



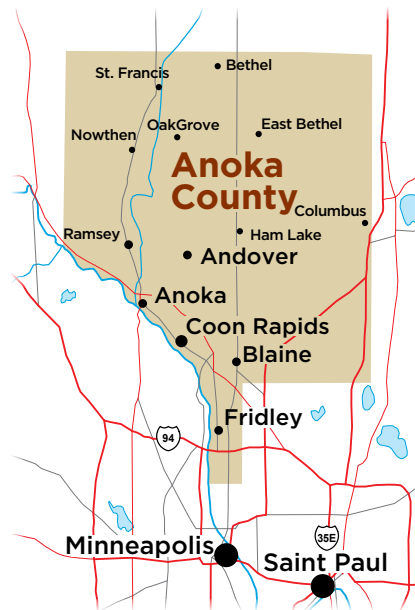
ANOKA COUNTY

Regional Economic Development



Positioned for Success!

Anoka County is a place where businesses may access all of what the Twin Cities has to offer, but without the expense and hassle of being in a densely populated urban core. Our robust manufacturing sector is enhanced by growing, innovative industries, such as medical devices, plastics, and precision instruments. Along with being in close proximity to a major Midwestern city, businesses are drawn to our skilled labor force with renowned productivity and work ethic, lower labor costs, lower manufacturing tax burdens, and other attractive assets. Anoka County offers livable, lower-cost access to the Minneapolis/St. Paul MSA - we're positioned for success!



Cities Within Eight Hours of Anoka County

Chicago, IL
Des Moines, IA
Duluth, MN
Fargo, ND
Kansas City, MO
Lincoln, NE
Milwaukee, WI
Sioux Falls, SD
Thunder Bay, Ontario
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Within an eight-hour drive, companies located in Anoka County can reach nearly

44 million people in the U.S.

U.S. Census, 2017

The Transportation Infrastructure Your Business Needs



Highway: • **I-35** (to Duluth) and **I-94** (to Fargo) connect the county to Minneapolis.



• **US Highway 10/65** runs north and south through the entire county.

Air:



• **Anoka County-Blaine Airport** serves more than 74,000 takeoffs and landings annually; 377 planes are based there. It has two runways of 5000 and 4855 feet and is served by an Instrumental Landing System.

• Located less than 52 minutes south is the **Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP)**, the largest and busiest airport in the Upper Midwest region. It is Delta Airlines' second largest hub, and a total of 17 airlines provide direct flights to 168 destinations worldwide.

Unsurpassed Business Climate

Anoka County offers your business the advantages of one of the nation's leading business climates in Minnesota and the Twin Cities MSA!

Best-Run State in America

24/7 Wall Street/USA Today, 2017

1st in Fortune 500 Companies Per Capita

(Twin Cities); **3rd Per Capita** (Minnesota)
Fortune, 2018

1st in 5-Year Business Survival Rate

Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012-2017

1st in Main Street Entrepreneurship, larger states

The 2016 Kauffman Index

2nd Best State Overall

U.S. News & World Report, 2018

2nd Strongest State in the Nation

Politico, 2018

6th in America's Top States for Business

CNBC, 2018

7th Best Economy

24/7 Wall Street, 2018

7th in Technology and Science Business Strength

Milken Institute 2016 State Technology and Science Index

8th in Largest Private Companies

Forbes, 2017

Anoka County is Home to These Leading Companies:

Medtronic

AVEDA®



PENTAIR

BAE SYSTEMS

HOFFMAN
ENGINEERING

ATK



Skilled Workforce

Because manufacturing is in our DNA, Anoka County has extremely high concentrations of the following manufacturing occupations (location quotient > 2.5)



- Electromechanical Equipment Assemblers
- Plating and Coating Machine Operators
- Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers
- Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Programmers and Operators
- Machinists
- Industrial Engineering Technicians
- Medical Appliance Technicians
- Industrial Engineers
- Industrial Production Managers
- Mechanical Engineering Technicians
- Tool and Die Makers



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Workforce Training

Anoka-Hennepin School District

- One of Minnesota's largest, serving approximately 38,000 students and 248,000 residents
- Unique career-focused programs provide high schools specialized classes in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, and Biomedical Science.



Anoka Technical College – Offers more than 35 programs across the levels of Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees, diplomas and certificates. Its largest programs include Practical Nursing, Information Technology, Welding and Medical Assistant.



Anoka-Ramsey Community College – Offers over 100

transferrable courses and programs and has an annual enrollment of over 12,000 each year. Its most popular programs include Associate's Degrees in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Registered Nursing and Business. Anoka Ramsey Community College is nationally ranked as the top 10 Community Colleges in Excellence and offers the lowest tuition in the state.

Professional & Workforce Training – Anoka Technical College and Anoka-Ramsey Community College collaborate on the Professional & Workforce Training Program, which works with businesses to develop customized programs for their employees' training needs.



Being close to the Twin Cities, Anoka County businesses have access to a talent pipeline from 34 colleges and universities in the Greater MSP region.

Educational Attainment	Anoka County	Minneapolis MSA	MN	WI	ND	SD	US
High School	93.4%	93.1%	92.3%	90.7%	91.3%	90.7%	86.3%
2-Year Degree	12.1%	9.9%	10.5%	9.9%	13.0%	10.5%	7.9%

High educational attainment levels for high school diplomas and 2-year degrees.



Lower Cost of Doing Business

Occupation	Anoka County Median Wage	Minneapolis MSA	Minnesota
First-Line Supervisors of Helpers, Laborers, and Material Movers, Hand	\$22.00	\$23.46	\$23.84
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$21.57	\$22.10	\$20.72
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	\$15.68	\$17.52	\$16.39
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	\$17.14	\$18.08	\$17.83
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$13.67	\$14.67	\$14.49
Packers and Packagers, Hand	\$11.53	\$12.17	\$11.5
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$25.27	\$28.26	\$27.35
Billing and Posting Clerks	\$17.24	\$19.41	\$18.53
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	\$18.30	\$20.40	\$19.26
Customer Service Representatives	\$16.54	\$18.60	\$17.67
Computer Systems Analysts	\$40.64	\$44.70	\$43.14
Computer Programmers	\$34.93	\$38.37	\$38.33
Software Developers, Applications	\$41.37	\$44.00	\$43.57
Web Developers	\$28.89	\$32.45	\$31.06



Businesses within Anoka County enjoy lower labor costs in many key professions compared to the Twin Cities and Minnesota.



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Key Statewide Incentives

Angel Tax Credit: Small tech firms in Minnesota can qualify for up to \$1 million in angel tax credits.

Small Business Credit Initiative: This capital access initiative allocates up to \$15.4 million into three state programs.

Minnesota Investment Fund: Awards grants to local units of government, which use the money to provide below-market rate loans to help companies expand. Funding may be used to purchase land, machinery and equipment.

Small Business Development Loan Program: The program provides loans for business expansions that result in the creation of new jobs. Loans are up to \$5 million.

Indian Business Loan Program: Supports the development of Indian-owned and operated businesses and promotes economic opportunities for Indian people in Minnesota.

Minnesota Job Creation Fund: The fund provides up to \$1 million in grants to approved businesses after specified job creation and capital investment goals are achieved.

Research and Development Tax Credit: A credit of 10 percent, up to the first \$2 million in eligible expenses, and 2.5 percent for eligible expenses above \$2 million.

Minnesota Growth Acceleration Program: Provides consulting services to help small manufacturers become more efficient and competitive.

Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Program: Partners with businesses and schools to develop new-job training or retraining for existing employees. Training grants are offered in five different program areas.

Scitechsperience Internship Program: This paid internship program connects college students in science, technology, engineering and math disciplines with rewarding hands-on opportunities at Minnesota companies that need their skills.

Data Center Incentive Program: Companies that build data or network operations that meet size and investment requirements qualify for a sales tax exemption for 20 years on computer, cooling and energy needs, and receive permanent personal property tax exemption.

Bioscience Incentive Program: Provides production payments to encourage commercial-scale production of advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals, and thermal energy production from biomass.

Key Local Incentives

Many municipalities and utility companies in Anoka County offer tax abatement, tax increment financing, and other business incentives.





Quality of Life

Anoka County offers an ideal fusion between small-town communities and easy access to everything happening in Minneapolis/St. Paul. With low costs of living, access to a prominent arts community, and many other cultural amenities, your employees are sure to enjoy Anoka County.

- **Anoka County ranks in the Top 20 out of all 87 Minnesota counties for Overall Health Outcomes**

University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, 2018

- **Anoka County has competitive property values for homeowners**

- Anoka County = \$215,200
- Minneapolis = \$240,500
- Minnesota average = \$211,800

Data USA

- **Safe Streets** – On a crime scale from 1 (low crime) to 100 (high crime), Anoka County rates 26.9 for Property Crime, which is lower than Minneapolis (32), Minnesota (32.5) and U.S. average (38.1)

Sperling's Best Places, 2018

- **Climate** – Despite our northern location, there are an average of 196 sunny days per year in Anoka County, close to the the U.S. average of 205 sunny days
Sperling's Best Places, 2018
- **10th fastest growing county since 2010 in Minnesota**
U.S. Census, 2017

- **Access to Parks** – People in Anoka County have access to over 11,500 acres of parks – an average of two parks within a half mile.
AARP Livability Index, 2018

- **95 percent of people in the county have nearby access to exercise opportunities**
AARP Livability Index, 2018

- **Community Engagement** – 76.1% of people ages 18 or older voted in the last presidential election, compared to U.S. median of 55.6%
AARP Livability Index, 2018



National Sports Center Blaine is home to the National Sports Center, the world's largest amateur sports facility.

TPC Twin Cities Designed by the legendary Arnold Palmer and home of the PGA, TPC has consistently been ranked one of the Top 20 golf courses in Minnesota by Golf Magazine.

Bunker Beach Water Park Located in Coon Rapids, the largest water park in Minnesota also features the state's largest wave pool and six water slides.

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve, a world-class ecological research site, offers hiking, tours, and other public programs.

Lyric Arts Main Street Stage Located in Anoka's historic downtown, Lyric Arts professional company presents leading edge drama, comedy, musicals and children's productions.

Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts This premier art center in Fridley features rotating exhibits by visual artists, literary readings, and classes in writing and visual arts.

Cost of living:

35%

Less than
Minneapolis
MSA



To learn how Anoka County can position your business for success, call me today!

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