

## Analysis of Industrial Employment by County

With information gathered from the Harris Indiana Industrial Directory, in the 2003 - 2007 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the largest employers were identified in each county. Then the employment numbers were tracked over the last five years. With that information we identified what type of manufacturing was largest in each county and the employment levels of that industry.

Using the 2005 Harris Indiana Industrial Directory, we have continued to track the employment of the lead industrial employers in each county for the past year.

### **CRAWFORD**

According to the 2000 Census data, the largest industrial employment in Crawford County was the manufacturing sector. The county's biggest employers continue to be Jasper Engines and Transmissions, Inc. and Mulzer Crushed Stone, Inc.

Jasper Engines and Transmissions, Inc. still remains the largest industrial employer in the county. Jasper Engines and Transmissions, Inc., manufactures drive trains, engines, and transmissions. Disassembly and cleaning are the primary functions at the Crawford County site. Over the last year they have maintained their employment level of 300 employees.

Mulzer Crushed Stone, Inc. continues to be the seconded largest employer in Crawford County, employing 119 employees. They manufacture riprap, crushed stone, agricultural lime, and sand and gravel construction materials. Mulzer Crushed Stone, Inc. has maintained its level of employment over the last year.

### **DUBOIS**

Thirty-seven and a half percent (37.5%) of Dubois County's employment is in the manufacturing sector, with a high volume of the manufacturing being in the wood working manufacturing industry. There are six industries located in Dubois County that employ over 550 employees, and four of the six are in the wood or furniture-manufacturing sector.

Kimball International, Inc. continues to be the largest employer in Dubois County, employing approximately 2,550 people. Kimball Electronics Group manufactures electronic products on a contract basis. Kimball International, Inc. manufactures office, residential, and hospitality furniture. Kimball has increased its employment by 16% over the last year.

Jasper Engines & Transmissions, Inc., continues to be the second largest employer in the county. Jasper Engines & Transmissions, Inc., has increased their employment to 1,600 over the past year, adding 100 new jobs.

Masterbrand Cabinets, Inc., a manufacturer of wooden & laminated kitchen and bathroom cabinets has increased employment by thirty-three percent (33%) over the last year.

Jasper Rubber Products, Inc. is the fourth largest industrial employer in the Dubois County employing 850 people. This company manufactures rubber mechanical, molded, extruded and lathe cut gaskets, as well as molded and extruded thermoplastic rubber. The company has maintained its employment level over the past year.

Office Furniture Systems, Inc. (OFS), which manufactures wooden office furniture, has increased its employment by 196 which is twenty-four percent (24%) over the last year.

Best Chairs, Inc., has increased its employment level to 700, which has made it the sixth largest employer in Dubois County. Best Chairs, Inc., manufactures upholstered chairs, recliners, gliders, and rockers.

## **ORANGE**

Like the other counties in the region, Orange County's biggest industrial employer is in the manufacturing sector. Three of the five largest manufacturing employers continue to be in the wood or furniture industry.

Paoli, Inc., which was established in 1926, is still Orange County's biggest employer, employing 630 people. Paoli, Inc. manufactures desks and upholstered furniture. Paoli, Inc. has maintained its employment levels, even with the decline in the wood manufacturing industry.

Pluto Corp., formerly AHF Industries, Inc., manufactures blow molded plastic bottles and is a contract packaging service provider. Pluto Corp. is currently the county's second largest industrial employer. This company has maintained its employment level since last year.

JSI, Inc., a wooden office furniture manufacturer, is the third largest industrial employer in Orange County. JSI has continued to maintain its employment level over the last year.

Mi-Lin Wood Products manufactures wood dimension projects. They have reduced their employment level by five people since last year.

White Castle System, Inc. manufactures frozen meat patties for the White Castle Restaurant chain. White Castle Systems, Inc. has increased its employment level since last year by one percent (1%).

## **PERRY**

Perry County's largest industrial employment is also in manufacturing. Unlike the other counties in the region, Perry County has a more diverse manufacturing sector. Only two of the county's largest employers are in the wood or furniture manufacturing industry.

Perry County's largest employer is Thyssen Krupp, formerly Waupaca Foundry, Inc. Recently established in 1997, they manufacture gray and ductile iron foundries, castings, and parts. Thyssen Krupp has maintained its employment level at 800 over the last year.

Parker Hannifin Corp, is the second largest industrial employer in Perry County, employing approximately 120 workers. They manufacture liquid and gas filtration media and honeycomb lifter tubes and bags, microfiber depth filters, and pleated cartridges. Parker Hannifin has maintained its employment level since last year.

General Electric Company, a manufacturer of electric motors, was the County's third largest industrial employer, however, in January 2005 General Electric closed its door displacing 60 workers.

Best Chairs, Inc, a manufacturer of glide rockers and ottomans, has climbed to the county's third largest industrial employer. Best Chairs, Inc. has increased its employment by thirty-one percent (31%) over the last year.

Stewart Warner South Wind Corp, a manufacturer of heat exchangers, is the fourth largest industrial employer in Perry County. This Company has maintained its employment over the last year.

Can-Clay has moved up to the fifth largest industrial employer in Perry County. Can-Clay manufactures clay sewer pipe, tunneling and jacking pipe, and chimney top filter blocks. Can-Clay has maintained its employment level over the last year.

## **PIKE**

Twenty-six percent (26%) of Pike County's industrial employment is in the manufacturing sector. Pike County has three industrial employers that have approximately 100 or more employees. The majority of the employment is in the mining sector, with two of the largest employers being bituminous surface coal mining companies.

Five Star Mining continues to be the largest employer in the county. However, this Company decreased its employment by five percent (5%) over the past year. Five Star Mining was established in 1999 and provides underground bituminous coal mining services.

Kindill Mining, Inc. was established in 1972, and also mines underground bituminous coal. In the 2004 CEDS, Kindill was identified as the second largest industrial employer. However in September 2004, Kindill Mining, Inc. ceased operations. This resulted in the loss of 240 jobs.

Pike County Area Rehabilitation Center is tied for the second largest employer in Pike County. This company is a sheltered workshop for cardboard and metal recycling services. Pike County Area Rehabilitation has maintained its employment since last year.

Solar Sources, Inc. is tied for the second largest employer in Pike County. Solar Sources, Inc., a bituminous surface coal mining company has also maintained its employment level over the last year.

## **SPENCER**

Like the other five counties in the region, Spencer County's biggest industrial employer is in the manufacturing sector. Over twenty-eight percent (28%) of Spencer County's labor force is employed in the manufacturing sector.

Spencer Industries, Inc. has become the largest industrial employer in the county. Spencer Industries has added 194 additional employees. Spencer Industries, Inc. manufactures custom vacuum form, pressure form, and twin sheet thermoformed plastics.

Abbey Press is now the second largest employer in Spencer County and one of the oldest. Abbey Press was established in 1867. They provide offset printing and direct marketing services. The Abbey Press has maintained its level of employment over the last year.

Kimball International - Heritage Hills Division has fallen from the second largest industrial employer in Spencer County to the third largest. The Heritage Hills plant has 350 employees. Kimball International - Heritage Hills Division, manufactures wooden and laminated television cabinets, speaker enclosures, and stands.

AK Steel Corp., which manufactures hot rolled flat steel is the County's fourth largest industrial employer. AK Steel Corp. has maintained its employment level over the past year.

Peerless Pottery, Inc. started 2004 as the County's fifth largest employer. The company was established in 1902, and manufactured vitreous china plumbing fixtures. However, on October 31, 2004, Peerless Pottery closed its doors, resulting in the loss of 167 jobs.

Thermwood Corp., a manufacturer of computer controlled routing equipment for woodworking and plastics, has maintained employment over the past year. Thermwood Corp. is the fifth largest employer in Spencer County.