



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Lehigh Valley
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



A Message from the Chair



Steve Hoff
Board Chair

*Executive Vice President
and Chief Financial
Officer*
Crayola

Lehigh Valley's reputation as a competitive, high-performing region continues to grow, reflecting the sustained work of LVEDC and its partners to market the region's assets, bring organizations together, and help employers invest, expand, and create jobs across the region.

Because of this coordinated effort, our market outperformed every other mid-sized region in the United States, earning recognition as the No. 1 mid-sized market for economic development. That distinction is not the result of a single project or announcement, but of years of collaborating among business leaders, educators, workforce partners, and public officials around a shared commitment to the Lehigh Valley's success.

In 2025, companies such as Filter King and Kerry Group chose to establish operations in the region, while long-standing employers, including B. Braun and Bosch Rexroth, continued to expand. Eli Lilly and Company's decision to invest \$3.5 billion in a pharmaceutical manufacturing campus, Pennsylvania's largest life sciences investment, underscores the level at which the Lehigh Valley now competes.

These outcomes are not coincidental. They are the result of sustained collaboration among business leaders, educators, elected officials, workforce partners, and community stakeholders who understand that economic competitiveness requires regional thinking and shared commitment.

LVEDC's Board of Directors is proud to help steward that effort. Representing diverse sectors and perspectives, the Board works closely with the organization's leadership team to set strategic priorities. Our responsibility is not only to support growth, but to guide the long-term competitiveness of the region.

In 2025, LVEDC experienced record financial investment from public and private partners, and our coalition reached its largest size in history. We are grateful for the continued confidence of our investors, whose support allows this work to continue and reflects a shared belief in the Lehigh Valley's future.

Rankings and major announcements are important milestones, but they are not endpoints. Sustained success requires discipline, partnership, and a continued commitment to act as one region. The Board remains dedicated to that work. Most importantly, I want to recognize the LVEDC team, under the leadership of President & CEO Don Cunningham, whose daily efforts turn collaboration into results. The Lehigh Valley enters the new year stronger, more competitive, and well-positioned for continued opportunity.

Our Mission

The mission of the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation is to market the economic assets of the Lehigh Valley and to create partnerships to support the recruitment, growth and retention of employers and the creation of jobs for people of all skill and education levels.

A Message from the President & CEO



Don Cunningham
President & CEO



For generations, the Lehigh Valley has been defined by what it makes. Steel built our cities. Mack Trucks carried our name across the country. Our manufacturers are producing everything from semiconductors and medtech to Peeps, Crayola crayons, and Martin Guitars.

Now, we begin a new chapter in that proud history: major pharmaceutical manufacturing.

In 2025, LVEDC and our partners – including Gov. Shapiro’s administration, local public officials, utilities, and educators – secured the largest economic development investment in our region’s history. Eli Lilly and Company, the world’s largest maker of medicines, chose the Lehigh Valley over 300 other locations for a \$3.5 billion manufacturing campus.

This transformative investment signals that the Lehigh Valley competes at the highest level of global industry.

Its impact will be significant: 2,000 construction jobs, 850 permanent positions, and an estimated \$14 billion in regional economic activity. But the true measure of economic development is not capital alone.

It is opportunity.

It is a student who sees a pathway to a life sciences career without leaving home. A skilled trades worker earning family-sustaining wages. A young professional choosing to build a future here because the jobs are meaningful and the community is vibrant.

That opportunity is rooted in a diverse, balanced economy growing stronger. Employment has reached a historic high of 343,975 jobs.

Median household income stands at \$84,260, higher than the state and nation. Our population is growing, fueled by young adults drawn to the possibilities here.

We don’t just make products. We make places.

Downtown Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton have been revitalized with housing, restaurants, culture, and public spaces that enhance quality of life. The Lehigh Valley is not only a place where companies grow. It is a place where people want to live.

Lilly chose this region because we demonstrated talent, infrastructure, speed, and partnership. That outcome reflects decades of preparation. Thirty years ago, leaders chose to compete as one region – two counties, three cities, 62 municipalities – aligned around a shared strategy led by LVEDC. That vision positioned us to prepare sites, build workforce pipelines, invest in infrastructure, and respond when opportunity emerged.

Lilly is not an isolated win. It affirms that our strategy works.

With success comes responsibility. Growth must remain inclusive and sustainable. Housing must keep pace. Workforce development must align with next-generation industries. Infrastructure must support continued expansion. LVEDC will continue working with our partners who are leading those efforts.

When we act as one region, we can compete with anyone, anywhere. Our task now is clear: build on this momentum, expand opportunity, and ensure the next generation inherits a Lehigh Valley even stronger than the one we celebrate today.

\$3.5B

INVESTMENT IN
PENNSYLVANIA

850

LILLY JOBS

2,000

CONSTRUCTION
JOBS

Eli Lilly and Company Chair & CEO David Ricks announces the pharmaceutical leader's historic investment in the Lehigh Valley on Jan. 30, 2026, at the Da Vinci Science Center in Allentown.



Watch



Lilly Chooses Lehigh Valley

A \$3.5 billion pharmaceutical manufacturing investment by Eli Lilly and Company opens a new chapter in Lehigh Valley's long manufacturing story.

The nearly 1 million square foot production facility for life-changing medication will become the largest single economic development project in Lehigh Valley history, and the largest life sciences project in Pennsylvania history.

The Lehigh Valley won over more than 300 regions competing for the project that will bring 850 permanent jobs and 2,000 construction jobs, with the potential to infuse \$14 billion in additional spending into the community.

Part of Lilly's \$50 billion expansion of its domestic production network, the facility positions the Lehigh Valley to compete globally in a critical industry shaping the future economy.

"Eli Lilly and Company is writing the first page of a new chapter – the era of life sciences – in the Lehigh Valley's proud history of making things in America."

Don Cunningham

President & CEO

Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation

Inside Lilly Lehigh Valley

Eli Lilly and Company's \$3.5 billion investment is a defining moment for the Lehigh Valley's manufacturing legacy and future in life sciences. Here's a closer look at the project, its impact, and why the region rose to the top.



Project At a Glance

- Who:** Eli Lilly and Company, the world's largest medicine manufacturer
- What:** 925,000-square-foot campus producing next-generation weight loss therapies
- When:** Breaking ground 2026, producing medicine by 2031
- Where:** 9802 Main St., Upper Macungie Township

Life-Changing Medicines Made Here

Obesity is a chronic disease affecting two in five Americans and is closely linked to heart disease and diabetes. Lilly, the first pharmaceutical company to reach \$1 trillion in market value, is known for making life-changing medication targeting that chronic health condition.

Lilly Lehigh Valley campus will produce two cutting-edge therapies.

Zepbound® targets two hormones involved in weight control, an advantage over competitors that target only one. Lilly's next-generation medication Retatrutide, now in Phase 3 clinical trials, targets three hormones.



Lilly's Impact

\$14 billion
Regional
Spending

\$100,000
Average
Lilly Salary

850
Permanent
Jobs

2,000
Construction
Jobs

Lilly pledged to become part of the Lehigh Valley community and build meaningful relationships with initiatives including workforce development and volunteerism.

Why Lehigh Valley?

Strong Manufacturing Economy • Established Life Sciences Industry • Workforce, Proximity to STEM Universities
 Infrastructure – Utilities, Interstate Access • Favorable Zoning • Fast-Tracked Permitting • Partnerships



“The commitment to rapid permitting, availability of land, logistics and the ecosystem around us were defining points in making that decision.”

David Ricks
 Chair & CEO
 Eli Lilly and Company

'Dream Team'

Landing Lilly required precision and partnership. LVEDC led a coordinated, cross-sector effort to meet Lilly's infrastructure, utility, and workforce needs to ensure the project can be completed on time.

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro • PA Dept. of Community & Economic Development
 PA Office of Transformation & Opportunity • LVEDC • Jaindl Land Development
 Lehigh Carbon Community College • Upper Macungie Township
 PPL Electric Utilities • Lehigh County Authority • UGI Utilities
 Parkland School District • Lehigh County • The Pidcock Company
 Biggins Lacy Shapiro & Co. • CBRE

Meaningful Careers

From labs to the production floor, Lilly's 850 jobs will reflect a broad range of talent and innovation.

Engineers
 Lab technicians
 Operations personnel
 Scientists



From Strategy to Signature Win

In 2024, Gov. Josh Shapiro chose the Lehigh Valley to unveil Pennsylvania's new economic development strategy, citing the region's partnership-driven approach as a model for the state. Nearly two years to the day, he returned to the Lehigh Valley to announce Lilly's project as the largest life sciences investment in state history. Key state support included:

\$100 Million
 in grants and tax credits

**Fast-tracked
 Permitting**



#1 Mid-Sized Market for Economic Growth



The Lehigh Valley consistently ranks among the Northeast's most competitive markets and among the top-performing mid-sized regions nationwide. Site Selection Magazine, a leading authority in corporate and industrial real estate, named **Lehigh Valley the #1 mid-sized market in the U.S.** for landing the most economic development projects in 2025.

Top Five Mid-Sized Regions

1	Lehigh Valley, PA
2	Des Moines, IA
3	Wichita, KS
4T	Dayton, OH
4T	Lexington, KY

Top Five Northeast Regions

1	New York City, NY
2	Boston, MA
3	Philadelphia, PA
4	Pittsburgh, PA
5	Lehigh Valley, PA





Stronger Economy. Stronger Community.

Lehigh Valley's momentum continues, with a growing population fueling the growth of a diverse, balanced economy that provides opportunities for those who live here. The regional Gross Domestic Product – the total market value of the goods and services produced here – reached a record \$57.3 billion. Employment reached a new high, and median household income continues to outpace inflation, growing by \$17,000 in five years and outpacing the state and the nation.



**Data partially suppressed by U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. GDP data comes from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis. The data measures the private sector output in 2024, the most recent year for which the data is available. The metro region includes Lehigh, Northampton, Carbon, and Warren (N.J.) counties.*

Top Contributors to Lehigh Valley \$57.3B GDP

- Manufacturing **\$8.9B**
- Health Care & Social Assistance **\$7.9B**
- Professional & Business Services **\$7.4B**
- Finance, Insurance & Real Estate **\$6.8B***
- Retail Trade **\$3.9B**
- Transportation & Logistics **\$3.4B**
- Information **\$2.6B***

Lehigh Valley Demographic Snapshot

Total Population

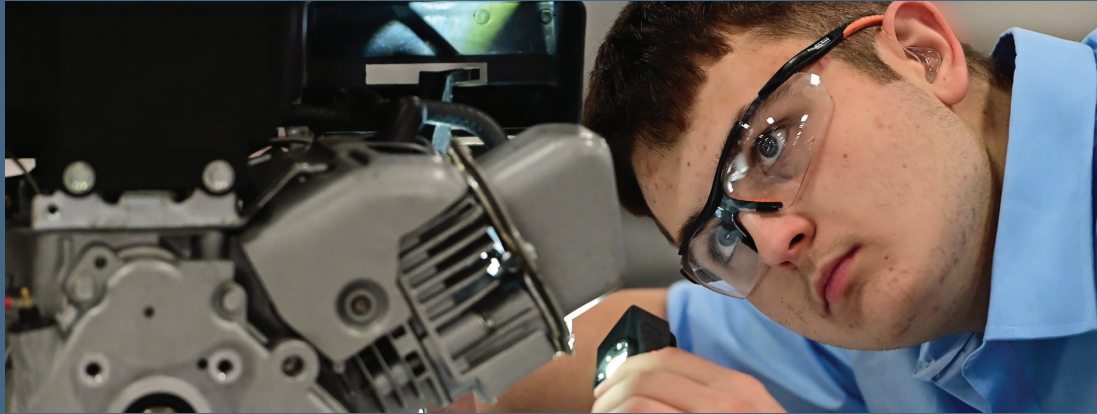
 708,644

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates, 2024

Population Change (2020-2024)

 21,341

Lehigh Valley population growth since 2020 is entirely a result of people moving here from other places.



Since 2020, Lehigh Valley has added more than 8,800 residents aged 18-34, placing Lehigh & Northampton counties in the top 10% of U.S. counties for growth.

Labor Force

360,000

Unemployment Rate

4.3%

Source: Pennsylvania Center for Workforce Information & Analysis, September 2025, seasonally adjusted

Commuting Patterns

114,957
Inbound
Commuters

201,093
Live & Work
in Lehigh Valley

109,122
Outbound
Commuters

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies, 2023 Inflow/Outflow Analysis for primary jobs

Prosperity

Median
Household Income
\$84,260

Poverty
Level
10.3%

Average
Hourly Wage
\$29.93

Sources: American Community Survey, 2024 5-year estimates (Estimates are weighted averages from Lehigh and Northampton counties); Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, 2024.

Lehigh Valley:

Median household income above state and national levels

Poverty rate below state and national levels

Leading Employment Sectors

Health Care and Social Assistance	20.6%
Manufacturing	10.8%
Transportation and Logistics	10.6%
Retail Trade	9.2%
Educational Services	7.8%
Accommodation and Food Services	7.4%
Administrative and Support Services	6%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	4.6%
Construction	4%
Other Services	4%

Source: Chmura Economics JobsEQ, 2025 Q3

A Strategy to Compete

LVEDC’s new strategic plan for 2025–2027 calls for sharper recruitment of companies in high-value industries; the reuse of former industrial sites; and stronger regional coalitions to build the talent and visibility the Lehigh Valley needs to compete in tomorrow’s economy. LVEDC also intends to broaden its role as an important source of economic data and to elevate the “Made in Lehigh Valley” brand. LVEDC engaged the services of Garner Economics, LLC, of Atlanta, a nationally recognized site selector and economic development consultant, to conduct a review of the region and recommend strategies.

Target Sectors

- Life sciences, pharmaceuticals, and biomedical
- Advanced manufacturing, technology, and production
- Professional and creative services
- Food and beverage processing

Talent

- Marketing for talent growth
- Expanding education and employer coalitions
- Understanding skills gaps
- Linking students to employers



“You haven’t relied on others to shape your destiny. You stepped up and made a difference.”

Jay Garner
President & Founder
Garner Economics



LVEDC marked its 30th anniversary in 2025, drawing a record crowd of more than 800 to the Annual Meeting. The milestone celebration marked the region’s economic transformation from a market built on heavy industry to a diversified, growing economy retooled to compete in the 21st century.

Population
Growth
Since 1995:
28%

Job
Growth
Since 1995:
37%



Made Here. Known Everywhere.

World-class products are made in Lehigh Valley and are used every day around the world. They shape experiences, traditions, and culture. This is quality of place, made meaningful through what we create.



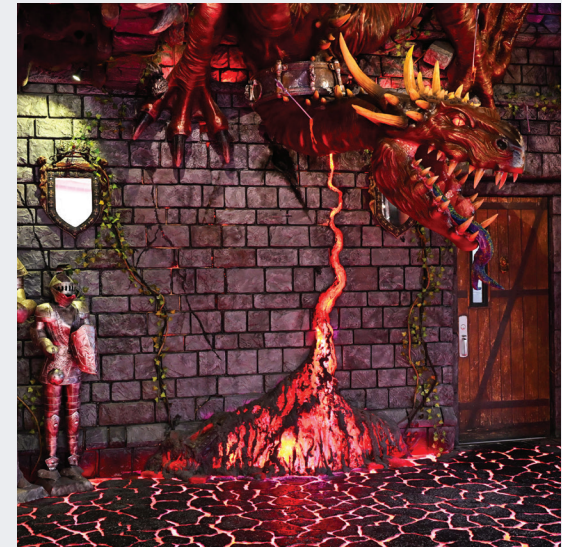
LV Made, Paris Played

There's a piece of the Lehigh Valley in the Grande Dame of Paris. An electric organ made by Allen Organ will be featured at Notre Dame over the next two years while its Choir Organ is restored following the 2019 fire at the cathedral. Allen Organ, whose founder invented the first fully electric organ, has operated in the Lehigh Valley for 75 years.



A Sweet Blessing from Lehigh Valley

Peeps® went viral when Pope Leo XIV's brother revealed the marshmallow treat was a favorite of the new American-born pontiff. Just Born Quality Confections of Bethlehem makes Peeps, Mike and Ike®, Hot Tamales®, and other treats. The company has been in the Lehigh Valley since 1932 and has been making Peeps, a staple of Easter baskets, since 1953.



Where Monsters Are Made

The cultural phenomenon "Stranger Things" dropped its final season in 2025, bringing fresh global attention to a Lehigh Valley brand. Smooth-On, Inc. of Macungie produces the materials used to create movie monsters, haunted attractions, and special effects. From "Stranger Things" to the James Bond franchise, artists rely on Smooth-On to bring other worlds to life.

Made in Lehigh Valley

LVEDC launched a “Made in Lehigh Valley” billboard campaign, connecting world-class products to the place they are made. Repetition builds recognition. Recognition builds pride. Together, they strengthen the Lehigh Valley’s identity as a place defined by quality.



In celebration of LVEDC’s 30th anniversary, Crayola produced special edition crayons with the Made in Lehigh Valley logo.



Use the Logo
Scan the QR code to learn more about how you can use the Made in Lehigh Valley logo.



Making Products & Making Places



Five world-renowned brands that proudly call the Lehigh Valley home were celebrated at LVEDC's Fall Signature Event, "Lehigh Valley: Making Products & Making Places," for strengthening the region's reputation and community ties.

Leaders from Crayola, Lutron Electronics, Mack Defense, Martin Guitar, and Olympus Corporation of the Americas shared how their companies landed in the Lehigh Valley – in some cases more than a century ago – why they've stayed, and how they are innovating for future success.

The event drew a record turnout of about 450 people to Archer Music Hall in Allentown, to experience the Lehigh Valley's newest entertainment venue developed by City Center Group that is among the attractions driving the downtown revival of Pennsylvania's third-largest city.

Following the event, the audience networked around product displays about the featured companies and enjoyed live entertainment that included a musician playing a Martin Guitar and a caricature artist using Crayola products.

Lehigh Valley Trivia

Which colorful children's product is made in the Easton area? Why is the bulldog the symbol of Mack Trucks? Which legendary musician plays a Martin Guitar?

LVEDC debuted *Lehigh Valley Trivia* at the Fall Signature Event to showcase the iconic brands that anchor our regional economy. Guests tested their knowledge on their smartphones as five-time Emmy winner, Grover Silcox, led the fast-paced game, celebrating the brands that put Lehigh Valley on the map.



Why Iconic Global Brands Call Lehigh Valley Home

Crayola

Began production in the Easton area in 1903, to be close to supplies of slate and limestone to make chalkboards and pencils.



"We have great people, a wonderful talent pipeline from local schools, and an outstanding supply chain capability here."

Pete Ruggiero

President & CEO, Crayola

Mack Trucks & Mack Defense

Moved from New York to Allentown in 1905, at the urging of a Mack brother who owned a silk mill there. Mack Defense formed in 2011.



"The region provides everything we need to run our business."

David Hartzell Sr.

President & CEO, Mack Defense

Olympus Corp. of the Americas

Moved its corporate headquarters to Upper Saucon in 2006, drawn by Lehigh Valley's market location and strong quality of life.



"The Lehigh Valley is in a location that makes it easy for our customers to come to us."

Richard Reynolds

President, Olympus Corp. of the Americas

Lutron Electronics

Invented dimmer lights in New York, moved in 1960s to the Lehigh Valley, home of co-founder's family.



"You've got great school districts, top ranked colleges, universities, technical schools, innovative health care, arts and culture, outdoor recreation."

Brian Donlon

Vice President, General Manager of Sales Operations, Lutron Electronics

C.F. Martin & Co.

German immigrant C.F. Martin moved his company to the Nazareth area, a hub of German culture, in 1839.



"What makes the Lehigh Valley location attractive for any business is there's an incredible talent pool. There is good infrastructure that allows business to happen."

Thomas Ripsam

President & CEO, C.F. Martin & Co.



Watch

Live and Work in Lehigh Valley



They Came for Opportunity. They Found Home.

This year, the Lehigh Valley was recognized as the best of the best, earning national attention across a range of respected “top” lists. From one of America’s hottest ZIP codes and a Top 100 Best Places to Live to No. 1 rankings for Main Street and historic hospitality, these honors highlight the region’s winning mix of vibrant communities, standout destinations, and quality of life. Together, they reinforce the Lehigh Valley’s growing reputation as a place where people want to live, work, visit, and invest.

Best of the Best

America’s Hottest ZIP Codes

18104, Lehigh County
Realtor.com

Best Historic Hotel

Historic Hotel Bethlehem No. 1
USA Today

Best Small Airport

Lehigh Valley International Airport No. 2
Newsweek

Top 100 Best Places to Live

Bethlehem made the list for the fifth consecutive year
Livability.com

Best Main Street

Bethlehem No. 1
USA Today

Best Public Market

Easton Public Market No. 10
USA Today

“There’s a lot of supportive people here. There’s a lot of people who want to collaborate and dream with you and make this a better place to live, work, grow.”

Katie Guynn

*Director of Employer Engagement
Lehigh University*



Making Places Where People Want to Live

The Lehigh Valley's strong economy depends on more than career opportunities. It also delivers on what people value most in life. New investments in housing, health care, community spaces, and infrastructure make the community a vibrant place where people want to live.

Diverse Housing Market



Lehigh and Northampton counties are among the Top 10 in Pennsylvania for the number of new housing units in the past decade. The diverse housing market caters to all, with a mix of urban and rural, old and new, and large and small. The Marquis in Easton, among the state's fastest-growing cities, opened in 2025 with 264 apartments.

Allentown's Vibrant Hub



The live-work-play Downtown West neighborhood in Allentown was honored by the Urban Land Institute for "revitalizing a previously underutilized area into a vibrant hub." A vision of City Center Group, the neighborhood includes housing, offices, retail, restaurants, community spaces and murals, Archer Music Hall, and the Moxy hotel.

Sparking Imagination & Innovation



Construction is underway on the ArtsQuest Creative Factory, an 80,000-square-foot, five-story hub of visual arts, education, and creativity on Bethlehem's Southside. It will offer a recording studio, media lab, maker space, dedicated studios for jewelry-making, mosaics, ceramics, hot glass, and expanded collaborative spaces for volunteers, artists, teachers, and visitors.

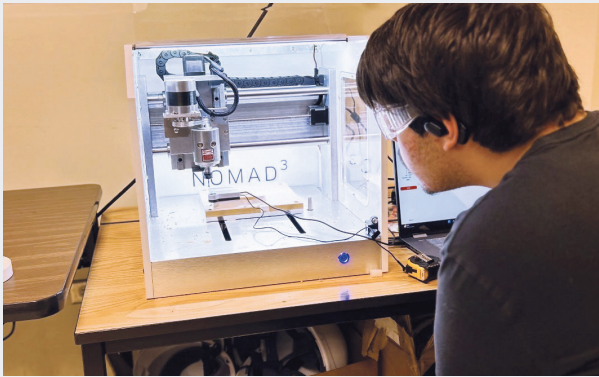


"Five-Star Resort" for Music Production

One of the Lehigh Valley's newest creative spaces, The Foundry Recording Studio in Bethlehem encourages connections, education, and imagination, with the goal of elevating the region's reputation for music production.

Preparing Local Talent for Lehigh Valley Opportunities

Lehigh Valley's award-winning strategies to build a pipeline of talent for employers are growing with new and expanded opportunities through apprenticeships. Those who are just entering the workforce, and those who are pivoting in new directions, receive on-the-job training, earning while they learn the skills they need to succeed.



Pre-Apprenticeships on the Rise

Bethlehem Area School District debuted Lehigh Valley's first district-led high school pre-apprenticeship program. Supported by a state schools-to-work grant, the program introduces students to what it takes to work in manufacturing, a leading driver of the regional economy.

The district partners with employers from the Industrial Training and Education Consortium of the Lehigh Valley (iTEC) and others, along with Northampton Community College and the Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School. Students who complete the program will be prepared to join a formal apprenticeship program, continue their coursework with NCC, or pursue a career in another facet of the industry.

Other Lehigh Valley school districts are developing pre-apprenticeship programs to grow the region's manufacturing pipeline.



iTEC Grows for Manufacturers

iTEC - a partnership of industry, education, government, and community organizations that promotes careers in advanced manufacturing - got a boost to expand several apprenticeship offerings.

A state grant of nearly \$200,000 will help fund the training and support of apprentices participating in the mechatronics, industrial manufacturing technician, laboratory tester, quality control inspector, and numerical control machinist operator programs.

Impact of Apprenticeships

"I never wanted to touch a torch before, but now I can weld, and I'm still learning every day."

Codjo Ahokey
iTEC apprentice

"It's made me both a better person and a better worker."

Kiera Barnhart
iTEC apprentice

"I'm set in my job and I'm going to have a career that's going to provide for my family, money for a house."

Melody Rodriguez
Apprentice



Linking Education with Work

7th Annual Lehigh Valley Internship Summit

More than 150 employers, educators, and workforce leaders gathered to explore ways to strengthen internship programs and grow the Lehigh Valley's future talent pipeline. The summit, a project of LVEDC's award-winning Education and Talent Supply Council, highlighted several key lessons:



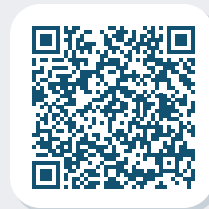
- **Purpose over busy work.** Keynote speaker Carly Chase of Columbia Business School and U.S. News & World Report said interns value networking, shadowing, coaching, and a clear path to employment; only 15% prefer fully remote roles.
- **AI sets candidates apart.** Amit Parmar, CEO of Cliquify, noted that interns who can learn and apply AI as a guided tool increasingly stand out to employers.
- **Structure strengthens programs.** Christina Andersen of Gross McGinley, LLP emphasized that strong onboarding, clear expectations, and mentorship improve outcomes and sustainability.
- **Internships build pipelines.** Sharon Castano of PPL Corp. described internships as a strategic way to identify future full-time hires.
- **Connection enhances experience.** Andrea Reger of St. Luke's University Health Network said interns benefit most when paired with professionals who offer meaningful career guidance.

"I think the best part of the Internship Summit is learning the best practices, the current state of what's going on in internships."

Dan Thomas
People & Culture Partner
Mack Trucks



Read
*Internship
Resource
Guide*



Introducing Students to Careers

LVEDC participated with state partners in a national program defining and articulating how to meaningfully engage middle school students in career exploration.

Pennsylvania is the top state for preparing middle school students for careers, according to the study, "Extending the Runway."

Making Manufacturing Cool

Students from 29 Lehigh Valley area middle schools participated in the annual What's So Cool About Manufacturing® program, created by Manufacturers Resource Center and supported by LVEDC. Students learn about careers in manufacturing by teaming up with companies to produce fun videos about what they make. A Lehigh Valley school has won the state competition for the past four years.

Investing in the Future

Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School is creating a second campus, to accommodate growth. It purchased the former Factory LLC building in Bethlehem, where it will create learning spaces for culinary arts, electronics technology, health care, sports medicine, welding, and other programs.

Lighting Up Lehigh Valley's Entertainment Sector



For music lovers, Archer Music Hall delivers an attraction that the Lehigh Valley's largest downtown had been missing: a modern, intimate concert venue that can draw more fans than can fit in a bar but far fewer than an arena.

For the Lehigh Valley, Archer's debut in Allentown in early 2025 became the latest milestone in the city's revival and a symbol of how art, culture, and shared experiences are reinventing the Lehigh Valley and fueling its balanced, \$57.3 billion economy.

Live entertainment options are growing nationwide and have become an economic asset for regions seeking to attract the creative class, a key driver of the 21st century economy. In the Lehigh Valley, this movement is more pronounced.

"The arts and entertainment sector has become one of the Lehigh Valley's most powerful engines for economic growth and quality of life."

Kassie Hilgert
President & CEO
ArtsQuest

Wind Creek Event Center



Ranked as No. 2 highest-grossing club-sized venue in the world.

Musikfest



Drew a record attendance of 1.45 million. Visitors came from 49 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C., and from 7 countries.

Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom



Halloween Haunt ranked as the nation's No. 7 Best Theme Park Halloween Event, and Iron Menace as the No. 4 Best New Theme Park Attraction.

Lehigh Valley IronPigs



For the third consecutive year, led all Minor League Baseball in total attendance. Also led in average attendance per game.



Lehigh Valley employment in the arts, spectator sports, and related industries grew about 2.5 times the national rate from 2001 to 2025.



Movers & Makers

The Lehigh Valley's economy has long been powered by its movers and makers – the manufacturers and distributors who drive growth, innovation, and opportunity across the region.

That legacy was cemented in 2025 as producers across several sectors, from food and beverage to medical devices, expanded their operations and new manufacturers joined the market.

At nearly 74,000 workers, more people now work in making and moving goods than in any other sector of the region's diverse economy.

Powering Production

The Lehigh Valley added industrial jobs at

3X

the rate as
the nation.

Chmura Economics JobsEQ, 2010–2025

2025 Economic Development Projects

Lehigh Valley's ranking as the No. 1 mid-sized market for economic development in 2025 was driven by investment from a diversity of companies - from global brands to family-owned legacies - in industries ranging from life sciences to food and beverage to advanced manufacturing.



B | BRAUN
SHARING EXPERTISE

Investment:
\$20M

New Jobs:
200

B. Braun hosted Gov. Josh Shapiro to announce the company's second major expansion in three years, investing \$20 million to modernize and increase production capacity at its medical device manufacturing facility in Hanover Township, Lehigh County. B. Braun, based in Germany with its U.S. headquarters in Bethlehem, will support the expansion by creating a new workforce training center to centralize training and skills development for new and existing employees. The state is providing \$1.5 million for the training center.

"We are growing in the Lehigh Valley and in Pennsylvania because we have a long history here and of finding skilled workers, high quality suppliers, training partners, and a business environment that enables us to compete and win in the marketplace."

Rob Albert
CEO
B. Braun of America, Inc.

Rexroth
Bosch Group

New logistics center in Bethlehem for German hydraulics producer



Investment: **\$20M**

"This building is a statement - we believe in the future here. We are preparing for growth."

Dr. Christina Franke
Executive Board Member for
Production & Quality Management


Bronkhorst
USA

Dutch producer of instruments for liquid and gas flow relocated U.S. headquarters to a larger location in Hanover Township, Northampton County, where it will begin assembly operations



"It's a really significant commitment to the U.S. market by Bronkhorst."

Todd Hannigan
General Manager

2025 Economic Development Projects



New manufacturing and packaging hub for Turkish candy maker that will serve as U.S. headquarters in Bethlehem Township and Lower Nazareth Township



Size: **90,000 SF**
New Jobs: **40**

"This location made perfect sense, both proximity to the ports and the workforce. We saw a big opportunity. All this made the Lehigh Valley a great location to make this investment."

Gokhan Kacmaz
Chief Financial Officer



New facility by Irish manufacturer for production of coffee roasting and extraction in Hanover Township, Northampton County



Size: **48,600 SF**
New Jobs: **61**

"Bethlehem is the right place to grow our coffee business and deepen our commitment to sustainable nutrition and local community development."

John Cahalane
President & CEO
Kerry North America



New manufacturing facility in Allen Township



Size: **122,000 SF**
New Jobs: **60**

"The Lehigh Valley shaped our identity and capabilities, and we are proud to be a part of its future."

Dennis Cassidy
CEO



Expansion of takeout container manufacturing operations in Bethlehem



Size: **104,328 SF**
New Jobs: **20**

"Ecopax is committed to growing our sustainable manufacturing capabilities right here in the Lehigh Valley."

Peter Wong
Founder



New manufacturing facility for HVAC filters in Bethlehem Township

Size: **61,600 SF**

New Jobs: **Up to 120**

"Lehigh Valley Industrial Park's central location and outstanding logistics infrastructure make it an ideal base for manufacturing and distribution as we continue to scale our operations."

Rick Hoskins
CEO



Expanded with new production facility for battery storage systems in Bethlehem Township

Size: **50,000 SF**

New Jobs: **50+**

"The area offers a diverse and highly skilled talent pool, and its location enables us to efficiently support customers nationwide. When we considered expanding, choosing another Valley location was an obvious choice."

John Daly
CEO



New office for liquefied natural gas division acquired from Air Products in Upper Macungie Township

Size: **25,000 SF**

Jobs Retained: **100**

"Honeywell's investment in the Lehigh Valley reflects the region's deep engineering talent, strong academic pipeline, and our shared commitment to developing innovative technology solutions that help drive global energy security."

John Palamara
Vice President & General Manager
Honeywell's LNG Business

Lehigh Valley Economic Development Projects

Company Name	Municipality	Product	New or Expansion	Stage	Investment (\$ Million)	Sq Ft (x1,000)	Jobs Created
1 Action Industries	Palmer Twp.	Distributor of Garage Doors	New	Completed		48	
2 Amazon	Bethlehem Twp.	E-commerce Retailer	New	Completed		526	
3 B. Braun Medical, Inc.	Hanover Twp. (Lehigh)	Medical Equipment Manufacturing	Expansion	Under Construction	20		200
4 Bazzini	Hanover Twp. (Northampton)	Snack Food Manufacturing	New	Completed		150	
5 BlueTriton Brands, Inc.	Hanover Twp. (Lehigh)	Beverage Manufacturing	New	Completed		24	
6 Bosch Rexroth	Bethlehem	Pump Manufacturing	Expansion	Completed		50	
7 Bronkhorst USA	Hanover Twp. (Northampton)	Control Instrument Manufacturing	New	Completed		12	
8 C & K Plastics, Inc.	Forks Twp.	Plastic Product Manufacturing	New	Completed	13	126	
9 Coherent	Palmer Twp.	Semiconductor and Related Device Manufacturing	Expansion	Announced	79		360
10 Cold Chain Technologies	Bethlehem	Refrigerated Logistics and Storage	New	Completed		98	
11 Duggan & Marcon, Inc.	Bethlehem	Construction	New	Completed		25	
12 DXP Enterprises	Bethlehem	Industrial Equipment Supplier	New	Completed		28	
13 Ecopax	Bethlehem	Packaging Solutions Manufacturing	Expansion	Under Construction		104	20
14 Eli Lilly and Company	Upper Macungie Twp.	Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	New	Announced	3,500	925	850
15 Epsilon, LLC	Weisenberg Twp.	Consulting and Business Services	New	Completed		22	
16 Exclusive Transportation for Industry, Inc.	Allentown	General Freight Trucking	New	Completed	6	79	
17 Filter King	Bethlehem Twp.	HVAC Filter Manufacturing	New	Completed		62	120
18 FragilePAK	Upper Macungie Twp.	Shipping and Delivery Solutions	New	Completed		34	
19 Fuller Technologies	Allen Twp.	Industrial Machine Manufacturing	Expansion	Completed		122	60
20 Genus LifeSciences	Allentown	Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	New	Completed		27	
21 Goodness Gardens	Lower Milford Twp.	Grocery and Related Products Merchant Wholesaler	New	Completed	3		
22 Granola Factory	Bethlehem	Snack Food Manufacturing	New	Completed		22	
23 Honeywell	Upper Macungie Twp.	Liquefied Natural Gas Producer	New	Completed		25	
24 Hormann Group North America, Inc.	Allentown	Industrial and Residential Door Manufacturing	New	Completed		35	
25 Kerry Group	Hanover Twp. (Northampton)	Beverage Manufacturing	New	Completed		48	61

*For privacy reasons, some companies declined to provide data for their development project. These job figures are projections.

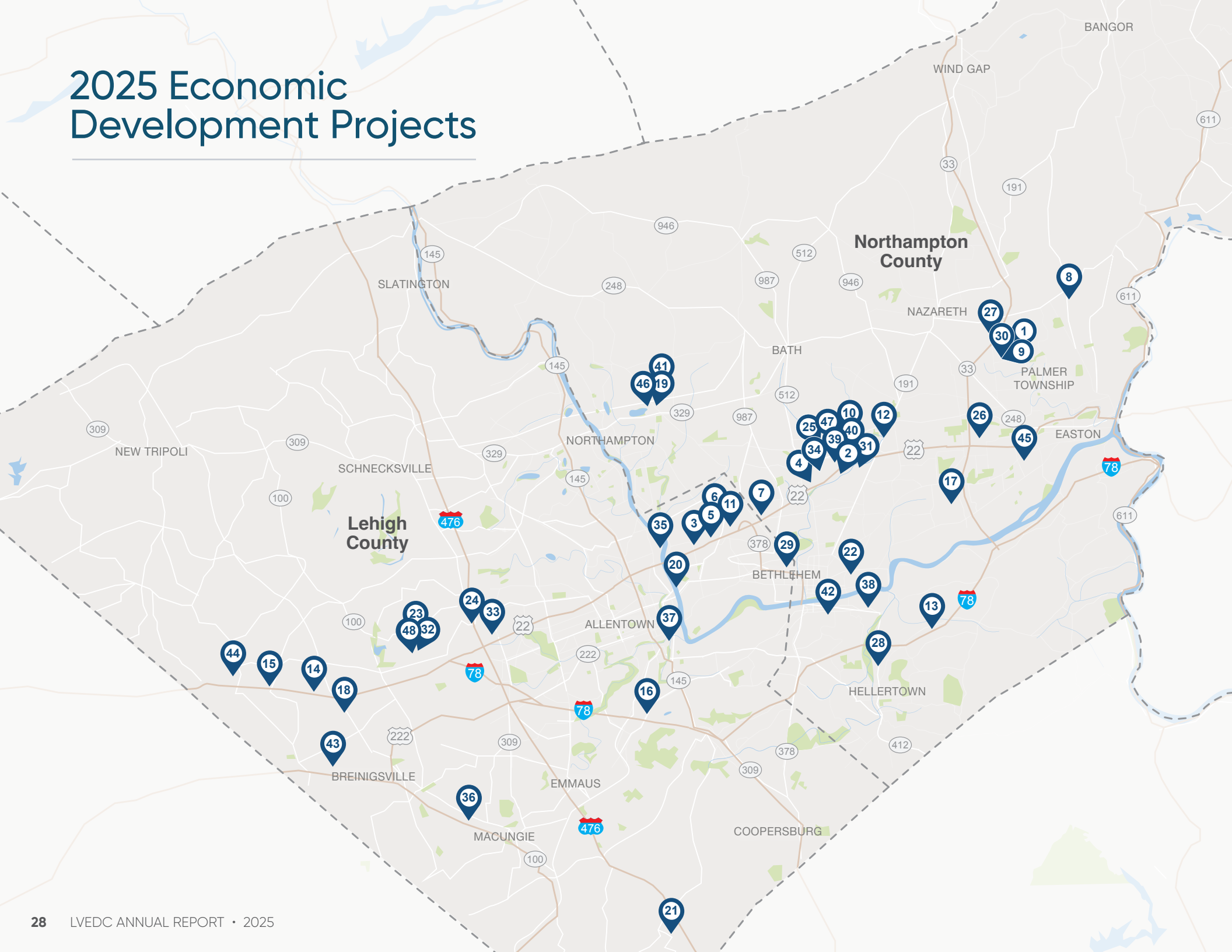
Lehigh Valley Economic Development Projects

Company Name	Municipality	Product	New or Expansion	Stage	Investment (\$ Million)	Sq Ft (x1,000)	Jobs Created
26 Kervan USA	Bethlehem Twp./Lower Nazareth Twp.	Snack Food Manufacturing	New	Completed	20	90	40
27 Langham Logistics	Palmer Twp.	Pharmaceuticals Supply Chain Provider	New	Completed		224	
28 LVHN - Hellertown Hospital & Health Center	Hellertown	Health Care	New	Under Construction	35	90	180
29 LVHN - Women's Health Center, Health Center at Tower Place	Bethlehem	Health Care	New	Completed	47	100	280
30 MyDepot	Palmer Twp.	Furniture Merchant Wholesalers	New	Completed		141	
31 Myers Emergency & Power Systems	Bethlehem Twp.	Battery Storage System Manufacturing	New	Completed		50	50
32 Parts ASAP	Allentown	Motor Vehicle Supplies Wholesaler	New	Completed		100	
33 Peli BioThermal	South Whitehall Twp.	Pharmaceuticals Supply Chain Provider	New	Completed		90	
34 Penn Pak Solutions, Inc.	Bethlehem	Food Manufacturing	New	Completed		53	
35 Pennsylvania Express (BJM TRUCKING INC)	Whitehall Twp.	General Freight Trucking	New	Completed		40	
36 Pratt Industries, Inc.	Alburtis	Corrugated Box Manufacturing	New	Completed		74	
37 Republic Services	Allentown	Plastic Materials Recovery and Manufacturing	New	Completed		115	
38 Safran Landing Systems Wheel & Braking Services, LLC	Bethlehem	Industrial Machinery, Equipment Repair and Maintenance	New	Completed		43	
39 Savers Value Village	Bethlehem	Used Merchandise Retailer	New	Completed		81	
40 Shift4	Bethlehem	Payment Processing Provider	New	Completed		65	
41 Sonepar USA	Allen Twp.	General Freight Trucking	New	Completed		298	
42 St. Luke's Community Health Services	Bethlehem	Health Care	New	Announced		9	
43 TierPoint	Upper Macungie Twp.	Data Centers	Expansion	Completed	175	617	
44 Unicorn Tire	Weisenberg Twp.	Commercial Tire Wholesaler	New	Completed		83	
45 United Pipe and Steel	Palmer Twp.	Industrial Machinery and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers	Expansion	Completed		85	
46 Warehousing Specialists	Allen Twp.	General Warehousing and Storage	New	Completed		167	
47 White Cap	Bethlehem	Construction Material Merchant Wholesalers	New	Completed		484	
48 Yourway	Upper Macungie Twp.	Pharmaceuticals Supply Chain Provider	Expansion	Under Construction		85	
Total					3,898	5,776	2,221

Office and industrial projects on this list were limited to those exceeding 5,000 square feet.

*For privacy reasons, some companies declined to provide data for their development project. These job figures are projections.

2025 Economic Development Projects



Empowering Entrepreneurs to Build and Grow



Entrepreneurs are key drivers of Lehigh Valley's growing economy, bringing new products and services to market and creating jobs. A network of support organizations equips business startups with financing, training, mentorship, networking opportunities, and other resources. The Entrepreneurship Council of the Lehigh Valley, led by LVEDC, brings that network together to collaborate on how to maximize that support and address emerging needs.

"There's so many different avenues, just a huge network of support. I was surprised when I came here, just the amount of referrals I kept getting. And I learned so fast just by being introduced to more and more people, more and more resources."

Paul Hodges
CEO & Co-founder
Soltech Solutions



Lehigh Valley Entrepreneur Summit

The First Annual Lehigh Valley Entrepreneur Summit equipped and inspired entrepreneurs with workshops and other learning opportunities. The Oct. 21 event at Ben Franklin TechVentures was the vision of veteran entrepreneur Catherine Bailey of SCORE Lehigh Valley with support from members of the Entrepreneurship Council of the Lehigh Valley.

"Attending the Entrepreneurship Summit was inspiring and energizing. Connecting with Lehigh University professionals, SCORE mentors, and local business owners gave me new ideas and confidence."

Eli Shober
Owner
RE3D Studio

OraSure Technologies, Inc. From Startup to Global Brand



OraSure Technologies, Inc. is a homegrown success story. Launched at the Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Northeastern Pennsylvania incubator, OTI has become a global leader in making diagnostic tests, gaining industry attention for producing the first rapid, at-home HIV test. OTI is celebrating 25 years of being a publicly traded company.

Sign up for LVstartup
LVEDC's monthly e-newsletter for entrepreneurs and small businesses.



Startup Staying Power

#3

Pennsylvania ranks third in the nation for the percentage of new businesses that make it five years.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, March 2019-March 2024.

Engaging Locally. Competing Globally.

A healthy economy begins with engagement. LVEDC connects local businesses, global partners, educators, and policymakers. Each conversation builds understanding and connection, strengthening Lehigh Valley's ability to compete.

Building Business Connections



Meet the Buyers Expo

What: Business matchmaking event connected small and mid-sized companies with major corporate, institutional, and government buyers.

Why: Builds relationships, strengthens local supply chains, and keeps business growth rooted in the Lehigh Valley.

Partners: Lehigh University's Small Business Development Center; Northampton County Dept. of Community & Economic Development; Manufacturers Resource Center; Northampton Community College; EBC Printing; Lehigh County Dept. of Community & Economic Development; viaMedia; Fun-Nominal Events & Marketing; Bethlehem Economic Development Corp.; Members 1st Federal Credit Union; LVEDC

Welcoming Global Partners



Bringing the World to Pennsylvania

What: Introduced global trade representatives to growth opportunities in the Lehigh Valley and connected them with local businesses.

Why: Positions Lehigh Valley as a competitive destination for international business; creates global opportunities for businesses based here.

Partners: BusinessPA; Lehigh University's Small Business Development Center; LVEDC

Engaging Policymakers



LVEDC Legislative Briefing

What: Convened federal and state legislators representing the Lehigh Valley.

Why: Informs lawmakers about economic data and trends and encourages discussion to address challenges.

Partners: Federal and state legislators and their staffs; BusinessPA; LVEDC

Positioning PA as a Top State for Business Attraction



Office of Transformation & Opportunity Listening Tour

What: Economic development leaders learned how to tap resources of PA Office of Transformation & Opportunity.

Why: To brainstorm how the office can make a bigger impact and make PA one of the most business-friendly states.

Partners: Officials from Allentown and Bethlehem; Allentown Economic Development Corporation; Lehigh Valley Planning Commission; BusinessPA; PA Office of Transformation & Opportunity; LVEDC



Helping Business Grow and Succeed

"This investment enabled Lutron to maintain jobs in the Valley and for our main distribution center to continue to provide excellent service to international customers as well as domestic customers. Investments like this help to secure the Lehigh Valley as our hub for global distribution activity."

Mark Tervalon
Chief Operating Officer
Lutron Electronics Co., Inc.

Foreign Trade Zone #272

Participation in Lehigh Valley's Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ #272) grew in 2025 with the addition of Lutron Electronics Co., Inc.

LVEDC is the grantee for the FTZ, a designated area where imported goods can be stored, distributed, processed, and used without being subject to standard customs duties. Those advantages can increase the global competitiveness of businesses operating within a zone, particularly manufacturers.

Other participating companies in 2025 were: BMW of North America, LLC; Geodis Logistics, LLC; Grundfos Pumps Manufacturing Corp.; Piramal Critical Care; Primark; and Sharp Packaging Services, LLC.

Economic Development Financing

LVEDC helps businesses access grants, credit, and other funding resources through the Lehigh Valley Economic Investment Corporation (LVEIC), Lehigh and Northampton County Industrial Development Authorities, and Lehigh Valley Lending Network.

CryoConcepts, LP

Received a \$249,411 loan through LVEIC to help purchase machinery and equipment. The financing will support 24 new full-time jobs and the retention of 59 in Forks Township.

Tri-City Marble, LLC

Received a \$725,000 loan through LVEIC to assist with purchasing the Upper Macungie Township property where it operates. The financing will support two new full-time jobs and the retention of eight.

Lehigh Valley International Airport Hotel

Ground was broken on the first on-site hotel to accommodate record passenger traffic. LVEDC assisted in the project by providing administrative services and staffing to the Lehigh County Industrial Development Authority, which issued \$42 million in bonds.

Ask a Lehigh Valley Local



What are the schools like? What about health care? Where's the best place to take a hike or go out for a night on the town?

People considering a move to the Lehigh Valley often have big questions. Now, there's a direct way to get some expert advice straight from people who live here.

Ask a Lehigh Valley Local is an online portal, created through a partnership between LVEDC and the Lehigh Valley Inter-Regional Networking & Connecting Consortium (LINC), where prospective residents can submit questions and receive a response from LINC within two business days.



Ask your question.

So Many Peaks. All in One Valley.

LVEDC launched a national, multi-media campaign to attract high-value employers to strengthen and diversify the Lehigh Valley's growing economy. "So Many Peaks, All in One Valley" spotlights the region's strongest advantages:

1/3
U.S. population
within a
day's drive

1.8M
Workforce
within an
hour's drive

700+
Number of
manufacturers
in Lehigh Valley

Targeting site selectors and executives in life sciences, food and beverage production, and advanced manufacturing, the campaign is running across digital and paid social media channels, with ads on video streaming platforms and inside East Coast airports.



Watch
So Many Peaks



Busy Market Trending Up

While continuing to attract significant investment as the No. 1 mid-sized market in the nation in 2025, Lehigh Valley's industrial real estate market was mixed.

Vacancy rates rose amid decreased demand for new space. Nationwide, decision-makers rescaled operations and proceeded cautiously. As the year ended, though, construction was on the upswing, with about 1.5 million square feet of space underway. That's about twice as much as at the end of 2024. Construction of new office space at the end of the year, about 154,000 square feet, was also about twice as much as at the end of the previous year.

Communities along the Interstate 78/81 corridor, which includes Lehigh Valley, are attractive for growth, and vacant industrial space should fill faster than the rest of the U.S., a leading economist said during a real estate conference in Bethlehem.

"If you want to beef up the speed at which your goods are getting to consumers, Lehigh Valley is a great market to do that."

Adrian Ponsen
Senior Economist
Cushman & Wakefield

MARKET SUMMARY

INDUSTRIAL/FLEX 155 Million SF

Vacancy Q4 2025	9%
Average Asking Rent (NNN) in Q4 2025	\$9.20
Rent Change from Q4 2024	0.1%
Deliveries (SF) Q4 2025	54,700
Net Absorption Q4 2025	-1,272,195
SF Under Construction in Q4 2025	1,514,775

Source: CoStar. The Lehigh Valley is defined as Lehigh and Northampton counties.

RENT COMPARISON

Lehigh Valley	\$11.53
Northern New Jersey	\$18.43
Central New Jersey	\$16.88
Southeastern Pennsylvania	\$13.34

OFFICE 28.2 Million SF

Vacancy Q4 2025	7.3%
Average Asking Rent (NNN) in Q4 2025	\$15.97
Rent Change from Q4 2024	-1.1%
Deliveries (SF) Q4 2025	0
Net Absorption Q4 2025	-76,240
SF Under Construction in Q4 2025	154,362

Source: CBRE Q4, 2025. The industrial rates reflect the NNN asking price per square foot. The office rates are full-service rents per square foot. Note: Lehigh Valley is defined as Berks, Lehigh, and Northampton counties.

Lehigh Valley Industrial Real Estate Demand



2025 Commercial Real Estate Transactions

NOTABLE SALES

Address	Price	Buyer	Class
9999 Hamilton Blvd., Upper Macungie Twp.	\$175,000,000	TierPoint	Industrial
1235 Easton Rd., Bethlehem	\$30,000,000	J.B. Hunt	Industrial
1035 Mill Rd., Upper Macungie Twp.	\$17,500,000	Morgan Stanley & Co.	Industrial
610 Uhler Rd., Forks Twp.	\$12,350,000	C & K Plastics, Inc.	Industrial
925 N. Godfrey St., Allentown	\$7,900,000	Realterm US, Inc.	Industrial

NOTABLE LEASES

Property	SF	Tenant	Class
2460 Brodhead Rd., Bethlehem Twp.	526,260	Amazon	Industrial
700 Cesanek Rd., Allen Twp.	298,499	Sonepar USA	Industrial
4711 Hanoverville Rd., Lower Nazareth Twp.	288,576	Pattern	Industrial
1571 Van Buren Rd., Palmer Twp.	224,595	Langham Logistics	Industrial
2800 Liberty Dr., Allen Twp.	167,085	Warehousing Specialists	Industrial

Sources: Lehigh and Northampton County tax records, LVEDC Research, CoStar, published reports.



Millions of Eyes on the Lehigh Valley

The Lehigh Valley's economic gains and its desirable quality of life made headlines across the nation and around the world in 2025, with more than 200 articles appearing in local, national, and international publications.



The New York Times

Allentown was featured in The New York Times, with a lengthy profile of how the city is bursting with new housing, offices, and entertainment venues where "the economy is on fire."



Forbes

Highlights about the Lehigh Valley economy were featured by Forbes, MSN, Yahoo Finance, and The Associated Press.



Daily Mail

One of England's most-read newspapers, the Daily Mail, published an article about Allentown's affordability, schools, and attractions, noting the region has seen an uptick in new residents relocating from New York City.

DIE WELT

German business publication DIE WELT highlighted the Industrial Training and Education Consortium of the Lehigh Valley in an article about apprenticeships and workforce development programs.

Trade Journals



LVEDC Leadership Named Among Best in PA by City & State Pennsylvania



“Trailblazers in Economic & Workforce Development”

President & CEO Don Cunningham

“Fifty Over 50”

President & CEO Don Cunningham

Board Member Sal Panto Jr.,
Mayor of Easton

LVEDC Achieves Reaccreditation



INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL

In meeting IEDC’s comprehensive criteria for reaccreditation, LVEDC was recognized as “highly functioning” and “successful” in supporting talent strategies and business development.

LVEDC is one of only 93 economic development organizations to achieve accreditation, which involves a peer review measuring operations against industry standards for programming, financials, and community impact. LVEDC was first accredited in 2010.

Recognition That Reflects Leadership, Impact, and Results

Recognition of LVEDC’s work at the local, state, and national levels reflects the strength of our public-and private-sector partnerships to advance Lehigh Valley’s economy and create a vibrant community.

The International Economic Development Council, the world’s largest association in the field, bestowed LVEDC with three awards:



Lehigh Valley Commercial Real Estate Report: Gold
LVEDC Annual Report: Gold
Lehigh Valley Talent Strategies: Bronze

“Lehigh Valley’s Talent Strategies initiative shows deep, sustained collaboration with measurable outcomes, and demonstrates how data-driven tools and partnerships can drive real workforce progress.”

IEDC Judging Panelist

Spirit of Innovation Award

The National Museum of Industrial History presented LVEDC with its Spirit of Innovation Award during the Museum’s Annual Gala celebration.

“At the Museum, we champion the legacy and ingenuity of our region’s workers, innovators, and entrepreneurs to inspire and empower our young people to reach their full potential. We are thrilled to honor LVEDC in their 30th anniversary year for their long-standing commitment to fostering innovation and improving quality of life and economic vitality in our community.”

Andria Zaia
Museum President & CEO

Sharing Lehigh Valley's Expertise

As the Lehigh Valley continues to be recognized as a powerful success story, LVEDC leaders are increasingly sought out to share the strategies behind the region's transformation with insights that can strengthen and guide other communities.



FDI Leaders Network Forum

LVEDC President & CEO Don Cunningham was one of three American delegates invited to join economic development leaders and corporate executives from around the world at the FDI Leaders Network Forum in Vienna to discuss the global economy and international trade and investment. The Lehigh Valley was selected because it is a hub of manufacturing, a key sector impacted by global policy debate.

Maryland Economic Development Association

Cunningham was also invited to deliver a keynote address to the Maryland Economic Development Association. He explained what it takes to guide a community through transformation, offering an honest look at the leadership, partnerships, and vision behind Lehigh Valley's post-industrial economic revitalization.



Sharing Lehigh Valley's Award-Winning Talent Strategies

Karianne Gelinas, LVEDC's Vice President of Talent Strategies, shared insights about Lehigh Valley's award-winning talent strategies in a presentation to the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association, "Conquering the Talent Conundrum."

Gelinas was also invited to present at the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives annual conference in Philadelphia, which draws from more than 1,300 chambers nationwide. She spoke on how it is critical for leaders to identify their community's strengths and to look for opportunities to change the narrative, by inviting broad and diverse participation and by sharing accurate and compelling stories and data.



Analyzing Strengths in Food and Beverage Manufacturing

Kristin Cahayla-Hoffman, LVEDC's Vice President of Business Development & Attraction, published insights about the region's growing influence as a food and beverage manufacturing hub in an article for national manufacturing trade publication Industry Today.

In an article headlined "Why Food & Beverage Manufacturers Savor the Lehigh Valley," Cahayla-Hoffman analyzed why the Lehigh Valley has become home to global food and beverage brands such as Coca-Cola, Ocean Spray, Boston Beer Co., Nestle Purina, Freshpet, Bimbo Bakeries, Bakerly/Norac, and Just Born Quality Confections, maker of the iconic Peeps marshmallow candies.

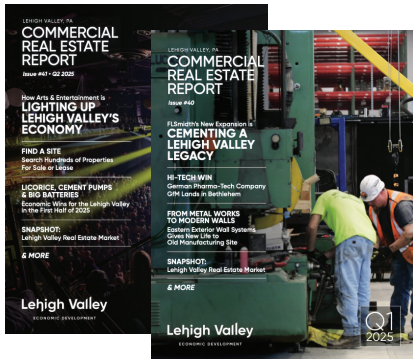
Transforming Facts Into Insights

Licorice. Cement pumps. Big batteries. LVEDC told the story of the companies expanding in the Lehigh Valley – manufacturers making products that power and supply nearly every corner of American life.

Through impactful analysis of labor data, LVEDC uncovered that manufacturing jobs here are growing at three times the national rate.

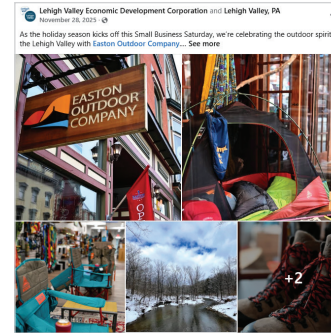
Coverage explored why Crayola first chose the Lehigh Valley (slate). Profiles highlighted people in the trades who are building their careers through the innovative iTEC apprenticeship program.

Across a broad portfolio of publications, newsletters, research reports, and digital platforms, LVEDC paired rigorous research and regional expertise to transform facts into insight.



Commercial Real Estate Report

Published quarterly, the report won a Gold Award from the International Economic Development Council for sharing data about the Lehigh Valley's industrial and office real estate markets and insightful articles about how the regional economy is innovating, diversifying, and expanding. (See page 33 for Q4 2025).



Social Media

LVEDC's social media platforms deliver digestible economic insights for business leaders while engaging a broader audience through stories that showcase the people, places, and lifestyles that define the Lehigh Valley.

Stay Connected

Lehigh Valley Insider

Weekly newsletter is LVEDC's primary tool for sharing news about Lehigh Valley's growing economy, exceptional quality of life, and insights into what is driving the region's success.

Talent Newsletter

Published quarterly to a diverse audience that includes leaders in education and workforce recruitment and development. Provides data, insight into trends, and inspiring stories about career paths.

LVstartup

Published monthly with resources to assist entrepreneurs and emerging businesses; news of their success; and events that present opportunities for networking and growth.



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e-newsletters

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Allentown Economic
Development Corporation

Dr. Nathan Urban
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Academic Affairs
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President & CEO

Jaime Marie Whalen
Executive Vice President &
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Kristin Cahayla-Hoffman
Vice President
Business Development & Attraction

Karianne Gelinis
Vice President
Talent Strategies

Nicole Radzievich Mertz
Vice President
Marketing, Communications & Research

Frank Alvarado
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Lori Betters
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Nadya Rachid
Program Manager

Diane Milia
Executive Assistant

Trisha Nardone
Talent Strategies Administrator

*Also, Chair, Bethlehem Economic Development Corp.

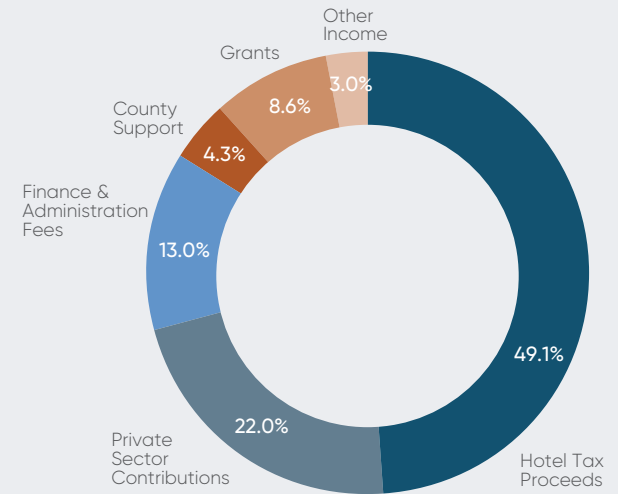
Staff listing as of March 2026



2025 Revenue & Expense

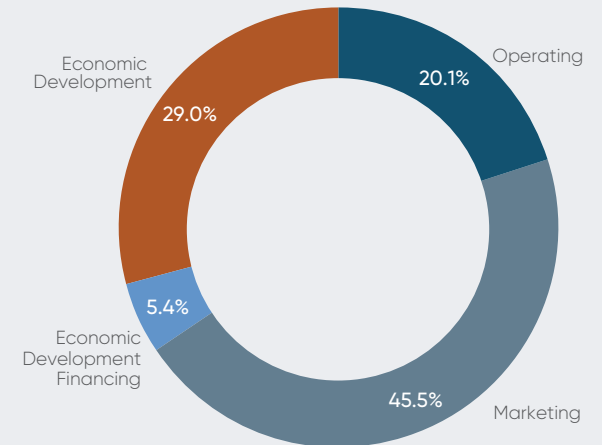
2025 Unaudited Revenue

Hotel Tax Proceeds	\$1,751,953
Private Sector Contributions	\$784,535
Finance & Administration Fees	\$464,222
County Support	\$155,000
Grants	\$306,665
Other Income	\$106,698
Total Revenue	\$3,569,073



2025 Unaudited Expense

Operating	\$694,029
Marketing	\$1,571,507
Economic Development Financing	\$186,960
Economic Development	\$1,001,292
Total Expense	\$3,453,788



Note: These figures do not include pass-through grant funds managed by LVEDC.



2025 Investors



Lehigh County



Northampton County



MCS Industries
AblePay Health
Adams Outdoor Advertising
Arcadia Land Company
ArtsQuest
Ashley Development Corp./
Greystone Capital, Inc.
BSI Corporate Benefits
CAI
Comcast
Community Bank
DeSales University
Embassy Bank for the Lehigh Valley
Feinberg Real Estate Advisors
Gross McGinley, LLP

Hospital Central Services
iDEAL Semiconductor
JM Uliana & Associates
KCI Technologies, Inc.
Lafayette College
Lee & Associates of Eastern Pennsylvania
Lehigh Carbon Community College
Lehigh Valley Industrial Park
Lehigh Valley Plastics
Martin Guitar
Members 1st Federal Credit Union
Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services
Moravian University
Muhlenberg College

Northampton Community College
OraSure Technologies, Inc.
Penn Community Bank
Penn State Lehigh Valley
QNB Bank
Quandel Construction Group
SEEDCOPA
Service Electric Cable TV and
Communications
Stevens & Lee
SVN | Imperial Realty
The Pidcock Company
Travaglini
Univest Financial Corporation

Life Sciences PA
Casella Waste
Management, Inc.
Albarell Electric
AQUALIS
Barry Isett & Associates
Blue Rock Construction
Buckno Lisicky & Company
Burkholder's Heating &
Air Conditioning
Cedar Crest College

Center for
Sustainable Innovation
CHA
Compass Point Family
Business Consulting
Da Vinci Science Center
Fedetz & Martin Associates
Gelcor Realty
Hanover Township-
Lehigh County
Hillwood Investment
Properties

Hotel Bethlehem
Joshi Hotel Group
Just Born
Kelly Automotive Group
Keystone Food Products
King, Spry, Herman,
Freund & Faul
Klunk & Millan Advertising
Kressler Wolff & Miller
Langan Engineering &
Environmental Services, Inc.

Lehigh County Authority
Lehigh Valley Rail
Management
Lesavoy Butz & Seitz, LLC
Manufacturers
Resource Center
Michael Baker International
Morris Black & Sons
Mowery
Nacci Printing
NAI Summit
Norac USA

O'Brien's Moving & Storage
PennTex Construction
RESPEC
RETTEW
RLB Accountants
SAGE Design-Build
Southland Industries
Terraform Engineering
The Witmer Group
Berger-Epstein Associates
Reimer Real Estate

Our Mission

The mission of the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation is to market the economic assets of the Lehigh Valley and to create partnerships to support the recruitment, growth and retention of employers and the creation of jobs for people of all skill and education levels.

Our Vision

Our vision is of a diverse Lehigh Valley economy that provides economic growth and opportunity for people of all skill and education levels and strengthens all our cities, boroughs, and townships.

Our Priorities

- Market the economic assets of the Lehigh Valley
- Recruit companies in targeted economic sectors
- Support the growth and retention of new and existing employers
- Promote and help to coordinate a skilled and prepared workforce
- Provide intelligence and data on the Lehigh Valley economy
- Expand public and private LVEDC investment and build partnerships for economic growth



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Phone: 610-266-6775

www.lehighvalley.org



LVEDC is an accredited economic development organization according to the EDC.
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