

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE PEST MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY IN LOUISIANA

2024



By Gerardo Guevara-Milla, J. Matthew Fannin, Jerrod Penn and Aaron Ashbrook

The Louisiana pest management industry (PMI) plays a vital role in maintaining safe and healthy environments for households and businesses across various sectors such as real estate, service-based industries, healthcare and retail trade. These sectors represent some of the largest contributors in the state, and the PMI is essential to their operations. This brief highlights the current economic contribution of PMI to the economy of Louisiana.

**Pest Management
companies
contribute
\$639 million to the
Louisiana economy.**

Pest Management Industry Output

The total economic contribution of the PMI in Louisiana was almost \$639 million in 2024. This significant contribution includes \$360 million in direct effects (output generated by the PMI) as well as an additional \$279 million in indirect and induced effects, which accounts for the economic activity of businesses supplying the PMI and spending by households connected to the industry.

Labor Income Contribution

The PMI generated over \$204 million in total labor income across Louisiana.

- **\$119 million** as direct income to employees and proprietors delivering pest management services
- **\$49 million** as indirect income, reflecting wages and proprietor income in connected industries based on their supply of inputs to the PMI
- **\$36 million** as labor income generated through employees spending their wages and salaries

Value Added Important to State GDP

The value added by the PMI includes new value created and applied to the state from output generated and sold by the sector. This totaled over \$307 million in 2024. Value added reflects the PMI's contribution to the state's gross domestic product (GDP). In addition to the \$152 million in direct value added, an additional \$82 million in indirect effects highlights the industry's role in supporting the GDP for other sectors that supply pest management businesses with inputs. Over \$71 million in induced effects represents additional GDP generated by household spending linked to the PMI.

**Over \$307 million
was added to
Louisiana's
GDP from PMI
businesses.**

Contribution Spans Across Multiple Sectors

The impact of the PMI is most significant in the real estate sector. Real estate and rental activities generated over \$45 million in economic output, \$27 million in administrative and waste management, and \$23 million in finance and insurance because of demand for PMI services.

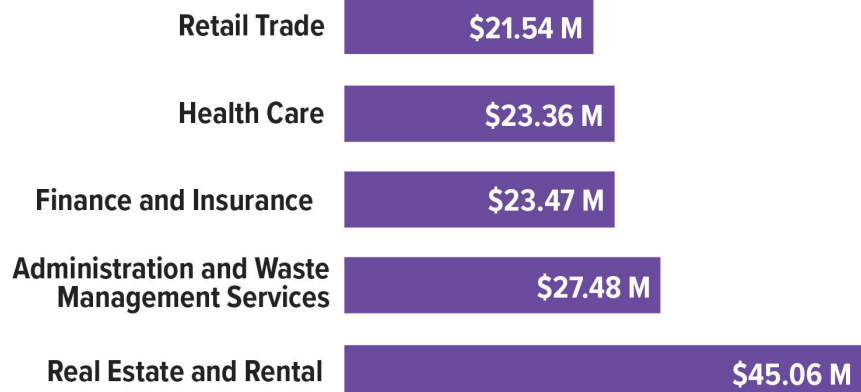


Figure 1. Breakdown of top industry contributions in 2024. Source: IMPLAN.

Employment Contributions

The PMI supported 2,767 jobs to the overall state economy from paid full-time employees, part-time employees, and the full-time, self-employed in 2024. However, this number does not represent all of the jobs contributed by the sector to the state. Approximately 300 worked as part-time self-employed, that is, people working independently as a second job in pest management. Spending on inputs as well as salaries for those in the PMI helped to support another 1,589 jobs from input suppliers adding jobs as well other jobs for industries that sell goods and services to households.

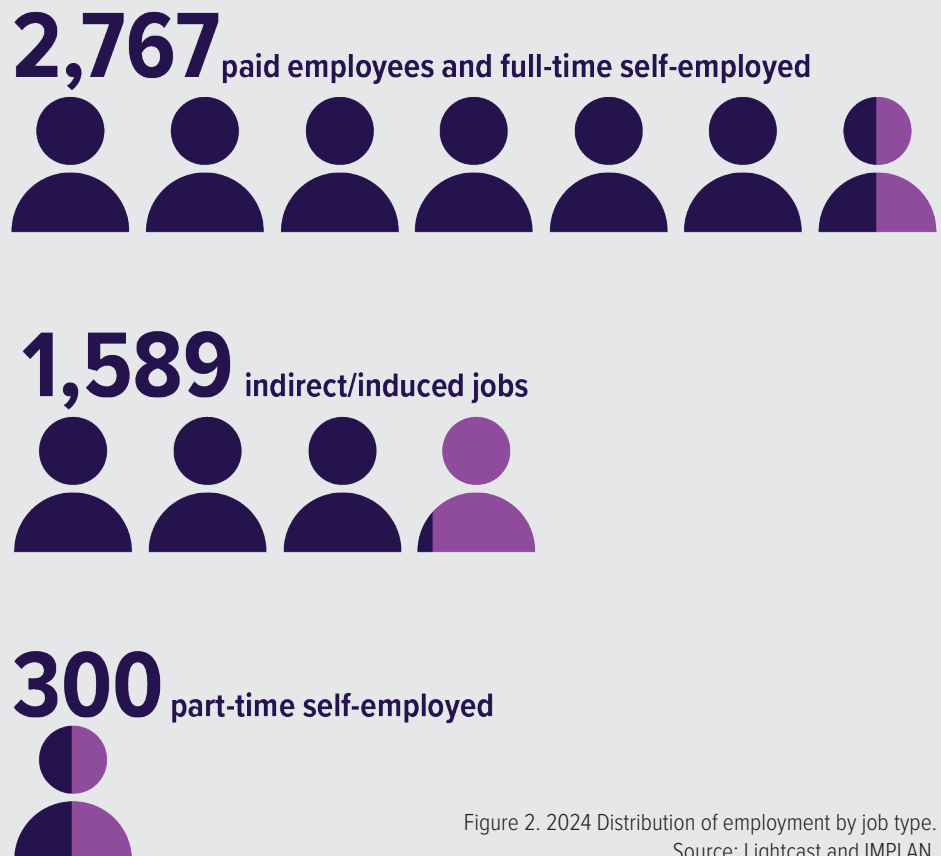


Figure 2. 2024 Distribution of employment by job type. Source: Lightcast and IMPLAN.

Employment Trend

Employment in Louisiana's PMI has demonstrated steady growth for more than two decades from just over 2,500 direct jobs in 2001 to nearly 3,100 direct jobs in 2024. This positive trend represents the expansion of the sector and its growing demand for more professionals in the industry. This total employment includes paid employees, full-time and part-time self-employed.

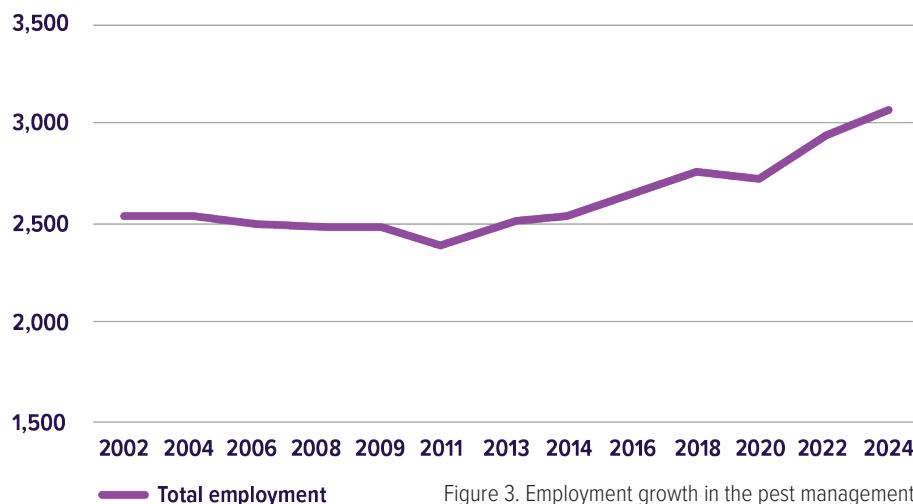


Figure 3. Employment growth in the pest management industry, 2001–2024. Source: Lightcast.

Businesses by Parish

In 2022, the number of pest management business establishments were distributed across the entire state. Business establishments were concentrated in metropolitan centers including key urban and suburban parishes around New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Shreveport. These include a mix of stand-alone business establishments as well as branch establishments. Smaller suburban and rural parishes in the state have fewer options locally with typically less than five businesses per parish. These parishes are not limited in their pest management options as some businesses will have service areas that cover nearby parishes.

When evaluating long-term trends, PMI establishments and employment are highly connected to population growth and urban concentration. If urbanization trends change for Louisiana, the industry will need to consider what strategic steps it may take in the future to maintain the growth path it has witnessed in recent years.

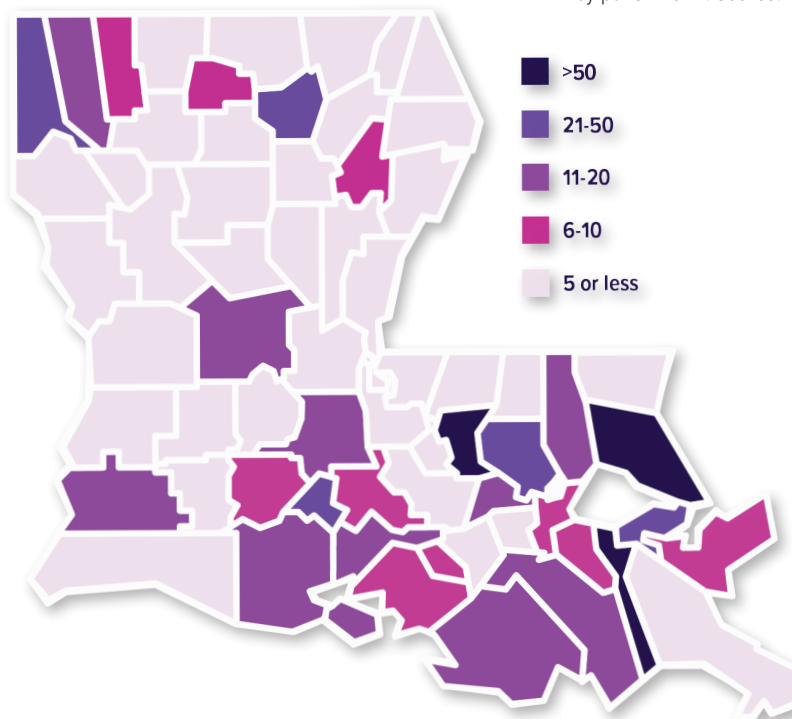


Figure 4. Business establishment distribution by parish 2022. Source: NETS.