

Fort Lauderdale 2025 Business Survey

Introduction

Hi there! Thank you for choosing to share your thoughts with us.

Fort Lauderdale is running this survey to hear from business owners like you about your satisfaction with the City as a place to do business. Your answers help us know where to focus and how to plan for the future.

Thank you for taking the time to share what you think.

1. Which of the following best describes your position within your company?

- a. Owner
- b. Executive
- c. Manager
- d. Employee

General Satisfaction

For each question, please choose the rating that best matches your answer.

2. Overall, how would you rate the City of Fort Lauderdale as a place to do business?

(1) Poor to (5) Excellent

Business Environment

3. How satisfied are you with each of the following?

(1) Completely Unsatisfied to (5) Completely Satisfied

- a. Local tax rates
- b. Regulatory environment
- c. Availability of a skilled workforce
- d. Infrastructure (e.g., roads, utilities)
- e. Cost of doing business (e.g., inflation, local supply chain)
- f. Quality of life for employees (e.g., affordable housing, cost of living, education, healthcare)

4. Which of the following elements of Fort Lauderdale's business climate are most important to you?

Select the top three (3)

- a. Local tax rates
- b. Regulatory environment
- c. Availability of a skilled workforce
- d. Infrastructure (e.g., roads, utilities)
- e. Cost of doing business (e.g., inflation, local supply chain)
- f. Quality of life for employees (e.g., affordable housing, cost of living, education, healthcare)

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5. Which of the following municipal business support services do you use?

Select all that apply

- a. Business licensing assistance
- b. Zoning and permit guidance
- c. Small business development programs
- d. Networking events
- e. Training workshops
- f. Financial assistance programs
- g. Municipal workforce development programs
- h. None of the above

6. How satisfied are you with the local government's business-related support services?

(1) Very Dissatisfied to (5) Very Satisfied

7. What additional business support services would you like to see offered?

Open-ended response

Expansion and Retention Motivators

8. In the next year, is your business considering any of the following?

- a. Expanding within Fort Lauderdale
- b. Relocating to another location in Fort Lauderdale
- c. Relocating to another location outside Fort Lauderdale
- d. Downsizing
- e. Closing
- f. Maintaining current operations
- g. None of the above

9. Which of the following are the most important factors for keeping/expanding your business in Fort Lauderdale?

Select the top three (3)

- a. Access to customers/markets
- b. Availability of commercial/industrial space
- c. Cost of real estate or rent
- d. Local government support
- e. Skilled workforce
- f. Improved infrastructure
- g. Financial incentives (e.g., local tax rates, tax credits, abatements)
- h. Other: _____

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If “g. Financial incentives” is selected, the following question will be provided.

15.1 What specific financial incentives would most motivate your business to expand locally?

- a. Grants for facility improvements and business equipment
- b. Facilitate access to low-interest loans
- c. Workforce training subsidies
- d. Other: _____

10. What specific areas of communication with the City of Fort Lauderdale do you believe need improvement?

Select all that apply

- a. Timeliness of response
- b. Methods of communication (e.g., email, newsletter, text, social media)
- c. Clarity of information provided
- d. Accessibility of contact points
- e. Frequency of updates
- f. Other: _____
- g. Not applicable

11. How does your business prefer to receive communication from the City?

- a. Text (SMS) alerts/updates
- b. Newsletters/magazines
- c. City social media pages
- d. Email
- e. Flyers/printed notices

12. What are your biggest workforce challenges?

Select all that apply

- a. Finding qualified candidates
- b. Retaining employees
- c. Training and development
- d. Competitive wages
- e. Other: _____

13. What skills do you anticipate will be most in-demand for your business in the next 3-5 years?

Open-ended response

About You

A few final questions!

To make sure we're hearing from all business groups in Fort Lauderdale, we have a few questions about your business.

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14. What is your business' name? _____

15. What is the zip code of your business? _____

16. How long has your business been operating in this municipality?

- a. Less than 1 year
- b. 1-5 years
- c. 6-10 years
- d. More than 10 years

17. How many employees does your business have?

- a. 1-10
- b. 11-50
- c. 51-100
- d. 101-250
- e. More than 250

18. What is your business's primary industry sector?

- a. Retail
- b. Manufacturing
- c. Professional Services and Finance
- d. Technology
- e. Healthcare
- f. Construction
- g. Food and Hospitality
- h. Real Estate
- i. Marine
- j. Aviation
- k. Other: _____

19. What is your business's annual revenue?

Response optional

- a. Less than \$100,000
- b. \$100,000 - \$500,000
- c. \$500,001 - \$1 million
- d. \$1 million - \$5 million
- e. More than \$5 million

20. Do your employees telecommute?

- a. Majority
- b. Some
- c. No

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21. If you have any additional comments that you would like to share with the City of Fort Lauderdale, please write them in the space below.

Open-ended response

You're all done!

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us improve our business support services and create a thriving local economy.

If you have any questions about this survey and would like to reach out to the City's Office of Management and Budget, please call 954-828-5015 or email strategyandinnovation@fortlauderdale.gov.