



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 the area.



Representative Employers

Company	Industry	Employees
Sun Ag, Inc.	Agriculture	200+
Premier Citrus	Citrus Groves, Wholesale Fruit Packaging	100-199
Riverfront Groves	Citrus Groves, Wholesale Fruit Packaging	50-99
Hale Groves	Citrus & Gourmet Food Gifts	50-99
Florida Organic Aquaculture	Closed-System Restaurant-Grade Shrimp Production	50-99
Syngenta Agricultural Research Center	Pest Management Research	25-49
Seald Sweet International	Citrus Distribution	1-24
Becker Trading Co./Peace River Citrus	Citrus Processing	1-24
Parabel	Plant-Based Protein Manufacturing	100-199 projected

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

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

(<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)

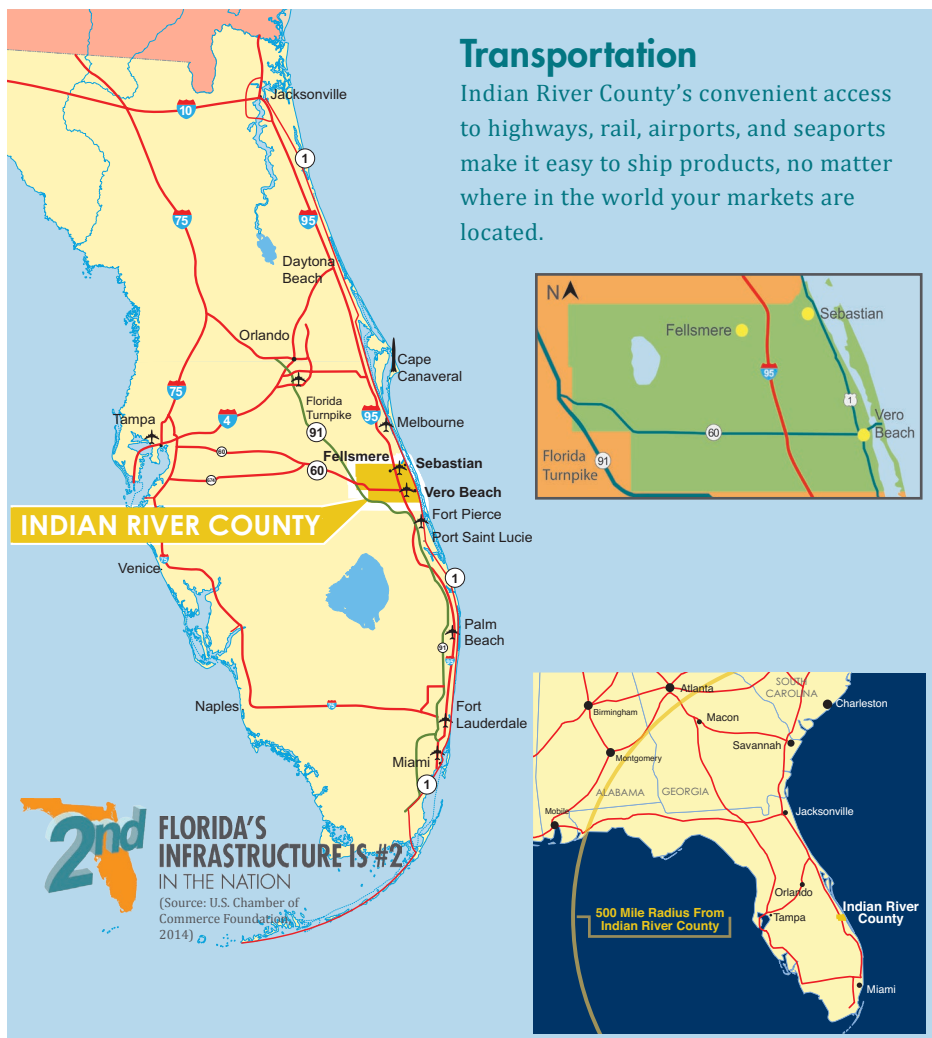
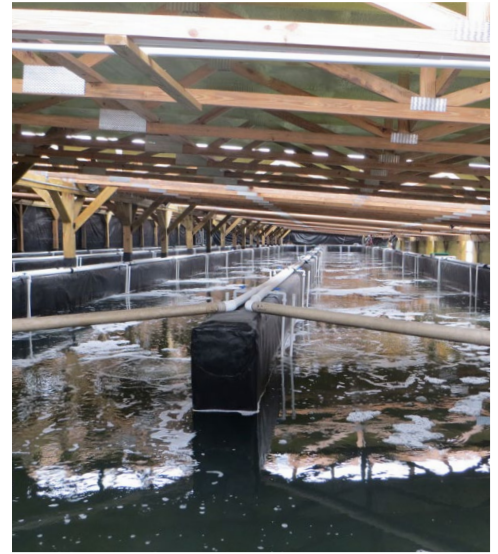


Wages & Workforce

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	LA
Mean Hourly Wage (Overall)	\$18.92	\$21.84	\$19.51	\$20.15	\$18.08	\$19.62
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	\$8.79	\$10.40	\$11.23	\$11.11	\$10.53	\$14.44
Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse	\$9.28	\$11.03	\$11.97	\$10.35	\$9.85	\$12.01
First-Line Supervisors	\$16.86	\$23.79	\$25.84	\$23.23	\$22.15	\$26.52

(Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2015)



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 sciences, 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



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