



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture & Aquaculture

Indian River County has a strong history of agriculture. The climate is favorable to growing citrus, and Indian River grapefruit is world-renowned. Indian River County is also becoming an important hub in Florida's burgeoning \$100 million aquaculture industry. A number of aquaculture businesses, research facilities, and organizations are located here, with more continuing to move into and expand in the area.



Representative Employers

Company	Industry	Employees
B & W Quality Growers	Agriculture - Arugula	200+
Premier Citrus	Citrus Groves, Wholesale Fruit Packaging	100-199
Riverfront Groves	Citrus Groves, Wholesale Fruit Packaging	50-99
Hale Groves/ Southern Fulfillment	Citrus & Gourmet Food Gifts	50-99
Perricone Farms	Citrus Groves, Wholesale Fruit Packaging	100-199
Syngenta Agricultural Research Center	Pest Management Research	25-49
Seald Sweet International	Citrus Distribution	1-24
Peace River Citrus	Citrus Processing	1-24

1st FLORIDA IS #1 IN THE U.S. FOR THESE FARMED FISH:

- GROUPEL
- PINK SHRIMP
- POMPANO
- SPINY LOBSTERS
- MULLET
- SPANISH MACKEREL
- STONE CRAB

(<http://www.freshfromflorida.com>)

2nd INDIAN RIVER COUNTY IS #2 OUT OF ALL U.S. COUNTIES IN GRAPEFRUIT PRODUCTION

(Source: USDA Census of Agriculture, 2012)

8th FLORIDA IS #8 OUT OF ALL U.S. STATES IN FRESH SEAFOOD PRODUCTION

(<http://www.freshfromflorida.com>)

10th INDIAN RIVER COUNTY IS #10 OUT OF ALL U.S. COUNTIES IN ORANGE PRODUCTION

(Source: USDA Census of Agriculture, 2012)

13th INDIAN RIVER COUNTY IS #13 OUT OF ALL U.S. COUNTIES FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL SERVICES SECTOR

(Source: USDA Census of Agriculture, 2012)



Wages & Workforce

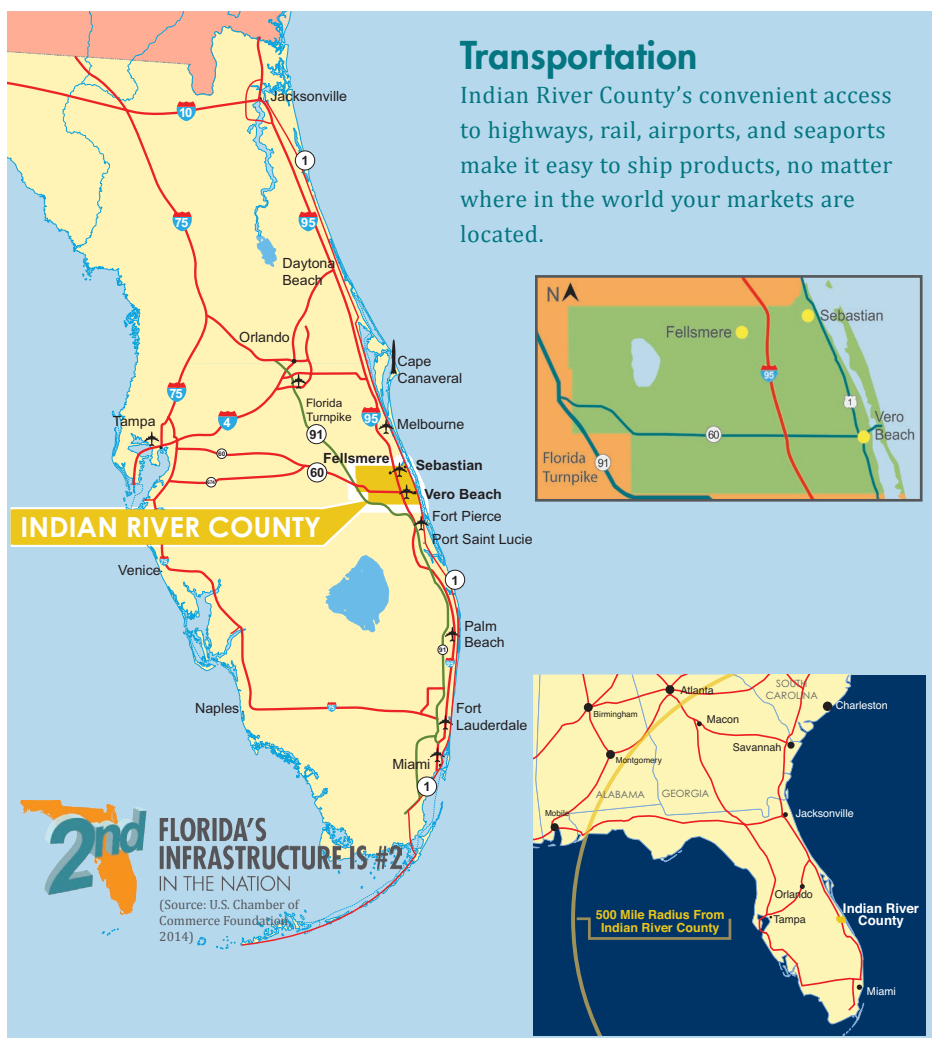
The great value provided by the agricultural labor force in Indian River County gives employers a competitive advantage. Wages are consistently lower than the averages for Florida, the surrounding states, and for the U.S. as a whole.

	Sebastian-Vero Beach MSA	GA	SC	AL	MS	US
Mean Hourly Wage (Overall)	\$21.11	\$28.47	\$23.10	\$25.25	\$21.07	\$31.02
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	\$11.34	\$12.32	N/A	\$13.22	\$12.96	\$14.89
Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	\$10.98	\$11.97	\$13.01	\$11.25	\$12.07	\$14.36
First-Line Supervisors	\$21.58	\$26.02	\$28.17	\$28.56	\$26.10	\$24.42

(Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020)



Riverfront Packinghouse, Vero Beach



Education & Research

Indian River State College

- Five campuses offering programs in a variety of fields including agriculture, agriculture production technology/ aquaculture, and agriculture economics

Florida Institute of Technology - Vero Beach Marine Laboratory

- Offers Bachelors, Masters, and PhD. degrees in aquaculture, biotechnology, ecology, marine biology, coastal zone management, environmental science, oceanography, and ocean engineering

Florida Atlantic University - Harbor Branch

- Undergraduate "Semester at Sea" and courses in marine sciences
- Graduate courses and degrees in biology, integrative biology, and environmental sciences



Helene Caseltine, CEcD
Economic Development Director

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

Phone: 772.567.3491
Email: helenec@indianrivered.com

