



ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FL

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Community Overview

St. Johns County is the 18th fastest growing County in the United States with a 3.7% growth rate. The most recent Census population figure is 243,812 representing an estimated 93,312 households. The County has a relatively wealthy demographic profile with a median household income of over \$67,000 and per-capita income of more than \$60,000. In the past six years, St. Johns County has issued over 14,000 new single family residential permits to meet the needs of our surging popularity.

2017 County Demographics	
Population	243,812
Households	93,312
Median Household Income	\$67,745
Per Capita Income	\$60,441
Median Age	43
Cost of Living Index (MSA)	95.8

Sources: US Census, BEA, ESRI, COLI

Labor Force Statistics	
Labor Force	124,270
Employment	120,488
Unemployment	3,782
Unemployment Rate	3.0

Source: FL Dept. Economic Opportunity, February 2018

2017 St. Johns County Population 25+ by Educational Attainment	
School Level	Total: 169,302
Less than 9th Grade	1.7%
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	3.8%
High School Graduate/GED	20.6%
Some College, No Degree	21.2%
Associate Degree	8.6%
Bachelor's Degree	29.0%
Graduate/Professional Degree	15.1%

Source: ESRI 2017

Notable Major Employers			
Employer	Operation	Industry	Employment
St. Johns County School District	Government	Education	4,534
Flagler Hospital	Hospital	Healthcare	1,900
St. Johns County	Government	Public Administration	1,213
Northrop Grumman	Manufacturing	Aviation/Aerospace	1,100
Florida Army National Guard	Headquarters	Military	950
PGA Tour, Inc.	Headquarters	Event Management	800
Carlisle Interconnect Technologies	Manufacturing	Aviation/Aerospace	650
Ring Power Corporation	Headquarters	Heavy Equipment Sales	445
Advanced Disposal Services	Headquarters	Waste Disposal	172
D. R. Horton	Regional Headquarters	Homebuilder	121

Source: St. Johns County Office of Economic Development



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Business Climate

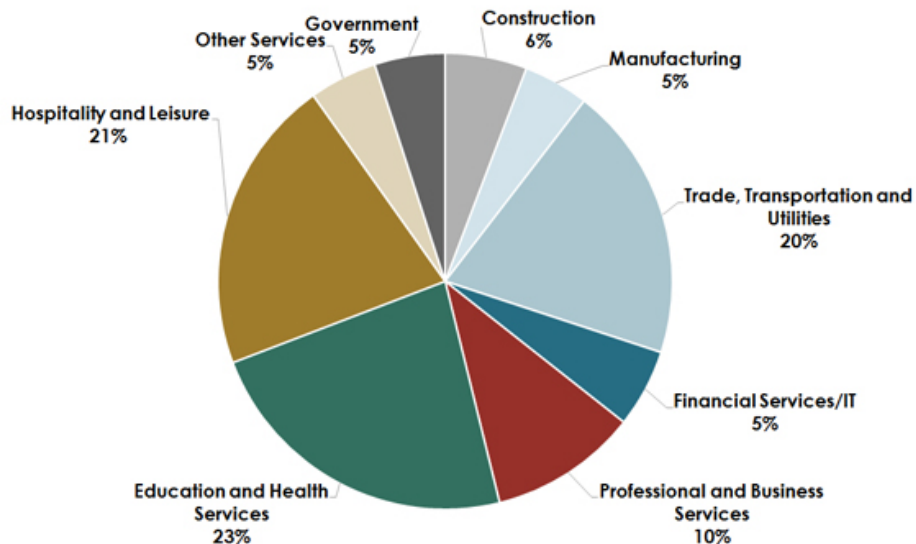
Contributing to St. Johns County's popularity is our low overall cost of living, including being ranked the 2nd lowest tax structure in Florida (66th of 67 counties) by Tax Watch. In addition to not having any state personal income tax, St. Johns County does not charge a local gas tax or utility franchise tax, and has a 0.5% local option sales tax to support schools. St. Johns County's real estate taxes are also the lowest overall in Northeast Florida with an average millage of 14.3995 for residents in the unincorporated areas of the County.

2017 County Millage	
County	5.1000
Schools	6.543
Other	2.7565
Total Millage	14.3995

Per \$1,000 of assessed appraised value. Nearly 95% of St. Johns County property is located within an unincorporated area.

Business Diversity

St. Johns County Employment by Sector



Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity QWEC 2Q 2017



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Labor Force

CNN Money Magazine ranked St. Johns County as #5 of the Top 25 Counties for Best Places to Live: Where the Jobs Are in 2013. St. Johns County has the lowest unemployment rate in Northeast Florida and one of the lowest in the state averaging 3%, providing a labor force of 124,270.

Notable major employers that call St. Johns County home are defense manufacturer Northrop Grumman (1,100), Florida Army National Guard (950), the PGA Tour (800), Ring Power Corporation (445), and Advanced Disposal (121).

Other headquarters operations located in St. Johns County include D. R. Horton, Ideal Aluminum, Rulon International and Historic Tours of America. From a manufacturing perspective, we are particularly proud of Northrop Grumman’s recent decision to establish an Aircraft Integration Center of Excellence at our regional airport, Northeast Florida Regional Airport. Northrop Grumman’s expansion will create 400 new skilled positions by 2017.

Within the Northeast Florida region, a highly motivated, highly skilled workforce of more than 750,000 people exists to provide a steady stream of talented workers for area businesses.

Employment Wage Statistics		
Area Name	Total Avg. Employment	Avg. Annual Wage
St. Johns County, Florida	69,752	\$40,941
Northeast Florida (JAX MSA)	634,764	\$47,820
Florida	8,309,088	\$47,060

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Labor Market Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW) – 4Q2016



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Training and Education

St. Johns County has attracted a well-educated population and benefits from its top-ranked public school system. Total population in St. Johns County with HS education is 94%, compared to Florida average at 85%. Total population with Post-Secondary Education: 73%.

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Source: Esri, 2016

St. Johns County is proud to be home to Flagler College, ranked 2nd best regional college in the South by U.S. News & World Report. Other local institutions that support professional services-related education include:

Local Educational Institution	Enrollment/ Graduation Rates	Degrees/Certificates Offered
Flagler College	2015 Enrollment: 2,501	BA/BS Art/Design, Business Administration, Education, Math/Science/Technology, Sports Management and Theatre Management, and others.
St. Johns River State College	2015 Enrollment: 1,990 (SJC Campus)	AS degrees Computer Information Technology, Computer Engineering Network Technology, Computer Programming/Analysis, Internet Services Technology. SJRSC is an authorized Cisco Networking Academy partner.
First Coast Technical College	2015 Enrollment: 525	Certificates for HVAC Technology, Aircraft Fabrication, Agriscience (Landscape/Nursery/Pest Control/ Turf Management), Carpentry, Culinary Arts, Health Sciences (Dental/Nursing Assistant/Pharmacy Tech/Patient Care), Small Engine Technology, Welding, and others.
St. Johns County School District	Enrollment 2015-16: 36,005 Graduation Rate 2015: 90.5% CA Enrollment 2016-17: 4,740	19 Career Academies Aerospace, Communications, Emerging Technology, Business/Finance, Int'l Business/Mktg, Engineering, and others.

Sources: St. Johns County School District September 2015-2016, National Center for Education Statistics Fall Enrollment 2015, Institutional Websites

Regionally, there are more than 20 colleges, universities and community colleges in the area with a total enrollment of over 69,000 students.



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Transportation

Business locations within St. Johns County and Northeast Florida are connected to multi-modal transportation networks through Interstate 95 and U.S. 1 corridors, which provide convenient access to regional assets such as Jacksonville International Airport and JAXPORT, as well as local assets like Northeast Florida Regional Airport in St. Augustine.

Airports: Jacksonville's commercial airport, **Jacksonville International Airport (JAX)** offers over 90 non-stop scheduled flights to 27 markets around the US and is located within 30 minutes of Ponte Vedra and an hour of downtown St. Augustine.

Northeast Florida Regional Airport (UST) along U.S. 1 in St. Augustine is a controlled airfield featuring an 8,000 ft runway to accommodate all size jets. Full-service fixed-based operation (FBO) amenities are provided through Atlantic Aviation for corporate and general aviation travel. Northeast Florida Regional Airport also facilitates U.S. Customs and Border Control services for international travel. The airport also offers passenger service through **Via Air** to select markets within the Northeast.

Roadway connectivity: In addition to I-95, regional travelers now enjoy direct access to St. Johns County from I-295 (southeast side of I-95) on 9B to US 1. In 2016, 9B will be extended to directly connect to I-95 at the Duval/St. Johns County border. St. Johns County is also within 30 minutes of I-10, an hour of I-4, and 90 minutes of I-75. Average commute times throughout the region are between 20-30 minutes, providing relative ease with little to no traffic congestion that other major metropolitan areas experience.

Rail: The region is served by three major rail lines: CSX, Norfolk Southern and Florida East Coast (FEC). FEC travels directly through St. Johns County and CSX and NS are accessed through JAXPORT.

Seaports: JAXPORT is 36 miles from St. Augustine. Its Foreign Trade Zone #64 is Florida's 3rd largest FTZ and includes all areas of St. Johns County.





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Quality of Life

Bordered by the scenic Atlantic Ocean and St. Johns River, St. Johns County embraces its historic heritage and uniquely diverse communities which have piqued people's interest for centuries, such as the City of St. Augustine – the Nation's Oldest City celebrating their 450th anniversary in 2015; St. Augustine Beach, Ponte Vedra, and Hastings – the Potato Capital of Florida.

Exceptional quality of life, beautiful public parks and natural waterways, low crime rate and an overall low cost of living are just some of the amenities luring residents and businesses to St. Johns County. The Wall Street Journal ranked St. Johns County the #1 County in Florida and top 4% nationally for its quality of life in 2014. Also in 2018, a University of Wisconsin study ranked St. Johns County Florida's Healthiest County for the 7th year in a row. Other noteworthy accolades include St. Johns County and St. Augustine being selected by:

- *U.S. News & World Report* - as one of the **Ten Best Places to Live** in the United States
- *Forbes Magazine* – as one of the **Ten Prettiest Towns** in the United States
- *Coastal Living* – as one of **America's Ten Happiest Seaside Towns**
- *Livability.com* – as **4th in top 100 Best Small Towns in the US**
- *Southern Business & Development* - as one of the **"Dixie Dozen," Small Towns, Big Deals."**

Area enthusiasts enjoy numerous outdoor recreational activities such as golf, tennis, boating, fishing and musical entertainment at the nationally-recognized St. Augustine Amphitheatre. Shopping, dining, arts and culture are also on the list of things to experience with a variety of choices for residents and visitors alike.

