



BUSINESS MADE BETTER

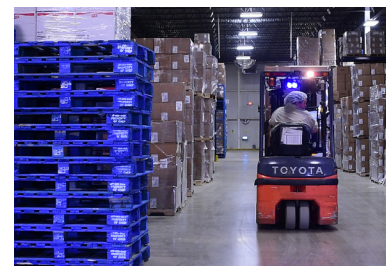
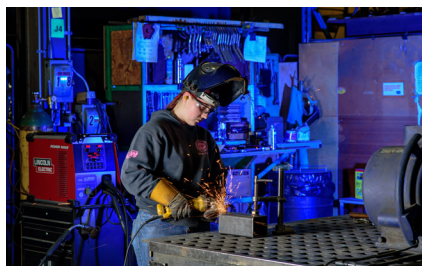
Northeast Indiana | **Wells County**



Wells County, just south of Fort Wayne, is home to a strong manufacturing, food-processing, transportation and logistics industrial base. Major employers in the county include Peyton's Northern Distribution Center for Kroger, Bluffton Regional Medical Center, Pretzels Inc. and WEG Commercial Motors, to name a few. Cities and towns in Wells County include Bluffton and Ossian.

COMMUNITY ASSETS & ACCOLADES

- Bluffton was nicknamed "The Parlor City" over a century ago because its paved streets made the city "as clean as your parlor."
- In 2019, Parlor City Plaza was unveiled in downtown Bluffton after a \$1.2 million private-public investment in the project.
- Bluffton was named Indiana's first "GigaBit" city.
- Wells County is home to Ouabache State Park—the site of a newly-refurbished 1930's fire tower and a Bison preserve.



WELLS COUNTY TALENT MADE BETTER

POPULATION*

Total Population, 2020	28,142
Median Age	40

LABOR FORCE**

Labor Force	14,006
Median Household Income	\$59,237
% of Population Ages 20-64	55.3%
60-Mile Radius Labor Force***	944,862

EDUCATION SYSTEMS*

School Districts	3
Total Number of Students	4,918
High Schools	3
Middle Schools	3
Elementary Schools	4
Regional Colleges & Universities	10
Approx. Regional Enrollment, Fall 2019	37,688

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT*



< Grade 9
1.8%



Grade 9-12
5.9%



High School
40.2%



Some College
21.0%



Assoc Degree
12.8%



Bach Degree
12.2%



Grad Degree
6.0%



“Bluffton, Indiana **met all our requirements to support our complex manufacturing needs**, increase our presence in the Midwest and align with General Motors’ preference to have their supply base close to their facilities. The **Mayor’s office and the Chamber were really helpful** in any way they could support us. It’s great to have that **personal relationship** in a small community.”

Mark Ellerbrock | Plant Manager
Inteva Products

ACCESSIBILITY[^]

Nearest MSA	Fort Wayne, 20 miles
Nearest International Airport	Fort Wayne International Airport (FWA), 15 miles
Airport Runway Length	11,981 feet
Distance to Interstate	10 miles
Nearest Port	Toledo-Lucas County Port, 120 miles
Foreign Trade Zone Availability	FTZ-182

UTILITIES[^]



Bluffton Utilities, Indiana Michigan Power, Duke Energy, Heartland REMC, Jay County REMC



Most of the cities and towns in Wells County provide water, sanitary and storm sewer



NIPSCO, CenterPoint Energy



Fiber

MAJOR EMPLOYERS[^]



COUNTRIES PRESENT IN COUNTY[^]



TARGET INDUSTRIES[^]

- Advanced Materials
- Defense & Aerospace
- Distribution & E-Commerce
- Food & Agriculture
- Medical Device
- Vehicles

INCENTIVES[^]

» State Incentives

- Community Revitalization Enhancement District Tax Credit (CREED)
- Data Center Sales Tax Exemption
- Economic Development for a Growing Economy Credit (EDGE)
- Headquarters Relocation Tax Credit (HRTC)
- Hoosier Business Investment Tax Credit (HBI)
- Industrial Development Grant Fund
- Patent Income Tax Exemption
- Research & Development Incentives
- Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF)
- Venture Capital Investment Tax Credit (VCI)

» Tax Abatement

» Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

» County Economic Development Income Tax Assistance (CEDIT)

» Land Purchase Assistance

» Northeast Indiana Works

Sources:

- * U.S. Bureau of the Census 2021 Q3
- ** U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2021 Q3
- *** Ages 20-64, Esri, 2020 Q4
- [^] Wells County Economic Development Corporation, 2020 Q4



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www.neindiana.com/wells

THE 11 COUNTIES OF NORTHEAST INDIANA

ADAMS >> ALLEN >> DEKALB >> HUNTINGTON >> KOSCIUSKO >> LAGRANGE >> NOBLE >> STEUBEN >> WABASH >> **WELLS** >> WHITLEY