

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.	Indiana continues to perform in the top third of states, but the U.S. is experiencing a decline in its competitiveness internationally
Increase to 90% the proportion of Indiana students who graduate from high school ready for college and/or career training.	Graduation pathways in place; college readiness data reveal significant decreases in 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.	Statewide stakeholders aligned on goal; progress continues to take place – 43% gain since 2011
Increase the proportion of Indiana residents with bachelor’s degrees or higher to “Top 10” status nationally.	Indiana rank remains stagnant
Increase the proportion of Indiana residents with associate’s degrees to “Top 10” status nationally.	Indiana rank remains stagnant
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; additional private sector training options emerge
Develop, implement and fully fund a comprehensive plan for addressing the skills shortages of adult and incumbent workers who lack minimum basic skills.	Next Level Jobs program expands (including additional funding in 2021) to serve more workers and reimburse companies for providing necessary training; shift toward employer-driven system a positive step
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; additional state investments made, including \$500 million in 2021
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 program to address complex business issues expands to additional counties
Attain a “Top 5” ranking among all states for Indiana’s business regulatory environment.	Business regulatory environment remains strong
Eliminate the business personal property tax.	Exemption for small businesses implemented in 2015 and expanded significantly in both 2019 and 2021
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.	Moderate procedural improvements passed in 2015 and 2017; important distinctions from federal code (related to COVID funding) enacted in 2021
Establish government funding mechanisms to more closely approximate “user fee” model.	A Tax Foundation analysis for fiscal year 2018 finds Indiana tied for first in the country in road spending funded by user taxes
Contain health care costs through patient-directed access and outcomes-based incentives.	Various efforts (2020) to reduce surprise billing and create greater cost transparency; Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) 2.0 in effect in 2015
Reduce smoking levels to less than 15% of the population.	First statewide smoking ban passed in 2012; legal smoking age raised to 21 in 2020; e-cigarettes taxed for first time in 2021 legislation
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; 10% decrease from 2017 to 2019

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.	Comprehensive Chamber Foundation energy study (2020) provides direction on key issues
Diversify Indiana’s energy mix with an emphasis on clean coal, natural gas, nuclear power and renewables.	Defeated 2019 and 2020 efforts to restrict new, diverse energy sources; overall reliance on coal decreases significantly
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 with additional investment (including 2021) taking place
Develop and implement new fiscal systems to support the array of transportation infrastructure projects critical to economic growth.	2017 road funding legislation utilizes user fee approach
Aggressively build out the state’s advanced telecommunications networks.	Variety of bills (2021) deliver substantive funding and additional opportunities to expand service; legislation in previous years deployed small cell towers and established a rural broadband grant program
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 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.	Strong improvements to Venture Capital Investment tax credit (2021); VCI transferability added in 2019; state Next Level Fund established in 2017
Strategically recruit foreign direct investment (FDI) and achieve “Top 5” ranking among all states in FDI as a percent of gross state product.	Top 6 employment level 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
Promote a diverse and civil culture that attracts and retains talented individuals.	2021 state investment in regional quality of place initiatives; effective bias crimes legislation passed in 2019