

Introduction

Riverside County California

Riverside County Highlights
The Heart of Inland Southern California

Regional Advantages

Riverside County is the fourth largest county in California. It measures 200 miles across from its western border with Orange County to the Colorado River at the Arizona border. At 7,300 square miles, it is about the same size as the state of New Jersey. Riverside is among the fastest growing counties in the nation. Its population exceeds 2 million and is expected to reach nearly 3 million by 2020.

 Interstate 10 traverses the entire county from east to west, connecting businesses to Los Angeles and Phoenix. Interstates 15 and 215 connect Riverside County with San Diego and San Bernardino County. Highway 60 and 91 link Riverside County to Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Highway 86 is part of the North American Free Trade Agreement/NAFTA corridor providing easy access to Imperial County and Mexico.

- Santa Fe's huge new intermodal railway terminal is an important transportation link for Riverside County businesses and important ports of entry. Shipping into and out of ports in Los Angeles, Long Beach and San Diego is easy from Riverside County.
- Construction has begun on the Alameda Corridor, which will consolidate port truck and rail traffic onto a fast- moving corridor, providing more reliable, higher capacity shipping into and out of the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.
- Metrolink provides commuter rail service from Riverside to Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino Counties.
- Riverside County is served by 17 airports. Major air hubs include Ontario International
 Airport, serving western Riverside County with quick and easy access, and the Palm
 Springs International Airport serving the eastern part of the county. The Jacqueline
 Cochran regional Airport also serves the Coachella Valley with easy access and the
 capabilities of bringing in Boeing Business Jet 737. The March Inland Port addresses the
 growing need for economical air cargo services.
- Riverside County offers a customs port of entry in Palm Springs as well as convenient access to customs facilities in the greater Los Angeles area. In addition, designated Foreign Trade Zones are located at Palm Springs International Airport and the March Inland Port. Additionally the successful expansion, this year, of the FTZ #244, to include the cities of Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa, Moreno Valley, Norco, Perris, Riverside, the expansion of FTZ #153 to include the cities of Murrieta and Temecula provides ample opportunity and benefit for manufacturers to expand their efforts in exporting and reduce costs to import materials for final assembly.
- Thousands of acres of land for industrial development coupled with an expanding workforce make Riverside County an advantageous location for business relocation or expansion.

Business Services

Record-breaking real estate activity is driving the region's economy. As the Wall Street Journal said of the region... "With easy money and no shortage of sites, developers are scrambling to build offices, warehouses, apartments and shopping centers." The Riverside County Economic Development Agency (EDA) is ready to help companies participate in this remarkable growth through a variety of different programs.

- Site Selection Assistance EDA representatives will work with a business to find a
 building or site that meets the company's needs. Find your new location using
 Riverside County's new and advanced site selection tool www.rivcoprospector.com
- Expedited Permit Processing Industrial and commercial developments may be eligible for the <u>Fast Track Program</u> and receive expedited land-use approvals and building permit processing.
- Incentive Zones
 - Riverside County Recycling Market Development Zone
 - Foreign Trade Zones
- Financing Businesses may be eligible for:
 - Small Business Administration loans
 - Industrial Development Bond financing
 - Empowerment Zone tax-exempt bonds
 - Other loan programs
- Employee Recruitment Workforce Development Centers located throughout the county provide services that save time and money hiring and training employees. A mobile center can come directly to you.

- Small Business Development The Small Business Development Center offers free or low-cost consulting to regarding business plan development, financing and marketing both in English and Spanish.
 - o <u>TriTech SBDC</u> offers offer consulting to entrepreneurs and businesses looking for go-to-market strategies that will accelerate the growth of their enterprise
- Office of Foreign Trade The Office of Foreign Trade (OFT) assists business owners, corporate officers, investors, and entrepreneurs with export and import assistance with the objective of creating new jobs and investment within the county. The OFT serves as your link to developing and existing markets overseas, including our United States Export Assistance Centers, Foreign Agricultural Services, United States Chambers of Commerce operating abroad, Unites States Commercial Service, Foreign Trade Offices, and investors from other nations interested in establishing a business location in the County of Riverside.

Workforce Development

Riverside County's workforce is diverse, abundant and skilled. Various colleges and universities offer professional and technically trained workers. The Workforce Development Centers in Riverside, Hemet, Indio and Murrieta offer comprehensive business services that will save time and money hiring and training employees. A mobile center is available to come directly to you. Services include:

- Recruitment Assistance
- Free Job Posting
- Training Reimbursement Programs
- Tax Incentive Programs
- Job Fair Coordination
- Outplacement Assistance

The Workforce Development Centers of Riverside County can provide comprehensive business services that will save you time and money hiring and training employees. We offer personalized services at no cost!

Recruiting Services

- Applicant outreach and screening based on your company's criteria
- Job posting using the most current techniques and technology
- Job Fairs
- Applicant testing based on your company's occupational requirements
- Qualified applicant referrals
- Interviews scheduled at your convenience
- Interviewing facilities
- You make the final hiring decision

Incentive Programs

- Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)
- Welfare-to-Work Tax Credits
- Employment Training Panel (ETP) for customized Training

Other Human Resources Services

- Preparation of job descriptions and training plans
- Labor market information
- Transitional assistance during downsizing and plant closures
- General employment information and referrals

Personalized Service, Quality Labor, and Cost Savings. Call us at (951) 955-3075 for all your employment and training needs.

Quality of Life

The county offers a diverse climate and geography that ranges from rolling hills to desert, alpine to wine country. Average daily temperature is about 80 degrees with more than 340 days of sunshine each year.

- Clear skies mean unlimited airborne opportunities
- Skydiving, sail and hang gliding or general aviation
- Temecula Valley is the premier wine making region in Southern California
- More than 20 award winning wineries
- Concerts, cooking schools, resorts and gourmet dining

Recreational and cultural attractions abound

- Museums for all ages
- Festivals
- World-class symphony, opera, theater
- Theme parks
- Professional sports teams
- Access to the best Southern California has to offer

Riverside County also has:

- The desert regions of the Coachella Valley
- The artistic mountain community of Idyllwild
- Diamond Valley Lake and Recreation
- Portions of the Anza-Borego Desert State Park
- Salton Sea State Recreational Area
- Most of Joshua Tree National Park
- The county is home to more than 150 golf courses

For more information go to our website at www.rivcoeda.org or call 1-800-984-1000