

NORTHWEST INDIANA

welcome to
THE MIDDLE OF
everywhere



NWIFORUM.ORG



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A

An aerial photograph of a coastal area. In the foreground, a long wooden pier extends into a large body of blue water. The shoreline is rocky and features a paved walkway, a small pavilion, and a parking lot. In the background, a dense residential and commercial area is visible, including a city skyline and a large industrial facility with a red hot air balloon. The text 'RE URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RURAL.' is overlaid in large white letters across the top half of the image.

RE URBAN, SUBURBAN, AND RURAL.

The Northwest Indiana region is the second largest economy in Indiana representing urban, suburban and rural communities that boasts a \$35 billion economy.

From the nation's 61st and newest national park, Indiana Dunes National Park, which rises from the southern shore of beautiful Lake Michigan on our northern boundary, to some of the country's most fertile farmlands in our southern agricultural communities, companies from around the world have located to Northwest Indiana to take advantage of our proximity to major markets, affordable commercial space and a highly qualified workforce.

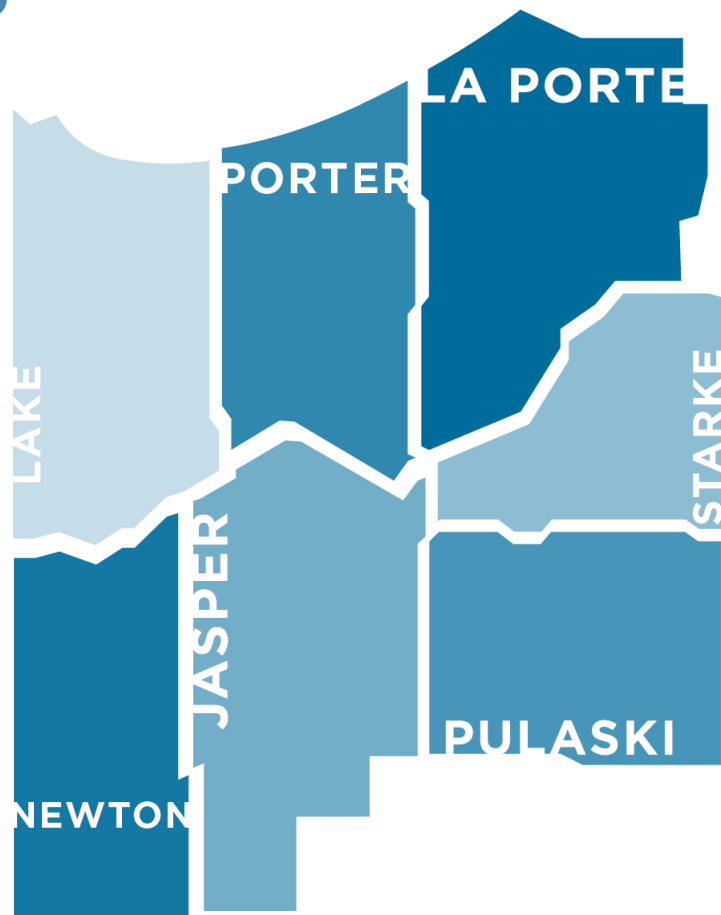
welcome to The Region: Northwest Indiana

Northwest Indiana combines an innovative spirit, beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline, and proximity to Chicago and its amenities for an affordable, high quality of life. Our communities, each with their own unique flavor provide Northwest Indiana residents an eclectic style of living. Northwest Indiana communities are ready to welcome you home.

DO BUSINESS, EARN A LIVING, THRIVE.

The seven-county region of Northwest Indiana (Lake, Porter, LaPorte, Starke, Newton, Jasper & Pulaski) flourishes through the collaboration of our economic and community development partnerships. From business development strategies to workforce training, our Economic Development Organizations work together to continually increase business investment and improve the economic climate of Northwest Indiana.

CHICAGO

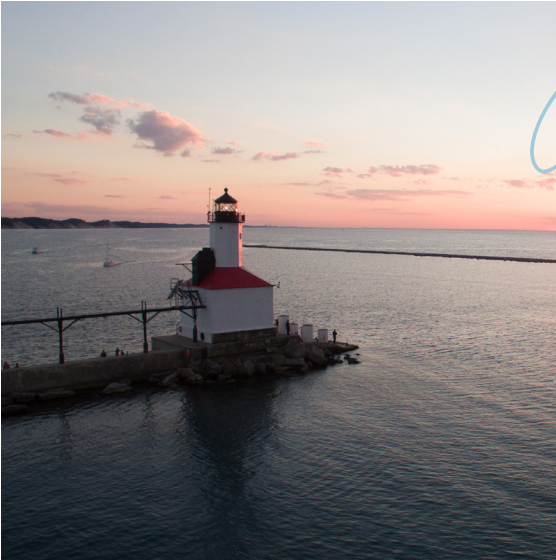


Best of Both Worlds

Northwest Indiana offers the best of both worlds: Access to Chicago, the third largest metropolitan economy in the U.S., while taking advantage of Indiana's stellar business climate. Our location, comprehensive infrastructure and transportation network allows companies to quickly and efficiently deliver and distribute products to customers worldwide at minimal cost.



THREE
CLASS 1
RAILROADS



Commuter Rail

The existing South Shore Line provides a vital transportation link that connects Northwest Indiana to Chicago. The South Shore Line is embarking on proposed projects, including the expansion from a single track to a double track between Gary and Michigan City as well as a southern branch extension of the existing South Shore Line to reach high-growth areas in Lake County.



45
MILES OF
LAKE MICHIGAN
SHORELINE



80%
U.S. POPULATION
WITHIN ONE
DAY DRIVE



Transportation

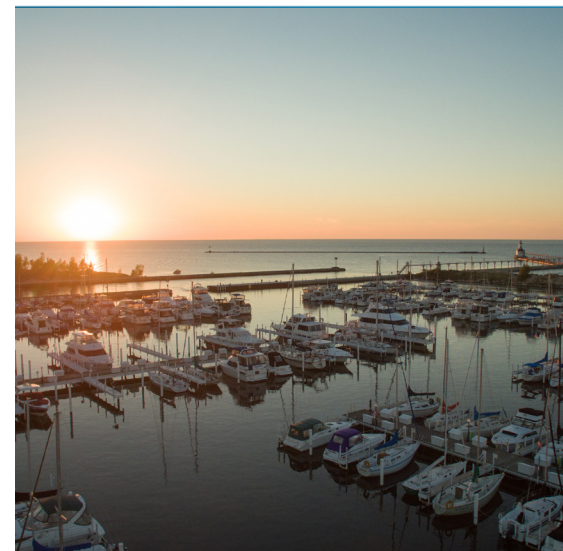
With the country's most traveled interstates and highways connecting Northwest Indiana to the rest of the country, our manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution centers take advantage of a one-day drive by truck to more than 80% of the U.S. population.

Fresh Water Availability

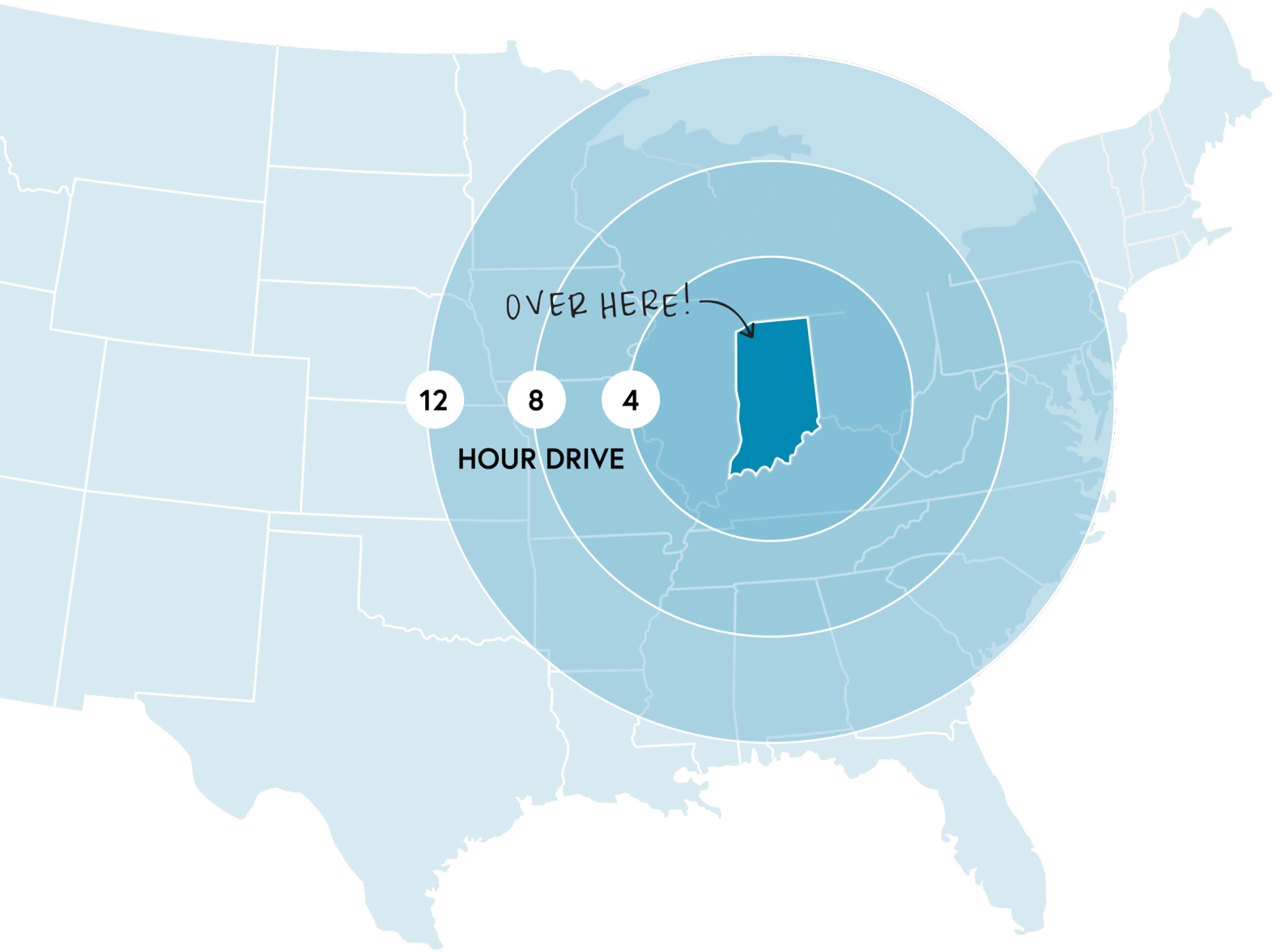
Projects needing a high volume of quality Lake Michigan water for their operations will see a competitive advantage within Northwest Indiana. The Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor provides ocean access on two of the largest inland waterways in the world. The Port handles international ships and provides year-round access to more than 20 states and the Gulf of Mexico through the St. Lawrence Seaway and the Mississippi River.



8
MILLION TONS OF
CARGO SHIPPED
ANNUALLY



LOCATION, LO



AN ALL-ACCESS PASS TO WHEREVER YOU NEED TO BE

Northwest Indiana is home to a diverse set of businesses that have capitalized on our area's natural assets, transportation infrastructure, stellar business climate, and a talented and competitively priced labor pool. Anchored by an expertise in advanced manufacturing, logistics and distribution, food and beverage processing, information technology and agribusiness, Northwest Indiana continues to be a top location for global business.

Indiana is at the median center of U.S. population, which makes Northwest Indiana a leader in logistic hubs.

LOCATION, LOCAL

Take a closer look!



THREE CLASS I RAILROADS

- Norfolk Southern
- Canadian National
- CSX

COMMUTER RAIL

- South Shore Line
- West Lake Corridor Project
- Double Track NWI

AIR

- The Gary/Chicago Intl Airport
- The Porter County Regional Airport

PORTS

- The Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor

ROAD

- Interstate 65
- Interstate 94
- Interstate 80
- Interstate 90
- Interstate 94
- Interstate 80/90
- Interstate 80/94

NWI Quick Facts

POPULATION
842,601

GDP
\$35.55B

TOTAL RESIDENT LABOR
408,923

MEDIAN AGE
39.3

2019 ANNUAL AVERAGE
UNEMPLOYMENT
4.2%

PER CAPITA INCOME
\$45,951



First in the Midwest and fifth nationally for business.
CHIEF EXECUTIVE 2019



Employer Friendly.
Right to Work since 2012



AAA bond rating bolstered by a \$2B+ budget surplus



Second in the nation for long-term fiscal stability
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT 2019

COMPETITIVE TAX CLIMATE

4.9% Corporate Income Tax Rate by 2021
3.23% Personal Income Tax Rate
1%-3% Capped Property Taxes
No Inventory or Inheritance Tax
No Manufacturing Equipment Tax



Workforce Development

Building a Pipeline

Northwest Indiana prides ourselves on our efforts to develop, attract, and retain a talented workforce to help your business succeed. We have more than programs, infrastructure and a welcoming business landscape to benefit your business — we also have the quality of life to attract and retain skilled talent.

Center of Workforce (CWI) innovations provides strategic solutions to existing and new businesses in Northwest Indiana. Partnerships with a number of national and statewide organizations such as WorkOne Indiana and the Department of Workforce Development, make CWI an efficient and valuable source for talent resources.

Helping business by:

- Connecting employers to talent pools and talent resources
- Executing learning initiatives at secondary and post-secondary levels for workforce preparedness
- Aligning education and training to employer needs
- Delivering up-to-date labor market information
- Carrying out complete project management for new initiatives



Talent Acquisition + Education

Access to talent continues to be the chief site selection factor for companies planning new facilities, expansions, and/or relocations. Availability of skilled workforce continues to be a factor when making location decisions. The Region is home to a number of high ranking colleges, universities, and trade schools providing a large pool of quality talent.



A two-year, liberal arts college with 500 enrolled students, 16-degree programs and 8,700 alumni.



A private four-year Catholic institution with 19 programs of study and over 10,000 alumni.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
NORTHWEST

Home to NWI's top business school and only medical school, IUN offers 70+ academic programs and a network of more than 27,000 alumni across the region.



Largest accredited statewide community college system in the United States focused on technical training and skills certification. Northwest Indiana is home to three campuses in Valparaiso, Michigan City and Gary.



One university with two campuses, Purdue University Northwest offers innovative education to 10,500 students with 70+ academic programs.



An independent Lutheran institution with 3,500 students, and 70 majors offered in 5 undergraduate colleges.

7 CO *Countfle*



COMMUNITIES

Creates Opportunities

Regional Thinking for Global Competitiveness

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Northwest Indiana's manufacturing sector gives companies an edge. Businesses in Northwest Indiana enjoy strategic location within the Chicagoland area, the third-largest metropolitan economy in the U.S., while taking advantage of Indiana's stellar business climate.

FOOD & BEVERAGE PROCESSING

Northwest Indiana is one of the leading regions in the United States for agribusiness, food processing and distribution. A number of companies including Albanese, American Licorice, Cargill, Conagra and Monsanto, serve the world from our community.

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACE

Personalized assistance is available to find professional office buildings with the right combination of infrastructure, size, amenities and any other special space requirements for your business. We also provide comprehensive resources to help facilitate the selection process, such as information on workforce availability, applicable incentives and industry support services.

LOGISTICS & DISTRIBUTION

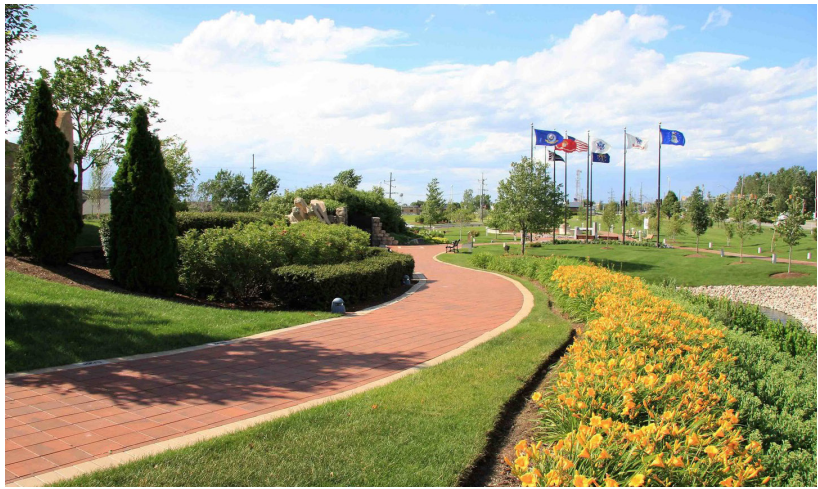
Our Midwest location, combined with a comprehensive transportation network and intermodal connections, allows for fast, efficient and cost-effective access to customers. Major metropolitan centers are within close proximity, including Chicago, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Toronto.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Northwest Indiana is home to world-class fiber connectivity needed in today's marketplace for businesses to reliably transmit large volumes of data. There are 33 fiber providers in Indiana serving 46.2% of the state population, compared to a national average of 23%.

TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT - NWI'S MOST TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT

The State of Indiana approved an unprecedented \$360 million to support the South Shore West Lake and Double Tracking – the largest investment project in commuter rail ever made in Indiana. Transit oriented development projects will be catalyst for redevelopment in communities that are home to train stations.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS





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