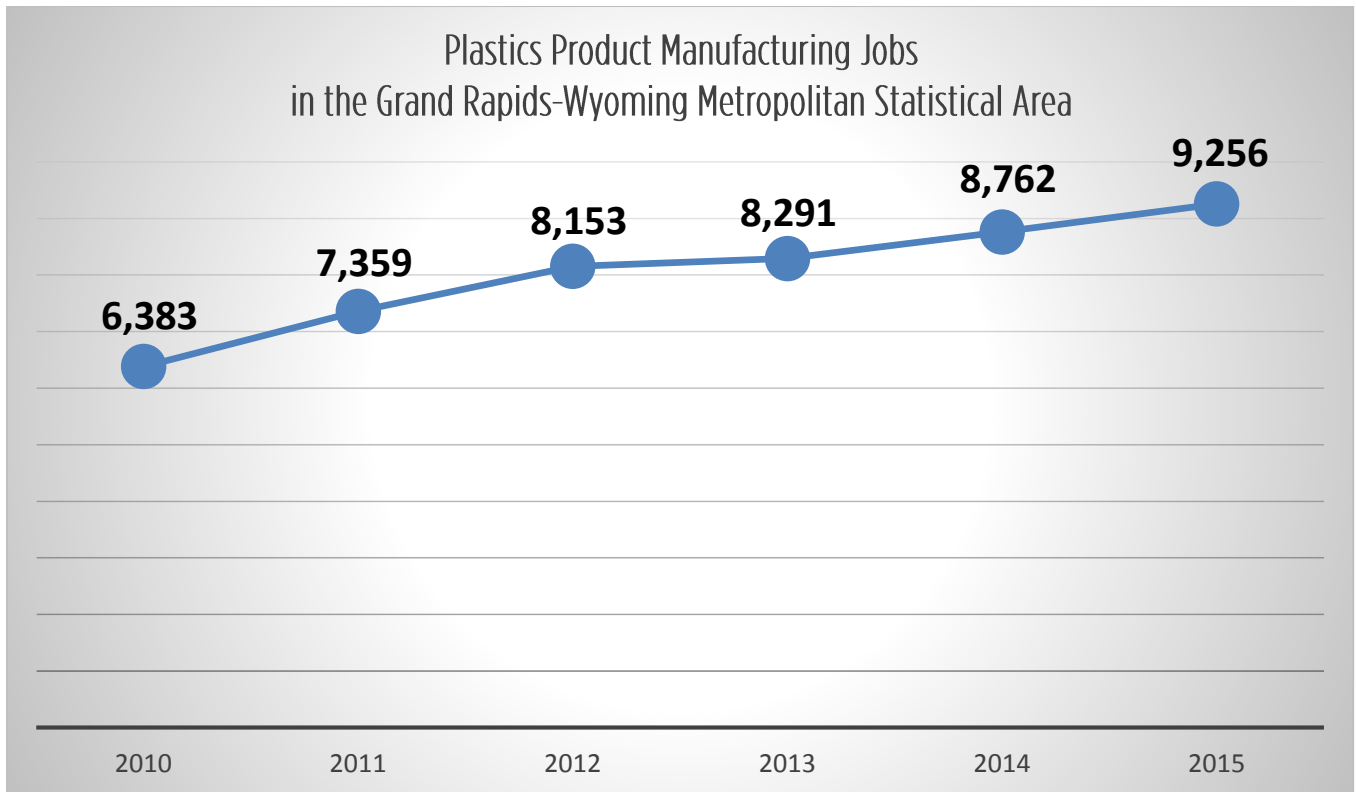


**PLASTIC PRODUCT MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY CLUSTER REPORT  
FOR THE GRAND RAPIDS-WYOMING METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA**

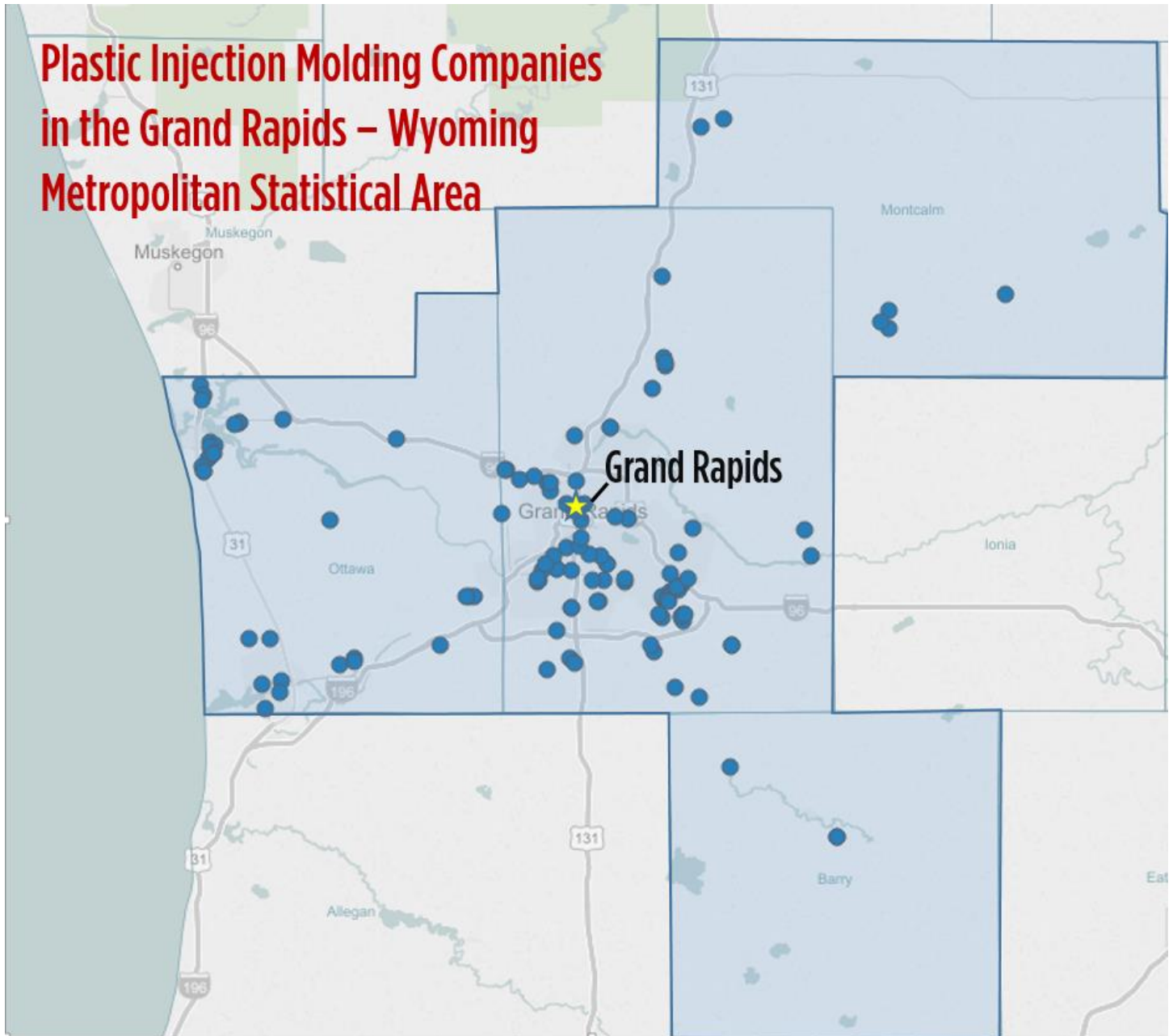
**LABOR MARKET HIGHLIGHTS**

<p><b>9,256</b> Jobs (2015) 365% above National average</p>	<p><b>45%</b> % Change (2010-2015) Nation: 9.6%</p>	<p><b>\$60,288</b> Average Earnings</p>
<p><b>10.5%</b> Projected growth 2010 - 2020</p>	<p><b>136</b> Establishments</p>	<p><b>45.6%</b> Workforce between the ages of 25-44</p>



Data Sources: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) / [www.economicmodeling.com](http://www.economicmodeling.com) & Michigan Bureau of Labor Market Information

## Plastic Injection Molding Companies in the Grand Rapids – Wyoming Metropolitan Statistical Area



### PLASTICS PRODUCT MANUFACTURING TOP 5 EMPLOYERS

Company Name	Local Employee Count
Lacks Enterprises Inc.	2,900
Cascade Engineering	1,600
ADAC Automotive	1,200
Ventra	1,000
Royal Technologies Corp	875

Data Sources: *Factiva* and *The Right Place, Inc.*

## CERTIFICATE & DEGREE COMPLETION & ENROLLMENTS IN WEST MICHIGAN

Institution	Certificates (2013 - 2015)	Degrees (2013 -2015)	Total Completions (2013-2015)
Ferris State University	0	45	45
Grand Rapids Community College	71	149	220
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>265</b>

- **Ferris State University (FSU)**, located an hour north of Grand Rapids, has the largest and most respected undergraduate Plastics Engineering Technology program in the entire United States.
- FSU offers Michigan's only Bachelor of Science in Plastics Engineering Technology.
- FSU offers an award winning B.S. Degree in Plastics Engineering Technology and an attainable A.A.S. Degree in Plastics and Polymer Engineering Technology.
- **Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC)** offers several Certificate and Associate degree programs in Plastics Engineering Technology, including Plastics Manufacturing Technology, Plastics-Polymer Engineering Technology, Master Molder, and Systematic Molding programs.
- GRCC recently developed an intensive 40-hour Process Technician Training course and a 16-hour Mold Change course to better serve local employers training newly hired workers.
- GRCC is able to offer customized training that fits an employer's need, and deliver the trainings at the college's own manufacturing training facility or at the employer's plant.
- GRCC offers Lean training for all manufacturing companies and developed a Lean program specific to local Plastic Manufacturing companies' needs.

Data Sources: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) / [www.economicmodeling.com](http://www.economicmodeling.com), Grand Rapids Community College, Ferris State University, and The Right Place, Inc.

## STATE OF MICHIGAN TRAINING PROGRAMS

**SKILLED TRADES TRAINING FUND (STTF)** – The STTF is a \$20 million training fund that provides competitive awards for employer responsive training that enhances talent, productivity, and employment retention while increasing the quality and competitiveness of Michigan's business community. The STTF ensures Michigan's employers have the talent they need to compete and grow.

**MICHIGAN NEW JOBS TRAINING PROGRAM (MNJTP)** - If a business is locating a facility or expanding operations in the state, the MNJTP can provide flexible funding to meet a variety of training and employee development needs for those new positions. Funds to cover the costs of training are attained through community colleges issuing debt or self-funding. The debt is then repaid to the college through a diversion of withholding taxes generated by the wages earned by the new employees. In other words, training of new employees is essentially paid by dollars that would otherwise have been paid to the state for withholding taxes – no new additional dollars are expended to cover the costs of training. Businesses can gain a competitive edge through virtually cost-free training of their new employees.

**THE RIGHT PLACE, INC.** will coordinate all educational and state training programs and incentives, as well as any other services the company needs in establishing a location in the region.