

Top 100 Employers Methodology

The top 100 employer list was compiled using mainly data for Data Axle. Data Axle maintains a database of establishment-level records that is continuously updated to provide the most up-to-date information about a firm. The research team received 4,842 records from Data Axle, containing only establishments with at least 20 employees in Southwest Florida, comprising Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee County. The number of employees reflect 2021 values, unless otherwise stated. Businesses were aggregated using a unique code for parent companies that identify which set of establishments operate under the same corporate umbrella, and were restricted to business with addresses in Southwest Florida only. Local government and educational institutions numbers come from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and National Center for Educational Statistics.

In some instances, the RERI team noticed some inconsistencies in employment information across datasets. In these cases, the research team reached to these specific firms to obtain an accurate employment count. Businesses that are not in the current top 100 employers list and were in the previous list either:

- a. Closed;
- b. Reduced footprint in the region; or
- c. Have not responded to requests for updated employment figures.

In the latter case, information on the top 100 list will be updated as we receive new data.