

Wisconsin's economy is on the rise—and WEDC is at the heart of that momentum.

With record-breaking investments and nationwide attention, Wisconsin's economy is accelerating—and WEDC is leading the charge. In partnership with the private sector, we're fueling a statewide movement to build an Economy for All—one that empowers local businesses to grow, attracts industry leaders to call Wisconsin home, meets evolving workforce demands, sparks innovation through entrepreneurship, and lifts up rural communities.

Record capital investment

From global corporations to local development, this wave of investment is fueling economic momentum across the state.



\$2B

In WEDC-supported capital investment



More than
\$825M

in capital investment on community projects.

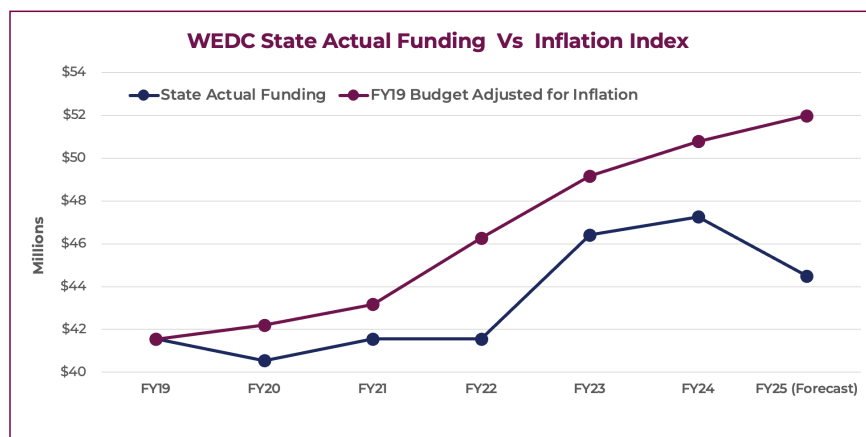


More than
\$636M

in wage growth across the state in the current biennium

Wisconsin in the national spotlight

In just a short span, Wisconsin has captured national attention—and measurable economic impact—through high-profile events that put our communities, culture, and capabilities in the spotlight.



Backing a winning team

Despite WEDC's expanding impact and growing responsibilities, its core funding has not kept pace with inflation.

WEDC budget request

\$55 million block grant or one-time funding of \$20 million.

Meeting workforce needs

In partnership with the Department of Workforce Development, 28 regional Workforce Innovation Projects have expanded access to training and career pathways across Wisconsin.



Training tomorrow's workforce. More than 25,000 people have received workforce training in critical fields such as nursing, education, advanced manufacturing, and forestry. Additionally, more than 135,000 workforce transportation rides have been provided to support more than 6,000 workers in reaching and maintaining employment.



Boosting employment access. WEDC's talent attraction efforts resulted in over 1,300 inquiries from people looking to move to our state.



Talent attraction impact. Unlike most Midwestern states, Wisconsin saw population growth in 2023–24, with 30,000 new residents calling our state home.

Investing in entrepreneurs and startups



WEDC helped win \$49 million in federal Regional Technology Hub funding for our state's biohealth industry, which is expected to create more than 30,000 jobs and \$9 billion in growth over the next 10 years.



Under WEDC's direction, the Wisconsin Investment Fund will invest more than \$100 million over the next 10 years, yielding up to \$500 million in total impact during the fund's lifetime.



WEDC has incentivized more than \$37 million in investment through certifying startups at Qualified New Business Ventures, allowing investors to receive more than \$9 million in tax credits.

Keeping our rural communities thriving



\$300,000 in Thrive Rural grants to help 10 communities build their futures through targeted investments and strategic planning



WEDC and UW-Extension are teaming up to help rural entrepreneurs bring the Next Big Idea to market

“ We are thrilled for the community to finally see what we've been working on for over a year, our hope is that this project will not only strengthen the existing Pittsville businesses but also spark new economic development in our community. ”

— Julie Strenn, Board President,
CranCity Corner
(Thrive Rural grant program recipient)