

Somerset County

New Jersey



Creating a focal point for the Life Science industry

Somerset County, New Jersey

The World's Life Science Destination



If "Location, Location, Location" is the mantra, Somerset County, New Jersey is the answer.

Geographics

Centrally located between New York City and Philadelphia, Baltimore and Hartford, and Boston and Washington, DC, Somerset County is served by the Interstate Highway system, freight and passenger rail services, three general aviation airports, and is just 30 minutes from Newark Liberty International Airport and the Port of Elizabeth, the most active seaport in the nation.

Demographics

Somerset County is the fastest growing county in New Jersey and rates as the second wealthiest county in the nation. With varied community choices appropriate for executive relocation, Somerset County also offers a range of housing options well-suited to employees at all income levels.

According to the New Jersey Department of Labor (2003), Central New Jersey's population will increase by 8.3% by 2010, with the percentage of people in the 45 to 64 year age bracket showing the greatest increase. The civilian labor force will increase by 12.3%.

Education

Somerset County municipalities provide students with high-quality public education from pre-Kindergarten programs through community and regional high schools. Private, parochial, technical and charter schools complete the range of educational opportunities preparing students for both the workplace and higher education.

Nearby options for higher education include Raritan Valley Community College, Rutgers University, Princeton University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Stevens Institute of Technology, Seton Hall University, Drew University, Kean University, and Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Recreation & Culture

An aggressive Tourism & Cultural Arts initiative in Somerset County enhances recreational and entertainment opportunities for local residents. The County is home to 21 museums and galleries, 5 public golf courses and numerous private country clubs, 10,000 acres of active and passive recreation parkland, shopping in traditional town centers and a regional mall, and dining options representing cuisines from around the world. Annual events include the Far Hills Race Meeting, the 4-H Fair, the Kugler-Anderson Tour of Somerville Bicycle Races, the 4th of July Family Festival, and many community-based celebrations.

Workforce

Half of Somerset County residents work in Somerset County with the typical employee living no more than 30 minutes from the workplace. Service and professional occupational categories will see the greatest job growth with registered nurses, teachers, computer analysts and programmers, accountants and auditors expected to provide nearly 16,600 job openings annually.

Neighbors

Some of the world's most influential companies call Somerset County home:

AT&T
Johnson & Johnson
Roche Molecular Systems
sanofi-aventis Pharmaceuticals

LifeCell Corporation
CitiGroup
MetLife
Verizon

Chubb Insurance Companies
National Starch & Chemical Co.
Imclone Systems, Inc.
Pfizer

Life Sciences Industry Business Plan for Somerset County, New Jersey

The Somerset County Business Partnership has taken a multi-faceted approach toward increasing the presence of life sciences companies in Somerset County. The 2 main components of the effort are:

- Develop, publish, and implement a "Life Sciences Industry Business Plan for Somerset County"
- Determine the potential for the establishment of a "Life Sciences Business Development Center"

The initiative was begun in December of 2004, with the hiring of a consultant to research and report on variables affecting Somerset County as a prime location for life science companies. The report recommended the formation of a steering committee representing the institutional, business, government, and educational sectors focusing on the creation of an in-depth study resulting in the publication of the "Somerset County Life Sciences Industry Business Plan." The mandate of the steering committee was to establish a framework around which individual organizations will contribute talent and resources toward maintaining and improving Somerset County's competitive environment for industry expansion and relocation.

The process by which the steering committee has gathered pertinent information includes:

- Interviews and surveys of key public and private sector stakeholders to identify, document, and communicate initiatives of common interest and benefit;
- Analyze industry needs and impediments to success and defining strategies to address both;
- Analyze data to quantifying industry opportunities;
- Review locational opportunities for the establishment of a Biotechnology Business Development Center;

The effort resulted in the determination of 3 broad goals encompassing 13 separate initiatives that will result in the publication and implementation of a business plan to determine the feasibility of establishing the "Life Sciences Business Development Center for Somerset County."

Goal 1: Ensure World Class Workforce Delivery and Educational Systems

Initiatives:

- Inventory current unique educator to business/school to business interactions
- Inventory grade 6 through masters degree resources available in Somerset County
- Increase the amount of equipment donated to schools from corporations
- Increase educator interaction with the business community
- Inventory life science's worker training available to Somerset County employers
- Work with Somerset County's educational community to develop a strategic plan for education delivery in Somerset County

Goal 2: Create an Entrepreneurial Environment for Life Sciences Companies

Initiatives:

- Market life sciences industry related resources to the business community
- Establish a Somerset County Life Sciences Industry roundtable
- Establish an annual life sciences industry forum in Somerset County
- Produce two real estate development analysis (one for each of two sites) for a life sciences business development center

Goal 3: Enhance the Recruitment of Life Sciences Companies

Initiatives:

- Create a certified sites program for development sites in Somerset County
- Publish a best practices paper on improving local approval processes
- Ensure an area of the Somerville Landfill is designated for future development

A Vision for the Somerset County, New Jersey Life Sciences Center and Sleep Disorders Institute

The vision for a "Somerset County Life Sciences Center" was first identified as one of eight objectives outlined in the Somerset County Business Partnership's Life Sciences Industry Business Plan. The Center will be the focal point for the life sciences industry, bringing together patient diagnosis and treatment, physician and allied health care professional training, academic resources, and private commercial enterprises, creating a world class environment for the life sciences in Somerset County New Jersey.

The Somerville Landfill site is an 83-acre site in the heart of Somerset County's life sciences market with direct access to the Interstate Highway system and adjacent to the New Jersey Transit rail station. The Vision Plan calls for mixed-use development, including higher density ownership housing, rental housing above ground floor retail, a civic center, office space, and a signature office development that will house the Center.



Somerville Landfill Development



Model of Somerville Landfill Mixed - Use Development





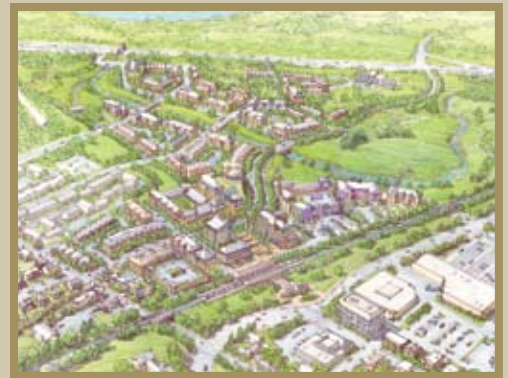
Rendering of the Somerville Landfill Development

The Sleep Disorders Institute will be a major component of the Center. Sleep disorders analysis and treatment is an initiative of Somerset Medical Center that is national in scope. It is envisioned that the Sleep Disorders Institute component of the Somerset County Life Sciences Center will be know as:

- A world class facility for the training of physicians in sleep disorder analysis and treatment
- A facility where patient data from around the world can be received electronically for analysis by world class physicians
- A location where patients can be analyzed for sleep disorders

The Somerset County Life Sciences Center will contain facilities and resources that are complementary to the Sleep Disorders Institute, including spaces for:

- Research into the treatment of sleep disorders
- Private companies that are engaged in therapies for the treatment of sleep disorders
- Training facilities for physicians and healthcare providers
- Academic spaces for the education persons employed in the life sciences industry



Proposed Somerville Mixed-Used Development



Life Sciences Employment in Somerset County:

Pharmaceutical & medical manufacturing 2,629
 Medical equipment& supplies manufacturing 708
 Scientific research & development 2,960

Life, physical & social science occupations 4,374
 Healthcare practitioner & technical occupations 7,614
 Healthcare support occupations 2,442

• List Source – Info USA, SCBP Economic And Community Development Database Employment Figures - US Bureau of the Census, 2005 Business Patterns

Set Your Goals for Relocation or Expansion

Reach Your Goals with the Aid of the Somerset County Business Partnership

The Somerset County Business Partnership is Central New Jersey's premier business resource.

The Business Partnership is a consortium of public, private and community organizations, working in partnership and dedicated to maintaining and promoting economic prosperity and quality of life in Somerset County. The Somerset County Business Partnership is an essential partner for doing business in Somerset County, and as such is the premier regional business organization in New Jersey.

The Business Partnership seeks to achieve four key outcomes; public leadership, advocacy, economic and community development, and value/engagement, providing **LEADERSHIP, OPPORTUNITY AND RESULTS** to the Somerset County Business Community.

With the support of the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Partnership serves as Somerset County's economic development agency. Program priorities include active initiatives in the area of business attraction, business expansion, business retention, and infrastructure investment. The Business Partnership is committed to maintaining a healthy environment and economy in Somerset County.

First Point of Contact...

Partnership staff will assist in defining the benefits of relocating or starting a business in Somerset County. Internal performance goals will direct an evaluation of the company's unique needs and provide an unbiased assessment of potential, including all pertinent information and strategic planning assistance. If Somerset County proves to be the right location for your business growth, the Business Partnership will continue to apply our resources to help integrate your company into the local economy.

