





What do you get when innovation, opportunity, and excitement converge with location, infrastructure, and workforce?

Conroe, Texas.

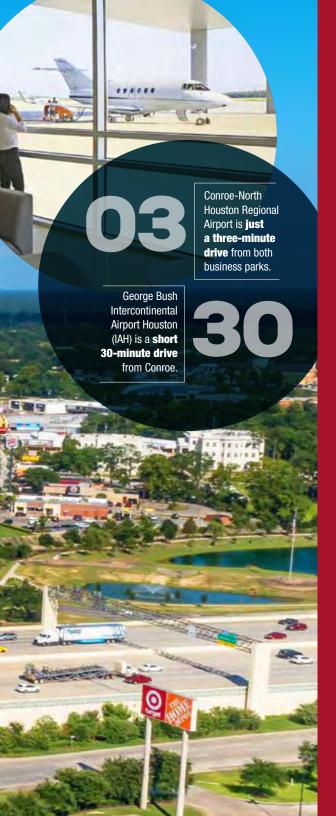
Located 40 miles north of Houston along I-45, Conroe's modern, business-friendly atmosphere attracts a wide variety of industries ranging from tourism and dining to distribution, manufacturing, and professional services. Residents are attracted to new and affordable homes, award-winning educational institutions, beautiful Lake Conroe, easily accessible walking trails, Conroe's charming downtown, and how easy it is to get around. Combined with the proximity to Houston's amenities and gulf coast beaches, it's no wonder that in **Conroe, Texas, More is Made Here.** 



## Conroe is:

- < 1 Hour from Houston
- < 3 Hours from Austin
- < 3 Hours from Dallas/Fort Worth
- < 4 Hours from San Antonio





Conroe is a popular destination for manufacturing and distribution companies due to the community's strategic location and robust infrastructure. These infrastructure advantages extend to the corporate sector as well, given fast broadband speeds and access to a regional airport and the George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston.



#### Road

With an array of state and federal highways serving the area, Conroe offers ease of access to get your products to local and global audiences. Within about a three-hour drive are the Texas cities of Dallas, Austin, and San Antonio, and Lafayette, Louisiana. Within a one-day drive, you could easily reach: El Paso, Texas; Wichita, Kansas; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Fayetteville, Arkansas; New Orleans, Louisiana; Jackson, Mississippi; or Mobile, Alabama.



#### Air

Conroe is an ideal location for companies in need of both regional air transportation and international air travel. Just a three-minute drive from both business parks, Conroe-North Houston Regional Airport provides immediate access to the world through both private and corporate flights. You can land almost any airplane on the 7,500-foot main runway. It has a U.S. Customs facility that can clear customs from international flights without the long lines and hassles associated with larger commercial airports.

In addition, George Bush Intercontinental Airport Houston (IAH) is a short 30-minute drive from the city. With two airports to choose from, corporate air travel is easier than ever!



#### **Port**

The Port of Houston, the second largest tonnage port in the United States, is located 45 miles south of Conroe. It is the largest Gulf Coast container port, ranked first in foreign tonnage and third in total foreign cargo value. International trade is brought closer to home through Conroe's proximity to this world-class port.



#### Rail

Rail service is provided by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe for east/west shipping and by the Union Pacific Railway for materials going north or south.

# **Cost of Living**

Conroe's cost of living is typically about 10% less than the average cost of living across the United States. Affordability is key to Conroe's growth and demographics. Recent college graduates, entry level laborers, retirees, families, and executives can all afford to live here.

#### **Utilities**

#### **Broadband**

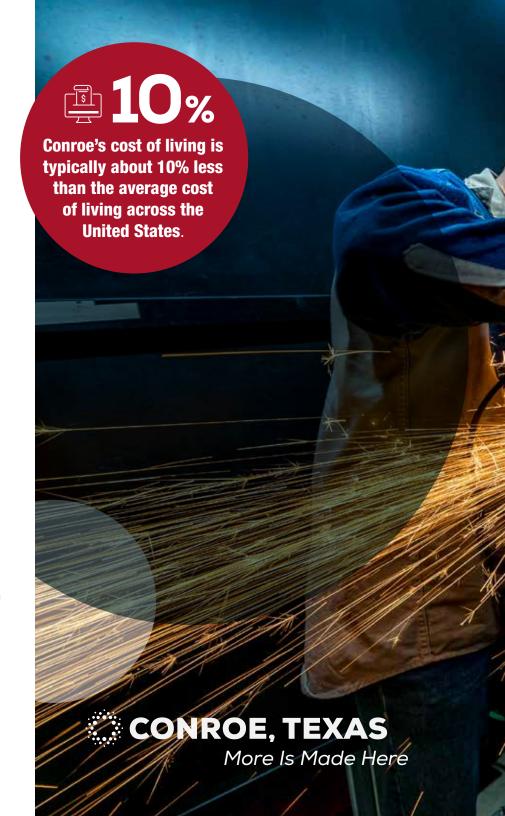
Fast broadband speeds make it possible to work from home in Conroe and to have fast internet at the office. Consolidated Communications maintains a regional office in Conroe with a digital central office and fiberoptic rings throughout the Conroe area, including Conroe Park North. Several points of presence are located in the area, and specialized data lines are available to handle today's high-tech communication demands. Comcast and Suddenlink both have a high penetration rate within the city with all major networks and premium and other channels available, as well as digital cable service and high-speed internet.

#### **Electric and Natural Gas**

Entergy provides Conroe with electricity, and CenterPoint Energy provides natural gas. To provide dependable service at the lowest cost possible, Entergy has diversified its fuel mix using natural gas, hydroelectric, oil, coal, and nuclear power as fuel sources. Entergy Texas' commercial and industrial rates are very competitive when compared to electric rates of other companies in the state. CenterPoint Energy also offers competitive rates throughout the area.

#### **Water and Sewer**

Water is an ample resource in Conroe from both deep underground wells and surface water from Lake Conroe. In addition, the economic development sales tax provides funds for major infrastructure improvements to serve the business community.





**30+ higher education facilities** within 70 miles feed a steady pipeline of highly-skilled graduates who stay in or relocate to Conroe to take advantage of jobs and the opportunity to have a meaningful impact in their community.



**Lone Star College System** 85,000+ students



**Texas A&M University** 71,000+ students



University of Houston 46,000+ students



Sam Houston State University 21,000+ students



**Texas Southern University** 9,700+ students



Prairie View A&M University 8,900+ students



Rice University 7,100+ students



**Houston Baptist University** 3,400+ students



**University of St. Thomas** 3,200+ students





# **Talent Pipeline**

During the past 20 years, the Conroe/Montgomery County economy greatly diversified. Conroe attracted a wealth of manufacturing, retail, health care, biotechnology, construction, and tourism companies.

To support this economic expansion, Conroe developed a highly skilled, educated workforce. Continuing education and workforce training is available through Lone Star College - Conroe Center, making it easy for companies to upskill their workers and for the local workforce to fill in-demand jobs.

# **Top Employment Sectors**

Conroe attracts a wealth of manufacturing, retail, health care, life sciences, construction, and tourism companies. Top professions include office and administrative support; sales; executive level; construction and extraction; and manufacturing.

# THE CONROE EMPLOYEE POOL

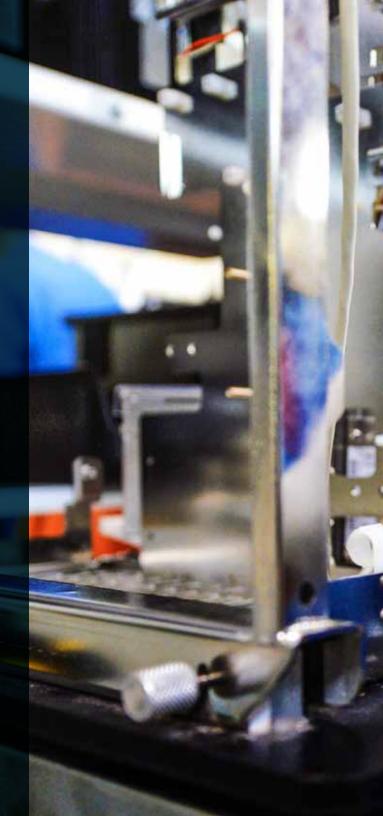
# 1.6M potential

Conroe has a strong workforce and is an excellent location for

growing companies in need of talent. Our workforce resources are aimed at ensuring that each Conroe business can hire the talent they need to grow.

employees within a 40-mile radius









The 1,655-acre industrial park features fourlane concrete streets, city water and sewer, and signage. Located on FM 3083 in Conroe, two miles east of I-45, Houston is only 40 minutes away. The more than 40 companies and 3,000+ employees currently locating within Conroe Park North represent a wide variety of industries, including medical device manufacturing; freight distribution; advanced manufacturing; machining; food processing; specialty packaging; oilfield services; commercial product distribution; warehousing; and higher education.





#### **Business Climate/BRE**

Conroe is ready to do business and actively invests in supporting the business community. The Conroe Economic Development Council provides local companies with the hands-on support they need to solve challenges and capitalize on opportunities quickly. Large or small, all requests for help from company representatives are encouraged and taken seriously by our Business Retention and Expansion staff.

We are here to help with:

- ☑ Discussing any challenges
- Coordinating utilities for development projects or to report issues
- ☑ Giving permitting assistance
- Supporting workforce recruitment and development
- Providing assistance with expansion projects
- ✓ And much more!

# **Connecting and Supporting Employers and Employees**

The Conroe Economic Development Council works with local partners to host an annual job fair where local employers can be matched with prospective employees. It is part of our ongoing programming and is highly effective. In addition, Conroe offers several resources that provide additional services and support ranging from job postings to helping unemployed people prepare to reenter the workforce.





# **Target Industries and Major Employers**

The Conroe Economic Development Council welcomes all businesses to join our fast-growing community. Our convenient location, available commercial property near Houston, infrastructure assets, workforce, and incentives can be leveraged by nearly any industry.

We have identified several target industries that would do exceptionally well in Conroe due to our current business ecosystem. These industries may be particularly poised to benefit from our local and state incentives, deep underground wells, and surface water from Lake Conroe. In addition, the economic development sales tax provides funds for major infrastructure improvements to serve the business community.

Advanced **Manufacturing** 







**Energy Services** 







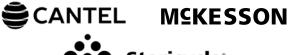
Distribution and Logistics



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**Life Sciences** 





**Professional and Business Services** 













## **Conroe Economic Development Council**

300 W Davis St, Ste 510 Conroe, TX 77301 (936) 538-7118

ConroeEDC.org