

# VIRGINIA'S GROWTH ALLIANCE COMMUNITY PROFILE

**VIRGINIA'S GROWTH ALLIANCE**  
WE CULTIVATE SUCCESS

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## VIRGINIA'S GROWTH ALLIANCE

is located in south central Virginia, bordered on the south by Lake Gaston, Buggs Island Lake, and the state of North Carolina. Vast natural resources and easy accessibility to metro areas enables extensive opportunity. The town of South Hill is 75 miles southwest of the state capitol of Richmond; 180 miles south of Washington D.C.; and 115 miles west of Norfolk.

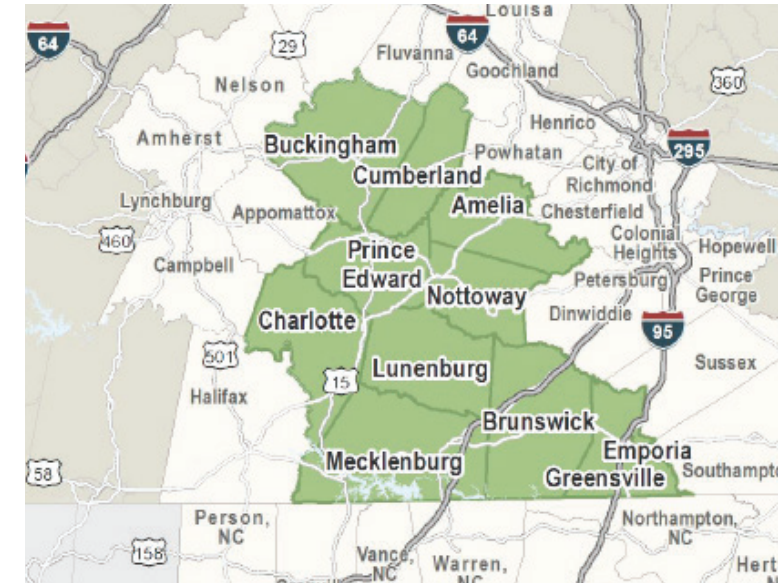
### Government

VGA includes Amelia, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Greensville, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward Counties and the city of Emporia. Each county has a board of supervisors and county administrator. Emporia has a city council and city manager. Each locality has a comprehensive plan and zoning and subdivision ordinances. Twenty-three incorporated towns are in the region.

### Taxes

Localities in Virginia collect a 1% sales tax and do not tax other items taxed at the State level. Counties and cities are separate taxing entities, so companies pay taxes either to a county or to a city. If located in a town, it pays town and county taxes except for utility taxes which are paid only to the town and the license tax which is paid only to the town unless town law permits the additional collection of a county tax.

Manufacturers pay real estate, machinery and tools, truck and automobile utility, and sales taxes. Nonmanufacturers pay real estate, tangible personal property, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes. They also may pay either a merchants' capital or a license tax.



### Community Facilities

There are 3 main hospitals in the region: Community Memorial Health Center in South Hill, Southern Virginia Regional Medical Center in Emporia, and Centra Southside Community Hospital in Farmville. These hospitals provide short and long-term care, and services in cardiac intensive care, nuclear medicine, physical therapy and radiology. Community Memorial also provides a nurse training program. Private and public medical practitioners throughout the region provide basic physical, dental, optical, and in-house care services. Neighboring regions also have facilities and hospitals easily accessible to residents in the region.

Regional library systems operate numerous branches, and bookmobile services are often provided for more rural residents. Southside Virginia Community College, Longwood University and Hampden-Sydney College offer public access to their libraries.

Approximately 485 places of worship serve primarily Christian faiths. Jewish synagogues are located in Lynchburg and Petersburg.

### Lifestyle

The region is known primarily for outdoor recreational opportunities and is a hunter's and fisherman's paradise. Superior fishing can be found at Modest Creek Lake, Lunenburg Lake, Nottoway Falls Lake, Lee Lake and the Nottoway River (with its reservoir). The Buggs Island Reservoir and Lake Gaston are well known for water sports, boating, fishing, camping, and beautiful lakeside homes.

Longwood Center for the Visual Arts offers a wide variety of educational programs, and showcases various exhibitions throughout the year. The Meherrin River Arts Council brings nationally known performers

## LOCATION

Virginia's Growth Alliance is southwest of Richmond, the state capital, about 75 miles northeast of Raleigh, NC, and 80 miles west of Norfolk. It is also located within 80 miles of Virginia Ports.

## TRANSPORTATION

### Interstates & Highways

I-85, I-95, I-295, I-195, I-64  
Highways including 1, 15, 29, 46, 58, 126, 137, 360, 460

### Freight Rail Services

Buckingham Branch, CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern, Virginia Southern

### Airports

8 General Aviation Airports  
Richmond International  
Raleigh-Durham International  
Lynchburg Regional

### Seaports

Port of Richmond  
Port of Virginia (Multiple Terminals)  
Port of Wilmington, NC

Other Ports  
Richmond-Petersburg,  
Port of Washington - Dulles

to the Greensville/Emporia area. Local residents participate in productions in various local theatres. The Town of South Hill is home to The Colonial Center for Performing Arts, a 400-seat theater with an art gallery and conference center. Metropolitan areas in South Hampton Roads, Richmond, and North Carolina are easily accessible for a wide range of entertainment and cultural offerings.

There are public and private golf courses, and multiple public facilities provide swimming pools and tennis courts, in addition to multi-sport athletic fields for baseball, soccer, and football.

MacCallum-Moore Gardens boasts a collection of 20,000 boxwoods, thousands of azaleas, dogwoods and other flowering shrubs, along with works of art collected from around the world. Prestwold Plantation, built in 1790, is a popular landmark. Walking and historical driving trails include the Tobacco Heritage Trail, the Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail, and the Civil War Trail. The Moton Museum in Farmville honors the courage and sacrifice of Prince Edward County students and families, and their leading role in moving America from segregation toward integration.

## MAJOR EMPLOYERS

- Amcort Pharmaceutical Packaging
- Boars Head Provisions Co. (*Deli style meats*)
- Community Memorial Health Center
- Georgia Pacific (*Wood products*)
- Greensville Correctional Institute
- Microsoft Data Center (*Data housing*)
- Southside Virginia Regional Medical Center
- Southside Virginia Community College
- Longwood University
- Hampden-Sydney College

## HIGHER EDUCATION

- Longwood University & Hampden-Sydney College (*Farmville*)
- Southside Virginia Community College (*3 Campuses*)
- Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (*South Boston*)
- Strayer University (*Chesterfield Campus*)

INCOME  
**\$31,491**  
per capita

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES

- 4 Career and Technical Centers
- 6 VEC Workforce Centers
- 2 Reemployment Centers
- 5 Informational Centers
- 3 Satellite Centers
- 1 Comprehensive Center

UNEMPLOYMENT  
4,012 unemployed Virginia's Growth Alliance  
30,739 including Extended Labor Market  
5.1% Virginia's Growth Alliance  
4.6% Extended Labor Market  
4.0% Statewide

LABOR MARKET 69,976 Civilian Labor Market  
+ Extended Labor Market Area 529,489