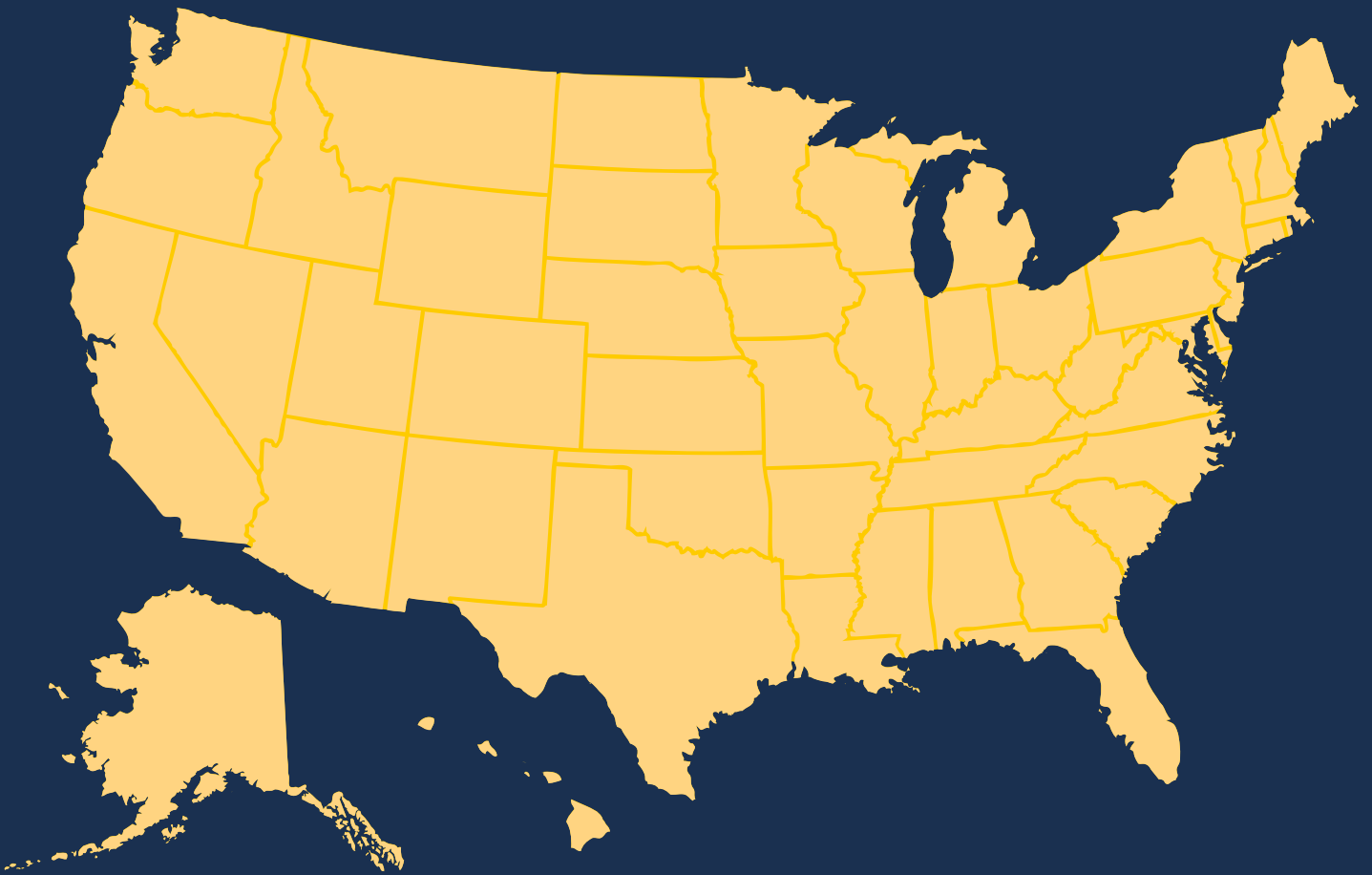


Sweden Creates Jobs in the United States

BUILDING  
BEYOND
AMERICA 250



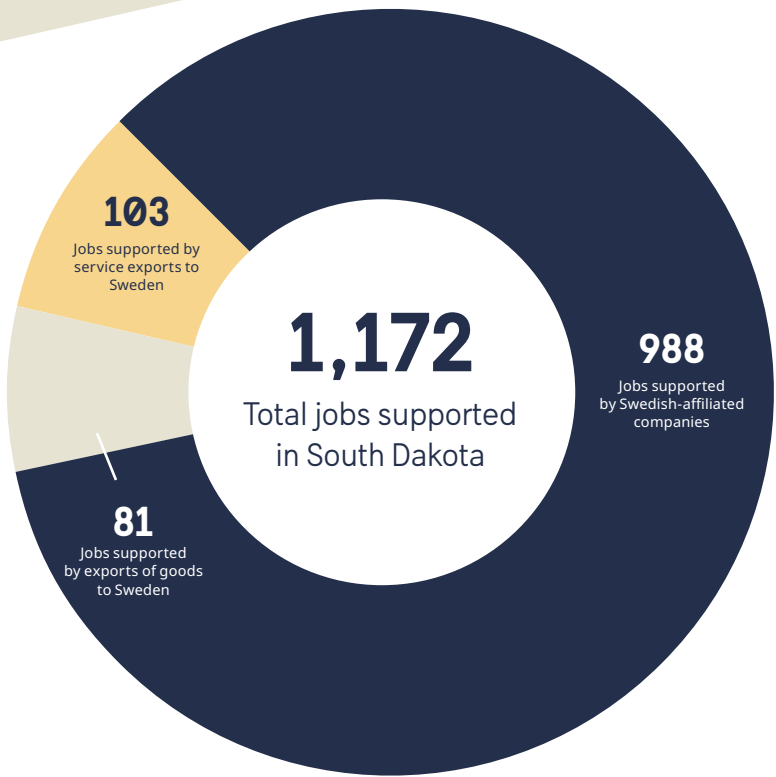
  **Made with Sweden**



Embassy of Sweden
Washington



South Dakota



\$6.4M

Export of goods to Sweden

23,958

State residents of Swedish descent

South Dakota’s top 3 export product categories to Sweden in 2025 were motor vehicle parts (radiators), converted paper products and other leather products.

Swedish-affiliated companies located in South Dakota



Dennis Supply

Swedish-American photographer John Alvin Anderson documented Sioux life in the late 1800s, preserving an important part of Native American history.

SWEDEN AND THE US:

A Longstanding Partnership Of Trade And Innovation

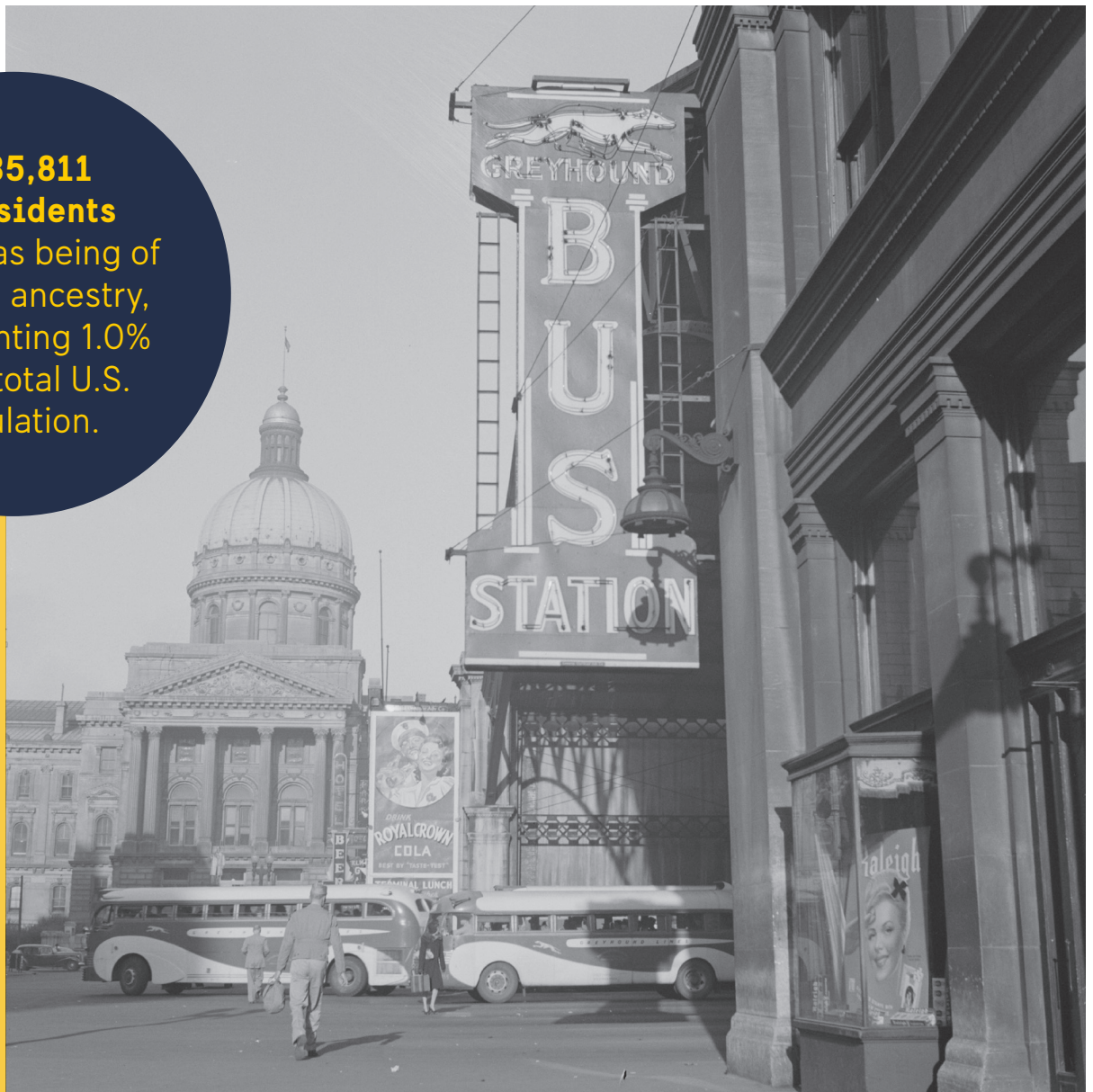
The relationship between Sweden and the United States spans nearly 400 years. Since the founding of New Sweden in 1638, Swedes and Swedish Americans have contributed to the US's scientific, economic, and cultural development in countless ways. Today, Swedish entrepreneurship remains a vital part of the American economy, with Sweden ranking as the **9th-largest foreign investor in the United States and the 4th-fastest-growing source of foreign direct investment**, supporting more than 400,000 jobs across all 50 states and reaching 97% of congressional districts.

Sweden was among the first countries to recognize the United States as an independent nation in 1783. Today, the United States is Sweden's largest trading partner outside Europe, reflecting the deep and enduring economic ties that continue to strengthen the partnership between our nations. Between the mid-19th and

early 20th centuries, economic hardship led approximately 1.3 million Swedes to emigrate to North America—nearly one-third of Sweden's population at the time. Many settled in the American Midwest, where Swedish heritage and traditions still flourish.

The impact of Swedish immigrants on American business remains significant. Notable U.S. companies founded by individuals of Swedish origin include Greyhound, Nordstrom, and Walgreens. Innovation is another powerful bond between Sweden and the United States. Both countries consistently rank among the world's leading innovators, and generations of American researchers, scientists, and institutions have been honored with Nobel Prizes awarded in Sweden since 1901. Together, Sweden and the United States continue to drive advances in science, technology, medicine, and sustainability that improve lives around the world.

3,335,811
US residents
identify as being of
Swedish ancestry,
representing 1.0%
of the total U.S.
population.



Caption: Indianapolis, Indiana. A Greyhound bus station, 1943, Esther Bubley, Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division.

THIS IS SWEDEN

Sweden is the third largest country in the European Union with a landmass approximately the size of California and a population of 10.6 million. It is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system and is home to the world's oldest freedom-of-the-press legislation.

Sweden consistently ranks among the top countries in the world for quality of life, education, healthcare, democracy, equality, innovation, environmental sustainability, and creativity. Its economic model combines free-market principles with a strong social welfare system.

The business culture is based on trust and collaboration. Flat hierarchies and a high degree of independence create space for creativity. Swedes have been behind a wealth of inventions that have changed the world, from the match and the adjustable spanner to Spotify and Klarna.

The self-aligning ball bearing, patented by Swedish inventor Sven Wingqvist in 1907, laid the foundation for SKF, now a global leader in bearing technology. [Imagebank.skf.se](https://imagebank.skf.se)



View over Riddarholmen and the tower of the City Hall in Stockholm. Björn Olin/Folio/imagebank.sweden.se

SWEDEN CREATES JOBS IN THE US

Sweden directly supports more than **400,000 jobs** in the United States.

- **803 Swedish-affiliated companies** operate across in the U.S., employing **350,018 people**
- U.S. exports of services to Sweden support **28,258 jobs**
- U.S. exports of goods to Sweden support **22,316 jobs**

Total jobs supported: 400,592

When including indirect employment—such as suppliers and subcontractors—the number of supported jobs approaches **one million**.

Swedish-affiliated companies are present in all 50 states, as well as Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico, spanning **3,255 locations** and reaching **97% of congressional districts**. All 50 states export goods and services to Sweden.

The United States is the largest destination for Swedish foreign direct investment. As of the end of 2024, Swedish direct investment in the U.S. totaled **\$131.5 billion**, making Sweden:

- the **9th largest foreign investor**
- the **4th fastest-growing investor**

For perspective, Sweden ranks only 91st globally by population.

Swedish companies are active across a wide range of sectors in the United States. Examples include transportation (Volvo), construction (Skanska), telecommunications (Ericsson), pharmaceuticals (AstraZeneca), fashion (H&M), home appliances (Electrolux), furniture (IKEA), defense (Saab), and tech (Spotify).