, and shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks.

About the Maricopa County Community

College District (MCCCD)

The Maricopa Community Colleges comprise 10 colleges, 2 skill centers and numerous education centers dedicated to educational excellence, meeting the needs of businesses and the citizens of Maricopa County. Each college is individually accredited, yet part of a larger system — the Maricopa County Community College District. There are approximately 1,000 occupational programs (Associate of Applied Science degrees – AAS and certificates - CERT), 50 academic programs, and 10,593 courses available for offering. For specific information on your program of interest, please visit <http://www.maricopa.edu/academic/curric/>.

The following programs are those currently available for offering within the 10 community colleges and two skill centers of the Maricopa Community Colleges district. Programs are grouped into broad occupational areas as requested by the colleges, then analyzed by the Center for Workforce Development for inclusion in the Transportation, Distribution & Logistics industry cluster. For specific program information, contact the college(s) listed as participating institutions.

For more information about the
Maricopa Community Colleges, please visit:
<http://www.maricopa.edu>

College/ Skill Center	Program
Chandler-Gilbert	Airway Science Technology: Flight Emphasis, Flight Technology
GateWay	Air Conditioning and Electrical Accessories, Automotive Drive Trains, Automotive Suspension Steering and Brakes, Automotive Technology, Engine Performance and Diagnosis
Glendale	Automotive Chassis, Automotive Engine Performance Diagnosis & Air Conditioning, Automotive Engines and Drive Trains, Automotive Technology, Tractor-Trailer Driving
Maricopa Skill Center	Auto Body Basic Metal Repair & Refinishing, Auto Body Basic Metal Repair, Auto Body Basic Refinishing, Industrial Spray Painter
Mesa	Air Conditioning, Automotive Electrical Systems, Automotive Performance Technology, Brakes Alignment Suspension and Steering, Caterpillar Technician Training, Engine Performance and Diagnosis, Transmissions and Power Trains
Rio Salado	Workforce Development: Automotive Technology Level I, Workforce Development: Automotive Technology Level II
SouthWest Skill Center	Certified Distribution Logistics Technician

2008-2009 Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Arizona Department of Commerce, Minnesota IMPLAN Group, States' Career Clusters Initiative (SCCI), and the Maricopa Community Colleges Center for Curriculum Transfer and Articulation.