

Workforce Assessment and Hiring Feasibility

Consulting Services

Hormel's ham-boning plant needed to hire 120 production workers within three months, attrition was up to 30-40%, and it was facing wage pressures from federal stimulus that made it difficult to attract new hires. There was concern among company leadership about growing the current location or moving operations elsewhere to accommodate demand.

Transwestern Consulting first conducted a workforce assessment and wage feasibility analysis to diagnose and benchmark hiring activity in the region. The team then interviewed hiring managers for the five largest employers in the region for similar positions, as well as economic development stakeholders, to compare information about the hiring challenges and solutions experienced in the region. In-depth analysis on labor market supply and demand was also performed.

This data-driven approach concluded that it was possible for Hormel to attract enough labor with higher wages – even at a time when labor shortages were at a peak in the aftermath of pandemic-related shutdowns.

Based on Transwestern's understanding of the supply and demand of target workers and subsequent recommendations, Hormel proceeded to expand in this location and revise its marketing efforts, retention strategies and compensation plans.