## **BACK OFFICE**LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA



# FORT MYERS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP FortMyersRegionalPartnership.com

### You and Lee County... Together, we mean business.

Considered one of the top business destinations in the Southeast, Lee County is home to 50 miles of white-sand beach, 360 days of yearly sunshine, a thriving school system, quality infrastructure and a climate that is as conducive to business as it is to living.

#### WHAT THE EXPERTS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT LEE COUNTY

**Expansion Magazine** ranked Cape Coral-Fort Myers MSA as the Top Mid-Sized "Economic Development Hot Spot" area where business stands the best chance of growing and prospering.

The U.S. Census Bureau ranked Cape Coral the 4th fastest growing city in the U.S.

Expansion Management ranked Lee County 2nd in its list of "Top Large Counties for Recruitment & Attraction."

Inc. Magazine ranked Cape Coral-Fort Myers among the "Best Cities for Business."

Inc. Magazine also ranked Lee County as the 4th best business climate in the U.S.

The U.S. Census Bureau ranked Cape Coral-Fort Myers MSA as the 3rd fastest growing metropolitan area in the country.

**Tax Foundation** ranked Florida as the 5th Best Business Tax Climate in the nation.

Lee County has a history of attracting the best and the brightest – from Thomas Edison and Henry Ford to Chico's and Sony Electronics, Inc. Residents and businesses who could have chosen any location in the world, chose Lee County.

#### **Back Office & Call Center Companies**

**ABT SRBI** 

AccuData Integrated Marketing Allyn International Services, Inc.

Alorica, Inc.

Apollo Information Services

Card Systems, Inc.

Comcast

Data2Logistics, LLC

Gartner

GE Global Business Services

Global Staffing Resources, Inc.

LYNX Services, LLC

Sony Electronics. Inc.

Community Tours

#### **Economic Development Assistance**

Cash and Tax Incentives
Site Selection Assistance
Expedited Permitting
Employee Workforce & Training Packages
Customized Research Services

#### **World Class Infrastructure**

Toll Free US Highway 41
Toll Free Interstate 75
Top 50 International Airport
Centrally Located General Aviation Airport
Intelligent Redundant SONET-ring Networks
Rail Access
Less than 150 Miles from Multiple Major Ports

Public Transportation
Expanding Road System

#### **Cultural Events/Festivals**

Boston Red Sox Baseball
Minnesota Twins Baseball
Edison Festival of Light
Germain Arena Concert & Event Venue
Harborside Event Center
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall
Symphony of Southwest Florida
Broadway Palm Dinner Theater
Florida Everglades Hockey

Florida is one of the most attractive states in the nation for businesses and entrepreneurs. Sole proprietorships, individuals, estates of decedents and testamentary trusts are exempted from corporate income tax filling. And there are a variety of advantages that make Lee County a profitable location for practically every type of business. And with no personal income tax – guaranteed by constitutional provision – you can hold on to more of your hard-earned money.

#### LEE COUNTY/FLORIDA TAX BENEFITS

Personal Income Tax	\$0.00		
Source: Lee County Government			
Туре	Base or Measure	Rate	Department/Agency
Discretionary Sales Tax (Local)	Transactions Subject to Sales Tax	0.00%	County Government
Communications Service Tax	Telecommunications & Related	3.61%	Department of Revenue
Corporate Income	Net Income	5.50%	Department of Revenue
State Sales & Use	Receipts of Taxable Items	6.00%	Department of Revenue
Unemployment Insurance	Up to \$7,000	1.03%	Department of Revenue
Worker's Compensation Insurance	Payroll and Occupation	Variable	Worker's Comp. Division
Personal Income	Gross Income	0.00%	Department of Revenue
Local Property*	Valuation of Property (per \$1,000)	\$18.2236	County Property Appraiser

\*For the purposes of this table we use the average tax rate from the immediately previous tax year. The actual tax rate may differ based on the decisions made by local taxing authorities.



#### **WORLD-CLASS TRAVEL OPTIONS**

Located off Interstate 75, **Southwest Florida International Airport** is ranked as one of America's busiest airports. It serves a diverse domestic market, rapidly growing global market, and offers a full array of cargo services. It is also a designated Foreign Trade Zone. Page Field, located just south of downtown Fort Myers, is one of the busiest general aviation airports in the U.S. It serves both business and recreational flights.



#### 2011 DEMOGRAPHIC COMPARISON CHARTS

Lee County's population is perfectly aligned with the needs of today's growing businesses. Currently over 600,000 strong, it is now dominated by working-age people.

2011 (April 1)	Population	% of Total Population	Annual 2011	Labor Force	% of Total Labor Force	Back-Office by County	2011 Wage Estimate
Lee	625,310	56.36%	Lee	282,699	56.35%	Cape Coral-Fort Myers	\$48,198
Charlotte	160,463	14.46%	Charlotte	70,507	14.05%	Broward	\$51,553
Collier	323,785	29.18%	Collier	148,485	29.60%	Orange	\$52,968
Southwest Florida	1,109,558	100.00%	Southwest Florida	501,691	100.00%	Hillsborough	\$54,556
Source: BEBR			Source: Florida Developme	ent of Economic Opportunity		Miami-Dade	\$56,172
						Source: Florida Development of Ecor	nomic Opportunity

#### **ELECTRIC RATE COMPARISON**

Average Retail Price of Electricity to Ultimate Customers by End-Use Sector, by State, March 2012 and 2011

(Cents per Kilowatthour) Census Division and State	Commercial1 12-Mar	Industrial1 12-Mar	Transportation 12-Mar	All Sectors (Including Resd.) 12-Mar
Connecticut	14.55	12.81	10.71	15.46
New York	14.34	6.74	13.3	14.41
Massachusetts	14.21	13	4.45	14.34
New England	13.9	12.09	6.93	14.29
New Jersey	12.29	10.14	9.22	13.24
District of Columbia	12.21	5.52	8.06	11.95
California	11.92	9.76	7.84	12.53
Michigan	10.74	7.43	7.3	10.62
Alabama	10.51	5.82		8.73
Maryland	10.49	8.16	7.73	11.28
Delaware	9.95	7.65		10.73
Florida	9.92	8.26	8.69	10.55
U.S. Total	9.91	6.52	9.86	9.59

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-826, Monthly Electric Sales and Revenue Report with State Distributions Report.

#### STATE-OF THE ART TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Lee County's multiple SONET-ring networks virtually eliminate single points of failure. All electronic components are redundant, and fiber-optic cables traverse the area in diverse routes. Intelligent terminal equipment is configured to automatically re-route traffic whenever necessary, ensuring constant and consistent communications.

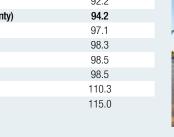




With a cost-of-living well below the national average, and an amazing choice of leisure and entertainment options, Lee County is truly a place to call "home." All of which makes this a very attractive location for the new creative class – those active, highly skilled, well-educated employees today's market leaders desire.

#### LEE COUNTY COST OF LIVING INDEX COMPARISON

MSA	Q1 2012
Tampa, FL	92.2
Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL (Lee County)	94.2
Jacksonville, FL	97.1
Sarasota, FL	98.3
Orlando, FL	98.5
Gainesville, FL	98.5
Miami, FL	110.3
Fort Lauderdale, FL	115.0
Source: ACCRA COLI. Annual	







#### 25 Million Reasons

The Fort Myers Regional Partnership, Lee County's Economic Development Office, is offering a \$25-million incentive program for businesses looking to locate or expand in Lee County. Our Recruitment Team is ready to provide personal service and advice.

Visit 25millionreasons.com for more information.

### REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Fort Myers Regional Partnership Lee County's Economic Development Office FortMyersRegionalPartnership.com

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