



**GREATER
FORT WAYNE INC.**
METRO CHAMBER ALLIANCE

Celebrating a Year of Success & Progress

2024 PROOF OF PERFORMANCE



RECENT NATIONAL RANKINGS

#1

MOST AFFORDABLE PLACE TO LIVE

U.S. News & World Report, 2024

TOP-10

BEST-RUN CITIES IN AMERICA

WalletHub.com, 2024

#1

FASTEST-GROWING BIG CITY IN THE MIDWEST

U.S. Census Bureau, 2024

TOP-10

BEST CITIES TO RETIRE IN THE U.S.

Insidermonkey.com, 2024

#1

BEST CITY FOR GEN Z TO ACHIEVE HOMEOWNERSHIP

Point2homes.com, 2024

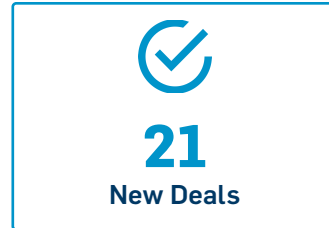
TOP-20

BEST PLACES TO LIVE IN THE U.S.

U.S. News & World Report, 2024

Building a Nationally Recognized Economy

2024 Allen County Economic Development Results



Your Investment Powers our Economic Growth

In 2024, Allen County achieved record-breaking growth with over \$2.6 billion in private investments, over 1,000 new job commitments, \$74.7 million in new annual payroll, and the new job wages were 19% above the current county average.

These accomplishments, made possible by the support of our investors and partners, highlight our momentum in economic and community development and our success in attracting top talent.

Helping Local Businesses Thrive

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. is dedicated to empowering local businesses with the resources and support they need to thrive, grow, and succeed.



Getting Bold Projects Done

Recent Investments in Allen County

According to the 2024 Allen County Business survey, **95% of local businesses agree Allen County is on the right track!** And with over **\$7 billion** invested since 2015, we continue to support bold projects that fuel our community's growth.



The Eddy at North River

\$45M Investment



Fort Wayne Metals

\$160M Investment



FWA - Project Gateway

\$120M Investment



Google Data Center Campus

\$2B Investment



North American Cold Storage

\$30M Investment



Parks Edge Multifamily Housing

\$50M Investment



The Pearl & Pearl St. Arts Center

\$100M Investment

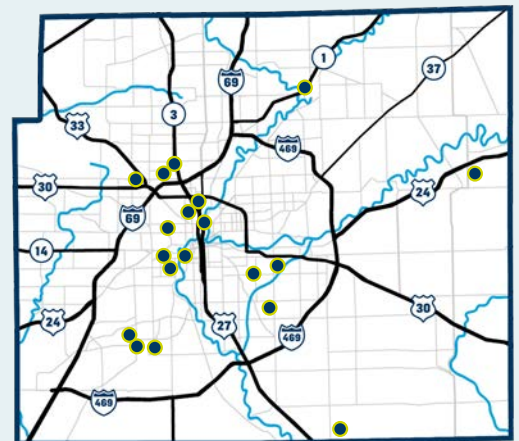


Time2Line Dealer Services

\$2M Investment

Business Attraction & Expansion Projects in 2024

- ▶ CPI Card Group
- ▶ Fort Wayne Metals
- ▶ Google
- ▶ WaterFurnace
- ▶ Vanco Commercial Services
- ▶ Premier Hydraulic Augers
- ▶ Peridot
- ▶ L3Harris
- ▶ H&M Bay, Inc.
- ▶ Runestad Financial Services
- ▶ Time2Line Dealer Services
- ▶ Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream
- ▶ Valbruna Slater Stainless
- ▶ Hilltip Inc.
- ▶ Nix Companies
- ▶ Vested Metals
- ▶ First Gear
- ▶ North American Cold Storage
- ▶ Van Eerden Foodservice
- ▶ Medical Informatics Engineering
- ▶ Wayne-Vaughn Equipment



RECENT WINS OF THE ACT PLAN

\$330M+

Total investment in Riverfront Fort Wayne

1.1.3, \$1B GOAL BY 2031

\$2B+

Investment in Southeast Fort Wayne by Google

3.1.3, \$250M GOAL BY 2031

\$125M+

Invested in local academic projects and facilities

3.3,

\$125M+

Capital investment in Southeast Fort Wayne

3.1.3, \$100M GOAL BY 2026

\$100M+

In arts and culture projects in Allen County

2.3,

\$26M+

In state-funded broadband access

1.3.4,

800

New Beds in Student Housing Developments

1.1.5.A, 2,500 GOAL BY 2031

\$2.5M+

In CDFI lending for small business

3.1.1.A, \$10M GOAL BY 2026

Metrics based on available data as of December 31, 2024

Allen County Together (ACT) Economic Development Plan

Our 10-Year plan for economic growth in Fort Wayne & Allen County



The momentum in our community is real—and we're just getting started. Launched in 2022, our Allen County Together Economic Development Plan sets the pace and tone for our next decade of growth.

The plan focuses efforts around three primary pillars:



2025 Economic Development Summit

GFW Inc. hosted its third annual Economic Development Summit, bringing together local leaders to discuss the progress and implementation of the ACT Plan through recent and upcoming investments and initiatives. This year's event was our largest yet, attracting nearly 600 attendees!



Additional Recent Results

- ▶ Junior Achievement, Allen County school districts, GFW Inc., and community partners are collaborating on the new **JA Career Ignite**, a career exploration fair in 2025.
- ▶ Backed by funding from the Capital Improvement Board and Airport Authority, GFW Inc. has engaged a consulting team to create a concept plan for **base modernization at the 122nd Fighter Wing**.
- ▶ **Visit Fort Wayne launched the Tourism Master Plan**, featuring key projects such as the Fields of Grace youth sports complex in New Haven, The Fairfield entertainment venue, and over \$100M for several arts and culture projects.

Download the Allen County Together (ACT) Plan at act.gfwinc.com



Advocating for our Business Community

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. Business Advocacy Services

Through dedicated advocacy efforts, we champion policies and initiatives that empower local businesses, driving growth and fostering a thriving economy.



Legislative Wins Propel Regional Progress

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. made significant progress during the 2024 legislative session, achieving key outcomes that advance the region's goals for economic growth, workforce development, and quality of life.

Notable Initiatives in 2024

- ▶ Supported several bills to increase and expand access to childcare providers
- ▶ Supported student engagement opportunities in work-based learning and post-secondary credentials
- ▶ Assisted and advocated for small and locally-owned businesses

550+

Attendees at GFW Inc.
Legislative Events in 2024



140+

Meetings by GFW Inc. Staff
with Local Elected Officials



20+

Support Letters Written on
Behalf of Local Businesses



Our Legislative Priorities

In 2024, Greater Fort Wayne Inc. hosted three legislative events, welcoming local elected officials to discuss their goals, progress, and results of the recent session.

GFW Inc. also produced the 2025 Legislative Agenda, outlining key and strategic policy positions and priorities for the upcoming session.



Economic & Community Development



Transportation & Infrastructure



Entrepreneur & Business Development



Education & Workforce Development



Government Efficiency & Tax Policy

See the agenda at advocacy.gfwinc.com



Continuing the Momentum

Seven Consecutive Years of Positive Net Domestic Migration

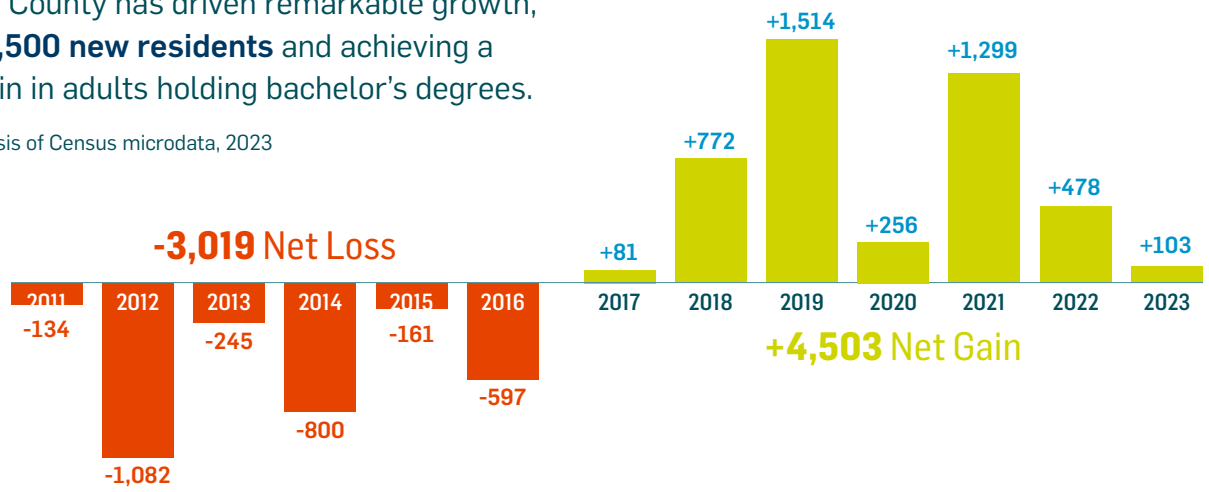
Net domestic migration measures how many people moved into a community from other U.S. locales, minus how many moved away.



Reversing the Trend

Since 2017, Allen County has driven remarkable growth, attracting **over 4,500 new residents** and achieving a significant net gain in adults holding bachelor's degrees.

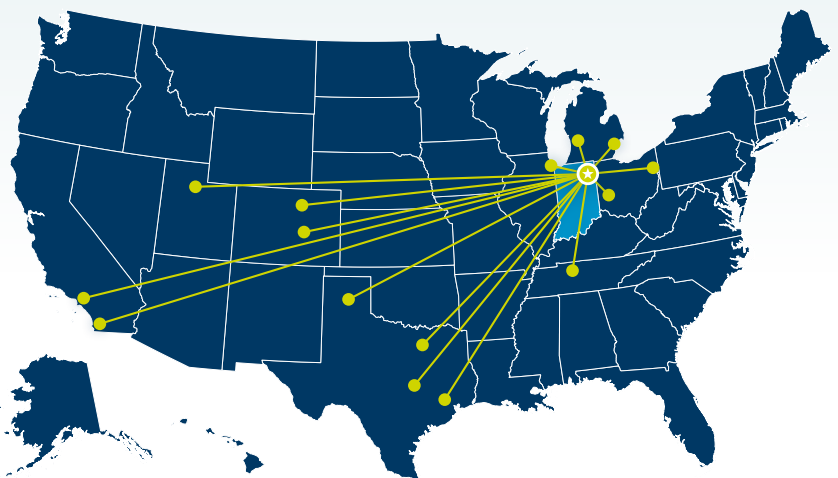
SOURCE: NYTimes analysis of Census microdata, 2023



Attracting Talent from Across the Nation

Top metros from where we are attracting new residents

- ▶ Chicago
- ▶ Dallas
- ▶ Houston
- ▶ Amarillo
- ▶ Austin
- ▶ San Diego
- ▶ Los Angeles
- ▶ Salt Lake City
- ▶ Dayton
- ▶ Youngstown
- ▶ Denver
- ▶ Colorado Springs
- ▶ Nashville
- ▶ Detroit
- ▶ Grand Rapids



SOURCE: IRS, GFW Inc. analysis

Welcoming Talent at Every Career Level

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. Onboard Fort Wayne

Since 2020, Onboard Fort Wayne has become a cornerstone of our workforce outreach efforts. To engage and retain top talent, we're connecting with new residents at every stage of their careers.



Our Talent Attraction Continuum

This year, we've strengthened our talent retention programming to foster deeper connections and support workforce development, ensuring Allen County remains a vibrant place to live, work, and thrive.



Best-in-Class Summit

This targeted fall event inspires Allen County's high-achieving high school seniors to return as future leaders after college graduation.

► **145 High School Student Attendees**



The Intern Experience

This program connects interns with the community, fostering professional growth and encouraging them to build their careers in Allen County.

► **200 Summer Intern Participants**



Newcomer Socials

Our Newcomer Socials bring new residents together to build connections, foster friendships, and create a sense of belonging in Allen County.

► **156 New Residents Welcomed**



C-Suite Socials

C-Suite Socials connect newly relocated executives and their families, helping them build relationships and feel at home in Allen County.

► **78 Executive Attendees**

Learn more about Onboard Fort Wayne at [OnboardFW.com](https://www.onboardfw.com)



2024 KEY GFW INC. IMPACT STATISTICS

1,350+

Active Chamber Members

180+

New Investors in 2024

37

Ribbon Cutting &
Groundbreaking Events

1,800+

Event Attendees

15,000+

E-Newsletter Subscribers

40,000+

Followers on Social Media

300,000+

GFW Inc. Website Views

Metrics based on available data
as of December 31, 2024

Programs to Develop your Workforce

Building a Stronger Workforce

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. is dedicated to strengthening and growing our workforce. Through innovative programs and resources, we're equipping individuals and businesses with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed.



MadeByMe

Skilled Trades Initiative

▶ **2,200+ High School Students Reached**



Leadership Fort Wayne

Professional Development Program

▶ **59 Graduates of the Class of 2024**



GFW Inc. Women's Network

Professional Development Program

▶ **218 Program Members**

▶ **900+ Program Attendees**



Workforce & Waffles

Exclusive Breakfast Seminars

▶ **160+ Attendees**

Discover these programs and more at connect.gfwinc.com



Celebrating 10 Years of Growing Jobs, Wages, and the Economy

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. 10-Year Anniversary



A Decade of Building Momentum

This year, Greater Fort Wayne Inc. celebrated a major milestone as we marked our 10th anniversary as an organization serving our community.

At our Annual Meeting, we reflected on a decade of achievements, highlighted recent and ongoing projects, and shared an exciting vision for the future, ensuring our region remains a thriving place to live, work, and grow.



Greater Fort Wayne Inc. Business Excellence Awards

In 2024, we celebrate the businesses and organizations driving Allen County's success through excellence.

Congratulations again to this year's award winners:

- ▶ **MKM Architecture + Design**
Excellence in Small Business Award
- ▶ **Neighborhood Health**
Excellence in Nonprofit Award
- ▶ **Fort Wayne City Utilities**
GFW Inc. Business Excellence Award
- ▶ **F. Nelson Peters & L. Scott Naltner**
Mac Parker Swagger Award
- ▶ **Steve Corona**
Elected Official of the Year
- ▶ **John Dortch**
Barb Smith Service Award



Explore your Exclusive Member Benefits & Savings

Members of Greater Fort Wayne Inc. get access to benefits designed to help you grow your business, create connections, and more, all while contributing to the continued growth of Allen County.



Investor Support

- ▶ Business Advocacy Services
- ▶ "Partner Perks" Discounts
- ▶ Conference Room Access
- ▶ Fort Wayne Business Weekly Newspaper Subscription
- ▶ Notarizations & Certificate of Origin Services



Marketing & Promotions

- ▶ Online Business Directory
- ▶ GFW Inc. E-Newsletter Banner Ad Opportunities
- ▶ Investor-Only Job Board
- ▶ Online Member Events Calendar
- ▶ "Hot Deals" Investor Promotions
- ▶ Groundbreaking & Ribbon Cutting Event Support



Events & Programming

- ▶ Investor-Only Events & Programs
- ▶ Reduced-rate Admission to GFW Inc. Events
- ▶ Small Business Exclusives
- ▶ GFW Inc. Women's Network*
- ▶ CEO Roundtables*
- ▶ Leads Groups*

*Some membership benefits may include additional fees. Contact membership@gfwinc.com to learn more.

Elevating Your Brand

Greater Fort Wayne Inc. offers year-round sponsorship opportunities to help your business stand out. From casual networking events to exciting signature events, each platform allows your brand to connect with the business community.

Find our sponsorship guide at sponsor.gfwinc.com



Thank You to our Visionary Investors

Visionary Investors go the extra mile to support our efforts to build a nationally recognized economy in Allen County. Our thanks to the companies below for their commitment to growing jobs, wages, and our economy:

1st Source Bank	Fort Wayne Community Schools	NAI Hanning & Bean
3Rivers Federal Credit Union	Fort Wayne Metals	NIPSCO
AARP	Fort Wayne Newspapers, Inc.	Nucor Vulcraft
Allen County Government	Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority	Old National Bank
Allendale Treatment	Forvis Mazars	Ortho NorthEast (ONE)
Ambassador Enterprises, LLC	Franklin Electric	Parkview Employer Solutions
AWS Foundation	Garmong	Parkview Health
BAE Systems	General Motors Fort Wayne Assembly	PHP
Barnes & Thornburg LLP	Google	Pizza Hut
Barrett McNagny LLP	Heartland REMC	PNC
Barrett Realty Investments	Hylant	Prairie Farms
Bowen Health	Indiana Michigan Power	Premier Bank
Brotherhood Mutual	Indiana Tech	Purdue University Fort Wayne
Brunswick Boat Group	Indiana University Fort Wayne	Rothberg Law Firm
Building Contractors Association of Northeast Indiana	Indiana University Health	Ruoff Mortgage
Business People / BP Promos	Ivy Tech Community College	Shambaugh & Son
Centier Bank	JPMorganChase	Sold by the Gold at North Eastern Realty Group
City of Fort Wayne	Kelley Automotive Group	STAR Financial Bank
City of New Haven	L3Harris	Steel Dynamics Inc.
CME Construction	Lake City Bank	Surack Enterprises
Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne	Lincoln Financial Group	Sweetwater Sound
DeHaven Chevrolet	Lutheran Health Network	Town of Hometown
Design Collaborative	Lutheran Life Villages	TriCore
Do it Best	Manchester University Fort Wayne	UPSTAR - Upstate Alliance of REALTORS
Don Ayres Honda	Master Spas	Vera Bradley
Don Wood Foundation	MedPro Group	Weigand Construction
EDP Renewables	Meijer	Zayo
Elevatus Architecture	Metropolitan Title	
F&M Bank	Michelin NA	
Fort Wayne City Utilities	Model Group	



We're building a nationally recognized economy.

For over 10 years, Greater Fort Wayne Inc. has served as the chamber of commerce and economic development engine for Fort Wayne and Allen County, Indiana, creating the conditions that attract talent, drive investment, and fuel community growth. Our records and successes continue to be proven by national rankings such as these:

▶ **#1**

FASTEST-GROWING BIG CITY IN THE MIDWEST

U.S. Census Bureau, 2024

▶ **TOP-10**

BEST-RUN CITIES IN AMERICA

WalletHub.com, 2024

▶ **TOP-20**

BEST PLACES TO LIVE IN THE U.S.

U.S. News & World Report, 2024



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