

# It's All About One

How many Indianas are there?

No, it's not intended to be a trick question. I'm not talking about Indiana University of Pennsylvania in – you guessed it – Pennsylvania's Indiana County or any other namesakes.

It's more of a rhetorical inquiry. There are a number of "Indianas" when one travels, for example, from the steel country of Lake County to the rolling hills in the southeastern part of the state. Or if you make the 337-mile journey from Angola to Evansville.



Cities, towns and unincorporated areas throughout our state possess unique characteristics. They've formed over the past 200 years (remember that bicentennial celebration starts in December of this year) based on history, geography, business background and more. "Many Indianas" refers to the regional economies that have emerged.

That's why regionalism has been encouraged and, in fact, become a requirement. And while those efforts should – and must – continue, we need to also simultaneously become one. The cumulative impact of the regional enhancement must be added together to allow Indiana to achieve at its highest potential.

That is the impetus and overall goal of the *Indiana Vision 2025* economic development action plan. That is why the cover of this special issue of *BizVoice*® combines the outline of our state with the most important numeral – one.

We have to combine metro savvy with rural resolve, entrepreneurship in our cities with engagement in our communities. It may be an old saying, but it's never truer than today: "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts."

The stories, numbers and analysis in these pages identify and explain a portion of the challenges and opportunities in our Indiana. Our one Indiana. We look forward to being a part of the team that will make Indiana the absolute best it can be in 2025 and for future generations.

Kevin M. Brinegar  
President and CEO



**Indiana Chamber Mission:**

Cultivate a world-class environment which provides economic opportunity and prosperity for the people of Indiana and their enterprises.



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