

MIAMI™

HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES SECTOR | 2026

Connecting
the World's
Health
Innovators

MEETING & CONVENTIONS IN GREATER MIAMI

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The Greater Miami and Miami Beach region is recognized as a thought leader in life sciences and healthcare innovation, driving transformative change across biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices and health tech. This has catapulted Miami into its status as a premier destination for medical conventions and events, a place where global leaders, practitioners, scientists and organizations come together to shape the future of the sector.

At first glance, the scope of Greater Miami's health and life sciences sector impresses with 2,000 establishments dedicated to the industry. That accounts for 25% of the industry's activity in the entire state of Florida. Moreover, Miami boasts a robust concentration of healthcare institutions including the No. 3 largest hospital in the nation, Jackson Memorial Hospital. These factors explain Miami's position as a global powerhouse in the medical and pharmaceutical fields, correlating to its attractiveness as a location for conferences and meetings.

More than just quantity, it's the quality of Greater Miami's health ecosystem that speaks volumes. The region consistently ranks in the top echelon of American healthcare hubs, home to the nation's No. 1 best hospital for ophthalmology, the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. The University of Miami Health System ranks in the top 25 American hospitals for neurology and neurosurgery while Baptist Health ranks in the top 50 hospitals for diabetes care and endocrinology.

Moreover, the Miami Beach Convention Center (MBCC) ranks No. 15 among top convention centers in the entire world. Following a \$640 million renovation, it anchors a wider meetings landscape that includes 570+ hotels, 66,000 rooms and the upcoming 800-room Grand Hyatt Miami Beach connected to the MBCC, hosting everything from large-scale conferences to small symposiums.

The following pages tell Greater Miami's story as a game changer for a life-saving industry. The destination's pull for companies and talent alike makes it an undeniable draw for the kinds of innovative events that are defining the future of global health.



Executive summary



Planning a health or life sciences event? Here's why you should choose **Greater Miami**.



- 1.**
Prime gateway to North America and Latin America



- 6.**
Proven success hosting World Health Expo and countless more health events



- 2.**
Home to the No. 3 largest hospital the U.S. by bed count: Jackson Memorial Hospital



- 7.**
Exceptional destination appeal and retention for attendees



- 3.**
Dynamic hub for NIH-funded medical research, health tech startups and pharma innovation



- 8.**
Tax-friendly environment with lower costs than other major life sciences markets



- 4.**
Multilingual global workforce that doubles as an attendee pool



- 9.**
Unmatched international airlift and strong local transport infrastructure



- 5.**
Walkable main convention campus, connected to Headquarter hotel opening in 2027



- 10.**
Eco-friendly, Green Key-certified hotels and convention centers

Miami by the numbers



no. 2

LARGEST MEDICAL DISTRICT IN U.S.
MIAMI HEALTH DISTRICT
(Miami-Dade Beacon Council, 2026)

2,000+

ESTABLISHMENTS IN HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES
25% of all establishments in Florida



no. 1

U.S. HOSPITAL FOR OPHTHALMOLOGY
BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE
(U.S. News, 2025)

top 25

U.S. HOSPITAL FOR NEUROLOGY & NEUROSURGERY
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI HEALTH SYSTEM
(U.S. News, 2025)



top 50

U.S. HOSPITAL FOR DIABETES AND ENDOCRINOLOGY
BAPTIST HEALTH
(U.S. News, 2025)



Miami by the numbers



no. 15

BEST CONVENTION CENTER WORLDWIDE
MIAMI BEACH CONVENTION CENTER

800 *room*

HEADQUARTER HOTEL OPENING IN 2027
GRAND HYATT MIAMI BEACH



170

**NONSTOP CONNECTIONS TO
CITIES WORLDWIDE**
MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (MIA)

20,000+

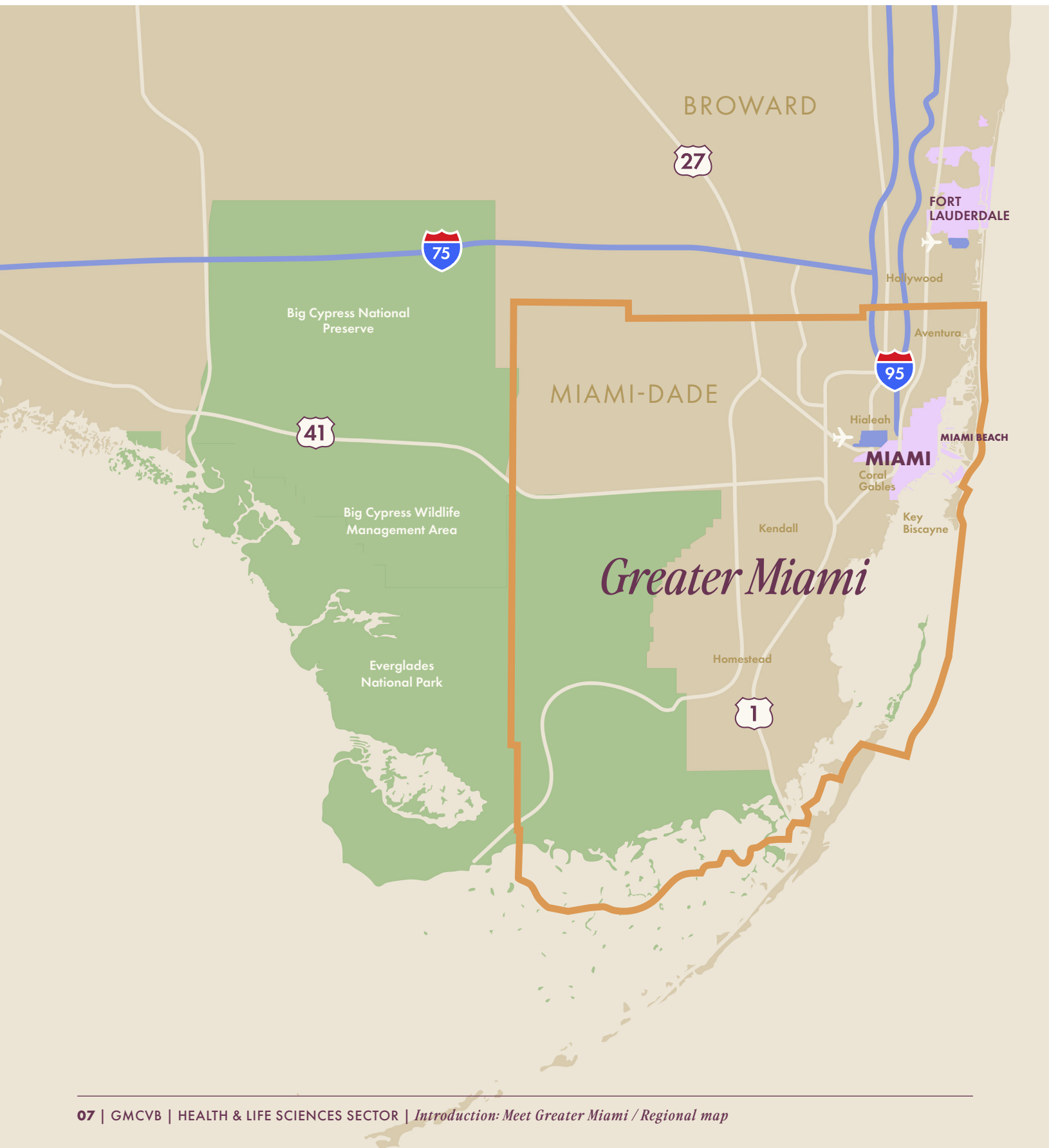
eMERGE AMERICAS ATTENDEES EACH YEAR
INCLUDING eMERGE HEALTH PLATFORM



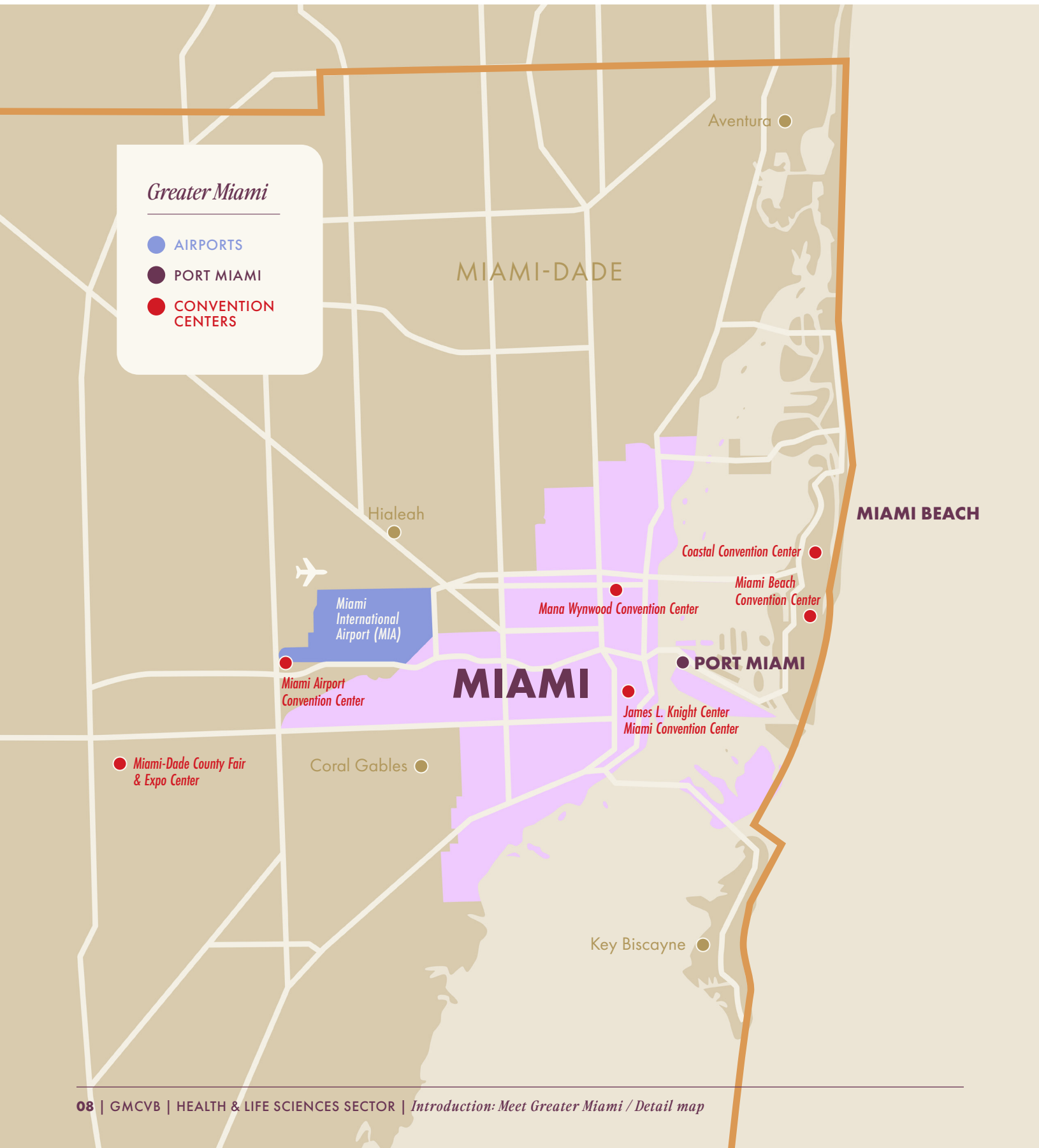
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LANGUAGES SPOKEN IN GREATER MIAMI

Meet Greater Miami / *Regional map*



Meet Greater Miami / *Detail map*



Global air access



Getting to Greater Miami is easy from virtually anywhere in the world. **Miami International Airport (MIA)** offers nonstop service to 170 cities worldwide, making it one of the most globally connected airports in the U.S. and the undisputed gateway between North America and Latin America. Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) is also located in the region, providing additional travel options. Furthermore, smaller airports like Miami-Opa Locka Executive Airport (OPF) and Miami Executive Airport (TMB, formerly known as Kendall Tamiami) are often used by air ambulances, helicopters and elite private patients flying in from international markets.



When it comes to air lift, Miami leads or matches every compared metro area in flight frequency to major U.S. business hubs, with 552 weekly flights to New York, D.C., 269 to Atlanta, 239 to Washington and 238 to Chicago. Where Miami truly separates itself is in connectivity to Latin America. The region offers 91 weekly flights to Bogotá, 58 to Mexico City, 50 to Lima, 49 to Panama City and 41 to São Paulo — volumes that dwarf every other metro area in the competitive set. For technology conferences drawing speakers, sponsors and attendees from across the hemisphere, Greater Miami’s connectivity delivers a decisive advantage.

AIRPORT AVAILABILITY: REGIONAL COMPARISON

	Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL Metro Area	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metro Area	New Orleans-Metairie, LA Metro Area	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area	San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area
Number of major airports	2	1	1	2	1	3



AIR LIFT COMPARISON

	Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL Metro Area	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metro Area	New Orleans- Metairie, LA Metro Area	Philadelphia- Camden- Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area	San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area	Washington- Arlington- Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area
Weekly flights to NYC	552	333	70	46	72	295
Weekly flights to Chicago	238	175	73	123	93	276
Weekly flights to Atlanta	269	N/A	67	124	39	266
Weekly flights to Los Angeles	102	68	23	35	42	100
Weekly flights to Houston	164	148	105	36	54	174
Weekly flights to Philadelphia	129	98	22	N/A	21	35
Weekly flights to Washington D.C.	239	269	73	52	58	174
Weekly flights to Mexico City	58	14	0	6	0	14
Weekly flights to Panama City	49	6	0	0	3	15
Weekly flights to Bogotá	91	7	0	0	0	11
Weekly flights to São Paulo	41	10	0	0	0	7
Weekly flights to Lima	50	8	0	0	0	0



Meeting advantages

Greater Miami's meetings infrastructure is built for scale, flexibility and impact. With 570+ hotels and 66,000 rooms across the region, the destination can accommodate events of any size — from intimate executive retreats to large-scale conventions. Some of the world's most renowned hospitality brands operate their flagship hotels in this ecosystem, with hundreds of rooms and best-in-class amenities. And that capacity is only growing: the 800-room Grand Hyatt Miami Beach, opening late 2027, will serve as a full-service headquarter hotel connected directly to the Miami Beach Convention Center. The result will be a seamless campus experience, perfect for event planners coordinating large programs.

Home to gatherings like the World Health Expo and eMerge Americas, Miami consistently draws global audiences and fosters the kind of cross-pollination between medical professionals that sparks innovation

and meaningful networking. Whether you're hosting a high-powered board meeting, a major conference or an incentive program, Miami's energy turns every event into an experience worth remembering.

And planners don't have to go it alone. The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau provides end-to-end services at no cost — from venue sourcing and site visits to attendance marketing, offsite planning, branded promotional assets and supplier connections. It's a dedicated partnership from the moment you submit an RFP to the day your attendees head home.



*Miami's energy
turns every event into
an experience worth
remembering.*

New developments



Greater Miami's skyline is being reshaped by investments that signal where the destination is headed. From supertall towers and mixed-use mega-developments to high-speed rail and world-class sports infrastructure, these projects are redefining the region's physical landscape and reinforcing its standing as one of the most ambitious metros in the country.



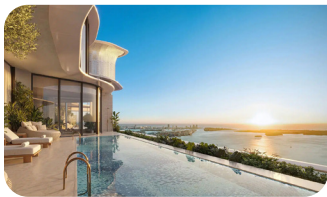
GRAND HYATT MIAMI BEACH

800-room, 48-suite hotel connected to Miami Beach Convention Center. Opening in 2027.



BRICKELL CITY CENTRE

A premier mixed-use hub in Brickell; expansion underway.



MANDARIN ORIENTAL HOTEL & BRANDED RESIDENCES

Two-tower project in Brickell Key. Under construction.



BAL HARBOUR SHOPS

Expanding with 250,000 sq. ft. of new luxury retail and dining.



AMAN MIAMI BEACH

A new development joining the luxury wave in Miami Beach.



REEFLINE

7-mile underwater sculpture park along Miami Beach. Opened in 2025.



MIAMI FREEDOM PARK

131-acre district with Inter Miami's stadium. Opened in 2026.



UNDERLINE

120-acre, 10-mile urban trail below Miami's Metrorail. Completion 2026.



MIAMI WORLDCENTER

A \$6B, 27-acre downtown mega-development. Opened in 2025.

New developments



Infrastructure & transportation



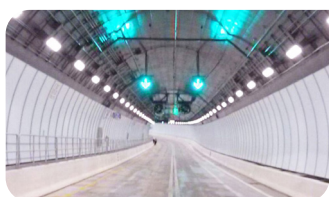
I-395 SIGNATURE BRIDGE

A \$866M bridge and interchange reconstruction. Completion 2029.



PORTMIAMI

Ongoing expansion and dredging projects.



PORTMIAMI TUNNEL

Toll-free, 4,200-foot undersea tunnel between MacArthur Causeway and PortMiami.



MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

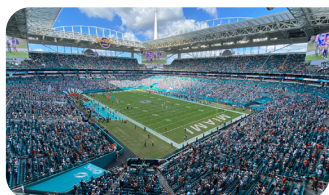
New \$600M Concourse K expansion. Completion 2029.



BRIGHTLINE

High-speed rail connecting Greater Miami to Orlando in 3.5 hours.

Sports, events & entertainment infrastructure



HARD ROCK STADIUM

Home to F1 Miami Grand Prix, World Cup 2026. Undergoing upgrades.



MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AUTODROME

Purpose-built F1 circuit around Hard Rock Stadium.



NU STADIUM AT MIAMI FREEDOM PARK

Inter Miami CF's permanent 25,000-seat home. Opened in 2026.



Demographics and talent

Great industry ecosystems are built by great people, and Greater Miami's workforce is brimming with both diversity and dynamism. More than 6.2 million people live in the Miami metro area, with a population growth rate of 8.2% that outpaces competitor metros like San Diego, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. Prime working age residents (ages 20–34) total at more than 1.1 million, accounting for 18.48% of Miami's population.

One of Miami's defining characteristics is the global character of its workforce. Approximately 54% of the population is foreign-born, making it one of the most cosmopolitan metros in the U.S. And 75% of residents speak a language other than English at a native level, with 104 total languages spoken in the community.

That linguistic range is the inverse of the national picture, with 78% of Americans speaking only English at home. For conference organizers drawing international audiences, this multilingual and multicultural talent base is a powerful asset.

Miami's labor market is also compelling. The metro's labor force participation rate of 63.7% exceeds both the Florida state average (59.3%) and the national average (63.0%). With a median population age younger than the Florida state average, Miami is a magnet for ambitious early- and mid-career professionals.

More than 6.2 million people live in the Miami metro area, with a population growth rate of 8.2% that outpaces competitor metros like San Diego, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.





DEMOGRAPHICS: REGIONAL COMPARISON

	Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL Metro Area	New Orleans- Metairie, LA Metro Area	Philadelphia- Camden- Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area	San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area	Washington- Arlington- Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area
Population (2024)	6,249,291	981,662	6,272,014	3,288,774	6,318,377
5-year growth (2019-2024)	2.6%	-22.6%	3.2%	-0.8%	2.0%
10-year growth (2014-2024)	8.2%	-20.0%	4.3%	3.3%	7.8%

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

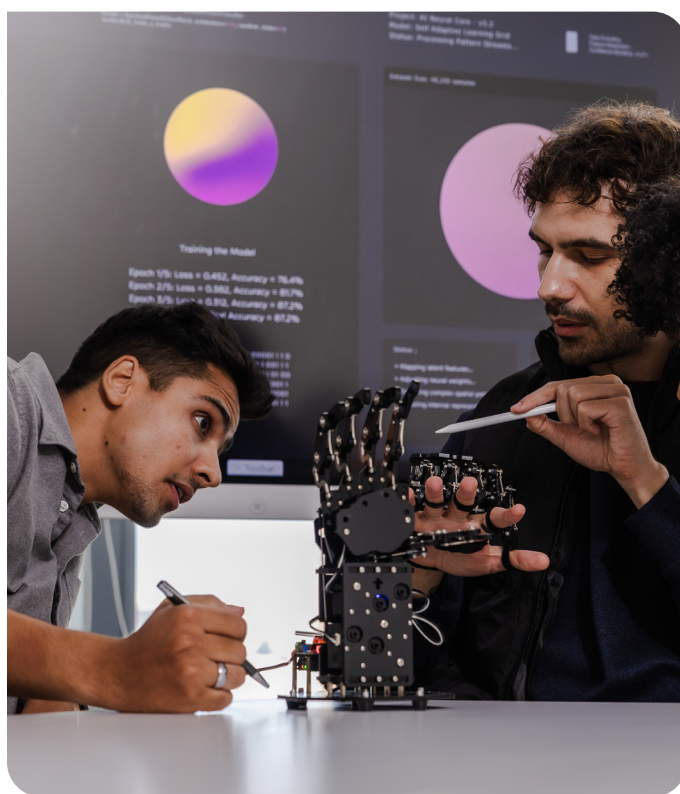
	Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL Metro Area	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metro Area	New Orleans-Metairie, LA Metro Area
Labor force participation rate (2024)	63.7%	59.3%	63.0%

The education ecosystem in Greater Miami delivers a steady supply of skilled talent, from world-class universities to specialized workforce programs. As a result, approximately **39% of the MSA population holds a bachelor's degree or higher**, exceeding both state and national averages.

It starts early. Miami-Dade County Public Schools is the third-largest school district in the U.S., serving 337,100 students across 552 schools with a 94% graduation rate (compared to 86% nationally). The district offers 370+ magnet programs that specialize in STEM, the arts and bilingual education, giving students a head start in fields that will shape the future.

At the university level, Greater Miami is home to 13 major higher education institutions enrolling more than 200,000 students. Their collective graduation rate of 67% sits four points above the national average. Anchoring the system are the University of Miami, ranked in the top 100 nationally, and Florida International University, ranked 4th among public universities. Together, the region's institutions produce 1,700+ computer science graduates and 7,000+ health professions graduates each year, feeding directly into Miami's most dynamic industries.

That pipeline is also increasingly global. More than 40,000 international students from 160+ countries study in the region, bringing perspectives and connections that enrich the local talent pool and reinforce Miami's position as a gateway for cross-border business.



*At the university level,
Greater Miami is home to
13 major higher education
institutions enrolling more
than 200,000 students.*



GREATER MIAMI EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND PIPELINE

INSTITUTIONS	Annual Enrollment (2023-2024)	Annual Degree Completions (2023-2024)
University of Florida	51,593	18,730
Florida International University	47,353	16,183
Miami Dade College	42,920	20,512
Keiser University	30,682	5,801
Florida Atlantic University	27,707	8,917
Nova Southeastern University	19,894	6,603
University of Miami	19,395	5,905
Barry University	5,601	1,815
St. Thomas University	4,789	1,403
Lynn University	3,729	954
Palm Beach Atlantic University	3,239	704
Everglades University	2,424	513
Florida Memorial University	1,294	134

Culture for everyone



Greater Miami is a destination where business and lifestyle converge in ways few cities can match. With 248 sunny days per year, an average temperature of 74°F, 84 miles of Atlantic coastline and access to more than 1.1 million acres of parks and beaches, the region offers built-in incentives for attendees before they even check the agenda.

Yet it's the cultural depth that makes Miami unforgettable. More than 100 galleries and museums anchor a vibrant arts scene — from the Pérez Art Museum Miami and The Bass Museum of Art to the Wynwood Walls, the world's largest outdoor street art museum. Event attendees can venture off-site to catch a breathtaking performance with the acclaimed Miami City Ballet, see a show at the Adrienne Arsht Center or check out a live concert at SoundScape Park. Art, music and performance are all woven into daily life.

And with its large foreign-born population, Miami boasts deep influences from Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe that shape everything from cuisine to architecture. Greater Miami is a global destination like no other, a place that knows how to welcome visitors from all corners of the world. In the medical field, that cultural competency translates into a uniquely hospitable environment for international patients, just as much for international meetings.

Then there's the marquee calendar. Miami serves as a host destination for Formula 1's Miami Grand Prix, the 2026 FIFA World Cup, Art Basel (drawing 80,000+ visitors annually) and world-class tennis and golf tournaments. These events reinforce the region's reputation as a stage for global gatherings of every kind. For conference attendees, that means no shortage of after-hours experiences that extend the energy of an event beyond the meeting room.



Greater Miami is a global destination that knows how to welcome visitors from all corners of the world.



Sector employment

Greater Miami is a strategic host location for health and life sciences industry events thanks to its booming talent pool. With more than 186,000 people employed across life sciences firms and healthcare institutions (source: Miami-Dade Beacon Council 2026), the destination offers ample opportunity to network and collaborate with local leaders.

Those numbers continue to grow. The Greater Miami region has seen a nearly 50% increase in life sciences employment in the past decade, far outpacing the national average. In just the last five years, regional growth surged at 27% while national averages grew at a more modest 18%.

For more than 7,000 locally-educated university graduates in health programs seeking first employment, it's an obvious choice to stay in Miami. It's equally

attractive for established professionals in other metropolitan areas hoping to advance their careers. The massive concentration of health and life sciences research centers combined with Miami's connectivity and quality of life continue to draw new talent to the region. All this translates into a vibrant pool of potential attendees for medical and life sciences industry events to pull from.

The Greater Miami region has seen a nearly 50% increase in life sciences employment in the past decade.





Sector establishments

Rising employment relies on a solid business ecosystem, attracting companies that support local workers. Greater Miami succeeds in maintaining a well-populated and evolving health and life sciences industry. The region accounts for more than 25% of Florida’s health and life sciences companies, tallying more than 2,300 establishments — and counting.

Looking at the national landscape, Greater Miami’s ecosystem is larger than all competitor metro areas except for Washington DC. Its five-year growth (30%) and 10-year growth (46%) are comparable or better than New Orleans, Philadelphia and San Diego.

With estimated annual sales exceeding \$4 billion from bioscience firms in the Miami area, the region is witnessing a surge in job creation and economic impact, further solidifying its status as a critical hub for innovation in health and life sciences.

TECH SECTOR ESTABLISHMENTS: REGIONAL COMPARISON

	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL Metro Area	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metro Area	New Orleans-Metairie, LA Metro Area	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area	San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area	United States
Health & Life Sciences Sector establishments (2024)	2,327	1,430	378	1,919	2,920	8,061	120,703



Healthcare ecosystem / *Health institutions in Miami*



In 2025, the National Institutes of Health awarded \$928 million in funding to Florida researchers, with the University of Miami and Florida International University as the top recipients. In turn, that funding has supported nearly 15,000 jobs and generated about \$3 billion in new economic activity. These numbers paint a picture of a regional ecosystem that's at the leading edge of multiple fields.

HEALTH INSTITUTIONS IN MIAMI



MAJOR HOSPITALS & HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

Baptist Health South Florida, Mount Sinai Medical Center, University of Miami Health System, Jackson Health System, Nicklaus Children's Hospital

MEDICAL SCHOOLS

UM's Miller School of Medicine, Florida International University's Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine



RESEARCH INSTITUTES & SPECIALTY TREATMENT CENTERS

UM's Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, UM's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, UF's Scripps Institute, Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, Miami Clinical and Translational Science Institute, Baptist Health's Miami Cancer Institute with Memorial Sloan Kettering, Nicklaus Children's Shaham & Blood Disorders Institute, Jackson Health's Miami Transplant Institute, Mount Sinai's Berman Comprehensive Cancer Center

Global footprint



Greater Miami attracts health and life science brands from around the world. From global giants like Medtronic and Novartis to homegrown companies like OPKO Health, industry innovators leverage Miami's ecosystem to push technological boundaries — incorporating AI and other advanced solutions that are redefining medical treatment and care.

Miami's proximity to Latin America enhances its appeal as a gateway for international growth and collaboration, attracting life science companies seeking access to both U.S. and hemispheric markets. In total, some 1,200 multinational companies have established their Latin American and Caribbean operations headquarters in Miami-Dade County. With more than 80 foreign consulates, trade offices and bi-national chambers of commerce, Miami offers diplomatic and commercial networks that facilitate international business connections and foreign investment.

Some 1,200 multinational companies have established Latin American and Caribbean operations headquarters in Miami-Dade County.

Meanwhile, many of Miami's largest healthcare organizations host dedicated international services departments, such as Jackson Health, University of Miami, Baptist Health, Nicklaus Children's, HCA Florida Mercy and Mount Sinai. These departments provide concierge-level services to international patients who come to the Miami region for top-notch care — services that range from travel arrangements to air ambulances and ground transport to hotels for family members.

Recent globally attended conferences make it clear that Greater Miami is attracting the biggest names in health and life sciences. Miami is a host destination for the World Health Expo, a premier event uniting healthcare innovators, investors and industry leaders. The BIO Investment and Growth Summit, a CEO and investor conference for biotechnology executives, launched in Miami in 2026. These fit into a larger calendar of events that includes eMerge Americas, the Global Aesthetics Conference, the Business of Health Care Conference 2026 and LSX Investival Showcase USA.





Incentives and taxes

Florida's tax structure is among the most business-friendly in the U.S., translating into bottom-line advantages for meeting planners and the clients they serve.

Neither the state of Florida nor Miami-Dade County levy individual income taxes, so employees working in Greater Miami retain more of their earnings. The state's corporate income tax rate sits at a competitive 5.5%, and there is no estate or inheritance tax. Florida does not tax capital stock, and a combined state and county sales tax rate of just 7% keeps costs manageable for both businesses and consumers. It's this powerful combination that has helped Florida hold the No. 4 spot on the Tax Foundation's Business Tax Climate Index every year since 2016.

For companies considering expansion or relocation, Miami-Dade County offers targeted incentives through the Beacon Council, including the Targeted Jobs Incentive Fund, which provides tax refunds to businesses in high-value industries that create at least 10 new full-time jobs. Workforce training programs like Florida Flex, Incumbent Worker Training and On-The-Job Training offer grants and reimbursements that reduce the cost of scaling a team locally.

And for event planners specifically, the GMCVB is putting real dollars on the table. In honor of the upcoming Grand Hyatt Miami Beach, the bureau has unlocked a multimillion-dollar destination-wide incentive pool — available exclusively to the first 10 planners who book the MBCC together with the new headquarter hotel.



Florida has held the No. 4 spot on the Tax Foundation's Business Tax Climate Index every year since 2016.



Pioneering breakthroughs

Miami is home to a **flourishing landscape of startups** revolutionizing healthcare delivery through technology and innovation.

Companies like Modern Trials are deploying patient data integration to streamline clinical trials, while Triangulate Labs has developed a novel platform to enhance dermatological assessments. Notably, Intrivo has established itself as a leading player in Covid-19 testing, recognized for highly accurate rapid testing.

This innovative spirit drives Miami's health and life sciences industry forward, showcasing the region's commitment to advancing healthcare technologies. That same spirit has attracted rising venture capital funding in the Miami area, fueling startups that are transforming patient care and accelerating clinical research.

The University of Miami's U Innovation program provides a case study of how to fast track the translation of research into practice, coordinated by the university's Office of Technology Transfer and its Wallace H. Coulter Center for Translational Research in partnership with Converge Miami. Researchers and clinical professionals, as well as their students and postdoctoral fellows, are encouraged to think beyond traditional healthcare models and focus on pushing the boundaries of modern medicine.





Nation-leading institutions

At the heart of Miami's health and life sciences innovation are its nationally recognized medical institutions. Numerous hospitals, medical schools, research facilities and laboratories anchor the destination's health innovation ecosystem. Together, they represent a community of some of the nation's brightest, most celebrated minds in medicine. They also create a fertile environment for companies pushing the boundaries AI, digital health, personalized medicine and beyond.

The University of Miami's medical campus spans roughly 70 acres inside the larger 153-acre University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center complex. It includes UHealth Tower, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute (the nation's top ophthalmology hospital) and Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (among the U.S.'s top 50 cancer hospitals). It sits alongside partner institutions such as Jackson Memorial Hospital (third-largest in the U.S.), Holtz Children's Hospital and the Miami VA Medical Center. Anchoring this hub is the University of Miami's Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, a cornerstone of the region's academic medicine ecosystem. Together with UHealth and its affiliates, the school drives clinical care, physician training and biomedical research.

Luminary physicians and researchers also hold positions at renowned specialty institutions like the Miami Transplant Institute (among the top five transplant centers in the country), Shalom Pediatric Cancer & Blood Disorders Institute, Braman Cancer Center and Miami Cancer Institute (the only member of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Alliance in Florida). Meanwhile, other medical schools in the region like Florida International University are brimming with young doctors as well as the academic faculties who train them.

In brief, these institutions showcase why Greater Miami stands among the top U.S. destinations for medical professionals at the forefront in their fields. They provide a vast pool of experts who can fill the speaker list for medical conferences and board meetings.



Greater Miami stands among the top U.S. destinations for medical professionals at the forefront in their fields.



Local partner networks

A strong culture of public and private partnerships fuels Miami's health and life sciences innovation. Economic development organizations, nonprofit initiatives and industry-led communities collectively work to connect founders, researchers, investors, healthcare leaders and public agencies. For conference organizers, that means access to a broad bench of potential speakers, institutional partners and engaged local participants.



MIAMI-DADE INNOVATION AUTHORITY — Founded in 2023, the Miami-Dade Innovation Authority bridges gaps between private tech innovators and the public sector by funding and piloting commercial solutions to address pressing regional infrastructure, economic and civic challenges.



MIAMI-DADE BEACON COUNCIL'S LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTHCARE ADVISORY COUNCIL — Established as a key initiative by the Beacon Council, this advisory group unites local medical and business leaders. It shapes regional strategy and policy to strengthen Miami's position as a life sciences hub.



MIA BIO — This local collective is focused on building the long-term infrastructure of the Miami area's biotech sector, from ecosystem mapping and lab space to talent development.



MIAMI BIOTECH COLLECTIVE — A newcomer founded in 2025, the Miami Biotech Collective is the region's largest professional network for life sciences leaders. It convenes biotech founders, executives, academic researchers and venture capitalists to cultivate local talent, share strategic capital and accelerate regional industry growth.



CONVERGE MIAMI — Opened in 2011 as the Life Science & Technology Park, Converge Miami is a prominent facility in Miami's health ecosystem. It serves as a physical hub for startups, established companies and University of Miami programs, with state-of-the-art lab and office space that supports commercialization and collaboration.



International by nature

Globe-spanning flight routes. Demographic and cultural diversity. A multinational business climate. Put it all together, and you get **Greater Miami — a destination that's global in its DNA.** This is a place that few others on the planet can rival as a destination for international meetings and events.

The air lift story bears repeating. Delivering nonstop service to 170 cities worldwide, Miami International Airport (MIA) is the second-busiest airport in the U.S. when it comes to transporting international passengers. In 2025 alone, the airport served 24.8 million international travelers and 30.5 million domestic passengers, for a combined total of 55.3 million. Miami's connectivity to Latin America stands head and shoulders above other U.S. air hubs. Every week, Greater Miami airports handle dozens of flights to Mexico City, São Paulo, Bogotá, Panama City, Lima and other destinations south of the United States. Looking eastward across the Atlantic,



Miami also boasts strong appeal in Europe's major markets. From 2020 to 2025, the number of overnight visitors in Greater Miami hailing from the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy and France all consistently increased year-over-year. It helps a great deal that MIA offers direct flights to London Heathrow, Rome, Madrid and Barcelona.

Or take demographics. This white paper has covered how 54% of Miami's population is foreign-born, creating a kaleidoscope of vibrant cultures, languages, neighborhoods and cuisines. The region is a tapestry of

104 spoken languages, with 75% of residents speaking a foreign language at a native level. For international meeting planners, that means attendees arrive in a destination where multilingualism and cultural fluency are the norm. Visitors from virtually any country can feel at home here.

These advantages play a major role in shaping Greater Miami's globalized business landscape across industries. Many of the world's most recognizable brands flock to the region, running the gamut from Microsoft, Apple and Nvidia, to JPMorgan Chase and Goldman Sachs, to Medtronic and Novartis. Miami-Dade County hosts the Latin American and Caribbean operations headquarters for 1,200 global companies. Top global organizations feed on Miami's cosmopolitan energy, and in turn generate an atmosphere that's unlike any other in the U.S.

It's no wonder so many industry-leading conferences are drawn to Greater Miami. Here, you can meet the whole world in one place.





Sustainability

As a meetings destination, Greater Miami is as sustainable as it is dynamic. The GMCVB aligns its tourism strategy with five United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: promoting decent work and economic growth; reducing inequalities; developing sustainable cities; ensuring responsible consumption; and protecting life below water. In 2024, the GMCVB became the first U.S. destination marketing organization to partner with Green Key Global, offering hotel partners a 55% discount on eco-rating certification. More than 70 properties have already enrolled, giving planners a growing network of sustainably verified accommodations.

Here, the Miami Beach Convention Center leads by example. The LEED Silver-certified facility has earned a 2025 Gold Certificate from the Events Industry Council for Sustainability and Social Impact alongside a 4 Green Keys rating from Green Key Global. The MBCC is committed to initiatives like food composting and donation, the use of recycled materials and a Conventions CARE donation program. It's at the forefront of a wider set of Miami hotels and venues that pursue eco-friendly practices, LEED certifications and waste-reduction programs — making the region an easy choice for planners needing to meet environmental goals.

Inclusivity is part of the equation too. Greater Miami earned Certified Accessible Destination status through Wheel the World, the MBCC holds IBCCES Certified Autism Center designation and the GMCVB's Black Hospitality Initiative works to expand opportunities for underrepresented communities across the tourism sector.

At the macro level, Miami-Dade County's designation as a ClimateReady Tech Hub underscores the region's role as a living laboratory for resilience innovation. For health and life science conferences exploring the intersection of innovation and sustainability, there may be no more fitting place to convene.

In 2024, the GMCVB became the first U.S. destination marketing organization to partner with Green Key Global.



Case study / *American Academy of Dermatology*



The on-site hotel at the Miami Beach Convention Center sealed the deal for the American Academy of Dermatology to bring its annual meeting back to Miami.

THE EVENT — The American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting will return to Miami Beach in 2029. The massive conference seeks to advance the field of dermatology and support dermatology professionals through education, collaboration and innovation. The primary goal of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) is to provide the highest quality of continuing medical education in the field of dermatology and its related disciplines.

WHY MIAMI — The AAD already knew that Miami was a strategic choice for their event, having hosted previous events that garnered the highest attendance in over a decade. With this success in mind, AAD expressed interest to return as soon as Miami's new headquarter hotel was completed next to the Miami Beach Convention Center. With the new 800-room Grand Hyatt Miami Beach slated to open in 2027, the AAD followed through and booked its 2029 event in Miami.



MAKING IT HAPPEN — The AAD event required a massive commitment of hotel room blocks at over 40+ hotels, including the soon-to-open Grand Hyatt Miami beach. The team at GMCVB is working with event planners to secure the best rates and to meet the specific needs of AAD attendees well ahead of the event in 2029.



Case study / *American Academy of Dermatology*



THE IMPACT — Based on previous AAD events, GMCVB estimates at least 30,660 hotel room nights contributing to more than \$28,000,000 of economic impact. Event planners hope to welcome up to 19,000 attendees, while GMCVB aims to generate incentives that keeps AAD returning thanks to the new headquarter hotel connected to the Miami Beach Convention Center.

WHAT'S NEXT — The event is a major win for the Miami Beach Convention Center's new hotel project, demonstrating the value of having accommodations more accessible to event spaces. By repeatedly selecting Miami, AAD is making it clear that the region provides a powerful draw for health and life science organizations seeking to gather.



Additional resources and statistics



GREATER MIAMI HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES SECTOR WAGES

	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL Metro Area
Annual wages per employee in Health & Life Sciences Sector (2024)	\$112,605
Average weekly wage in Health & Life Sciences Sector (2024)	\$2,165

Additional resources and statistics



HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES SECTOR NAICS CODES

NAICS	Description
325411	Medicinal and Botanical Manufacturing
541720	Research and Development in the Social Sciences and Humanities
423450	Medical, Dental, and Hospital Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers
339112	Surgical and Medical Instrument Manufacturing
325412	Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing
339116	Dental Laboratories
339113	Surgical Appliance and Supplies Manufacturing
339114	Dental Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing
541713	Research and Development in Nanotechnology
541714	Research and Development in Biotechnology (except Nanobiotechnology)
541715	Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)
621991	Blood and Organ Banks
334516	Analytical Laboratory Instrument Manufacturing
334510	Electromedical and Electrotherapeutic Apparatus Manufacturing
334517	Irradiation Apparatus Manufacturing
325413	In-Vitro Diagnostic Substance Manufacturing
325414	Biological Product (except Diagnostic) Manufacturing



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