

AUSTIN, MINNESOTA: A GREAT PLACE TO GROW BUSINESS.

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW



SPAM
MUSEUM



Development Corporation of Austin

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



**MOWER
COUNTY**



**RIVERLAND
Community College**



**AUSTIN
UTILITIES**
Connections for Better Living™

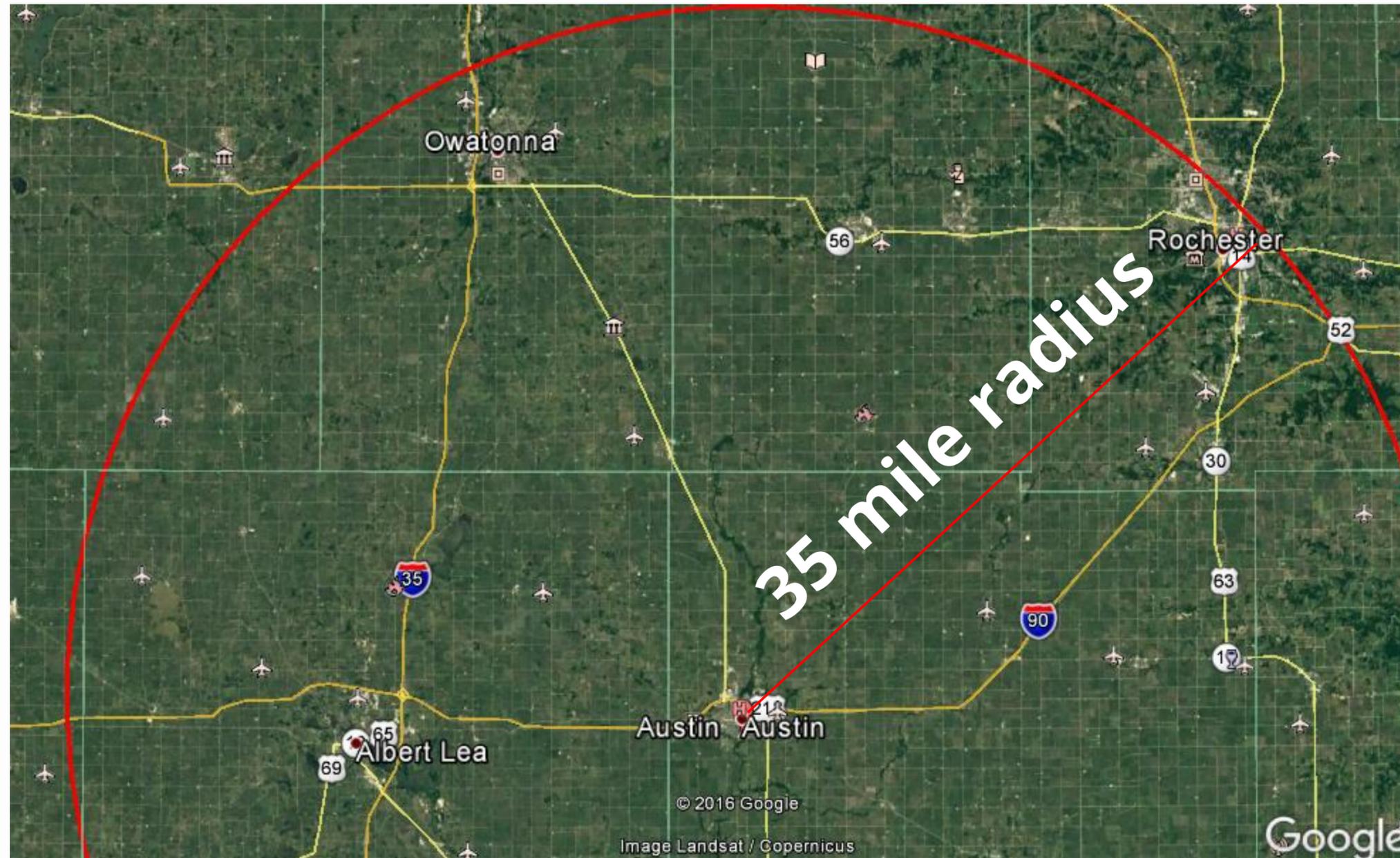
Workforce

Where people who work in Austin live		
2021		Share
Total Primary Jobs	12,397	100.0%
	Count	Share
Austin city, MN	7,186	58.0%
Albert Lea city, MN	484	3.9%
Rochester city, MN	298	2.4%
Owatonna city, MN	147	1.2%
Brownsdale city, MN	113	0.9%
St. Paul city, MN	98	0.8%
Rose Creek city, MN	96	0.8%
Blooming Prairie city, MN	68	0.5%
Adams city, MN	67	0.5%
Le Roy city, MN	59	0.5%
All Other Locations	3,781	30.5%

Where people who live in Austin work		
201		Share
Total Primary Jobs	11,799	100.0%
	Count	Share
Austin city, MN	7,030	61.7%
Rochester city, MN	860	6.1%
Albert Lea city, MN	473	3.6%
Owatonna city, MN	256	2.7%
Minneapolis city, MN	155	1.1%
Mankato city, MN	111	1.0%
Bloomington city, MN	94	0.8%
St. Paul city, MN	78	0.7%
Blooming Prairie city, MN	68	0.6%
Mankato city, MN	62	0.5%
All Other Locations	2,467	21.2%

AUSTIN AREA MAJOR EMPLOYERS (Private and Research)	Sector	Employees
Hormel Foods Corp. Austin Plant	Food Manufacturing	1700
Quality Pork Processors	Food Manufacturing	1300
Mayo Medical Center - Austin	Medical	970
Hormel Foods Corp. Office)	Food Mfg/Marketing	883
International Paper	Manufacturing	146
Hormel Institute (University of Minnesota)	Cancer Research	130
Cooperative Response Center	Contact Ctr/Monitoring	110
McFarland Truck Lines	Trucking (Refrigerated)	100
Akkerman Inc	Manufacturing	70
Smyth	Printing/Labels	65
CliftonLarsonAllen	Professional services	60
IBI Data	Marketing & Data	50
K & K Fabrication	Manufacturing	45
Palleton of Minnesota	Manufacturing	23
Minnesota Freezer Warehouse	Cold Storage	20

Workforce



Ample Workforce:
20, 35, 50 mile radius

	20 mile radius	35 mile radius	50 mile radius
Businesses	2,878	11,291	22,317
Employees	34,476	144,904	260,240

Source: ESRI

Logistics: Interstate and air transportation



Rochester (RST) Int'l Airport
35 Minutes from Austin. Served by American and Delta. Daily flights to Minneapolis, Chicago and Atlanta. Car rental at airport. Convenient to Austin from the southwest Rochester location. It is the 2nd busiest airport in Minnesota

Austin Municipal Airport
Home to 2 Hormel Corporate jets. Runway: 5800 x 100 ft., excellent condition. Newly remodeled building.



Housing

Recently Completed Housing Projects

Five-Year Property Tax Abatement for New Construction Single-Family and Multi-Family Homes

Communities and workforce growth often depend on housing options to keep up the demand.

The City of Austin, Mower County and School District #492 have partnered to promote new construction of single- and multi-family homes by offering a five-year property tax abatement of any increased valuation.

Fox Pointe Townhomes (2019)

38 - 2, 3, and 4 bedroom townhomes. Two-story townhomes include attached garages, and in-unit laundry. Low-income eligible.



Mill on Main (2023)

92 market rate units available, ranging from studio through 2 bed/2 bath. Amenities include in-unit laundry, underground parking, gym, movie theater and more. Low income units are available.



Flats on 21 (2020)

Boasting 82 units, ranging from studio through 2 bed/2 bath floor plans. Includes in-unit laundry. Low income units are available.



Education



Riverland is part of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. It is one of only community colleges in Minnesota experiencing increasing enrollment.

With more than 50 majors including Career Technical Training and Associate Degrees with transfer agreements to Minnesota-Mankato and Winona State Universities.

Now, bolstered by the Assurance Scholarship program that allows all Austin and Pacelli High School attend Riverland for free, enrollment is likely to continue to be strong for years to come.

The Center for Ag and Food Science Technology is focused on developing the next generation of skilled food and agriculture employees to support the areas robust food and agricultural economy.



Education (continued)

MacPhail Center for the Arts

- Austin is home to the only non-metro MacPhail Center for Arts.
- In 2019, Austin Public Schools and MacPhail broke ground on a new \$11 million performing arts center across the street of Austin High School. This two-story art center will have state-of-art choral and orchestra space with smaller, more formal spaces for recitals.
- The building will also have rooms for private lessons and individual practice spaces.



IJ Holton -5th and 6th Grade

- \$25 million referendum, opened for 2013-14 school year. The school has a focus on
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics curriculum for all students.



Health Care: Mayo Clinic Health System - Austin



Clinic and 82-bed hospital provides 24-hours a day care for all types of clinic, acute care and emergencies.

- A recently completed \$11.2 million expansion and renovation added an expanded birthing center as well as technologically advanced med/surg rooms.
- Highly trained local staff along with close connection to thousands of Mayo Clinic experts & services 40 minutes away in Rochester.
- Local employers and their employees enjoy comprehensive clinic services at the Mayo primary clinic and at Mayo's drop-in express care at Hy-Vee grocery store.

Community Profile: FAARM (The Future of Advanced Agricultural Research in Minnesota)

The University of Minnesota is in the exploration phase of developing a world class advanced agriculture research complex in Mower County that will fill an important market need to help farmers and industry meet this crucial moment in sustainable food production for Minnesota's food and agricultural sector, which delivers \$112 billion in annual economic impact for Minnesota.

Through a public-private partnership among the University, the Hormel Foundation, Riverland Community College, the State of Minnesota and other private sector partners, this integrated complex would include several state-of-the-art research buildings and several hundred acres of fields and land.



Integrated innovation and instruction

Situated on several hundred acres of fields and land and composed of state-of-the-art facilities in Mower County, the complex will catapult Minnesota and propel its leading research portfolio for years to come by:

- Studying and advancing every element of the health intersections between people, animals, crops, plants, soil, water, and environment.
- Bringing researchers, instructors, and industry together to focus on all aspects of agriculture and food systems.



Community Profile: Nu-Tek BioSciences

In August of 2022, Nu-Tek BioSciences opened its doors in Austin, MN. The new 60,000 square foot, 45-million-dollar project, was the first of its kind, state of the art manufacturing facility. Based in the Creekside Business Park, Nu-Tek is manufacturing animal-free peptones and protein hydrolysates for industry leading biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. The project had created over 35 full time jobs, with an average wage of \$27/hr.



“Nu-Tek Biosciences is proud to enable sustainable drug development with the United States’ only animal-free peptone facility. As investment in biologics continues to grow, pharmaceutical companies have adopted plant-based peptones and animal-free cell culture supplements as an alternative to FBS for regulatory, logistical and sustainability benefits.”

Community Profile: Hormel Foods Corporation



Since 1891, Austin has been home to the headquarters of Fortune 500 Hormel Foods Corporation, along with the research and development division and flagship Austin plant. Hormel employs about 2,700 people in Austin and more than 20,000 worldwide.

Corporate awards include:

- 100 Best Corporate Citizens, Corporate Responsibility Magazine
- World's Best Employers, Forbes
- Top Regarded Companies, Forbes
- Best for Vets, Military Times
- Best Places to Work for LGBT Equality, Human Rights Campaign Foundation
- The Management Top 250, Drucker Institute

Flavorful, Nutritious & Convenient

Over 40 Hormel Foods Brands are No. 1 or No. 2 in their categories and their products are sold in more than 80 countries, including China, Japan, Australia, South Korea, and the Philippines



Community Profile: The Hormel Foundation

Since 1941, The Hormel Foundation has given over \$250 million to the Austin area with most of the giving happening since 2000.



Austin Assurance Scholarship
In partnership with Riverland Community College, Austin Public Schools and Pacelli Catholic Schools, graduating students of Austin Public Schools and Pacelli Catholic Schools have the opportunity to obtain a two-year college degree from Riverland Community College starting in fall 2019, tuition-free.



Austin Community Rec Center
A Foundation grant of \$25 million, \$5 million from Hormel Foods, \$6.4 million from a public fundraising campaign and partnerships with the City of Austin and the YMCA, has made this Community Rec Center initiative possible. The public will have free access to parts of the new recreation center within an indoor playground, youth center and community gathering space.



Austin High School Annex and MacPhail Center for Music
In partnership with Austin Public Schools and Austin's MacPhail Center for music, renovations and the construction of a second story onto the annex of the high school will house both the high school music programs and Austin's MacPhail Center for Music.



- Ranks 4th in annual giving among Minnesota's largest community/public foundations.
- Controls approximately 48% of 550 million Hormel shares with a total market value of billions of dollars at approx. \$50/share.
- Giving derived from 2% dividends with 50 years of increased dividends.

Community Profile: The Hormel Institute



The Hormel Institute is an independent biomedical research facility within the University of Minnesota's Research and Innovation Office (RIO) located in rural Austin, Minnesota. With the goal of improving health and extending lives worldwide, our world-class scientists use cutting-edge technology to explore innovative questions that drive discovery forward.



Investment in the future

The Hormel Institute has had two expansions in the past 10 years totaling over \$50,000,000. The current facility is home to over 40 state of the art laboratories, an event space, and an auditorium.



Future expansion includes plans to further develop Science Park, a custom designed housing community located directly across the street from the Institute.

Quality of Life: Community Recreation Center



Austin Community Recreation Center Opened February 2020

\$36 million dollar community recreation center in Downtown Austin.

Funding through a \$25 million Hormel Foundation grant, \$5 million Hormel Foods Corporation contribution, \$6.5 million community campaign.

Amenities include an free indoor playground, an open to all youth activity center and full-service YMCA with water park, two gyms, fitness studios, gymnastics, and wide range of exercise equipment.

Quality of Life: Jay C Hormel Nature Center

Hormel Nature Center with recent \$7 Million Expansion

The Jay C. Hormel Nature Center features over 500 acres of prairie, forests, and wetlands.



- Huge array of programs and events.
- Over 10 miles of trails.
- Low-cost kayak, canoe and cross country skiing equipment rental for less than \$5.
- Nature interpretative center with library and meeting rooms.

Quality of Life: Retail Development



Marshalls

HyVee

five BELOW

Starting with the opening of the new Spam Museum on Main Street, new stores and opening or expanding since 2017



BELLA VICTORIA
ITALIAN CUISINE
BAR, CATERING & EVENT CENTER

Ashley
HOMESTORE



SUPERIOR
CANNABIS
COMPANY

Gravity Storm
Brewery
Cooperative

HOBBY
LOBBY

ANGRY
HOG
BREWERY & TAPROOM

PET SUPPLIES PLUS

Kwik Trip

AUSTIN
REAL
DEALS

SHOE
sensation



Quality of Life: Community Events

4th Ave Fest

Hosted by the City of Austin Culture and Arts Commission, 4th Ave Fest is an annual summer kickoff celebrating the diversity of our community. The event features family friendly activities, local food vendors, and live music and dance.



Mower County Fair

A tradition since 1884, The Mower County Fair brings together entertainment, education, food, and all ages fun every summer!

Quality of Life: Community Events



Austin Artworks Festival

The Austin ArtWorks Festival is a free two-day event in Austin, Minnesota held annually each August — a celebration of visual, performing, and literary artists, many with ties to Austin and the area.

Fall Harvest Celebration

A Fall Harvest Celebration occurs annually at the Mower County Historical Society. Featuring a bake sale and food stand, horse drawn wagon and antique car rides, pumpkin decorating and much more!

