

# Columbus IN, A Quintessential Character Town.

**Founded 1828; Consolidated City/County Government 1971; 2019 Population 195,769.**

**LINKS:** <http://www.choosecolumbusga.com/site-selectors/major-employers/p/item/7367/aflac>  
<https://www.columbusga.gov/>

**THE TOWN.** Columbus was settled in the 1820s by James Harrod and Daniel Boone; incorporated on June 28, 1864. The City has a population approaching 50,000. Columbus is approximately 50 miles south of Indianapolis.

The major employer is Cummins Inc.: established 1919, \$25 billion capitalization, #65 on Fortune 500, 62,500 employees worldwide. The primary product is diesel engines. Cummins, Inc. is a big benefactor of the city and its urban development.

J. Irwin Miller, 2nd CEO and a nephew of a co-founder of Cummins Inc., established the Cummins Foundation. It instituted a program that paid the architects' fees for new schools, provided the client selected a firm from a list compiled by the Foundation. The plan was so successful that the Foundation decided to offer such design support to other non-profit and civic organizations. As a result, Columbus is known for its modern architecture and public art.

**SMALL TOWN, BIG NAMES.** Since the early 1940s the high number of notable public buildings and public art in the Columbus area, designed by such individuals as Eero Saarinen, I.M. Pei, Robert Venturi, Cesar Pelli, and Richard Meier, led to Columbus earning the nickname "Athens on the Prairie." Renown public artists such as Henry Moore, Dale Chihuly, Jean Tinguely, and Robert Indiana have contributed to the town's aesthetic ambiance.

**CHARACTER.** Columbus is an interesting, pleasant and prosperous city known for its economic and aesthetic achievements.



The Old and the New.



Flowers with designer festival street barricades, matching utility box and trash can.