

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [EV Boom Remakes Rural Towns in the American South](#)

Article Link: https://www.wsj.com/business/autos/ev-plants-southern-states-ford-blueoval-city-2783da97?mod=hp_lead_pos7

Author(s)	Nora Eckert
Publication	Wall Street Journal
Publication Date	August 31, 2023

Tweet: Since 2018, auto manufacturers have announced at least \$110 billion of EV-related domestic investment, about half in Southern states, driven by lower labor and energy costs. Unionizing southern auto workers is a priority for the UAW.

Summary: Auto companies have announced more than \$110 billion in EV-related investments in the U.S. since 2018, with about half that sum destined for Southern states, according to the Center for Automotive Research. The rest is mostly planned for states in the Great Lakes region, including Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. Auto employment in the Great Lakes region, while still nearly double that of southern states, has slid 34% in the last two decades to 382,000 workers as of 2021, according to the Economic Policy Institute. Full-time unionized jobs in the industry currently range between \$18 to \$32 an hour. There is no guarantee the [southern] Ford plants will be unionized, and the company has said this decision is up to its workers. The United Auto Workers union is currently in talks with the Detroit automakers and is prioritizing organizing these joint-venture battery plants. Related: Auto Union Boss Wants 46% Raise, 32-Hour Work Week in 'War' Against Detroit Carmakers and Republican Districts Dominate US Clean Technology Investment Boom and Small Towns Chase America's \$3 Trillion Climate Gold Rush

Primary Topic: Investment

Topics: Database, Investment, News article, Politics, Productivity, Wages/Income, Workforce

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