



Imperial Valley International Trade & Logistics



Ranked the fastest growing county in the state, Imperial Valley is emerging as Southern California's newest hot spot for growth.

With the International Committee, Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC) is seeking to maximize the county's position in the global marketplace. Globalization for IVEDC is now.

Imperial Valley's Advantages

- Three ports of entry with Mexico
- Railway access to Los Angeles, San Diego, Arizona, and mainland Mexico
- Access to 1-8 and 1-10
- Specific planned areas for international logistics
 - Mesquite Lake - 5,100 acres
 - Gateway to Americas - 1,700 acres
- Commercial and industrial land available in all cities with Foreign Trade Zone status

IMPERIAL VALLEY-10 HOUR TRUCK DRIVETIME RADIUS



Resources

Calexico County Enterprise Zone
www.calexico-county.gov

Imperial Valley Foreign Trade Zone—ITC diligence, Inc.
www.ftzconsultants.com

District Export Council
www.sadiagodec.org

San Diego World Trade Center
www.sdwtc.org

Imperial Valley Enterprise Zone
www.ivez.com

Border Crossings at the Calexico Ports of Entry 2008 & 2009

Calexico - Downtown	2008	2009
Buses	1,352	25
Personal Vehicles	4,950,509	4,839,287
Bus Passengers	33,800	625
Personal Vehicle Passengers	9,423,447	8,625,713
Pedestrians	4,359,901	3,904,913
Calexico - East Port	2008	2009
Trucks	325,975	276,894
Loaded Truck Containers	173,854	141,437
Empty Truck Containers	149,713	134,843
Trains	417	253
Loaded Rail Containers	1,638	403
Empty Rail Containers	6,463	5,574
Buses	1,669	2,451
Personal Vehicles	3,549,486	2,953,733
Train Passengers	531	562
Bus Passengers	41,725	40,161
Personal Vehicle Passengers	7,144,168	5,731,129
Pedestrians	18,030	33,930

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Border Crossing/Entry Date; based on data from U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border protection, OMR database.

Value of Trade between United States & Mexico thru Calexico Ports of Entry 2004-2009

	East Port	Calexico Port
2005	10,416,832	22,594,492
2006	12,189,726	21,852,463
2007	11,121,102	22,014,063
2008	11,413,669	18,778,009
2009	9,321,370	17,370,563
Total	54,462,699	1.03 billion

Source: U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics



The Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC) is a private corporation designed to assist businesses in expanding or relocating to the Imperial Valley region of California. Our investors include a host of private and public corporations that benefit from the growth of the economy.



IMPERIAL VALLEY™

At-A-Glance

Enterprise Zones

- Calexico-Imperial County EZ-14,298 acres (along the U.S.-Mexico border)
 - Imperial Valley EZ-7, 298 acres (within Brawley and Mesquite Lake Specified plan area)
- Enterprise Zones allow businesses that are expanding in these areas to save thousands of dollars through tax credits and other benefits. Tax credits and benefits of Imperial Valley’s two enterprise zones include:
- Hiring tax credit
 - Net operating tax credit
 - Lenders Deductions

Manufacturing Enhancement Areas

The cities of Calexico and Brawley are designated MEA’s in California. MEA benefits include:

- Hiring tax credits
- Reducing permitting fees

MEA companies are eligible to earn \$30,000 or more in state hiring tax credits per qualified employee hired over a five-year period.

Foreign Trade Zones

A foreign trade zone provides incentives for domestic manufacturers that utilize imported raw material and are located inside the designated areas of the FTZ. Imperial Valley has seven areas in FTZ #257. These areas are considered outside the United States by U.S. Customs. Imported material or merchandise imported into the zones is excluded from customs duties and excise taxes until it leaves the FTZ. Materials and goods exported outside the U.S. are excluded from being charged a duty. Additional benefits include:

- Reduced tariffs
- Duty exemptions
- Weekly entry fee savings
- Duty deferral

EB-5 Visa Program

The EB-5 Program allows foreign investors to obtain immigration benefits for having made an investment.

- The EB-5 Program calls for a minimum investment of \$1,000,000 USD. This sum may be reduced currently to \$500,000 USD if the enterprise that receives the investment is situated in a Targeted Area (TEA). (Imperial Valley is a TEA)
- To qualify as a EB-5 investor, each investor must demonstrate that 10 full-time, year-around jobs will be created on account of the investment.

Benefits of the EB-5 Visa Program:

- Qualifying investors and their spouse and minor children (under 21) will be granted US Lawful Permanent Residency (Green Card)
- No minimum requirements as to age, to speak English, employment experience, or education
- Investor and family may live/work anywhere in the United States
- Education benefits including admission of Universities at US residents costs.
- After five years, the investors and their family may obtain US citizenship, subject to meeting all immigration requirements, as required under law.

Physical Characteristics

Imperial Valley extends over 4,597 square-miles in Southeastern California, bordering Baja California, Mexico to the South, Riverside County to the North, San Diego County to the West, and Arizona to the East. The elevation varies from 253 feet below sea level at the Salton Sea, to 4,854 feet at Blue Angel Peak. Imperial Valley has a largely flat terrain with mountains toward the West. Its central portion has been irrigated with water from the Colorado River since nearly the turn of the century. Today, the economy is driven by logistics firms, warehousing, retail trade, and light manufacturing.

Transportation

Imperial Valley has three ports of entry facilitating bi-national trade, which was valued at over \$8.3 billion in 2006. Union Pacific Railroad (UPR) and Carrizo Gorge Railway (CGR) provide freight service to Imperial Valley. UPR has direct routes to Los Angeles in the west and El Paso in the east. The center line connects eight communities in Imperial Valley and is the only rail connection from California into Central Mexico. CGR provides freight service between Imperial Valley and San Diego via Northern Baja California, Mexico.

Population 2009	
Total	181,500
Brawley	26,948
Calexico	39,337
Calipatria	8,108
El Centro	44,259
Holtville	6,515
Imperial	12,970
Westmorland	2,427
Balance	38,690
Source: CA Department of Finance	
Population Forecast	
2020	239,149
2030	283,693
Labor Force 2009	
Labor Force	75,300
Employment	57,000
Source: California EDD	
Ethnic Diversity	
Hispanic	75%
White	19%
African American	3%
Asian	2%
Native American	1%
Source: CA Department of Finance	
Average Annual Pay: \$33,830	
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	
Median Household Income 2008: \$70,029	
Source: U.S. Census Bureau	
Median Home Price 2009: \$122,400	
Source: Imperial Valley Board of Realtors	

