FORWARD
Wayne County
An Initiative to Foster a Vibrant Economy and Promote Prosperity

Goal: Attract, Develop, and Retain a Highly Competitive Workforce to Meet the Current and Future Needs of Our Area's Businesses and Industries

✅ BIG INDICATORS OF SUCCESS BY 2025

- Achieve a population of 66,101 for a year-over-year increase of .05% for 5 years
- Raise Per Capita Personal Income and Median Family Income to be equal to the state average
- Decrease the percentage of residents living in poverty to be at or below the state average
- Increase to 35% of the population, ages 25-64, holding associate degree or higher
- Increase Grossed Assessed Value annually at a rate at or above the state average

OUR PEOPLE

Early Childhood Success
- Increase parenting education
- Increase affordable high-quality childcare and Child Care
- Increase Pre-K programs

Health and Wellness
- Improve mental health services
- Reduce substance misuse
- Improve access to basic needs

FUTURE WORKFORCE

Educational Attainment
- Increase educational success from Pre-K to career attainment

Employability
- Develop and connect our workforce to opportunities that enhance their skills and increase their median income

OUR COMMUNITY

Neighborhood Development
- Promote neighborhood engagement
- Preserve historic buildings
- Advance vibrant downtowns
- Encourage in-migration housing

Government and Policy
- Encourage appropriate housing availability
- Strengthen infrastructure
- Support development of downtowns

Environment
- Increase recycling
- Enhance physical amenities
- Encourage alternative transportation

Arts and Culture
- Increase involvement
- Improve cultural amenities

Current areas of special Forward Wayne County Focus

forwardwaynecounty.org

Forward Wayne County's Guiding Principles

- ✓ We will encourage and use data-driven decision-making.

- ✓ We will advise funders and program providers to use data as a learning tool for community driven innovation, so we can adjust programs to what is working or what is most likely to work.

- ✓ We will choose measures of success that are frequently updated.

- ✓ Where possible, we will use measures that are already generated by others.

- ✓ We will encourage the use of common language as we seek to learn from measures of progress.

- ✓ We will monitor the dashboard and deploy "turn the curve thinking" tactics when needed to improve performance.

Population

2010	2018	2025
68,996*	65,936*	66,101 (goal)

*stats.indiana.edu

Per Capita Personal Income

2010	2017	2025
$ 30,847	$ 39,888	$ 45,150** (goal)

*stats.indiana.edu
*Indiana State Average

Percent of Residents Living in Poverty

2010	2017	2025
20%	16.6%	13.3%** (goal)

*stats.indiana.edu
*Indiana State Average

Percent of Population 25+ with Some College or More

2010	2017	2025
43.6%	47.74%*	60% (goal)

*stats.indiana.edu

V5.7 09.2020