



**First Coast Expressway  
Connecting I-10 to I-95**



**2 CSX Rail-lines**



**Clay County Port  
St. Johns River Frontage**



**2 Airports in Clay  
12 Regional**

# Advanced Manufacturing

**110**

Advanced manufacturers in  
Clay County

**3K**

Manufacturing workers in  
Clay County

**8**

Related industry certification  
programs taught in high  
schools

**FTZ  
64**

Part of Foreign Trade Zone 64

## OUR POINTS OF PRIDE:



### A-Rated School District

JH & HS Career and Technical Education programs offer 35 specialties with students earning approx. 2,000 nationally recognized industry certifications each year.



### Highest population growth projections

in the region over next 15 years.  
Population growth projections are 4x  
that of Jacksonville/Duval county.



### Labor costs are 15 to 30% lower

in Clay County vs. Jacksonville MSA



**Crawford Powell**  
President of Economic Development



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Immediately south of Jacksonville along the western banks of the St. Johns River, Clay County has all the amenities of a major metro area. Clay County is home to a variety of industries, technical businesses, and numerous business parks. North Florida's newest interstate, the First Coast Expressway (FCX), is currently under construction and will connect I-10 in Duval to I-95 in St. Johns. New business development is already under construction along the path of the FCX.



**CLAY FLORIDA**  
Economic Development Corporation  
POSSIBILITY FLOWS | JUST SOUTH OF JACKSONVILLE

# Why Clay County?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Niagara Bottling** is a family owned and operated beverage manufacturer that began in Irvine, CA in 1963. Using heavy automation in their manufacturing processes and high-quality innovation has proved integral to their success. The 820,000 SF manufacturing facility is located on 147 acres in Middleburg, directly off the First Coast Expressway and the new Atlantis Drive. The project included \$13M of utility infrastructure upgrades to the site benefiting subsequent projects. The initial project proposes 100+ high wage jobs and \$100M in capital investment. A planned expansion will increase these numbers further.

Clay County's proximity to key land, air, rail, and marine transportation routes serving the Southeastern United States and beyond (including the Port of Jacksonville), combined with the cost advantage of being on a "back-haul" shipping route, allows local manufacturers to receive raw materials and ship final products on a reliable schedule at competitive costs.

Clay County offers the kind of highly-skilled, motivated, and trainable workers that are needed by today's sophisticated manufacturing operations. They are available at a price that is lower than in many other metropolitan areas in the Southeastern United States. Much of the area's workforce has military ties and experience, giving them specialized and highly technical expertise. SJRSC offers extensive training programs for students seeking gainful employment within the industry.

## COUNTY INCENTIVES

### Economic Development (Tax Increment Grant)

Targets commercial projects that add to the tax base, project new employment in excess of 10 direct, full-time equivalent employees and makes at least a \$1M capital investment.

### Tangible Personal Property

An incentive designed for relocating companies that invest at least \$1M in manufacturing equipment at the Clay County business location.

### Regulatory Relief

The Clay County government focuses on remaining very pro-business and supportive through fast-track permitting and approvals for job creating economic development projects.

### Large Employer Retention Grant

An incentive designed to retain large employers (over 100 employees) in Clay County.

## TOP 10 PRIVATE EMPLOYERS

Company	Employees
HCA Florida OP Hospital	1532
St. Vincents Clay	780
Wal-Mart	753
bestbet Orange Park	649
Vallencourt Construction	482
General RV	468
Applied Business Solutions	433
Publix Super Market	417
Winn-Dixie	288
Home Depot	285

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