

LABORSHED STATISTICS

	45 min*	60 min*
Total Population	216,025	459,570
Total Workforce	88,627	189,700
Agribusiness Workers	849	1,875
Hourly Avg. Wage	\$15.24	\$15.47
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.2%
Universities	3	7
Community Colleges	2	4

*Drive time radius from central-most point in region

TAXES

- Notable low 6% corporate income tax rate
- Worker's compensation insurance cost: 50% of national average, third lowest in the nation
- Unemployment insurance tax: 40% of national average, third lowest in the nation
- No franchise or net worth tax
- Right-to-work state; less than 5% unionization rate for private sector

POTENTIAL INCENTIVES

- Agriculture Materials and Equipment Sales and Use Tax Exemptions
- Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) grant program for facilities that produce value-added agricultural or forest products
- Tobacco Region Incentive for Agribusiness Development (TRIAD) creates new market opportunities for farmers and forestland owners
- Virginia Enterprise Zone Incentives
- The State of Virginia has NO TAX on: intangible property, manufacturers' inventory, and corporate aircraft



Agribusiness Companies

within the region

Company Name	Location	Employees
Virginia Produce	Carroll	100-249
Woodgrain Sawmill	Grayson	100-249
Boss Lumber	Galax	<100
Bottomley Farms	Wythe	<100
C & B Lumber	Grayson	<100
Cresthaven Farms	Grayson	<100
Duchess Dairy	Wythe	<100
Grayson Natural Farms	Grayson	<100
Meadow Creek Dairy	Grayson	<100
Musser Lumber	Wythe	<100
Pluck'd	Carroll	<100
Turman Sawmill	Carroll	<100

Hourly Mean Wage

for select agribusiness occupations

Occupation	MRRP	Virginia	US
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$26.64	\$27.54	\$28.41
Logging Equipment Operators	\$25.28	\$25.41	\$27.74
Agricultural Equipment Operators	\$20.06	\$20.60	\$20.44
Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	\$16.84	\$17.59	\$17.58
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	\$17.35	\$18.87	\$19.54

Data: Lightcast 2026.1

AGRIBUSINESS

FARMING, FISHING, & FORESTRY

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

Virginia Tech College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is a widely recognized and respected agricultural school.

Undergraduate and graduate degrees of interest:

- Agribusiness
- Agriculture and Extension Education
- Animal and Poultry Sciences
- Biochemistry
- Crop and Soil Sciences
- Dairy Science
- Food Science and Technology
- Plant Science



Wytheville Community College

- Offers approximately 30 academic programs and Career Readiness Certificate Testing
- Customized workforce training programs

Virginia Highlands Community College

- Provides 45 academic areas of study and Career Readiness Certificate Testing
- Programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Proud partner to local industry

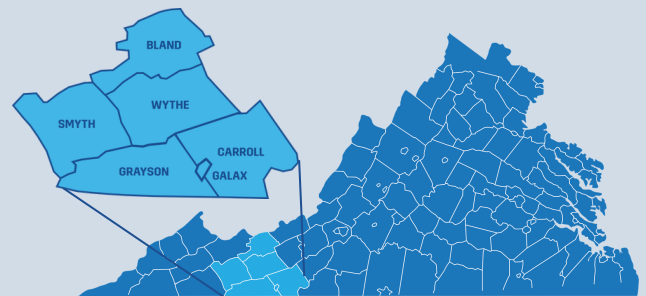


LOGISTICS

Located within a day's drive for more than half the US population, with access to:

- I-81
- I-26 within 30 minutes
- I-77
- I-40 within 60 minutes

Plus, easy access to other infrastructure; Norfolk Southern's main line runs through the region.



AIRPORTS

Tri-Cities Regional Airport (1.5 hours)

Delta, American Airlines, Allegiant Air • Nonstop flights to Atlanta, Charlotte, Orlando, and Tampa

Roanoke Regional Airport (1 hour)

Allegiant Air, American Airlines, Delta, United Airlines
Nonstop flights to Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Orlando, Philadelphia, Washington DC, New York
Piedmont Triad International Airport (<2 hours)
Charlotte-Douglas International Airport (2 hours)



SEAPORTS

Port of Virginia (350 miles/563 km)

Two Class I railroads on-dock (more than 30 miles/48 km of on-dock rail) • Six terminals • 1,864 acres

Port of Charleston (350 miles/563 km)

Port of Savannah (376 miles/605 km)



UTILITIES

Electricity

Appalachian Power - New customers with more than a 1,000-kW load may receive an economic development rate that reduces their demand rate charge by 25% each year for the first five years of operation.

Natural Gas

Atmos Energy, Appalachian Natural Gas

Telecommunications

Heavy-fiber infrastructure to majority of industrial parks and sites. Capacity exceeding 1 gigabit available in many locations. Service providers include Point Broadband, Citizens Co-Op, Comcast, Brightspeed, SEGRA, and the Wired Road Authority.

For Inquiries, Contact:

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