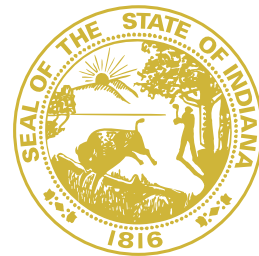


SOUTHERN INDIANA REGIONAL REPORT



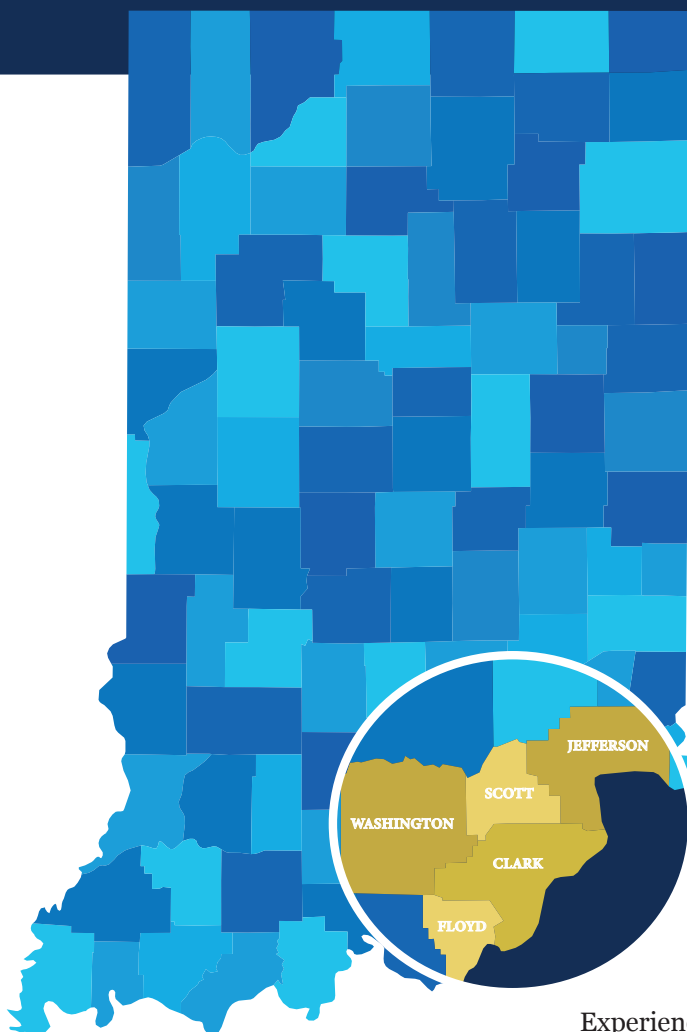
September 2026

“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 Southern Indiana, that momentum is easy to see. The region is building on its strong manufacturing heritage and strategic location to attract new investment in industries ranging from advanced manufacturing and energy to space and life sciences. Companies like Canadian Solar, Redwire and Global Polymers are choosing to invest and grow here, while communities are putting READI funding to work to strengthen quality of place and prepare for future growth. With strong regional partnerships and access to the Louisville market, Southern Indiana is creating more opportunities for Hoosiers and showing why Indiana is one of the best places in America to live, work, do business and invest.

— Governor Mike Braun



REGIONAL IMPACT

SOUTHERN INDIANA

IN THE LAST 18 MONTHS...

- ♦ **Nine businesses** committed to locating or growing in Southern Indiana
- ♦ Almost **\$506 million in capital investment** committed
- ♦ 546 new jobs committed with an **average wage of \$34.09/hour**
- ♦ More than **\$44 million in new payroll** committed

SCAN TO WATCH
SOUTHERN INDIANA
ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHT VIDEO



Experience the region momentum in this two-minute video.

STORIES FROM AROUND THE REGION

REDWIRE OPENS STATE-OF-THE-ART SPACE TECHNOLOGIES FACILITY

- ◇ Georgetown facility will carry on more than 40 years of spaceflight heritage in Southern Indiana
- ◇ 30,000-square-foot space in Floyd County's Novaparke Innovation & Technology Campus
- ◇ Key operational site for Space Microgravity Development LLC, Redwire's venture company focused on biotech and other field

"The space and pharmaceutical-biotech industries are intersecting in a way that will transform both fields, and this new facility will ensure that Indiana is at the forefront of this exciting industrial revolution. Thanks to the trailblazing work that Redwire's team will do in Indiana, we will demonstrate how going to space can benefit millions of people here on Earth," said **Mike Gold**, president of Redwire Space.

GLOBAL POLYMERS MOVING HEADQUARTERS AND OPERATIONS FROM KENTUCKY TO INDIANA

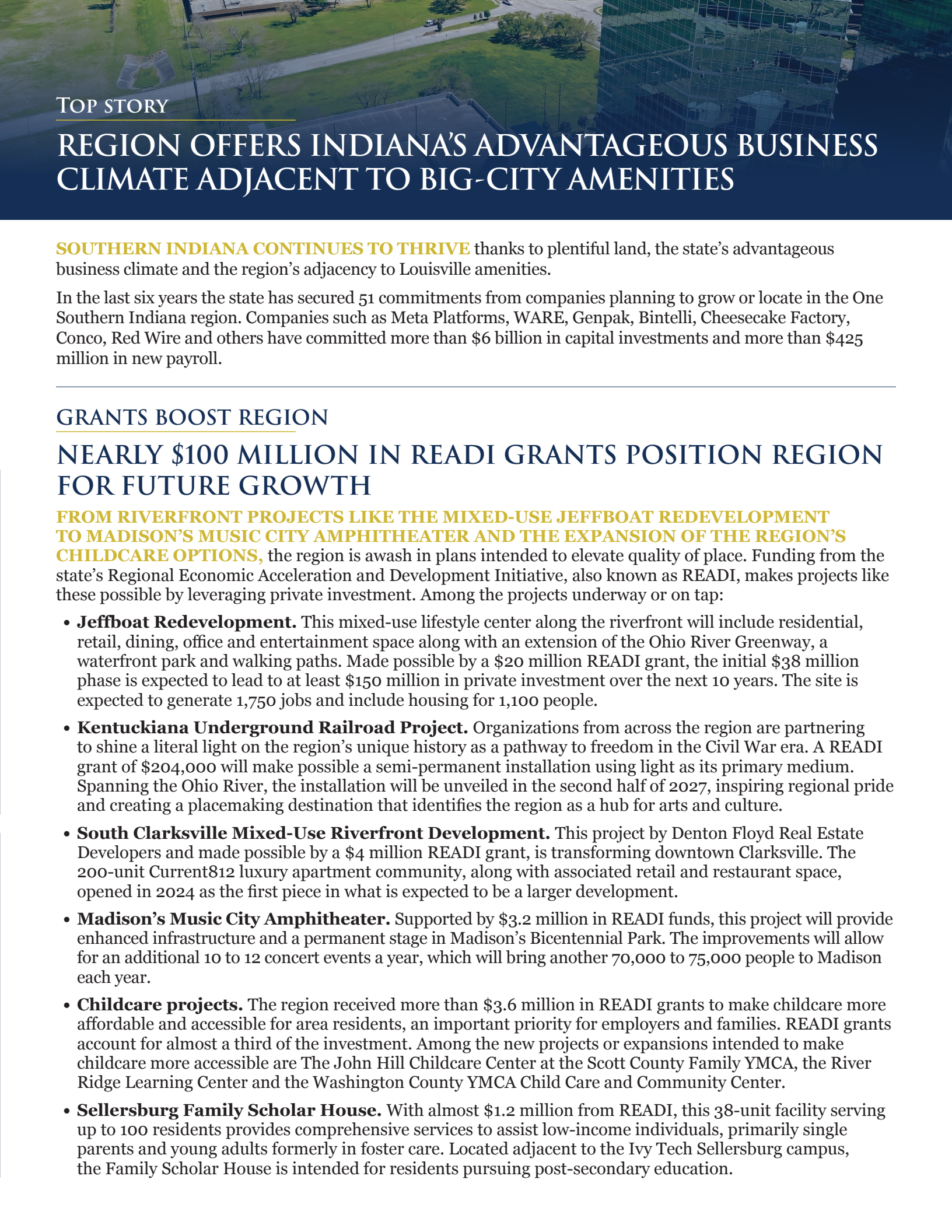
- ◇ An investment of more than \$8.5 million in Charlestown
- ◇ Up to 30 new jobs created by 2030
- ◇ Manufacturer of recycled plastics and resins to occupy renovated 165,000-square-foot facility

"This relocation and expansion mark an important milestone for Global Polymers," said **Barry McRoberts**, company founder and managing member. "As demand for our products continues to grow, this investment will enhance our ability to serve customers through expanded capabilities and new product offerings. We appreciate the support of the city of Charlestown, One Southern Indiana and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, whose partnership has been critical to advancing this next phase of growth."

CANADIAN SOLAR FIRM OPENS FLAGSHIP U.S. MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN JEFFERSONVILLE

- ◇ Subsidiary of one of the world's largest solar technology and renewable energy companies
- ◇ Potential to create more than 1,200 skilled manufacturing, engineering, and technical jobs
- ◇ Reshores critical advanced manufacturing, strengthening U.S. energy infrastructure

"Jeffersonville is a cornerstone of our strategy to build one of North America's most advanced energy manufacturing supply chains," **Rusty Schmit**, President of CS PowerTech Inc., said. "We are proud to invest in Indiana's workforce and work with regional partners to build a long-term center of excellence for solar technology and advanced manufacturing."



TOP STORY

REGION OFFERS INDIANA'S ADVANTAGEOUS BUSINESS CLIMATE ADJACENT TO BIG-CITY AMENITIES

SOUTHERN INDIANA CONTINUES TO THRIVE thanks to plentiful land, the state's advantageous business climate and the region's adjacency to Louisville amenities.

In the last six years the state has secured 51 commitments from companies planning to grow or locate in the One Southern Indiana region. Companies such as Meta Platforms, WARE, Genpak, Bintelli, Cheesecake Factory, Conco, Red Wire and others have committed more than \$6 billion in capital investments and more than \$425 million in new payroll.

GRANTS BOOST REGION

NEARLY \$100 MILLION IN READI GRANTS POSITION REGION FOR FUTURE GROWTH

FROM RIVERFRONT PROJECTS LIKE THE MIXED-USE JEFFBOAT REDEVELOPMENT TO MADISON'S MUSIC CITY AMPHITHEATER AND THE EXPANSION OF THE REGION'S CHILDCARE OPTIONS, the region is awash in plans intended to elevate quality of place. Funding from the state's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative, also known as READI, makes projects like these possible by leveraging private investment. Among the projects underway or on tap:

- **Jeffboat Redevelopment.** This mixed-use lifestyle center along the riverfront will include residential, retail, dining, office and entertainment space along with an extension of the Ohio River Greenway, a waterfront park and walking paths. Made possible by a \$20 million READI grant, the initial \$38 million phase is expected to lead to at least \$150 million in private investment over the next 10 years. The site is expected to generate 1,750 jobs and include housing for 1,100 people.
- **Kentuckiana Underground Railroad Project.** Organizations from across the region are partnering to shine a literal light on the region's unique history as a pathway to freedom in the Civil War era. A READI grant of \$204,000 will make possible a semi-permanent installation using light as its primary medium. Spanning the Ohio River, the installation will be unveiled in the second half of 2027, inspiring regional pride and creating a placemaking destination that identifies the region as a hub for arts and culture.
- **South Clarksville Mixed-Use Riverfront Development.** This project by Denton Floyd Real Estate Developers and made possible by a \$4 million READI grant, is transforming downtown Clarksville. The 200-unit Current812 luxury apartment community, along with associated retail and restaurant space, opened in 2024 as the first piece in what is expected to be a larger development.
- **Madison's Music City Amphitheater.** Supported by \$3.2 million in READI funds, this project will provide enhanced infrastructure and a permanent stage in Madison's Bicentennial Park. The improvements will allow for an additional 10 to 12 concert events a year, which will bring another 70,000 to 75,000 people to Madison each year.
- **Childcare projects.** The region received more than \$3.6 million in READI grants to make childcare more affordable and accessible for area residents, an important priority for employers and families. READI grants account for almost a third of the investment. Among the new projects or expansions intended to make childcare more accessible are The John Hill Childcare Center at the Scott County Family YMCA, the River Ridge Learning Center and the Washington County YMCA Child Care and Community Center.
- **Sellersburg Family Scholar House.** With almost \$1.2 million from READI, this 38-unit facility serving up to 100 residents provides comprehensive services to assist low-income individuals, primarily single parents and young adults formerly in foster care. Located adjacent to the Ivy Tech Sellersburg campus, the Family Scholar House is intended for residents pursuing post-secondary education.

ENTREPRENEUR SUCCESS STORIES

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION

SMALL BUSINESSES MAKE UP THE HEART OF THE INDIANA ECONOMY and employ more than 1.2 million Hoosiers. The state, including the Indiana Small Business Development Center, supported more than 10,000 entrepreneurs and small businesses in 2025, an effort that helped launch more than 450 businesses statewide. The Southeast Indiana Small Business Development Center has assisted 899 entrepreneurs and small businesses in the last 18 months, helping launch 62 businesses. These are some of the success stories that have come out of the SBDC over the years:

- ♦ **Southern Indiana Spray Foam (Floyd County):** The winner of Indiana Small Business Development Center's 2026 "Family-Owned Small Business of the Year" award, New Albany-based Southern Indiana Spray Foam provides spray foam services for residential and commercial properties. It specializes in attic, wall, basement and roof insulation, along with concrete lifting and other applications that improve energy efficiency, comfort, and long-term performance of a building. The company, which is owned and operated by Keith Norton and his son, Blake, has grown into a family legacy, bringing Keith and Blake together after finding each other later in life.
- ♦ **Encore Event Group (Clark County):** The winner of ISBDC's 2026 "Innovative Small Business of the Year" award, Encore Event Group is a full-service event production and logistics company that designs and executes large-scale, high-impact experiences for corporate, public, and private clients. Owned and operated by Robert and Nicole Reno, this Sellersburg-based company's services extend beyond traditional event planning to include production design, technical execution, logistics coordination, and immersive experience creation.
- ♦ **Proper Pilots (Floyd County):** This company, started by Air Force veteran and New Albany native Tim Tweet, launched an app that Tweet and his business partner, Derrick Simpson, believe will revolutionize flight training. The app eliminates much of the costly paperwork and legacy software that the vast majority of flight schools still use. Proper Pilots, which is just over a year old, is already being used in flight schools across the U.S. and in Australia, France, and India.
- ♦ **Fat of the Land (Floyd County):** Fat of the Land, founded in 2023 by Floyd County resident Donald Ridlings, sells kettle-style potato chips cooked in animal fat. Ridlings said the company is projected to sell \$1.8 million in chips this year, with a huge jump next year to \$8.3 million thanks to new distributor and retail partnerships. "The whole idea, from the start, was to create a food company that gets back to cooking with animal fats like our ancestors did," Ridlings said.
- ♦ **Latimer Animal Hospital (Floyd County):** Dr. Matt Latimer started his veterinary practice a little over a decade ago with a clear vision shaped by the dental practice his father owned. Latimer's journey highlights the power of blending professional passion with entrepreneurial grit. "The [Indiana] SBDC was amazing from day one for the initial planning to get our loan and laying out everything," Latimer said.

POWER UP INDIANA SUPPORTS FAMILY SERVICE WORKFORCE

Run by the Department of Workforce Development, Power Up Indiana provides funding for employers in childcare, counseling and family support fields who build stronger career pathways for frontline workers while expanding the services families rely on.

"When a child needs extra support or a family needs access to behavioral healthcare, the quality of the workforce matters," said Gov. Mike Braun. "Power Up Indiana helps employers train the people doing that work, expanding essential family services and creating opportunities for Hoosiers to build successful careers."

Twin Springs Counseling, a rural counseling practice, is among those organizations strengthening its clinician pipeline through a residency program that provides early-career professionals with mentorship, supervision and specialized training. With funding from Power Up Indiana, the program prepares the next generation of behavioral health providers while helping expand access to care for young Hoosiers and families in rural and underserved communities.

HEADLINES FROM AROUND THE REGION



[Communications Test Design to expand again at River Ridge, adding 400 jobs](#) (April 23, 2026)

[Charlestown cuts ribbon on \\$40 million water treatment facility](#) (May 13, 2026)

[Jeffersonville completes key Ohio River Greenway trail connection](#) (June 9, 2026)

[Global metal manufacturer completes \\$80 million Jeffersonville expansion](#) (July 29, 2026)

[Construction to begin on \\$312 million Improve 64 project](#) (July 10, 2026)

[Upland acquires Floyd County Brewing Co. in New Albany](#) (June 18, 2026)