

A nighttime photograph of a bridge over a river. The bridge has a large clock mounted on its side, showing the time as approximately 10:10. The bridge is illuminated by streetlights, and the city skyline is visible in the background. The sky is dark blue.

GO TOPEKA

JEDO Q1 REPORT

January - March, 2019





GO TOPEKA
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Topeka, KS 66603

COVER AND LEFT PHOTO:

Cover: The Topeka Ave. bridge creates a visually appealing, open doorway to Topeka.

Left and below: Topeka & Shawnee County enjoyed the beauty of several snow storms in the first quarter of 2019.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	TOPEKA & SHAWNEE COUNTY VITAL STATS	
6	BUSINESS ATTRACTION, RETENTION & EXPANSION	
8	ENTREPRENEURIAL & MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	
9	PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER	
10	INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP	
11	712 INNOVATIONS	
12	FORGE	
13	WORKFORCE & TALENT	
14	WORKFORCE & TALENT INCLUDED	
15	WASHBURN TECH EAST TOGETHERTOPEKA	
16	UPCOMING EVENTS	
17	COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT	
18	BOARD OF DIRECTORS	

KEY

Momentum 2022 focuses on five key elements to make Topeka & Shawnee County a better place to live, work, play and do business.



Develop
Homegrown
Talent



Create Vibrant
& Attractive
Places



Grow a
Diverse
Economy



Promote a
Positive Image



Collaborate
for a Strong
Community

TOPEKA & SHAWNEE COUNTY VITAL STATS

Updated 2.25.19



DEVELOP HOMEGROWN TALENT

**GRADUATION RATE -
FOUR-YEAR ADJUSTED
COHORT FORMULA
(ALL SCHOOLS 2017-2018)⁽¹⁾**

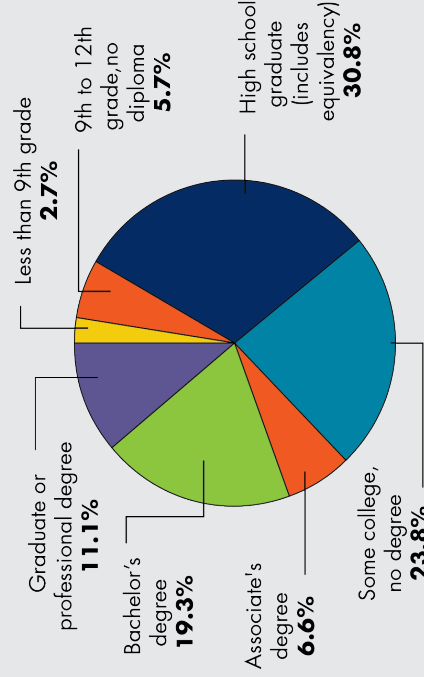
**STATE OF
KANSAS
87.5%**

**SHAWNEE
COUNTY
88.3%**

**STUDENT-LEVEL METRICS
IN SHAWNEE COUNTY
(2018)⁽¹⁾**



**EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN
SHAWNEE COUNTY (2017) ⁽²⁾**
(Population 25 years and older)



**TOTAL
CERTIFICATES
EARNED IN
SHAWNEE COUNTY
LESS THAN A
2-YEAR DEGREE
(2017)**

1,284



CREATE VIBRANT & ATTRACTIVE PLACES

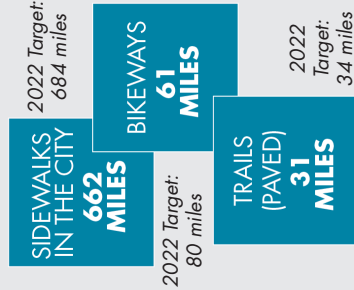
**AARP LIVABILITY
INDEX⁽³⁾**

This score rates the overall livability of Shawnee County on a scale from 0 to 100. It is based on the average score of seven livability categories—housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity—which also range from 0 to 100.

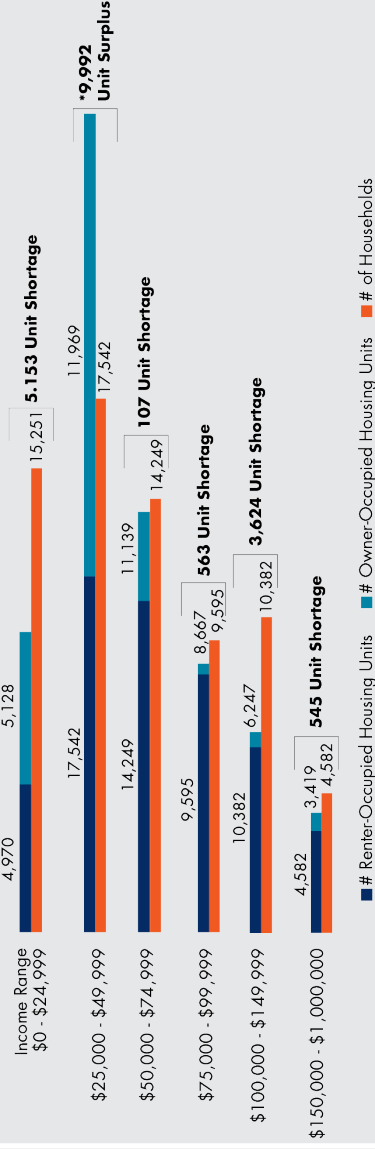


2022 Target: 58 AARP livability index

**PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY
SHAWNEE COUNTY
(2017) ⁽⁴⁾**



AFFORDABLE HOUSING ANALYSIS (2017) ⁽²⁾



*The analysis does not account for age or quality of housing units, and there is the possibility that upper income households are likely outcompeting lower income households for the same housing units.

**ATTENDANCE
AT FESTIVALS
AND EVENTS
(2017)**

**481,974
PEOPLE**

Ticketed event information provided by Kansas Expocentre, Topeka Civic Theatre as well as all Greater Topeka Partnership organizations. Crowd estimation of GTP operated festivals is calculated using the Jacobs Method.

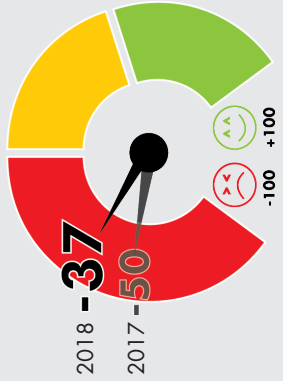
2022 Target: 664,000 people



PROMOTE A POSITIVE IMAGE

® **NET PROMOTER SCORE (NPS) (7)**

An index ranging from -100 to 100 that measures the willingness of customers to recommend a product or experience to others.



2022 Target: 0 NPS



GROW A DIVERSE ECONOMY

SHARE OF EMPLOYMENT AT BUSINESSES LESS THAN 5-YEARS OLD (2017 Q4) (8)

7,235 OR 9.58% PEOPLE WORK AT A NEW BUSINESS

2022 Target: 7,093 people

ANNUAL MEDIAN WAGE IN TOPEKA (2017) (6)

\$36,000

2022 Target: \$39,000

GLOBAL METRICS

GDP IN BILLIONS OF CURRENT DOLLARS (10)

\$10.491 BILLION IN 2016

Gross domestic product (GDP) is equal to the sum of personal consumption expenditures, gross private domestic investment, net exports of goods and services, and government consumption expenditures and gross investment.

\$10.655 BILLION IN 2017

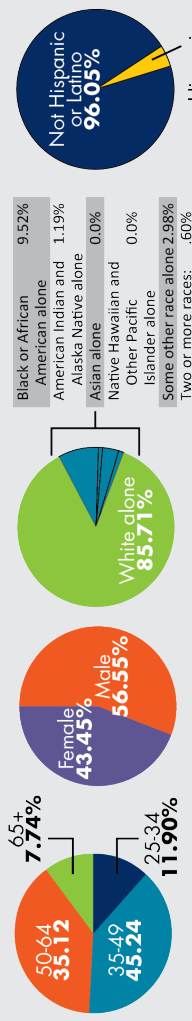
2022 Target: \$11.500 GDP in billions of current dollars



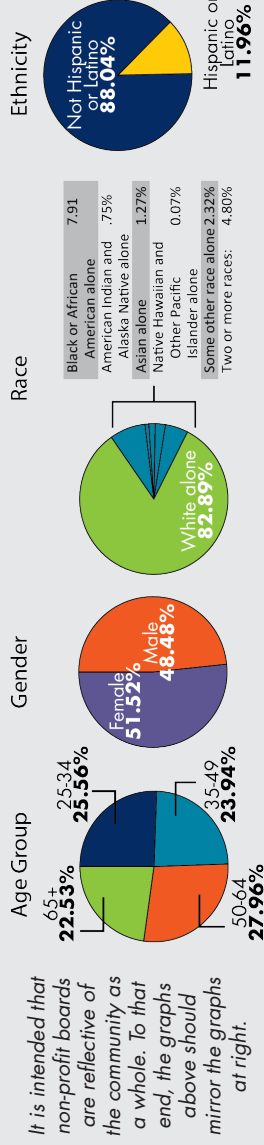
COLLABORATE FOR STRONG COMMUNITY

SURVEY RESULTS ON LOCAL NON-PROFIT BOARD DIVERSITY (2018) (7)

Age Group Gender Race Ethnicity



CURRENT SHAWNEE COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS (2)



It is intended that non-profit boards are reflective of the community as a whole. To that end, the graphs above should mirror the graphs at right.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH IN SHAWNEE COUNTY (2018) (9)

3.1 POOR PHYSICAL HEALTH DAYS
3.5 POOR MENTAL HEALTH DAYS

Average number of physically/mentally unhealthy days reported in past 30 days (age-adjusted)

INFANT MORTALITY RATE IN SHAWNEE COUNTY (2018) (10)

6.6 WITHIN 1 YEAR, PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS

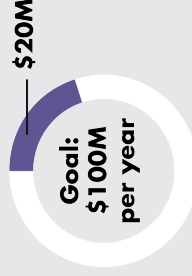
TOTAL PRIVATE JOBS IN SHAWNEE COUNTY (JUNE 2018) (5)

Private = Non-Government Jobs

75,692

2022 Target: 79,000 jobs

PRIVATE CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN SHAWNEE COUNTY (2018) (7)



Capital investment is the amount of money new or current businesses spend to create, expand or improve facilities. For this report, capital investment is captured by GO Topeka during regular communications with companies or when companies work with GO Topeka to receive an incentive for an investment. The numbers are self-reported and exclude the cost of maintenance. GO Topeka makes every attempt to gather this info for all companies in Shawnee County, however some will not be captured due to lack of awareness of the investment.

2022 Target: \$500M

NUMBER OF PEOPLE WORKING, BUT NOT LIVING IN SHAWNEE COUNTY (2015) (8)

37,123 OR 36.8%

2022 Target: 33%

PERCENT OF STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED LUNCHES (11)

51.9%

POVERTY RATE IN SHAWNEE COUNTY (2017) (11)

11.7% TOTAL POVERTY RATE

15.3% CHILD POVERTY RATE

2022 Target: 10%

Sources: **1** Kansas State Department of Education, **2** U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates, **3** AARP Livability Index, **4** City of Topeka Planning Department, **5** Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, **6** Occupational Employment Statistics, **7** GO Topeka, **8** U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics, **9** County Health Ranking, **10** Bureau of Economic Analysis, **11** U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

PROVIDED BY





RETENTION & EXPANSION PROJECT APPROVALS

During the first quarter, Projects Sherwood and Blueberry received funding approval, and Project Jingle announced capital investment plans as well as jobs at Hill's Pet Nutrition.

Project Sherwood is an existing manufacturing/distribution company looking to expand in our community. An investment of **\$17.7 million** in plant and distribution center additions and improvement expenditures will occur. Over the next 5 years, they will also be adding **47 new jobs** with an **average wage of \$40K annually plus benefits**. At the February meeting, JEDO approved up to **\$206,800 in incentives**.

Project Blueberry is a manufacturing company that will be expanding in the community. They have committed to investing **\$30 million** in plant equipment additions and improvement expenditures will occur. At a special March meeting, JEDO approved up to **\$66,000 in incentives**.

All incentives for projects are performance based, to be paid out as earned. The details of the agreements for both Projects Sherwood and Blueberry will be outlined via formal contracts and presented for JEDO's approval at a future JEDO meeting.

Hill's Pet Nutrition, known as **Project Jingle**, announced plans to make a **capital investment of \$20 million** to expand its research and development facility, adding six full-time jobs with benefits and bringing an **economic impact of \$55.7 million to Shawnee County**. Project Jingle received funding approval in 2018 from JEDO and contract approval in February 2019 from JEDO. The expansion **supports the animal health industry** and promotes Topeka & Shawnee County's unique position along the Animal Health Corridor.



CAPITAL INVESTMENT

PROJECT
SHERWOOD
\$17.7M

PROJECT
BLUEBERRY
\$30M

PROJECT
JINGLE
\$20M



BUSINESS ATTRACTION

Business Attraction prospects of all sizes and industries are looking at Shawnee County as potential opportunities for growth. Deal flow has been steady with GO Topeka's partner the Kansas City Area Development Council (KCADC) as the source of the majority of the new business leads. Staff is also working on a couple major projects that came directly to GO Topeka. There were **four new projects** in the first quarter and there are currently **29 new business projects in the pipeline**.



PROJECT
PIPELINE
29



NEW
PROJECTS
IN Q1
4

RETENTION & EXPANSION



PROJECT
PIPELINE
17



NEW
PROJECTS
IN Q1
2



ONSITE
VISITS
IN Q1
24

UPDATES



GO Topeka welcomed Rhiannon Friedman to the staff. Rhiannon will work on both new and existing business projects as the business development manager.

During the first quarter, the GO Topeka Board of Directors held the first of a series of retreats. JEDO members were also invited to attend. The retreat focused on incentive guidelines and target industries. The group also helped to draft a new vision and mission for GO Topeka that will be formally adopted later this year.



On February 13, the Greater Topeka Partnership hosted a Business Unwind to show off the new combined home of the Chamber, GO Topeka, Downtown Topeka, Inc. and Visit Topeka.

ENTREPRENEURIAL & MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

SMALL BUSINESS INCENTIVES



INCENTIVES
ISSUED YTD

\$60,380



INCENTIVES
ISSUED YTD

25



CURRENTLY
IN PIPELINE

30

FASTTRAC NEW VENTURE



STUDENTS
CURRENTLY
ACTIVE IN THE
PROGRAM

15



ACTIVELY IN
BUSINESS

29

TSC3 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN



CURRENTLY
CONDUCTING
STARTUP SURVEY

THA EMPOWERMENT



26

ATTENDEES
INTERESTED IN
STARTING A
BUSINESS

PTAC

(PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER)



NEW
CLIENTS
10



COUNSELING
HOURS
74

TOTAL CONTRACT AWARDS FOR KS PTAC SUBCENTER TOPEKA

(Service area covers 26 counties in NE KS)

\$ 360,726 = FEDERAL

\$ 76,046 = STATE & LOCAL

\$436,772 TOTAL AWARDS

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATS ON FEDERAL CONTRACT AWARDS

SMALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS **5**

WOMAN OWNED SMALL BUSINESS **2**

HUBZone **1**

SERVICE DISABLED VETERAN OWNED SMALL BUSINESS **2**

SHAWNEE COUNTY WAS AWARDED



CONTRACT
AWARDS
30.8%



VALUE
\$134,362

RETURN ON INVESTMENT (ROI)

FOR EVERY \$1 JEDO INVESTS, PTAC GENERATES

\$6.24

(This will increase as small businesses win contracts, last year it grew to a \$347 return.)



INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Innovation & Entrepreneurship group has hit the ground running in 2019, kicking the year off with four Task Forces under the leadership of the Innovation Advisory Board (IAB): (1) Ecosystems Best Practices, (2) Space, (3) Innovation Fund and Incentives and (4) Organizational Structure. Each Task Force is drafting specific objectives, measures and initiatives that will serve the vision of building a high-performance, innovation-based entrepreneurial ecosystem.

This quarter has also been focused on communicating this strategic framework to many of Topeka & Shawnee County's stakeholders. As a result, the Momentum 2022 Entrepreneurship Workgroup saw a greatly increased number of interested community volunteers ready to help build our entrepreneurial ecosystem. Five new working committees were formed: (1) Community Building, (2) Communication, (3) Mentorship Network, (4) Smart City and (5) Events.

This quarter has seen an increased sense of urgency of finding ways to not only catch up with regional efforts but to leapfrog and create a true hub of innovation right here in Topeka. The IAB visited the Bioscience Technology Business Center in Lawrence, KS and the K-State Foundation Office Park in Manhattan, KS as well as many other incubators, accelerators and office parks to benchmark ourselves and to find needs in the region that could turn into Topeka's opportunities. The upcoming months will see more exploration of how Topeka can tie into regional economic development efforts and how it can capitalize on its location in the Animal Health Corridor. One focus of the strategy is to create a space where innovative organizations can flourish and grow. The IAB is in the process of evaluating locations for a downtown innovation center and an innovation campus with wet lab and office space. This due diligence process will continue in Q2 of this year.

There were a number of key regional events that are relevant to Topeka's entrepreneurial ecosystem, our team attended the Road to Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES) Heartland, InvestMidwest and the Innovation and Bioscience Day at the Capitol.

The Road to GES Heartland event in Overland Park, KS, brought together around 600 entrepreneurs, investors and public and private sector leaders from across the Heartland who are building innovative solutions in agriculture, health and connectivity. The event was designed to build excitement for the ninth GES in the Netherlands in June 2019. The GTP attended the GES Heartland event on behalf of Topeka & Shawnee County and was able to discuss the vision of a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem with many of the key leaders in attendance, including Secretary Pompeo.

In March, Kansas City hosted the 20th annual InvestMidwest Forum, a venture capital conference that showcased pitches from 36 companies from throughout the Midwest in three industry tracks: life sciences, technology and food/ag/bioenergy. Over 300 attendees including investors from top venture capital firms joined the event. InvestMidwest has helped generate over \$1 billion of investment in the past 17 years and is therefore an important venue to connect to funding resources for Topeka & Shawnee County's entrepreneurs. GTP was in attendance to strengthen the investor network in the region. Only 4 of the 36 companies are from Kansas – there is lots of opportunity to grow this number!

BioKansas, the Kansas affiliate of the Biotechnology Industry Organization, hosted a diverse delegation of entrepreneurs, investors, community supporters and innovation champions at the Topeka Capitol in March, collectively educating legislators on the need for resources and continued support for innovators and innovative tech and life science companies in the state of Kansas. The group specifically discussed the need for state matching grants for federal SBIR/STTR grants targeted at early stage startups to make Kansas more competitive in attracting and retaining entrepreneurs in the biosciences in comparison to neighboring states and emphasized that the Angel Investor Tax Credit program was an effective tool for startups to attract angel investment dollars and that it should be continued. The discussions were well received by legislators; GTP will continue to advocate on behalf of local entrepreneurs and businesses at state and federal levels.



712 INNOVATIONS

COWORK | INCUBATOR



February 8-10, Topeka joined 193k+ alumni communities in over 150 countries by hosting its first Techstars Topeka Startup Weekend (SUW), an exciting event for communities ready to make a big impact on their entrepreneurship ecosystem and entrepreneurs.

The event had two objectives.

1. After 54 hours of collaboration, participants pitched a company they just created - moving from idea to minimum viable product and customer validation to prototype - with team members they have only met the previous Friday.

2. For participants and community volunteers

to have fun learning and growing together a fantastic entrepreneurship ecosystem that knows how to support successful entrepreneurs! The event attracted 31 entrepreneurs from as far away as Dallas to work with our facilitator, Michael Ryan Norton. An experienced founder-entrepreneur from San Diego, CA., Michael was also instrumental in developing TechStars' SUW format. He was excited to learn more about Topeka's ecosystem and by facilitating SUW Topeka he checked Kansas off his bucket list, he is now only 2 away from having facilitated a SUW in ALL 50 states!

712 Innovations is developing a Business Incubator that will launch in August 2019. Momentum 2022 Mentorship, Community Development and Events committees have been engaged to bring community support into the design of a catalyst tool for local and regional economic development. Continuing to spearhead downtown Topeka's nascent Innovation District the Incubator's focus will be on providing founders of startup and early-stage scalable-companies business assistance services and programming to fast-track growth. The cohort program under development will use a founder-led mentor model with a personalized plan tailored to the founder's business goals. The incubator will also include extensive networking opportunities and office space if needed to develop a growth track for founders with a passion for building their business surrounded by a like-minded, supportive environment.

MONTHLY EVENTS

CoWork Wednesdays – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

SCORE at 712 Innovations – Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

1MC TOP – 1st Wednesday, 9 – 10 a.m.

Topeka Social Media Club – 4th Wednesday, 12 – 1 p.m.

Audio Workshop – 3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Teen STEAM – 3rd Wednesday, 4 – 5 p.m.

Teen Science Café – 3rd Thursday, Boys/Girls Club Teen Center



FORGE



19
Events/meetings
in Q1



2,017
Members attended events
YTD



1,998
Members YTD



222
Volunteers at events
YTD

Forge wrapped up the first quarter of 2019 with eight events ranging from Zumba to volunteering with KTWU and everything in between.

To kick off the month, Forge let the good times roll and turned the GTP office into an apartment on Bourbon St. complete with homemade gumbo, kings cake, masks and live jazz music from Jasper Shrake!

Forge's Diversity and Inclusion herd hosted Cue-Up with Forge, a billiard tournament at the Viking Grille. They worked with the union at Goodyear to help get the word out to their young talent that Forge was coming to their neck of the woods. This is all a part of our D&I Herds mission to not only diversify Forge's events, but the community as well.

Forge packed in Dillon House for their first New Member Welcome of the year where 68 new faces got a crash course in Forge 101. Each chair of the 7 herds of Forge got a chance to talk about what their mission is and how they go about implementing it throughout the community.

The Topeka Youth Commission hosted a press conference as well as their first meeting this month. This diverse group of motivated high school students are gung-ho and ready to have their voices heard.

"We are thrilled to join forces with the newly formed Topeka Youth Commission," said Lindsay Lebahn. "This partnership will help ensure Topeka's emerging talent roots run deep throughout the community. The future of Topeka is now, and we are doing everything we can to make sure Topeka is a place where all young talent want to come, stay, work, play, connect and lead."



WORKFORCE & TALENT

2019 Q1 NUMBERS

TOTAL POPULATION*

124,538 in Topeka
175,276 in SNCO

Topeka down **.2%** from last year
SNCO down **.1%** from last year

2,843,739 in Kansas
258,392,000 in USA

JOBS

86,522 in Topeka
102,848 in SNCO

Topeka up **.1%** from last year
SNCO up **.8%** from last year
1,517,656 in Kansas
159,469,452 in USA

AVERAGE WAGES

\$45,757 in Topeka
\$45,689 in SNCO

Topeka up **3.5%** from last year
SNCO up **3.5%** from last year
\$45,740 in Kansas
\$55,713 in USA

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

63,547 in Topeka
91,662 in SNCO

Topeka up **.9%** from last year
SNCO up **1.0%** from last year

1,478,977 in Kansas
162,793,000 in USA

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

51.03% in Topeka
52.30% in SNCO

Topeka up **1.2%** from last year
SNCO up **1.1%** from last year
52.01% in Kansas
63.00% in USA

EMPLOYMENT-POPULATION RATIO

48.85% in Topeka
50.18% in SNCO

Topeka up **1.0%** from last year
SNCO up **.9%** from last year
50.02% in Kansas
60.44% in USA

EMPLOYMENT

60,835 in Topeka
87,951 in SNCO

Topeka up **.8%** from last year
SNCO up **.8%** from last year

1,422,531 in Kansas
156,167,000 in USA

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

4.3% in Topeka
4.0% in SNCO

Topeka up **3.7%** from last year
SNCO up **5.5%** from last year
3.8% in Kansas
4.1% in USA

*Total Civilian Noninstitutionalized
Population



iNCLUDED

DIVERSITY BUSINESS COUNCIL

iNCLUDED seeks to foster inclusiveness in the business community, which means aligning programming with others doing the work in the community, as well as hosting programming such as panels and guest speakers on topics like supplier diversity, legal education equity, unconscious bias, building critical relations, innovation and resourcing, business collaboration, employee relations, and diverse and cultural understandings. In the first quarter of 2019, iNCLUDED hosted a series of listening sessions to engage, share and listen to feedback about the direction and work in the community to move our business community forward and create a more inclusive and competitive business climate from a talent and business attraction, expansion and retention perspective. The sessions garnered a great amount of information and feedback. A subsequent survey sought input to build concepts and support for moving iNCLUDED's strategy and work forward and those outcomes were shared in a follow up meeting in March.



JEDO SCHOLARSHIPS

48

Students assisted
by JEDO
scholarships

\$27,250

In scholarships
awarded

SOTO RIDE TO-WORK

2,617
SOTO trips
in Q1

12,078
TRIPS TOTAL
SINCE PROGRAM
BEGAN

NeTO RIDE TO-WORK

2,012
NeTO trips
in Q1

CaRE PROGRAM 309

CaRE bus passes
used program to
date

25

CaRE bus passes
used YTD



WASHBURN TECH EAST



In the first quarter of 2019, Washburn Tech moved forward with classes beginning on January 7, in the temporary location at Antioch Family Life Center. Washburn Tech East's commitment to beginning classes on time ensured that 94 students began their semester course work in the first month of the year. In addition, Student Orientation Days continue to occur

for incoming students in the following programs at Washburn Tech East: Building Technology, Commercial Truck Driving, Healthcare, Adult Education and ESL. Based upon student interest and beginning enrollment numbers, Washburn forecasts that the student orientations will continue to be well attended. Construction also began again during the first quarter with a new general contractor. While some rain delays slowed some external completion items, work has continued and is on track for completion in late Spring. Gas and temporary heat has been setup, which allows for interior completion to progress, glass is fully installed, doors are hung and more EIFS finishing and roofing finishing on the exterior structure is occurring, with visible progress throughout.



The priority goals for TogetherTopeka in Q1 have centered around an effort to grow our network allowing us to build capacity by identifying individuals and organizations who support the goal of aligning the talent pipeline in Topeka and Shawnee County.



- TogetherTopeka hosted all area superintendents in January to discuss continuous improvement efforts throughout Shawnee County, an integral part of the state accreditation model.
- In February, the focus was on collective impact striving to identify opportunities for systems change that will be significant and lasting for the community.
- 616 future students at Washburn Institute of Technology signed letters of intent to participate in career programs designed to meet future workforce needs.
- TogetherTopeka wrapped up March bringing together community stakeholders to take a look at existing needs to determine priority outcomes.

HIGHLIGHTED UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

- 7 PTAC Procurement Fair
- 9 **Small Business Council Reception**
- 11 Country & Food Truck Festival
- 14 **Small Business Awards**
- 15 Leadership Greater Topeka Graduation
- 22 **Business Unwind @ Washburn Tech East**

JUNE

- 4 Top City Interns Kick Off
- 6 **Quarterly Entrepreneurship Meetup**
- 12 MO22 Investors Briefing
- 18 **Business Unwind @ Westar**

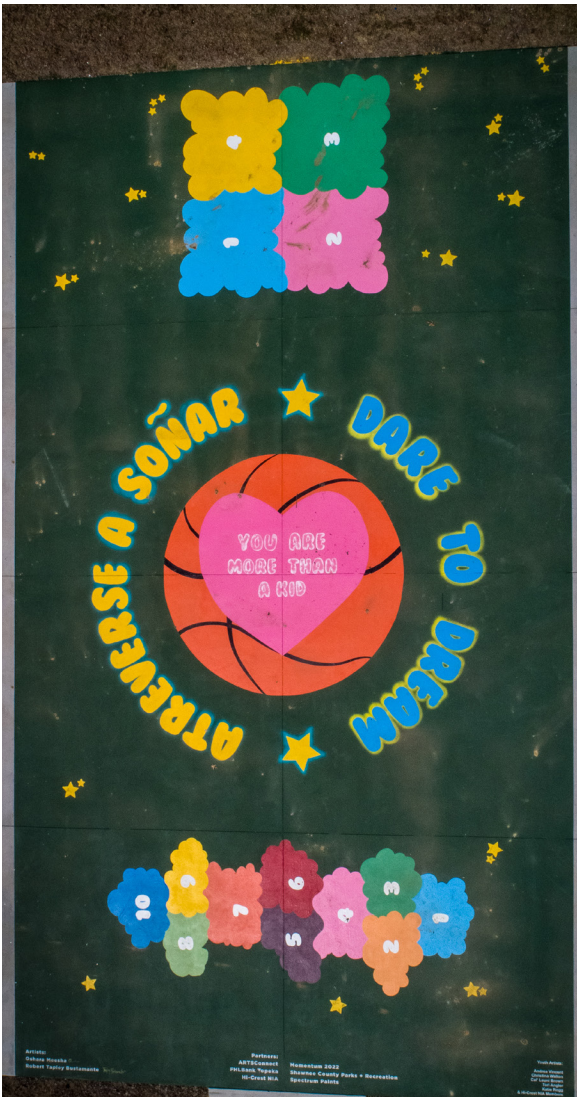
JULY

- 23 Business Unwind @ Lake Shawnee
- 27 **Rock & Food Truck**

AUGUST

- 2 Top City Teachers Reception
- 5 **GTP Golf Tournament**
- 10 Cruisin' the Capitol
- 17 **Taste of Topeka**
- 20 Business Unwind @ Lewis Toyota
- 22 **Women of Influence**
- 31 Touch-A-Truck





COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Betty Phillips Park Basketball Court Mural Project

The basketball court at Betty Phillips Park received a makeover in 2018. The Basketball Court Mural Project is located at 3301 SE Irvingham St. and is the first of several courts to receive this attention and creativity.

This community-wide project was designed to encourage community engagement, increase neighborhood pride & safety, provide an improved outdoor space for youth of all ages, encourage recreation and healthy activities. It will also serve to enhance the quality of life and quality of place in this very deserving Hi-Crest community.

Inspired by projects completed by a national organization called Project Backboard, the Community Engagement, Pride, & Service Work Group of Momentum 2022 spearheaded this collaborative project.

Participating as core partners in the project were the Hi-Crest NIA, ARTSConnect, Heartland Visioning/Momentum 2022, Shawnee County Parks + Recreation, Spectrum Paints and Federal Home Loan Bank Topeka.

Lead artists Oshara Hayes and Robert Tapley Bustamante worked with ideas and sketch concepts from youth artists of the community, staff of Shawnee County Parks + Recreation and members of the Hi-Crest NIA to create the design.

Some of the features of the design include pieces for all ages to enjoy:

- Heart shaped basketball
- Quote - "Dare to Dream" in English and Spanish
- Quote - "You're More than a Kid" - Center of the Heart Shaped Graphic
- Signing of community kids initials on the stars
 - this will be an ongoing activity to keep the community engaged
- Four by Four Game
- Hopscotch Game

The Betty Phillips Park Basketball Court Mural Project's Community Dedication and Celebration was held on Saturday, November 3, 2018 with Commissioner Cook officiating. Children and residents are finally able to get out and enjoy this new feature of their neighborhood.



GO TOPEKA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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CoreFirst Bank & Trust

Dan Foltz

Chair Elect
KBS Constructors, Inc.

Marsha Pope

Secretary
Topeka Community Foundation

Scott Gales

Treasurer
Architect One, Inc. PA

Treena Mason

BCBS

Martha Piland

MB Piland Advertising

Matt Pivarnik

President/CEO
Greater Topeka Partnership

Matt Strathman

Strathman Sales Co.

Stephen Wade

Topeka CapitalJournal

ELECTED DIRECTORS

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Evergy

Kevin Hahn

Tri-Source Pharma, LLC

Madan Rattan

Topeka Investment Group

Doug Wolff

Security Benefit Life

Don Beatty

Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc.

Megan Jones

Jones Advisory Group

Shane Sommars

Briggs Auto

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Topeka CapitalJournal

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Sunflower Assoc. of Realtors

Wade Jueneman

McElroy's

Jacob Wamego

Prairie Band Potawatomi
Nation

Andrea Engstrom

Bajillion Agency

Jim Klausman

Midwest Health

Wendy Wells

U.S. Bank

Dan Foltz

KBS Constructors, Inc.

Allen Moore

Frito-Lay, Inc.

Daina Williams

L&J Building Maintenance

DIRECTORS APPOINTED AT-LARGE

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Hamm Inc.

Gianfranco Pezzino

Shawnee Co. Health
Agency

Collin Hildebrand

McPherson Contractors

Greg Schwerdt

Schwerdt Design Group

Shane Hillmer

Southwest Publishing &
Mailing Corp.

Marvin Spees

Capital City Oil, Inc.

Keith Warta

Bartlett & West

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City of Topeka

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Shawnee County
Commission

Eric Johnson

President
MTAA

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INDEX

1 Million Cups Topeka

1MC TOP is a free networking event designed to engage and connect entrepreneurs with the greater business community. The first Wednesday (9 - 10 a.m.) every month, two startups present their business model in a friendly, fast-paced pitch session.

712 Innovations

The mission of 712 Innovations is to target programs, resources and services that accelerate the successful development of start-up and fledgling founder-operated small business entrepreneurs and entrepreneur teams building scalable high-growth businesses. 712 Innovations is the hub of the Topeka & Shawnee County entrepreneur ecosystem and works closely with its ecosystem and corporate partners to connect entrepreneurs with our network to accelerate knowledge, growth and revenue.

712i Incubator

A three month to two-year program for businesses in their late first or second stage. This program helps them scale up by providing goal analysis, dedicated focused mentoring and facilitated networking opportunities.

712i Pre-Incubator

Supports nascent entrepreneurs by providing an office space for developing and testing a fledgling business idea. This most commonly occurs while working with the Washburn Small Business Development Center or GO Topeka's Entrepreneurial & Minority Business Development programs.

Business Attraction & Retention

Business Attraction focuses on enticing new businesses and organizations to select Topeka & Shawnee County as their home, encouraging them to invest in the community as a viable place to grow. Marketing the community's assets and putting Topeka & Shawnee County in the best light possible during the site selection process are key components of business attraction.

Business Retention & Expansion's (BRE) role is to ensure existing Topeka & Shawnee County businesses have every opportunity to grow and thrive in the community. The BRE program utilizes a variety of tools and resources to assist the community's corporate citizens. Building strong partnerships with businesses supports the prosperity of the community's private sector while growing a more diverse economy.

CoWork Space

Attractive to work-at-home professionals, independent contractors and workers whose career requires frequent travel.

Employment-Population Ratio

A measure of labor market strength; it is calculated by dividing the number of employed workers in an area by the total civilian non-institutionalized population aged 16 and over in that region.

Entrepreneurial and Minority Business Development

Ensures small businesses in Topeka & Shawnee County constantly receive the support they need to start, grow and sustain their businesses. Incentive programs, educational sessions and counseling are provided to help them flourish.

Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

The social and economic environment affecting local/regional entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial businesses. Topeka & Shawnee County's Entrepreneurship Ecosystem has 40 organizations working to provide financing, training, or resources to entrepreneurs at all stages of their ventures.

Forge

The mission of Forge is to attract and retain young talent. The viability of the community is dependent upon its ability to recruit, retain and train young talent. But the mission is not simply about the replacement of current workforce - it is about driving the innovation and creativity that moves us forward.

HUBZone

A United States Small Business Administration (SBA) program for small companies that operate and employ people in Historically Underutilized Business Zones

INCLUDED

Backed by GO Topeka and the Greater Topeka Partnership, INCLUDED aims to be the authority on diversity and inclusion within businesses and organizations throughout the region.

Innovation

Defined as executing an idea which addresses a specific challenge and achieves value for both the company and customer. Entrepreneurship describes the capacity and willingness to develop, organize and manage a business venture along with any of its risks. Entrepreneurship and Innovation are very closely related. In combination, they are aimed at creating value and bettering people's lives. An entrepreneurial ecosystem allows for the fast flow of talent, information, and resources so that entrepreneurs can quickly find what they need at each stage of growth. As a result, the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

JEDO ROI

Total contracted awards divided by \$70,000 (JEDO Investment in Kansas PTAC) = ROI

JEDO Scholarships

JEDO Scholarships are awarded to Washburn Institute of Technology students in high demand fields from programs like practical nursing and advanced systems technology. These scholarships impact students' lives, helping to grow our workforce and support those students to earn a certificate and obtain well paying positions.

Labor Force Participation Rate

A measure of the active portion of an economy's labor force. It refers to the number of people who are either employed or actively looking for work. Labor Force Participation Rate. A measure of the active portion of an economy's labor force. It refers to the number of people who are either employed or actively looking for work.

Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC)

Created by congress in the 1980s to assist businesses involved in government contracts. Today, Kansas PTAC assists qualified businesses in locating, obtaining and performing federal, state and local government contracts. Kansas PTAC is funded through a partnership that also includes Pittsburg State University, Johnson County Community College, Wichita State University and GO Topeka.

Project Pipeline

The projects Business Attraction and BRE are working on

SOTO | NeTO

The SOTO (South Topeka) and NeTO (North & East Topeka) Ride to Work programs are pilot transportation initiatives for South Topeka and North & East Topeka employers. The programs help remove transportation barriers for employers along the South Topeka corridor and in the East and North Topeka communities.

TogetherTopeka

TogetherTopeka is the brand creation of collective impact initiatives in the Momentum 2022 Strategy, incorporating all education and training providers, from cradle through career, non-profits, social service providers, faith-based organizations and the business community.

Topeka Rescue Mission's Career Readiness Education program (CaRE)

The Topeka Rescue Mission's Career Readiness Education program provides workforce training for TRM residents. The bus pass program assists TRM in ensuring students in the program have transportation access to internships and employment opportunities in the community.

Workforce & Talent

Focuses on convening partners from businesses to talk through their current and upcoming needs. As a result, schools can educate and train students to go from graduation to the workforce and companies and organizations get the satisfaction of hiring a locally-educated workforce.





A Greater Topeka Partnership Organization



Prepared for JEDO
Joint Economic Development Organization