

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

| O C T O B E R 2 0 2 3 |

| P R E S E N T E D B Y |  
BARBARA BREWER-WATSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

| P R E P A R E D B Y |  
DEVYN FORQUER  
LEONEL B. JARAMILLO





# NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

# SEPTEMBER 2023



Heights Financial  
Corpration 9/06

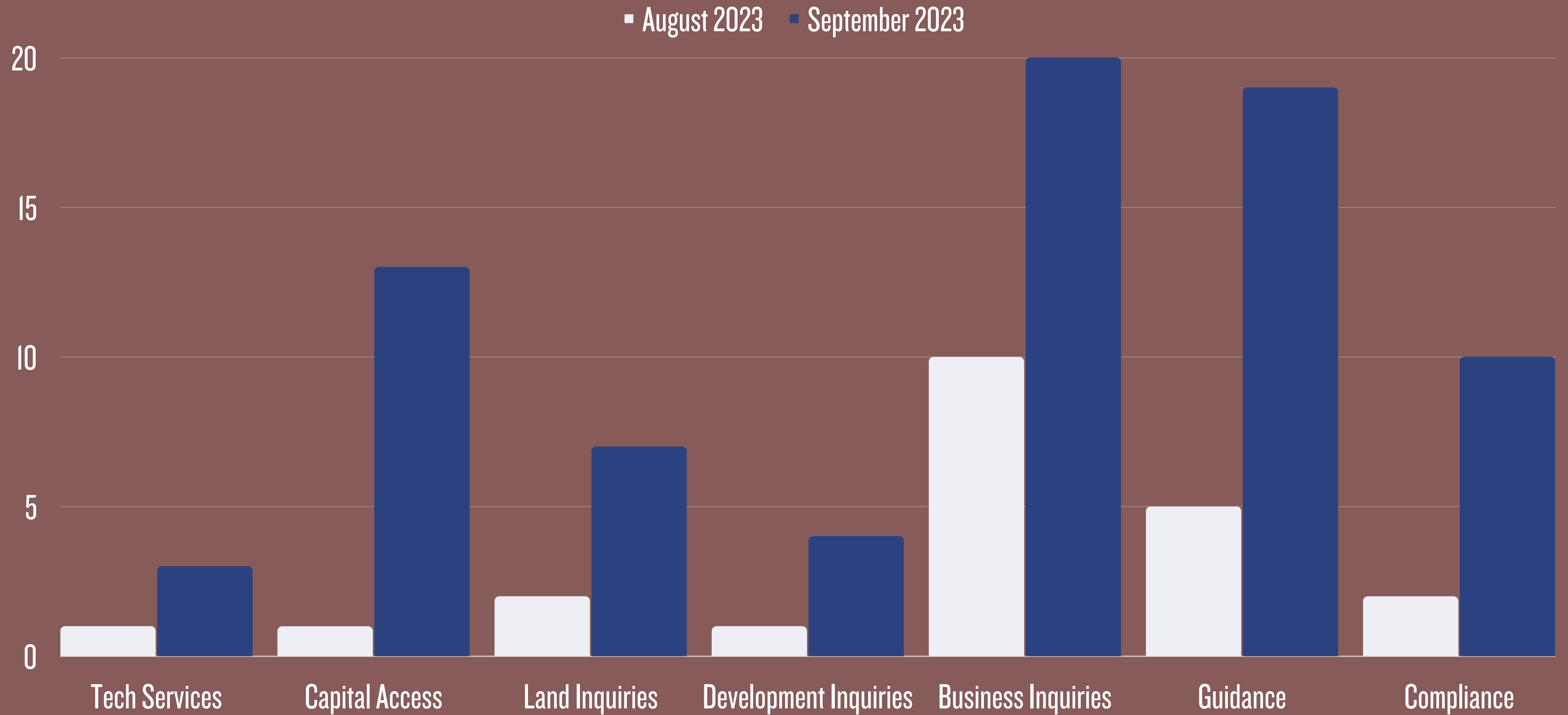
Thrive  
Mushrooms 9/11

AllSource  
Environmental 9/18

30 TOTAL TO DATE

\*indicates home-based

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NAVIGATOR REPORT



# ATTRACTION REPORT

## | **MARKETING** |

Finishing touches being made to the developer prospectus. A "For Businesses" page is being developed for the city webpage. Working on new attraction booth.

## | **DEVELOPMENT INQUIRIES** |

**30 NEW INQUIRIES**

**20 NEW BUSINESS - SENIOR CARE, CAFÉ, TATTOO SHOP,  
LANDSCAPING, REAL ESTATE**

**4 LAND - CONDITIONAL USE, SITE SELECTION, SITE PLAN  
REVIEW, ZONING**

**4 OUT OF CITY - PEMBROKE/HOPKINS PARK AREA, AROMA  
PARK, BOURBONNAIS, ST. ANNE**

**2 RELOCATIONS - SPRINGFIELD, JAMAICA**

# ATTRACTION

# REPORT

CONTINUED

## | EVENTS |

### HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION - 09/16

- 12+ interactions
- 5 new business inquiries
- 4 out of 5 new business inquiries were of youth aged 21 & under

## **| NLC CIE COMMITMENT |**

**Committing for a third year to NLC's City Innovations Ecosystem. Kankakee is committed to develop an operational strategy for the business incubator. We have been awarded another \$15,000.00 grant.**

## **| EASTSIDE SPECIAL SERVICE #5 |**

**Preliminary work was completed to re-establish a non-profit organization to manage the East Court St. Special Service #5. This NPO would behave similarly to the downtown Kankakee Development Corporation for Special Service Area #1. Now focused on setting interest meeting to establish a board of directors to partner with the City to manage this SSA.**

# **RETENTION**

# **REPORT**

# PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

## | **MARKETING** |

BOOTH ORDERED 9/18

DEVELOPMENT ZONE BOOK IN PROCESS- DEADLINE 10/3

## | **PATHFINDER CONTRACT** |

CURRENT: ARPA FUNDING VIDEO

ON DECK: STRUCTURE VIDEO

## | **CONTRACTOR AD CAMPAIGN** |

PRESS RELEASE - SOCIAL MEDIA - TEARAWAYS OUT TO PUBLIC -

DIGITAL AD - BOOSTED POST

14 REGISTRATIONS (9/14/23)

## | **CENSUS** |

RECEIVED MUNICIPAL SEWER BILLS, SORTED BY  
WARDS, MOVING INTO USING GIS FOR TAX RECORDS  
TO CHECK FOR VACANCIES

## | **E.D. SOCIALS** |

WORKING ON ECDA BRANDING

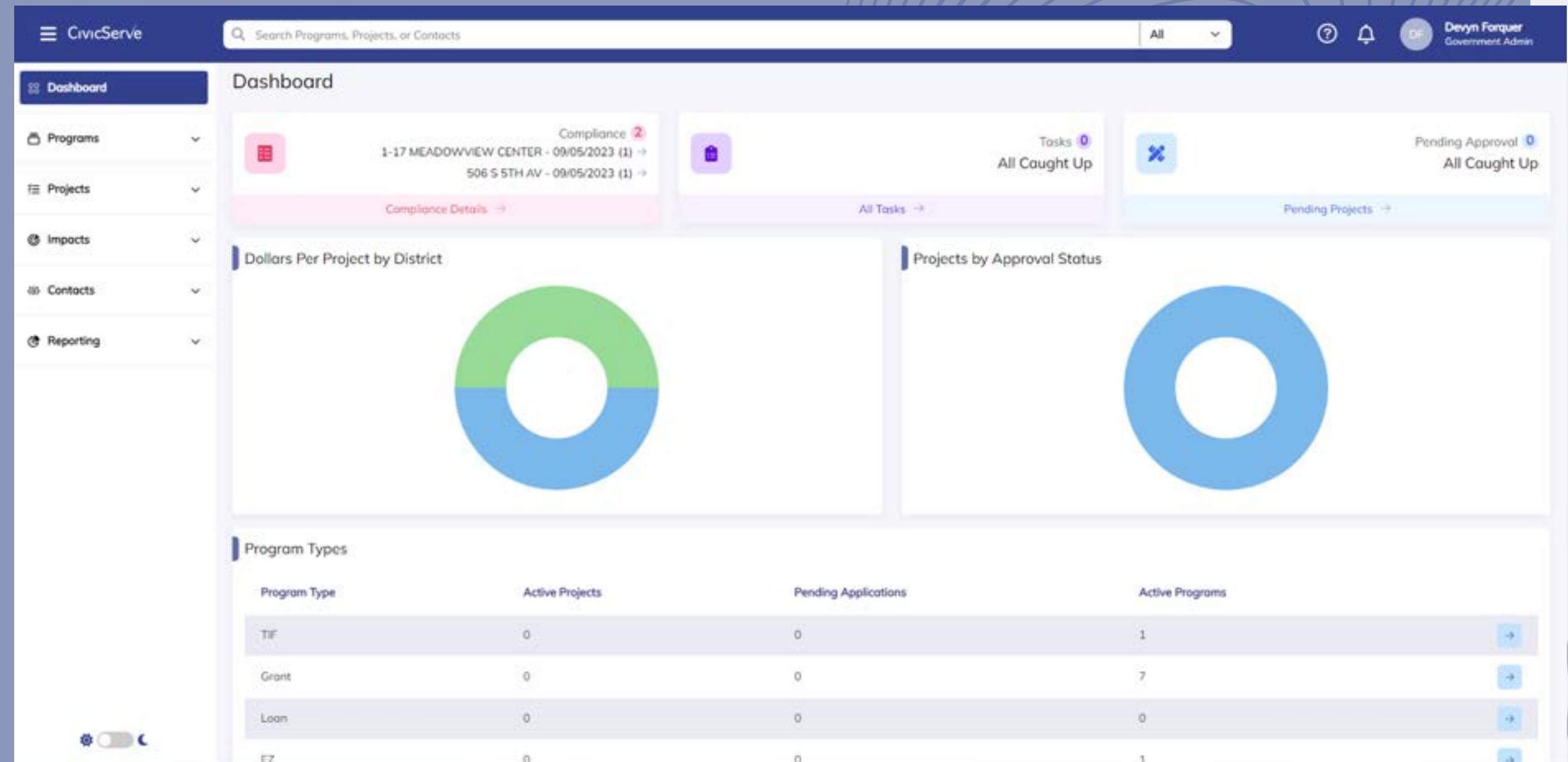
## | **KANKAKEE WORKS** |

IN LEGAL REVIEW - PRESS RELEASE ON HOLD  
DOWN THE PIPE: SOCIALS/WEBPAGE/APPLICATION

# PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

## | CIVIC SERVE |

CIVIC SERVE IS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOFTWARE THAT ALLOWS ORGANIZATIONS TO TRACK EVERYTHING FROM TIF DOLLARS, LOANS, GRANTS, PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND MORE.

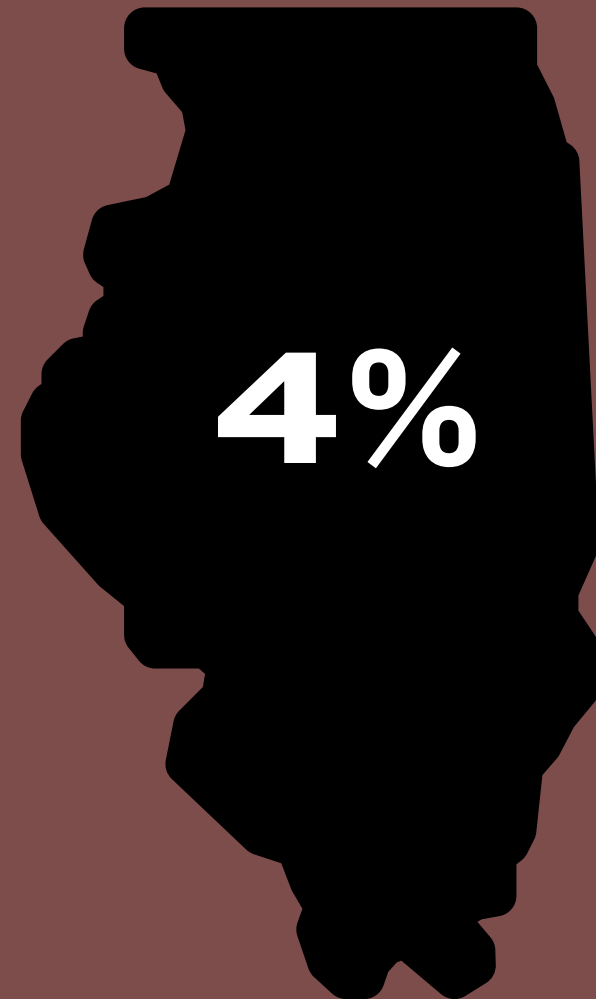
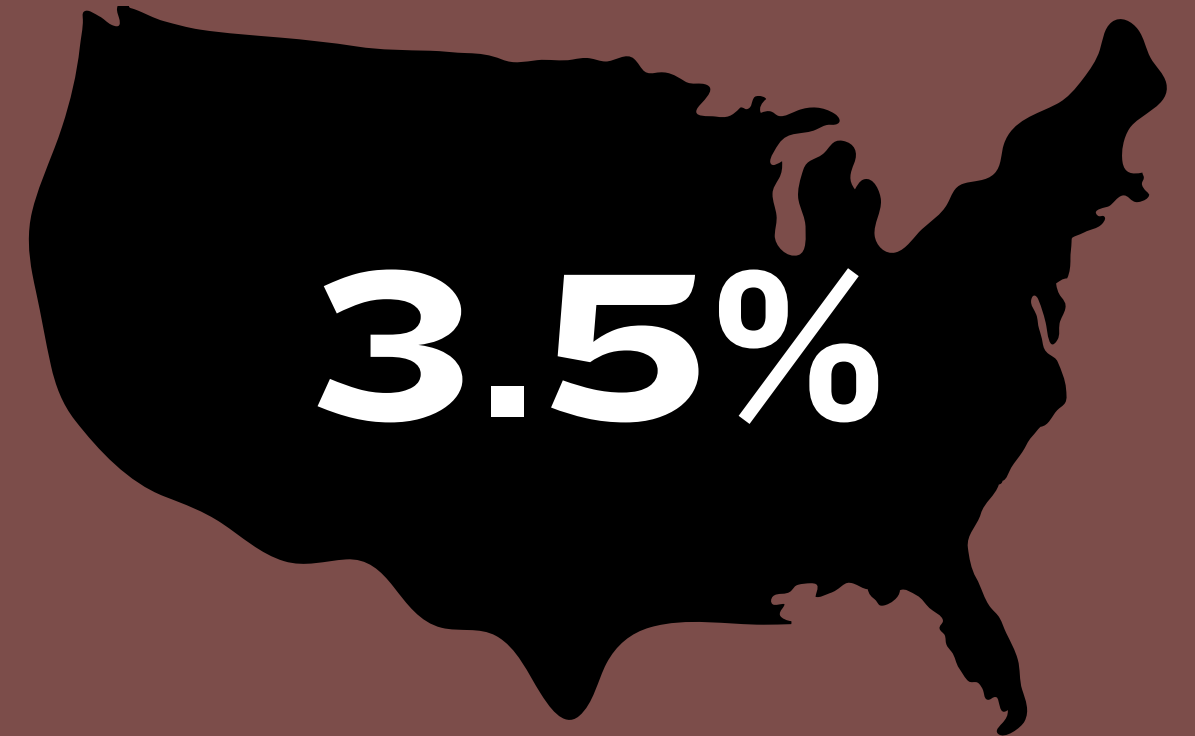




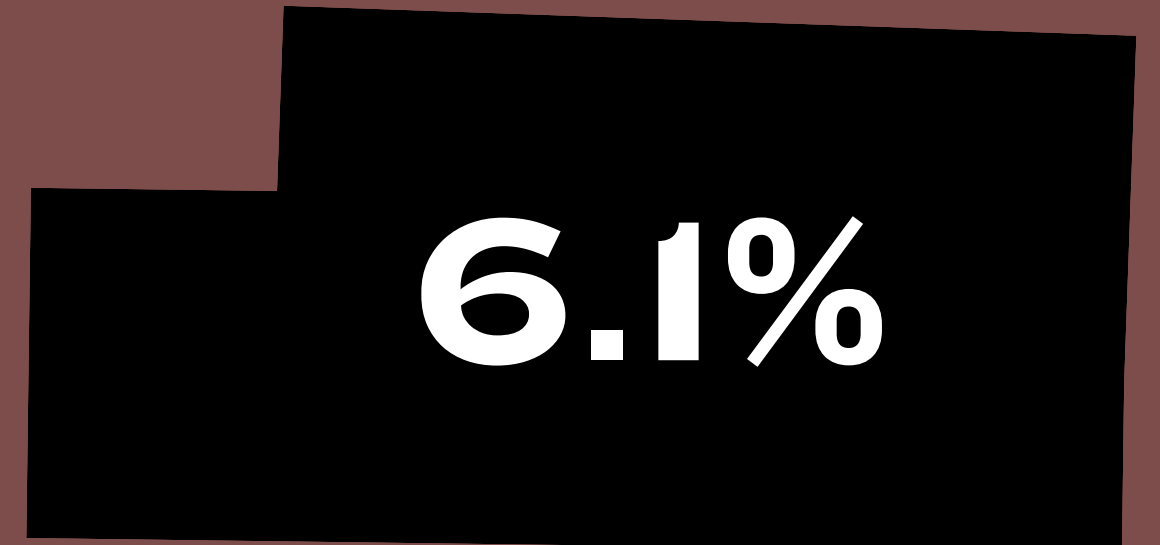
# UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

LAST UPDATE

## JULY 2023



# 8.1%



# **KANKAKEE COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU (KCCVB)**

**| Board of Directors Meeting |**

**3rd Wednesday of each month | 4pm**

*Economic Alliance of Kankakee County Board Room*

**| Executive Committee Meetings |**

**2nd Wednesday of each month | 9:30am**

*KCCVB Board Room*

**KCCVB City Representative  
Alderman Dave Baron**



# KANKAKEE RIVERFRONT SOCIETY (KRS)

Priority notes from Executive Director, Bill Yohnka (September 2023):

- \$27,500 pledged in donations
- Structural engineers evaluated the boathouse in preparation of restoration work starting
- Working on local Visit Kankakee County Community Tourism Action Grant & Midland States Bank

| Board of Director Meetings |  
2nd Tuesday of each month | 11am  
Meeting Locations Vary

KRS City Representative  
Alderman Mike Cobbs

Barbi Watson is the Chairperson.

**THE OUTDOOR  
OF KANKAKEE**



# PRIORITIES

- **Workforce - Unemployment**
- **Housing**
  - **Lengthy discussion on incentivizing new construction in the region.**
  - **Kankakee County Residential Market Analysis housing study released February 2023**
    - **Copy & Paste the link below in a web browser to view the housing study: <https://www.kankakeecountyed.org/wp-content/uploads/2022.11-Kankakee-County-Residential-Market-Analysis.pdf>**

*To read more click on the link below.*

<https://www.kankakeecountyed.org/wp-content/uploads/Q3-2021-EAKC-Board-Report.pdf>



# PROJECT UPDATES



























# BUILDING, PLANNING, & COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

## |PRIORITY COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES|

|JAFFE DRUG| ON COURT STREET

|RIVERSTONE CONVENTION CENTER| PART OF PROJECT VENTURE

|SOUTHWEST| CORNER OF COURT STREET & SCHUYLER AVE

|1933 E. COURT ST| DEMO COMPLETE - BEGINNING RFP PROCESS



400 N. BLOCK OF 5th AVE  
816 S. SCHUYLER AVE



# RECOVERY

BOUNCE BACK

CONNECTIONS TO RESOURCES

PROVIDE EDUCATION

# ECDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## IMPROVE

CONSISTENT RETENTION VISITS

CONSISTENT ATTRACTION EFFORTS

SURVEY

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

## REFINE

MARKETING MATERIALS

MESSAGING PLATFORMS & STYLES

BRAND MANAGEMENT

## OPTIMIZE

TIME MANAGEMENT

REPORTING MEANINGFUL DATA

USE OF INTERNS

## TRAIN

ATTEND VIRTUAL CONFERENCES

APPLY FOR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

OBTAIN INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

# 2023 STRATEGIC WORK



**RACIAL & ECONOMIC  
DISPARITIES**

**MOBILITY**

**AGING & OBSOLETE  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**SWIFTLY CHANGING  
TECHNOLOGY**

**DIVERSE & AGING  
POPULATION**

**KEEP IN MIND**