

Indiana Vision 2025: Advancing the Vision

DRIVER 1: OUTSTANDING TALENT	
GOAL	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS
Increase the proficiency of Indiana students in math, science and reading to “Top 5” status nationally.	Continued strong improvements in NAEP reading and math rankings
Increase to 90% the proportion of Indiana students who graduate from high school ready for college and/or career training.	Keeping assessments aligned to standards; graduation pathways included in ILEARN assessment; significant decrease in number of students requiring remediation
Eliminate the educational achievement gaps at all levels, from pre-school through college, for disadvantaged populations.	Significantly expanded funding (2017) for high-quality preschool programs for low-income children; pre-K eligibility expanded to all counties (2019)
Increase to 60% the proportion of Indiana residents with high quality postsecondary credentials.	Chamber establishes Institute for Workforce Excellence to assist employers and employees; statewide stakeholders aligned on goal
Increase the proportion of Indiana residents with bachelor’s degrees or higher to “Top 10” status nationally.	Slight progress made in 2019 Report Card
Increase the proportion of Indiana residents with associate’s degrees to “Top 10” status nationally.	Slight progress made in 2019 Report Card
Increase the proportion of Indiana residents with postsecondary credentials in STEM-related fields to “Top 5” status nationally.	2018 legislation adds computer science offerings to all K-12 schools
Develop, implement and fully fund a comprehensive plan for addressing the skills shortages of adult and incumbent workers who lack minimum basic skills.	2017-2018 legislation provides workforce ready grants, better coordinates career/technical education and begins a more employer-driven system; additional grant funding added in 2019
Improve Indiana’s per-capita income ranking to “Top 25” nationally	Cost of living adjustment puts Indiana in middle of pack among 50 states
DRIVER 2: ATTRACTIVE BUSINESS CLIMATE	
GOAL	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS
Adopt a right-to-work statute.	Passed February 2012
Enact comprehensive government reform at the state and local levels to increase efficiency and effectiveness in delivery of services.	Repeal of common construction wage law in 2015
Reform public pension systems to ensure Indiana’s are competitive and actuarially sound according to industry standards.	Moderate cost containment passed in 2014
Preserve and enhance a “Top 5” ranking among all states for Indiana’s legal environment.	Legal climate generally regarded as fair and effective; commercial court pilot deemed successful with adoption of permanent program expected
Attain a “Top 5” ranking among all states for Indiana’s business regulatory environment.	Continued top 10 and better rankings in these metrics
Eliminate the business personal property tax.	2019 legislation doubles the exemption first passed in 2015
Eliminate the state inheritance tax.	Tax eliminated in 2013
Promote the enactment of a federal solution to the internet sales/use tax dilemma.	Indiana began collecting taxes on online sales in late 2018; 2019 marketplace facilitator legislation eases process
Streamline and make consistent the administration of the state’s tax code.	Several moderate procedural improvements passed in 2015 and 2017
Establish government funding mechanisms to more closely approximate “user fee” model.	2017 road funding legislation utilizes user fee approach
Contain health care costs through patient-directed access and outcomes-based incentives.	Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) 2.0 went into effect in 2015 for the private sector
Reduce smoking levels to less than 15% of the population.	First statewide smoking ban passed in 2012; continued efforts required
Return obesity levels to less than 20% of the population.	Wellness Council of Indiana and partners working directly with employers and communities on healthy cultures/improving outcomes; Chamber a partner in Alliance for a Healthier Indiana
Reduce the number of drug-related deaths in Indiana by 25% in 2025	Indiana Workforce Recovery (Indiana Chamber and Wellness Council of Indiana initiative) works directly with employers on education, reducing stigma and treatment options

DRIVER 3: SUPERIOR INFRASTRUCTURE	
GOAL	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS
State development and implementation of a strategic energy resource plan that helps ensure Indiana is one of the “Top 10” most affordable states for electricity.	2017 legislation begins to address issues between ratepayers and utilities: IURC rate reviews now made public; Indiana Chamber Foundation pursuing energy study
Diversify Indiana’s energy mix with an emphasis on clean coal, natural gas, nuclear power and renewables.	2019 effort to place moratorium on new, diverse energy projects defeated
Identify and implement workable energy conservation strategies.	2015 legislation requires utilities to submit efficiency plans
Develop and implement a strategic water resource plan that ensures adequate fresh water for citizens and business.	Indiana Chamber Foundation water resource study (2014) and subsequent legislation leads to 2019 creation of water infrastructure revolving loan fund
Develop and implement new fiscal systems to support the array of transportation infrastructure projects critical to economic growth.	2017 legislation establishes comprehensive long-term transportation infrastructure funding plan
Aggressively build out the state’s advanced telecommunications networks.	Deployment of small cell towers (2017-2018), rural broadband grant program (2018) and bill expediting broadband opportunities (2019)
Ensure strong security measures (both physical and cyber) are in place for all of Indiana’s critical infrastructure.	Regular IURC-utility meetings focus on preparedness, mitigation and resiliency; Chamber adds annual cyber conference

DRIVER 4: DYNAMIC & CREATIVE CULTURE	
GOAL	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS
Drive strategic entrepreneurship and innovation formation for new and existing firms.	2018: legislation exempts software as a service transactions from sales tax; 2019: various tax credits made more accessible to small businesses and new data center tax incentives; Chamber tech policy committee partners on policy/program advancements
Increase intellectual property commercialization from higher education and business and attain “Top 5” ranking per capita among all states.	Increased commercialization performance from major universities; addition of small business innovation voucher in 2019
Achieve “Top 12” ranking among all states in number of patents per worker.	Current rankings at or near top 20
Achieve “Top 12” ranking among all states in venture capital invested per capita.	2017: Next Level Fund established for state investments in high-growth companies; 2019: transferability enacted for venture capital investment tax credit
Strategically recruit foreign direct investment (FDI) and achieve “Top 5” ranking among all states in FDI as a percent of gross state product.	Top 5 employment achieved; strong performance in attracting investment continues
Increase Indiana exports to achieve “Top 5” ranking per capita among all states.	State consistent in achieving top 10 rankings throughout Report Cards
Promote a diverse and civil culture that attracts and retains talented individuals.	Effective bias crimes legislation passed in 2019, removing unfair perception of state; strong local and regional investments taking place in quality of place initiatives