



Lehigh Valley
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

*Helping business arrive.
Helping business thrive.*

www.ThriveInLV.org

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Take a closer look at what makes us unique.



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Your resource.

Our mission at the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation is to promote and foster economic prosperity in the Lehigh Valley. With an enormous pool of resources at our disposal, LVEDC serves as a single point of contact for companies looking to relocate or expand in the Lehigh Valley.

Vast financial resources.

From federal grants to working capital loans, LVEDC is here to provide information and help you access the financial resources that are available. These resources include:

- Industrial reuse funds
- Workforce incentives
- Development grants
- Working capital loans
- Federal, state and regional financing programs
- SBA loan programs
- Tax credits
- Infrastructure development programs

A rock-solid infrastructure.

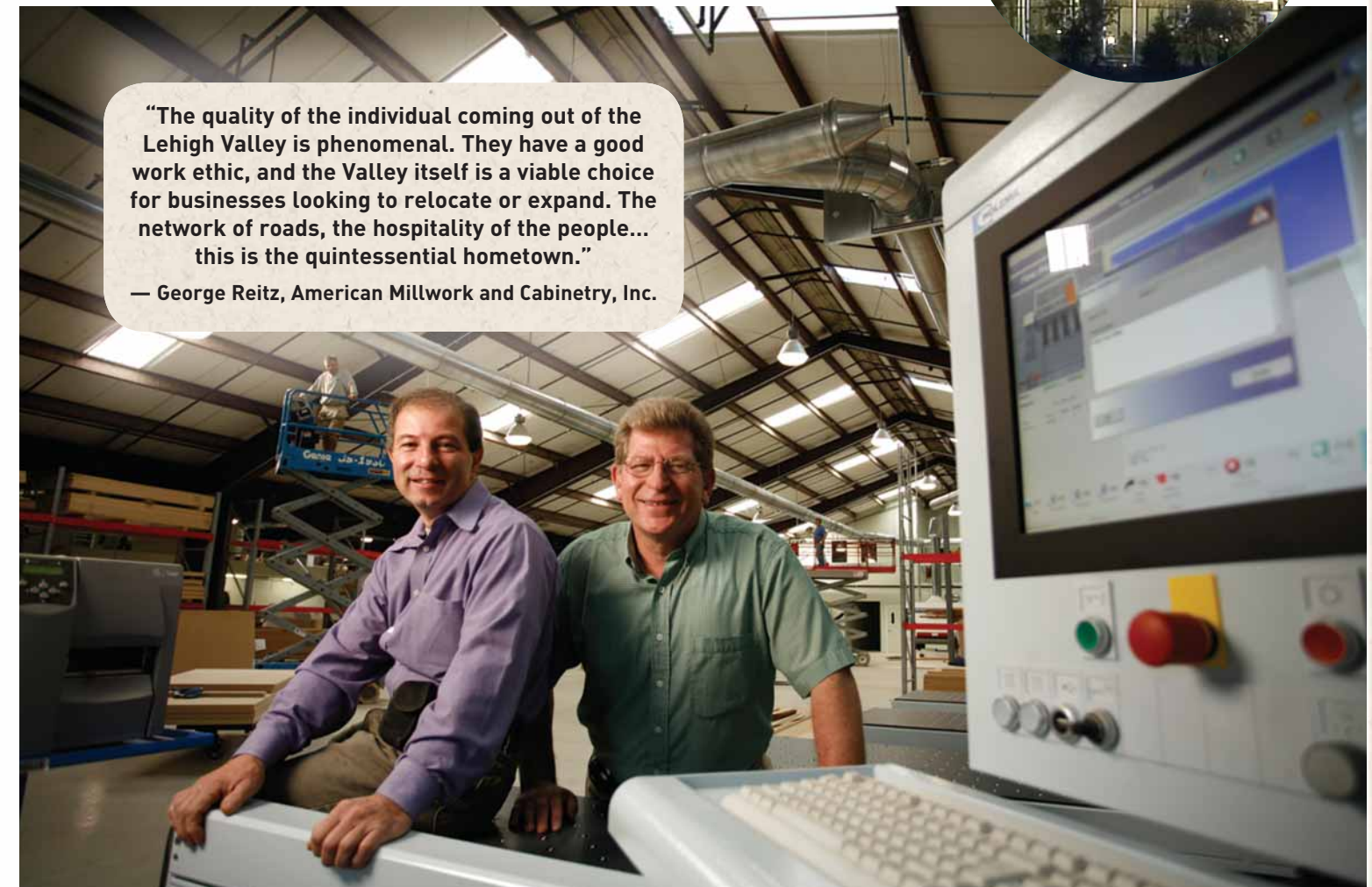
Finding a location that meets the needs of your business as well as the needs of your employees is a difficult task. At LVEDC, we coordinate the efforts of businesses, property professionals, government leaders, and economic development agencies to help companies relocate or expand their existing businesses in the Lehigh Valley.

Thanks to an international airport, Foreign Trade Zone, interstates, and intermodal rail system, the Lehigh Valley can provide your business with easy access to the goods and consumers that will help you prosper. With 11 colleges and universities nearby and more than 50,000 students, you'll always have access to a deep talent pool of professionals. The Lehigh Valley has nationally-ranked hospitals and numerous industrial parks with leading tech centers. Many of these tech centers include incubators and post-incubators that encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.

A robust regional economy.

LVEDC is just as committed to helping businesses already located in the Lehigh Valley develop and grow as we are to attracting new companies. As regional coordinator for Pennsylvania's Business Retention and Expansion Program (BREP), we connect with more than 750 employers annually to keep our existing employers healthy and growing. We help Lehigh Valley companies:

- Partner with state and local officials to support planned economic development
- Stimulate private sector investment
- Promote economic growth
- Encourage sound public policies
- Provide access to education and training resources
- Coordinate with our partners to bring you technical, financial and workforce assistance
- Communicate with businesses and partners via e-alerts, news releases and more



"The quality of the individual coming out of the Lehigh Valley is phenomenal. They have a good work ethic, and the Valley itself is a viable choice for businesses looking to relocate or expand. The network of roads, the hospitality of the people... this is the quintessential hometown."
— George Reitz, American Millwork and Cabinetry, Inc.



“We wouldn’t be where we are if it wasn’t for the KIZ. We knew if we stayed in Bethlehem we could get the funding for this company and partner with other companies.”

—Tim Marks & Patrick Clasen, co-owners of EcoTech Marine, a KIZ start-up company and tech transfer grant recipient.

Regional and national marketing.

We sell the Valley on a national and local level. Promoting and building awareness of all the Lehigh Valley has to offer is just one way we work to bring new businesses with family-sustaining wages to the area. We communicate with site selectors, new and established businesses, and other relocation decision-makers through special events, the Web, the media, advertising, and one-on-one interaction in the community. Our efforts have raised the profile of the Valley through press mentions in the *New York Times* and *ABC News*. Recently, *Forbes* and *Inc. Magazine* both ranked the Lehigh Valley among the nation’s top places for business and careers. In addition, we receive more than 25,000 hits on our Web site each month and have won numerous marketing and advertising awards from the International Economic Development Council and MarCom Creative Awards.

Fostering innovation.

LVEDC also works to encourage new technologies and entrepreneurs within the Valley. The Southside Bethlehem Keystone Innovation Zone (KIZ) was created to provide new and existing companies with a vast network of resources and support. LVEDC is one of thirteen funding partners and serves as the Fiscal Agent for the program. Our KIZ was one of the first in the Commonwealth, and is lauded as a model for the program. The benefits of the Southside Bethlehem KIZ include:

- Tax credits
- Access to facilities and incubator space for the development of start-ups
- Technology transfer grants
- Research & development relationships with universities
- Access to additional capital and funding to build infrastructure



Revitalizing urban and industrial properties.

By restoring the area’s abandoned and underutilized commercial and industrial properties, known as brownfields, LVEDC aims to improve the region’s economy while preserving open space. We will help you find the site that is perfect for your business. LVEDC provides a variety of land recycling services, including:

- Inventory of sites
- Grants and loans
- Database of available resources
- Technical assistance
- Facilitation



SOUTHSIDE BETHLEHEM



ur region.



With its eclectic mix of culture and opportunity, the Lehigh Valley has become a beacon for businesses and families alike. Just a short drive from Philadelphia, New York and Boston, the Lehigh Valley boasts a lower cost of living and countless opportunities. It's no wonder the Lehigh Valley is the 2nd fastest-growing region in the northeast.

A vibrant cultural scene.

The Lehigh Valley is an exciting mix of charming sidewalk cafes, art galleries, museums and world-class restaurants. Some of the cultural and recreational destinations you can find in the Lehigh Valley include:

- Numerous art and music festivals, including Musikfest, one of the largest free music festivals in the country, and Bach Choir
- Three dozen parks and recreation centers
- Two ski areas with many more within a one-hour drive
- More than 20 scenic golf courses including Saucon Valley Country Club, a top-ranked national course
- Established art schools, museums and emerging artist colonies
 - More than a dozen theatres from the small Civic Theatre in Allentown to the large State Theatre in Easton, as well as the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival at DeSales University, Allentown Symphony Hall and many more



Plentiful employment opportunities.

Thanks to a deep pool of talented professionals, the Lehigh Valley is home to leading companies in technology, biotech, manufacturing, plastics and many other industries. Some of the world-renowned companies that call the Lehigh Valley home include:

- Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
- B. Braun Medical Inc.
- Crayola
- Just Born, Inc.
- Lutron Electronics Company, Inc.
- Mack Trucks, Inc.
- Martin Guitar
- Olympus America
- OraSure Technologies
- PPL
- Victaulic Company of America

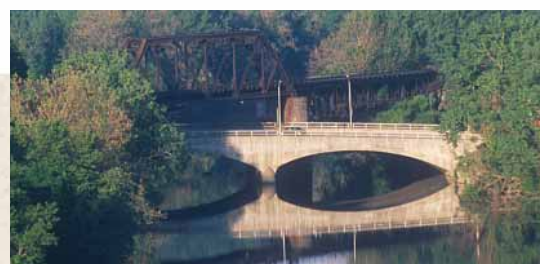


A high quality of life.

Education — With 11 colleges and universities, a wealth of top-notch public and private schools for K-12 students, and numerous career-training programs within its borders, the Lehigh Valley offers unparalleled educational opportunities for 21st-century careers.

Housing — Lehigh Valley residents enjoy a lower cost of living compared to the large metro areas like New York and Boston, favorable property and income taxes, and housing options that run the gamut from beautiful, historic homes to exciting, new construction including condos, townhouses and quality rentals.

Health care — Not only is the Lehigh Valley home to nationally recognized hospitals, but we also boast innovative health education services, numerous alternative health care providers and a wide selection of health and fitness facilities. So, whether you're looking for top-notch cardiac care, a comfortable birthing room, or an acupuncture specialist, the Lehigh Valley has your prescription for health.



For our investors.

As an LVEDC investor, you help us improve the Lehigh Valley by recognizing that the success of the region bolsters your business. In return, LVEDC can provide you with benefits that can help grow your business, including:

- **Connection:** LVEDC gives investors/members direct contact to the people who can help expand their business.
- **Information:** The organization offers specialized information, such as GIS and other data that can give a company the edge it needs to compete.
- **Awareness:** LVEDC promotes the region and its investors/members to companies in the region, attracting new business while expanding and diversifying the local economy.
- **Networking:** Through numerous meetings, events and committees, business leaders can mix with fellow movers and shakers in the Lehigh Valley.



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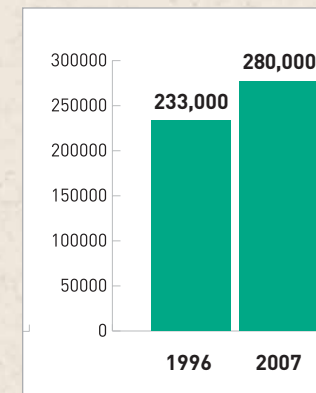
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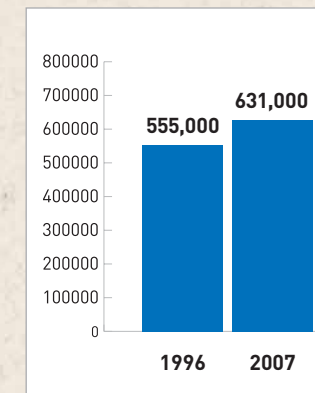
“LVEDC is the ambassador for the region. They give companies moving from outside the Lehigh Valley a comfort level with the area. For existing businesses they foster an environment that encourages people to invest and grow, and they are an excellent resource. When I bring a prospect from outside of the region, I introduce them to LVEDC to discuss the programs that add value and help them decide the Lehigh Valley is where they need to be.”

— Thomas Shaughnessy, J.G. Petrucci Co., Inc.

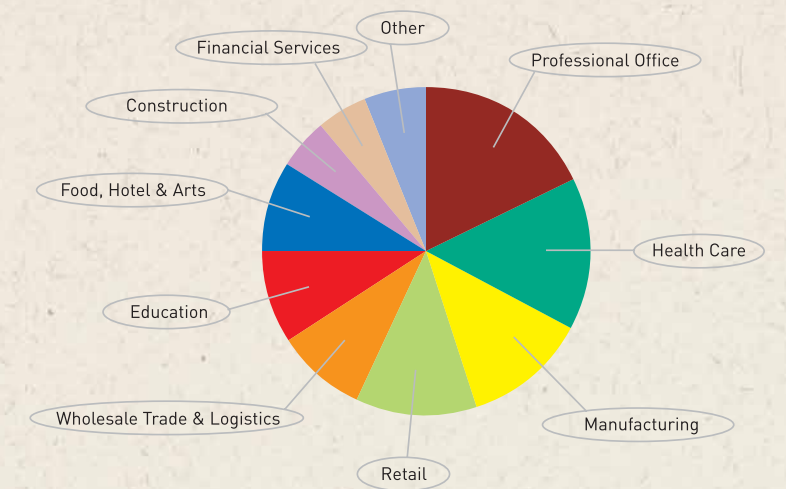
A few quick facts about the Lehigh Valley.



Jobs in Region



Population



Lehigh Valley Industries