For those who enjoy this idyllic location year round, the cities of **Vero Beach, Fellsmere & Sebastian** offer the best of both worlds: a desirable location for business and

pleasure with a balance that helps build your business in the sun



Located on the east central coast of Florida midway between Cape Canaveral and West Palm Beach, Indian River County strikes a perfect balance between business and pleasure. Surrounded by miles of pristine beaches, ranches, and citrus groves, Indian River County's superb quality of life has attracted innovative businesses and talented professionals from around the country. Advanced industries from aviation to aquaculture and emerging tech to healthcare benefit from our low cost of doing business; large, well-trained workforce; and some of the lowest taxes in the nation.

INDIAN

ORI

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Indian River County has a high concentration of companies in advanced industries such as aviation and marine science, emerging technologies, manufacturing, and specialized healthcare. With convenient access to highways, rail, and ports, a growing number of transportation and distribution companies have also chosen to locate here. With our favorable climate, agriculture continues to be strong in the region; Indian River citrus is world-renowned.

#### 772.567.3491





CareerSource Research Coast, a regional workforce agency, offers a variety of resources to help employers expand and grow their businesses, including recruiting, assessment testing, and training grants

> Employees 2,000+ 1,102

600+ 400 400

380 200

100 120

100

## **Representative Employers**

Company	Industry	Emp
Cleveland Clinic Indian River	Healthcare	2,00
Piper Aircraft	Aircraft Manufacturing	1,1(
Sebastian River Medical Center	Healthcare	600
Medical Data Systems	Call Center	400
Visiting Nurse Association	Healthcare	400
CVS Warehouse/Distribution	Distribution	380
Sun Ag, Inc.	Agriculture	200
Treasure Coast Community Health	Healthcare	100
Skyborne Airline Academy	Flight Training	120
LemNature Aqua Farms	Aquaculture/Research	100
Florida Shutters	Window Shutters Manufacturing	50
Girard Equipment	Pressurized Valve Caps	
	Manufacturing	70
Novurania of America, Inc.	Boat Manufacturing	65
Parker Hannifin	Industrial Hose Manufacturing	50
Aluma Tower	Aluminum telescoping towers, shelters, trailer units	35

# Florida is a right-to-work state

The labor force in Indian River County provides employers with a great value. Wages for skilled workers in a range of industries are consistently lower than the averages for Florida, the surrounding states, and for the U.S. as a whole.

	<b>)</b>				
Wages	Beach MSA	FL	GA	AL	U.S.
Mean Hourly Wage (Overall)	\$24.56	\$24.92	\$32.30	\$24.95	\$35.45
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	\$18.65	\$19.31	\$18.77	\$19.25	\$20.88
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	\$16.09	\$18.66	\$17.62	\$18.63	\$19.88
Management Occupations	\$47.11	\$52.63	\$46.16	\$54.07	\$59.31
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	\$37.75	\$39.85	\$38.10	\$36.90	\$43.80

(Source: FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity 2021; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2021)



Indian River County's resident labor force consists of 68,000+ well-trained and well educated workers. A large labor force of 638,000+ lives within 50



## **Taxes & Incentives**

With a low cost of doing business, some of the lowest millage rates in the state, reduced impact fees for specific industries, and a variety of state and local incentives, Indian River County is a cost-competitive place to grow or expand a business. The county also offers Foreign Trade Zone opportunities.

#### Incentives: State of Florida

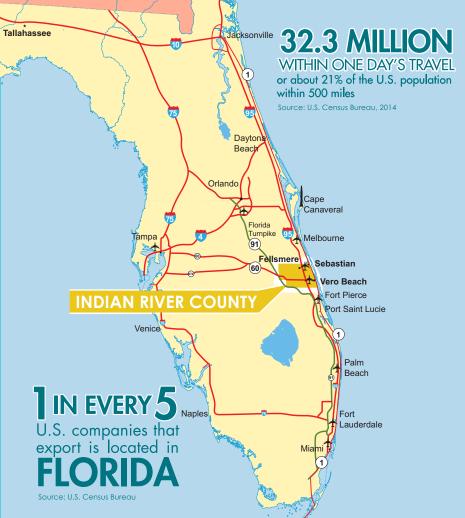
- Capital Investment Tax Credit
- High Performance Incentive Grant
- New and Incumbent Worker Training
- Sales Tax Exemptions

#### Incentives: Indian River County

- Tax Abatements
- Local Jobs Grant
- Expedited Permitting
- Special Incentives Granted
  by County Commission

## NO TO TAXES MEANS YES TO GROWTH!

- ...corporate income tax on limited partnerships
- ...corporate income tax on subchapter S-corporations
- ...state personal income tax
- ...corporate franchise tax on capital stock
- ...state-level property tax assessed
- ... property tax on business inventories
- ...property tax on goods-in-transit for up to 180 days
- ...sales and use tax on goods manufactured or produced in Florida for export outside the state
- ...sales tax on purchases of raw materials incorporated in a final product for resale, including non-reusable containers or packaging



# **Transportation**

An excellent transportation network that includes highways, railroads, airports, and seaports provides easy access to state, national, and international markets. The closest port, Port Canaveral, is designated as a Foreign Trade Zone, as is Indian River County, easily shipping products throughout the world.

Airports <sub>e</sub>

#### **Melbourne International Airport**

- 40 miles north of Vero Beach
- Airlines include Delta, American Airlines, Allegient, and Tui Airways
- Direct flights to Charlotte, Atlanta and the Bahamas, with connections worldwide

#### Vero Beach Regional Airport

- Public-use general aviation airport
- Breeze Airways offers scheduled nonstop service between Vero Beach and the Northeast
- 3 runways, the longest at 7,314 ft
- Home to Piper Aircraft, Skyborne Flight School,
- Sun Aviation and many other FBOs

#### Sebastian Municipal Airport

- Uses 2 runways to serve small personal and corporate aircraft
- Home to Whelan Technology and Skydive Sebastian

#### Orlando International Airport

- Serves over 38 airlines
- Non-stop service to 76 U.S. destinations, including; New York, Las Vegas, Charlotte, Chicago, Denver, Seattle, Los Angeles, Dallas
- Non-stop service to 54 International destinations



# Utilities in Indian River County are high quality, readily available, and reliable, maximizing businesses' uptime and giving them a competitive advantage.

**Electricity** - Provided by Florida Power and Light throughout the county. Typical business customer bills are lower than the state, regional and national averages (source: Edison Electric Institute Typical Bills and Average Rates Reports for Winter 2013). FPL offers special economic development rates for large power users and growing companies that are creating new jobs.

Natural Gas - Florida City Gas provides natural gas service to the region.

Water/Wastewater - Services are provided either by Indian River County Utilities or by the municipalities of Vero Beach, Fellsmere, or Sebastian, depending on the location.

**Telecommunications** - Providers serving the region include AT&T, TruMobility Inc., Comcast, Verizon, T-Mobile, Sprint



# A number of quality options are available for higher education and training, including:

#### **Indian River State College**

- Recipient of the Aspen Institute's Top Community College in the nation (2019)
- Five campuses offering Associate, Technical and Bachelor degree programs in a variety of fields including business, health care, IT, agriculture, and engineering

#### The Florida Institute of Technology

- Ranked as one of the top 200 universities in the world (source: Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2014-2015)
- Bachelor's degrees in business, aviation, sciences and engineering

# **Quality of Life**



idyllic location known for its superb quality of life. Our modern communities are loaded with recreational, cultural, natural, educational and technological amenities. And, they're affordable – our cost of living is lower than the U.S. average and lower than the state as a whole. (Source: Sperling's Best Places)

Safe, beautiful, tropical – Indian River County is an



#### Helene Caseltine, CEcD Economic Development Director

Indian River County Chamber of Commerce 1216 21st Street Vero Beach, FL 32960

Phone: 772.567.3491/C: 772.559.8273 Email: helenec@indianrivered.com

#### Florida Atlantic University

• Offers various engineering degree programs, including computer, electrical, mechanical, geomatics and ocean

#### Florida State University College of Medicine - Fort Pierce Campus

- Offers an M.D. degree; a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences; and an M.S. in Biomedical Sciences, Bridge to Clinical Medicine Major
- The College of Medicine's mission emphasizes patient-centered health care and service to elderly, rural, minority and under-served populations.

## **Culture & Recreation**

- Our 26 miles of pristine beaches provide opportunities for fishing, kayaking, swimming, boating and other water activities.
- Choose your course: golf at any one of our six public or twelve private courses.
- If pickleball is your game, a number of public courts are available throughout the county.
- Indian River County was the first county in Florida to be designated a "Bicycle Friendly Community" by the League of American Bicyclists.
- Attractions include:
  - Vero Beach Museum of Art
  - Riverside Theatre
  - McKee Botanical Garden
  - Navy Seal Museum
  - Environmental Learning Center
  - Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge

