

Firearms Manufacturing



Success Stories

Weatherby

90 jobs will be created in five years as **Weatherby** relocates its headquarters and manufacturing operations from California to Sheridan. The move was announced at last year's SHOT Show, and the 100,000-square-foot facility is now nearing completion.

Gunwerks

110 jobs have been retained or created following **Gunwerks'** new expansion project in Cody. The company will triple its footprint and double its workforce with the help of a \$6-million state grant and loan package.

Magpul

Gen M3 is the exclusive ammunition magazine of the Marine Corps, manufactured by **Magpul** in Cheyenne. The Business Council provided an \$8.3-million grant for construction of the facility. Manufacturing-Works, a state consulting program, provided information and training that led directly to cost and labor savings for Magpul. The company employs more than 160 people.

#1 IN GUN REGISTRATION

Registered guns per capita is **5x more** than the #2 ranking



Hunters contributed **\$303.6 million** to the state's economy



119,000 annual hunters



77 percent success rate for guided hunters across all species



13 percent of Wyoming hunters in 2016 were new to the sport

#1 BUSINESS TAX CLIMATE

- ▶ **NO** state income tax
- ▶ **NO** state corporate tax
- ▶ **LOW** sales and property tax
- ▶ **NO** manufacturing sales tax
- ▶ **NO** inventory, franchise, occupation or value-added tax

FAVORABLE LEGISLATION

Wyoming is a shall carry state with reciprocity agreements between 35 states. Wyoming is one of four states to allow concealed carry without a permit.

In response to a spate of city and state lawsuits against gun manufacturers, Wyoming has authorized the state attorney general to intervene in court cases involving Wyoming firearms manufacturers and citizens as defendants.

53.6 PERCENT
of Wyoming is federal land.
That's more than
30 MILLION
ACRES

“Wyoming is like the incubator of great gun companies, and that's going to create a critical mass of talent here”
– Zak Smith, co-owner of Thunder Beast Arms Corporation

Wyoming Exports

57% of outdoor business owners surveyed are seeing increasing sales domestically and internationally and they plan to expand their operations in the next three years to meet demand.

Trade Access

Cross-continental interstates

Two cross-continental interstates – **I-80 and I-90** – plus **I-25**, which stretches from near the northern border of the state to New Mexico.



11,307,444

customers live within an 8-hour drive of Wyoming.

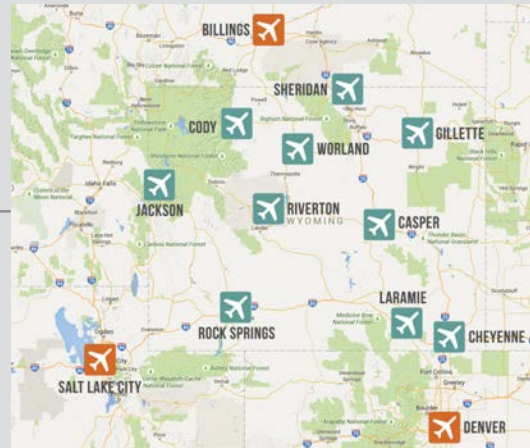


Class 1 railroads

Burlington Northern
Santa Fe and Union Pacific

10 commercial airports

and one international airport. Wyoming is also close to international airports in **Salt Lake City, Denver and Billings.**



Learn more about Wyoming's manufacturing industry at whywyoming.org.



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Why Wyoming



Photo courtesy of WYOMING OFFICE OF TOURISM

Positive Regulatory Support

Wyoming does not believe in regulating honest American companies out of business. That's why Gov. Mark Gordon is committed to promoting the firearms industry in our state.

Wyoming's open-door access to the Governor and legislators is especially attractive to companies in highly regulated industries like firearms. This access, coupled with numerous grant, loan and incentive programs, provides businesses with key financial resources.

In addition to earning the nation's "Most Business Friendly Tax Climate" five years running by the Tax Foundation, Wyoming provides a variety of advantages for businesses looking to relocate or expand.

Wyoming is a right-to-work state. Additionally, 6.3 percent of the state's workforce are union members compared to 10.7 percent nationally (U.S. Bureau of Labor, 2016).

The state's 301,770 labor force benefits from a strong commitment to education. Wyoming consistently ranks among the top 10 states in annual K-12 per-pupil spending (currently about \$16,055 per student). Wyoming spending per K-12 pupil increased 79 percent from 2005-15.

In January 2016, "Inside Higher Ed" named Wyoming best in the nation in terms of state funding for higher

education. Wyoming was the only state to receive an "A" grade.

The percentage of Wyomingites 25 and older with at least a high school diploma is 92.3. The percentage with a bachelor's degree or more is 25.7. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-15).

Wyoming is not unlike most states in facing an aging baby boomer population. However, Wyoming's second most populated age group is 20-29, and the state's median age of 36.9 is 14th youngest in the country (Wyoming Department of Administration and Information, 2016).

Low Tax Burden

NO corporate state income tax

NO personal state income tax

NO inventory tax

NO franchise tax

NO occupation tax

NO value-added tax

Workforce Development Training Fund

Wyoming's Department of Workforce Services offers two types of workforce development grants:

Existing Positions

Funds can provide up to \$2,000 per trainee per fiscal year for established Wyoming businesses with existing employees who need a skill upgrade or retraining in their current occupations.

New Positions

Funds can provide between \$1,000 and \$4,000 per trainee per fiscal year depending on the employee's full-time status and wage amount.

Using these grants, businesses in Wyoming can create new jobs or complete necessary skills upgrades among staff to stay competitive in today's economy.

The grants can be used in pre-employment scenarios, as well, to prepare workers to fill gaps in high-demand/high-growth occupations.

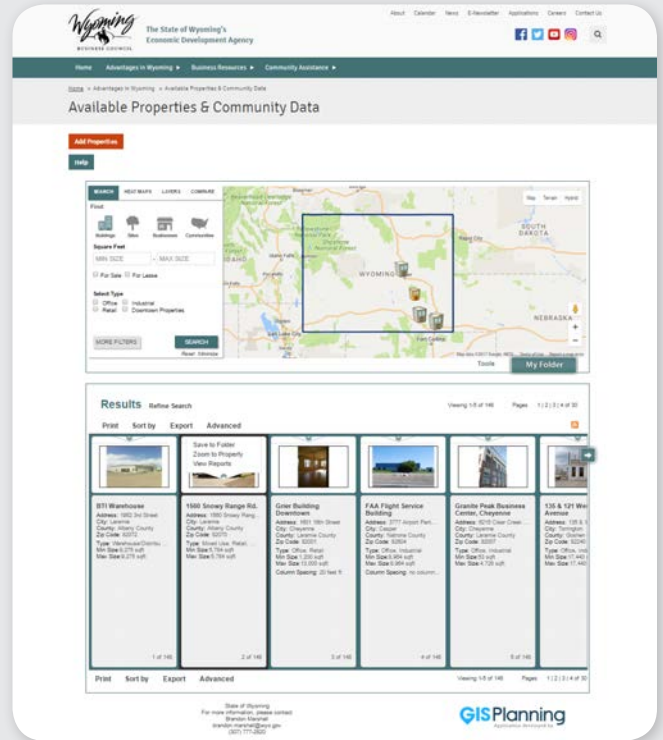
Please go to www.wyomingworkforce.org/businesses/wdff for more information.

Wired for Business

The Wyoming Business Council aims to leave no Wyoming citizen behind and position every business to compete on a global scale by ensuring they each connect to the rest of the digital world with broadband internet capabilities that set the standard for all others to follow by 2025.

Using a new broadband infrastructure grant program as well as a coalition of public officials and private telecommunications leaders, the state is working to provide service to unserved rural areas of Wyoming. We have:

- written a statewide plan
- established an advisory council
- integrated a real-time mapping program to measure internet speeds and reliability down to the household
- pushed the state into the national conversation surrounding rural broadband



Available Sites and Properties

Wyoming is full of flat, wide-open spaces perfectly suited for large site operations, and flat sites allow for berms and buffer zones.

Wyoming has available sites and buildings across the state, ranging from shovel-ready industrial parks with hundreds of available acres to shell buildings and existing industrial buildings.

For the most current inventory and community data, please visit: www.wyomingbusiness.org/properties.

