

# VALPARAISO, IN

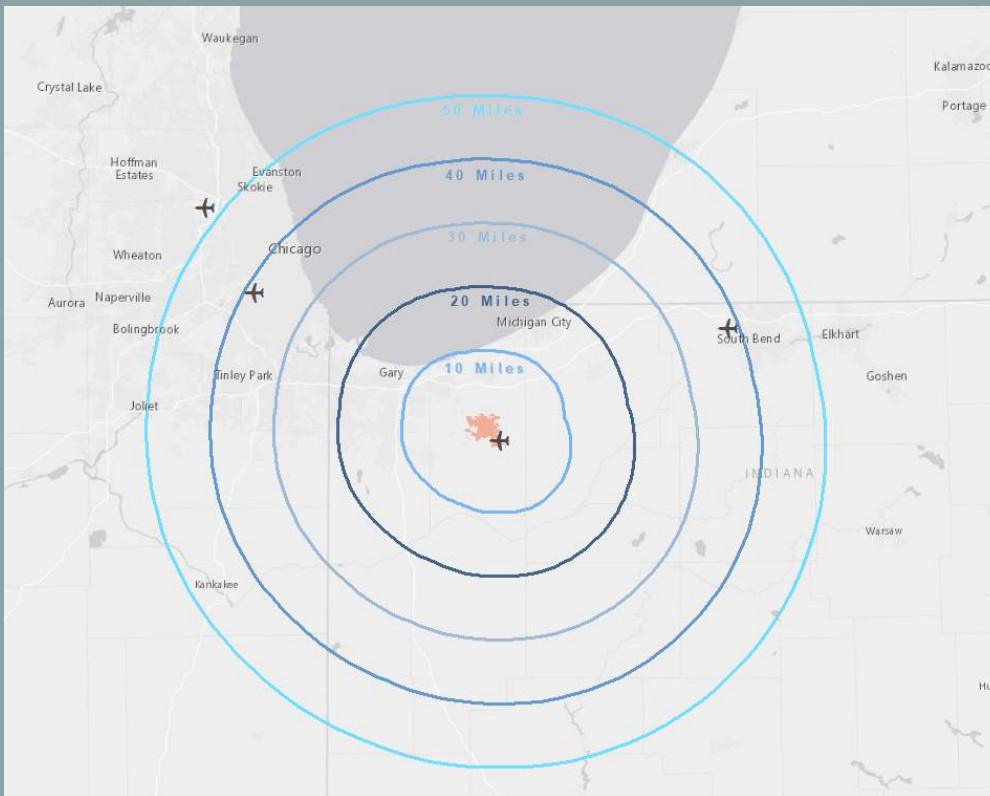


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# ABOUT VALPARAISO



## PROXIMITY TO CHICAGO

Valparaiso is a growing community located in the northwest corner of Indiana - just 50 miles southeast of Chicago. The City is home to over 32,000 residents and acts as a hub for an additional 15,000 living in surrounding areas.

## NORTHWEST INDIANA

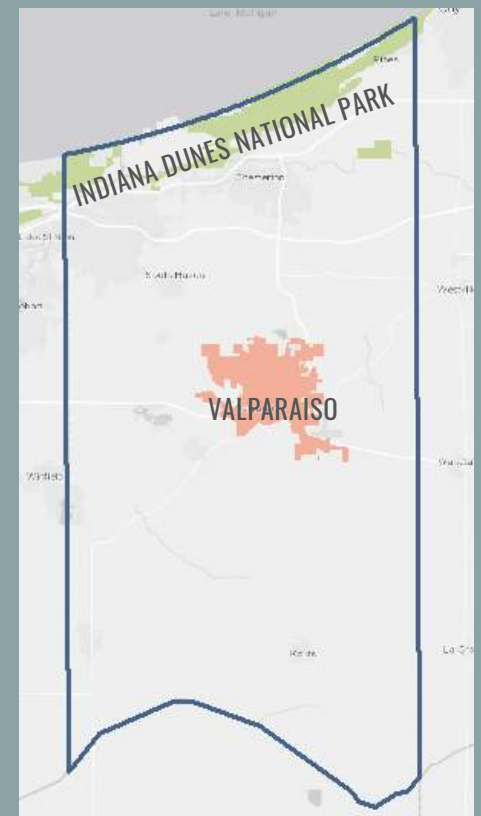
Valparaiso is the seat of Porter County, which has the 7th highest per-capita income in the State of Indiana.

Porter County is also one of the few counties in Indiana with a growing population, totaling over 160,000 and making it the 9th largest county by population in the state.

Valparaiso is located just 14 miles south of the Indiana Dunes National Park, the nation's 61st National Park, which gained status in early 2019.

The Porter County Regional Airport is located one mile southeast of Valparaiso City Limits. In 2010, there was an INDOT estimated 70,304 landings and departures from the airport. The airport features:

- Conference Room
- Complete Servicing of Aircraft
- Facilities for Passengers & Crew Members
- Rental Offices
- Runways to handle the largest business aircraft
- Car Rental and Catering



# DOWNTOWN VALPARAISO



Our award-winning downtown gathering spaces and year-round community events provide a thriving and vibrant place to call home. Central Park Plaza, Porter Health Amphitheater and Urschel Pavilion have acted as magnets, drawing our engaged community Downtown for events including Shakespearean plays, music concerts, food tastings, movie nights and ice skating in the winter months.

Valparaiso recently received recognition from the American Planning Association's (APA) "Great Public Places" award for its 2.5 Acre Downtown Park and Pavilion that transformed an underused parking lot into a vibrant gathering space, and made the Downtown a regional destination.



IN 2018:

**240,000** CENTRAL PARK PLAZA VISITORS

**41,649** ICE SKATERS 

**15+** UNIQUE DOWNTOWN VALPARAISO EVENTS





# ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

## VALPARAISO EVENTS

Valparaiso Events is a non-profit organization that hosts events and experiences within Valparaiso. The Valparaiso Popcorn Festival hosts upwards of 60,000 attendees each year and brings in visitors from all around the region and beyond. Valpo Events provides a full calendar of events for the community and beyond through ticket sales, sponsorship and memberships to Valparaiso Events. Some of the events they hosted include:

**Chocolate Walk** - April

**Sidewalk Days** - Aug.

**Valparaiso Market** - June - Oct.

**Summer Outdoor Movies** - June & July

**Valparaiso Art Festival** - June

**Summer Concert Series** - July & Aug.

**Valparaiso Wine Festival** - July

**Valpo Brewfest** - Sept.

**Valparaiso Popcorn Festival** - Sept.

**Fall Harvest Festival** - Oct.

**Holly Days** - Dec.



<https://valparaisoevents.com/>



@valparaisoevents

**54,000 +** Social Media Followers  
(Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)

**120,000+** Estimated Attendance at  
Events in 2019

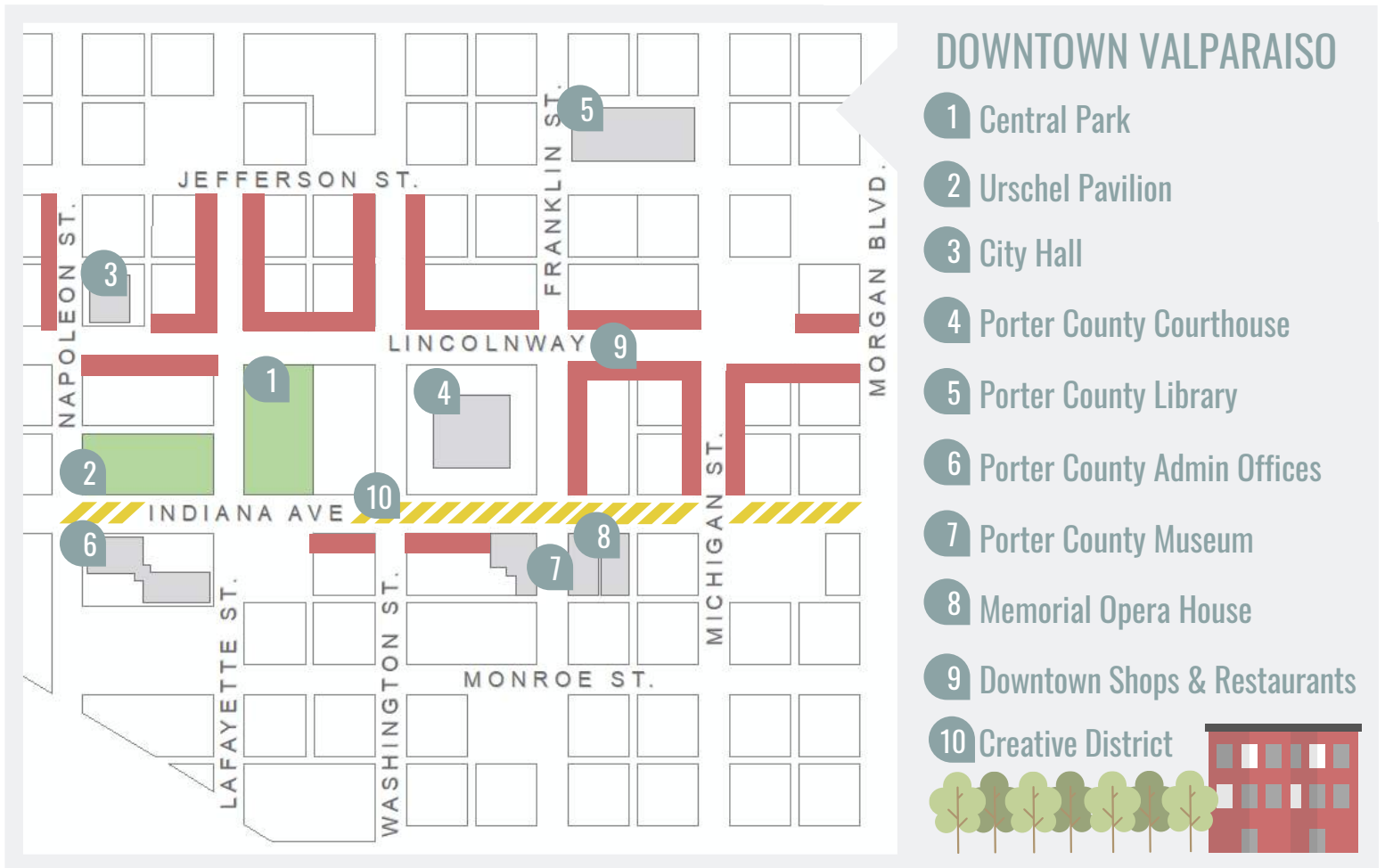


Event Tickets Sold in 2018

**5,870**

**350+** Volunteers    Event Sponsors **50**

# ARTS & CULTURE



Valparaiso's Downtown maintains its character with renovated facades and green space, featuring 70+ distinct non-chain restaurants and artisan shops.

The City is also developing an Arts District to connect Valparaiso's Downtown to Valparaiso University's Campus through the Indiana Ave. Corridor. The vision helped the City make it into the Semi-finalist round of Frontier Communication's "America's Best Communities" competition. Valparaiso was 1 of 15 chosen out of a total of 350 communities.

The Valparaiso Creative Council has released a creative portal that allows the community to come together to create, discover and celebrate the arts. The Creative Portal can be found at [Valpocreates.org](http://Valpocreates.org)





# NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITY

Valparaiso has a thriving residential market, while still maintaining a strong sense of place within our neighborhoods. From our Historic Downtown Neighborhoods to our newly established subdivisions, our neighborhoods are active and engaged in the community.

The City was built to support neighborhood activity with the majority of our neighborhoods being within walking distance to elementary schools and neighborhood parks. When driving through the City, you will likely see families walking and enjoying time together on their way to a community event, park or school.

The City of Valparaiso partners with neighborhood groups through a Neighborhood Improvement Grant Program to bring funding to projects like park enhancements, way-finding signage and construction of sidewalk missing links. Valparaiso's engaged neighborhood groups help to create a more livable, vibrant and welcoming community for all.

**17** Under Construction Subdivisions

**25+** Active Neighborhood Groups

**6** Neighborhood Walks Completed by the City Administration in 2019

**8** City Funded Neighborhood Improvement Grant Projects in 2019







# PARKS AND RECREATION



**667** ACRES OF  
PARKLAND

**27** ATHLETIC  
FIELDS

**14** CHILDREN'S  
PLAYGROUNDS

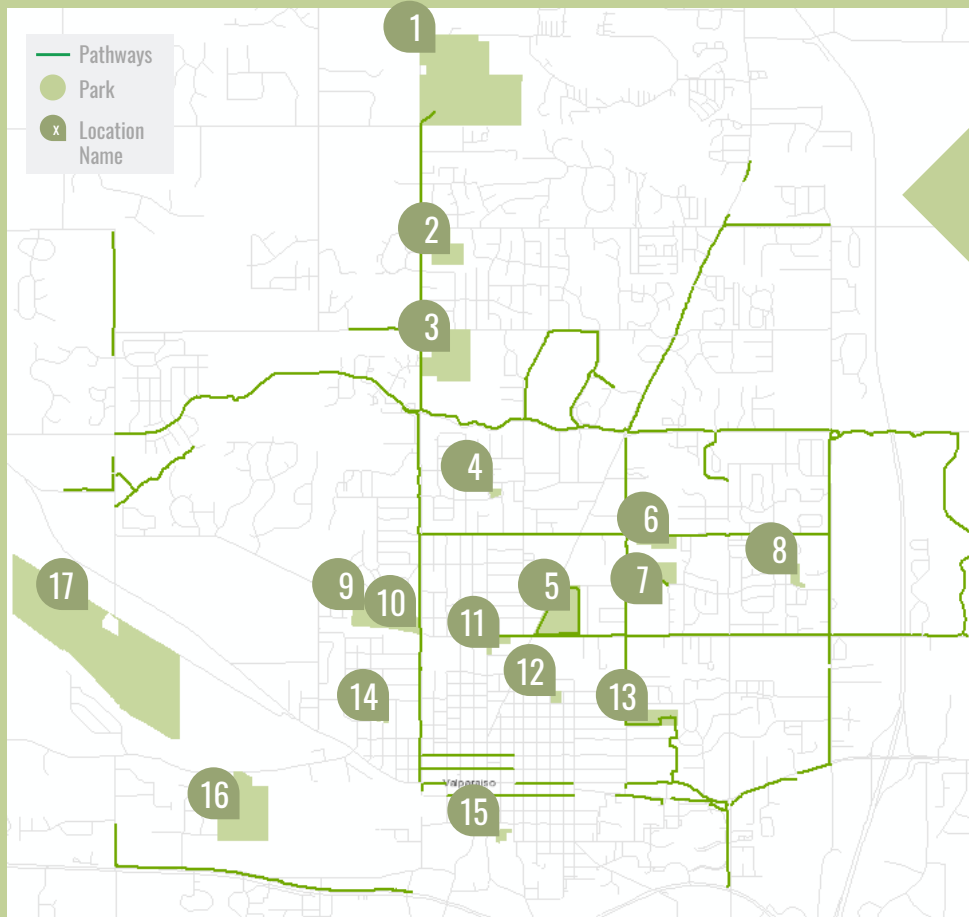
SPECIAL EVENT  
PARTICIPANTS **2,372**

PARK RENTALS **1,056**

FACEBOOK  
LIKES **10,000**

Valparaiso has a park and pathway system that spans across the City including over 15 parks, over 20 miles of pathways and plans to add a new ValPAWraiso off leash dog park in the Fall of 2019. The Valparaiso Parks Department hosts a variety of programs, events and Youth/Adult sports connecting the community.

"The Mission of the Valparaiso Parks and Recreation Department is to be a leading partner in preserving, developing and promoting Valparaiso's unique quality of life."

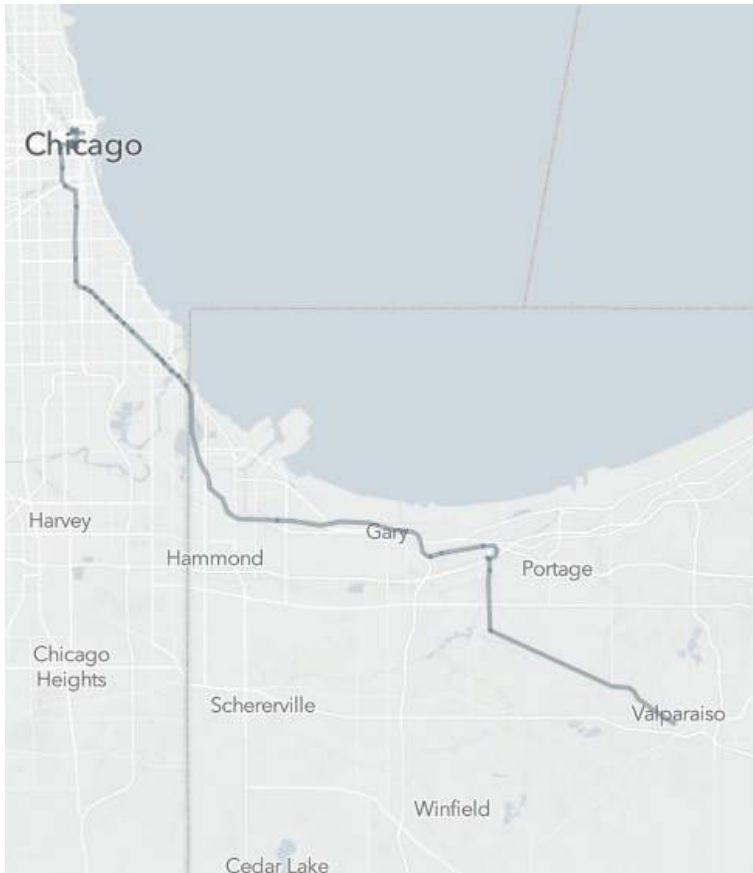


## PARKS AND RECREATION

- 1 Rogers Lakewood
- 2 Bicentennial Park
- 3 Foundation Meadows Park
- 4 Berkley Park
- 5 Fairgrounds Park
- 6 ValPLAYso Park
- 7 Glenrose South Park
- 8 200 East Park
- 9 Forest Park Golf Course
- 10 Ogden Gardens
- 11 Tower Park
- 12 Banta Park
- 13 Kirchhoff Park
- 14 Jessee-Pifer Park
- 15 Will Park
- 16 Westside Park
- 17 Creekside Golf Course & Training Ctr



# PUBLIC TRANSIT & PATHWAYS



## CHICAGO DASH

The ChicaGO Dash is an express commuter bus service from Downtown Valparaiso to Downtown Chicago. Lavatories, Wi-Fi, satellite TVs, free parking and bike storage lockers are some of the great features offered by the DASH.

## SOUTH SHORE CONNECT

The Valpo South Shore Connect is an express bus service from Downtown Valparaiso to the Dune Park South Shore Train Station. Departing from the Valpo Transit Hub, and running directly to the Dune Park South Shore Train Station. The bus drops off and picks up around the South Shore Train Line schedule taking you anywhere from South Bend to Chicago!



## V-LINE

The V-Line is a deviated fixed route bus service for the citizens and visitors of Valparaiso. V-Line routes can take you to popular locations and destinations around the City. The V-Line provides 5 colored routes - Brown, Yellow, Green, Red and Purple - running throughout Valparaiso.

## PATHWAYS & BIKE SHARE

Valparaiso has an interconnected park and pathway system across Valparaiso. The pathways system spans over 20 miles with 10 Zagster/Valpo Velocity locations and 3 miles of Bike Lanes. Valparaiso recently celebrated becoming a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Cyclists.

# EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



Valparaiso is filled with excellent education opportunities from Pre-K to post-graduate, adding to our creative and technical working class.

Valparaiso Community Schools are ranked 23rd out of 331 school districts in the State of Indiana by the US Department of Education and East Porter County Schools, the district to our direct east, is ranked 10th.

In May 2016, the Valparaiso Community voted by almost a 2-1 margin to invest over \$148 million in construction and renovation of our schools' facilities. This represented one of the highest margins of approval by any community in the State.

Valparaiso University is also central to the City's Identity

with an architecturally stunning campus and diverse student population located about half-a-mile from our Downtown.

This private liberal arts college has been ranked in the Top 10 of regional universities in the Midwest since 1990 and is nationally recognized for its College of Engineering and College of Nursing.

**3,808**  
**3,027**  
**6,372**

VU STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE FALL OF 2018

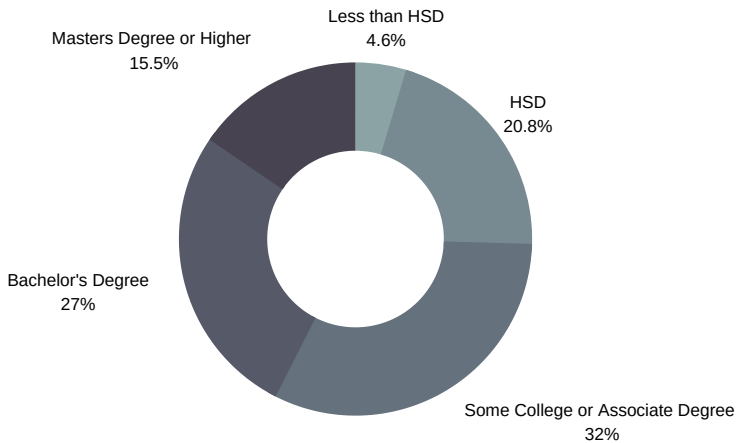
IVY TECH STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE FALL OF 2018

VCS STUDENTS ENROLLED IN GRADES K-12



# VALPARAISO WORKFORCE

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

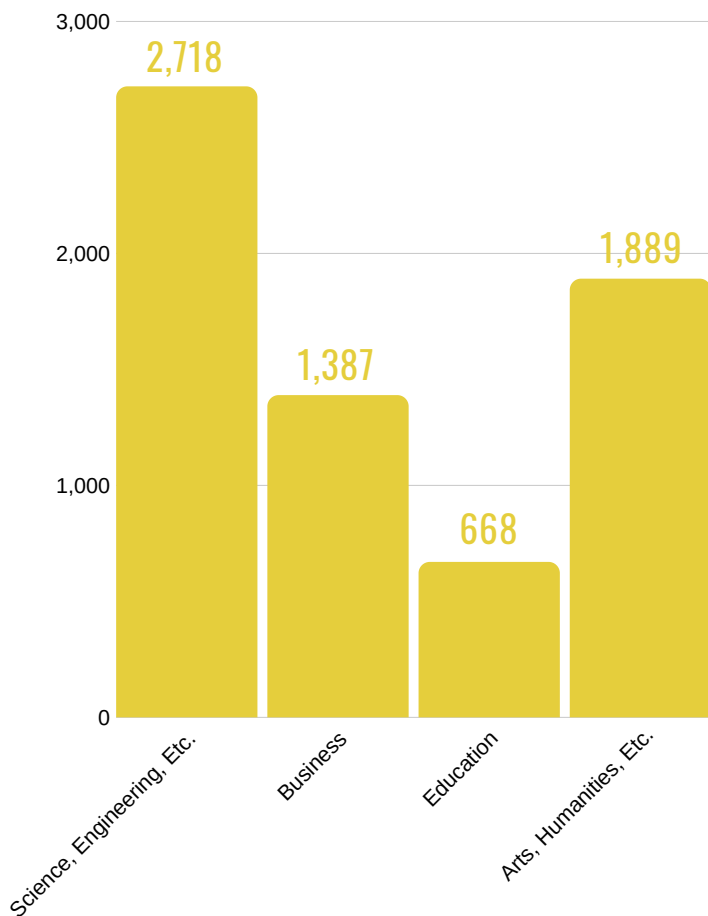


As your business grows, Valparaiso and the surrounding region can fulfill your needs with a skilled and diverse workforce. Assistance for recruitment and training are available locally through WorkOne and the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. The Porter County Career and Technical Center and Ivy Tech Community College, both located in Valparaiso, can coordinate specific training for your business needs.

## EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION CLASS

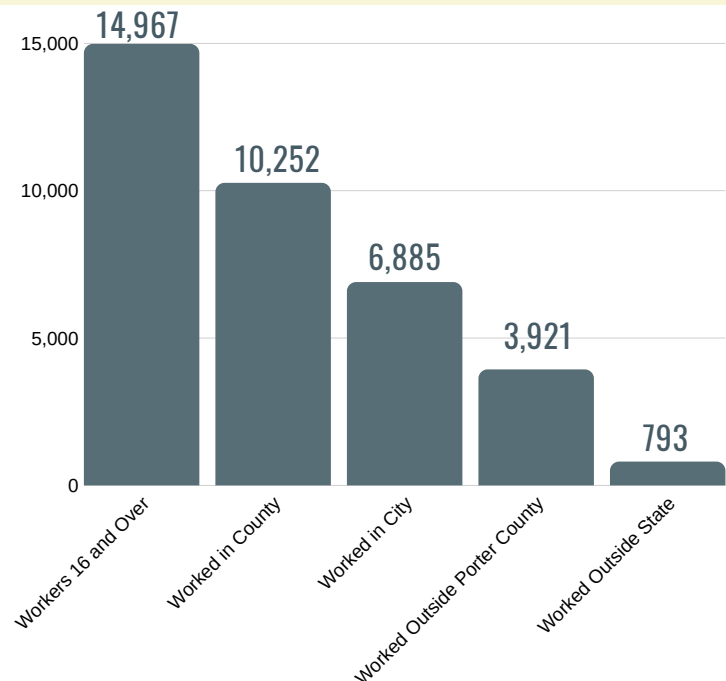
	2015	2017
Management, Business, Science and Arts	33.5%	36.1%
Healthcare	9.3%	8.6%
Service	15.6%	13.3%
Sales and Office	22.5%	25.9%
Natural Resources, Construction and Maintenance	7.4%	5.7%
Production, Transportation, Material Moving	11.7%	10.4%

## FIELD OF BACHELORS DEGREES FOR POPULATIONS 25-64



**22 MINUTES** AVERAGE COMMUTING TIME  
**98.2%** OF WORKERS HAVE AT LEAST ONE VEHICLE AVAILABLE

## COMMUTING WORKERS



# UTILITIES & SERVICES



## VALPARAISO CITY UTILITIES

The Valparaiso City Utilities is governed by a five-member Board of Directors and encompasses drinking water treatment and distribution, wastewater collection and treatment and storm water collection. Valparaiso currently serves a population of 35,000 customers in and adjacent to the City of Valparaiso.

### WATER TREATMENT:

- 220 Miles of Distribution and Transmission Lines
- 2 Treatment Plants & 4 Well Fields
- Regulated by United States Environmental Protection Agency and Indiana Department of Environmental Management

### WATER RECLAMATION:

- Class IV Advanced Single Stage Air Activated Sludge Wastewater Treatment Plant
- 8.0 mgd average wastewater design capacity/18.0 Million gpd peak flow design capacity
- Regulated by United States Environmental Protection Agency and Indiana Department of Environmental Management

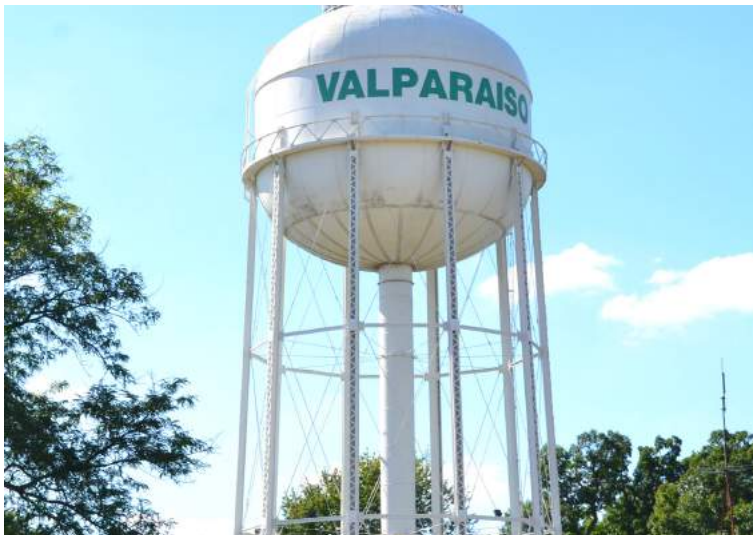
## FIRE DEPARTMENT



The Valparaiso Fire Department is made up of 68 men and women that provide a variety of services for the Valparaiso Community.

### INSURANCE SERVICE OFFICE (ISO) RATING:

As of September 2017, the Insurance Service Office (ISO) has rated the City of Valparaiso a fire protection class 2. This is a tremendous accomplishment since Valparaiso is now only the 8th community in the State of Indiana to earn this rating.



## SEWER RATES (PER MONTH)

PER 100 CUBIC FEET	PER 1000 GALLONS	*Minimum monthly charge beginning at \$18.65 depending on meter size*
\$4.36	\$5.83	

## WATER RATES (PER MONTH)

	PER 100 CUBIC FEET	PER 1000 GALLONS
First 2,000 Cubic Feet	\$3.18	\$4.25
Next 8,000 Cubic Feet	\$2.57	\$3.44
Next 10,000 Cubic Feet	\$2.01	\$2.69

\*Minimum monthly charge beginning at \$22.34 depending on meter size\*

## POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Valparaiso Police Department is made up of 50+ men and women that provide a variety of services to create a safe and secure environment for all.

### CALEA ACCREDITATION:

As of August 2010, the Valparaiso Police Department was awarded accreditation through the Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The Valparaiso Police Department is the 13th agency to receive CALEA accreditation in the state of Indiana. Through the CALEA, the Valparaiso Police Department stays current with modern and acceptable policing practices.





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