



Press Release: For Immediate Release

General Mills Announces Investment of \$100 Million in Wellston Facility

Wellston, Ohio: August 29, 2022 — General Mills, a leading global food company and one of southeastern Ohio's largest employers, today announced a new project in partnership with JobsOhio, Ohio Southeast Economic Development (OhioSE), Ohio Department of Development, and the Jackson County Economic Development Partnership (JCEDP) that will expand their operations in Wellston, Ohio, creating 30 new jobs.

The General Mills' Wellston manufacturing facility is one of the company's largest facilities and produces Totino's Pizzas and Pizza Rolls. The company announced an investment of \$100 million to expand its operations in Wellston. The increase in capacity would bring total employment at the Wellston facility to over 1,000 full-time employees.

"General Mills has been a cornerstone of this community for more than 35 years and our employees exude a lot of pride in making food the world loves," said Stephanie Weaver, plant manager at General Mills' Wellston facility. "We're excited to grow our business and employee base in southeastern Ohio and having strong local, regional and state partners has been instrumental in our success."

Totino's originated in 1951 as a family pizza parlor in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Today, it's grown to make more than 300 million party pizzas every year for pizza lovers across the nation.

"As one of the most recognized food brands around the world, General Mills continues to grow and thrive in Ohio," said J.P. Nauseef, president and CEO JobsOhio. "The expansion of the Totino's facility in Wellston and the addition of 30 new jobs for hardworking Ohioans demonstrates the ongoing success that global companies can establish in Ohio."

The expansion is being supported by a tax credit from the Ohio Department of Development and a \$400,000 JobsOhio Grant, in collaboration with OhioSE, toward the building, machinery, and equipment costs.

"This is a tremendous win for Jackson County," said Mike Jacoby, OhioSE President. "General Mills' investment in Wellston is yet another success story on the benefits of doing business in southern Ohio. The growth tied to this project will contribute to the long-term future of this plant and our region's food manufacturing industry."

General Mills is one of several food manufacturers that call Jackson County home. The county's food manufacturing workforce is more than 2,500 strong and the county possesses roughly three percent of the nation's frozen-food workforce. Southeast Ohio's connectivity makes it efficient to source raw materials and ship finished products nationwide with reliable rail service and convenient Interstate highway access.

“General Mills’ continual investment in Jackson County is a testament to the successful partnership we have forged together,” said Sam Brady, president of the Jackson County Economic Development Partnership. “The strides our local leadership, especially in the City of Wellston, have made to ensure adequate infrastructure is in place to support General Mills’ operations are validated when the company commits to such an impactful investment as this,” said Brady. “They value our community, JobsOhio, and OhioSE as true partners and trust us with this project.”

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General Mills makes the food the world loves. The company is guided by its Accelerate strategy to drive shareholder value by boldly building its brands, relentlessly innovating, unleashing its scale, and standing for good. Its portfolio of beloved brands includes household names such as Cheerios, Nature Valley, Blue Buffalo, Haagen-Daz, Old El Paso, Pillsbury, Betty Crocker, Yoplait, Annie’s, Wanchai Ferry, Yoki, and more. Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, General Mills generated fiscal 2022 net sales of \$19.0 billion. In addition, the company’s share of non-consolidated joint venture net sales totaled \$1.1 billion.

The Jackson County Economic Development Partnership (JCEDP) is the lead economic development agency for Jackson County Ohio and its municipalities. Founded in 1989, JCEDP is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit economic development organization that functions as a public-private partnership. JCEDP provides support to local government and Jackson County’s incumbent private sector companies for the purpose of expansion, retention, and attraction of new business investment. JCEDP is a founding member of the Joint Economic Development Initiative of Southern Ohio (JEDISO) and is served by the Ohio Southeast Economic Development (OhioSE) JobsOhio network partner. Learn more at www.JacksonCountyOhio.com.

Ohio Southeast Economic Development (OhioSE) is the JobsOhio Network Partner for southern, eastern, and southeastern Ohio, providing economic development work and resources in 25 rural counties; they are the newest and geographically the largest of the six regions across the state. OhioSE partners closely with regional development districts, local economic development offices, state agencies, and other entities to expand, retain, and attract businesses in the counties they serve. Learn more at OhioSE.com.

JobsOhio is a private nonprofit economic development corporation designed to drive job creation and new capital investment in Ohio through business attraction, retention, and expansion. The organization also works to seed talent production in its targeted industries and to attract talent to Ohio through [Find Your Ohio](#). JobsOhio works with six regional partners across Ohio: [Dayton Development Coalition](#), [Ohio Southeast Economic Development](#), [One Columbus](#), [REDI Cincinnati](#), [Regional Growth Partnership](#), and [Team NEO](#). Learn more at www.jobsohio.com. Follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#).

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