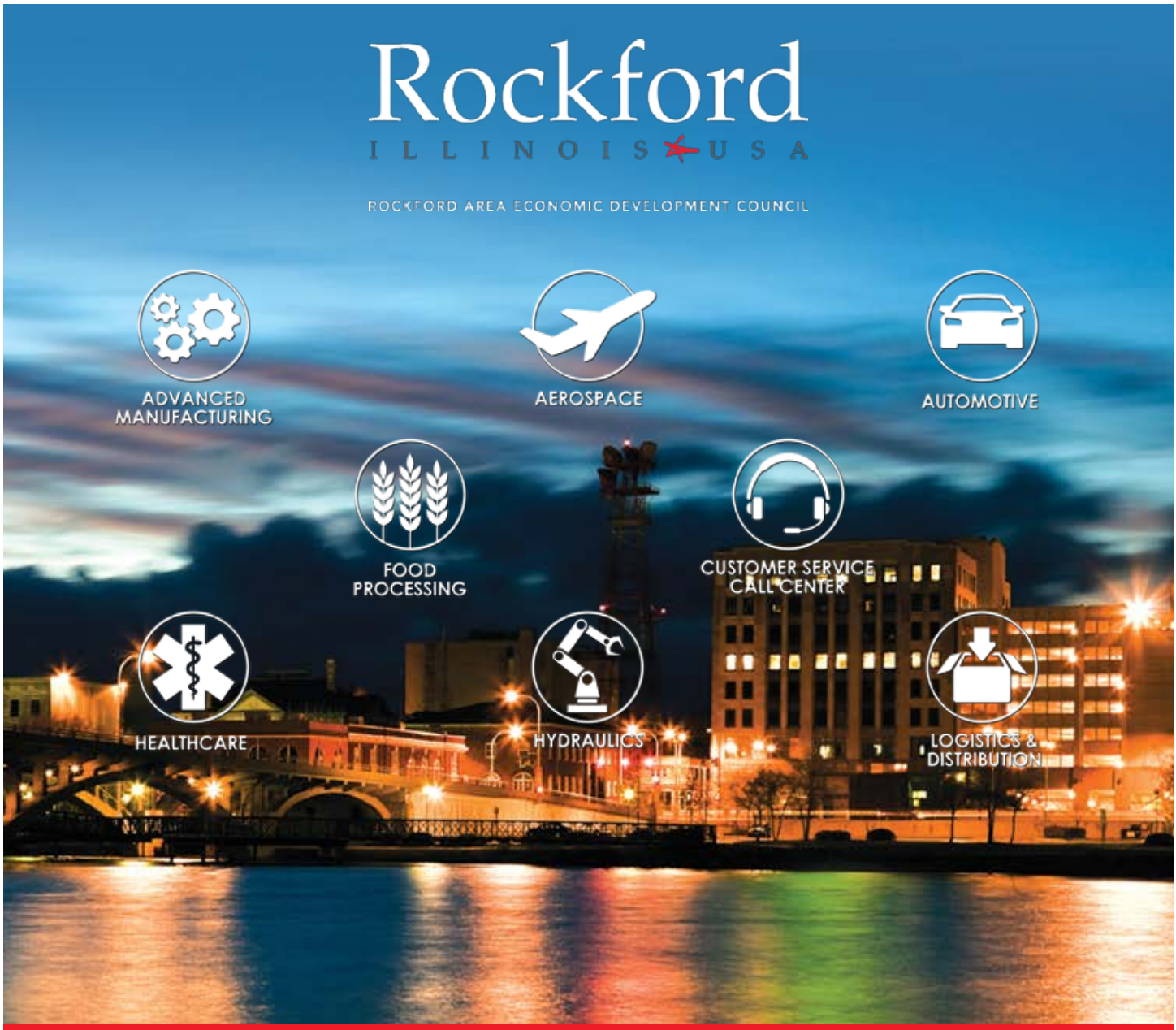


YOUR OPPORTUNITY REGION

Rockforward20/20
2016 Results Report

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

Executive Committee

Chairman of the Board: Sagar Patel, Woodward
Vice Chair/Treasurer: Michele Petrie, BMO Harris Bank N.A.
Immediate Past Chair: Joel Sjostrom, Sjostrom & Sons, Inc.
Director at Large: Bill Roop, Alpine Bank
Director at Large: Dr. William Gorski, SwedishAmerican Health System
Director at Large: Stan Kottke, UTC Aerospace Systems
Director at Large: Sunil Puri, First Midwest Group
Director at Large: David Schertz, OSF HealthCare
Leadership Council Chair: Mick Gronewold, Fehr Graham
Business Retention & Expansion Solutions Team Chair: John Saunders, Larson & Darby Group
Business & Community Relations Solutions Team Chair: Paul Gaier, Rockford Register Star
Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey, City of Rockford
Chairman Frank Haney, Winnebago County
Michael Nicholas, Rockford Area Economic Development Council

Directors

David Anspaugh, Northern Illinois Building Contractors Association
R. Richard Bastian, III, Blackhawk Bank
Teresa Beach-Shelow, Superior Joining Technologies
Edward C. Berg, First Northern Credit Union
Steve Bois, Rockford Area REALTORS
Jerry Busse, Rockford Toolcraft, Inc.
John Chadwick, WREX-TV
Dr. Rena Cotsones, Northern Illinois University
George Gaulrapp, ComEd
Linda Gerber, Rock River Valley Blood Center
Thomas Green, Barrick, Switzer, Long, Balsley & Van Evera
Matthew Hevrin, Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP
Jeffrey Hultman, Illinois Bank & Trust

Ex-Officio Voting

Mayor Dale Adams, Village of Rockton
Jon Bates, Community Foundation of Northern IL
Mayor Jerry Bolin, Village of Machesney Park
Einar Forsman, Rockford Chamber of Commerce
John Groh, Rockford Area Conv. & Visitors Bureau
Tim Hanson, Rock River Water Reclamation
Mayor Darryl Lindberg, City of Loves Park
Paul Logli, United Way of Rock River Valley
Mike Mastroianni, Rock Valley College

Ex-Officio Voting Cont.

Jeff Polsean, Greater Rockford Airport Authority
Dr. Alex Stagnaro-Green, U of I College of Medicine
Senator Dave Syverson
Dr. Ehren Jarrett, Rockford Public Schools
Jeffrey J. Kaney, Kaney Group LLC
Tom Kress, Associated Bank
Jeff Layng, JP Morgan Chase
Penelope Lechtenberg, Lechtenberg & Associates LLC
Dr. W. Stephen Minore, Rockford Anesthesiologists Associated, LLC
Fran Morrissey, The Morrissey Family Businesses
Ed Munguia, Stillman Bank
Tim Myers, WIFR-TV
Dan Parod, Mercyhealth System
Mike Paterson, Mid-West Family Broadcasting
Mark Peterson, CherryVale Mall / CBL & Associates Properties

Ex-Officio Nonvoting

Representative John Cabello
Todd Cagnoni, City of Rockford
Growth Dimensions of Belvidere/Boone County
John Phelps, Rockford Local Development Corp.
Senator Steve Stadelman
Representative Litesa Wallace
Fred Wescott, Winnebago County Economic Development
David Young, Northwest Illinois Development Alliance
Carrie Zethmayr, IL Department of Commerce

Winnebago County Liaison
County Board Member Gary Jury

City of Rockford Liaisons
Alderman Tim Durkee
Alderman Tom McNamara

Staff

Nathan Bryant, Vice President of Sales
Leilani Hillis, Director of Operations
Jimsi Kuborn, Vice President of Investor Relations
Erin Marshall, Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Nicci Mayfield, Investor Relations Coordinator
Gina Meeks, Business Development Assistant
Gerald Sagona, Vice President of National Business Development

DEAR INVESTORS & STAKEHOLDERS

With the first year of the *Rockforward20/20* strategic plan complete it is time to continue the momentum forward. The RAEDC will strategically focus the organization towards cultivating opportunities for primary job growth and increasing the economic well-being of our region.

The RAEDC will continue to work with regional stakeholders to actively attract companies to the region that will strengthen supply chains within our existing industry clusters and provide opportunities to establish new and relevant industry clusters. *Rockforward20/20* was built upon the successes of *Rockforward!2* and continues to collaborate with the region's stakeholders, investors, and partners in these invigorating economic times, to leverage our resources together to propel the region to top 25 status.

The RAEDC is meeting with regional businesses to discuss industry trends on a local, national, and international level that impact businesses. The RAEDC uses these confidential meetings to assist in the retention and expansion of businesses which also cultivates opportunities for primary job growth and investment into our local economy.

Commitment is the key. The commitment of the RAEDC's Investors, Government Leaders, RAEDC Board of Directors, RAEDC Solution Teams/Committees, Local Businesses and Organizations to actively lead the Rockford Region. As our dedicated partners in this effort, together we have accomplished many great things of which we can all be proud.

Michele Petrie
2017 - 2019 Chairman of the Board

Nathan Bryant
President & CEO

THANK YOU

The important work of improving our economic strength and competitiveness is made possible only through the collaboration and support of our RAEDC investors and we are grateful for the support we receive. Not only do we help companies grow, we also position the Rockford Region as an ideal location for businesses and industries. The significant work of building a stronger and more sustainable economy must continue.

If you are an investor, thank you for your generous support and please consider increasing your support. If you are not an investor and would like to learn how to get more involved with RAEDC at any level, we would be honored for the opportunity to discuss.

To find out how we will accomplish the goals set for the *Rockforward20/20* strategic plan, contact Jimsi Kuborn, Vice President of Investor Relations at JKuborn@RockfordIL.com or 815.987.8118.

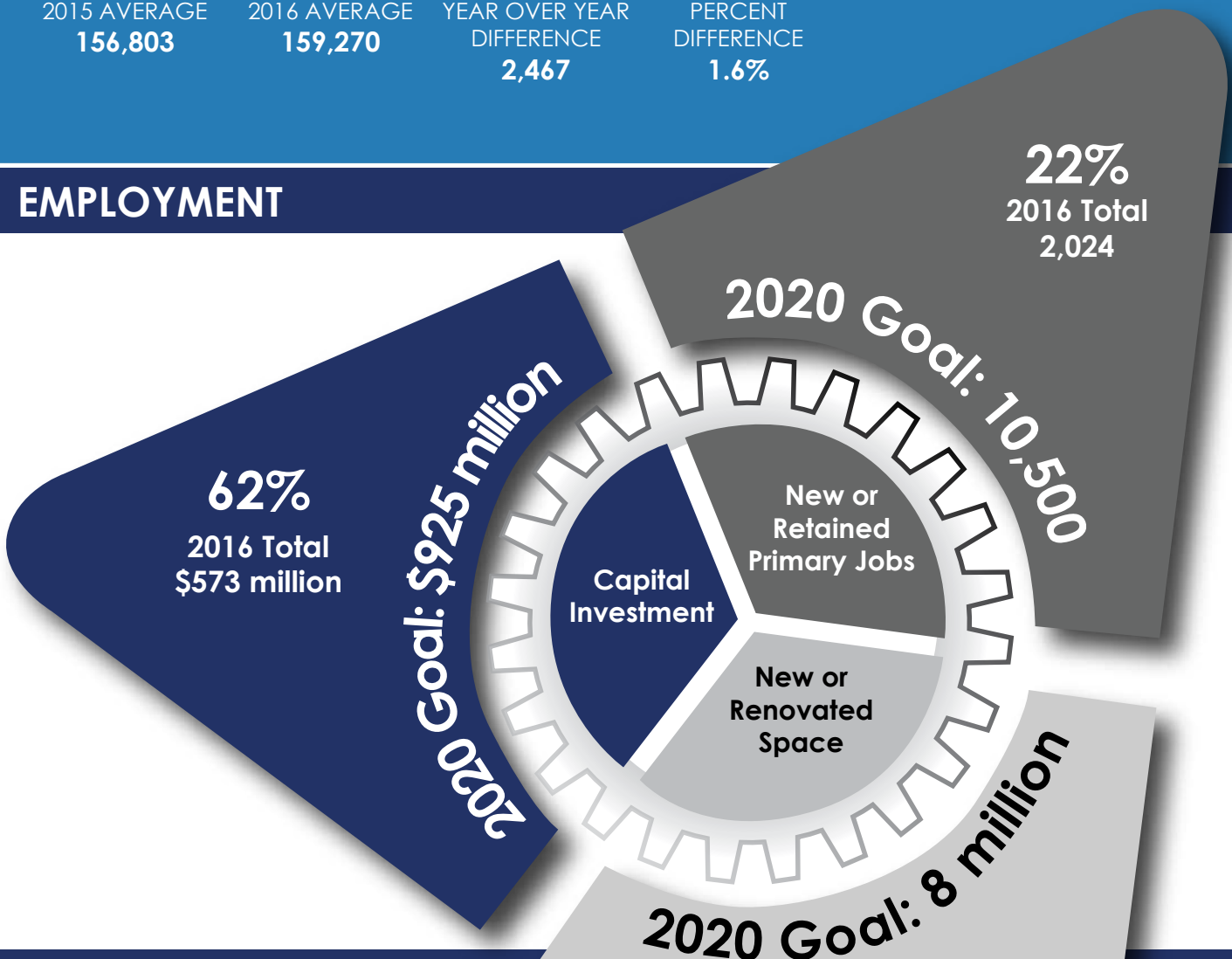
Regional

ECONOMIC IMPACT MEASUREMENTS

Rockforward20/20

2015 AVERAGE	2016 AVERAGE	YEAR OVER YEAR DIFFERENCE	PERCENT DIFFERENCE
156,803	159,270	2,467	1.6%

EMPLOYMENT



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

2015 AVERAGE	2016 AVERAGE	YEAR OVER YEAR DIFFERENCE
7.00%	6.78%	-.22

Coming Together

The daily work of economic development and community development begins when people come together to achieve a common goal. Through these collaborative partnerships progress has been made to reach Top 25 status and in the process the Rockford Region has received many awards and recognitions.

Working Together

AAR Corp., operators of the maintenance, repair, and overhaul facility (MRO) has already started to provide opportunities for qualified candidates to begin filling the 500 competitive-paying jobs. Some of the initial candidates will come from Rock Valley College's Aviation Maintenance Technology Program (A&P Program), which is also located at the Chicago Rockford International Airport. The RVC program will continue to supply the workforce pipeline for AAR and other advanced manufactures in our community looking for qualified technically trained employees.

Quote from David Storch

Our community is raising $6 million to support a bachelor's degree program, concentrating on engineering, right here in the Rockford Region, which has been made possible through a partnership between Northern Illinois University and Rock Valley College.

"Together we are providing students in our region the opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree in engineering for under $40,000 with invaluable opportunities to gain hands-on experience with world class industry partners in our community," states Dr. Doug Jensen, president of Rock Valley College.

Succeeding Together

At the end of 2016, Rockford ranked as the 5th fastest growing community for jobs by the Milken Institute, we actually jumped 51 spots in one year.

MILKEN INSTITUTE

USA Today ranked Rockford as the 6th fastest growing housing market in the United States; we grew our values 15% in one year.

USA TODAY

SmartAsset named the Rockford Region 4th nationally (for the 2nd year in a row) for healthcare access & home affordability.

smartasset™

SOLUTIONS TEAMS / COMMITTEES

Rockforward! President's Circle
The Rockforward! President's Circle meets to discuss and take action on economic development priorities and strategies. RAEDC Investors contributing $25,000 or more per year become members of the President's Circle.

Sagar Patel, RAEDC Board Chairman, Woodward, Inc. (CHAIR)

Rockforward! Leadership Council
Leadership Council members respond to opportunities at a macro level, placing an Emerging Opportunities Fund annually at their disposal for investment in mutually-agreed-upon, forward-thinking initiatives to leverage positive change for economic development of the region. RAEDC Investors contributing $10,000 or more per year become members of the Rockforward! Leadership Council.

Mick Gronewold, Fehr Graham (CHAIR)

Audit Committee
The RAEDC Audit Committee consists of the Treasurer and at least three members from the Board of Directors and three Members at Large. The committee reviews and assesses financial principles and reporting, risks and controls, and the organization's independent auditors.

Daniel Ross, Williams-Manny, Inc. (CHAIR)

Business Attraction Solutions Team
- Qualified Sites and Shovel Ready Programs
- Marketing the region's assets outside the region

David Pietryla, Nicor Gas (CHAIR)

Business & Community Relations Solutions Team
- Promote RAEDC to both current and prospective investors
- Internal marketing of RAEDC strategies and messages within the region

Paul Gaier, Rockford Register Star (CHAIR)

Business Retention & Expansion Solutions Team
- Learn of resources needed to expand or retain business
- Increase awareness and participation in development programs such as succession planning

John Saunders, Larson & Darby Group (CHAIR)

Education Committee
- Work with regional partners to strengthen the workforce development pipeline
- Partner with local education organizations for life-long learning

Craig Steege, Rassmusen College (CHAIR)

Nominating Committee
An annual slate of candidates for the Board of Directors is prepared and recommended by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee consists of three Directors and three Investors at Large.

Dr. W. Stephen Minore, Rockford Anesthesiologists Associated, LLC (CHAIR)

MISSION & VISION

Mission
The Rockford Economic Development Council (RAEDC) cultivates opportunities for primary job growth that increase the economic well-being of our region.

Vision
The Rockford Area Economic Development Council (RAEDC) propels the region to top 25 status, as the model for impactful economic development in partnership with regional organizations.

2016 INVESTORS

President's Circle Investors ($25,000+)

Alpine Bank
City of Loves Park
City of Rockford
Comcast Business
ComEd
Fehr Graham
First Midwest Group, Inc.
JP Morgan Chase
Larson & Darby Group
Mercyhealth
Mid-West Family Broadcasting
Northern Illinois Building Contractors Association
Northwestern Illinois Contractors Association
OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center
Rockford Area REALTORS
Rockford Public Schools
Rockford Register Star
SwedishAmerican Health System
UTC Aerospace Systems
Village of Machesney Park
WIFR-TV
Winnebago County
Woodward, Inc.
WQRF TV / WTVO TV
WREX

Leadership Council Investors ($10,000+)

Accuride Wheel End Solutions
BMO Harris Bank N.A.
First Northern Credit Union
GE Aviation
Greater Rockford Airport Authority
Illinois Bank & Trust
OrthoIllinois
PCI Pharma Services
Ringland-Johnson, Inc.
Rock River Water Reclamation District
Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
Rockford Chamber of Commerce
Rockford Park District
RSM US LLP
Sjostrom & Sons, Inc.

Rockforward! Premier Investors ($5,000+)

AAR Corp
AT&T
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
Bergstrom Inc.
Blackhawk Bank
Chartwell Agency
Giovanni's Restaurant & Convention Center
J.L. Clark
Nicor Gas

Rockforward! Premier Investors Cont.

PNC Bank
Rock River Valley Blood Center
Rockford Anesthesiologists Associated, LLC
Rockford Career College
Rockford Toolcraft, Inc.
SPX Hydraulic Technologies
Stillman Bank
Venture One Real Estate/Rock 39 Industrial Park/Loves Park Corporate Center
Village of Rockton

Rockforward! Investors ($2,000+)

Advanced Heat Treating, Inc.
Alpha Controls & Services LLC
American Precision Assemblers, Inc.
American Standard Circuits, Inc.
Arc Design Resources, Inc.
Associated Bank
Astronautics Corporation of America
Ballard Properties
Barrick, Switzer, Long, Balsley & Van Evera
Belcan Engineering Group, LLC
Bourn & Koch, Inc.
C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.
CEANCI
Chem Processing, Inc
CherryVale Mall / CBL & Associates Properties
City of South Beloit
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
Clinkenbeard & Associates Inc.
Community Foundation of Northern Illinois
Concentric Rockford Inc.
Cord Construction Company
Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.
Crusader Community Health
DCEO Office of Regional Outreach
Esterline Control Systems BVR Technologies
Excelsior, Inc.
Field
First National Bank
Foundation Building Materials
Fridh Corporation
Gary W. Anderson Architects
Gleason Cutting Tools Corporation
Global Display Solutions, Inc.
Greenlee - A Textron Company
Hampton Properties
Harlem Consolidated School District 122
Header Die & Tool, Inc.
Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP
HolmstromKennedyPC
Industrial Molds Group
Ingenium Aerospace
Ingenium Technologies Corp.

Rockforward! Investors Cont.

J & M Plating Inc.
Judson University
Kaney Group LLC
Key Realty, Commercial & Industrial
Kishwaukee College
LandMark Real Estate Group LLC
Lechtenberg & Associates LLC
Lowe's Companies, Inc.
MembersAlliance Credit Union
Meridian
Merrill Lynch
Midwest Aero Support, Inc.
Midwest Community Bank
Missman, Inc.
Next Rockford
Northern Illinois Service Co.
Northern Illinois University
Northwest Bank
Ogle County
Powmet, Inc.
Project First Rate
QPS Employment Group
Rasmussen College
Rock Valley College
Rockford Bank & Trust
Rockford Housing Authority
Rockford Mutual Insurance Company
Rockford University
Safety Socket LLC
Savant Capital, LLC
Schmeling Construction Co.
Senator Dave Syverson
Serola Biomechanics, Inc.
SIDCOR, Marketplace of Rockford
Skandia, Inc.
Specialty Screw Corporation
Spider Company, Inc.
Spring Creek Development Group
Superior Joining Technologies, Inc.
Technical Writing Consultants LLC
TH Foods, Inc.
The Morrissey Family Businesses
The North Central Group
Thermo Fisher Scientific
Title Underwriters Agency
TSI Plastics, Inc.
U of I College of Medicine
U.S. Bank
Ultrasonic Power Corporation
United Way of Rock River Valley
UPS
Viking Chemical Company
Village of Cherry Valley
Village of Winnebago
Williams-Manny Insurance Group
WilliamsMcCarthy, LLP
Wipfli LLP
YMCA of Rock River Valley

STATE TO STATE COMPARISON

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin

The State to State Comparison gathers statistics from nationally recognized data sources and compares the cost of doing business in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Wisconsin exclusive of tax credits and incentives.

Corporate Income Taxes

Source: Tax Foundation

7.5%	7.75%	7.9%	6-12%

Personal Income Taxes

Source: Tax Foundation

3.3%	3.75%	.36-8.98%	4-7.65%

Sales Tax Rate

Source: Tax Foundation

5.00%	6.00%	6.25%	7.00%

Average Local Sales Tax Rate

Source: Tax Foundation

0%	.41%	.79%	2.39%

Bachelor's Degree or Higher (Age 25+, 2010-2014)

Source: US Census Bureau

31.90%	27.40%	26.40%	23.06%

Mean Travel Time to Work (Minutes, Age 16+, 2010-2014)

Source: US Census Bureau

18.9	21.8	23.3	28.2

Industrial Electrical (cents/kWh)

Source: 2016, US Energy Information Administration

6.5	7.08	7.29	7.94

Industrial Natural Gas (dollars/thousand cubic ft)

Source: 2016, US Energy Information Administration

4.6	4.72	5.72	7.08

Gross Domestic Product per Capita

Source: Statista

$53,640	$49,500	$47,414	$45,136

Median Household Income (2010-2014)

Source: US Census Bureau

$57,166	$52,738	$52,716	$48,737

Total Jobs

Source: EMSI, 2016. 1–QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, & Self-Employed

6,346,648	3,264,219	3,079,240	1,741,418

RockfordIL.com