

# Section

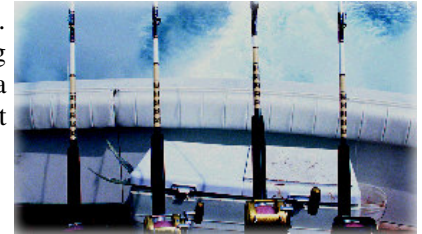
# 8

## Area Workforce / Training

### BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

The EASI Quality of Life Index for Baldwin County is 178, high above the U.S. National Average of 100. Although our Quality of Life is rated high, our cost of living is not. Monsterjobs.com recently rated several cities in Baldwin County as having a cost of living well below the national average. Professionals and management transferees from other parts of the U.S. find Baldwin County attractive for relocation.

- Monster.com Cost of Living Index: 62 out of 100 (US Average).
- Sperlings Cost of Living Index (Fairhope):94.6 out of 100 (US Average).
- ACCRA Cost of Living Index: 90.6 out of 100 (US Average).  
*(Reflects cost differentials for professional and executive households in the top income quintile)*
- Modest housing costs and broad diversity of housing in Baldwin County.
  - Median Price Home: \$165,892  
Source: Alabama Housing Affordability Index, 4th Quarter 2004 Alabama Real Estate Research and Education Center
  - Median Monthly Rent: \$555  
Source: A Baldwin County Housing Needs Assessment, University of Alabama, 2002
- Abundant recreational opportunities.
  - 32 miles of gulf beaches.
  - 26 miles of bay waterfront.
  - Some of the best fresh water and inshore and offshore fishing in the world.
  - 18 championship golf courses located in Baldwin County.
  - Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo with 16 acres of native and exotic animals.
  - Camping at the 6,000 acre Gulf State Park.
  - AA semipro baseball.
  - Pro-football and basketball less than 3 hours away in New Orleans.
- Health care options: 3 hospitals with 284 beds, 2 hospices with 142 beds, 313 physicians, and 75 dentists, 3 wellness centers and 13 health clubs, 2 YMCA's, HMO's available, 6 Industrial Medicine Clinics.
- Over 1,100 restaurants.
- Number of Hotels: 41
  - Conference Rooms: 92
- Regional shopping centers and thriving downtowns.
- EASI Cultural Index for Baldwin County - 152 (US Average – 100).
  - Amateur theater companies, symphony concerts, opera, and numerous festivals, ballet and dance, theater companies, and galleries.
- Public Libraries: 11
  - Volumes: 269,530



# LOCATION CONSIDERATIONS - BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

- Child Care Providers: 47 Licensed Providers in Baldwin County.

- Climate:

Annual Avg. Temp	67.4°	Avg. Annual Snowfall:	0 Inches
Avg. January Temp	51.4°	Avg. Annual Precipitation:	64 Inches
Avg. July Temp	81.8°	Growing Season Range:	230 to 270 Days

- Excellent school system:

Public Schools			
	Schools	Teachers	Students
Elementary	27	815	10,805
Middle	9	516	5,517
High School	5	394	6,097
Vo-Tech	2	32	550

- Stanford Achievement Test scores (measure of academic performance) have been above the national average for the past six years.

SAT Scores, 2003-2004				
		% Tested	Percentile	National Average
Grade 3	Reading	85.50%	58	50
	Language	85.50%	58	50
	Math	85.76%	57	50
Grade 4	Reading	86.48%	70	50
	Language	86.08%	65	50
	Math	86.07%	74	50
Grade 5	Reading	84.06%	69	50
	Language	83.87%	61	50
	Math	83.91%	65	50
	Science	83.80%	71	50
Grade 6	Reading	84.37%	56	50
	Language	84.26%	50	50
	Math	84.87%	58	50
	Soc. Science	84.18%	58	50
Grade 7	Reading	85.99%	65	50
	Language	86.11%	57	50
	Math	86.35%	65	50
	Science	86.21%	65	50
Grade 8	Reading	85.26%	61	50
	Language	85.29%	60	50
	Math	85.32%	63	50

Alabama students in grades 3-8 are given the Stanford Achievement Test each year to measure their academic performance. The national average for the Stanford Achievement Test, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition is 50.

- ACT scores have exceeded state and national for the past eleven years.

ACT Scores, 2003-2004	
Baldwin County	21.1
Alabama	20.3
Nation	20.8

Most students planning to attend college take at least one of several college exams. One of the best known is the ACT.