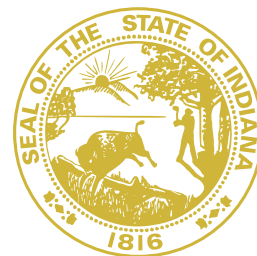


SOUTHWEST INDIANA REGIONAL REPORT



June 2026

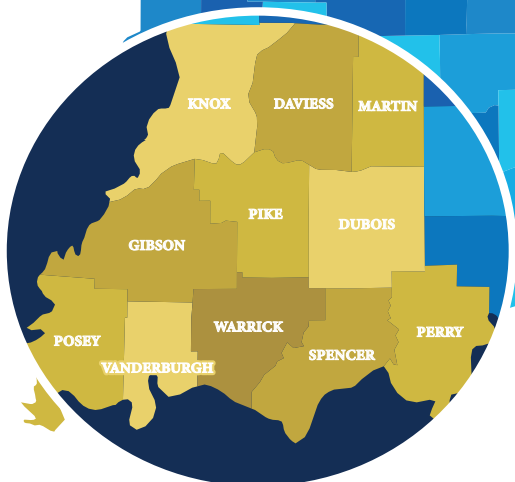
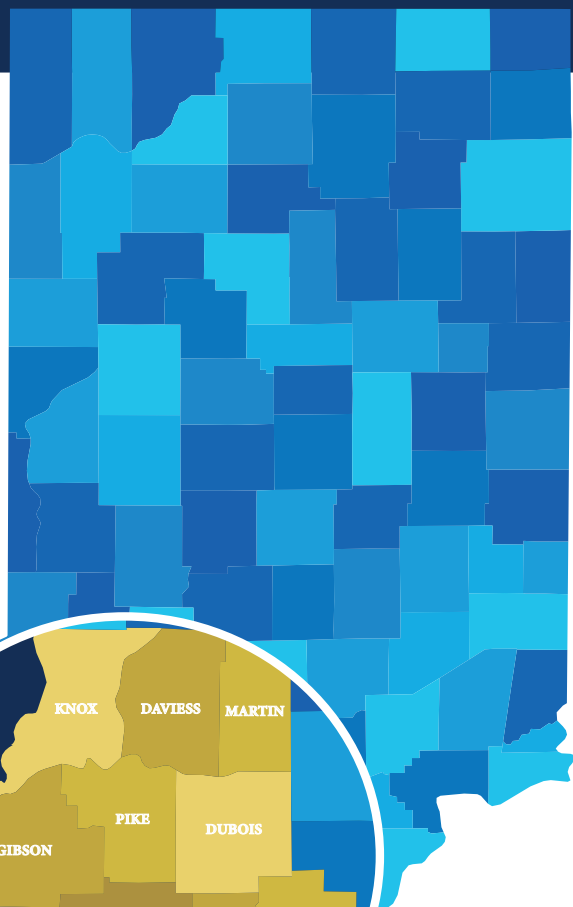
“Indiana’s strength comes from its people – Hoosiers who work hard, solve problems and take pride in building something better for the next generation.

Across our state, we’re seeing what’s possible when business, higher education and community leaders come together to solve problems with a shared purpose. Those partnerships are driving growth, creating jobs and opening new doors for Hoosiers.

Here in Southwest Indiana, that momentum is clear. With major employers like Toyota Indiana in Princeton and Berry Global in Evansville continuing to invest, this region remains a leader in advanced manufacturing and materials innovation. Combined with ongoing development along the Ohio River and strong logistics advantages, Southwest Indiana is creating quality jobs and building long-term economic strength.

By staying focused, working together and delivering results, we’re building an economy that is strong today and positioned for the future.”

— Governor Mike Braun



REGIONAL IMPACT

SOUTHWEST INDIANA

IN THE LAST YEAR...

- ◆ **6 businesses** committed to locating or growing in SW Indiana
- ◆ **\$97 million in capital investment** committed
- ◆ 329 new jobs announced, with **an average wage of \$41.71/hour**
- ◆ **\$30 million in new payroll** created

SCAN TO WATCH
SOUTHWEST INDIANA
ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHT VIDEO



Experience the region momentum in this two-minute video.

STORIES FROM AROUND THE REGION

TOYOTA'S COMMITMENT TO SW INDIANA GROWS WITH NEW MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR INVESTMENT

- ◇ \$200 million capital investment brings total investment to more than \$8 billion
- ◇ Investment will increase production capacity for the Toyota Grand Highlander in Princeton

“Today’s announcement reflects the company’s commitment to meeting customer demand and the belief in our team to get it done,” said **Jason Puckett**, president of Toyota Indiana. “For 30 years, Toyota Indiana has led the charge into the future by putting our customers first, delivering quality vehicles, and remaining committed to our values. I’m proud to celebrate this incredible milestone with our 7,300 team members who have helped contribute to decades of quality in the Hoosier State.”

TAYLORMADE GOLF PLANS EXPANSION IN SW INDIANA

- ◇ Multi-million-dollar capital investment
- ◇ New, build-to-suit warehouse on 53 acres at 6700 Petersburg Road
- ◇ Facility supports increased fulfillment of TaylorMade’s Sun Day Red premium performance apparel and footwear brand

“Indiana has been an incredible place to live and work, and its strong workforce, collaborative spirit, and commitment to growth make it the ideal location for this expansion,” said **Jessica Delgado**, Associate Director of PMO Operations at TaylorMade Golf. “TaylorMade is incredibly proud to help bring this vision to life and to further strengthen its ties within Southern Indiana.”

AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL GROUP ADDING HIGH-WAGE INDUSTRIAL JOBS IN POSEY COUNTY

- ◇ \$1.25 million investment
- ◇ 11 new skilled manufacturing positions
- ◇ Average hourly wage of \$42/hour

“We’re excited to continue growing in Posey County and grateful for the support from the state and the local community,” said **Chris Joyce**, Co-Owner of American Industrial Group. “This expansion represents more than just growth—it’s a commitment to building high-quality jobs, strengthening our operations, and continuing to invest in Indiana’s industrial future.”



TOP STORY

TOYOTA'S BOLD LEAP CONTINUES TO PAY OFF 30 YEARS LATER

THE SOUTHWEST INDIANA REGION CONTINUES TO REAP THE BENEFITS OF TOYOTA'S DECISION to locate its second U.S. vehicle manufacturing facility in Princeton.

What started with 1,300 dedicated team members has grown into a workforce 7,300-people strong.

“Our team members are the true heart of this operation,” said Jason Puckett, president of Toyota Indiana. “Their dedication, skill, and passion have made Toyota Indiana a leader in quality and innovation.”

The company recently announced a \$200 million expansion of its Grand Highlander line. Located on a 1,160-acre campus, Toyota Indiana spans 4.5 million square feet and performs stamping, body weld, paint and assembly operations. Besides the Grand Highlander, Toyota Indiana produces the Highlander, Highlander Hybrid, Lexus TX and Sienna Hybrid models. In 2025 alone, the facility produced almost 428,000 vehicles.

GRANTS BOOST REGION

TENS OF MILLIONS IN READI GRANTS FUEL SOUTHWEST INDIANA PROJECTS

FROM DOWNTOWN EVANSVILLE'S RIVERFRONT TO HOUSING AND RECREATION NEAR TOYOTA'S INDIANA MANUFACTURING COMPLEX, a variety of projects are in the pipeline in southwest Indiana thanks to the state's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative, also known as READI. The funds awarded to projects across southwest Indiana have leveraged millions more to improve quality of place for Hoosiers and Hoosier employers. Among the projects underway or on tap:

- ◇ **Transforming 50 miles of riverfront across downtown Evansville, Mount Vernon, and Newburgh.** Powered by more than \$6 million in READI grants, stakeholders have mapped out a vision for dramatically improving how downtown Evansville interacts with the Ohio River. The Evansville Region Riverfront master plan is the first step in bringing unprecedented private investment to the riverfront.
- ◇ **More than 250 units of affordable housing in Princeton to attract and retain talent for Toyota and other area employers.** The two-phase project, fueled by more than \$5 million in READI funds, leveraged tens of millions in private investment, including matching funds from JWK Investments and Liberty Federal Credit Union.
- ◇ **The Toyota Indiana YMCA.** Thanks to a \$6.2 million READI grant, the YMCA of Southwestern Indiana created a first-class, 56,600-square-foot YMCA for all residents of Gibson County. Opened in May 2025, the facility is addressing health disparities in Gibson County and helping residents lead healthier lives. The Y includes a teaching kitchen for nutrition education and a youth wing containing a STEM lab.
- ◇ **Transforming of the historic but vacant Crawford Door building adjacent to Evansville's Bosse Field** into 139 affordable and workforce housing units and 10,000 square feet of commercial space to serve neighborhood-focused organizations. A \$2.7 million READI grant and \$5 million READI LEI grant helped leverage additional funds for the \$37 million project, which is expected to open in 2027.
- ◇ **The Dominion, a \$71.5 million mixed-use development in Newburgh.** Located along the Warrick Wellness Trail, The Dominion will feature 150 market-rate apartments, a five-story commercial building with ground-floor retail and a public plaza designed for community activities. That phase, scheduled for completion in 2028, will be followed by a second round of development that will include another 150 residential units, a boutique hotel and upscale dining options. A \$5 million READI grant leveraged the bulk of the project funding.

ENTREPRENEUR SUCCESS STORIES

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION

SMALL BUSINESSES MAKE UP THE HEART OF THE INDIANA ECONOMY and employ more than 1.2 million Hoosiers. So far this year, the Southwest Indiana Small Business Development Center has supported 3,029 entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Entrepreneurship isn't limited to people with business degrees who've spent years training to start and operate a business. Actionable business ideas can come from anyone, including entrepreneurs like Jenny Lamble, founder of Be Happy Pie Company. Lamble started the company as a side project while working as a school counselor. She baked cookies and sweet and savory pies in her kitchen and sold them at farmers markets.

Business boomed, and she opened her first storefront in Evansville in 2017. There are now two Evansville shops as well as franchised locations in Kentucky and, soon, Kansas City, Missouri. Each new location brings Be Happy Pie Company's made-from-scratch pies and baked goods to even more communities across the Midwest—continuing a tradition of small-batch baking that started right here at home.

Lamble was honored this year as the Indiana Small Business Development Center's Entrepreneur of the Year.

Orr Fellowship launches Evansville chapter

The Orr Fellowship, which started in 2001 as a way to keep high-potential college graduates in Indiana, expanded to Evansville in 2025, giving southwest Indiana another tool to recruit and develop its next generation of business leaders.

Started in partnership with the Evansville Regional Business Committee, the Orr Fellowship in Evansville will identify rising college seniors from across the country and match them with dynamic companies where they serve a two-year fellowship.

"I know firsthand the tremendous impact that Orr Fellowship has had on attracting and developing early career talent in Central Indiana," said James Ryan, Chairman and CEO, Old National Bank and Vice Chairman, Evansville Regional Business Committee. "Expanding Orr Fellowship to the Evansville Region will certainly help shape the future leaders of the region."

Flywheel Fund expands to Evansville

The Flywheel Fund, a member-managed venture capital fund where accredited investors pool their money to invest in early-stage tech startups, is expanding into Evansville.

As part of Flywheel, accredited investors can invest as little as \$10,000 per year over three years. The fund provides support to the local startup ecosystem, educates new investors about the angel investing process, facilitates connections among local investors, and provides venture returns and diversification—all at a comparatively low entry cost.

Flywheel's Evansville expansion was one of 28 projects selected by Indiana's Commerce Office to receive matching grants through the state's Community Collaboration Fund. Each project selected was chosen because of its potential to fill critical gaps across the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Bloomington's The Mill coworking space was awarded almost \$40,000 to start Flywheel Fund Evansville in partnership with Circular Venture Lab. The program will seek to resolve the lack of early investor capital available in Vanderburgh, Warrick, Posey and Gibson counties.

HEADLINES FROM AROUND THE REGION



[Deaconess to build \\$150 million cancer center in Newburgh](#) (April 28, 2026)

[Fleet Service Partners begins work on new Evansville facility](#) (April 24, 2026)

[Evansville company chosen for major Oklahoma bridge project](#) (April 29, 2026)

[Plastics manufacturer Polygram investing \\$12 million to expand in Evansville](#) (April 1, 2026)

[Vincennes, University of Evansville partner on pathways for health professions students](#) (March 31, 2026)

[Evansville Regional Airport debuts new accessibility technology](#) (March 19, 2026)

[Ribbon cut on The District housing project in Gibson County](#) (January 13, 2026)