

Manufacturing Business Snapshot

Apalachee Region

Prepared by Apalachee Regional Planning Council, 2017



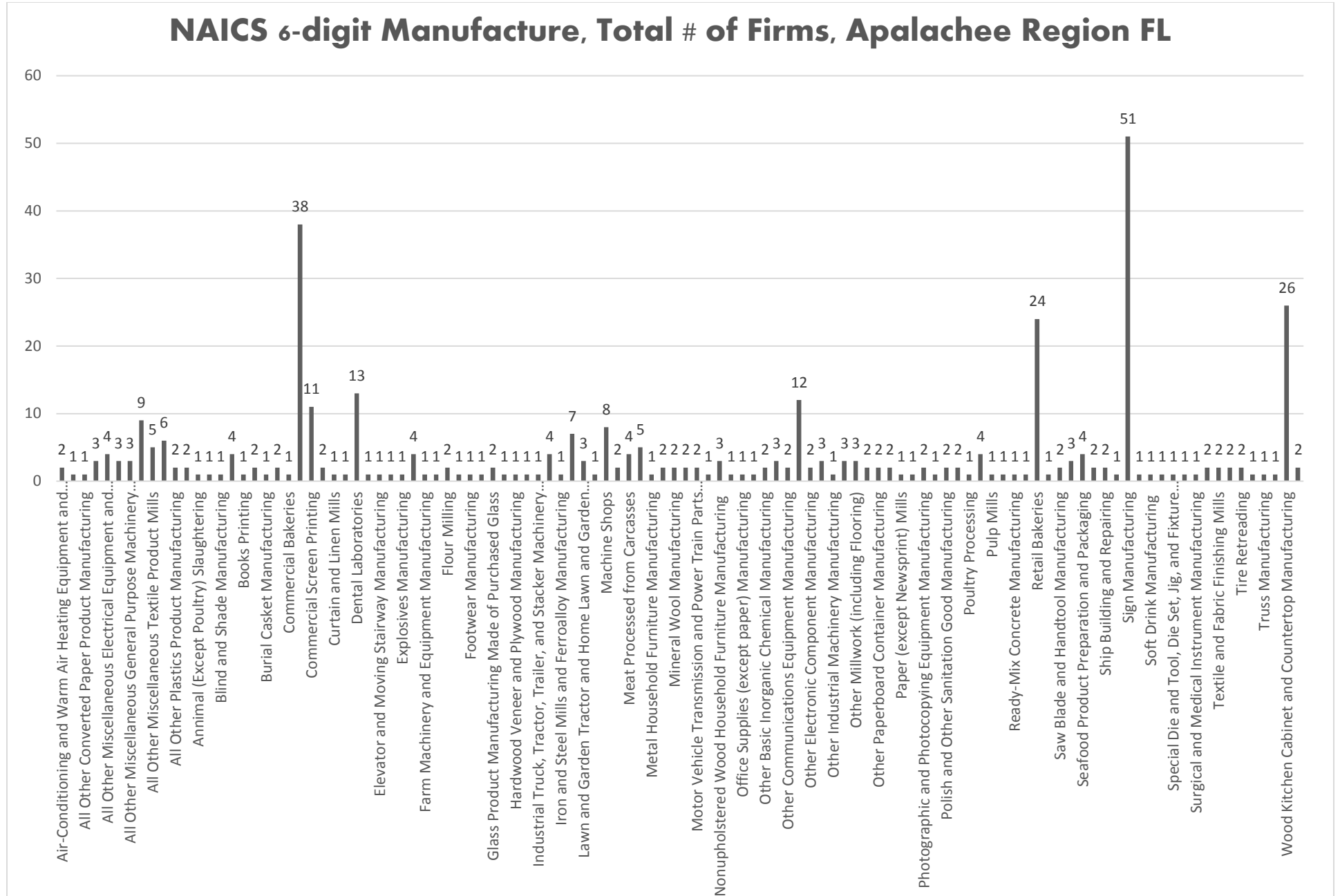
Manufacturing in Apalachee Region, FL

Economic Development practitioners in the Apalachee Region are often presented with high-level data about the status of sectors and firms in the Apalachee Region. This memo dives into detailed manufacturing information on the 6-digit North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), and highlights take-aways for the region. The data are believed to originate from 2016 IHS research conducted for [FloridaMakes](#). County practitioners are encouraged to explore the data appendix for specific information about their local manufacturing situation.

Numbers and Types of Firms

This project counts a total of 383 Apalachee-region manufacturing firms ranging from Retail Bakeries to Chemical Manufacturing. 232 of the 383 firms (61%) are located in Leon County, 42 (11%) are located in Gadsden County, and 39 (10%) are located in Jackson County. Franklin and Liberty have the fewest number of manufacturing firms, with 4 (1%) each. The most common type of manufacturing firm is Sign Manufacturing (NAICS 339950) with 51 establishments, followed by Commercial Gravure Printing (NAICS 323111) with 38 establishments and Wood Kitchen Cabinet and Countertop Manufacturing (NAICS 337110) with 26 firms. The following table shows all firm types and frequencies.

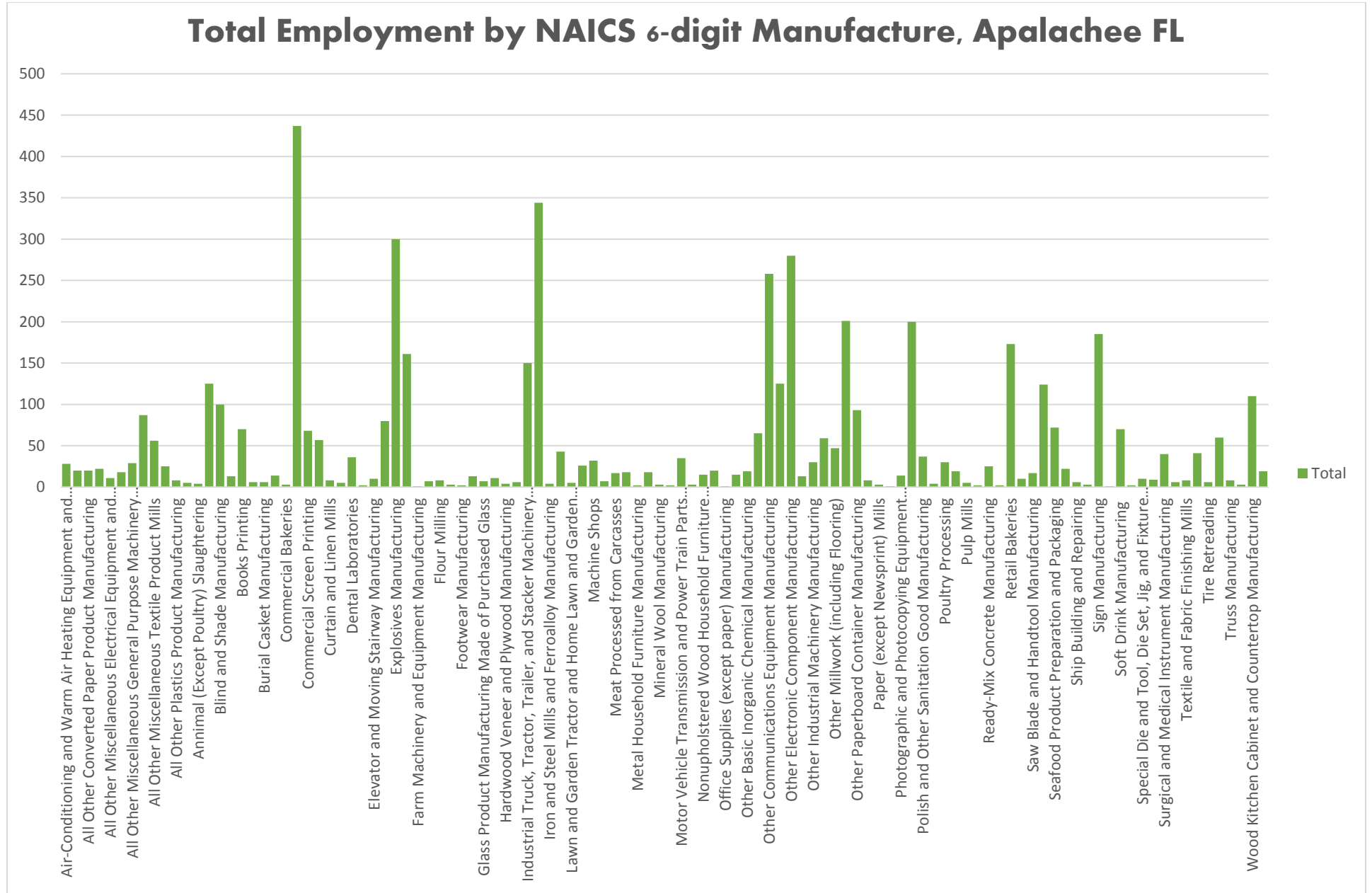
Figure 1: Number of Firms by type in 9-County Apalachee Region



Employment by Firm Type

Firm sizes vary widely, from 1 to 300 employees. A mid to large-size firm exists in all counties save Franklin and Liberty. 13 of the 383 firms employ 100 or more people. 37 firms employ between 20 and 100, and 44 firms employ between 10 and 19 people. The largest firm by employment is St Marks Powder Company in Wakulla with 300 employees. Calhoun, Gadsden, and Jackson Counties also host firms that employ over 100 people. Great variety exists in the type of manufacturing conducted by large firms, including Communications Equipment, Plastics, Institutional Furniture, Commercial Gravure, Truck/Tractor/Trailer/Stacker Machinery and Sawmills. The following figure shows total numbers of people employed by firm type.

Figure 2: Total Employment by Firm Type, Apalachee Region



Other Discussion

Sign Manufacture, Commercial Gravure Printing, and Retail Bakeries are likely firms to find in every county, however county-by-county differences could point to interesting new business retention and expansion and business development activities. Readers are encouraged to explore the data spreadsheet annex to this short report to look for county-specific outliers. Although not included in the data annex, ARPC staff are happy to try and provide detailed contact information about firms on an as-requested basis.

In all, while the Apalachee Region is known for strengths derived from forestry, fishing, and government, the ground-level manufacturing data paint a picture of plurality. Dental Manufacturers, Machine Shops and Transportation Equipment, and Concrete Manufacturers – in addition to the top three listed above – could pose avenues to support through economic development efforts.