

# Indiana

## A Midwestern manufacturing hub sets its sights on technology

Indiana continues to transform itself from a manufacturing powerhouse into a new tech economy. Agribusiness companies contribute more than \$31 billion in annual revenue to the state, accounting for more than 100,000 jobs, and they are increasingly turning to tech workers to support modern farming practices.

One ag-tech startup, The Bee Corp., is riding that wave, with a \$225,000 National Science Foundation grant. The buzzworthy company produces a beehive monitoring system that enables beekeepers to study hive health amid a dramatic decline in bee numbers.

The state is also keeping pace with new tech growth by opening a 25,000-square foot Internet of Things lab. The facility in Fisher, a suburb of Indianapolis, is designed to attract IoT businesses to the state, where leaders hope to put students, startups and companies under the same roof to develop sensors and other IoT devices.

Indianapolis as a whole is hitting its stride. Between 2013 and 2015, the area saw a 13.9 percent increase in tech jobs — outpacing even San Francisco and Silicon Valley. In 2017, the California-based cloud computing company Salesforce announced plans to add another 800 employees to its office in the city, where it already employs 1,600.

The Hoosier State has room to improve, however, in how it handles short-term rentals. In 2017, a statewide bill protecting the services failed, allowing the platforms to operate but leaving them subject to varying municipal rules.

Sources: (Indy Star) (TechCrunch) (NYT) (U.S. News & World Report) (Chief Executive) (IU) (Bee Corp.) (Indiana IOT)

### WHAT DID WE DO RIGHT?

Indiana allows ridesharing statewide and does not place specific restrictions on self-driving vehicles.

### WHAT CAN WE DO BETTER NEXT YEAR?

Indiana should lift its burdensome and duplicative drone laws, and pass a bill that narrowly failed this year to protect short-term rentals from municipal rules.

### WHERE HAVE WE MOST IMPROVED?

The Hoosier State saw generous inflows of venture capital funding, amounting to about \$18.50 per capita.

Best & Brightest	B
Fast Internet	C+
Grants Advanced Degrees	D+
Tech Workforce	C+
Tax Friendly	B+
Attracts Investment	B
Entrepreneurial Activity	D
Ridesharing	A
Short-Term Rentals	B
Sustainable Policies	B-
Self-Driving Vehicles	A
Drones	B+



#### Tech Workforce

Indiana's growing tech workforce accounted for more than 222,000 jobs — roughly 33 jobs per 1,000 people.



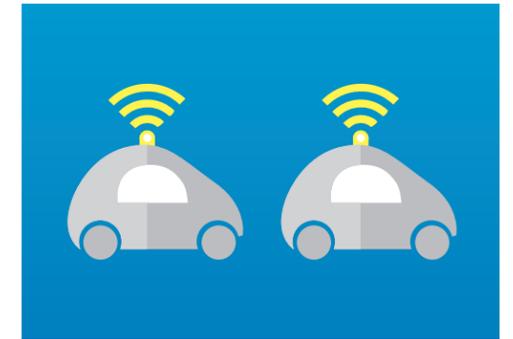
#### Best & Brightest

Indiana is a Right-to-Work state but lacks a law protecting workers from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.



#### Fast Internet

Nearly 60 percent of Indiana households have internet connections of at least 10 mbps, and 40 percent enjoy 25 mbps or more.



### Self-Driving Vehicles

Indiana allows self-driving vehicles, imposing no rules other than those set by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration.

## Creating New Tech Jobs and New Tech Training in the Hoosier State

An Indian tech company has given Indianapolis a shot in the arm with the promise of up to 2,000 new high-skilled jobs.

In May 2017, India-based technology consulting firm Infosys Ltd. leased a 35,000-square foot space at the downtown OneAmerica Tower to open its first U.S. hub in Indianapolis. The company plans to open other hubs in cities around the country, including Raleigh, North Carolina and Providence, Rhode Island.

Infosys said it plans to open a total of four locations in the U.S., and that its Indianapolis office will focus on sectors including artificial intelligence, machine learning and emerging digital tech. To meet that goal, the company will hire up to 2,000 experienced professionals and newly-graduated tech talent to fill positions ranging from developers and analysts to digital architects and domain consultants.

Infosys plans to hire 500 Indiana workers by the end of 2018, and will partner with Indiana universities to give students the training necessary to create a healthy pipeline of tech talent in the Hoosier State.

Sources: (Indianapolis Business Journal) (Indianapolis Star)

