

## Program Focus Areas

Existing Business Activity ~ Business Recruitment ~ Product Development

### Project Averages



**98**  
 JOBS



**51**  
 THOUSAND  
 SQUARE FEET



**11**  
 ACRES



**\$18**  
 MILLION  
 INVESTMENT

### Project Activity Stats



Active Projects

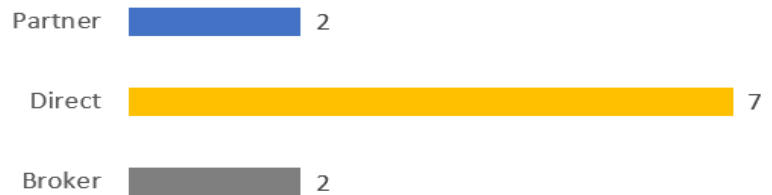


Projects Added

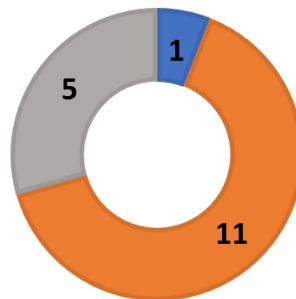
\*8 Projects Moved to Inactive

The EDC is engaged with 11 active projects which consists of 6 New and 5 Existing Businesses. There were 2 missed opportunities this month due to the building size and ceiling height requirements.

### Projects by Source

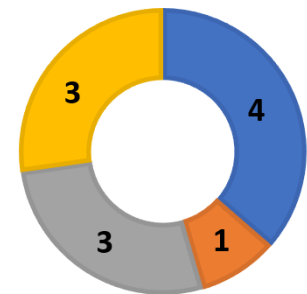


### Projects by Location



■ Wilkesboro ■ County  
 ■ North Wilkesboro

### Projects by Type



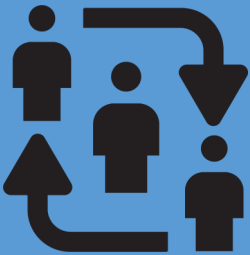
■ Manufacturing ■ Commercial  
 ■ Distribution ■ Other

## Existing Business Activity



8

UNIQUE VISITS



9

FOLLOW UP VISITS

## Working in Wilkes

### Educator & Business Expo

Wilkes EDC coordinated and sponsored an expo on June 7th in conjunction with Wilkes County Schools at the Stone Center for career coaches, counselors, teachers and school leadership. Attendance topped 110, with 60 educators and 50+ business leaders.

Businesses displayed the products they manufacture or services they provide, tools they utilize, types of positions, as well as the skills needed for employment. This was a combination of an expo, consisting of booth areas, table top centerpieces and guest speakers representing various industry clusters. The event focused on manufacturing, service and skilled trades. It was not a job fair, but rather an opportunity to showcase products, services, and opportunities.

Educators were encouraged to integrate what they learned into their lessons, while also mentoring students to consider all of the types of careers available in Wilkes County.

## Meetings



16

PARTNER MEETINGS



4

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT



26

SOLUTIONS PROVIDED

## EDC Entrepreneurship Grant

The Wilkes Economic Development Corporation recently held the 6th annual Entrepreneurial Grant Competition. Applications were received from 20 businesses in Wilkes County in several categories including food service, recreation, construction, IT, and retail business, to name a few. Applicants were grouped as either a new or existing business. Business plans were judged with the emphasis being on sustainability and funding impact to the business. Grant amounts totaling \$12,500 were distributed this year between five companies.

Winners: Mr. Toro Bakery and Taqueria, Handy Hands Home Remodel and Repair Service, Moonshine Leatherworks, April Flowers and Key City Antique Mall.

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## May Unemployment Rate

4.1% ↑

Up from 3.6% in April. State May Rate is 4.0%.