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DeKalb County Quick Facts

- Location: on I-88, 65 miles west of Chicago. DeKalb County is located in the center of the I-39 Logistics Corridor between Chicago, Milwaukee, the Quad Cities, Bloomington, Ill., and Madison, Wisc.
- Gross domestic product: \$2.7 billion
- Population: 103,729; 2010 projection: 107,825; 2020 projection: 144,385
- Labor force: 56,590
- Available area workers within 40 minute drive: 256,207
- Percent with at least some college: 50.8
- Percent four-year graduates: 25.0
- World-class companies located in DeKalb County: 3M, Target, IDEAL, Tegrant, Nestle, Goodyear
- Median salary: \$29,000
- Entry level hourly wages for select positions: computer LAN/WAN administrator \$10; data-entry operator \$8; machinist \$11; shipping-receiving clerk \$7.75; tool and die-maker \$13; warehouse clerk \$10
- Some major markets served w/same or next day shipping: Minneapolis-St. Paul, Detroit, Cleveland, IL-IA Quad Cities, Indianapolis, Chicago, Milwaukee, Des Moines, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Omaha
- Companies with nearby intermodal facilities: Union Pacific, Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Canadian Pacific, Chicago/Illinois Central
- Airports serving the county: O'Hare and Midway International airports – Chicago; DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport – DeKalb; Chicago Rockford International Airport (UPS Hub), Rockford
- Technology infrastructure: NIUNet – a 175-mile fiber optic ring using a combination of new and existing fiber lines to create high-speed communication technology that rivals Silicon Valley
- Northern Illinois University, located in the City of DeKalb, is a hub of technological education and research nationally recognized for information technology, engineering, computer science, physics, and accounting.
- Kishwaukee College provides transferable associate degrees, occupational training, and continuing education to serve the needs of the labor market. Its Business and Industrial Development Center provides customized business training and consulting services.
- Area research facilities: Argonne National Laboratory; Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory; and Northern IL Proton Treatment and Research Center (under construction)
- Medical facilities: Kishwaukee Community Hospital, Valley West Community Hospital