Kossuth and Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation supports the growth of existing business and industry, along with the creation of new business. This report provides an overview of both Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties current economic development climate for businesses, education, healthcare, agriculture, and renewable fuels.

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**Exports**
- $2.45 billion
- 4.2% increase

2016-2017

**Imports**
- $2.26 billion
- 1.3% decrease

2016-2017

**Sales**
- $3.1 billion

**Total GRP**
- $1.4 billion
- 29% increase

2012-2017

**1,283 Commercial & Industrial Businesses**

**Manufacturing Sector Jobs**
- 1,975
- 95% above national average

**Population**
- 24,000

**Employment Rate 2018**
- 98%

**Job Growth (2011-17)**
- 6%

Sources: Economic Modeling Specialists Intl., a CareerBuilder Company; Kossuth and Palo Alto County Assessors, IWD
Iowa Lakes Community College

**Top Graduating Programs in 2018 by Degrees Earned**
- Nursing
- Agriculture
- Power Sports
- Vet Tech
- Business Administration & Management

**Quick Facts**
- $861,950 in scholarships were awarded in 2017-2018
  - Average Award: $2,094
- 88% of the students who completed a scholarship application received at least one scholarship
- For every $1 spent at Iowa Lakes, at least $1.47 for the local and state economy
- Skills learned at Iowa Lakes increased wages in the region by $290 Million directly
- 84% of ILCC grads stay in the area and support the economy

**Kossuth & Palo Alto County Payroll**
- $5,271,589

**Iowa Economic Development Authority approved workforce training dollars to companies in Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties totaling**
- $58,233

**22 New jobs created from workforce training dollars**
- $105,000 Training Bonds were sold

**Sources:** Iowa Lakes Community College, Degrees, New Jobs & Payroll Data for FY 2018, Enrollment: FY 2018, Economic Value of Iowa’s Community Colleges Feb 2017
HOSPITAL IMPACTS ON LOCAL ECONOMY

**Kossuth Regional Health Center**
- Emergency Room Visits: 3,714
- Total Outpatient Visits: 25,936
- Community Health Visits: 7,476
- Volunteers: 125
- Births: 125
- Total Admissions: 774
- Surgeries: 1,162
- Clinic Visits: 51,111

**Palo Alto County Health System**
- Emergency Room Visits: 3,803
- Total Outpatient Visits: 20,321
- Community Health Visits: 4,769
- Volunteers: Not available
- Births: 84
- Total Admissions: 369
- Surgeries: 858
- Clinic Visits: 24,443

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**Wild Rose Casino & Resort**
- Employees: 160 Full Time & 40 Part Time
- Adjusted Gross Revenue: $28,129,742
- Admissions: 34,300 Customers Per Month

**Benefits to Palo Alto County**
The average customer at the Emmetsburg casino spends $68.15 on the gambling floor.

6% of gaming revenues are received through the Palo Alto County Gaming Development Corporation and distributed to local governments, schools, and area non-profit organizations totaling more than $18 million over the past 12 years.

These grants provide improvements throughout the county and surrounding areas; new equipment/building for hospitals, fire departments, law enforcement, schools, cities, area organizations and the development of recreational trails.
### Kossuth County

- **Total Farmland:** 599,439 acres
- **Average Farm Size:** 444 acres
- **Number of Farms:** 1,349
- **Farmland Value:** $8,326/acre
- **Harvested Acres:** 217,500
- **Yield per Acre:** 59.9
- **Bushels Produced:** 13,030,000
- **State Rank:** 1

### Palo Alto County

- **Total Farmland:** 358,769 acres
- **Average Farm Size:** 410 acres
- **Number of Farms:** 874
- **Farmland Value:** $8,244/acre
- **Harvested Acres:** 110,900
- **Yield per Acre:** 57.3
- **Bushels Produced:** 6,359,000
- **State Rank:** 35

Sources: USDA; National Agricultural Statistics Service; Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers