

Manufacturing Extension Partnership — America's Federally Chartered SME Productivity Network

City Innovation Library · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 67/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Since 1988, NIST's Hollings MEP has run 400+ centres nationwide advising small manufacturers; an independent study found a 14.5:1 return, but a 2025 federal audit found nearly half of one year's reported sales impact unreliable — a caution on self-reported ROI claims.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	3/3
Scalability	3/3
Sustainability / continuity	2/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	1/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[National Institute of Standards and Technology \(NIST\) MEP National Network](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[NIST — Manufacturing Extension Partnership \(MEP\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[The National-Level Economic Impact of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership \(MEP\)](#) — W.E. Upjohn Institute — accessed 2026-08-06

[NIST Overstated MEP's Economic Impacts to Congress and Other Stakeholders](#) — DOC Office of Inspector General / Oversight.gov — accessed 2026-08-06

Cite this — Evidoria. *Manufacturing Extension Partnership — America's Federally Chartered SME Productivity Network*. Persistent ID: 0be6f2b6-0947-440c-b173-dc7f29ac35ce.