BEST IN MIDWEST

TALENT FOR TOMORROW
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Missouri deserves the best.
But our neighbors and peers are out-performing us.
We rank 12th for GDP growth over the last five years, according to the US BEA.
We rank 11th in U.S. News and World Report’s Growth Rankings.
We rank 9th among our peers in CNBC’s top states for business.
We rank 13th for the quality and availability of our workforce by CNBC.
We rank 12th for the productivity of our workforce, according to the US BEA.
We rank 8th in number of individuals with an Associate Degree or greater, according to ACS PUMS.
What’s going on?

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Global Megatrends

- Accelerating urbanization
- Climate & resource scarcity
- Shift in global economic power
- Demographic changes
- Technological breakthroughs

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1. Economic Analysis
2. State Economic Agency Comparison
3. DED Organizational Assessment
4. Strategy Recommendations
5. Performance Management Support

1. 10-15 Year Economic Projections
2. Labor Supply & Demand Analysis
3. Industry Specific Deep Dives
4. Strategy Recommendations
5. Pilot and Implementation

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Missouri needs to find a competitive advantage to help the state—and its regions—grow.
Missouri must take bold action to thrive in the 21st century.
Regional Meetings Across Missouri

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Best in Midwest Summit

- Legislators, business leaders, college and university presidents, and key community leaders attended – nearly 300 people.
- National experts presented an overview of global shifts.
- Interactive sessions centered on key design principles to build a new plan.
- State Governor issued a call to action.

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1,869 CITIZENS REACHED AND COUNTING

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The Hard Truths

• There is natural tension between our rural, urban, and suburban communities, and between communities within each of those categories
• Our infrastructure is inadequate for today’s economy, squandering our geographic advantage
• Our top sectors are not outpacing our peers
• We have exceptionally high secondary graduation rates but lag in post-secondary degree or credential attainment
• Our graduates and our workforce are not ready for the economy
Missouri Way

• Status quo is not an option
• Now or never
• Leave no Missourian behind
• Education changes lives
• Infrastructure is the foundation
• Economic development is a team sport
• Fortune favors the brave

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Call For Ideas
Now Open

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INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MISSOURI’S WORKFORCE

Become the Best Place to Live and Work
- Quality of life
- Quality of place
- Attract talent
- Retain talent

Connect All Missourians with Work
- Leverage public aid programs to incentivize work
- Ease the reentry from the criminal justice system
- Improve access to work for people with disabilities
- Remove barriers to work, like lack of transportation and family care

INCREASE THE PRODUCTIVITY OF MISSOURI’S WORKFORCE

Develop a Labor Market that Works
- Increase overall educational attainment
- Increase overall educational attainment for populations and areas with relatively low levels of education
- Prepare people for work in high-demand fields
- Offer more certificate and alternative credential programs
- Ensure that those who hold degrees have the skills expected of people with degrees
- Align educational requirements with actual job duties
- Align K-12, higher education, and the workforce system

Work in a 21st Century Way
- Encourage businesses to adopt technology more quickly
- Teach people how to use technology at work

Build Infrastructure to Drive Economic Development
- Improve roads, bridges, ports, and other transportation infrastructure
- Expand access to high-speed internet
- Modernize utility and energy infrastructure
- Connect directly to the world from our airports

COMPETE TO WIN

Work Together/Compete Together
- Bridge the urban-rural divide
- Build cooperation among and within regions
- Partner with neighbor states when it’s to our advantage

Create a New Approach to Economic Development
- Transform the Department of Economic Development
- Create a brand that tells our story better than anyone else
- Support business attraction, expansion, retention, and entrepreneurship
- Increase exports and foreign direct investment
- Modernize and improve our incentives
- Create the easiest state in which to start and operate a business
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