

MECOSTA COUNTY



Home to Ferris State University, Mecosta County features the lowest median age (tied with Ionia County) and second lowest cost of living of all partner counties. The county experienced a nearly 9 percent decline in population from 2020 to 2021, likely due to the global pandemic's impact on how college students were counted toward population. More than 70 percent of all businesses noted increasing sales and plans to expand in the coming years, according to Right Place data. Moreover, nearly 86 percent of all businesses indicated plans to increase investments in training. Companies cited facility issues, management/leadership, and product development as the top challenges.

NOTABLE STATISTICS

Population **40,604**

Gross Regional Product **\$1.35B**

Associates Degree & Higher of Population **20.5%**

Labor Force **18,991****

Unemployment Rate **4.7%****

Median Age **38.0**

Median Household Income **\$45,797*****

Cost of Living Index **87.8**

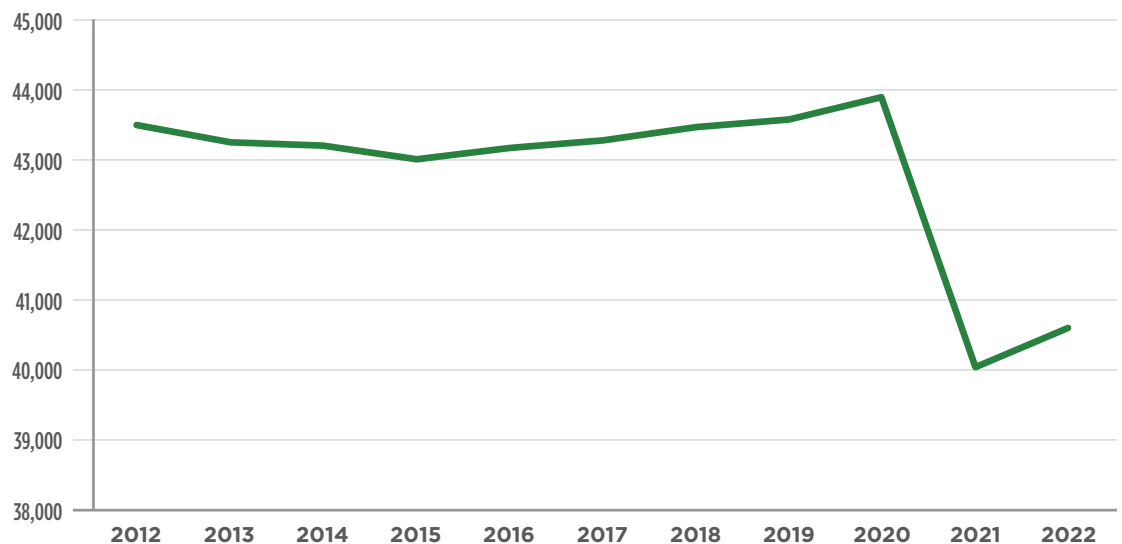
**Rate as of September 2022

***Data last collected 2020

MECOSTA COUNTY TOP INDUSTRIES BY JOBS

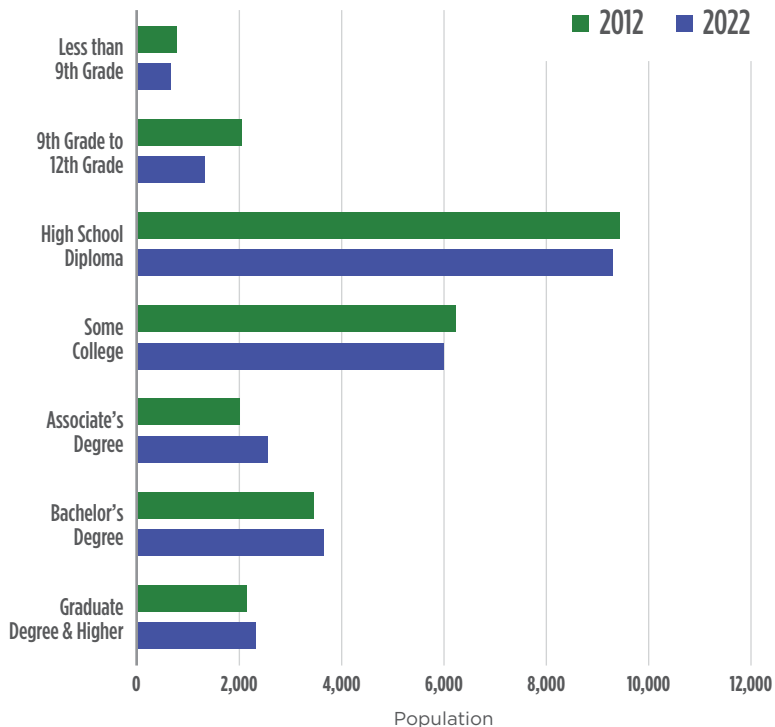
Industry	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total
Education & Hospitals (State Government)	1,574	12.66%
Education & Hospitals (Local Government)	888	7.14%
Restaurants & Other Eating Places	806	6.48%
General Merchandise Stores, including Warehouse Clubs & Supercenters	738	5.94%
General Medical & Surgical Hospitals	648	5.21%
Total	12,429	

MECOSTA COUNTY TOTAL POPULATION (2012-2022)



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MECOSTA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



LOCAL BUSINESS INSIGHTS

71.4% are seeing
INCREASING SALES TRENDS

71.4% have plans
to **EXPAND THEIR BUSINESS**

71.4%
of businesses are experiencing
RECRUITMENT CHALLENGES

85.7% of businesses are
INCREASING INVESTMENT IN TRAINING

Top Pinch Points:

- **Facility Issues**
- **Management/Leadership**
- **Product Development**



TOP FIVE EMPLOYERS

- 1. Corewell Health**
- 2. Ferris State University**
- 3. BR Products**
- 4. Ice Mountain**
- 5. Haworth**

Source: GazelleAI & The Right Place Internal Data