



MEDIA RELEASE

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Dubuque Scores 2nd Biggest Gain in U.S.

Smallest City in Forbes Magazine's U.S. Top 15 for Best Places

DUBUQUE, IOWA — Surging 60 places on *Forbes Magazine's* annual "Best Small Places for Business," Dubuque has moved-into 15th place in the U.S. Dubuque's climb represents the 2nd biggest gain in the U.S. on Forbes' list of 179 small metro areas.

Dubuque is the smallest city in the U.S. Top 15 list. In addition to population, Dubuque also varies from 11 of the 15 cities that host a major, State-sponsored university,

In the same *Forbes Magazine* report, Dubuque's rank for job-growth led all other Iowa cities, according to the magazine's five-year, annualized figures. In late 2006, Dubuque's job-growth was ranked 22nd in the U.S. by *Moody's / Economy.com*.

According to Iowa Workforce Development (IWD), Dubuque has led Iowa's metro areas for job growth for the past three years. According to IWD's numbers, Dubuque, with only three percent of Iowa's population, created 19.1% of all jobs between February 2006-2007.

Greater Dubuque Development recently unveiled an aggressive plan for continued, future growth, *Destination for Opportunity*. The new campaign comes on the heels of the highly-successful *River Valley Initiative*, a program that has been credited with at least 5,200 new jobs and \$254 million in new construction.

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