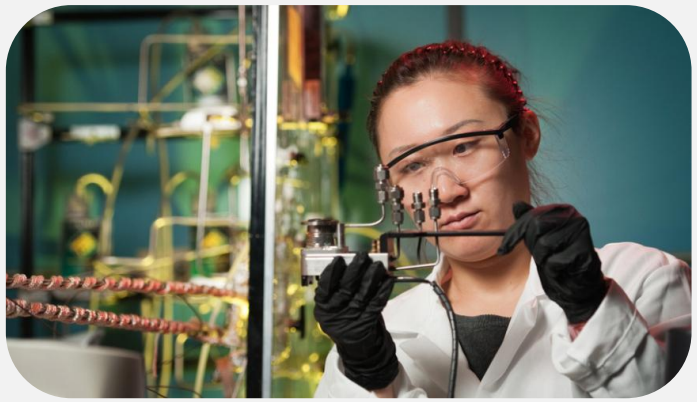
KANSAS
COMMERCE



Data Centers in Kansas

Paul Hughes
Headquarters & Megaprojects
Paul.Hughes@ks.gov
(785) 260-5775

KANSAS
COMMERCE

Data Center Type & Size

	Size Metric	Rack Yield	Compute Space	
			SQFT (ft2)	SQM(m2)
250-700 MW	Mega	> = 9,001	>= 225,001	>= 22,501
	Massive	3,001 – 9,000	75,001 – 225,000	7,501 – 22,500
	Large	801 – 3,000	20,001 – 75,000	2,001 – 7,500
	Medium	201 – 800	5,001 – 20,000	501 – 2,000
	Small	11 – 200	251 – 5,000	26 – 500
5-10 MW	Mini	1 – 10	1 – 250	1 – 25

Hyperscale:

Microsoft Google aws ORACLE Meta

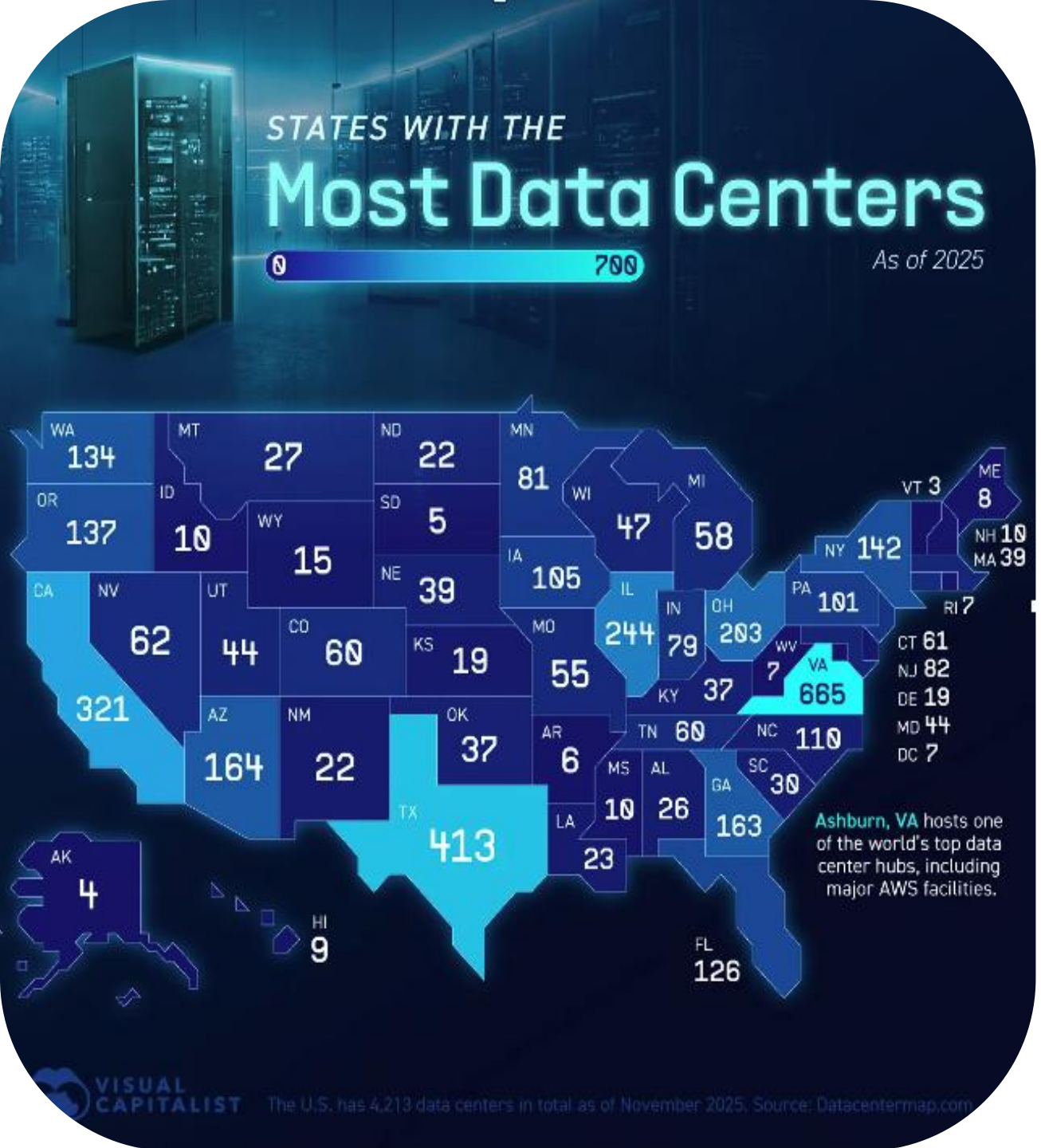
Enterprise:

fiserv. T-Mobile BOEING H&R BLOCK

Co-Located:

IRON MOUNTAIN

STELLAR FORGE



Why the Surge in Projects?

- Infrastructure takes time
  - Wichita IXP
  - Broadband
  - 365kv – 765kv (SPP)
- Passage of SB98 in previous session
- Improved tech opens smaller markets
- Going from 10 DCs to 20 feels “big”
- Speculative development

Source: https://www.visualcapitalist.com/mapped-u-s-states-with-the-most-data-centers-in-2025/

Community Benefits of Data Centers

- Large construction budgets boost hospitality, retail and restaurant tax collections.
- Taxes paid on energy consumption can be a huge boost for smaller communities.
- Responsible operators want to become part of the community.
- Willing to train and hire local talent.
- Hiring pattern doesn’t overwhelm housing or cause traffic congestion.

Why the reaction to Data Centers in Kansas?

- Many people are unaware of Kansas law requiring data centers to pay for their own power infrastructure and blame Data Centers for rising energy rates.

  - People are fearful that “the floodgates are opening.” Virginia wanted to be a Date Center mecca.

  - Speculative developers are tying up power availability, land and other resources when they don’t have a signed customer.
  - This makes it very difficult for energy providers to ascertain whether demand is real or not.

  - Confidentiality requirement is no different for this industry, but people don’t like it.

- Communities are realizing they don’t have a master development plan but want to have say in who/how a data center enters.

Data Centers and Water Use

Technology	Suitability	Key Benefits	Drawbacks	100MW
Water cooling (evaporative)	Low/Medium density	Low equipment cost	Heaviest water use	1-3M gal/day ~4 acre-feet
Air Cooling	Low-density racks	Familiarity, low initial cost	Higher energy use	12,000 gal/day
Direct-to-Chip (liquid)	High performance	Efficiency, high rack density	Higher cost, complex infrastructure	Nearly zero
Immersion Cool (liquid)	High density/edge computing	Most efficient, silent	Complex maint. & specialized hardware	Nearly zero

Important note: in conversation, water cooling and liquid cooling are very different!

Kansas Data Center Opportunity Pipeline

20 Open projects of varying sizes

$12M Smallest defined project scope

$7+B Largest defined project scope

$25.4B TOTAL

What Advice Can Be Offered to Communities

- Leverage cost-benefit analysis tools from Commerce
  - https://www.kansascommerce.gov/program/taxes-and-financing/tax-abatement/
- Get cozy with your energy provider's Economic Development office. They often know about these projects before Commerce does.
- Remind people of SB98 requirement for Intelligence Fusion Center review is under the Office of the Attorney General.
- Consider leveraging the Fusion Center review as a requirement to gain other approvals or permits in your community.
- Data Centers don't "swarm in." Suitable sites are few and Virginia, Texas and California worked hard to achieve what they have.
- If zoning change is the answer, consider scaling based on acreage requirements.

Let's Talk

www.kansascommerce.gov

KANSAS

COMMERCE