FORT WAYNE: A COMMUNITY ON THE RISE.

#1
City with lowest cost of living
(Niche.com, Aug. 2022)

#2
Fastest-growing metro in the Great Lakes region
(U.S. Census Bureau, 2021)

#4
City for Gen Z to live well on a budget
(GoBankingRates.com, 2019)

Cover Photo by Stephen J. Bailey
“Fort Wayne is becoming flat-out cool. Still in the phase where a visitor to the city will have to know just where to look for the signs... It’s clear that there’s something afoot here, and that in an age where we’re skeptical about everything, let alone lists making the rounds on the internet, Fort Wayne really is a place to keep your eye on.”

Food & Wine Magazine

“We recruit young talent from throughout the United States and beyond, and we’re extremely successful because of the low cost of living, great schools, affordable housing, and a long list of family-friendly amenities.”

Chuck Surack Founder, Sweetwater Sound

#1 online retailer for musical and pro audio gear

TOP-5
Emerging housing market in the U.S. (Realtor.com, April 2023)

TOP-10
City for new grads to start a career (Insurify.com, 2022)

TOP-5
Best-run city in America (WalletHub.com, 2022)
From big-city amenities without the hassle or expense, to historic neighborhoods and rural charm, Allen County has something for everyone. As a resident, you’ll **enjoy a quality of life that’s tough to beat**, thanks to a wide variety of amenities for you to explore.

**PARKS & TRAILS**

Get active on more than 100 miles of trails in Allen County, including the Rivergreenway that follows our three rivers through downtown Fort Wayne and beyond. Allen County is also home to more than 90 public parks and nature preserves. Check out the award-winning Promenade Park, smell the roses at the Botanical Conservatory, and get back to nature on the wooded trails of Metea County Park.

**FOOD & BEVERAGE**

Hoosier Hospitality starts in the kitchen. Our cozy cafés, local restaurants, farm-to-table concepts, and laid-back breweries have something for everyone—whether you’re looking for tried-and-true comfort food or you’re branching out to try something new. We’re creating an up-and-coming restaurant scene with flavors for every appetite and options ranging from casual to fine dining.

**SHOPPING**

People want to be here, and so do businesses. That means residents can enjoy a combination of trusted neighborhood shops, trendy local boutiques, and the national brands you know and love. And if eating local is your thing, we’re home to a variety of farmers markets where you can buy the freshest meats, sweets, and produce from nearby growers.
ARTS & CULTURE

In Allen County, inspiring artwork is seemingly everywhere. The Fort Wayne Museum of Art is home to more than 6,000 pieces, including one of America’s largest collections of contemporary glass sculptures. A walk around downtown Fort Wayne brings you face-to-face with more than 30 murals, sculptures, and statues. An eclectic mix of concert venues welcomes national acts year-round. And in the summer months, weekly festivals highlight our community’s diverse offerings of arts and culture.

HEALTH CARE

When you need medical care, you can rest assured you’re in capable hands. Allen County providers are nationally recognized for maternity care, pediatrics, burn treatment, cardiac and cancer services, orthopedics, geriatric emergency care, and more. Our community is home to major medical facilities and resources, and more than 1,300 physicians and surgeons. They have the resources to offer world-class care, while still treating you like family.

SPORTS & RECREATION

Whatever your sport, we’ve got it. Parkview Field, home of the TinCaps, delivers one of the top ballpark experiences in professional sports, Komet hockey brings thrills to the Memorial Coliseum, our college teams are perennial winners, and we’re proud to host a U.S. Paralympic training site at Turnstone. Want to get into the action yourself? Our community offers recreational options for a variety of activities including basketball, volleyball, hockey, pickleball, golf, rowing, and even curling.

RECREATIONAL & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

- Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne
- Fort Wayne Philharmonic
- Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo
- Clyde Theatre
- Embassy Theatre
- Fort Wayne Museum of Art
- Science Central
- Middle Waves Music Festival
- Fort Wayne Civic Theatre
- TinCaps Baseball
- Fort Wayne Derby Girls
- Hobnobben Film Festival
- Arena Dinner Theatre
- Komet Hockey
- Fort Wayne United Soccer
- Unity Performing Arts Fdn.
- Fort Wayne Ballet
- The History Center
- Fort Wayne FC Soccer
- Fort Wayne Trails
Fort Wayne is the second-largest city in Indiana, and is among the 100 largest nationally. And we’re growing – faster than peer cities like Cincinnati, Omaha, and Louisville. Fort Wayne-Allen County is a welcoming and inclusive community that embodies the very best of Hoosier Hospitality.

### DEMOGRAPHICS

**POPULATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Fort Wayne</td>
<td>265,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen County</td>
<td>388,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 60-mile radius</td>
<td>1,535,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median age</td>
<td>35.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ALLEN COUNTY INCOME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per-capita personal income</td>
<td>$50,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average annual wage</td>
<td>$53,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median household income</td>
<td>$57,104</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEDIAN HOME PRICES, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Median Home Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne, IN</td>
<td>$223,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaha, NE</td>
<td>$231,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
<td>$263,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
<td>$277,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattanooga, TN</td>
<td>$299,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>$303,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Rapids, MI</td>
<td>$315,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
<td>$322,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenville, SC</td>
<td>$329,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durham, NC</td>
<td>$491,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: National Association of Realtors, Q2 2022
From pre-K to college and beyond, Allen County students are in a position to achieve. Our community is home to four public school districts and a variety of private and parochial schools, all home to dedicated, innovative educators.

**K-12 specialties include:**

**COLLEGE PREP**

**PROBLEM SOLVING & INNOVATION**

**CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

Right here in Allen County, residents have access to world-renowned degree programs all the way up to the doctorate level. Plus, continuing education is readily available for professionals looking to sharpen their skills.

- 65,000+ Students enrolled in grades K-12 in Allen County
- 41,000+ Students enrolled at Allen County colleges and universities
- 230,000+ Annual graduates at top research universities within 200 miles
## Major Employers

What do we do here? A better question is, what don’t we do here? Our diverse economy is bustling with successful companies from a wide range of industries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPANY</th>
<th>EMPLOYEES</th>
<th>COMPANY</th>
<th>EMPLOYEES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parkview Health (HQ)</td>
<td>8,970</td>
<td>Kelley Automotive Group</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Motors</td>
<td>4,320</td>
<td>Trelleborg AB</td>
<td>506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran Health Network</td>
<td>4,075</td>
<td>MedPro Group (HQ)</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweetwater Sound (HQ)</td>
<td>2,011</td>
<td>Do It Best Corp. (HQ)</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Financial Group</td>
<td>1,954</td>
<td>Dreyer’s Grand Ice Cream</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>Raytheon</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BFGoodrich</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>Sabert</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shambaugh &amp; Son (HQ)</td>
<td>1,302</td>
<td>SIRVA</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne Metals (HQ)</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>Essex Furukawa</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Spas (HQ)</td>
<td>1,040</td>
<td>Indiana Michigan Power</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana Corp.</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>Lutheran Life Villages</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Dynamics Inc. (HQ)</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>Brunswick Corporation</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAE Systems</td>
<td>914</td>
<td>3Rivers Federal Credit Union (HQ)</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frontier Communications</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>Ortho NorthEast (HQ)</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easterseals Arc of NE Indiana (HQ)</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>Ruoff Mortgage (HQ)</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vera Bradley (HQ)</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>Franklin Electric (HQ)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3Harris Technologies</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>Norfolk Southern Corp.</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brotherhood Mutual. (HQ)</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>STAR Financial Group (HQ)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List includes private-sector employers only, listed by full-time equivalents. Information based on GFW Inc. research from July 2021, supplemented by data from Purdue University Fort Wayne’s Community Research Institute.
Serving more than 700,000 passengers in a typical year, Fort Wayne International Airport (FWA) is not only the “Friendliest Airport in the United States;” it is also convenient and cost-competitive.

FWA continues to raise the bar. The $50 million Project Gateway builds on a decade of growth, improving the travel experience with a major terminal expansion, upgrades to the rental car area, and more.

FWA offers direct flights to major cities including Orlando, Tampa, Atlanta, Dallas, Sarasota, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Myrtle Beach, Chicago, Minneapolis, Fort Myers, and Charlotte. Learn more at FWAIRPORT.COM
In Fort Wayne-Allen County, we invest in ourselves and our people. We are building a vibrant community, full of opportunities to help you achieve your potential. Take a look at the improvements that are reshaping our skyline and making Fort Wayne one of the fastest-growing communities in the Great Lakes region.

**RIVERFRONT FORT WAYNE**
**BETWEEN EWING & MLK BRIDGES**
The transformation has begun, turning the confluence of the St. Marys, St. Joseph, and Maumee rivers into a vibrant regional landmark. With trails, boat excursions, kayaking, playgrounds, and more, Promenade Park (Riverfront Development Phase I) provides a variety of opportunities to explore. Phase II and III include mixed-use development around the Riverfront District.

Promenade Park opened 2019

**ELECTRIC WORKS**
**BROADWAY & SWINNEY AVENUE**
One of the largest redevelopment projects in the country, Electric Works is the reinvention of the former General Electric campus, a historic hub of innovation and entrepreneurship. Phase I opened in 2022 featuring the Union Street Market food hall, the new world headquarters for Do it Best Corp., co-working space, an innovation-focused high school, and more. Phase II is well underway with an already-completed parking garage; construction continues on residential and retail space.

Phases I & II opened 2022

**STAR FINANCIAL BANK**
**WEST MAIN STREET & MAIDEN LANE**
STAR Financial Bank is establishing a new company headquarters in the downtown Ashberry project—a two-tower, mixed-use building that also includes a 387-space public parking garage, just steps away from other downtown attractions like The Bradley, The Landing, The Pearl, and more.

Opening 2023
This investment brings boutique shopping and fine dining to Fort Wayne’s original business district. Located just two blocks south of the Riverfront, the redevelopment of this charming street and its architecturally significant buildings includes 70 new downtown apartments.

**THE LANDING**
**COLUMBIA STREET**

A project led by Vera Bradley’s co-founder, this five-story, 125-room boutique hotel with restaurants, retail, and rooftop entertainment space brings dynamic new amenities for visitors and residents alike. Located just one block south of The Landing and three blocks south of the Riverfront, guests are treated to the best of downtown.

**THE BRADLEY**
**WEST MAIN STREET & SOUTH HARRISON STREET**

The momentum is spreading. This package of quality-of-place improvements enhances parks, sidewalks, downtown streetscapes, housing, and more across seven communities in east Allen County.

**EAST ALLEN’S RURAL REVIVAL**
**MULTIPLE LOCATIONS IN EAST ALLEN COUNTY**
THE PEARL

WEST MAIN STREET & MAIDEN LANE

Nestled next door to The Bradley, this innovative downtown development features commercial and event space along with more than 70 residences. The project, led by the founder of Sweetwater Sound, adds to the buzz of activity in the nearby Harrison Street Corridor, The Landing, and the Riverfront District.

Estimated completion 2024

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THE RIVERFRONT AT PROMENADE PARK

WEST SUPERIOR STREET & SOUTH HARRISON STREET

Just across Harrison Street from Promenade Park, this project brings apartments, retail, office space, and parking to the downtown riverfront. The six-story, mixed-use building includes more than 200 apartments, seven townhomes, a 900-space parking garage, and serves as the regional headquarters for Swiss Re, a world leader in the insurance industry.

Opened 2022

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THE LOFTS AT HEADWATERS PARK

EAST SUPERIOR STREET & SOUTH CLINTON STREET

Overlooking Headwaters Park and the St. Marys River, this six-story, mixed-use project is in the middle of the downtown scene. The building features more than 200 apartments, 15 townhomes, commercial space, and a 650-space parking garage—all with easy access to restaurants, festivals, and the Rivergreenway trail system.

Estimated completion 2025

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LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR BOLD PROJECTS AT GFWINC.COM
The momentum in our community is real—and we’re just getting started. Our Allen County Together economic development action plan sets the pace and tone for our next decade of growth.

The plan focuses public-private efforts around three main pillars:

**HIGH GROWTH**
Accelerate the creation of high-quality spaces in Fort Wayne-Allen County’s commercial, industrial, and mixed-used business districts to attract new jobs, investment, and strong positive in-migration of talent from outside Indiana.

**INNOVATIVE**
Develop a robust network of entrepreneurial support organizations, access to capital, real estate space, research and development, and creative talent to fuel growth in technology-driven companies in emerging and legacy industries.

**INCLUSIVE**
Align business, government, education, and nonprofit partners to ensure equitable access to economic, workforce, and educational opportunities for all people and communities in Allen County.

[See the full Allen County Together plan at act.gfwinc.com](http://act.gfwinc.com)
What are you waiting for? Whether you’re considering a move to Allen County or you’re already in the process of relocating here, we’d love to welcome you to the community. These resources can help you get connected, find opportunities, and stay in the know.

ONBOARD FORT WAYNE
Built just for newcomers, this program can help you and your crew live your best lives here in Allen County. Onboard Fort Wayne offers social events, local ambassadors to answer your questions, and online resources to help you find your new local favorites.

ONBOARDFW.COM

LEADERSHIP FORT WAYNE
More than 40 years strong, this nine-month program helps participants discover and grow their innate leadership skills, get involved in the community, and drive positive change.

LEADERSHIPFW.COM

GFW INC. WOMEN’S NETWORK
Get connected, inspired, and empowered. The network provides a group of supportive peers and a year-round series of compelling presentations, networking events, learning opportunities, and more.

WOMEN.GFWINC.COM

CURRENT FORT WAYNE
Have fun in the Fort! This community calendar highlights the events happening throughout Fort Wayne and Allen County.

CURRENTFORTWAYNE.COM

#1
U.S. city for starter homes
(StorageCafe, June 2022)

TOP-10
U.S. city for career opportunities
(SmartAsset.com, July 2022)

TOP-10
U.S. city for remote work
(Virtual Vocations, August 2021)
UNITED FRONT INITIATIVE
Diversity, equity, and inclusion are more than just words in this community. United Front takes action with a series of keynotes, group discussions, and other events focused on our shared humanity and increasing residents’ cultural awareness.
UNITEDFRONTINITIATIVE.COM

INDIANA DISABILITY RESOURCE FINDER
Find the accessibility resources you need with this searchable directory of services, programs, and helpful articles.
INDIANADISABILITYRESOURCEFINDER.ORG

DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
Explore shops, restaurants, festivals, public art, and much more in the 99 vibrant blocks of downtown Fort Wayne.
DOWNTOWNFORTWAYNE.COM

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. is the chamber of commerce and economic development engine for Fort Wayne and Allen County, Indiana. We create the conditions that attract talent and capital.
VISIT GFWINC.COM TO LEARN MORE.
Indiana Born for Indiana Banking.

Jim Cook - Regional President
(260) 479-5559 or Jim.Cook@starfinancial.com

OUR NEW HQ IS COMING IN 2023

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