

Michiana

Research-Driven Discovery | Medical Device Manufacturing | Talent Pipeline

2024

#1 in Life Sciences and
Pharmaceutical Exports

70,000+

Hoosiers Employed
in Life Sciences

3,253

Establishments

Overview

Anchored by South Bend, the Michiana region is a growing center of life sciences innovation, home to world-class medical device manufacturers, biotech startups, and research institutions. From surgical instruments to diagnostic systems, the region contributes critical products to global healthcare markets. Anchored by Beacon Health, the University of Notre Dame, and Ivy Tech, the area's strong education-to-employer pipeline supports an increasingly diversified life sciences economy.

Talent Pipelines that Fuels Industry Momentum

The University of Notre Dame delivers world-class talent in biology, chemistry, and engineering, while its IDEA Center and Biopharma Consortium support translational research and commercialization. Ivy Tech Community College and local career centers offer technical training in advanced manufacturing, biotech, and healthcare. Regional workforce programs are aligned with employer demand, fueling a robust life sciences pipeline.

Leadership in Exports

Indiana leads the nation in life sciences exports and the Michiana region plays a strategic role. With legacy strengths in surgical tools and precision manufacturing, the region is expanding into diagnostics, contract manufacturing, and biotech R&D.

Product Categories

Surgical instruments, orthopedic implants, diagnostic platforms and lab services, biotech innovations, and IP from translational research

Key Exports



SBMF
Serving Lives Through Innovation and Progress

Heraeus



PRECISION
MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES

Total Establishments

168

Indiana's Excellence

- **#1 2024**, Life Sciences and Pharmaceutical Exports
- **Global Hub** for Orthopedics and Radiopharma
- **70,000+** Hoosiers Employed in Life Sciences
- **3,253** Establishments

Michiana

REGIONAL ANCHORS



A Workforce Built for Precision & Growth

The region's workforce strength is rooted in high-skill manufacturing and applied research. Life sciences employers are benefiting from ongoing investments in talent development and innovation infrastructure.

2,238

Total Employed

45.3%

Gross Regional Product Growth (2014-2025)

\$121,100 Average Wage

Regional Innovation Advantage

South Bend-Elkhart Lifeworks Initiative

Spearheaded by the South Bend-Elkhart Regional Partnership, the Lifeworks initiative unites employers, educators, and community partners to build a future-ready workforce. Through skills training, career awareness, and innovation support, Lifeworks helps the region compete globally in advanced manufacturing, life sciences, and healthcare.



SOUTH BEND | ELKHART
REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Innovation in Practice

[Notre Dame Biomedical Sciences Spotlight](#)

Notre Dame is advancing biomedical discovery and commercialization through cutting-edge research and regional collaboration.

- Boler Biotech Laboratory and Harper Cancer Research Institute
- IDEA Center for startup incubation and tech transfer
- Warren Center for Drug Discovery
- Programs in bioengineering, molecular biology, and drug development
- Notre Dame Center for Bioanalytic Metrology