

LIFT: Lightweight Workforce Quarterly Summary

MICHIGAN, Q2 2018



Employer demand for lightweighting-related skills grew by 18 percent into Q2 2018. There were 56,090 job postings during Q2 2018. This level of demand is over double the 27,875 postings in Q1 2012.

2018 marked the ninth consecutive year of employment growth in lightweighting-related occupations in Michigan. Nearly 700,000 Michigan workers were employed in LIFT-related occupations during 2018, slightly surpassing 2006 employment.

699,876

workers in lightweighting-related occupations in Michigan (2018)



increase in demand for lightweighting skills



nine consecutive years of employment growth

★ TOP 10 OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND STATEWIDE

Occupation	Job Postings
Industrial Engineers	6,995
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	6,459
Mechanical Engineers	5,432
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	4,448
Electrical Engineers	2,513
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,186
Helpers--Production Workers	1,968
First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	1,964
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	1,614
Production Workers, All Other	1,610

Most Skilled Trades jobs are open to entry-level workers willing to undertake some post-secondary training. Training in machining or HVAC, for example, or ASQ certification, can lead to a successful Skilled Trades career. Operations, management, and blueprinting skills are also in demand. Posted educational criteria for jobs in this group are shown in the graph below.

Many career tracks await Administration workers in lightweighting. While an MBA and certifications such as Six Sigma can open doors to lucrative sales and logistics positions, there are many entry-level and non-degree openings as well. Skills such as warehousing, continuous improvement, and management augment candidates' marketability.

Most (65 percent in Q2 2018) lightweighting-related Engineering & Design job postings require a bachelor's degree. Candidates with a degree in industrial or mechanical engineering and automation or skills in prototype manufacturing can earn competitive wages.

⚙️ SKILLED TRADES SUBGROUP EDUCATION & TRAINING IN-DEMAND



☑️ IN-DEMAND CERTIFICATIONS BY GROUP

SKILLED TRADES

- Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
- Cert. Quality Engineer/ASQ Certified
- Certified Welder
- Certified Quality Manager
- Certified Welding Inspector

ADMINISTRATION

- Masters in Business Administration (MBA)
- Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
- Certified Safety Professional
- Certified Quality Auditor
- Production and Inventory Mgmt

ENGINEERS AND DESIGNERS

- Certified Quality Engineer
- Professional Engineer
- ASQ Certified
- Certified Reliability Engineer
- Certified Quality Manager

STATEWIDE POSTINGS BY CITY

Lightweighting-related postings were widespread across Michigan cities, with Detroit (4,173 postings) reporting the most, followed by Grand Rapids (3,008 postings). Many other popular posting locations are in the greater Detroit area, such as Auburn Hills, Troy, and Warren with around 2,000 postings each.



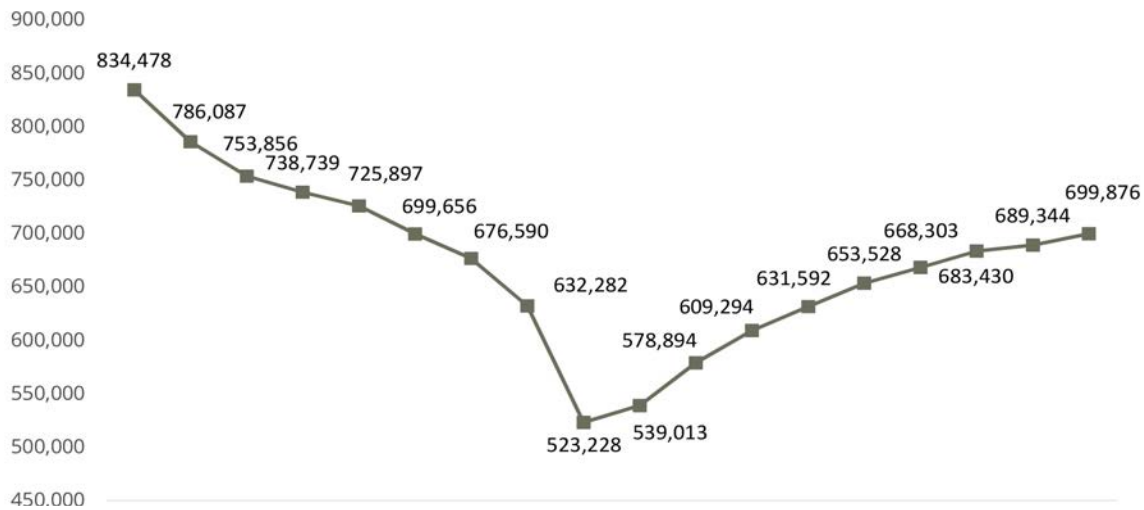
LOCAL SPOTLIGHT

Michigan's automotive history means a high concentration and therefore a strong job market and pipeline for many in-demand lightweighting positions. Industrial and mechanical engineers, many engineering technicians, and commercial and industrial designers are over three times as concentrated in the state than around the nation.

LIGHTWEIGHTING-RELATED EMPLOYMENT OVER TIME

MICHIGAN, 2001 - 2018

Employment in lightweighting-related occupations grew by about 1,500 employees between 2017 and 2018. Since the lowest point of the Great Recession in 2009, employment has grown steadily (recovering over 150,000 workers), and is approaching pre-recession high employment.



LIGHTWEIGHTING-RELATED JOB POSTING OVER TIME

MICHIGAN, Q1 2012 - Q2 2018

Lightweighting-related job postings grew between Q1 2018 and Q2 2018, just surpassing Q4 2017 demand. Since tracking began in Q1 2012, postings have roughly doubled from 27,875 to 56,090 in Q2 2018.



Lightweight Innovations for Tomorrow (LIFT) is a public-private partnership that develops and deploys advanced lightweight materials manufacturing technologies and implements education and training programs to prepare the workforce. Learn more here: <https://lift.technology/>.