



Slides reveal details of proposed Golden Dome

INSIDE, 5A

Rockford Register Star

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Inc. 5000 includes 6 area companies

Jeff Kolkey
Rockford Register Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

Six Rockford-area companies are among those appearing on Inc. Magazine's list of the 5,000 fastest-growing private companies in the United States. Meant to showcase some of the hot-

test entrepreneurial businesses in the U.S., the Inc. 5000 list is published annually. There are 257 companies from Illinois that made the list, including five from Rockford and one from Machesney Park.

Companies on the list are ranked according to their percentage of revenue growth over three years, from 2021 to

2024. They must be privately owned, for-profit, based in the U.S., and independent — not subsidiaries or divisions of other companies as of Dec. 31, 2024.

The minimum revenue requirement is \$100,000 for 2021 and \$2 million for 2024. Inc. editors verify revenue data supplied by the companies via financial statements signed by the company's

CEO and a credentialed third party.

Burch Dental Partners

Burch Dental Partners is a Rockford-based dental network founded in 2021 that says it provides dentistry focused

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Rockford celebrates 10th annual 815 Day



Didi Sullivan, Milo Sullivan, 3, and Rory Sullivan, 6 months, take a photo with the IceHogs mascot, Hammy, and a sock monkey mascot during the 815 Day block party on Aug. 15 in downtown Rockford.

Event includes bus tour highlighting city's businesses, history

Kara Hawley
Rockford Register Star
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Hundreds of people flocked downtown Aug. 15 to celebrate the 10th annual 815 Day, a day celebrating local businesses, organizations and the rich history of Rockford. • The day featured activities such as a block party on East State Street with activities, games and giveaways. Along with that, a guided bus tour highlighting businesses and the history of Rockford was offered to residents and visitors.

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Mary Milanos, production manager at Rockford Art Deli, prints shirts during Rockford 815 Day. PHOTOS BY KARA HAWLEY/ROCKFORD REGISTER STAR

Rockford identifies its most dangerous streets

Jeff Kolkey
Rockford Register Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

A draft Rockford Traffic Safety Action Plan has identified city streets that are hot spots for severe traffic crashes.

Once approved, the action plan compiled with the assistance of the Region 1 Planning Council should allow the city to compete for federal grant funding that can be used to improve traffic, bicycle and pedestrian safety.

The report, in part, examined fatal and serious injury traffic crash data from 2017 to 2022 in Rockford as compiled by the Rockford Police Department and the Illinois Department of Transportation. Some of the streets are under the city's control while others are owned by the state of Illinois or Winnebago County.

During the analysis period, there were a total of 457 crashes resulting in serious injuries or fatalities. Of the 457 total crashes, 93 resulted in fatalities and 364 resulted in serious injuries. Rockford typically averages 13 fatal crashes annually. The report notes there were a whopping 30 fatal crashes in 2021.

The analysis identified areas of 11 Rockford streets with the highest concentration of serious crashes.

Kishwaukee Street

Area: Brooke Road to Harrison Avenue
Length: 0.5 miles
Severe Crashes: 8
Crash Rate: 76 per 100 million Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT)

11th Street

Area: Blackhawk Road to Samuelson Road
Length: 1 mile
Severe Crashes: 7
Crash Rate: 42 per 100 million VMT

East State Street

Area: Dempster Road to Arnold Avenue
Length: 0.9 miles
Severe Crashes: 6
Crash Rate: 10.5 per 100 million VMT

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