

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.



Plastics Companies in the VIAA Region (within 100-mile radius)

COMPANY NAME	LOCATION	NAICS DESCRIPTION	EMPLOYEES
Sonoco Display & Packaging, LLC	Winston Salem, NC	Urethane and Other Foam Product Manufacturing*	> 500
Cpfilms Inc.	Fieldale, VA	Unlaminated Plastics Film and Sheet Manufacturing*	> 500
Strongwell Corporation	Bristol, VA	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	> 500
General Dynamics-Ots, Inc.	Marion, VA	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	250-499
Klockner Pentaplast of America, Inc.	Rural Retreat, VA	Unlaminated Plastics Film and Sheet Manufacturing*	100-249
Mar-Bal, Inc.	Dublin, VA	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	100-249
Eastman Chemical Resins, Inc.	Kingsport, TN	Plastics Material and Resin Manufacturing	100-249
Scholle Ipn Packaging, Inc.	Kimper, KY	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	100-249
Amcor Rigid Plastics USA, LLC	Wytheville, VA	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	100-249
Paramont Mfg, LLC	Abingdon, VA	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	< 100
Appalachian Plastics, Inc.	Glade Spring, VA	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	< 100

**Except packaging*

Median Salary for Selected Plastics Occupations

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016 Occupational Employment Statistics

OCCUPATION	VIAA	SOUTHEAST US	US
Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$14.56	\$15.20	\$15.56
Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$16.67	\$16.56	\$16.29
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	\$27.28	\$26.88	\$27.78
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	\$16.42	\$16.16	\$17.68
Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$15.61	\$15.05	\$14.65
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	\$12.87	\$13.28	\$13.60
Team Assemblers	\$12.88	\$14.56	\$14.45

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

PLASTICS AND ADVANCED MATERIAL

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE



Virginia Tech School of Engineering

Virginia Tech's School of Engineering is one of the premier engineering departments in the United States. Undergraduate and graduate degrees of interest:

- Packaging Systems and Design
- Chemical Engineering
- Biological Systems Engineering
- Aerospace Engineering
- Industrial and Systems Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Material Science Engineering
- Macromolecular Science and Engineering

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

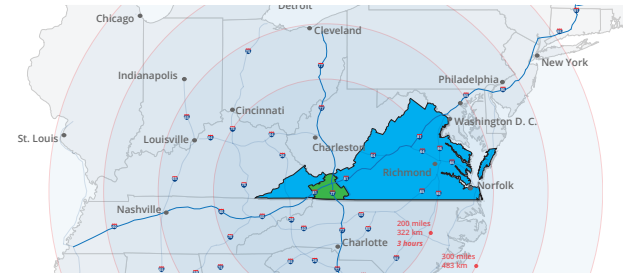
- SVAM COE is currently establishing Level II Certification centers in the region that will focus on Seimans, AWS, and NIMS.
- These programs will strengthen the manufacturing workforce through the supply of skilled welding, mechatronics (CNC), and metalworking labor.



LOGISTICS

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

- I-81
- I-77
- I-26 within 30 minutes
- 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.

