

FOOD AND BEVERAGE PROCESSING

DEMOGRAPHICS

LABOR FORCE 2015	
VIAA Region	87,958
Extended Labor Market Area	442,288
Total	530,246
UNEMPLOYED (2016)	
VIAA Region	4.3%
Extended Labor Market Area	4.7%
UNEMPLOYED (2015)	
VIAA Region	4,765
Extended Labor Market Area	25,999
Total	30,754
UNDEREMPLOYED	
VIAA Region	10,705
Extended Labor Market Area	51,040
Total	61,745

Under 5% unionization rate.

TAXES

- A notable low **6% corporate income tax** rate
- Tax credits for job creation and investment
- Worker's compensation insurance cost: 50% of the national average, third lowest in the nation
- Unemployment insurance tax: 40% of the national average, sixth lowest in the nation
- **No Franchise or Net Worth Tax**
- **Right-to-Work State**

Manufacturing Sales and Use Tax Exemptions

- Tax exemptions include tangible personal property used directly in the product production. Other tax exempt production expenses include machinery, tools, repair parts, fuel, power, energy, materials, and supplies that are used directly in manufacturing or processing products for sale or resale.
- Manufacturers do not pay tax on purchases used for production; distributors do not pay tax on items purchased for resale.
- The State of Virginia has **NO TAX** on: intangible property, manufacturers' inventory, and manufacturers' furniture, fixtures, and corporate aircraft.



Food and Beverage Processing Companies in the Region (within 100-mile radius)

COMPANY NAME	LOCATION	NAICS DESCRIPTION	EMPLOYEES
Case Farms, LLC	Troutman, NC	Poultry Processing	> 500
Pepsi Bottling Group	Wytheville, VA	Soft Drink Manufacturing	> 500
The Hillshire Brands Company	Rural Hall, NC	Animal (except Poultry) Slaughtering	> 500
Wayne Farms, LLC	Dobson, NC	Poultry Processing	> 500
Snack Alliance, Inc.	Bristol, VA	Other Snack Food Manufacturing	250 to 499
Valley Rich Dairy	Roanoke, VA	Fluid Milk Manufacturing	250 to 499
Bestco, Inc.	Mooresville, NC	Nonchocolate Confectionery Manufacturing	250 to 499
Bimbo Bakeries USA, Inc.	Valdese, NC	Commercial Bakeries	250 to 499
Kellogg Company	Kimper, KY	Breakfast Cereal Manufacturing	250 to 499
Ccbcc Operations, LLC	Roanoke, VA	Soft Drink Manufacturing	100 to 249

Median Salary for Selected Food & Beverage Occupations

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016 Occupational Employment Statistics

OCCUPATION	VIAA	SOUTHEAST US	US
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$13.09	\$14.07	\$14.36
Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	\$14.93	\$16.20	\$15.63
Food Preparation Workers	\$9.02	\$9.79	\$10.31
Helpers—Production Workers	\$13.01	\$11.45	\$11.94
Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	\$13.97	\$16.76	\$17.16
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	\$12.87	\$13.28	\$13.60
Packers and Packagers, Hand	\$9.45	\$10.13	\$10.64

VIAA: Southwest Virginia nonmetropolitan area and Kingsport-Bristol-Bristol, TN-VA metropolitan area.
Southeast US: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE PROCESSING

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE



Virginia Tech's Food Science & Technology Department

Virginia Tech's Food Science & Technology Department is the lead research institution for food products in Virginia.

- Food Safety and Health
- Food Processing and Packaging (including both developmental and application research)
- Food Chemistry, Sensory Analysis, and Food Quality
- Muscle Foods (Fish and Shellfish)
- Research Facilities
- Food Analysis Laboratories

Wytheville Community College

- Offers approximately 30 academic programs and Career Readiness Certificate Testing
- Associate Program in Machining Technology
- Provides Level 1 Certification in Welding and Mechatronics
- Proud Partner to local industry

Virginia Highlands Community College

- Provides 45 academic areas of study and Career Readiness Certificate Testing
- 15 Certificate Programs geared specifically toward community, manufacturing, and workforce development
- Provides Level 1 Manufacturing Technician Certification
- Proud Partner to the local industry

Southwest Virginia Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence

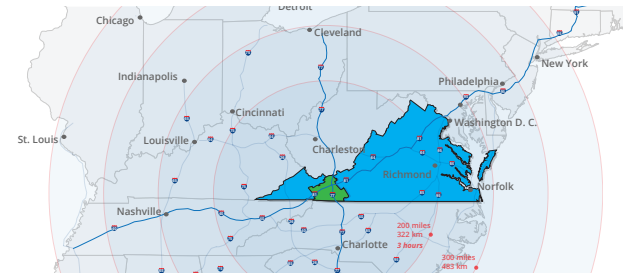
- SVAM COE is currently establishing Level II Certification centers in the region that will focus on Seimans, AWS, and NIMS.
- These programs will strengthen the manufacturing workforce through the supply of skilled welding, mechatronics (CNC), and metalworking labor.



LOGISTICS

Located within a day's drive of more than half the U.S. population with access to

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



The region has access to other great infrastructure such as rail, airports, and ports. Norfolk Southern's main line runs through the region.



AIRPORTS

- **Tri-Cities Regional Airport** (30 miles)
 - 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, St. Petersburg, Washington DC, New York
- **Charlotte-Douglas International Airport** (2 hours)



SEAPORTS

- **Port of Virginia** (350 miles) Two Class I railroads on-dock (more than 30 miles of on-dock rail)
 - Six terminals
 - 1,864 acres
- **Port of Charleston** (350 miles)
- **Port of Savannah** (376 miles)



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.
- **Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)**
Qualified economic development projects locating to TVA electricity-served sites may also benefit from program offerings through TVA Economic Development

Natural Gas

- **Atmos Energy**

Telecommunications

- **Heavy-fiber infrastructure** to majority of industrial parks and sites. Capacity **exceeding 1 gigabit** available in many locations. Service providers include Century Link.

Strategically situated along I-81 where it crossroads with I-77, VIAA offers a key location, an available workforce with outstanding training opportunities, superb quality of life, and a low cost of doing business— all huge advantages to locating in VIAA.



www.i81-i77crossroads.com