

Kern County Community Spotlight Report

In 2022, the region’s highest industry specialization is in the Agricultural Inputs and Services industry, with a location quotient of 45.57 and a 10-year forecast growth rate of 38 percent. From 2012 to 2021, foreign-owned companies announced \$1.6 billion in estimated capital expenditures in greenfield FDI projects in Kern County, with Canada (\$685 million) as a top source market. Over 90 percent of Kern County’s announced greenfield projects in that time was in renewable electric power projects. In terms of innovation, Kern County ranked 26th out of 3,110 U.S. counties in Industry Diversity.

Announced Greenfield FDI Projects, 2012 to 2021

From 2012 to 2021, foreign-owned companies announced 16 greenfield projects in Kern County.

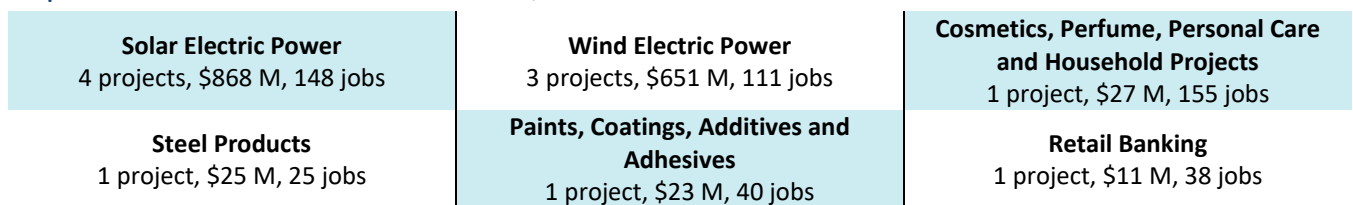


Top Sources of Greenfield FDI Projects by Capex, 2012 to 2021

Source Market	Estimated Capex (in U.S. Millions)	Estimated Number of Projects	Estimated Jobs Created
Canada	\$685	6	206
Germany	\$217	1	37
Portugal	\$217	1	37
Spain	\$217	1	37
Sweden	\$217	1	37

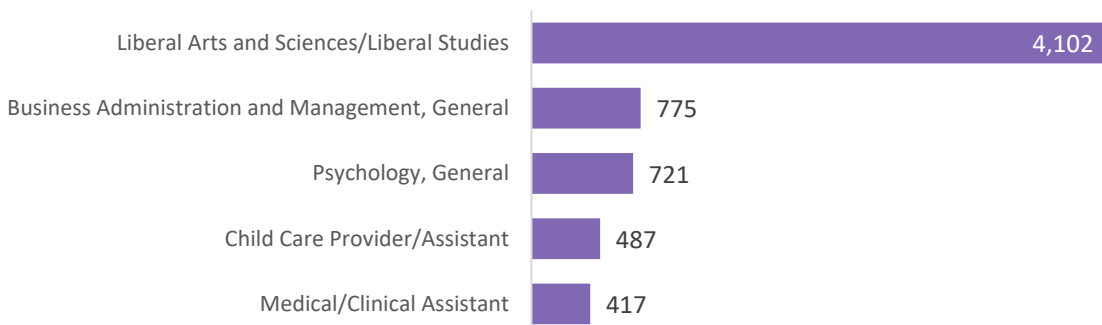
Source: [fDi Markets](#)

Top Sub-Sectors for Greenfield FDI, 2012 to 2021



Source: [fDi Markets](#)

Top Education Certificates and Awards, 2020-2021 Academic Year



Source: [JobsEQ by Chmura Economics, 2022 Q1](#)

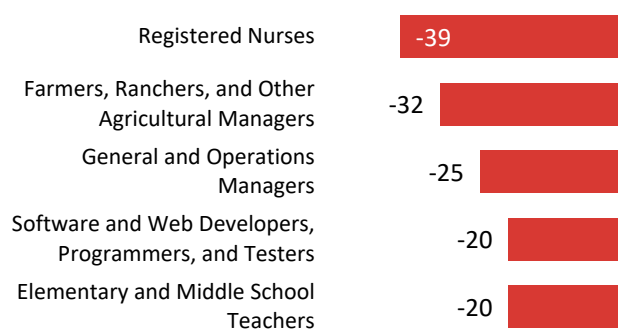
Top Industry Clusters, 2022 Q1

Industry Cluster	Agricultural Inputs and Services	Oil and Gas Production and Transportation	Nonmetal Mining	Metal Mining	Environmental Services
Location Quotient	45.57	5.76	4.19	2.01	1.90
Industry Cluster	Agricultural Inputs and Services	Distribution and Electronic Commerce	Business Services	Oil and Gas Production and Transportation	Food Processing and Manufacturing
Employment	44,316	16,389	11,928	6,708	4,822
Industry Cluster	Agricultural Inputs and Services	Performing Arts	Video Production and Distribution	Hospitality and Tourism	Oil and Gas Production and Transportation
10-Year Forecast Employment Growth Rate	38.0%	34.5%	27.6%	25.8%	24.1%

Source: [JobsEQ by Chmura Economics, 2022 Q1](#)

Top Occupation Gaps

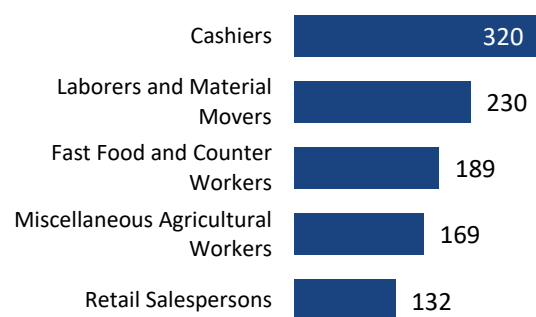
2022 Q1



Source: [JobsEQ by Chmura Economics, 2022 Q1](#)

Top Occupation Surpluses

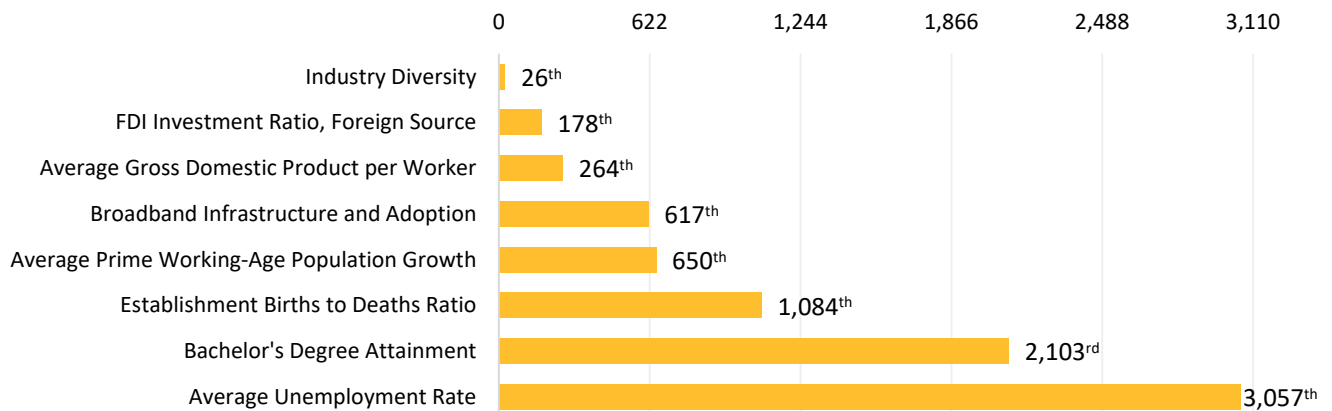
2022 Q1



Kern County's Ranking in Key Innovation Indicators

Kern County ranks 722nd of all 3,110 U.S. counties in the headline Innovation Intelligence index.

Kern County's Ranking in Key Innovation Indicators of 3,110 Counties, Divided by Quintile



Source: [StatsAmerica, Innovation Intelligence](#)

Definitions

Average Gross Domestic Product (per Worker) – Measures economic output per worker by dividing a region's current-dollar GDP by the region's number of employees.

Average Prime Working-Age Population Growth – The annual average growth rate for the population ages 25 to 44 from 2013 to the latest year available.

Average Unemployment Rate – The number of unemployed persons in a region divided by the labor force. The inverse is used because high unemployment is considered a negative outcome.

Bachelor's Degree Attainment – The percent of population ages 25 and older with a bachelor's degree.

Broadband Infrastructure and Adoption– This measure is a composite of five variables related to broadband infrastructure and adoption: (1) percentage of total 2018 population without access to fixed broadband of at least 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload as of December 2019; (2) percent of homes without a computing device (desktops, laptops, smartphones, tablets, etc.); (3) percent of homes with no internet access (have no internet subscription, including cellular data plans or dial-up); (4) median maximum advertised download speeds; and (5) median maximum advertised upload speeds.

Cluster – A cluster is a regional concentration of related industries that arise out of the various types of linkages or externalities that span across industries in a particular location.

Establishments Birth to Death Ratio – The ratio of establishment births to establishment deaths.

FDI Investment Ratio, Foreign Source – The ratio of the most recent three-year average of dollars of greenfield investment by new, foreign-sourced FDI to the working-age population (ages 18-66).

Industry Diversity – Measures the degree to which a region is concentrated in just a few industries as opposed to having a broad assortment of industries by comparing the evenness of the region's industrial employment mix against a national industry diversity value.

Location Quotient – A location quotient greater than 1 indicates a higher than average cluster concentration in a location.

Occupation Gaps – The potential occupation gaps metric is based on a five-year forecast comparing occupation demand growth to the local population growth and the projected educational attainment of those residents.

Traded Cluster – Traded clusters are groups of related industries that serve markets beyond the region in which they are located.