



The Opportunities of Manufacturing in Bradley County, Tennessee

2020 Review



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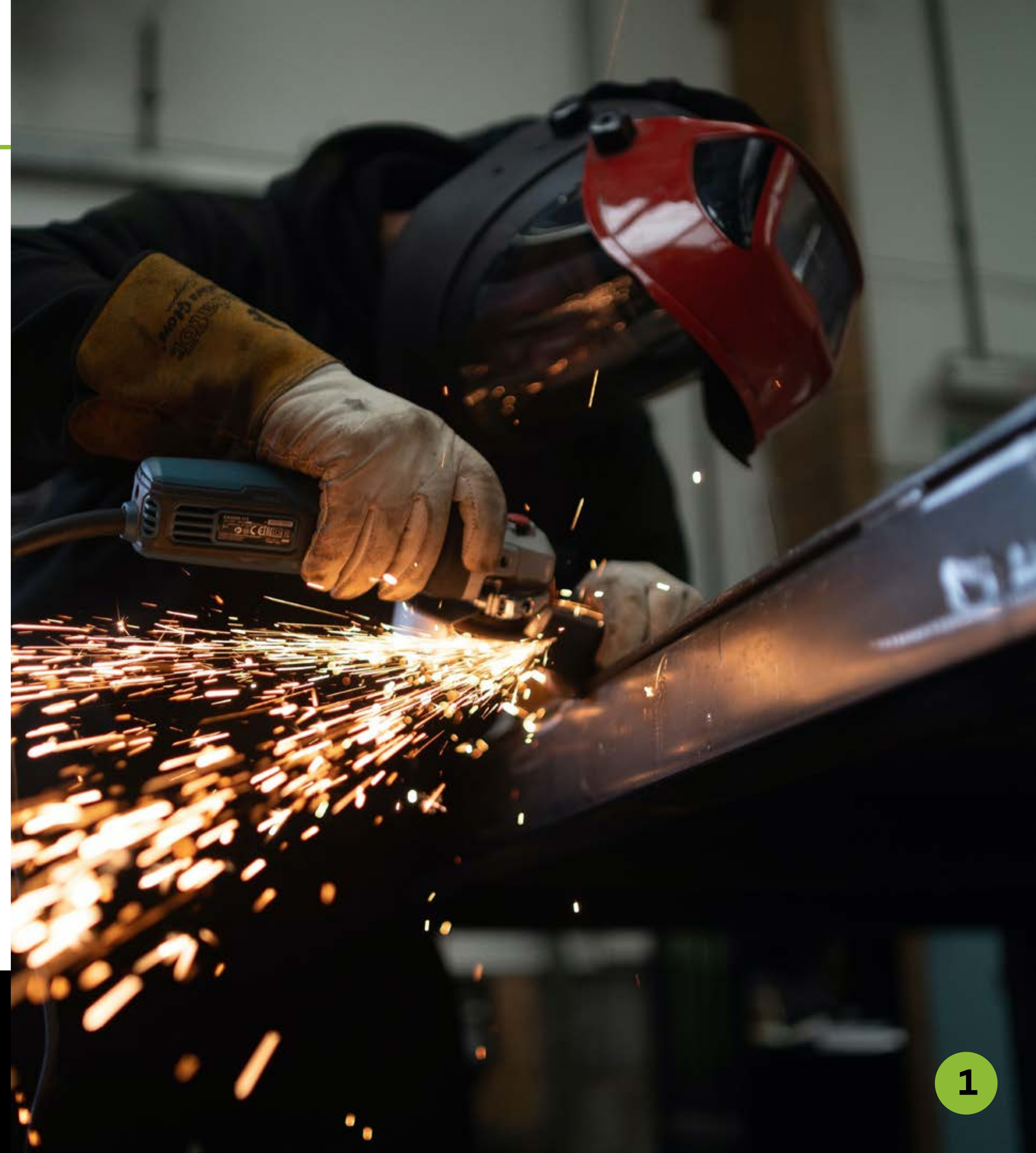
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Introduction

Manufacturing is the biggest industry in Bradley County and represents about 18.5% of the county's workforce¹. The industry has seen a 33% increase in the area since 2010, which represents over 45,000 new jobs. With an average yearly salary of about \$45,855.00 across all related jobs², and the option of earning a degree without student loan debt, manufacturing offers a lucrative career path.

Bradley County is home to many educational and employment opportunities in manufacturing and related industries, and the county boasts over 30 production facilities³, including plants from 13 Fortune 500 companies⁴.



1. [StatisticalAtlas.com](https://www.statisticalatlas.com)

2. Data derived from [Your Skills. Your Future.](#) research

3. [Cleveland/Bradley County Chamber of Commerce](#)

4. [Cleveland/Bradley Economic Development Council](#)

The Manufacturing Hot Spot

Bradley County is positioned perfectly to house a hub of manufacturing facilities. Proximity to two TVA-operated plants provides affordable and dependable energy, and the Hiwassee River provides cooling water and transportation. Bradley County's quick access to several interstate highways is also useful for transporting both raw materials and finished products¹.

Additionally, the county has multiple partnerships dedicated to creating manufacturing opportunities for both students and companies. Organizations like the Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce, the Cleveland/Bradley Economic Development Council and Your Skills. Your Future. are working to bring new manufacturers in and help students and other residents get the education they need to land a great career.

1. GreaterChatt.com

Benefits of a Manufacturing Career

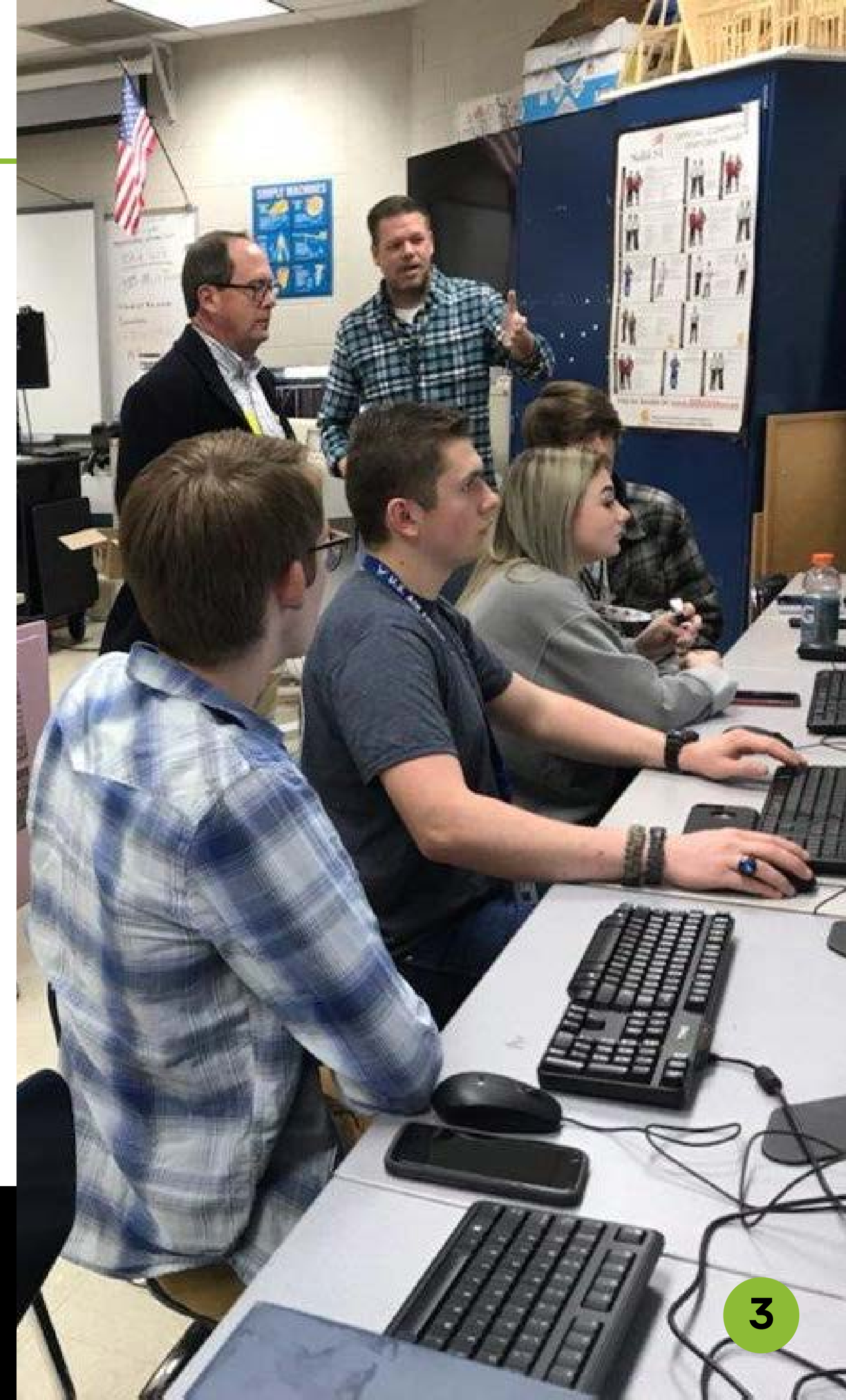
Manufacturing offers an average yearly salary of about \$45,855.00 across all industry employees¹. Most companies are able to provide competitive benefits as well.

There is a constant need for well-trained personnel in a wide variety of manufacturing jobs in Bradley County. A search on any job site, such as Indeed², will reveal dozens of opportunities, and Your Skills. Your Future. has resources to connect county residents with their dream jobs³.

People in Bradley County are working to support the manufacturing industry. For example, Cleveland Associated Industries⁴, which represents 32 companies, is dedicated to the growth of manufacturing through the collective sharing of best practices, boosting community awareness of the industry's importance and supporting individual employees. Additionally, the Cleveland Industrial Development Board⁵ exists to promote job creation and economic development through bonds for industry expansion.

Most manufacturing companies provide great career paths with room for advancement, and many will even pay for future educational endeavors.

1. Data derived from [Your Skills. Your Future.](#) research
2. Bradley County manufacturing jobs on [Indeed.com](#)
3. [Your Skills. Your Future.](#)
4. [Cleveland Associated Industries](#)
5. [Cleveland Industrial Development Board](#)



Manufacturing Companies in Bradley County



Bradley County is home to over 30 manufacturers¹, including companies like Mars Wrigley, McKee Foods and Mueller Company. From this list, the Cleveland/Bradley Economic Development Council has designated 20 as the top manufacturers in the area². Organizations like Whirlpool Corporation, Amazon, Wacker Polysilicon and Rubbermaid are included.

Additionally, there are 13 Fortune 500 companies with plants in the area such as The Coca Cola Company, Duracell and ADM³. There are another four companies who listed in Fortune's top 1,000, further demonstrating Bradley County's involvement with outstanding manufacturers.

1. [Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce](#)
2. [Cleveland/Bradley Economic Development Council](#)
3. [Cleveland/Bradley Economic Development Council](#)

Educational Opportunities

Bradley County is well-equipped to train the manufacturing workforce of the future. Here are some schools and training programs dedicated to teaching the next generation of manufacturers.

Partnerships in Industry & Education Innovation Center¹ (opens fall 2021)

- The PIE Center will house career and technical education programs with 28 distinct career tracks
- Has received nearly \$16 million in funding²
- Training opportunities with local companies

Bradley County Career and Technical Education³

- Prepares high schoolers for college and/or the workforce
- 18 different areas of study⁴
- Industry-certified teachers at local middle and high schools

Cleveland City Career and Technical Education⁵

- Provides Cleveland High School students with technical skills and knowledge
- 10 areas of study with 59 courses including aviation, automotive, engineering, robotics and more

1. [PIE Center](#)
2. [Cleveland Daily Banner](#)
3. [ThinkCTE.org](#)
4. [ThinkCTE Program List](#)
5. [Cleveland High](#)

Educational Opportunities

Cleveland State Community College¹

- The Advanced Technologies Institute² provides training in real manufacturing settings and pays students for their work
- Work study opportunities with McKee Foods, Wacker, Coca-Cola, Bayer and more

Tennessee College of Applied Technology - Athens³

- Modern training facility that simulates a real occupational environment
- Programs include automotive, nursing, computer electronics and more

Chattanooga State Community College⁴

- 50 career-focused programs and 20 technical certificate programs
- Programs include civil engineering, construction management, automated manufacturing, welding, CAD technology and more

1. [Cleveland State](#)
2. [Advanced Technologies Institute](#)
3. [TCAT Athens Programs](#)
4. [Chattanooga State Academics](#)

Educational Opportunities

Tennessee College of Applied Technology - Chattanooga¹

- Hands-on training programs at Chattanooga State for jobs in high demand
- 36 certifications in welding, automotive, pharmacy technology, mechanical systems and more

Additional programs for high school students

- **Collegiate High²** and **Early College³**, two Chattanooga State affiliates, provide high schoolers with dual enrollment, STEM and polytechnic opportunities as well as access to the Chattanooga State campus
- **Bradley Central High School's STEM Academy⁴** offers programs in mechatronics, welding, precision machining and more
- **Walker Valley High School's STEM Academy⁵** offers programs in coding, engineering, networking systems and more
- **Cleveland High School's STEM program⁶** is equipped to train students in modern, technological skill sets through the use of several computer and productivity labs

1. [TCAT Chattanooga](#)
2. [Collegiate High](#)
3. [Early College](#)
4. [Bradley Central STEM](#)
5. [Walker Valley STEM](#)

6. [CHS + STEM](#)

Financial Aid and Scholarships

With the Tennessee Promise and other financial aid and scholarship opportunities, it is easier than ever to get a high-quality, career-focused education with no student loans.

Tennessee Promise¹

- Provides two years of tuition-free attendance to any community or technical college in Tennessee
- Includes a mentorship program
- Can be an entirely debt-free educational option

FAFSA²

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid helps college students apply for federal grants, loans and work study funds
- The amount of funds awarded depends on individual financial needs

Institutional Scholarships

- Many colleges have their own scholarships. Check out the Your Skills. Your Future. financial aid database³ to learn more

1. [TN Promise](#)
2. [FAFSA Database](#)
3. [YSYF Database](#)

A List of Manufacturing Occupations

In Bradley County, there are a wide variety of available jobs in manufacturing and related industries. This includes:

- Pharmacy Technicians
- Electricians
- Medical Field Personnel
- Automotive Service Techs
- HVAC Mechanics
- Chemical Technicians
- Welders
- Machinists
- Industrial Machinery Mechanics
- Maintenance and Repair
- Electro-Mechanical Techs
- Civil Engineering Techs
- Assemblers and Fabricators
- Quality Control
- Mechanical Engineering Techs
- Practical Nurses
- CAD Draftsmen
- Industrial Painters
- Millwrights
- Electrician Helpers
- Robotics Technicians
- Tool and Die Makers
- Machine Programmers

For a complete outlook of each career, including a job description, the necessary skills, educational programs and the pay range, check out the [Your Skills. Your Future.](#) website¹.

1. [Your Skills. Your Future.](#)





The Future of Manufacturing in Bradley County

The manufacturing industry is only growing in Bradley County and across the nation. For example, the Manufacturing Institute¹ predicts that there will be 2.4 million jobs to fill across the nation between 2018 and 2028. If these are not filled, the U.S. could lose \$454 billion by 2028.

Industry development initiatives and new companies building in the area point to a continual rise of manufacturing opportunity in Bradley County. For example, in October of this year, Canon Automotive Solutions committed \$114 million to a new plant that will bring nearly 200 jobs to the county². Similarly, Tennessee officials recently granted the Cleveland Industrial Development Board \$1 million to develop the Spring Branch Industrial Park to attract new businesses³.

Additionally, the industry's progress is inclusive. Bradley County recently partnered with the Women in Manufacturing organization to ensure equal opportunity in the industry⁴.

1. [Manufacturing Institute](#)
2. [New Canon Automotive Plant](#)
3. [Times Free Press](#) and [Tennessee Star](#) articles
4. [Women in Manufacturing](#)

Conclusion

Benefits of the Industry

- Manufacturing is a well-paying alternative to the 4-year college route and is full of highly educated professionals
- Careers in the industry are fulfilling, technologically advanced and creatively stimulating¹

Opportunity

- New workforce initiatives are attracting top-tier businesses to the area and creating jobs²
- There are many educational resources related to the industry, and most allow for little to no student debt

Connect

- Click the icons below to visit Your Skills. Your Future. online and on social media

