

- Resource Technical Assistance enables businesses, industry and government to tap the expertise of university faculty members across the state and provides continuing support for new programs to advance technology in Illinois.

TECHNOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS

The key opportunities in Illinois would be in the areas of medical electronics, computer science, pharmaceuticals, and telecommunications.

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2.1.13 Wisconsin

Wisconsin, with a population of about 4.85 million, ranks seventeenth in the country. Recent figures indicate that Wisconsin's gross state product is US\$76.9 billion, seventeenth in the nation. Expenditures on research and development in the state totalled US\$1.5 billion in 1987, approximately two percent of the state's gross domestic product, with R&D expenditures in the industrial sector accounting for 78.6 percent of the total amount spent. Presently, Wisconsin ranks twenty-second in the United States, in terms of funding for R&D, and approximately 86,600 workers (34 for every 1,000 members of the labour force) are scientists or engineers. Wisconsin's key industrial sectors include the manufacturing of electrical machinery and equipment, transportation equipment, fabricated metals, paper and allied products and food processing. Currently, the manufacturing sector provides roughly 515,000 jobs in Wisconsin and contributes 22 percent of the state's personal income. Agriculture is another major component of the economy, with dairy products making up almost 60 percent of the contribution to the income of farmers. Wisconsin is the nation's leader in the production of milk, cheese, butter and many dry and condensed milk products.

TECHNOLOGY TRENDS

One of the strongest thrusts in technology development in the State of Wisconsin has been in the area of biotechnology. In 1987, Governor Tommy Thompson established the Governor's Council on Biotechnology and gave it the responsibility of making recommendations for ways of improving the biotechnology industry in the state.