



**“As we continue to invest in workforce development programs, we will target areas where the skills gap still exists, and ensure that employers are able to hire Wisconsin workers who are equipped with the skills they need to succeed.”**

— Gov. Scott Walker, Sept. 2, 2015, proclaiming September as Workforce Development month

**Gov. Scott Walker (R)**

**Wisconsin Econ. Dev. Corp.**

201 W. Washington Avenue  
Madison, WI 53703  
Mark Hogan, Secy./CEO  
855-469-4249

[inwisconsin.com](http://inwisconsin.com)

# Wisconsin

**Pop. (2014):** 5,742,139

**Median household income:** \$58,080

**Credit Rating:** AA/Stable

**Pop. growth 2013–2018:** 1.5%

**Median age:** 39.2

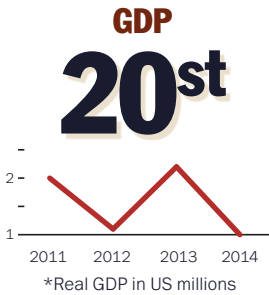
**Right-to-work state:** Yes

## Legislative Update

- On March 9th, Gov. Walker signed into law SB 44, which prohibits, as a condition of employment, membership in a labor organization, and required payments to a labor organization, and provides a penalty.
- Assembly Bill 45 expands the ability of towns to cooperate with their city and village neighbors to create multi-jurisdictional tax increment financing districts.
- Senate Bill 252 extends the five-year phase-out of municipal and county utility aid payments to include all types of production plants, not just nuclear and wind production plants that close. The bill treats Wisconsin communities with all types of power plants equally by providing a five-year phase-out of their payment, and assists communities by helping to bear an otherwise immediate financial burden.

## Rankings that Matter

<b>Business Tax Climate</b> . . . . .	<b>43</b>
<b>Legal Climate</b> . . . . .	<b>20</b>
<b>Higher Ed. R&amp;D Expenditure</b> . . . .	<b>14 (1,411,228)</b>
<b>ACT Career Readiness Certificates</b> . .	<b>15 (68,013)</b>
<b>Lowest Energy Cost</b> . . . . .	<b>37 (11.24)</b>
<b>Fiscal Solvency</b> . . . . .	<b>28</b>
<b>College Attainment</b> . . . . .	<b>21 (41.1%)</b>



## Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2015

Company	City	County	Type	New/ Expansion	Product	Investment (\$ millions)	Employment
Dollar General Corp.	Janesville	Rock	DW	N	Retail Merchandise	\$75	552
Sub-Zero Group, Inc.	Fitchburg	Dane	MF	E	Appliances	62	300
Deere & Company	Horicon	Dodge	MF	E	Farm Machinery	35	50
Fiskars Oyj Abp	Middleton	Dane	OF/RD	N	Consumer Products	26.3	55
Exact Sciences	Madison	Dane	RD	E	Molecular Diagnostics	26	758
Zurn Industries	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	HQ	N	Plumbing Products	15	
Smithfield Foods, Inc.	Cudahy	Milwaukee	MF	N	Meat Processing	12	
4imprint	Oshkosh	Winnebago	MF/OF	E	Direct Marketing	11	
Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Corp.	Portage	Columbia	MF	E	Silicone	11	
Ariens Company	Brillion	Calumet	MF/RD	N	Outdoor Power Equipment	9	

DT = Data Center MF = Manufacturing OF = Office HQ = Headquarters RD = Research & Development DW = Distribution/Warehouse

## Did You Know?

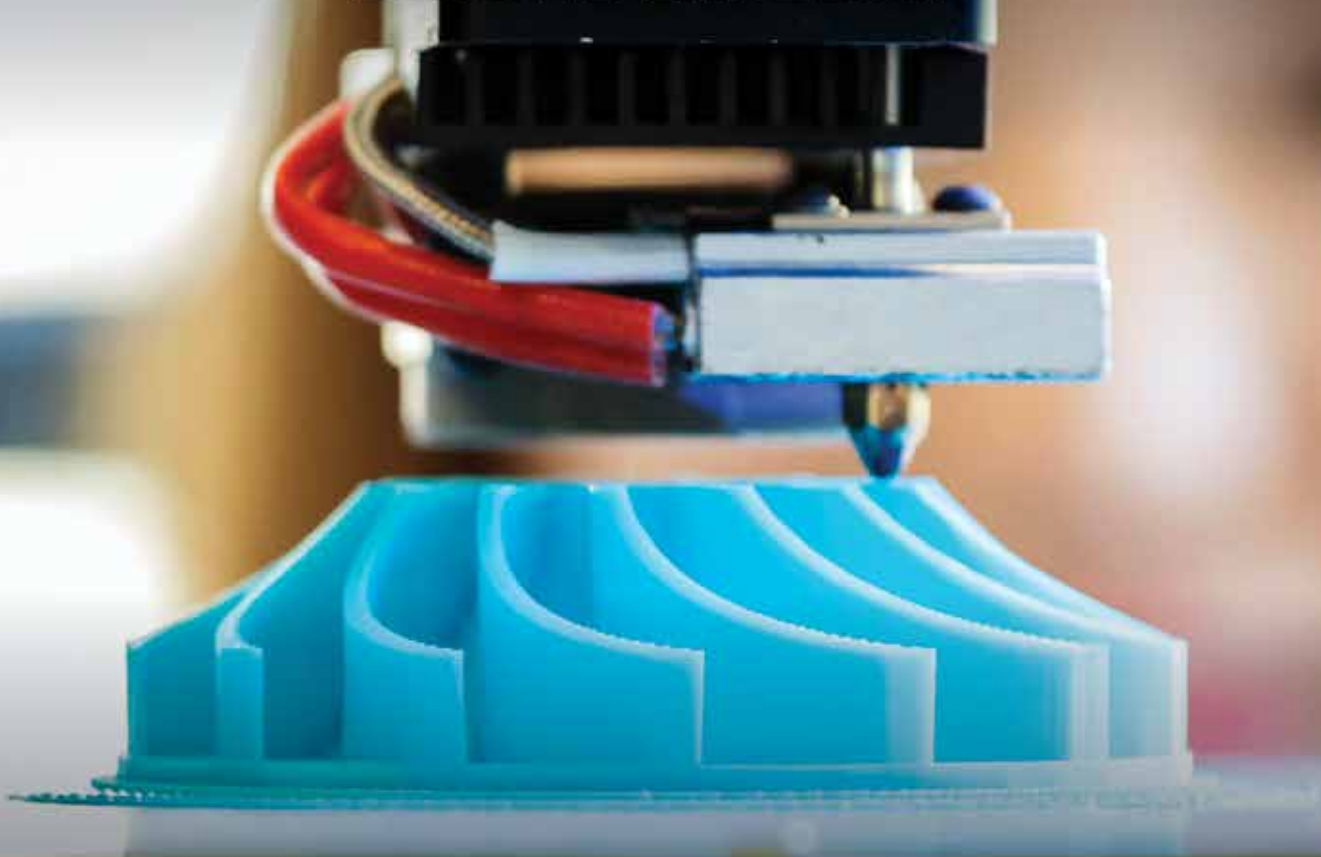
Wisconsin is home to nearly 300 companies with ties to the state’s burgeoning water technology industry. These companies employ nearly 37,000 people and generate \$5.7 billion in annual sales.

While Milwaukee stands as a global water hub, the distribution of water sector companies throughout the state underscores the breadth of Wisconsin’s industry-critical capabilities.

According to the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board: Dairy accounts for about half of Wisconsin’s agriculture sector; the Badger State leads the nation in the number of cheese plants; and Wisconsin cheesemakers earned 39 percent of all awards presented at the 2014 World Championship Cheese Contest, more than five times as many as the nearest competitor, Switzerland, with 21 awards.



# AS TAXES APPROACH ZERO POSSIBILITIES BECOME ENDLESS.



## IT'S HOW WE GROW BUSINESS IN WISCONSIN.<sup>®</sup>

In Wisconsin, we understand that lower taxes means higher productivity. That's why we created the Manufacturing and Agriculture Tax Credit, reducing the income tax on manufacturing activities to 0.4% by 2016. It's something any Wisconsin manufacturer, across a variety of industries, can take advantage of. And with \$2 billion in tax relief, Wisconsin businesses have the support they need to reach new heights of productivity and growth. Find out how companies—in Bioscience, Water Technology, Food and Beverage, Manufacturing and Energy, Power and Control—benefit from tax policies In Wisconsin. Call **855-INWIBIZ** [toll free] or visit **Results.InWisconsin.com**.



In Wisconsin<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.