

5 W P R R E S E A R C H

ISRAELI TECH IN FLORIDA

THE ECONOMIC FOOTPRINT, THE KEY SECTORS,
AND THE OPPORTUNITY AHEAD

April 2026 | 5wpr.com/israeli-tech-florida

Executive Summary

Florida has quietly become one of the most significant beachheads for Israeli technology in the United States. What began as a handful of startups seeking access to U.S. markets through Miami has evolved into a documented economic force: 429 Israeli-founded companies operating across the state, generating \$7.3 billion in gross economic output, and supporting more than 26,500 jobs when supply chain and household spending effects are included.

This report draws on the Florida–Israel Economic Impact Report published by the United States–Israel Business Alliance (USIBA), data from the Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA), Startup Nation Central’s annual ecosystem analysis, Israel Innovation Authority research, and publicly available company and investment data to document the full scope of Israel’s technology footprint in Florida and the opportunity it represents for both economies.

The headline figures are significant. But the more important story is structural: the conditions that made Florida attractive to Israeli companies are deepening, not stabilizing. Zero state income tax, a pro-business regulatory environment, direct flights between Miami and Tel Aviv, a gateway position to Latin American markets, and a growing Israeli and Jewish community have combined to make Florida the fastest-growing U.S. destination for Israeli-founded businesses outside New York and California.

Israel Tech Week 2026, convening in Miami in April, is both a reflection of this momentum and an accelerant of it. This report provides the economic and industry context for understanding what is happening — and where it is going.

Metric	Figure	Source
Israeli-founded companies in Florida	429	USIBA Florida–Israel Economic Impact Report, 2025
Direct jobs created	8,190	USIBA, 2025
Total jobs (incl. supply chain & spending)	26,510	USIBA, 2025
Total gross economic output	\$7.3 billion	USIBA, 2025
Share of Florida Gross State Product	0.46%	USIBA, 2025
Miami-Dade gross output (Israeli-founded)	\$6+ billion	USIBA, 2025
Miami-Dade share of county GDP	2.78%	USIBA, 2025
Avg. wage premium at Israeli-founded firms	12% above FL avg.	USIBA, 2025
FIBA-supported companies	100+	FIBA, 2025

(since 2016)		
Investment raised by FIBA portfolio	\$1+ billion	FIBA, 2025

Source: USIBA Florida–Israel Economic Impact Report 2025; FIBA 2025

Why Florida

The decision by Israeli founders to route their U.S. market entry through Florida rather than defaulting to New York or Silicon Valley reflects a convergence of practical factors that have strengthened over the past decade.

Tax environment

Florida has no state income tax — a significant factor for founders and senior employees relocating from Israel, where personal income tax rates can reach 50%. For a company establishing its U.S. commercial headquarters, the effective compensation cost differential between Florida and New York or California is material.

Gateway to Latin America

Miami’s position as the commercial capital of Latin America gives Israeli companies entering through Florida simultaneous access to the U.S. market and a natural launch point for Latin American expansion — a market that Israeli tech companies, particularly in fintech, agritech, and enterprise software, have increasingly targeted.

Air access

During and after the period of airline service disruptions caused by regional conflict, El Al maintained near-daily direct service between Tel Aviv and Miami. For Israeli founders navigating U.S. market entry while maintaining operations in Israel, that connectivity was decisive. Miami and New York were the two reliably accessible U.S. cities during the most constrained travel period.

Community infrastructure

South Florida has one of the largest Jewish and Israeli communities in the United States. For founders and their families relocating from Israel, the cultural infrastructure — schools, synagogues, community organizations — reduces the friction of relocation in ways that are difficult to quantify but are consistently cited by Israeli founders as a factor in the Florida choice.

Institutional support

The Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA), established in 2016 with state backing, provides Israeli companies with market entry support, investor introductions, and industry partnership connections. Over 100 companies have gone through FIBA’s program, raising more than \$1 billion collectively. Its presence reduces the cost and risk of Florida market entry for Israeli startups that would otherwise have to build those networks independently.

The Economic Footprint: County by County

The USIBA Florida–Israel Economic Impact Report provides the most granular public data available on the geographic distribution of Israeli-founded company activity within Florida. The concentration in South Florida is substantial but not exclusive.

County	Key Metrics	Notes
Miami-Dade	\$6B+ gross output, 2.78% of county GDP, wages 18% above county avg.	Dominant hub; home to majority of FIBA portfolio companies
Palm Beach	760 total jobs, avg. earnings \$87,400 (30% above county avg.)	Growing presence, particularly in fintech and healthtech
Orange County (Orlando)	Avg. earnings \$96,600 (51% above county avg.)	Highest wage premium of any county in the study
Congressional Districts 22, 24, 26, 27	86%+ of total jobs from Israeli-founded companies	All located in South Florida

Source: USIBA Florida–Israel Economic Impact Report 2025

Key Sectors

Israeli technology companies in Florida are concentrated in the sectors where Israeli innovation has established global leadership. The following sector profiles draw on FIBA portfolio data, Israel Tech Week 2026 programming, and Startup Nation Central ecosystem analysis.

Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is the dominant sector for Israeli tech globally and the most established Israeli technology presence in Florida. Israel accounts for more than 20% of global cybersecurity fundraising — the highest share of any country outside the United States. Florida-based Israeli cybersecurity companies serve enterprise clients, financial institutions, healthcare systems, and government agencies. FIBA has run dedicated cybersecurity events in Miami, with companies including Cypire (cybersecurity training platform) and Onyxia (AI-powered security operations) among its portfolio. The Florida state government has identified Israeli cybersecurity technology as a priority for deployment across state agencies and critical infrastructure.

Source: Israel Innovation Authority State of High-Tech 2025; FIBA portfolio data

HealthTech and Life Sciences

Healthcare technology is the second-largest sector for Israeli companies in Florida and the one with the highest concentration of FIBA-supported companies. Examples from the FIBA portfolio include Aeye Health (the only FDA-approved AI-powered diabetic eye exam), BioBeat (AI-powered patient monitoring), and several digital health platforms targeting Florida's large and growing senior population. Israel Tech Week 2026 features a dedicated HealthTech and Life Sciences vertical, reflecting the depth of Israeli innovation in this space. Globally, Israeli companies account for approximately 9-10% of total deep-tech investment in medical devices and life sciences.

Source: FIBA portfolio data; Israel Innovation Authority 2025; USIBA 2025

AgriTech

Israel's global leadership in agricultural technology — born from the necessity of farming in an arid environment — maps directly onto Florida's agricultural economy, one of the largest in the United States. Drip irrigation technology pioneered by Israeli companies is deployed across Florida's agricultural sector. Israeli agritech companies focused on water efficiency, crop protection, and precision agriculture have found Florida a natural U.S. entry market, with FIBA facilitating connections to the state's agricultural industry partners. Israel commands approximately 10% of global agritech investment.

Source: Israel Innovation Authority 2025; FIBA industry data

CleanTech and Energy

Israeli cleantech companies have increasingly targeted Florida as a primary U.S. market given the state's solar energy potential, vulnerability to climate-related disruption, and large commercial real estate base. Apollo Power, which installs solar panels on commercial vehicle fleets including trucks and buses, launched its U.S. operations in Miami in 2024, citing Florida as the most strategically important state for its expansion. EConcrete, whose patented marine infrastructure technology creates stronger and more ecologically beneficial coastal structures, is another FIBA portfolio company with direct relevance to Florida's coastal economy.

Source: Refresh Miami; FIBA portfolio data

FinTech

Miami's emergence as a fintech hub and its gateway position to Latin American financial markets make it a natural fit for Israeli fintech companies. Israel Tech Week 2026 includes a dedicated FinTech vertical. Israeli fintech companies in Florida operate across payments

infrastructure, regulatory technology, and B2B financial data. Creednz, which provides real-time enriched transaction data through APIs, is among the FIBA portfolio companies in this space.

Source: Israel Tech Week 2026 program data; FIBA portfolio

DefenseTech and Dual-Use

Florida's large defense industry presence — the state hosts major U.S. military installations and defense contractors — creates a natural market for Israeli dual-use technology companies. Israel Tech Week 2026 features a DefenseTech and Resilience vertical. FIBA portfolio company Elbit Systems of America operates in Florida. Israeli defense technology exports have been a growth area globally, and Florida's defense ecosystem provides Israeli companies with procurement pathways and partnership opportunities that are difficult to replicate in most other states.

Source: FIBA; Israel Tech Week 2026; USIBA 2025

SpaceTech

USIBA specifically identifies space as one of three high-potential sectors for Israeli-founded startups in Florida, alongside life sciences and defense/homeland security. Florida's Space Coast — home to Kennedy Space Center and a growing commercial space cluster — positions the state as a natural hub for Israeli space technology companies. Israel Tech Week 2026 includes a SpaceTech vertical. Israel has a growing commercial space sector with global ambitions.

Source: USIBA Florida–Israel Economic Impact Report 2025; Israel Tech Week 2026

The Wage Premium: A Quality Signal

One of the most striking findings in the USIBA Florida–Israel Economic Impact Report is the consistent wage premium at Israeli-founded companies relative to local averages. Across Florida, employees at Israeli-founded firms earn 12% more than the state average. In Orange County, the premium reaches 51%. In Palm Beach County, 30%. In Miami-Dade, 18%.

This premium reflects the high-skill, high-technology nature of the jobs Israeli companies create. These are not entry-level service jobs. They are engineering, data science, product management, sales engineering, and executive roles that pay significantly above local market rates. The wage premium is a direct indicator of the quality of economic contribution Israeli-founded companies make to Florida communities.

Source: USIBA Florida–Israel Economic Impact Report 2025

The Infrastructure Behind the Growth

The growth of Israeli tech in Florida has been enabled by a set of institutional relationships that have developed over the past decade and are now reaching critical mass.

- **Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA):** The primary institutional connector between Israeli startups and Florida market entry. State-backed, Tampa-based, with a portfolio of 100+ companies. FIBA's sector focus spans cybersecurity, healthtech, agritech, energy, space, and hospitality technology.
- **Mana Tech Miami-Tel Aviv:** The Mana Group, led by Israeli-born Miami developer Moishe Mana, has launched the Miami-Tel Aviv 2025 initiative to extend its Latin America market entry support infrastructure to Israeli companies, adding another institutional pathway for Florida market entry.
- **Israel Tech Week Miami:** Now in its second year, Israel Tech Week draws Israeli founders, investors, and corporate partners to Miami for a week of curated programming across nine technology verticals. The 2025 edition drew 1,500+ attendees across 150 speakers. The 2026 edition has expanded its partner base and sector coverage.
- **Israeli consular and trade infrastructure:** The Israeli consulate in Miami and trade office infrastructure provide official commercial connectivity between Israeli companies and Florida markets.
- **University partnerships:** Florida universities including FIU and University of Miami have developed research and commercialization partnerships with Israeli academic institutions, creating another pipeline for technology transfer and company formation.

The Opportunity Ahead

\$7.3 billion. That is the gross economic output of Israeli-founded companies in Florida as of 2024 — equivalent to 0.46% of Florida's total Gross State Product, generated by 429 companies employing more than 26,500 people when supply chain and household spending effects are included. It is a number that deserves more attention than it has received. The USIBA Florida-Israel Economic Impact Report identifies three sectors with the highest growth potential for Israeli-founded companies in Florida over the next five years: space technology, life sciences, and defense and homeland security. Each maps onto existing Florida strengths in ways that create structural rather than opportunistic fit.

Beyond sector-specific opportunity, the macro conditions favor continued growth. Florida's population growth — the state has been one of the fastest-growing in the U.S. for a decade — creates expanding markets for consumer and enterprise technology. The state's zero income tax environment has attracted both companies and high-net-worth individuals at a pace that expands the customer and investor base. A newer factor is accelerating the shift. The political climate in New York City — where Zohran Mamdani's rise has introduced a more hostile posture toward the Jewish and Israeli business community — has prompted a notable acceleration of Israeli and Jewish-owned businesses reassessing their U.S. base of operations. Florida, and Miami in particular, has positioned itself as an explicitly welcoming environment. USIBA president Aaron Kaplowitz has noted that Israeli entrepreneurs increasingly describe Florida as a place where they feel comfortable and embraced, and where they feel safe bringing

their families. That perception is translating into business location decisions at a measurable pace. And Israel's ongoing evolution from a startup nation to a scale-up powerhouse — documented in Startup Nation Central's 2024 annual report — means the companies arriving in Florida are increasingly mature, well-funded, and ready to deploy at scale.

The \$7.3 billion economic footprint documented in 2024 is a baseline, not a ceiling. The institutional infrastructure is in place. The sector alignment is clear. The community is established. The trajectory points in one direction.

Sources: USIBA Florida-Israel Economic Impact Report 2025; Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA) 2025; Startup Nation Central 2024 Annual Report; Israel Innovation Authority State of High-Tech 2025; Israel Tech Week 2026 program materials; Refresh Miami; Global Miami Magazine; Times of Israel.

Published by 5WPR | 5wpr.com | press@5wpr.com

5WPR RESEARCH

ISRAELI TECH: THE GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

Key facts. Cited sources. No politics.

Metric	Figure	Source
Israeli tech funding raised in 2024	\$10.6–\$12 billion	Israel Innovation Authority; Startup Nation Central
Israeli tech funding raised H1 2025	\$7.2 billion	Israel Innovation Authority
High-tech share of Israeli GDP	17% (~\$317 billion)	Israel Innovation Authority, 2024
High-tech share of Israeli exports	57% (\$78 billion)	Israel Innovation Authority, H1 2025
Israeli high-tech employees	403,000 (11.5% of workforce)	Israel Innovation Authority, H1 2025
Global startup fundraising rank	5th (after SF, NY, London, Boston)	Israel Innovation Authority 2025
Active deep-tech companies	1,500+	Israel Innovation Authority 2025
Deep-tech investment raised since 2019	\$28 billion	Israel Innovation Authority 2025
Deep-tech rank outside U.S.	1st	Israel Innovation Authority 2025
Share of global cybersecurity fundraising	20%+	Israel Innovation Authority 2025
Share of global agritech investment	~10%	Israel Innovation Authority 2025
Share of global medtech investment	~9–10%	Israel Innovation Authority 2025
AI-focused startups (% of total)	~25%	Wise Money Israel 2025
Israeli AI investment share of total tech	~50%	Wise Money Israel 2025
Largest Israeli tech exit (2025)	\$32B (Wiz to Google/Alphabet)	Calcalist Tech 2025
M&A exits in 2024	~\$12 billion (nearly double 2023)	Startup Nation Central 2024
Israeli tech sector exit value 2025	\$58.8 billion (340% increase)	Wikipedia / multiple sources
NASDAQ-listed Israeli companies	~100+	Multiple sources
U.S.-Israel bilateral trade (2024)	\$50+ billion	U.S. State Dept. 2025
U.S. FDI in Israel	\$45.9 billion	U.S. Dept. of Commerce, 2023

Sectors Where Israeli Innovation Leads Globally

Sector	Global Position	Notable Companies
Cybersecurity	20%+ of global fundraising; consistent top-2 country	Check Point (\$24B+ NASDAQ), Wiz (acq. Google \$32B), CrowdStrike (Israeli co-founders)
AgriTech	~10% of global investment	Netafim (drip irrigation pioneer), Taranis, Kaiima
Digital Health / MedTech	~9–10% of global deep-tech investment	Given Imaging, Itamar Medical, Navina, BioBeat
Enterprise Software	Largest single investment category	Monday.com, WalkMe, Fiverr, Wix
Fintech	Top-5 global fintech hub	Payoneer, eToro, Nuvei
DefenseTech / Dual-Use	Global leader in dual-use technology	Elbit Systems, Rafael, IAI commercial spinouts
Autonomous Vehicles / AI	Significant global share	Mobileye (Intel, \$17B IPO), OrCam
Water / CleanTech	Pioneer in water tech globally	IDE Technologies, Netafim, Apollo Power

Source: Israel Innovation Authority State of High-Tech 2025; Startup Nation Central 2024; multiple public sources

Why Israeli Tech Punches Above Its Weight

Factor	Context
R&D investment	Israel invests ~5-6% of GDP in R&D — highest ratio in the world (OECD data)
Military tech pipeline	Mandatory IDF service creates engineering talent pool; Units 8200 and others are world-class technology incubators
University output	Technion, Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University rank among global leaders in engineering and computer science
Startup density	More NASDAQ-listed companies per capita than any country outside the U.S.
VC ecosystem	270 VC funds invested in Israeli companies in 2024; major U.S. funds maintain permanent Tel Aviv offices
Government support	Israel Innovation Authority funds early-stage R&D; national AI program of \$250M+; supercomputer investment planned
Global diaspora network	Israeli founders and alumni networks in Silicon Valley, New York, London, and Miami create global distribution for Israeli innovation

Source: Israel Innovation Authority 2025; OECD; Startup Nation Central 2024

This document is produced by 5WPR Research for informational purposes. All figures sourced from named public reports.

5WPR | [5wpr.com](https://www.5wpr.com) | press@5wpr.com

5WPR AND ISRAELI TECH

5WPR AND ISRAELI TECH

Short section for 5wpr.com/israeli-tech — keep it tight

5WPR and Israeli Tech

Israeli technology companies entering the U.S. market face a communications environment that is unfamiliar, fast-moving, and high-stakes. The media relationships, investor networks, regulatory landscapes, and brand-building strategies that work in Tel Aviv do not automatically translate to New York, Miami, or San Francisco. Getting the communications right — from market entry through scale — requires a firm that understands both sides of that equation.

5WPR is one of the largest independent PR firms in the United States. The firm works with Israeli-founded technology companies on U.S. market entry, brand-building, investor communications, and crisis management — with an institutional understanding of Israeli tech culture that most U.S. agencies cannot replicate.

What 5WPR Offers

- U.S. media strategy and press relations: Introductions to the Tier 1 technology, business, and vertical press that define U.S. market credibility for technology companies. Wall Street Journal. Bloomberg. TechCrunch. Forbes. Reuters. The outlets that Israeli founders read about U.S. companies — 5WPR builds the relationships that get you in them.
- Executive visibility: Building the founder and CEO profile in U.S. media before and during market entry. Speaking opportunities, op-ed placements, podcast appearances, and industry event positioning that establish the executive as a credible U.S. market voice.
- Investor communications: For Israeli companies raising U.S. capital, communicating credibly to the U.S. investment community requires a narrative that translates Israeli innovation into American investor language. 5WPR builds and deploys that narrative.
- Crisis and reputation management: The U.S. media environment moves faster and is less forgiving than most Israeli founders expect. 5WPR's crisis communications practice — one of the most established in the country — provides the preparation and rapid response capability that protects market entry investments.
- Digital and GEO: U.S. market entry now requires building the digital content infrastructure that shapes how AI-powered search tools describe your brand. 5WPR builds the owned and earned content ecosystem that ensures the first thing U.S. customers, investors, and partners encounter about your company is content you shaped.
- Industry vertical expertise: 5WPR has established practices in the sectors where Israeli tech companies most frequently operate: cybersecurity, healthtech, fintech, enterprise technology, cleantech, and defense/dual-use. That vertical knowledge means faster onboarding and more credible positioning.

The Florida Connection

Israeli-founded companies in Florida generate \$7.3 billion in gross economic output and support more than 26,500 jobs. Miami is the fastest-growing destination for Israeli-founded businesses in the U.S. outside New York and California — a gap that is narrowing. 5WPR's presence and media relationships in Florida give Israeli companies entering through Miami local market intelligence alongside national platform.

5WPR's presence and media relationships in Florida complement its New York headquarters, giving Israeli companies entering through Miami the local market intelligence and press relationships that matter at market entry — alongside the national platform that defines U.S. scale.

Research

Published research for Israeli founders and investors:

- Israeli Tech in Florida: The Economic Footprint, the Key Sectors, and the Opportunity Ahead — 5wpr.com/israeli-tech-florida
- Israeli Tech: The Global Footprint (1-pager) — 5wpr.com/israeli-tech-global
- Gaming Trust Index 2026 — 5wpr.com/research/gaming-trust-index-2026

Get in Touch

Israeli tech companies entering the U.S. market, raising U.S. capital, or managing U.S. communications are welcome to contact 5WPR for a conversation about communications strategy.

press@5wpr.com | 5wpr.com | New York City

5WPR | press@5wpr.com | 5wpr.com | 5wpr.net