



PROGRAM REPORT

Board of Directors Update
November 13, 2025

 **ECONOMIC ALLIANCE**
OF KANKAKEE COUNTY

MISSION

The Economic Alliance of Kankakee County is a public-private partnership committed to fostering a thriving environment through economic growth initiatives.

The Alliance works collaboratively to improve the local business climate and advance development in key areas including business retention, expansion and attraction, workforce and community development, residential growth, and educational outcomes.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

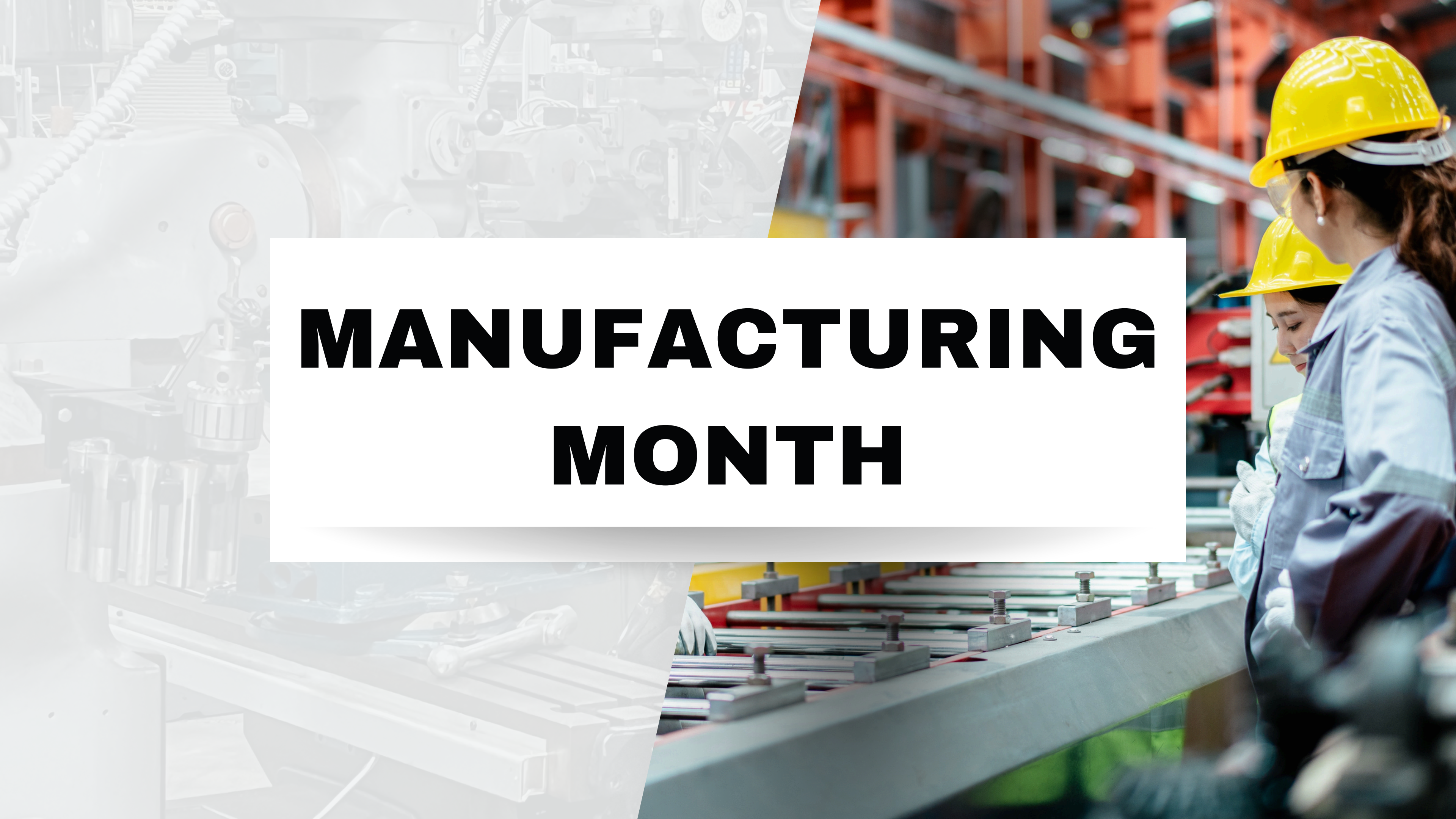
The Economic Alliance of Kankakee County Board of Directors is comprised of private-sector leaders and elected members of the Kankakee County Board

Jeff Bennett, Chairman
Managing Partner
McColly Bennett Real Estate

Theodis Pace, Vice Chair
President
Kankakee County NAACP

Matt Alexander-Hildebrand, Kankakee County Board
Bernie Anderson, Regional Manager, Community Affairs, Nicor Gas
Dr. Michael Boyd, President, Kankakee Community College
Dr. Gregg Chenoweth, President, Olivet Nazarene University
Rosemary Foster, Kankakee County Board
Jeff Hammes, President / CEO, Peoples Bank
David Johns, Partner, GJM Advisory
Phil Kambic, President / CEO, Riverside Healthcare
Ryan Marion, Kankakee County Board
John McCann, Economic & Business Development Manager, ComEd
Chad Miller, Kankakee County Board
Michael O'Brien, Market President, Midland States Bank
Russell Tobey, Vice President, Kankakee Valley Construction Co.
Sara Vaubel, Vice President, The Newberg Group
Dr. Matt Vosberg, Superintendent, Bradley Bourbonnais Com. High School
Patrick Young, President, Kankakee Iroquois Building Trades





MANUFACTURING MONTH

MANUFACTURING

in Kankakee County

195

Manufacturers in
Kankakee County

*12,500 in Illinois

- General Manufacturing
- Pharmaceuticals
- Food Processing
- Plastics Manufacturing
- Chemicals Manufacturing



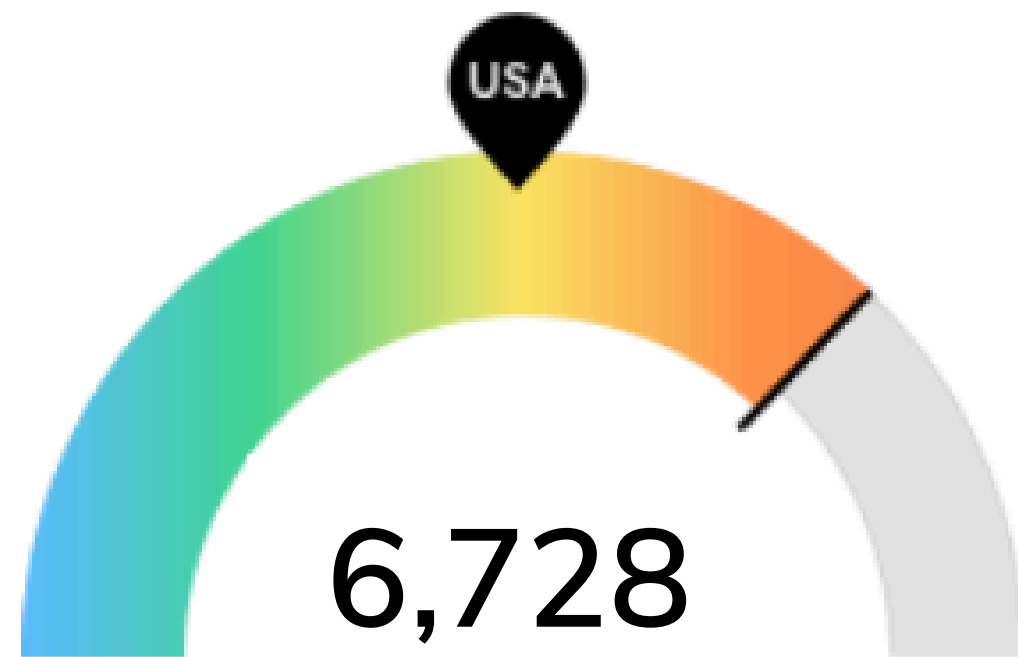
Source: Illinois Manufacturers' Association

MADE IN KANKAKEE COUNTY



MANUFACTURING

in Kankakee County



Supply (Jobs)

*National Average: 3,425



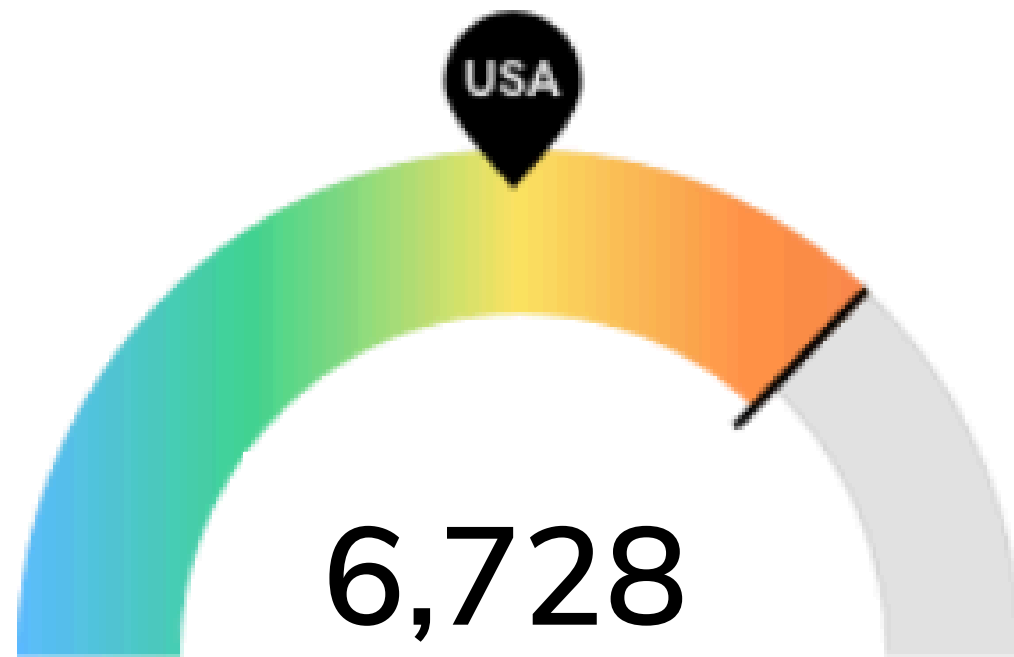
\$108,223

Earnings per Job



MANUFACTURING

in Kankakee County



Supply (Jobs)

*National Average: 3,425



\$108,223

Earnings per Job

8%

Projected growth in
next five years



MANUFACTURING

in Kankakee County

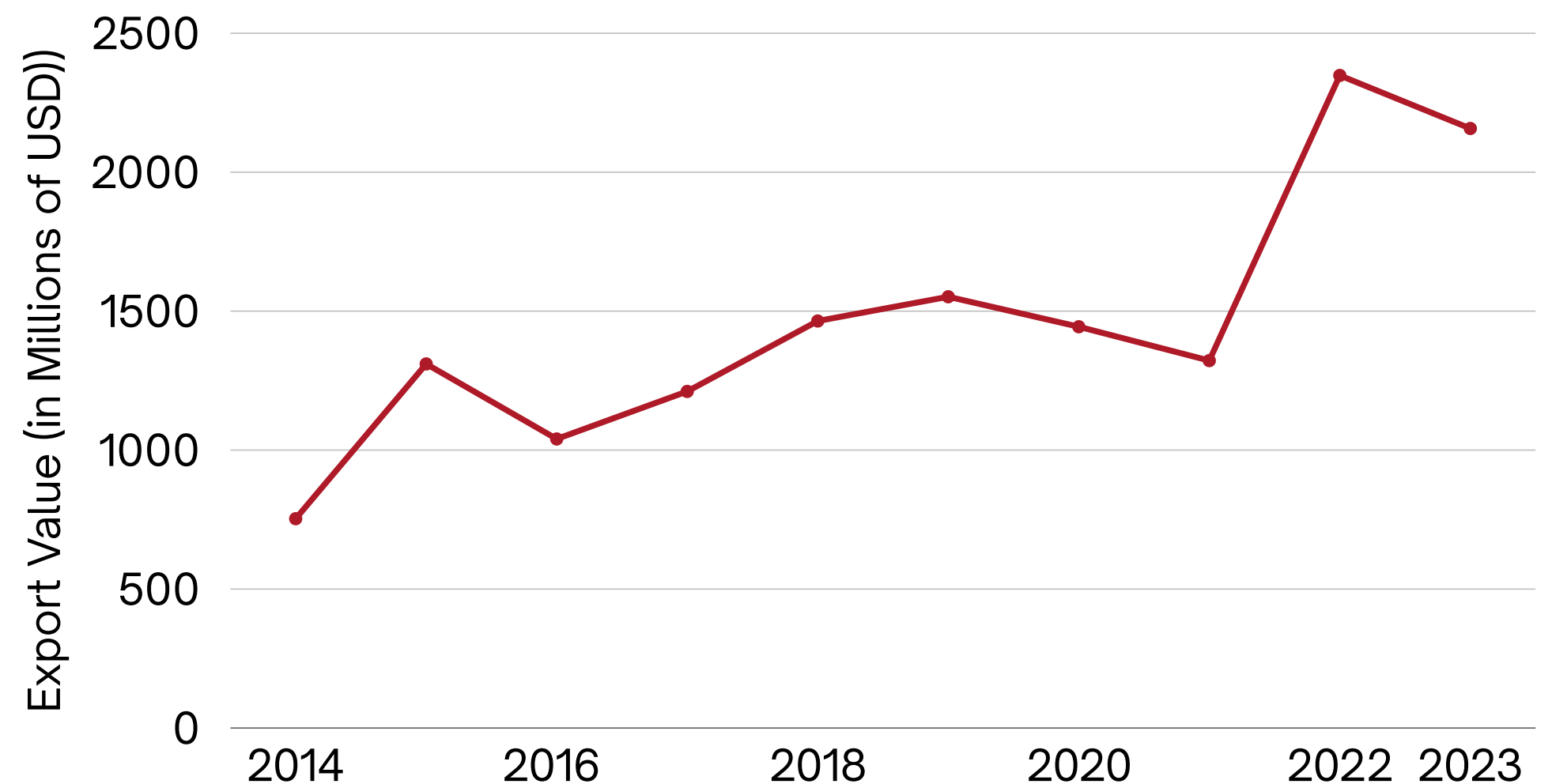
\$2.2B

Total Gross regional
product (2024)

\$8.8B

Total exports in
10 years

Total Exports from Kankakee County



MANUFACTURING

Tours

PEGASUS INDUSTRIAL MIDWEST



- Heavy Industrial Metal Services
 - Clean, inspect, fabricate, repair, coat
- 40 employees
- Oil and gas refineries, steel mills, chemical and power plants
- Partners in agriculture, working on silos



MANUFACTURING

Tours

BYPAK, INC.



- Paper-converting plant
- Located in the Bradley Roper building, 30 full-time employees
- Cut-to-size products made from paper and paperboard materials
- Ships 7-9M lbs./year (3,500-4,500T/year)



MANUFACTURING Tours



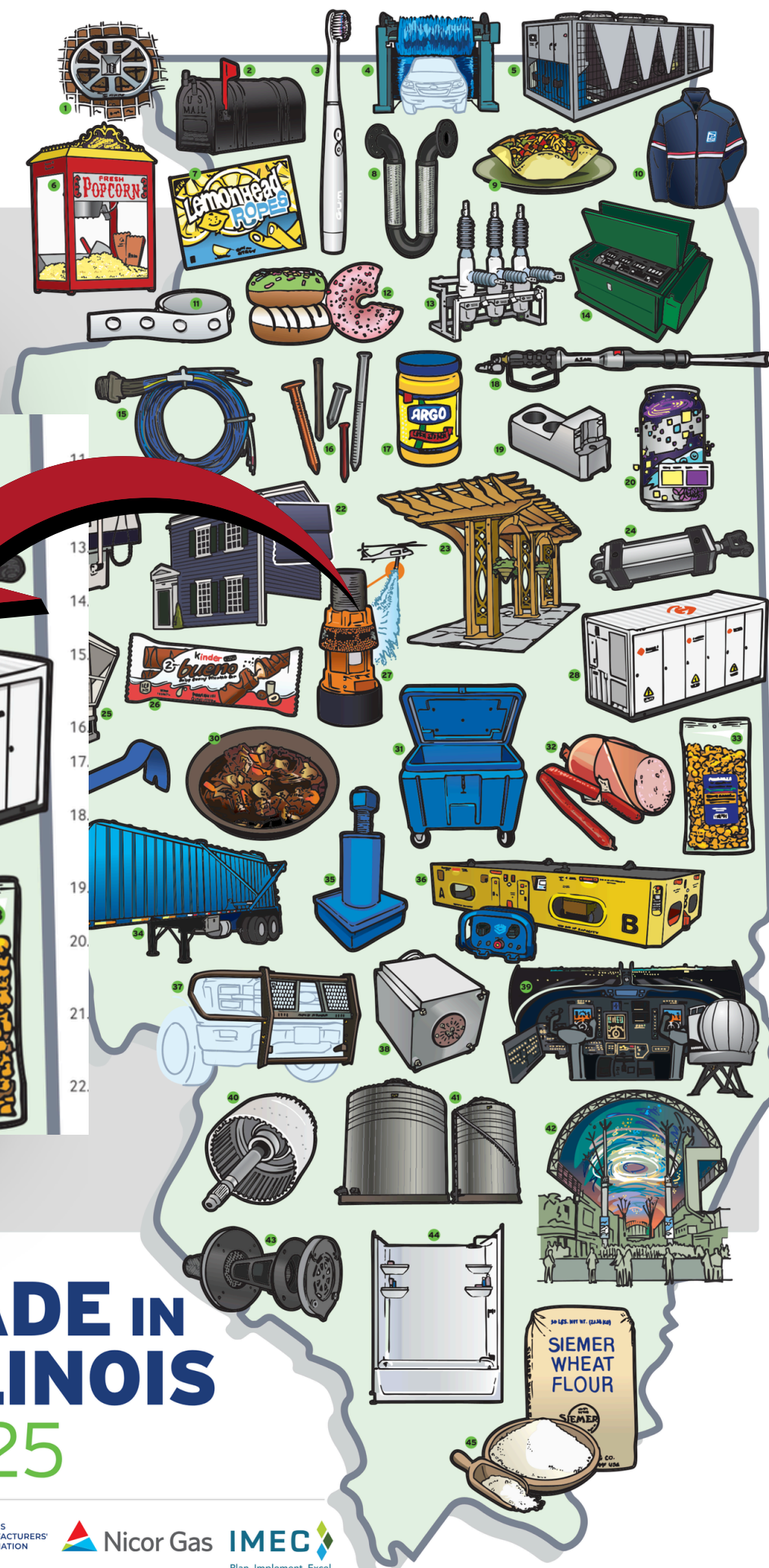
CROWN HOLDINGS

- Produce 6B cans/year - 1,300 cans/minute
- 150 employees, located in Bradley
- Forklift operators, skilled mechanic operators
- Cans ship regionally; worldwide company



MANUFACTURING Illinois

- Edmund Allen Lumber Company, Momence
 - Cedar Pergola (#23)
- Gotion, Manteno
 - BESS (Large Container-Sized Batteries (#28)
- RS Cryo Equipment Inc., Manteno
 - Cryogenic Insulated Containers (#31)



DIRECTORY

1. Terra Pin • Grippie Inc. • Aurora
2. Mailbox • Fulton Corporation • Fulton
3. Toothbrush • GUM • Schaumburg
4. Automatic Car Wash Machine • Brito-O-Matic Manufacturing Inc. • Arlington Heights
5. Accuchiller KSE Series Chiller with Integral Tank • Thermal Care • Niles
6. Popcorn Machine • C. Creators & Company • Wood Dale
7. Lemonhead Ropes • Ferrara Candy Company • Itasca
8. Metraloop Expansion Joint • Metraloop • Ukrainian Village
9. Crispy and Flaky Salad Shell • Azteca Foods Inc. • Chicago
10. USPS Uniforms • National Safety Apparel • Chicago
11. Adhesive Dots • Chicago Glue & Machine • Itasca
12. Donuts • Clyde's Donuts • Addison
13. Reclosers • GSW Electric • Bolingbrook
14. Vista Underground Distribution Switchgear • SGC Electric • Chicago
15. Wire Harness • Crandall Stats and Sensors • MacKenzie Park
16. Nails • Maze Nails • Peru
17. Argon Corn Starch • Ingreion Inc. • Bedford Park
18. Vehicle Extrication & Confined Space Rescue Tools • Ajax Tools • Franklin Park
19. Machine Chuck Jaws • SMW Autoblack Corp. • Wheeling
20. Soda & Beer Cans Print • INX International Ink Company • Homewood
21. Arter Precision CNC Rotary Grinder Model E • Obsidian Manufacturing Industries Inc. • Rockford
22. Hardie Siding (AKA Hardie Board) • James Hardie Building Products • Peru
23. Cedar Pergola • Edmund A Allen Lumber Company • Momence
24. Pneumatic Cylinder • Advance Automation Co. • Chicago
25. Generator Package • Hardin Industries LLC • Lacon
26. Kinder Bueno Chocolate Wafers • Ferrero • Bloomington
27. Aerial Firefighting Helicopter Refill Pump • MTH Pumps • Plano
28. BESS (Large Container-Sized Batteries) • Gotion • Manteno
29. Vaughan Superbar • Marshalltown Hammer • Bushnell
30. Beef Pot Roast with Gravy • Sandridge Morton • Morton
31. Cryogenic Insulated Containers • RS Cryo Equipment Inc. • Manteno
32. Sausage Casing • Visco Fan • Danville
33. Argires Snacks Popcorn • Argires Snacks • Alsip
34. Recycling Trailer • Onken's Inc. • Astoria
35. Heavy Duty Adjustable Anchors • Deco Manufacturing • Decatur
36. Industrial Transporters • Green Valley Manufacturing • Decatur
37. Vaquero Front Grille Guard • Road Armor | A Morton Industries Company • Morton
38. Monofilament Vaporization Propulsion Thruster System • CU Aerospace LLC • Champaign
39. Full Flight Simulator • Frasca International • Urbana
40. Triple Clutch Housing for All GM 8-Speed Transmissions • Spartan Light Metal Products • Sparta
41. Grain Bins • OSI • Assumption
42. Fremont Street Experience in Las Vegas • Watchfire • Danville
43. Jet Filter Weep Hole Drainage and Erosion Control Unit • Molding Services • Olney
44. Bathtub/Shower • Swan Corporation • Centralia
45. Bag of Flour • Siemer Milling • Teutopolis

**MADE IN
ILLINOIS
2025**



Plan. Implement. Excel.

CLOSED

TRANSFORM
Warehouse Operations | 3PL

- Operations cease November 30, 2025
- 59 Employees
- Warehouse & logistics, located in Manteno



- Closed effective October 6, 2025
- 318 Employees
- Located in Momence since 1962





WORKFORCE & EDUCATION

UNEMPLOYMENT KANKAKEE COUNTY

5.7%

Kankakee County
unemployment
August 2025

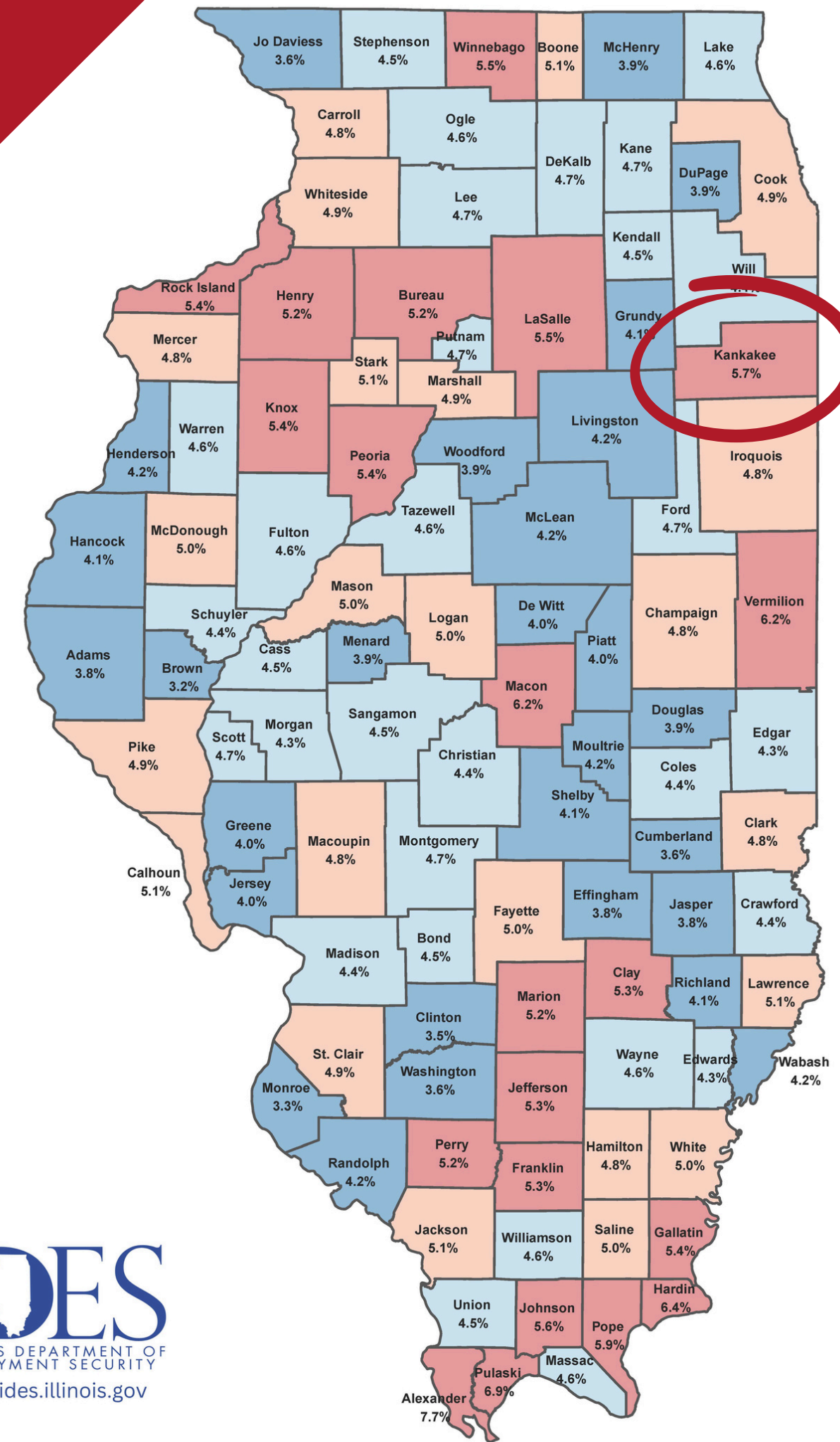
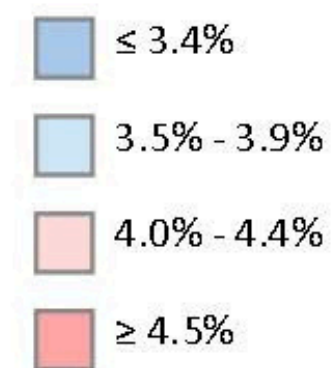
4.7%

Illinois unemployment
August 2025

4.5%

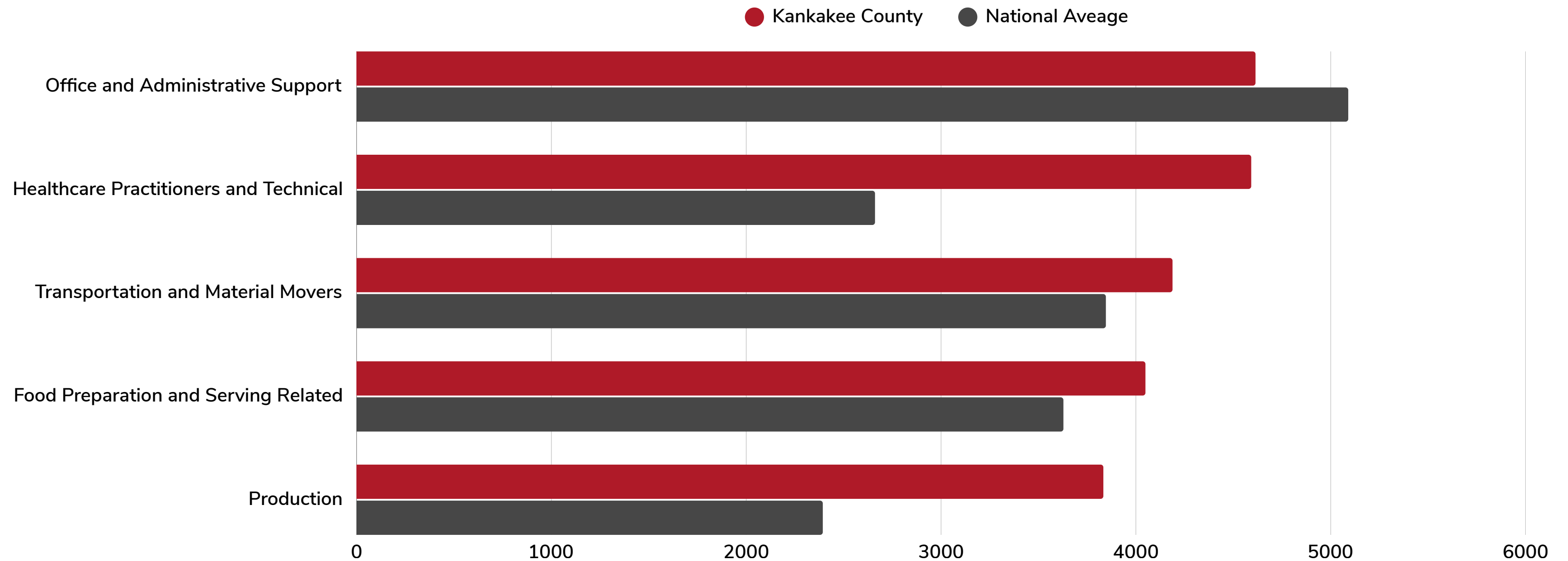
U.S. unemployment
August 2025

Unemployment Rate



WORKFORCE

Largest Occupations in Kankakee County Compared to National Average

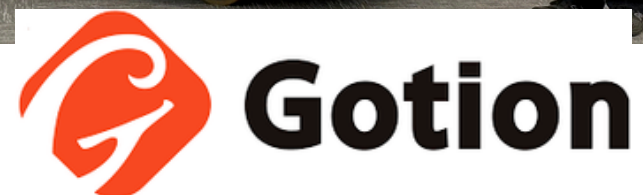


Source: Lightcast

CAREER PATHWAYS



- 10 Teachers/counselors
- 200+ Students





COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

BRADLEY ROPER IMPROVEMENTS

\$4.1M Community Project Funding Grant
Congresswoman Robin Kelly

- Roof repairs at Roper manufacturing site, Bradley



ST. MARY'S INVESTMENTS

\$1M Capital Improvements

Concrete repairs, registration area, paint, floors, plumbing, lighting

Radiographic Fluoroscopy Room - \$847,000 upgrade

FastTrackCare ED - Reduce wait traffic for non-emergent care

Investments in Technology - \$500,000+ investment

BBraun IV Pumps - \$500,000 Capital Investment



St. Mary's
Hospital



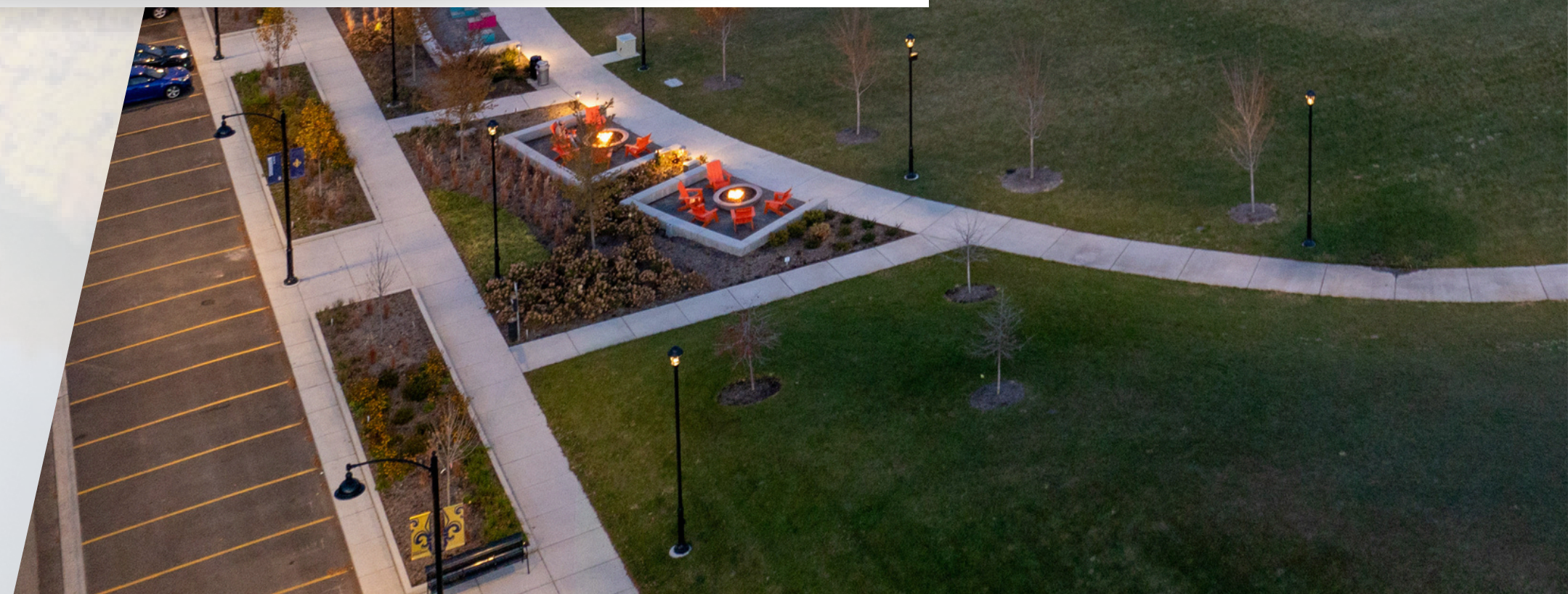
Headlines

KANKAKEE COUNTY

- Bourbonnais Township Park District begins master plan
- Kankakee Regional Land Bank Authority
 - Jaffe Drugs cleanup nears finish
- Kankakee hydro plant upgrades nearly complete
- Momence-filmed show “Monster” airs on Netflix



LIVABILITY



COST OF LIVING

KANKAKEE COUNTY

88.4%

OVERALL COMPOSITE Q3 2025

Chicago Metro	117.9%
Bloomington-Normal	100.2%
Peoria Metro	96.1%
Will County	92.6%



COLI is a comparative benchmark of after-tax consumer costs contributing to a professional/managerial standard of living.



COST OF LIVING

HOUSING	67.2%
GROCERY	101.1%
TRANSPORTATION	96.9%
HEALTH CARE	98.3%
UTILITIES	95.9%
MISC. GOODS & SERVICES	94.9%



TOURISM

in Kankakee County

1,100+ HOTEL ROOMS 17 PROPERTIES



Source: Visit Kankakee County

TOURISM

in Kankakee County

1,100+ HOTEL ROOMS 17 PROPERTIES

VISITOR SPEND
IN 2024 \$166.9M

\$6.8M DIRECT LOCAL
TAX REVENUE



Source: Visit Kankakee County

TOURISM

in Kankakee County

Visit Kankakee County launches
self-guided Mural Trail





MARKETING & OUTREACH

WELCOME

HANNAH SWALE

Director, Marketing & Business Attraction

- Kankakee County native, BBCHS graduate, BA in Communications, North Park University, Chicago
- Background in communications & public engagement
 - Kankakee County Museum, Kankakee Public Library
- Acting Out Theatre board member, school volunteer, graphic designer, Merchant Street MusicFest media lead
- Passionate about local history & conserving historic architecture



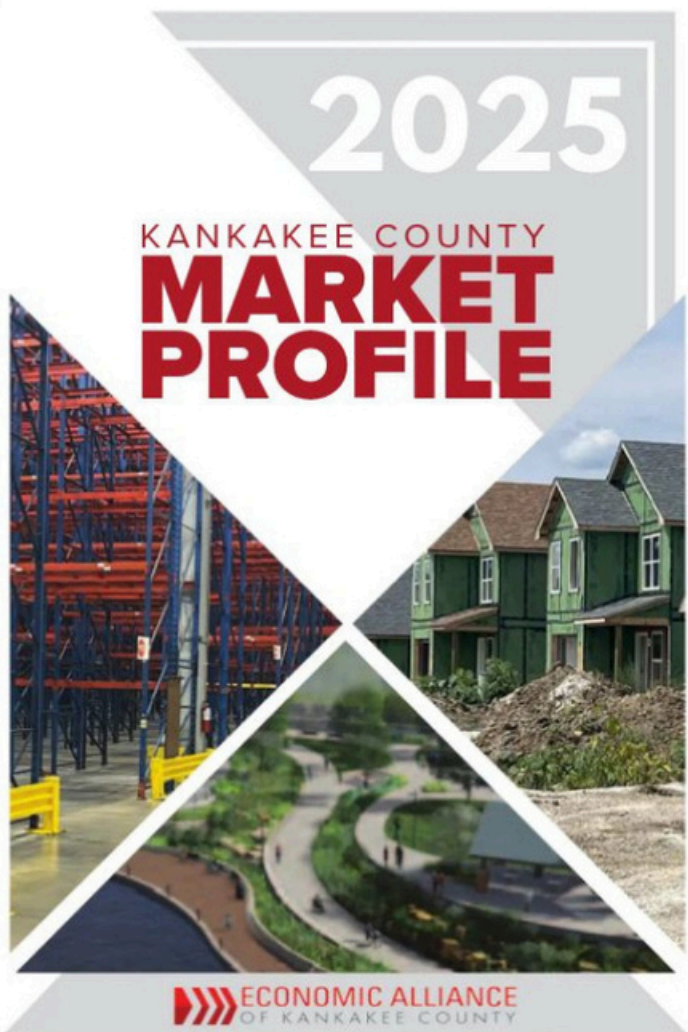
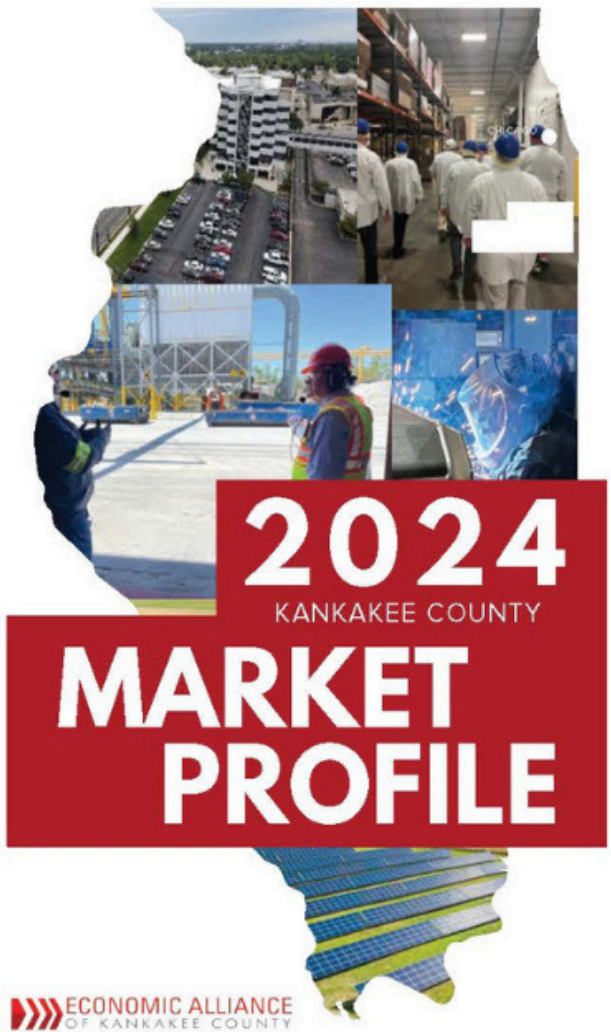
JUST RELEASED

Contact
Hannah Swale for copies
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COMING
SOON

2026 Market Profile



Early 2026



BOARD & COMMUNITY

- 79th District Economic Opportunity & Advisory Council, IL Representative Jackie Haas
- Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley
- Great Lakes Economic Development Council
- Illinois Industrial Biotechnology Coalition
- International Economic Development Council
- Kankakee Area Career Center Executive Advisory Committee
- Kankakee Development Corporation
- Kankakee Co.LAB Advisory Committee
- KCC Business/Office Professional Advisory Committee
- KCC Manufacturing Technology Advisory Committee
- KCC Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity President's Council
- Kankakee County CEO
- Visit Kankakee County
- Kankakee Riverfront Society
- Pembroke Township & Village of Hopkins Park Utility Infrastructure Initiative
- United Way of Kankakee & Iroquois Counties
- U.S. Rep. Robin Kelly's Economic Development Task Force
- Will Kankakee Regional Development Authority



2026 MEETINGS

February 12, 2026

7:30-9:00am

April 9, 2026

Location TBD

June 11, 2026

September 10, 2026

November 12, 2026

Previous board reports available at kankakeecountyed.org



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THANK YOU



ECONOMIC ALLIANCE
OF KANKAKEE COUNTY