

New & Expanding Industry Announcements

2023 **RURAL** REPORT

MADE IN
ALABAMA

RURAL

New & Expanding Industry Announcements

2023 **RURAL** REPORT

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RURAL

GOVERNOR IVEY HIGHLIGHTS ECONOMIC PROGRESS IN ALABAMA'S RURAL COMMUNITIES



I am proud that we continue to make significant strides in economic development for Alabama's rural communities, which has long been a priority for my administration.

Having been raised in Wilcox County, I am acutely aware of the daily economic challenges faced by Alabama's rural areas. Yet, at the same time, I also recognize the growth potential these regions hold for businesses seeking to expand and reap long-lasting success.

My administration is committed to ensuring that Alabama's rural communities are equipped to compete for economic development projects that will bring enduring benefits.

We've made a lot of progress over the past four years, with economic development projects generating over \$5.8 billion in new capital investment and creating more than 7,100 jobs in Alabama's rural counties.

Last year's activity is detailed in the 2023 Rural Economic Development Report from the Alabama Department of Commerce, being released today.

The report's findings are very encouraging, with \$1.7 billion in new capital investment flowing into Alabama's rural counties during 2023, setting them up for the creation of 1,732 new jobs.

While I'm encouraged by the progress we're making, there is still much work to be done to broadly elevate prosperity across rural Alabama.

Going forward, I want to reaffirm my administration's dedication to continuing these efforts and making sure that Alabama's rural communities are not left behind in the state's economic growth. That dedication is reflected in the fact that rural priorities will be incorporated into the new economic development strategic plan that I have requested.

I'm committed to seeing a brighter economic landscape for all of Alabama.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kay Ivey
Governor of Alabama



2023 GROWTH PROJECTS SHOW RURAL ALABAMA CONTINUES TO GAIN MOMENTUM



I'm pleased to announce that economic development activity in the state's rural counties continued to demonstrate robust growth throughout 2023, providing a vital infusion of new investments and job opportunities.

As outlined in the newly released 2023 Rural Economic Development Report, Alabama's "targeted" counties attracted many high-impact new facility and expansion projects last year. These counties are designated for enhanced incentives under the Alabama Jobs Act, reflecting the state's commitment to fostering growth in rural areas.

The report highlights that in 2023, new capital investment in Alabama's targeted counties surpassed \$1.7 billion, paving the way for the creation of over 1,700 jobs. These results build upon the strong performance recorded in 2022, when \$1.8 billion in new investment and 1,900 job commitments were announced for the state's rural regions.

I believe the 2023 report clearly demonstrates that Alabama's rural communities are full of untapped potential, ready for growth-minded companies to seize the opportunity. These projects are not just numbers — they represent real opportunities that will uplift families and transform communities across our state.

Consider the impact of some of these projects:

- California-based Sierra Pacific announced plans to expand high-end window and door production with a manufacturing campus in Phenix City. The \$60 million project will create 300 jobs.
- South Korea-based Samkee Corp. invested \$128 million to build its first U.S. factory in Tuskegee, which will employ over 170 people at full operation while providing a massive economic boost for rural Macon County.

- Resicum International LLC, which provides flight training and maintenance support to government, commercial and general aviation customers, is opening an aviation training academy at Craig Field in Selma that will prepare the next generation of industry professionals from around the world. Resicum plans to invest \$1.3 million and create 70 jobs over a three-year period.

The Alabama Department of Commerce's Rural Development Manager, Brenda Tuck, and her dedicated team have been instrumental in facilitating these achievements. Their collaborative efforts with partners across the state have been crucial in positioning Alabama's rural areas for sustained growth.

Looking ahead, I believe we are building a solid foundation for success when it comes to our rural counties. In fact, ensuring the Alabama's rural communities are positioned for growth is a key element in the new economic development strategic plan that we're now creating.

That's important because, we all know that rural communities often face unique challenges when it comes to economic development. However, I am more confident than ever that the partnerships we have established and the strategies we have implemented are overcoming these challenges and setting the stage for future success.

The conditions for growth are ripe in rural Alabama, and we are committed to ensuring that these communities reap the rewards of new investments and good-paying jobs.

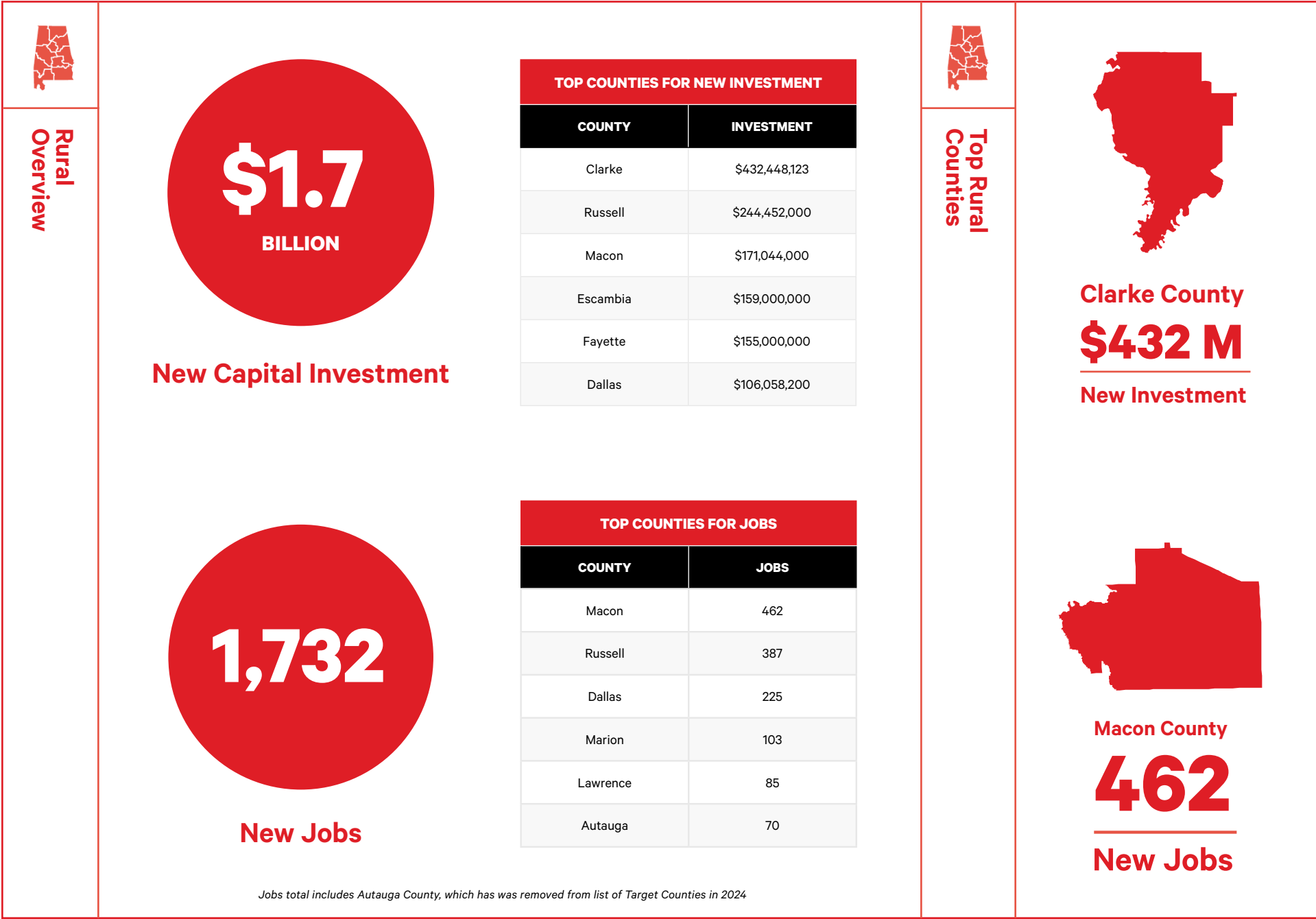
Ellen McNair
Secretary of Commerce

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RURAL OVERVIEW

BY THE NUMBERS

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



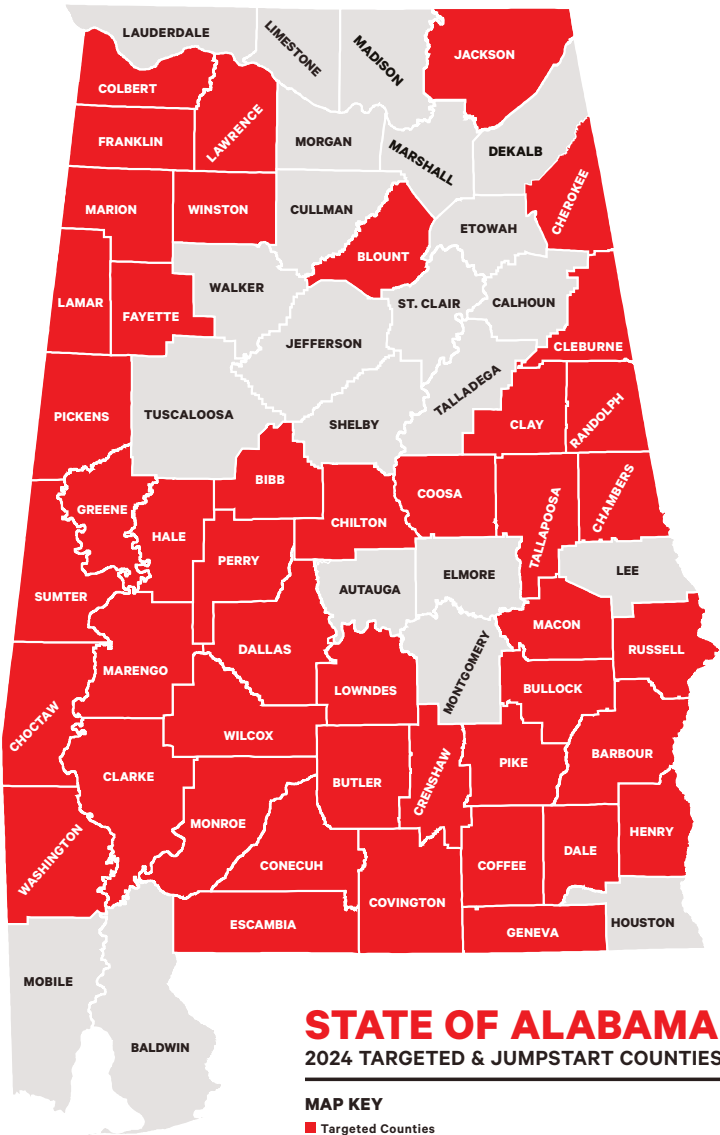
OVERVIEW

BY THE NUMBERS

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



2024 TARGETED
RURAL COUNTIES



OVERVIEW

COUNTY BREAKDOWN

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNTY	NEW			EXPANDING			TOTAL		
County	Projects	Jobs	Investment	Projects	Jobs	Investment	Projects	Jobs	Investment
Autauga	1	25	\$3,000,000	1	45	\$15,284,173	2	70	\$18,284,173
Barbour				1	0	\$5,500,000	1	0	\$5,500,000
Blount	2	60	\$23,635,000				2	60	\$23,635,000
Bullock				1	0	\$1,010,000	1	0	\$1,010,000
Butler				1	67	\$19,672,300	1	67	\$19,672,300
Chambers				4	23	\$102,093,003	4	23	\$102,093,003
Chilton				1	13	\$50,000,000	1	13	\$50,000,000
Clarke	1	20	\$250,000	2	9	\$432,198,123	3	29	\$432,448,123
Clay				3	37	\$10,150,000	3	37	\$10,150,000
Coffee	2	50	\$6,675,000				2	50	\$6,675,000
Crenshaw				4	0	\$48,831,956	4	0	\$48,831,956
Dale	1	25	\$100,000	1	0	\$2,500,000	2	25	\$2,600,000
Dallas	4	155	\$57,831,200	3	70	\$48,227,000	7	225	\$106,058,200
Escambia				1	0	\$159,000,000	1	0	\$159,000,000
Fayette	1	25	\$155,000,000				1	25	\$155,000,000
Jackson				1	35	\$5,020,000	1	35	\$5,020,000
Lawrence	1	85	\$54,200,000				1	85	\$54,200,000
Macon	2	462	\$171,044,000				2	462	\$171,044,000
Marengo				2	36	\$9,407,558	2	36	\$9,407,558
Marion	3	63	\$14,500,000	2	40	\$16,000,000	5	103	\$30,500,000
Monroe	1	0	\$75,000,000				1	0	\$75,000,000
Russell	3	387	\$244,452,000				3	387	\$244,452,000
	22	1,357	\$805,687,200	28	375	\$924,894,113	50	1,732	\$1,730,581,313

COUNTIES IN DEPTH

COUNTY SUMMARY

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New/Expanding	Company	City	NAICS	Business Activity	Jobs	Capital Investment
AUTAUGA						
New	Central States Bus Sales	Prattville	336211	Motor Vehicle Body Manufacturing	25	\$3,000,000
Expanding	Graham Packaging Company	Prattville	3261	Plastics Product Manufacturing	45	\$15,284,173
TOTALS FOR AUTAUGA (2 PROJECTS)					70	\$18,284,173
BARBOUR						
Expanding	M.C. Dixon Lumber Co., Inc.	Eufaula	321113	Sawmills	0	\$5,500,000
TOTALS FOR BARBOUR (1 PROJECT)					0	\$5,500,000
BLOUNT						
New	Freedom Packaging Products, LLC	Susan Moore	327310	Cement Manufacturing	10	\$5,010,000
New	Summertown Metals	Hayden	332114	Custom Roll Forming	50	\$18,625,000
TOTALS FOR BLOUNT (2 PROJECTS)					60	\$23,635,000
BULLOCK						
Expanding	Wayne-Sanderson Farms	Union Springs	424440	Poultry and Poultry Product Merchant Wholesalers		\$1,010,000
TOTALS FOR BULLOCK (1 PROJECT)					0	\$1,010,000
BUTLER						
Expanding	Hwashin America Corporation	Greenville	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	67	\$19,672,300
TOTALS FOR BUTLER (1 PROJECT)					67	\$19,672,300
CHAMBERS						
Expanding	AJIN USA (Joon LLC)	Cusseta	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	20	\$48,790,051
Expanding	Hester Tag and Label, Inc.	Lanett	323111	Commercial Printing (Except Screen and Books)	3	\$1,046,000
Expanding	Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, LLC	Cusseta	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$3,681,000
Expansion	Knauf Insulation, Inc.	Lanett	327993	Mineral Wool Manufacturing	0	\$48,575,952
TOTALS FOR CHAMBERS (4 PROJECTS)					23	\$102,093,003

COUNTIES IN DEPTH

COUNTY SUMMARY

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New/Expanding	Company	City	NAICS	Business Activity	Jobs	Capital Investment
CLARKE						
New	Lavender, Inc.	Jackson	332	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	20	\$250,000
Expanding	Canfor Fulton	Fulton	321113	Sawmills	0	\$20,447,862
Expanding	Origis Energy	Clarke	221114	Solar Electric Power Generation	9	\$411,750,261
TOTALS FOR CLARKE (3 PROJECTS)					29	\$432,448,123
CLAY						
Expanding	Integrity Cabinets, LLC	Lineville	337110	Wood Kitchen Cabinet and Countertop Manufacturing	25	\$1,200,000
Expanding	Wellborn Cabinet	Ashland	337110	Wood Kitchen Cabinet and Countertop Manufacturing	0	\$8,500,000
Expanding	Williams Fire Apparatus, LLC	Ashland	336120	Heavy Duty Truck Manufacturing	12	\$450,000
TOTALS FOR CLAY (3 PROJECTS)					37	\$10,150,000
COFFEE						
New	Elba Power	Elba	334413	Semiconductor and Related Device Manufacturing	0	\$2,950,000
New	Sunbelt Solomon Services, LLC	Elba	335311	Power, Distribution, and Specialty Transformer Manufacturing	50	\$3,725,000
TOTALS FOR COFFEE (2 PROJECTS)					50	\$6,675,000
CRENSHAW						
Expanding	Dongwon Autopart Technology	Luverne	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	0	\$8,000,000
Expanding	Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, LLC	Luverne	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$23,005,000
Expanding	Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, LLC	Luverne	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$3,541,000
Expanding	SMART Alabama, LLC	Luverne	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	0	\$14,285,956
TOTALS FOR CRENSHAW (4 PROJECTS)					0	\$48,831,956
DALE						
New	Thirium, Inc.	Ozark	336411	Aircraft Manufacturing	25	\$100,000
Expanding	Ecore International	Ozark	326299	All Other Rubber Product Manufacturing	0	\$2,500,000
TOTALS FOR DALE (2 PROJECTS)					25	\$2,600,000

COUNTIES IN DEPTH

COUNTY SUMMARY

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New/Expanding	Company	City	NAICS	Business Activity	Jobs	Capital Investment
DALLAS						
New	Colclasure Enterprises, LLC	Selma	326122	Plastics Pipe and Pipe Fitting Manufacturing	21	\$9,026,000
New	Harvestone Commodities	Selma	325199	Renewable Diesel	25	\$2,000,000
New	Resicum International, LLC	Selma	488190	Other Support Activities for Air Transportation	70	\$1,305,200
New	Yellowhammer Networks, LLC	Selma	517810	All Other Telecommunications	39	\$45,500,000
Expanding	Eovations LLC	Selma	326199	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	10	\$19,500,000
Expanding	Seoyon E- HWA Interior Systems Alabama, LLC	Selma	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	60	\$4,200,000
Expanding	Seoyon E-HWA Interior Systems Alabama, LLC	Selma	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$24,527,000
TOTALS FOR DALLAS (7 PROJECTS)					225	\$106,058,200
ESCAMBIA						
Expanding	Georgia Pacific	Brewton	322130	Paperboard Mills	0	\$159,000,000
TOTALS FOR ESCAMBIA (1 PROJECT)					0	\$159,000,000
FAYETTE						
New	Warrior Met Coal	Fayette	2121	Coal Mining	25	\$155,000,000
TOTALS FOR FAYETTE (1 PROJECT)					25	\$155,000,000
JACKSON						
Expanding	CFD Research - Engineering Test Center	Hollywood	541715	Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences	35	\$5,020,000
TOTALS FOR JACKSON (1 PROJECT)					35	\$5,020,000
LAWRENCE						
New	2023 BTS Trinity, AL LLC and First Solar, Inc.	Trinity	334413	Semiconductor and Related Device Manufacturing	85	\$54,200,000
TOTALS FOR LAWRENCE (1 PROJECT)					85	\$54,200,000

COUNTIES IN DEPTH

COUNTY SUMMARY

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New/Expanding	Company	City	NAICS	Business Activity	Jobs	Capital Investment
MACON						
New	TrendCo, LLC	Tuskegee	339113	Surgical Appliance and Supplies Manufacturing	292	\$43,000,000
New	Samkee, Corp.	Tuskegee	3363	Die-Cast Aluminum Automotive Components	170	\$128,044,000
TOTALS FOR MACON (2 PROJECTS)					462	\$171,044,000
MARENGO						
Expanding	H&M Construction	Demopolis	332996	Fabricated Pipe and Pipe Fitting Manufacturing	26	\$3,807,558
Expanding	Superior Inland Terminals	Demopolis	484220	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Local	10	\$5,600,000
TOTALS FOR MARENGO (2 PROJECTS)					36	\$9,407,558
MARION						
New	IS4S	Hackleburg	541715	Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences	25	\$3,000,000
New	KJS Forest Products	Guin	321113	Sawmills	20	\$9,500,000
New	Riverwood Forest Products	Bear Creek	321113	Sawmills	18	\$2,000,000
Expanding	King Kutter	Winfield	333111	Farm Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	15	\$5,000,000
Expanding	Kith Furniture	Haleyville	337122	Nonupholstered Wood Household Furniture Manufacturing	25	\$11,000,000
TOTALS FOR MARION (5 PROJECTS)					103	\$30,500,000
MONROE						
New	Frisco Solar, LLC	Frisco City	221114	Solar Electric Power Generation	0	\$75,000,000
TOTALS FOR MONROE (1 PROJECT)					0	\$75,000,000
RUSSELL						
New	Parallel Pines Industries, LTD.	Hatthecheubbee	3211	Sawmill	84	\$32,000,000
New	Russell County Solar, LLC	Hatthecheubbee	221114	Solar Electric Power Generation	3	\$151,702,000
New	Sierra Pacific Windows	Phenix City	321911	Wood Window and Door Manufacturing	300	\$60,750,000
TOTALS FOR RUSSELL (3 PROJECTS)					387	\$244,452,000
TOTALS					732	\$1,730,581,31



Samkee Corp. leaders joined Alabama Commerce Sec. Ellen McNair to mark the opening of the auto parts maker's new production facility in Tuskegee Commerce Park. The project was announced in 2023.

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2023 INDUSTRY SUMMARY			
INDUSTRY SECTOR	PROJECTS	JOBS	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
AEROSPACE & AVIATION	3	120	\$4,405,200
AGRICULTURAL / FOOD PRODUCTION	2	15	\$6,010,000
AUTOMOTIVE	11	329	\$278,196,307
BIOSCIENCE	0	0	\$0
CHEMICALS	0	0	\$0
CORPORATE OPERATIONS	0	0	\$0
DISTRIBUTION / LOGISTICS /WAREHOUSE	1	10	\$5,600,000
FORESTRY	10	185	\$299,147,862
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	1	39	\$45,500,000
METAL & ADVANCED MATERIALS	3	96	\$22,682,558
OTHER	13	446	\$943,525,213
RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT	1	35	\$5,020,000

INDUSTRIES IN DEPTH

SECTOR BREAKDOWN

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New/Expanding	Company	City	County	NAICS	Business Activity	Jobs	Capital Investment
AEROSPACE & AVIATION							
New	Thirium Inc.	Ozark	Dale	336411	Aircraft Manufacturing	25	\$100,000
New	Resicum International LLC	Selma	Dallas	488190	Other Support Activities for Air Transportation	70	\$1,305,200
New	IS4S	Hackleburg	Marion	541715	Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences	25	\$3,000,000
TOTALS (3 PROJECTS)						120	\$4,405,200
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS & FOOD PRODUCTION							
Expanding	Wayne-Sanderson Farms	Union Springs	Bullock	424440	Poultry and Poultry Product Merchant Wholesalers	0	\$1,010,000
Expanding	King Kutter	Winfield	Marion	333111	Farm Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	15	\$5,000,000
TOTALS (2 PROJECTS)						15	\$6,010,000
AUTOMOTIVE							
Expanding	Hwashin America Corporation	Greenville	Butler	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	67	\$19,672,300
Expanding	AJIN USA (Joon LLC)	Cusseta	Chambers	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	20	\$48,790,051
Expanding	Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama LLC	Cusseta	Chambers	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$3,681,000
Expanding	Williams Fire Apparatus LLC	Ashland	Clay	336120	Heavy Duty Truck Manufacturing	12	\$450,000
Expanding	Dongwon Autopart Technology		Crenshaw	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	0	\$8,000,000
Expanding	HMMA	Luverne	Crenshaw	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$23,005,000
Expanding	HMMA	Luverne	Crenshaw	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$3,541,000
Expanding	SMART Alabama LLC	Luverne	Crenshaw	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	0	\$14,285,956
Expanding	Seoyon E- HWA Interior Systems Alabama LLC	Selma	Dallas	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	60	\$4,200,000
Expanding	Seoyon E-HWA Interior Systems Alabama LLC	Selma	Dallas	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$24,527,000
New	Samkee Corp	Tuskegee	Macon	3363	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	170	\$128,044,000
TOTALS (11 PROJECTS)						329	\$278,196,307

INDUSTRIES IN DEPTH

SECTOR BREAKDOWN

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New/Expanding	Company	City	County	NAICS	Business Activity	Jobs	Capital Investment
DISTRIBUTION & LOGISTICS							
Expanding	Superior Inland Terminals	Demopolis	Marengo	484220	Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Local	10	\$5,600,000
TOTALS (1 PROJECT)						10	\$5,600,000
FORESTRY PRODUCTS							
Expanding	M.C. Dixon Lumber Co., Inc.	Eufaula	Barbour	321113	Sawmills	0	\$5,500,000
Expanding	Boise Cascade Wood Products LLC	Thornsby	Chilton	3219	Wood Product Manufacturing	13	\$50,000,000
Expanding	Canfor Fulton	Fulton	Clarke	321113	Sawmills	0	\$20,447,862
Expanding	Integrity Cabinets LLC	Lineville	Clay	337110	Wood Kitchen Cabinet and Countertop Manufacturing	25	\$1,200,000
Expanding	Wellborn Cabinet	Ashland	Clay	337110	Wood Kitchen Cabinet and Countertop Manufacturing	0	\$8,500,000
Expanding	Georgia Pacific	Brewton	Escambia	322130	Paperboard Mills	0	\$159,000,000
New	KJS Forest Products	Guin	Marion	321113	Sawmills	20	\$9,500,000
New	Riverwood Forest Products	Bear Creek	Marion	321113	Sawmills	18	\$2,000,000
Expanding	Kith Furniture	Haleyville	Marion	337122	Non-upholstered Wood Household Furniture Manufacturing	25	\$11,000,000
New	Parallel Pines Industries, LTD.	Hathecheubbee	Russell	3211	Sawmill	84	\$32,000,000
TOTALS (10 PROJECTS)						185	\$299,147,862
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY							
New	Yellowhammer Networks LLC	Selma	Dallas	517810	All Other Telecommunications	39	\$45,500,000
TOTALS (1 PROJECT)						39	\$45,500,000
METAL & ADVANCED MATERIALS							
New	Summertown Metals	Hayden	Blount	332114	Custom Roll Forming	50	\$18,625,000
New	Lavender, Inc.	Jackson	Clarke	332	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	20	\$250,000
Expanding	H&M Construction	Demopolis	Marengo	332996	Fabricated Pipe and Pipe Fitting Manufacturing	26	\$3,807,558
TOTALS (3 PROJECTS)						96	\$22,682,558

INDUSTRIES IN DEPTH

SECTOR BREAKDOWN

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New/Expanding	Company	City	County	NAICS	Business Activity	Jobs	Capital Investment
OTHER							
Expansion	Knauf Insulation, Inc.	Lanett	Chambers	327993	Mineral Wool Manufacturing	0	\$48,575,952
Expanding	Hester Tag and Label Inc.	Lanett	Chambers	323111	Commercial Printing (Except Screen and Books)	3	\$1,046,000
Expanding	Origis Energy	Clarke	Clarke	221114	Solar Electric Power Generation	9	\$411,750,261
New	Elba Power	Elba	Coffee	334413	Semiconductor and Related Device Manufacturing	0	\$2,950,000
New	Sunbelt Solomon Services LLC	Elba	Coffee	335311	Power, Distribution, and Specialty Transformer Manufacturing	50	\$3,725,000
Expanding	Ecore International	Ozark	Dale	326299	All Other Rubber Product Manufacturing	0	\$2,500,000
New	Colclasure Enterprises LLC	Selma	Dallas	326122	Plastics Pipe and Pipe Fitting Manufacturing	21	\$9,026,000
New	Harvestone Commodities	Selma	Dallas	325199	Renewable Diesel	25	\$2,000,000
Expanding	Eovations LLC	Selma	Dallas	326199	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	10	\$19,500,000
New	Warrior Met Coal	Fayette	Fayette	2121	Coal Mining	25	\$155,000,000
New	Frisco Solar LLC	Frisco City	Monroe	221114	Solar Electric Power Generation	0	\$75,000,000
New	Russell County Solar LLC	Hathecheubbee	Russell	221114	Solar Electric Power Generation	3	\$151,702,000
New	Sierra Pacific Windows	Phenix City	Russell	321911	Wood Window and Door Manufacturing	300	\$60,750,000
TOTALS (13 PROJECTS)						446	\$943,525,213
RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT							
Expanding	CFD Research - Engineering Test Center	Hollywood	Jackson	541715	Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences	35	\$5,020,000
TOTALS (1 PROJECT)						35	\$5,020,000



Governor Kay Ivey and Resicum International COO and Co-Founder Rob Baird outlined the company's plans for an aviation training facility at Craig Field in Selma, Alabama, during a ceremony on Friday, Jan. 27, 2023. (Image: Governor's Office /Hal Yeager)

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2023 Foreign Direct Investment Breakdown

2023 **RURAL REPORT**

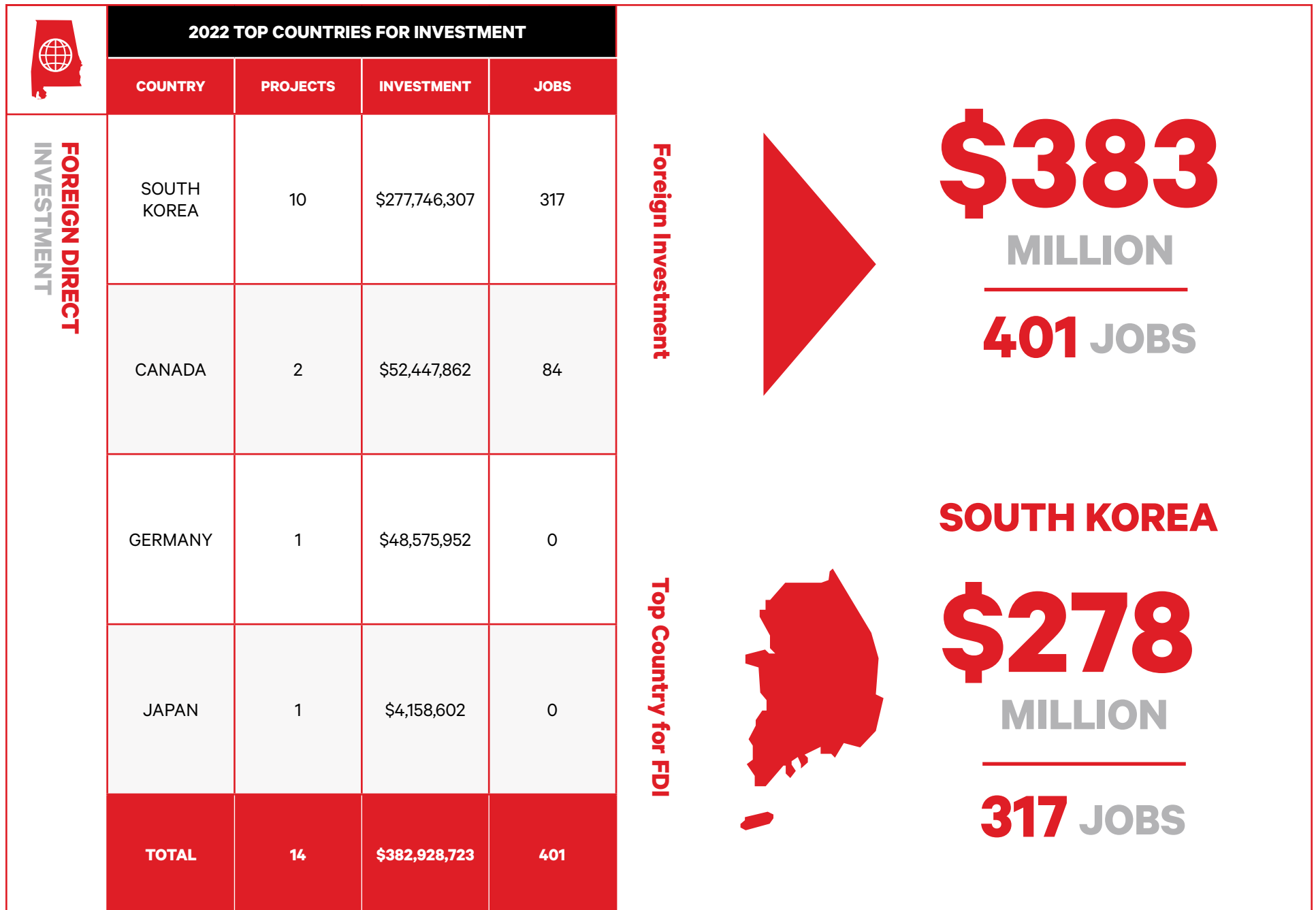
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RURAL

OVERVIEW

BY THE NUMBERS

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



COUNTRIES IN DEPTH

COUNTRY SUMMARY

RURAL NEW & EXPANDING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New/Expanding	Company	City	County	NAICS	Business Activity	Jobs	Capital Investment
CANADA							
Expanding	Canfor Fulton	Fulton	Clarke	321113	Sawmills	0	\$20,447,862
New	Parallel Pines Industries LTD	Hathecheubbee	Russell	3211	Sawmill	84	\$32,000,000
TOTALS (2 PROJECTS)						84	\$52,447,862
GERMANY							
Expansion	Knauf Insulation Inc.	Lanett	Chambers	327993	Mineral Wool Manufacturing	0	\$48,575,952
TOTALS (1 PROJECT)						0	\$48,575,952
JAPAN							
Expanding	Rainsville Technology aka Morioku Technology North America Inc.	Rainsville	DeKalb	326199	Injected Plastic Automotive Parts	0	\$4,158,602
TOTALS (1 PROJECT)						0	\$4,158,602
SOUTH KOREA							
Expanding	Hwashin America Corporation	Greenville	Butler	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	67	\$19,672,300
Expanding	AJIN USA (Joon LLC)	Cusseta	Chambers	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	20	\$48,790,051
Expanding	Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama LLC	Cusseta	Chambers	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$3,681,000
Expanding	Dongwon Autopart Technology	Luverne	Crenshaw	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	0	\$8,000,000
Expanding	Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama LLC	Luverne	Crenshaw	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$23,005,000
Expanding	Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama LLC	Luverne	Crenshaw	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	0	\$3,541,000
Expanding	SMART Alabama LLC	Luverne	Crenshaw	336370	Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping	0	\$14,285,956
Expanding	Seoyon E- HWA Interior Systems Alabama LLC	Selma	Dallas	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	60	\$4,200,000
Expanding	Seoyon E-HWA Interior Systems Alabama LLC	Selma	Dallas	336110	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing		\$24,527,000
New	Samkee Corp	Tuskegee	Macon	3363	Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing	170	\$128,044,000
TOTALS (10 PROJECTS)						317	\$277,746,307
TOTAL (14 PROJECTS)						401	\$382,928,723

2023
RURAL
SUMMIT



Governor Kay Ivey attends the state's rural economic developers at the 2023 RurAL Summit, held in Prattville and sponsored by the Alabama Department of Commerce, Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023. (Image: Governor's Office/ Hal Yeager)

MADE IN
ALABAMA

RURAL

TOP 10 2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BRENDA TUCK

RURAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1 SIMULATED TRAINING AND READINESS

Five new STAR participants are working toward completing the project for education of the site selection process and RFI process. Two of these participants were slated to finish in January, with three more working toward their final presentations and visits in early 2024. This equates to almost 40% of our Rural Developers who have completed, or are now participating in, this program and just over 40% of our Rural areas, as some developers work with more than one county. The SITE AID program below will be utilized to go into these areas to further develop or receive education on all their county properties that will mirror the information they are receiving for the one property that is being utilized within the STAR Program.

2 SITE ANALYSIS IMPROVEMENT & DEVELOPMENT (SITE AID) PROGRAM

We're launching the SITE AID Program in 2024, based on the STAR Program's site visit format. Commerce and AIDT Project Managers, along with State Utility Partners, will assess each site as if we were potential investors. We'll evaluate sites for topography, wetlands, infrastructure, and other factors, and discuss resources for site improvements and acquisition, including SEEDS and Growing Alabama.

3 RURAL RESOURCE WEBINARS

IRurAL reached a milestone with more than 100 Weekly Resource Webinars delivered for rural economic developers, both live for conversations and questions with the expert in that field, and recorded for further review, or review if they are not available for the live call. These range from community development in support of economic development to direct economic development resources. Our topics come from the field, both from new resources we have knowledge of that need to be disseminated and from requests for information on certain topics from the developers. We will continue these Resource Webinars each Monday afternoon throughout 2024.

4 RURAL WORKFORCE SUMMITS

We continue to deliver the Rural Workforce Summits in creative ways that meet the need of the communities that request them. This year, they were broken down into a lunch and learn format that can be utilized throughout the year for existing industry meetings in support of Business Retention and Expansion Programs. We will continue to promote the availability of this program going into 2024.

5 NEW RURAL COUNTY DESIGNATIONS

Due to a change in the definition of RurAL for our purposes at Commerce, we brought five new counties into RurAL. These counties have between 50,000 and 60,000 residents. We met with each new county to introduce our activities and programs, and to provide support, and will continue to do so. We now actively serve 45 RurAL counties.

6 TRAINING & EDUCATION PARTNERS

We continue to work with partners to provide no-cost training to the developers thanks to grants and our partners. Our USDA Rural Development, Alabama Association of Regional Councils, and Retail Strategies partnership (UAR) is a great example. From 2021-2023, 11 RurAL towns have participated in this extensive program to assist them in their community development for the promotion of economic development. Through this UAR partnership, the rural counties receive this educational component at no cost, and we assist with the marketing and support to ensure all are aware of the opportunity.

7 GRANT RESOURCES & SUPPORT

We continue to provide annual promotion of grant funds, including but not limited to, the RBDG program and others through USDA Rural Development, ADECA's CDBG and others, Federal EDA, ARC, DRA, SCRC, IAR, and any other sources of grant funds, public and private, that can assist our RurAL Developers with their efforts. The awards from these

programs have assisted in completing the needs for projects, and for building out infrastructure and improving the community and economic infrastructure to further compete for additional business and industry.

8 COMMERCE RURAL SUMMIT

The 4th Annual RurAL Summit was held in Autauga and Dallas Counties in 2023 as it was expanded to a three-day event, and it was taken into the rural communities we serve. This allowed an additional component to be added, learning firsthand about best practices in other areas that have been successful. We also were able to form new partnerships for this event with Central Alabama Community College, which served as our host site and sponsor. Alabama's gas and power companies — Alabama Power, CMC Gas, PowerSouth, Southeast Gas, Spire and TVA — continue to sponsor this and other events within our RurAL efforts, so that there are no registration costs for this event.

9 BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION (BRE)

We continue to discuss and promote BRE programming throughout our RurAL communities. There will be a formal survey in early 2024 to see how many have been implemented and how many are still needed. Our goal is for every county or regional development organization to host events throughout the year that provide information and support for existing industries to thrive in our RurAL counties.

10 SITE DEVELOPMENT

In preparation for the 2024 SITE AID program, we are collaborating with public and private partners to identify and develop new and existing sites and promote available resources. We've actively promoted Growing Alabama and the SEEDS Act to all rural counties and will work with them in 2024 to refine funding approaches, address changes needed, and enhance understanding of acquisition and improvement processes.