# Ozarks Regional Labor Availability Analysis 



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The staff of The Docking Institute of Public Affairs and its University Center for Survey Research specialize in the design and implementation of local and state telephone and mail surveys for academic, government, and non-profit organizations. Over the past five years, The Docking Institute's UCSR has conducted over 60 telephone and self-administered mail surveys for government and non-profit agencies. If you have any questions, comments, or need assistance, do not hesitate to call one of our staff.

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Report Prepared For:
Ozarks Regional Economic Partnership

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## Ozarks Regional Labor Availability Analysis Executive Summary

The Ozarks region, for purposes of this study, encompasses twenty-one counties in Southwest Missouri and three counties in Northwest Arkansas. The purpose of this report is to assess the "available labor pool" in this region. The "available labor pool" represents those who indicate that they are either looking for employment, or would consider changing their jobs for the right employment opportunity.

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs' independent analysis of this region shows that:

- There is an available labor pool in the Ozarks region of 262,346 . It is estimated that 16,971 unemployed and 41,852 employed workers are seeking new employment, while 203,524 would consider changing employment for the right opportunities.
- $59.4 \%$ of those in the available labor pool have at least some college education. A total of $92.9 \%$ have at least a high school diploma.
- $35.8 \%$, or an estimated 93,947 workers in the available labor pool, are underemployed.
- $53.6 \%$ of the available labor pool, or 140,603 people, would be interested in an employment opportunity with a wage of $\$ 14.00$ an hour. At $\$ 12.00$ an hour, 120,754 people ( $46.0 \%$ of the available labor) would be interested, while at $\$ 10.00$ an hour, 86,278 people ( $32.9 \%$ of the available labor) would be interested.
- Workers in the Ozarks region are willing to travel to take advantage of employment opportunities. 251,405 ( $95.8 \%$ of the available labor) would commute more than 15 minutes, one way, for employment. 208,581 (79.5\% of the available labor) are willing to travel more than 30 minutes, one way, for an employment opportunity and 42,236 (16.1\%) will commute more than 60 minutes.


## Ozarks Regional Labor Availability Analysis

The Ozarks region, for purposes of this study, encompasses twenty-one counties in Southwest Missouri and three counties in Northwest Arkansas. The criteria used to include a county in this region are whether it has a significant border adjacent to one of the seven individual labor basin center counties ${ }^{1}$ and if it has an established driving route for commuting to the labor basin center. The Ozarks region has a total population of approximately $1,030,000$. It has a civilian labor force of over 520,000. While there is an unemployment rate of $3.3 \%$, there is, nonetheless, a substantial supply of available labor. The Docking Institute's independent analysis of this region shows that there are 41,852 workers ( $7.9 \%$ of the civilian labor force) who are actively seeking new employment and 203,524 (38.6\% of the civilian labor force) who would consider new employment for the right opportunity.


[^0]
## Available Labor Pool

Traditional methods of assessing the dynamics of the labor force have concentrated on census based labor force characteristics like the unemployment rate, average age, education levels, and dominant sectors of employment. Even though these data are useful, especially when examined over time, these census data paint an incomplete picture. For example, most new employers draw their workforce from those who are presently employed, not those who are unemployed. In addition, these census based data could stereotype a community that is dominated by manufacturing employment as one that would not support the labor needs of a service sector/information based employer, even though the quantity and qualifications of workers who would likely apply for this type of employment may be sufficient to support the needs of this type of employer. In sum, these aggregate data simply cannot reveal the quantity or quality of the labor pool that would be available for new employment opportunities.

This section assesses the characteristics of the available labor pool in the Ozarks region by answering the following questions: 1) What proportion of the labor force--employed, unemployed, homemaker, student, and retired--would seriously consider applying for a new employment opportunity? 2) What types of considerations (pay, benefits, commuting distance) shape their decision-making? 3) What is the quality of those who would seriously consider a new employment opportunity?

The "available labor pool" represents those who indicate that they are either looking for a job, or would consider changing their jobs for the right employment opportunity. The percent of the study area population in the available labor pool is derived from a random digit telephone survey of 2,223 employed, unemployed, and retired adults living in the Ozarks region. When all 2,223 respondents are included in the analysis, the survey findings have a margin of error of $+/-2.1 \%$. The margin of error for subgroups is higher. Most of these analyses are based on a subgroup of 826 respondents who are members of the civilian labor force, or who are retired, students, or housewives who state they are "available" (see definition above). For these 826 respondents, the survey has a margin of error of $+/-3.4 \%$. The "Methods" section of this report details the survey methods used in this report.

The advantage of this survey methodology is that it allows researchers to ask questions of members of the civilian labor force (people currently working, or receiving unemployment benefits, or unemployed seeking work) and potential members of the labor force (students, retirees, homemakers, and military personnel) concerning their availability for new employment. In practice, not all of the available labor pool will apply for a new job opportunity. Rather the available labor pool represents those with a propensity to consider a new job opportunity given their employment expectations.

Combining these survey data with United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data, these analyses use "adjusted" civilian labor force statistics ${ }^{1}$ that take into account the percentage of non-civilians (generally students, homemakers, military, retirees, and long-term unemployed) who are seeking or would consider coming into the civilian labor force under the right conditions.

Based on these calculations, Figure 1 shows that there is an available labor pool in the Ozarks region of 262,346 . It is estimated that 16,971 unemployed ${ }^{2}$ and 41,852 employed workers are seeking new employment, while 203,524 workers would consider changing employment for the right opportunities.

## Figure 1: Available Labor Pool



Table 1 (next page) shows the various occupations of these 262,346 potential employees. Service sector jobs represent approximately $34.8 \%$ of the available labor pool. Traditional blue-collar occupations represent $33.0 \%$ of the available labor pool, while professional occupations comprise another $25.1 \%$. Finally, students, the unemployed, homemakers, and the military represent $6.9 \%$ of the available labor pool.

[^1]Table 1: Occupation

|  | Number | Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Mechanic,Welder | 10,381 | 4.0 |
| Factory Worker,Meat Packer | 13,749 | 5.2 |
| General Labor | 62,543 | 23.8 |
| Governmental, Business, and other Professional | 49,913 | 19.0 |
| Clerical | 13,720 | 5.2 |
| Educator or Professor | 16,068 | 6.1 |
| Other White Collar | 26,498 | 10.1 |
| Social Service (e.g.health,babysitting) | 18,107 | 6.9 |
| Sales, Hotel, Restaurant, Food Service | 33,091 | 12.6 |
| Military | 459 | 0.2 |
| Homemakers and Retirees | 4,978 | 1.9 |
| Full or Part Time Student | 2,218 | 0.8 |
| Unemployed | 10,622 | 4.0 |
| Total | 262,346 | 100.0 |

(Numbers may not total accurately due to rounding.)
Table 2 shows the gender, age statistics, and educational levels of these 262,346 workers. Approximately $44.0 \%$ are women. The average and median year born is 1961 ( 40 years old). The educational levels of the available labor pool are very high. 59.4\% of the available labor have at least some college education. A total of $92.9 \%$ have at least a high school diploma.

Table 2: Age, Gender, and Education Level

| Age |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Year Born |  |  |
| Average | 1961 |  |  |
| Median | 1961 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Gender |  |  |  |
|  | Number | Percent |  |
| Female | 44.0 |  |  |
| Male | 115,435 | 56.0 |  |
| Total | 146,911 | 100.0 |  |
|  | 262,346 |  |  |
| Highest Level of Education Achieved |  |  |  |
|  |  | 1.9 |  |
| Doctoral Degree | Number | Percent | Cum. Percent |
| Masters Degree | 5,037 | 15.9 | 9.1 |
| Bachelors Degree | 18,777 | 7.2 | 31.6 |
| Associates Degree | 40,085 | 59.4 |  |
| Some College | 18,902 | 27.8 | 92.9 |
| High School Diploma Only | 72,930 | 33.5 | 100.0 |
| Less HS Diploma | 88,006 | 7.1 |  |
| Total | 18,609 | 100.0 |  |

Zip codes of respondents were used to map the available labor. Map 2 shows how each zip code in the region compares to all other zip codes in terms of percent of total available labor for a job in the Ozarks region. Each zip code is grouped into one of seven categories specified in the key.


The county of residence of each respondent was also used to map the available labor. Map 3 shows how each county in the region compares to all other counties in terms of percent of total available labor for a job in the Ozarks region. Each county is grouped into one of six categories specified in the key.


Underemployment-individuals possessing skills and/or training that exceeds the responsibilities of their current job-is a significant issue in many communities. To assess the level of underemployment, the survey asked respondents if their skills, education, or talents are underutilized in their current job. Figure 2 shows that about 35.8\%, an estimated 92,947 workers in the available labor pool, are

Figure 2: Underemployed

underemployed.
Table 3 shows the education levels of these underemployed workers in the available labor pool, with $63.3 \%$ having at least some college education. A total of $95.4 \%$ have at least a high school diploma.

Table 3: Highest Level of Education Achieved By Underemployed

|  | Number | Percent | Cum. Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Doctoral Degree | 981 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Masters Degree | 5,114 | 5.4 | 6.5 |
| Bachelors Degree | 12,570 | 13.4 | 19.9 |
| Associates Degree | 8,138 | 8.7 | 28.5 |
| Some College | 32,622 | 34.7 | 63.3 |
| High School Diploma Only | 30,174 | 32.1 | 95.4 |
| Less HS Diploma | 4,348 | 4.6 | 100.0 |
| Total | 93,947 | 100 |  |

The underemployed workers also tend to be currently employed in areas of strong demand. Figure 3 (next page) illustrates that 40\% (37,083 people) are in customer service related occupations, $29 \%$ ( 27,554 people) are employed as general laborers, $20 \%$ (18,498 people) are employed in professional occupations, and 10\% ( 9,471 people) are in skilled or semi-skilled positions. ${ }^{3}$

[^2]Figure 3: Occupational Groups of Underemployed


Some workers may be available for a new employment opportunity, but are unwilling to switch from their current job to a different type of position. If there are a large percentage of those unwilling to change their job descriptions, it limits the type of employers who can enter the labor basin. But this is not the case in the Ozarks region. Table 4 indicates that $80.7 \%$ of the available labor pool, or 211,761 workers, would be willing to accept a position outside of their primary field of employment (for example, manufacturing employment to service sector employment).

Table 4: Willing to Take Job Outside of Primary Field

|  | Number | Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Yes | 211,761 | 80.7 |
| No | 50,585 | 19.3 |
| Total | 262,346 | 100.0 |

Figure 4 (next page) shows the wage demands of the available labor pool. $32.9 \%$ of the available labor pool, or 86,278 people, would be interested in an employment opportunity with a wage of $\$ 10.00$ an hour. At $\$ 12.00$ an hour, 120,754 people (46.0\% of the available labor) would be interested, while at $\$ 14.00$ an hour, 140,603 people ( $53.6 \%$ of the available labor pool) would be interested.


Table 5 indicates that the available labor pool in the Ozarks region is very open to commuting. The table shows 251,405 ( $95.8 \%$ of the available labor) would commute more than 15 minutes, one way, for employment. It also shows that 208,581 (79.5\% of the available labor) are willing to travel more than 30 minutes, one way, for an employment opportunity and 42,236 (16.1\%) will commute for more than 60 minutes.

Table 5: Distance Available Labor Will Commute

|  | Cumulative |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | Number | Percent |
| More than 75 Minutes | 3,573 | 1.4 |
| 60 Minutes or More | 42,236 | 16.1 |
| 45 Minutes or More | 77,352 | 29.5 |
| 30 Minutes or More | 208,581 | 79.5 |
| 15 Minutes or More | 251,405 | 95.8 |
| Less than 15 Minutes | 262,346 | 100.0 |

Table 6 shows that the most important benefit affecting workers' willingness to leave their present job is higher pay ( $95.4 \%$ ), followed by improved retirement benefits (79.5\%), more flexible hours (67.7\%), improved health benefits (58.8\%), and better educational opportunities (51.5\%). The least important benefit affecting workers' willingness to leave their present job is the availability of on-site childcare (24.3\%). Also low in importance were a job significantly closer to home (33.9\%) and a different community ( $25.1 \%$ ).

Table 6: Benefit Very Important In Willingness to Change Employment

|  | Percent Responding "Yes" |
| :--- | ---: |
| Salary | 95.4 |
| Retirement | 79.5 |
| Flexible Hours | 67.7 |
| Health Benefits | 58.8 |
| Educational Opportunities | 51.5 |
| Job Significantly Closer to Home | 33.9 |
| Different Community | 25.1 |
| On-Site Childcare | 24.3 |

## Methods

The findings from this survey are based on a random digit telephone sample of 2,223 adults living in 21 counties in Southwest Missouri and 3 counties in Northwest Arkansas. The survey was conducted May 14, 2001 to July 5, 2001 using a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system. The Ozarks Regional Economic Partnership contracted the University Center for Survey Research at the Docking Institute of Public Affairs to conduct this regional labor assessment. A total of 3,780 households were successfully contacted. In 2,223 of these households, an adult who is working, unemployed, or retired agreed to do the interview. This represents a response rate of $59 \%$.

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs in cooperation with the survey sponsors developed the survey instrument. This survey instrument is the property of the Docking Institute. It is available upon request. A detailed summary of the method of analysis used in this report can be found in Joseph A. Aistrup and Mark Bannister, "Assessing the Available Labor Pool: A Survey of the Northeast Kansas Labor Force." Kansas Business Review, Spring 1998, 21, 3: 1-10.
q1 Working Status

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | Working or Working Student | 1351 | 60.8 | 60.9 | 60.9 |
|  | Homemaker | 191 | 8.6 | 8.6 | 69.5 |
|  | Unemployed | 93 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 73.7 |
|  | Retired | 566 | 25.5 | 25.5 | 99.2 |
|  | Non-Working Student | 18 | . 8 | . 8 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 2220 | 99.8 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 2 | . 1 |  |  |
|  | System | 1 | . 0 |  |  |
|  | Total | 3 | . 2 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q1a Type of Position

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Full-Time | 1185 | 53.3 | 87.5 | 87.5 |
|  | Prequency | Percent | Valid Percent | 6.4 | 10.5 |

q1b Self-Employed

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 285 | 12.8 | 21.1 | 21.1 |
|  | No | 1069 | 48.1 | 78.9 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1354 | 60.9 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | System | 869 | 39.1 |  |  |
|  | Total | 869 | 39.1 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q2 Occupation

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | General | 188 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 8.6 |
|  | Labor,Construction |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mechanic,Welder | 46 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 10.7 |
|  | Farmer, Agric Worker | 40 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 12.5 |
|  | Factory Worker, Meat Packer | 63 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 15.3 |
|  | Other Blue Collar | 116 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 20.6 |
|  | Governmental Service | 46 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 22.7 |
|  | Business Professional, Owner, Manager, Banker, Finance | 177 | 8.0 | 8.1 | 30.8 |
|  | Doctor, Attorney, Engineer | 59 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 33.5 |
|  | Clerical | 77 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 37.0 |
|  | Arts \& Crafts | 25 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 38.2 |
|  | Sales | 106 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 43.0 |
|  | Educator or Professor | 100 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 47.5 |
|  | Other White Collar | 122 | 5.5 | 5.6 | 53.1 |
|  | Social Service (e.g.health, babysitting) | 102 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 57.7 |
|  | Hotel, Restaurant, Food Services | 51 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 60.1 |
|  | Military | 5 | . 2 | . 2 | 60.3 |
|  | Homemaker | 194 | 8.7 | 8.9 | 69.1 |
|  | Full or Part-Time Student | 18 | . 8 | . 8 | 69.9 |
|  | Unemployed | 93 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 74.2 |
|  | Retired | 566 | 25.5 | 25.8 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 2193 | 98.7 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 39 | 1 | . 0 |  |  |
|  | RA-NA | 6 | . 3 |  |  |
|  | System | 23 | 1.0 |  |  |
|  | Total | 30 | 1.3 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q3d Health Insurance

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 1829 | 82.3 | 82.6 | 82.6 |
|  | No | 384 | 17.3 | 17.4 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 2213 | 99.6 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 3 | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | RA-DK | 8 | .3 |  |  |
|  | System | 2 | .1 |  |  |
|  | Total | 10 | .4 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q3e Employer Provides Health Insurance

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 995 | 44.8 | 91.6 | 91.6 |
|  | No | 91 | 4.1 | 8.4 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1086 | 48.9 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 4 | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | RA-DK | 3 | .1 |  |  |
|  | System | 1133 | 51.0 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1137 | 51.1 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q3f Employer Provides Retirement Benefits

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Percent |  |  |
| Valid | Yes | 755 | 33.9 | 71.8 | 71.8 |
|  | No | 296 | 13.3 | 28.2 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1051 | 47.3 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 19 | .9 |  |  |
|  | System | 1153 | 51.9 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1172 | 52.7 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |


|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | Yes | 858 | 38.6 | 80.5 | 80.5 |
|  | No | 208 | 9.3 | 19.5 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1066 | 48.0 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 4 | . 2 |  |  |
|  | System | 1153 | 51.9 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1157 | 52.0 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q3h Employer Provides Life Insurance

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 726 | 32.7 | 69.5 | 69.5 |
|  | No | 319 | 14.3 | 30.5 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1045 | 47.0 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 23 | 1.0 |  |  |
|  | System | 1155 | 52.0 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1178 | 53.0 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q4 Hold a Second Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 180 | 8.1 | 13.5 | 13.5 |
|  | No | 1157 | 52.0 | 86.5 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1337 | 60.1 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | System | 886 | 39.8 |  |  |
|  | Total | 886 | 39.9 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q5 Occupation of Second Job

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | General |  |  |  |  |
|  | Labor, Construction | 15 | . 7 | 8.3 | 8.3 |
|  | Mechanic,Welder | 4 | . 2 | 2.0 | 10.3 |
|  | Farmer, Agric Worker | 25 | 1.1 | 14.4 | 24.7 |
|  | Factory Worker, Meat Packer | 4 | . 2 | 2.4 | 27.1 |
|  | Other Blue Collar | 14 | . 6 | 7.9 | 35.1 |
|  | Governmental Service | 2 | . 1 | . 9 | 35.9 |
|  | Business Professional, Owner, Manager, Banker, Finance | 13 | . 6 | 7.1 | 43.1 |
|  | Doctor, Attorney, Engineer | 1 | . 1 | . 8 | 43.9 |
|  | Clerical | 6 | . 3 | 3.3 | 47.1 |
|  | Arts \& Crafts | 10 | . 5 | 5.7 | 52.8 |
|  | Sales | 14 | . 6 | 7.9 | 60.7 |
|  | Educator or Professor | 6 | . 3 | 3.7 | 64.4 |
|  | Other White Collar | 14 | . 6 | 7.9 | 72.3 |
|  | Social Service (e.g.health, babysitting) | 14 | . 6 | 7.8 | 80.1 |
|  | Hotel, Restaurant, Food Services | 9 | . 4 | 5.3 | 85.4 |
|  | Military | 3 | . 1 | 1.5 | 86.9 |
|  | Homemaker | 4 | . 2 | 2.5 | 89.4 |
|  | Full or Part-Time Student | 15 | . 7 | 8.6 | 98.0 |
|  | Retired | 4 | . 2 | 2.0 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 176 | 7.9 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-NA | 1 | . 1 |  |  |
|  | System | 2046 | 92.0 |  |  |
|  | Total | 2047 | 92.1 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q6 Currently Looking for a Different Full-Time Job

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 132 | 5.9 | 11.2 | 11.2 |
|  | No | 1044 | 47.0 | 88.8 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1176 | 52.9 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 3 | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | RA-DK | 2 | .1 |  |  |
|  | System | 1045 | 47.0 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1047 | 47.1 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q7 Currently Looking for a Full-Time Job (unemployed)

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 83 | 3.7 | 8.1 | 8.1 |
|  | No | 951 | 42.8 | 91.9 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1034 | 46.5 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 0 | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | RA-DK | 5 | .2 |  |  |
|  | System | 1183 | 53.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1189 | 53.5 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |


|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | 5.15 | 2 | . 1 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
|  | 5.35 | 1 | . 1 | 3.2 | 6.7 |
|  | 5.50 | 1 | . 0 | 2.4 | 9.1 |
|  | 6.00 | 2 | . 1 | 4.8 | 14.0 |
|  | 6.50 | 4 | . 2 | 8.2 | 22.1 |
|  | 6.75 | 1 | . 0 | 1.3 | 23.4 |
|  | 7.00 | 4 | . 2 | 7.9 | 31.3 |
|  | 7.50 | 1 | . 1 | 3.2 | 34.5 |
|  | 8.00 | 7 | . 3 | 15.8 | 50.3 |
|  | 9.00 | 2 | . 1 | 4.7 | 55.0 |
|  | 9.50 | 1 | . 1 | 3.2 | 58.1 |
|  | 10.00 | 4 | . 2 | 8.9 | 67.1 |
|  | 10.50 | 2 | . 1 | 3.6 | 70.7 |
|  | 12.00 | 2 | . 1 | 4.7 | 75.4 |
|  | 12.50 | 1 | . 1 | 3.0 | 78.4 |
|  | 14.00 | 1 | . 0 | 1.3 | 79.7 |
|  | 15.00 | 3 | . 1 | 6.1 | 85.8 |
|  | 16.00 | 1 | . 1 | 2.9 | 88.7 |
|  | 25.00 | 3 | . 1 | 6.9 | 95.6 |
|  | 30.00 | 1 | . 0 | 1.3 | 96.8 |
|  | 40.00 | 1 | . 1 | 3.2 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 45 | 2.0 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | System | 2178 | 98.0 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8 If Right Opportunity Would Consider Leaving Present Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumpent <br> Percent |
| Valid | Yes | 641 | 28.8 | 54.0 | 54.0 |
|  | No | 545 | 24.5 | 46.0 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1186 | 53.3 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 3 | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | RA-DK | 28 | 1.3 |  |  |
|  | System | 1009 | 45.4 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1037 | 46.7 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8a Improved Health Benefits Important to Change Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 452 | 20.3 | 58.7 | 58.7 |
|  | No | 318 | 14.3 | 41.3 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 770 | 34.7 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 4 | .2 |  |  |
|  | System | 1449 | 65.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1453 | 65.3 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8b Educational Opportunities Important to Change Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 396 | 17.8 | 51.4 | 51.4 |
|  | No | 374 | 16.8 | 48.6 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 770 | 34.6 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 4 | .2 |  |  |
|  | System | 1449 | 65.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1453 | 65.4 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8c Increase Salary Important to Change Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 739 | 33.2 | 95.4 | 95.4 |
|  | No | 35 | 1.6 | 4.6 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 774 | 34.8 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | System | 1449 | 65.2 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8d Improved Retirement Important to Change Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 612 | 27.5 | 79.4 | 79.4 |
|  | No | 159 | 7.2 | 20.6 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 771 | 34.7 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 3 | .1 |  |  |
|  | System | 1449 | 65.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1452 | 65.3 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8e On-Site Childcare Important to Change Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 187 | 8.4 | 24.3 | 24.3 |
|  | No | 584 | 26.3 | 75.7 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 771 | 34.7 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 3 | .1 |  |  |
|  | System | 1449 | 65.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1452 | 65.3 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8f Flexible Hours Important to Change Job

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 523 | 23.5 | 67.7 | 67.7 |
|  | No | 250 | 11.2 | 32.3 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 773 | 34.8 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | System | 1449 | 65.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1450 | 65.2 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8g Different Community Important to Change Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 192 | 8.6 | 25.0 | 25.0 |
|  | No | 574 | 25.8 | 75.0 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 765 | 34.4 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 7 | .3 |  |  |
|  | System | 1450 | 65.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1458 | 65.6 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8h Job Significantly Closer to Home Important to Change Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 260 | 11.7 | 33.8 | 33.8 |
|  | No | 509 | 22.9 | 66.2 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 769 | 34.6 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 4 | .2 |  |  |
|  | System | 1450 | 65.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1454 | 65.4 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q8i Some Other Opportunity Important to Change Job

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Curcent <br> Palid |
| Yes | 162 | 7.3 | 24.5 | 24.5 |  |
|  | No | 500 | 22.5 | 75.5 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 662 | 29.8 | 100.0 |  |
|  | 0 | 1 | .0 |  |  |
|  | RA-DK | 1 | .1 |  |  |
|  | System | 1558 | 70.1 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1561 | 70.2 |  |  |

q9 Willing to Take Job Outside of Primary Field

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 607 | 27.3 | 80.6 | 80.6 |
|  | No | 146 | 6.6 | 19.4 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 753 | 33.9 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 15 | .7 |  |  |
|  | System | 1455 | 65.4 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1470 | 66.1 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q10 Distance Willing to Travel One-Way for New Job

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | 0 | 3 | . 2 | . 5 | . 5 |
|  | 1 | 1 | . 0 | . 1 | . 6 |
|  | 2 | 2 | . 1 | . 3 | . 8 |
|  | 5 | 5 | . 2 | . 7 | 1.5 |
|  | 7 | 1 | . 1 | . 2 | 1.7 |
|  | 10 | 17 | . 8 | 2.3 | 4.0 |
|  | 13 | 1 | . 1 | . 2 | 4.2 |
|  | 15 | 27 | 1.2 | 3.6 | 7.8 |
|  | 16 | 1 | . 0 | . 1 | 7.9 |
|  | 20 | 73 | 3.3 | 10.0 | 17.9 |
|  | 25 | 19 | . 8 | 2.6 | 20.5 |
|  | 30 | 322 | 14.5 | 44.2 | 64.7 |
|  | 33 | 1 | . 1 | . 2 | 64.9 |
|  | 35 | 18 | . 8 | 2.5 | 67.4 |
|  | 38 | 1 | . 1 | . 2 | 67.6 |
|  | 40 | 22 | 1.0 | 3.0 | 70.5 |
|  | 45 | 90 | 4.1 | 12.4 | 82.9 |
|  | 47 | 1 | . 0 | . 1 | 83.0 |
|  | 50 | 7 | . 3 | . 9 | 83.9 |
|  | 60 | 107 | 4.8 | 14.7 | 98.6 |
|  | 70 | 1 | . 0 | . 1 | 98.6 |
|  | 75 | 1 | . 1 | . 2 | 98.8 |
|  | 90 | 2 | . 1 | . 2 | 99.0 |
|  | 100 | 1 | . 0 | . 1 | 99.1 |
|  | 120 | 6 | . 3 | . 9 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 729 | 32.8 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 210 | 1 | . 1 |  |  |
|  | 999 | 20 | . 9 |  |  |
|  | System | 1473 | 66.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1494 | 67.2 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q11 Skills Underutilized Now

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Yes | 349 | 15.7 | 26.4 | 26.4 |
|  | No | 974 | 43.8 | 73.6 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1324 | 59.5 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 18 | .8 |  |  |
|  | System | 882 | 39.7 |  |  |
|  | Total | 899 | 40.5 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q12 Why Underutilized

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | Prev Job Required More Skill Educ | 57 | 2.6 | 18.3 | 18.3 |
|  | Have had Addtional Training, Educ | 118 | 5.3 | 38.1 | 56.4 |
|  | Current Job Does Not Req My Training, Educ | 97 | 4.4 | 31.3 | 87.7 |
|  | Prev Job Earned More Income | 38 | 1.7 | 12.3 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 310 | 13.9 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 38 | 1.7 |  |  |
|  | System | 1875 | 84.4 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1913 | 86.1 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q13 Type Previous Job that Required More Skill

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | General | 11 | . 5 | 11.2 | 11.2 |
|  | Mechanic, Welder | 6 | . 3 | 6.5 | 17.7 |
|  | Farmer, Agric Worker | 2 | . 1 | 1.8 | 19.5 |
|  | Factory Worker, Meat Packer | 3 | . 1 | 3.2 | 22.7 |
|  | Other Blue Collar | 8 | . 4 | 8.4 | 31.1 |
|  | Business Professional, Owner, Manager, Banker, Finance | 22 | 1.0 | 23.5 | 54.6 |
|  | Doctor, Attorney, Engineer | 1 | . 0 | 1.1 | 55.8 |
|  | Clerical | 2 | . 1 | 2.2 | 58.0 |
|  | Arts \& Crafts | 1 | . 1 | 1.4 | 59.3 |
|  | Sales | 11 | . 5 | 12.0 | 71.3 |
|  | Educator or Professor | 6 | . 3 | 6.2 | 77.5 |
|  | Other White Collar | 11 | . 5 | 11.4 | 88.8 |
|  | Social Service (e.g.health, babysitting) | 4 | . 2 | 3.9 | 92.8 |
|  | Hotel, Restaurant, Food Services | 4 | . 2 | 3.7 | 96.5 |
|  | Military | 3 | . 1 | 3.5 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 94 | 4.2 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-NA | 5 | . 2 |  |  |
|  | System | 2123 | 95.5 |  |  |
|  | Total | 2129 | 95.8 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q14 Previous Job Provided More Income

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Percent |
| Valid | Yes | 65 | 2.9 | 68.7 | 68.7 |
|  | No | 30 | 1.3 | 31.3 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 95 | 4.3 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 4 | .2 |  |  |
|  | System | 2125 | 95.6 |  |  |
|  | Total | 2128 | 95.7 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q15 Would Change Jobs to Better Utilize Skills

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | Yes | 244 | 11.0 | 72.5 | 72.5 |
|  | No | 92 | 4.2 | 27.5 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 337 | 15.1 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-DK | 13 | . 6 |  |  |
|  | System | 1873 | 84.3 |  |  |
|  | Total | 1886 | 84.9 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

Q15TRAIN

|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Valid | 1 | 232 | 10.4 | 11.3 | 11.3 |
|  | 2 | 89 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 15.7 |
|  | 3 | 59 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 18.6 |
|  | 4 | 73 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 22.1 |
|  | 5 | 155 | 7.0 | 7.6 | 29.7 |
|  | 6 | 47 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 32.0 |
|  | 7 | 293 | 13.2 | 14.3 | 46.3 |
|  | 8 | 94 | 4.2 | 4.6 | 51.0 |
|  | 9 | 143 | 6.4 | 7.0 | 57.9 |
|  | 10 | 33 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 59.6 |
|  | 11 | 108 | 4.9 | 5.3 | 64.9 |
|  | 12 | 168 | 7.6 | 8.2 | 73.1 |
|  | 13 | 157 | 7.1 | 7.7 | 80.8 |
|  | 14 | 186 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 89.9 |
|  | 15 | 65 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 93.1 |
|  | 16 | 28 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 94.4 |
|  | 17 | 114 | 5.1 | 5.6 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 2045 | 92.0 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 18 | 7 | . 3 |  |  |
|  | 19 | 11 | . 5 |  |  |
|  | 20 | 55 | 2.5 |  |  |
|  | System | 105 | 4.7 |  |  |
|  | Total | 178 | 8.0 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |

q17 Highest Level of Education

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Less HS Diploma | 268 | 12.0 | 12.3 | 12.3 |
|  | High School Diploma | 776 | 34.9 | 35.6 | 47.9 |
|  | Some College | 563 | 25.3 | 25.8 | 73.7 |
|  | Associates Degree | 113 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 78.9 |
|  | Bachelors Degree | 279 | 12.6 | 12.8 | 91.7 |
|  | Masters Degree | 141 | 6.4 | 6.5 | 98.2 |
|  | Doctoral Degree | 40 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 2181 | 98.1 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | 9 | 15 | .7 |  |  |
|  | System | 27 | 1.2 |  |  |
|  | Total | 42 | 1.9 |  |  |


| q18 Total Family Income |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| Valid | Less than \$10k | 137 | 6.2 | 7.5 | 7.5 |
|  | \$10k-\$20k | 281 | 12.6 | 15.3 | 22.8 |
|  | \$20k-\$30k | 347 | 15.6 | 18.9 | 41.7 |
|  | \$30k-\$40k | 328 | 14.8 | 17.9 | 59.6 |
|  | \$40k-\$50k | 235 | 10.6 | 12.8 | 72.4 |
|  | \$50k-\$60k | 160 | 7.2 | 8.7 | 81.1 |
|  | \$60k-\$70k | 113 | 5.1 | 6.1 | 87.2 |
|  | over \$70k | 234 | 10.5 | 12.8 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 1835 | 82.6 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | RA-NA | 313 | 14.1 |  |  |
|  | System | 75 | 3.4 |  |  |
|  | Total | 388 | 17.4 |  |  |
| Total | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |  |

q20 Gender

|  |  |  |  |  | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | Female | 1149 | 51.7 | 51.8 | 51.8 |
|  | Male | 1072 | 48.2 | 48.2 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 2221 | 99.9 | 100.0 |  |
| Missing | System | 2 | .1 |  |  |
| Total |  | 2223 | 100.0 |  |  |


| q28 County |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | Greene | 517 | 23.3 | 23.3 | 23.3 |
|  | St Clair | 21 | . 9 | . 9 | 24.2 |
|  | Hickory | 19 | . 9 | . 9 | 25.1 |
|  | Dallas | 34 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 26.6 |
|  | Laclede | 70 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 29.7 |
|  | Douglas | 28 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 31.0 |
|  | Ozark | 21 | . 9 | . 9 | 31.9 |
|  | Polk | 58 | 2.6 | 2.6 | 34.5 |
|  | Webster | 67 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 37.6 |
|  | Cedar | 30 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 38.9 |
|  | Dade | 17 | . 8 | . 8 | 39.7 |
|  | Christian | 95 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 43.9 |
|  | Taney | 85 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 47.8 |
|  | Lawrence | 76 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 51.2 |
|  | Stone | 62 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 54.0 |
|  | Jasper | 225 | 10.1 | 10.1 | 64.1 |
|  | Newton | 113 | 5.1 | 5.1 | 69.2 |
|  | Barry | 73 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 72.5 |
|  | McDonald | 47 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 74.6 |
|  | Camden | 80 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 78.2 |
|  | Barton | 27 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 79.4 |
|  | Boone AR | 73 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 82.7 |
|  | Carroll AR | 55 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 85.1 |
|  | Benton AR | 330 | 14.9 | 14.9 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 2223 | 100.0 | 100.0 |  |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The Ozarks Regional Economic Partnership and the Docking Institute of Public Affairs agreed to the labor basin centers, which are Bolivar, Branson, Buffalo, Cassville, Greenfield, Mt. Vernon, and Springfield.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ The number that is added to the civilian labor force to create the adjusted civilian labor force statistic is calculated by taking from the survey the total number of students, military, retirees, and long-term unemployed, who state that they are seeking employment, and dividing this number by the total number of respondents. This quotient is then multiplied by the total number of people in the labor basin who are 18 or older.
    ${ }^{2}$ For the purposes of this number, "unemployed" refers not only to unemployed members of the civilian labor force. "Unemployed" also includes any students, homemakers, and retirees that indicate that they are presently seeking employment.

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ Numbers may not total accurately due to rounding.

