

Why choose the Quad Cities?

Where I-80 Crosses the Mississippi



a brief overview

The Quad Cities region is situated across four counties in Illinois and Iowa, allowing you **an optimal mix of state and local incentives, infrastructure, demographics, and workforce complexion**, depending on the site you choose and your unique business requirements.

Electric and natural gas energy are reliable, readily available, and at lower cost than almost anywhere else in the country. Electric rates have been stable since 1995. Available sites and building inventory are abundant, as are shovel-ready projects of various sizes.

The region's beautiful surroundings and commitment to education, art, and culture make it a preferred place for family living—assuring a growing, vibrant, and well-educated workforce.

There is plentiful shopping, many outstanding restaurants, and a wealth of indoor and outdoor entertainment that will contribute to a high quality of life for you and your employees.



Deere & Company world headquarters in Moline, Illinois, part of the Quad Cities.



Mississippi River



Western Illinois University Quad Cities Riverfront Campus groundbreaking, March 31, 2010.

Representative Employers in the Quad Cities Region

COMPANY	EMPLOYEES	TYPE OF BUSINESS / WEB
Rock Island Arsenal	8,500	Defense Manufacturing
Deere & Company*	6,300	Agriculture OEM
Genesis Health System	4,900	Health Care System
Trinity Regional Health System	2,900	Health Care System
Tyson Fresh Meats	2,400	Food Processing
Alcoa, Inc.	2,250	Aerospace & Defense Aluminum
Kraft Foods/Oscar Mayer	1,650	Food Processing
XPAC*	1,195	Supply Chain Management & Logistics
Isle of Capri	1,050	Casino, Hotel, Entertainment
MidAmerican Energy Co.	1,025	Utility / Energy Delivery
APAC Customer Services, Inc.	900	Telecommunications/ Customer Service
Group O Companies*	800	Third Party Logistics
Exelon	700	Utility / Energy Delivery
AT&T	610	Telecommunications
Lee Enterprises	500	Newspaper Publishing

*Company Headquarters

“Everything you hear about the Midwestern work ethic is true. Our team is productive 300+ days/year and voluntarily accepts overtime. Our absenteeism is measured in tenths of a percent, and our turnover is less than 1%.”

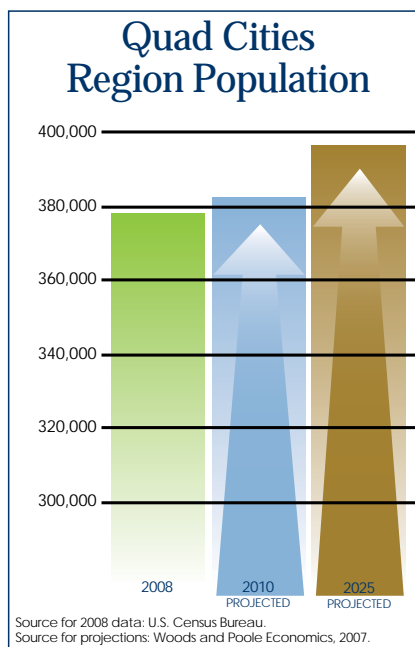
Frank Clark, Vice President, Product Supply, Nestlé Purina PetCare Company

A vast pool of experienced and talented job seekers

The Midwestern work ethic and manufacturing know-how adds value to your operations

SKILLED AND RELIABLE LABOR is ready
and available.

MANUFACTURING represents the
single largest sector in the greater
Quad Cities region's labor shed,
with over 39,000 jobs within a 70-mile
radius of the Quad Cities region.



Available Labor for Jobs in the Quad Cities Region Across All Industries - April 2010

STANDARD OCCUPATIONAL CODE	TITLE	TARGET JOBS	COMPATIBLE JOBS	TARGET MEDIAN HOURLY EARNINGS
11-1021	General and operations managers	1,319	2,081	\$39.39
13-1023	Purchasing agents, except wholesale, retail, and farm products	1,015	13,581	\$31.13
13-1031	Claims adjusters, examiners, and investigators	449	22,688	\$24.82

Source: Ady-Voltedge & Janus Economics, in proprietary research sponsored by Quad Cities First, 2010.
Notes: % of industry = percent of industry skilled labor accounted for by each SOC; Target Jobs = Number of workers in the Quad Cities region that are classified in that SOC, regardless of industry; Compatible Jobs = Number of workers in the Quad Cities region that have highly compatible skill sets (O*Net). Contact Quad Cities First for information on additional Standard Occupation Codes and other related data.

Growing Labor Force of 428,300 as of 2009

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Securities and Iowa Workforce Development

Central location and an in-place multi-modal infrastructure for transportation lowers logistics costs

LOCATION ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER provides access to the Gulf of Mexico, the Great Lakes, and foreign ports.

MAJOR FREIGHT RAILROADS serve the region: BNSF; Iowa Interstate Railroad; Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad.

FOUR INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS provide coast-to-coast service: I-74, I-80, I-88, and I-280. The greater Quad Cities region is served by over 200 motor freight carriers.

QUAD CITIES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (MLI) operates over sixty daily flights on five major airlines.

FOREIGN TRADE ZONE #133 AND A BI-STATE PORT OF ENTRY allows a single FTZ grantee to serve two different states.

THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION offer easy access to oversize load permits.

Access to Markets— Population Within 300 Miles

Quad Cities	37.4 million
St. Louis	34.3 million
Kansas City	17.9 million
Minneapolis	15.3 million
Omaha	12.3 million

Unique waterway, rail, and trucking resources provide unsurpassed access to both national and international markets



Mississippi River Barge Transport

- 9-foot channel, 10-month navigation season
- The region features 50 barge terminals (46 private, four public)
- 23 barge terminals are served by rail
- Three barge terminals have highway access



Competitive business climate supports profitable investment

The Quad Cities region has the infrastructure to meet your utility needs, with a host of providers offering competitive cost advantage

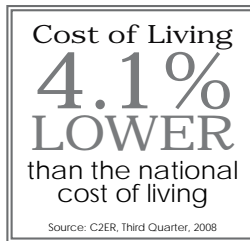
THE BI-STATE REGION gives relocating companies more options for finding the best location for their project.

THE AVERAGE INDUSTRIAL PRICE PER KILOWATT HOUR (2009) for MidAmerican Energy was \$0.0409.

RELOCATING COMPANIES are eligible for Illinois Enterprise Zone, Iowa Enterprise Zone

and bi-state Foreign Trade Zone business incentives, as well as Tax Increment Financing districts and additional state and regional incentives.

AN ABUNDANT SELECTION OF SITES AND BUILDINGS, from shovel-ready sites to turnkey manufacturing operations and most everything in between.

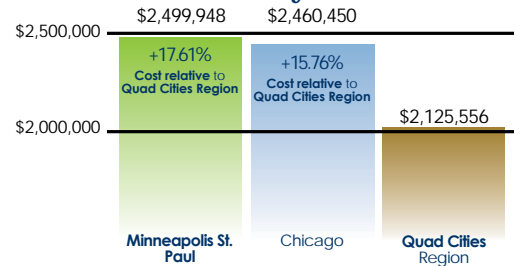


\$2 Billion in Public-Private Investment in the Region

Public and private organizations are investing over **\$2.12 billion** in significant economic development initiatives, ranging from bridge

and highway improvements to parking ramp renovations and sewer updates.

Regional Costs are 20% Below Other Nearby Metros



Source: Quad Cities First.
Operating costs include labor, utilities and taxes.

Source: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy undertaken by the Bi-State Regional Commission in 2008.

33,000
local
college
students
each year

Community colleges work with company trainers to develop customized training programs—shortening the time between hiring and profitable productivity. An example is the New Jobs Training Program, which will reimburse a company for up to 50% trainee's salaries and fringe benefits while they are learning on the job.

40

Number of colleges and universities within a 90-mile radius of the Quad Cities.

Source: The Illinois Quad City Chamber of Commerce's Quad Cities Graduate Inventory



For a FREE, confidential consultation, please contact:

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Quad Cities First is the lead economic development organization promoting the greater Quad Cities region, which includes Scott County in Iowa and Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island Counties in Illinois. Developed by the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce, it provides the following services to relocating companies and site selection consultants:

- Site selection assistance
- Incentive and business tax information
- Key contacts in business and local government
- Demographic, wage and economic data
- Navigation through local government requirements
- Access to workforce training and recruitment resources