

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

| A U G U S T 2 0 2 3 |



Economic & Community
Development Agency

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



NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

AUGUST 2023



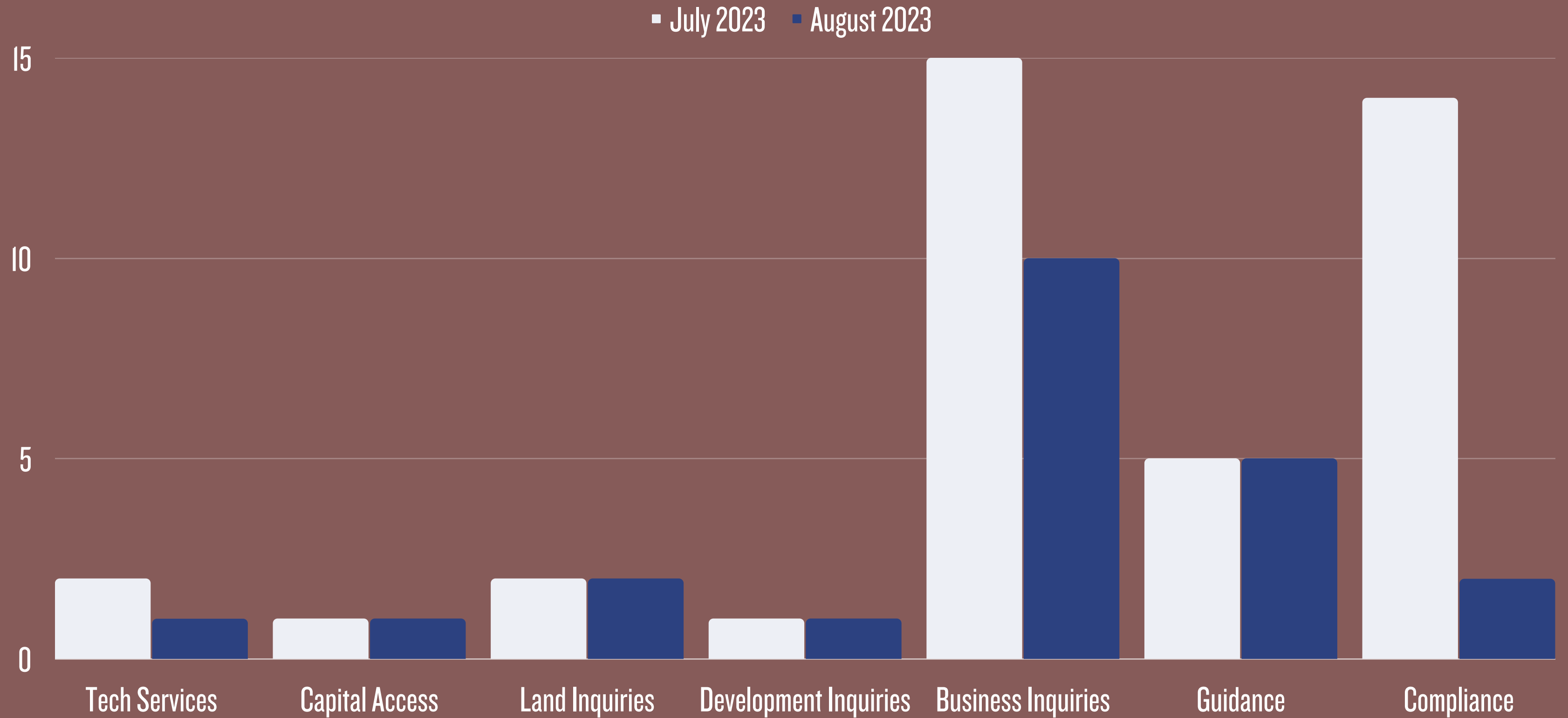
*Gio's Trailer
Rentals, LLC 8/07

*Peregrine
Woodshop 8/22

25 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** |

25 NEW INQUIRIES

17 NEW BUSINESS - TRANSPORTATION, TAX PLANNING,
SENIOR CARE, REAL ESTATE

3 LAND - BUILDING (2) ZONING (1)

3 OUT OF CITY - BRADLEY, MANTENO, COUNTY

2 RELOCATIONS - OHIO, SPRINGFIELD

| 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** |

WRAPPING UP WORK WITH TARGET LOCAL MEDIA ON NEW BOOTH AND DEVELOPMENT ZONE BOOKLET. DEADLINE IS AUGUST 31.

| **PATHFINDER CONTRACT** |

WORKING ON ARPA FUNDING VIDEO, STRUCTURE/ROLE OF ECDA VIDEO, SCHEDULING FILMING DATES, ETC.

| **CONTRACTOR CAMPAIGN** |

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED FOR SEPT. 26. BILLBOARD IS ACTIVE AT EXIT 312 FOR RECRUITMENT. MORE INFO ON THE WAY.

| **CENSUS** |

WAITING ON RESPONSE FROM AQUA FOR ACCESS TO KANKAKEE MUNICIPAL UTILITY SEWER BILLS. UTILIZING COUNTY CENSUS MAP TO COMPARE.

| **E.D. SOCIALS** |

WORKING TO TRANSITION INTO ECDA BRANDING, WEBSITE WORK, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOCIAL MEDIA.

PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

| INAUGURAL LUNCHEON |

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BARBI & ASSISTANT DIRECTOR MIYA DELIVERED THE WHO-WHAT-WHY-HOW ON ECDA'S WORK AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

GUEST SPEAKER SENATOR PATRICK RYAN DELIVERED INFORMATIONAL COMMENTARY ON NEW RIVERS EDGE REDEVELOPMENT ZONE.

ORGANIZATIONS WERE AWARDED FOR THEIR WORK WITHIN THE COMMUNITY: INVESTOR OF THE YEAR (KDC), PUBLIC SERVICE AGENCY OF THE YEAR (CATHOLIC CHARITIES), CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR (SIMPLY ENVIRONMENTAL & CONSTRUCTION, INC.), & COMMUNITY ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR (SENATOR PATRICK JOYCE).

| 55 ATTENDEES + 17 STAFF |

PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

| INAUGURAL LUNCHEON |

| GUEST FEEDBACK DATA (14 RESPONSES) |

| ENTERTAINING? |

5 - 6 VOTES
4 - 5 VOTES
3 - 3 VOTES

| INFORMATIVE? |

5 - 6 VOTES
4 - 7 VOTES
3 - 1 VOTES

| INSPIRING? | (RATED 1-5)

5 - 7 VOTES
4 - 4 VOTES
3 - 3 VOTES

| FAVE PART? |

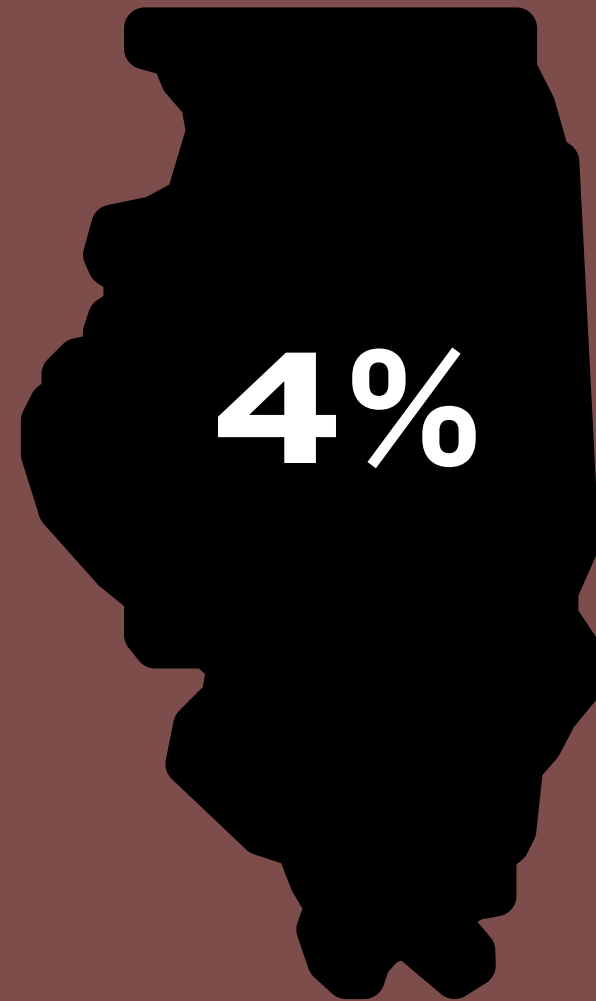
NETWORKING - 9
PRESENTATION - 9
KEYNOTE - 5

GENERAL FEEDBACK & IMPROVEMENT RESPONSES INCLUDED:

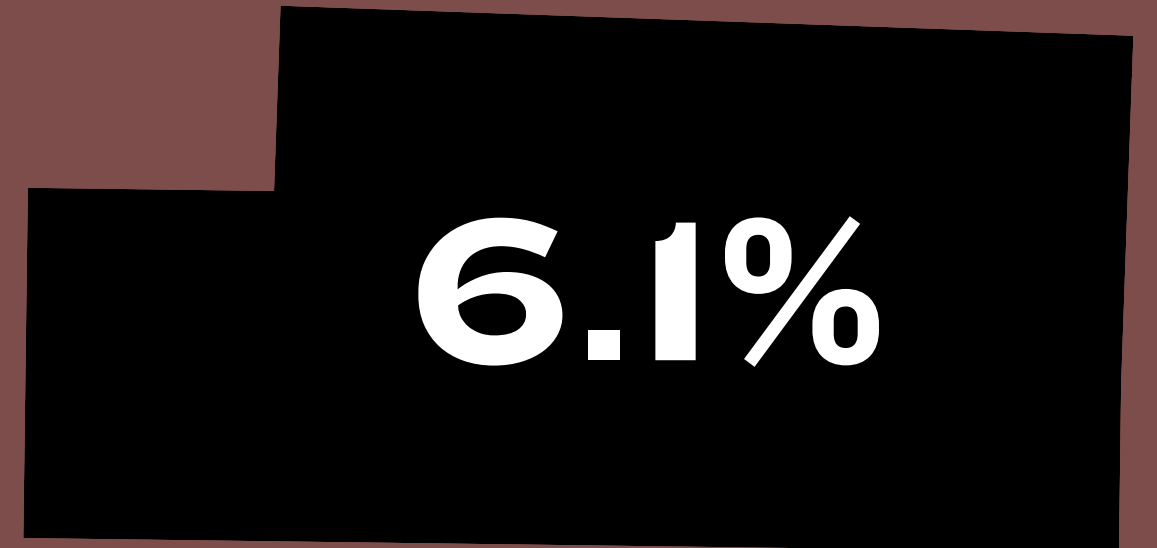
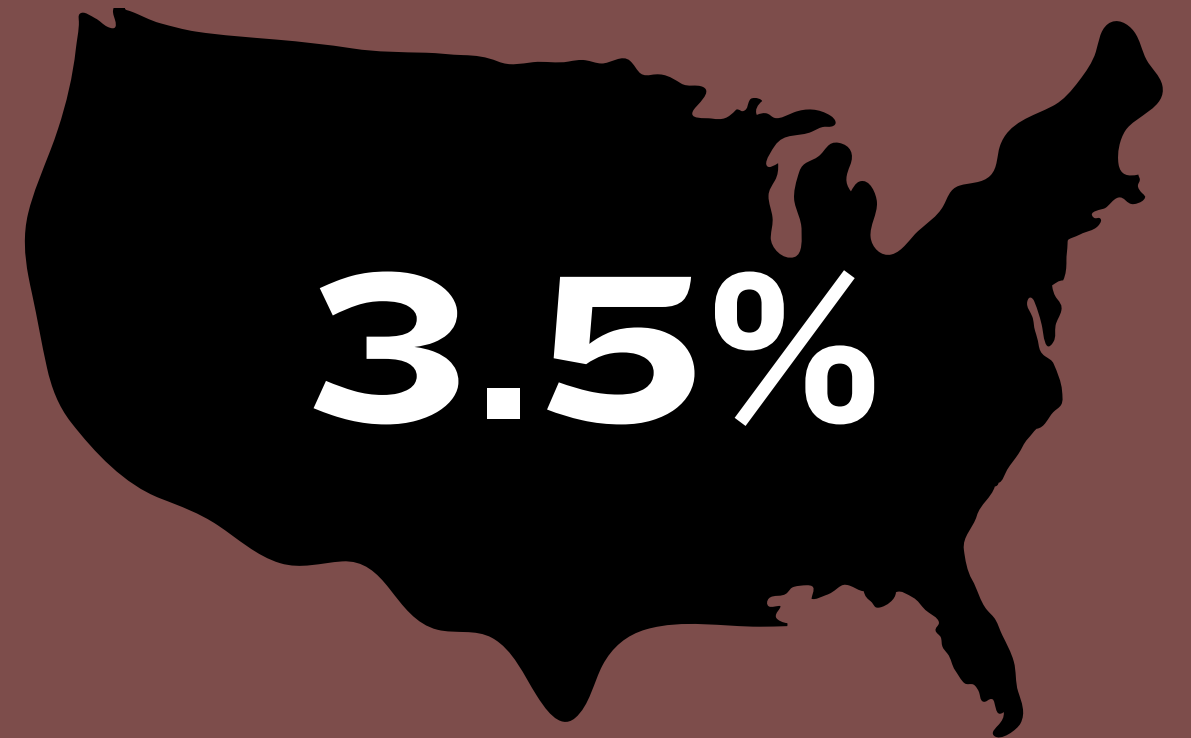
- "KEYNOTE SPEAKER COULD BE MORE INSPIRATIONAL"
- "HAVING ROUND TABLES INSTEAD OF LONG TABLES"
- "BETTER FOOD"
- "SHORTER EVENT, MORE MUSIC, MORE PEOPLE, MORE VIDEOS"
- "HAVE AN AREA DESIGNATED FOR MORE SPECIFIC INFO ON PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE TO PICK UP"
- "GREAT EVENT, LOVED LEARNING MORE ABOUT ECDA AND EVERYTHING YOU DO FOR THE COMMUNITY"
- "THE EVENT WAS WELL DONE AND INFORMATIVE"
- "I THINK HAVING A TESTIMONIAL OR TWO FROM PEOPLE THAT FEEL COMFORTABLE SHARING PUBLICLY HOW THEY HAVE BENEFITED FROM PROGRAMS MADE AVAILABLE BY ECDA."

UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

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 projects:

- Received a \$500,000.00 grant from CVB
- Receiving a \$10,000.00 grant from community foundation
- Local donations are over \$300,000.00
- \$475,000.00 federal funding confirmed by Senator Durbin's office
- \$600,000.00 state grant funding confirmed through OSLAD

| **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 OUPPER PARTS
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

ECDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 2023 STRATEGIC WORK

IMPROVE

CONSISTENT RETENTION VISITS
CONSISTENT ATTRACTION EFFORTS
SURVEY

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

RECOVERY

BOUNCE BACK
CONNECTIONS TO RESOURCES
PROVIDE EDUCATION

OPTIMIZE

TIME MANAGEMENT
REPORTING MEANINGFUL DATA
USE OF INTERNS

REFINE

MARKETING MATERIALS
MESSAGING PLATFORMS & STYLES
BRAND MANAGEMENT

TRAIN

ATTEND VIRTUAL CONFERENCES
APPLY FOR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
OBTAIN INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

**RACIAL & ECONOMIC
DISPARITIES**

MOBILITY

**AGING & OBSOLETE
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**SWIFTLY CHANGING
TECHNOLOGY**

**DIVERSE & AGING
POPULATION**

KEEP IN MIND