

Greater Lafayette

Research Excellence | Industry Innovation | Startup Momentum

2024

#1 in Life Sciences and Pharmaceutical Exports

70,000+

Hoosiers Employed in Life Sciences

3,253

Establishments

Overview

Home to Purdue University and a high concentration of industry anchors, West Lafayette is a nationally recognized hub for life sciences research, pharmaceutical production, and biotech innovation. The region combines world-class academic strength with a growing ecosystem of startups and advanced manufacturers—powering discovery, talent development, and global impact across healthcare and the life sciences.

Talent Pipelines that Fuels Industry Momentum

Purdue University anchors a research-rich talent ecosystem, supplying top graduates in pharmacy, biomedical engineering, and biological sciences. The university's Discovery Park District connects research, industry, and entrepreneurship in one of the nation's leading innovation environments.

And the Young Institute for Advanced Manufacturing of Pharmaceuticals promotes innovations that lead to better access medicines and lower costs. Ivy Tech Community College's Lafayette campus supports pharma and medtech employers with workforce-aligned training programs. Purdue's workforce initiatives and industry partnerships further strengthen the regional pipeline in biomanufacturing, research, and clinical development.

Leadership in Exports

Indiana is #1 in Life Sciences Exports and the region's strengths in pharmaceutical manufacturing, biotech R&D, and medical devices are a vital part of that success. Global companies like Evonik and Cook Biotech operate here, producing critical ingredients and regenerative products used in healthcare systems around the world.

Product Categories

Medical Devices, Pharmaceuticals

Key Exports



Total Establishments

161

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

Greater Lafayette

REGIONAL ANCHORS



A Workforce Built for the Future

Supported by gains and expansion in pharmaceuticals and research laboratories, the Lafayette/West Lafayette region has experienced significant growth in life sciences employment, fueling healthcare advancements worldwide.

2,800

Total Employed

16%

Employment Growth
(2014-2025)

\$183,000 Average Wage

Regional Innovation Advance

Purdue Research Foundation & Discovery Park

At the heart of West Lafayette's innovation economy, the Discovery Park District and Purdue Research Foundation connect corporate partners with Purdue's life sciences expertise, fostering startup formation, commercialization, and workforce growth. This 400-acre, mixed-use smart district is a nationally recognized model for research-driven economic development.



Purdue Research
Foundation

Innovation in Practice

Purdue University Spotlight

A global research university advancing life sciences innovation across disciplines.

- Bindley Bioscience Center
- College of Pharmacy
- Department of Biological Sciences and Chemistry
- Discovery Park District
- Purdue Institute for Drug Discovery
- Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering
- Purdue Innovates
- Young Institute for the Advanced Manufacturing of Pharmaceuticals
- Low Institute for Therapeutics

These assets drive breakthroughs in drug development, biomedical technologies, and workforce development—fueling local industry and global health advancements.