Missouri Department of Economic Development
Helping communities throughout the state grow

Tech, talent, and tools – it’s more than just a catchy motto to describe some of Missouri’s economic assets, it’s the embodiment of Missouri’s core economic development beliefs. The three go hand-in-hand, for how would tech be possible without talent, and where would talent come from if not for the many tools that Missouri has available for workers and businesses?

As a top 10 state for startup funding WITH the second most accelerators per capita -- Missouri’s startup ecosystem is primed for budding entrepreneurs looking to develop and launch the next big idea. And as the state leading in the country in holding down tuition costs and making college affordable, we’ve got the brains without the having a drain on the bank account. Missouri is also home to the Presidentially-recognized tech workforce development program LaunchCode, which is beginning its expansion from St. Louis to Kansas City. With all of this, it’s easy to see why tech, talent, and tools are going viral in Missouri.

**Let our Tech Numbers do the Talking**
- 2nd Most Startup Accelerators Per Capita
- 2nd Fastest Download Speeds in the Nation
- Missouri Technology Corporation has invested in 65 startups who have collectively been able to leverage an additional $200M in capital
- Top 10 State for Startup Funding
  - St. Louis: Popular Mechanics’ 2015 Startup City of the Year
  - Kansas City: Named One of the Top 10 Most promising Tech Huds to Watch in 2014
- Numerous Tier 1 Providers, with over 2,000 Miles of Fiber Combined
- 10,000+ Information Technology and Support Services Firms

**Recent Notable Tech Projects**
- Major tech healthcare co. Cerner to build new $4.45B campus in Kansas City & create 16,000 new jobs (nation’s largest project of the year)
- Google Fiber was first introduced in Kansas City—before it expanded to Texas, Utah, Tennessee, or Georgia
- Cloud service co. Netelligent expands in Chesterfield, $1.8M investment, 60 new jobs
- Custom software & design co. The Nerdery opens new $4.3M digs in Kansas City, and recruits 100 new nerds
- Home-grown tech integrator World Wide Technology deepens roots in St. Louis, creating 100 new jobs

**And Startup Success**
- Jack Dorsey (co-founder of Twitter and Square) and Jim McKelvey (co-founder of Square) hail from St. Louis.
- Missouri is home to several large startup exits, including Newsy’s 2013 acquisition by E.W. Scripps for $35 million and Yurbuds acquisition by Harman International in 2014.
- Up and coming Missouri startups include Lockerdome, Hatchbuck, U.S. SourceLink, & Mindmixer.
- And from beer to baseballs, major firms like Edward Jones, Charter, Anheuser-Busch, Hallmark, and Rawlings started their journey right here in Missouri and still compete to win from the Show-Me State.