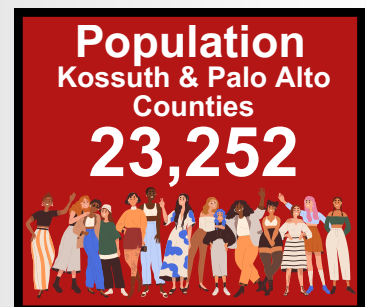




Economic Impact

2025 Snapshot

K/PACEDC supports the growth of existing business and industry, along with the creation of new business. This report provides an overview of both Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties' current economic development climate for businesses, education, healthcare, agriculture, and renewable fuels.



Sources: Lightcast 2025: Kossuth County Assessor & Palo Alto County Assessor

Iowa Lakes Community College

\$1,020,567 in scholarships were awarded in 2024-2025

Iowa Lakes is home to award-winning programs!

#1 Aviation & Airport Management Program in the U.S.

#2 Powersports & Power Equipment Program — the only motorcycle mechanic school in Iowa.

71% of Iowa Lakes graduates stay in the area and support the economy

Kossuth & Palo Alto County Payroll:
\$5,155,500.52

48% of Iowa Lakes students graduate debt-free

179 of Iowa Lakes employees are from Kossuth or Palo Alto County!

Top Graduating Programs in 2025 by Degrees Earned:

AA/AS Degree, Nursing, Farm Equipment, Ag Production and Electrical Technology

Source: Iowa Lakes Community College FY 2024

K/PACEDC Revolving Loan Funds

22 Kossuth County RLF Businesses Funded

770,400 Dollars Invested
115 Jobs Created/Retained Since 2004

15 Palo Alto County RLF Businesses Funded

582,000 Dollars Invested
60 Jobs Created/Retained Since 2008

Sources: K/PACEDC Revolving Loan

Crops & Agriculture

in Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties

Overall Farming

Total Farmland: 584,543 acres
Average Farm Size: 436 acres
Number of Farms: 1,342

Century Farms
(100 years in the same family):
402 Century Farms

Heritage Farms
(150 years in the same family):
11 Heritage Farms

Kossuth County

Corn Production

Area Planted: 294,443 acres
Yield per Acre: 180.3

Soybean Production

Area Planted: 220,326 acres
Yield per Acre: 54.5

Farmland Value\$

In 2024, Kossuth County had
an average land value of
\$12,996 per acre!

Pork Production

Overall Total: 566,671 hogs
Number of Hog Farms: 130
Number of Jobs Created: 1,256
State Rank in Production: 9

Cattle Production

Overall Total: 21,000
Number of Jobs Created: 236
Labor income: \$9,857,956
State Rank in Production: 59

2024 Kossuth County corn and soybean county estimates were not publishable

Palo Alto County

Overall Farming

Total Farmland: 360,741 acres
Average Farm Size: 428 acres
Number of Farms: 842

Century Farms
(100 years in the same family):
185 Century Farms

Heritage Farms
(150 years in the same family):
9 Heritage Farms

Corn Production

Harvested Acres: 157,900 acres
Yield per Acre: 211.7 bushels/acre
Bushels Produced: 33,427,000

Soybean Production

Harvested Acres: 123,700 acres
Yield per Acre: 59.2 bushes/acre
Bushels Produced: 7,323,000

Farmland Value\$

In 2024, Palo Alto County had
an average land value of
\$12,802 per acre!

Pork Production

Overall Total: 829,059 hogs
Number of Hog Farms: 71
Number of Jobs Created: 947
State Rank in Production: 6

Cattle Production

Overall Total: 23,500 cows
Number of Jobs Created: 262
Labor income: \$10,931,646
State Rank in Production: 56

Sources: USDA; National Agricultural Statistics Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, Iowa Pork Producers 2025 EI, Iowa Beef Industry Council 2024 EI, Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

Renewable Fuels

in Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties

59M

Estimated Bushels
of corn processed annually

1.4M

Tax Dollars
Returned to the area annually

169M

Estimated Gallons
of ethanol produced annually

180

Estimated Direct Jobs

67.8M

Estimated Gallons
Soy Biodiesel Annual Capacity



E15 is approved by the EPA for use in
all light duty vehicles built since 2001.
This accounts for about **96% of**
today's automotive fleet

Source: POET FY 2024, Valero FY 2024, EMSI Q2 2024; Ethanol RFA 2024

Manufacturing & Production

in Kossuth & Palo Alto Counties

Manufacturing and production companies are vital to Kossuth and Palo Alto counties as they create many jobs and stimulate the local economy through wages, taxes, and local spending and giving. They help develop a skilled workforce through training and education partnerships. They can also help grow and attract related businesses and play key roles in larger supply chains, boosting regional development.

Here's a look at some of Kossuth & Palo Alto County's manufacturing/production companies:



Of 285 employees:
285 are residents of Kossuth and Palo Alto counties!

The Algona location produces Hormel pepperoni, which is the **#1** selling retail pepperoni in the country. Additionally, Hormel produces pepperoni for food service, restaurants, and hospitality channels. This is the company's flagship pepperoni plant - producing about a one million pounds of pepperoni a week!



Of 430 employees:
357 are residents of Kossuth and Palo Alto counties!

The Algona location was established in 1956, originally as a hemp plant. The Algona location is the only manufacturer of all Snap-On Tool storage. Their line to paint the tool boxes is $\frac{2}{3}$ of a mile long. Algona's Snap-On location uses over one million pounds of steel per week!

Smithfield

Good food. Responsibly.®

Of 96 employees:
78 are residents of Kossuth and Palo Alto counties!

Smithfield is the world's largest pork processor and hog producer and ranked **#2** for packaged meats. They have 82 contract grower sites in Kossuth and 51 contract grower sites in Palo Alto, which produce 1.1 million hogs per year. Smithfield has an estimated annual payroll of **\$5,506,977!**



Of 52 employees:
52 are residents of Kossuth and Palo Alto counties!

Precision Food Innovations' equipment ends up in factories all over the world, meaning their day-to-day job supports everything from bakery production in Spain to tortillas in Australia, and everything in between!



Of 30 employees:
17 are residents of Kossuth and Palo Alto counties!

In 2025, Montag Manufacturing is celebrating the 20-year anniversary. Montag Manufacturing has products in 6 of the 7 continents! Montag Manufacturing has an estimated annual payroll of **\$970,000!**



Of 177 employees:
160 are residents of Kossuth and Palo Alto counties!

Since purchasing the site in the 1990's, the Bancroft facility has been expanded 4 times. Aluma purchased the Emmetsburg facility to accommodate continued growth! The number of lines in Bancroft has increased from 3 to 7 lines!



Of 88 employees:
66 are residents of Kossuth and Palo Alto counties!

In 2024, Country Maid braided 420 miles of Butter Braid® Pastries. That's enough to cross the state of Iowa, east to west, almost one and a half times. In 2024, County Maid used 2.7 million pounds of flour in the plant. To imagine the scale, that's the same weight as 108 school buses. They use the equivalent of 69,500 eggs every day!



Of 18 employees:
11 are residents of Kossuth and Palo Alto counties!

Protein Resources started in 1956 as an alfalfa storage building. They have evolved into a custom feed ingredient manufacturing facility over the years, drying liquids onto dry carriers. In 2024, Protein Resources Manufactured over 10,000 tons of feed ingredient, the majority of which is exported to Asia!

HOSPITAL IMPACTS ON LOCAL ECONOMY

KOSSUTH REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER CREATES:



Emergency Room Visits: 4,674
 Total Outpatient Visits: 114,678
 Community Health Visits: 8,380
 Volunteers: 51
 Total Admissions: 1,608
 Births: 139
 Surgeries: 915
 Clinic Visits: 40,435

486.7 TOTAL JOBS



- In Kossuth County 7.3% of all jobs come from KRHC

\$30,873,618 TOTAL WAGES

- In Kossuth County 9.2% of all wages come from KRHC

\$71,946,918 TOTAL EXPENSES



- 7.3% of Kossuth County gross domestic product

PALO ALTO COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM CREATES:



Emergency Room Visits: 3,434
 Total Outpatient Visits: 20,479
 Community Health Visits: 4,060
 Volunteers: 35
 Total Admissions: 378
 Births: 79
 Surgeries: 772
 Clinic Visits: 25,823

631.8 TOTAL JOBS



- In Palo Alto County 16.8% of all jobs come from PACHS

\$29,393,660 TOTAL WAGES

- In Palo Alto County 17.6% of all wages come from PACHS

\$65,872,613 TOTAL EXPENSES



- 10.2% of Palo Alto County gross domestic product

Sources: Iowa Hospital Association August 2025 Data; Kossuth Regional Health Center; Palo Alto County Health System



Employees: 120 Full Time, 35 Part Time

Adjusted Gross Revenue: \$30,925,000

Admissions: 25,925 Customers/month

Benefits to Palo Alto County

The average customer at the Emmetsburg casino spends **\$98.46** on the gambling floor.

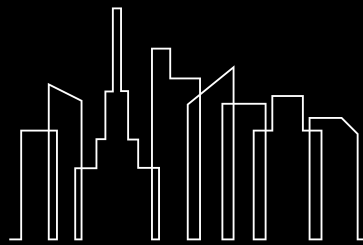
6% of gaming revenues are received through the Palo Alto County Gaming Development Corporation and distributed to local governments, schools, and area non-profit organizations totaling more than **\$31.2 million** over the past **18 years**.

These grants provide improvements throughout the county and surrounding areas including: new equipment/building for hospitals, fire departments, law enforcement, schools, cities, area organizations and the development of recreational trails.

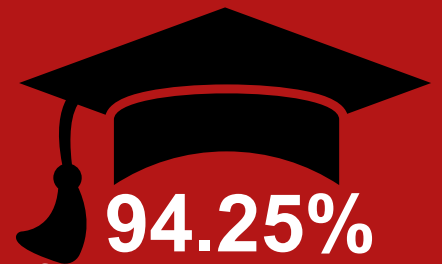
Sources: Wild Rose Casino; Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission



9 New Housing Permits Issued



62 New Sales Tax Permits Issued



94.25% of residents have a high school diploma or higher

Sources: IA Dept of Revenue; Kossuth/Palo Alto Zoning Dept.

KOSSUTH / PALO ALTO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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