VIRGINIA'S GROWTH ALLIANCE COMMUNITY PROFILE

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 Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Greensville, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, 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.

INCOME

$31,491 *(2016)*
per capita

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

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

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES

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

HIGHER EDUCATION

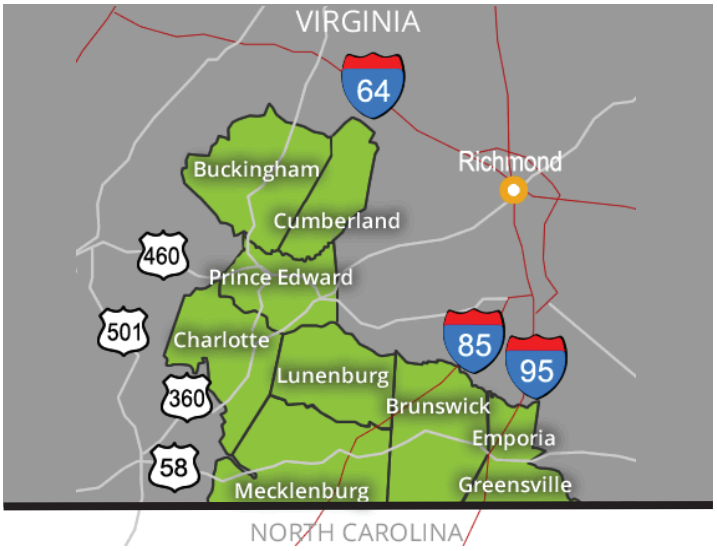
Longwood University & Hampden-Sydney College *(Farmville)*
Southside Virginia Community College *(3 Campuses)*
Southern Virginia Higher Education Center *(South Boston)*
Strayer University *(Chesterfield Campus)*

UNEMPLOYMENT

*4,012 *unemployed Virginia's Growth Alliance*
*26,727 *including Extended Labor Market*
**5.1% Virginia's Growth Alliance
**4.6% Extended Labor Market
***2.9% Statewide *2015 **July 2016 ***July 2019

LABOR MARKET

70,710 Civilian Labor Market
534,433 Extended Labor Market Area



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

Community Facilities

3 main hospitals serve the region: VCU Health Community Memorial Hospital 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 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-More 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. Prestwould 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.

VIRGINIA'S GROWTH ALLIANCE

WE CULTIVATE SUCCESS

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