

# Community Profile

Virginia's Growth Alliance

## Virginia's Growth Alliance

Virginia's Growth Alliance includes the Counties of Brunswick, Charlotte, Greensville, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Nottoway, and the City of Emporia.

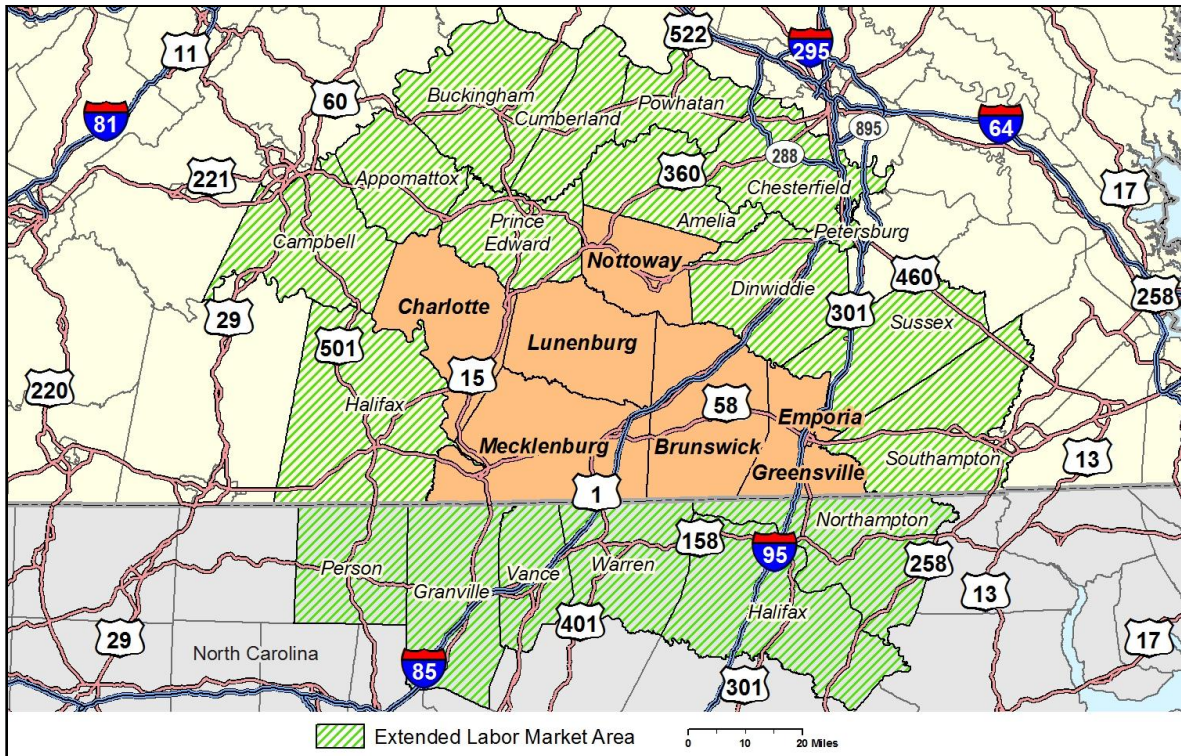
Virginia's Growth Alliance, strategically located midway between the Richmond and Raleigh/Durham metropolitan areas, is but a short two hours from the Port of Hampton Roads and provides convenient one-day Interstate access to most East Coast and Mid-West markets. Redundant fiber optic broadband networks crisscross the region and support world-class technology companies such as HP and Microsoft. A stable and dependable labor force, combined with a low-cost of doing business, has been the key to success for advanced manufacturing companies located in the region. Workforce development centers across the region train workers in today's most demanding technology and information-based occupations. Executives and workers moving to the region will find Southern, small-town friendliness, and unrivaled waterfront living on the shores of Buggs Island Lake and Lake Gaston.

**Location**

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.

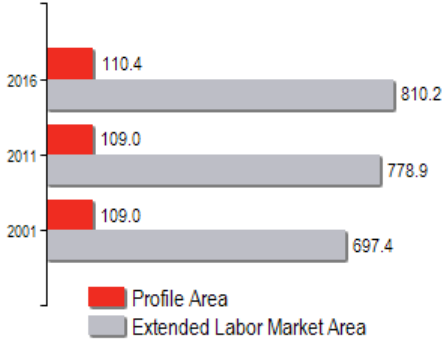
Virginia's Growth Alliance is located in the southeastern portion of the Southern Piedmont region of Virginia. The region is bordered on the south by Lake Gaston, Buggs Island Lake, and the state of North Carolina. This 2,715-square mile region has a strong agricultural heritage and rich forest resources, but in recent years manufacturing activity and service-related industries have prospered. With vast woodlands, abundant mineral resources, a plentiful water supply, and easy accessibility to metro areas in all directions, the region offers extensive economic development opportunities.

The town of South Hill is 75 miles southwest of Richmond, the state capital; 180 miles south of Washington D.C. ; and 115 miles west of Norfolk.

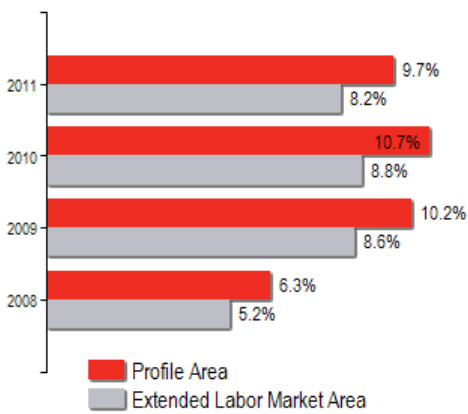


**Labor Market Data**

**Population in Thousands**



**Unemployment Rates**



**Population**

Gender Distribution (2011)	Male	Female
Virginia's Growth Alliance	52.2%	47.8%

Race/Ethnicity (2011)	Profile Area	Extended Labor Area
White	59,463	487,293
Black	47,256	256,476
Two or More	1,351	13,936
Asian	526	13,716
American Indian or Alaska Native	374	6,971
Pacific Islander	58	506
Hispanic (may be of any race)	3,103	37,006

Median Age (2011)	
Brunswick	42 years
Charlotte	44 years
Emporia	39 years
Greensville	41 years
Lunenburg	44 years
Mecklenburg	46 years
Nottoway	41 years

**Labor Market Data**

Part of the strength of Virginia's overall economy is attributed to its industrial diversity and balance.

<b>Civilian Labor Force 2011</b>	
Virginia's Growth Alliance	45,417
Extended Labor Market Area	387,897
Total	433,314

<b>Labor Force Participation (2007-2011)</b>	
Virginia's Growth Alliance	50.6%
Extended Labor Market Area	61.3%

<b>Unemployment</b>	
<b>Unemployment Rate (December 2012)</b>	
Virginia's Growth Alliance	8.5%
Extended Labor Market Area	7.2%
Statewide	5.4%
<b>Unemployed (2011)</b>	
Virginia's Growth Alliance	4,428
Extended Labor Market Area	31,956
Total	36,384
<b>Underemployed (4th Quarter 2012)</b>	
Virginia's Growth Alliance	5,627
Extended Labor Market Area	44,277
Total	49,904

**Labor Market Data**

All employers operating a business in Virginia must establish regular pay periods and rates of pay for all employees except executive personnel.

Commute Time (2006-2010)		
Worked from home	1,844	4.5%
Under 15 minutes	12,718	32.4%
15-24 minutes	9,274	23.6%
25-34 minutes	6,877	17.5%
35-44 minutes	2,422	6.2%
45-59 minutes	2,992	7.6%
Over 60 minutes	4,980	12.7%
Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes)		
Brunswick		31
Charlotte		31
Emporia		15
Greensville		25
Lunenburg		31
Mecklenburg		27
Nottoway		29

Additional Labor Resources	
High School Graduates Not Continuing (2010-2011)	249
Two-Year College Graduates (Spring 2011)	972
Two-Year College Enrollees (Fall 2011)	7,298
Other College and University Graduates (Spring 2011)	1,352
Total	9,871

**Labor Market Data**

Virginia continues to rank among America's leading states for business by CNBC and Forbes.com.

**Career Readiness Certificate (01/01/2011-10/31/2012)**

Virginia's Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) assists employers by certifying that a recipient possesses core skills in applied math, reading for information, and locating information. The CRC certification is based on established Workeys® assessment tests. Virginia uses a three-tiered approach (bronze, silver, gold) to credentialing certificate holders that is based on the recipient's level of development skills.

Virginia's Growth Alliance	1,350
Extended Labor Market Area	1,511
Total	2,861

**Educational Attainment**

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2012)	85.8%
Percentage of Virginia's Growth Alliance population age 25+ who are high school graduates (2006-2010)	72.0%
Percentage of Virginia's Growth Alliance population age 25+ who have earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher (2006-2010)	11.9%

**Labor Market Data**

The cost of workers' compensation insurance varies by industry, by occupation, and by state.

Employment by Sector* (2nd Qtr. 2012)		
Agriculture Forestry Fishing and Hunting	847	2.4%
Mining Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	91	0.3%
Utilities	174	0.5%
Construction	1,074	3.1%
Manufacturing	4,523	12.9%
Wholesale Trade	847	2.4%
Retail Trade	3,700	10.6%
Transportation and Warehousing	1,827	5.2%
Information	288	0.8%
Finance and Insurance	602	1.7%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	225	0.6%
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	688	2.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	463	1.3%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management	1,181	3.4%
Educational Services	282	0.8%
Health Care and Social Assistance	4,645	13.3%
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	240	0.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	2,913	8.3%
Other Services	900	2.6%
Total Government	9,495	27.1%
Federal Government	627	1.8%
State Government	3,732	10.7%
Local Government	5,136	14.7%
Unclassified	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,009</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

N.D. - Not Disclosed

\*By Business Establishment

Employment by Occupation (2011)		
Construction, Extraction & Maintenance	2,610	7.8%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	430	1.3%
Managerial, Professional & Related	7,990	23.8%
Production, Transportation & Material Moving	7,590	22.6%
Sales & Office	8,210	24.4%
Service	6,800	20.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,630</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Labor Market Data**

Dominion Virginia Power is one of the nation's ten largest investor-owned electric utilities delivering power to more than two million homes and businesses in Virginia and North Carolina.

**Major Employers**

<b>Manufacturing</b>		
<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>	<i>Estimated Employment</i>
Amcor Pharmaceutical Packaging	Pharmaceutical packaging	100 - 299
Appomattox River Manufacturing Co.	Wood products	50 - 99
Boars Head Provisions Co., Inc.	Deli-style meats	600 - 999
Georgia Pacific Wood Products	Wood products	300 - 599
Global Safety Textiles LLC	Fabric mill	100 - 299
Morgan Lumber Company, Inc.	Sawmill	50 - 99
Reiss Manufacturing Inc.	Rubber & plastic extruded products	50 - 99
Virginia Marble Manufacturers, Inc.	Marble tops	100 - 299

<b>NonManufacturing</b>		
<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>	<i>Estimated Employment</i>
Community Memorial Health Center	Health care	600 - 999
Greensville Correctional Center	Correctional institution	600 - 999
Jones Apparel Group	Apparel distribution	300 - 599
Lawrenceville Correctional Center	Correctional institution	300 - 599
Lunenburg Correctional Center	Correctional institution	100 - 299
Nottoway Correctional Center	Correctional institution	300 - 599
Piedmont Geriatric Hospital	State hospital	300 - 599
S&M Brands	Tobacco wholesaler	50 - 99
Southern Virginia Regional Medical Center	Health care	300 - 599
Southside Virginia Community College	Higher education	300 - 599
St. Paul's College	Higher education	100 - 299

**Labor Market Data**

<b>Closings, Reductions, Layoffs (1/2012 to date)</b>				
<i>Date</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>	<i>Employees Affected</i>
12/1/2012	Closing	Kurz-Kasch	Electrical coils for the aerospace, automotive and appliance industries	59
12/1/2012	Closing	Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel Corp.	Industrial steel processing	15
1/1/2013	Closing	Home Care Industries	Floor care accessories manufacturing and distribution	113
3/1/2013	Reduction	International Veneer Company, Inc.	Hardwood veneer	100

<b>Union Activity (2/2007 - 2/2012)</b>	
Petitions filed for decertification	0
Petitions filed for representation	0
Petitions filed for raid	0
Elections won by union	0
Elections won by company	0

**Labor Market Data**

<b>Estimated Earnings (May 2011)</b>				
<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Median Wage</i>	<i>Mean Wage</i>	<i>Median Salary</i>	<i>Mean Salary</i>
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$9.53	\$10.08	\$19,833.39	\$20,966.23
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	\$12.61	\$14.29	\$26,224.78	\$29,714.59
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$15.39	\$15.82	\$31,999.55	\$32,917.38
Team Assemblers	\$8.78	\$9.24	\$18,266.32	\$19,215.57
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	\$19.59	\$22.03	\$40,766.21	\$45,822.14
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$13.85	\$15.71	\$28,816.19	\$32,664.50
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$21.01	\$21.11	\$43,706.46	\$43,910.28
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$17.53	\$17.85	\$36,471.23	\$37,112.11
Office Clerks, General	\$10.52	\$11.31	\$21,896.99	\$23,509.15
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	\$14.32	\$14.61	\$29,782.38	\$30,389.73
Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$10.80	\$11.03	\$22,468.85	\$22,949.46
Customer Service Representatives	\$12.70	\$13.96	\$26,430.30	\$29,032.07
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	\$14.72	\$14.86	\$30,624.96	\$30,921.03
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$20.25	\$21.73	\$42,115.91	\$45,191.18
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	\$16.17	\$16.19	\$33,628.24	\$33,669.77
Computer Support Specialists	\$19.25	\$21.38	\$40,039.65	\$44,488.84
Network and Computer Systems Administrators*	\$29.97	\$30.91	\$62,319.02	\$64,292.38
Accountants and Auditors	\$29.37	\$30.96	\$61,093.44	\$64,394.53
Management Analysts	\$29.21	\$30.35	\$60,747.56	\$63,126.28
Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products	\$16.41	\$20.74	\$34,131.50	\$43,149.83

**Education**

U.S. News & World Report (2013) recognized Longwood University, Farmville, as #11 in the top public schools category for regional universities in the South. Among all regional universities in the South, including private institutions, Longwood is ranked in the top tier at #33.

Public School Enrollment (Fall 2011)		
Level	Number	Enrollment
Preschool	2	253
Elementary	16	7,026
Middle	8	3,654
High School	7	4,590

Student Teacher Ratio (2010-2011)	
Elementary	12:1
Secondary	11:1

Per Pupil Expenditure (FY 2011)
\$10,221.72

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2012)
85.8%

High School Graduates Continuing Education (2010-2011)
78.7%

Advanced Programs (2010-2011)	
Governor's School Enrollment	94
Students taking 1 or more Advanced Placement (AP) Courses	49
Students taking 1 or more AP Exams	46
Students taking 1 or more college courses	601

## Education

Virginia's Growth Alliance encompasses 16 elementary schools, 8 middle schools, and 7 high schools, and offers both public and private education opportunities.

Workforce Development Facilities	
<i>Facility</i>	<i>Type</i>
Amelia-Nottoway Technical Center	Career and Technical Center
Emporia Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Estes Community Center	Career and Technical Center
Farmville Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Fort Lee Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Lake Country Advanced Knowledge Center	Career and Technical Center
Occupational Technical Center/Pickett Park	Career and Technical Center
Reemploy Virginia - Farmville	Reemployment Center
Reemploy Virginia - Tri Cities	Reemployment Center
South Boston Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
South Hill Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Tri-Cities Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Virginia Workforce Center - Victoria	Informational Center
Virginia Workforce Center - Petersburg	Satellite Center
Virginia Workforce Center: Charlotte Courthouse	Comprehensive Center
Virginia Workforce Center: Farmville	Satellite Center
Virginia Workforce Center: South Boston	Satellite Center
Workforce Information Center - Alberta	Informational Center
Workforce Information Center - Crewe	Informational Center
Workforce Information Site - Amelia	Informational Center
Workforce Information Site - Cumberland	Informational Center

Higher Education Facilities — Fall 2011	
<i>Facility</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
Longwood University	4,860
Southside Virginia Community College - John H. Daniel Campus	3,751
Southside Virginia Community College - Christanna Campus	3,547
Hampden-Sydney College	1,061
Saint Paul's College	410
Southern Virginia Higher Education Center	·
Southside Virginia Community College - Southside Virginia Education Center Campus	†
Strayer University - Chesterfield Campus	†

· Enrollment figures are included in participating colleges and universities.

† Enrollment figures are not available.

## Transportation

Freight rail service is available throughout the region with service provided by CSX Corporation, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Buckingham Branch Railroad and Virginia Southern Railway.

Interstates	
Name	Distance
I-85	0.0 miles (0.0 km.)
I-95	0.0 miles (0.0 km.)
I-295	21.3 miles (34.2 km.)
I-195	30.0 miles (48.2 km.)
I-64	31.3 miles (50.3 km.)
I-40	39.8 miles (64.1 km.)
I-440	48.6 miles (78.3 km.)
I-81	49.1 miles (79.0 km.)

Note: Measured from border of locality/region.

Highways				
Highway 1	Highway 136	Highway 137	Highway 138	Highway 139
Highway 15	Highway 153	Highway 301	Highway 307	Highway 360
Highway 4	Highway 40	Highway 46	Highway 460	Highway 47
Highway 49	Highway 58	Highway 59	Highway 92	

Note: 4-Lane US Highways located within locality/region.

Commercial Air Service		
<i>Lynchburg Regional Airport, Lynchburg -- 54.9 miles (88.3 km.)</i>		
US Airways Express		
<i>Richmond International Airport, Sandston -- 67.6 miles (108.9 km.)</i>		
Air Canada	AirTran Airways	American Airlines
Delta Air Lines	United Airlines	US Airways
JetBlue Airways	Vision Airlines	

Note: Within a 75-mile drive of the center of the closest locality in the region.

## Transportation

The Port of Richmond is Central Virginia's domestic and international multi-modal freight and distribution gateway on the James River serving waterborne, rail and truck shippers throughout the mid-Atlantic states.

General Aviation Service	
Name	Runway Length
Allen C. Perkinson Municipal Airport, Blackstone	4,632 ft (1,412 m)
Chase City Municipal Airport, Chase City	3,400 ft (1,036 m)
Crewe Municipal Airport, Crewe	3,300 ft (1,006 m)
Emporia/Greenville Regional Airport, Emporia	5,010 ft (1,527 m)
Lake Country Regional Airport, Clarksville	4,488 ft (1,368 m)
Lawrenceville-Brunswick County Airport, Lawrenceville	3,020 ft (920 m)
Lunenburg County Airport, Kenbridge	3,000 ft (914 m)
Mecklenburg-Brunswick Regional Airport, LaCrosse	5,002 ft (1,525 m)

Freight Rail Service
Buckingham Branch Railroad
CSX Transportation
Norfolk Southern Railway Company
Virginia Southern Railway

Seaports	
Name	Distance
Port of Richmond	56.0 miles (90.1 km)
Port of Virginia (APM Terminals Virginia)	77.0 miles (123.9 km)
Port of Virginia (Norfolk International Terminals)	83.0 miles (133.6 km)
Port of Virginia (Portsmouth Marine Terminal)	84.0 miles (135.2 km)
Port of Virginia (Newport News Marine Terminals)	87.0 miles (140.0 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the closest locality in the region to the Port of Virginia and any other seaports within 100 miles.

Other Ports of Entry	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Richmond-Petersburg	67.6 miles (108.9 km)
Raleigh-Durham	85.4 miles (137.4 km)
Norfolk	87.3 miles (140.5 km)
Newport News	90.0 miles (144.9 km)
Port of Washington - Dulles	171.7 miles (276.3 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the closest locality in the region to the Port of Washington-Dulles and any other port of entry within 100 miles.



**Utilities**

**Electric**

Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative	Southside Electric Cooperative
Dominion Virginia Power	Town of Blackstone

**Natural Gas**

Columbia Gas of Virginia	
--------------------------	--

**Telecommunications**

Buggs Island Telephone Cooperative	Verizon South
CenturyLink	Kinex Telecom, Inc.
Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative	Shentel
Verizon Virginia	GNS Networks

**Water**

Town of Alberta	Town of Chase City
Town of Clarksville	Town of Lawrenceville
Town of South Hill	Town of LaCrosse
Roanoke River Public Service Authority	Town of Brodnax
City of Emporia	Greensville County Water & Sewer Authority
Town of Blackstone	Town of Charlotte Court House
Town of Crewe	Town of Kenbridge
Town of Keysville	Town of Phenix
Town of Victoria	Town of Drakes Branch

**Waste Water Treatment**

Town of Chase City	Town of Clarksville
Town of Lawrenceville	Town of South Hill
Town of LaCrosse	Town of Boydton
Town of Alberta	Town of Brodnax
City of Emporia	Greensville County Water & Sewer Authority
Nottoway Correctional Facility	Town of Blackstone
Town of Blackstone/Fort Pickett	Town of Charlotte Court House
Town of Crewe	Town of Kenbridge
Town of Keysville	Town of Phenix
Town of South Hill/Town of LaCrosse	Town of Victoria
Town of Drakes Branch	

**Utilities**

**Solid Waste Disposal**

Brunswick County Transfer Station	Greensville County Sanitary Landfill
Lunenburg County Landfill	Nottoway County Landfill
Town of Charlotte Court House	Town of Drakes Branch
Town of Keysville	Town of Phenix
Southside Regional Public Service Authority Regional Landfill	

## Financial Institutions

Bank of America is one of the world's largest financial institutions, serving individual consumers, small and middle market businesses and large corporations with a full-range of banking, investing, asset management and other financial and risk management. In addition, the area is served by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and a dozen other national and local financial institutions.

Financial Institutions — 2nd Qtr 2012 Assets	
<i>Bank</i>	<i>Assets (millions)</i>
Bank of America, N.A.	\$1,445,093.2
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	\$1,180,190.0
Branch Banking and Trust Company	\$173,678.2
First-Citizens Bank & Trust Co.	\$20,889.3
Carter Bank & Trust	\$4,297.1
First Community Bank, N.A.	\$2,787.6
Bank of Hampton Roads	\$1,774.1
The Bank of Southside Virginia	\$538.2
Benchmark Community Bank	\$421.9
Citizens Bank & Trust Co.	\$328.7
Citizens Community Bank	\$159.0
The Bank of Charlotte County	\$122.9
River Community Bank, National Association	\$95.3

## Virginia's Growth Alliance

Virginia's Growth Alliance offers a wide array of outdoor recreational opportunities including boating, fishing, sailing, swimming, water skiing, hiking, biking, horseback riding, hunting, camping, birding and wildlife watching.

### Government

Virginia's Growth Alliance includes the counties of Brunswick, Charlotte, Greensville, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, and the city of Emporia.

Each county has a board of supervisors and county administrator. The city has a city council and city manager.

Each locality has a comprehensive plan and zoning and subdivision ordinances.

There are 19 incorporated towns in the region.

### Taxes

Localities in Virginia collect a 1% sales tax. They do not tax other items taxed at the State level.

Counties and cities in Virginia are separate taxing entities. Therefore, a company pays taxes to either a county or to a city.

If a company is 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.

## Virginia's Growth Alliance

Community Memorial Health Center and Southern Virginia Regional Medical Center provide medical services in the region.

### Community Facilities

There are two main hospitals in Virginia's Growth Alliance, Community Memorial Health Center and Southern Virginia Regional Medical Center. Located in the town of South Hill, Community Memorial Hospital provides over 275 general beds for short and long-term care. Offering services in cardiac intensive care, nuclear medicine, physical therapy and radiology, this hospital provides 24/7 care while housing a nurse training program. Throughout the rest of the region local private and public medical practitioners exist to provide basic physical, dental, optical, and in-house care services. Additionally, Virginia's Growth Alliance is home to the largest rural training facility for residents in the state. The neighboring regions of Virginia's Heartland and Greater Richmond also have facilities and hospitals easily accessible to residents in the region.

Virginia's Growth Alliance is served by approximately 150 doctors and 50 dentists.

Eight nursing homes and adult care facilities in the region with 993 beds offer extended care to the elderly. The neighboring Heartlands and Greater Richmond regions also have facilities and hospitals easily accessible to area residents.

Four regional library systems operating 15 branches house more than 700,000 items and are accessible to citizens in any location of the region. For residents who live in more rural settings, bookmobile services are often provided. St. Paul's College and Southside Virginia Community College also welcome the public use of their library facilities for educational or job training purposes.

## Virginia's Growth Alliance

Each county in the region is governed by a Board of Supervisors and a County Administrator. The city has a City Council and City Manager.

### Community Facilities (continued)

Serving primarily Christian faiths, there are more than 450 places of worship in Virginia's Growth Alliance.

The highest concentrations of retail businesses and services can be found in downtown Emporia, outside the Town of South Hill, and on the "golden mile" - U. S. Route 58 east at the I-85 interchange. For a change from the large retail mall and service centers, the region offers its full share of traditional "Main Street" downtown districts in the towns of Blackstone, Victoria, Keysville, and Kenbridge to name a few. These areas offer a personal shopping experience through locally owned specialty hardware, clothing, book, art, crafts, and antique shops as well as cafes, bistros and other eating places.

## Virginia's Growth Alliance

Temperatures average 38 degrees in January and 78 degrees in July.

### Lifestyle

Known primarily for its outdoor recreational opportunities, this region is a hunter's and fisherman's paradise, with an abundance of wild turkeys, whitetail deer and large-mouth bass. The rivers and lakes are the perfect setting for a countless number of outdoor activities on land or water. 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, in Mecklenburg County, is well known for its excellent catfish and bass fishing along with its boating and camping. Lake Gaston, located in Brunswick County, is known for its water sports, boating, fishing, camping, and beautiful lakeside homes.

The region's arts, drama, and music events are supported by St. Paul's College and branches of the Southside Virginia Community College. 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. The Meherrin River Arts Council brings nationally known performers to the Greensville/Emporia area four times a year. Additionally, local residents participate in dramatic, comedy and musical productions in various local theatres.

Numerous recreational facilities located throughout the region are available to residents and tourists. The region is home to 3 public golf courses and 10 private courses. As for publically supported programs, there are multiple facilities throughout the region which provide swimming pools and tennis courts, in addition to multi-sport athletic fields which serve citizens' interests in baseball, soccer, and football.

Located in Chase City, MacCallum-Moore Gardens continually surprises visitors with a collection of 20,000 English and American boxwoods, thousands of azaleas, dogwoods and other flowering shrubs, along with works of art collected from around the world. Also in Mecklenburg County is Prestwoud Plantation, built in 1790 and a popular landmark to those searching for a historic look into the Roanoke River area. Walking and historical driving trails are also located within the region, including the Tobacco Heritage Trail, the Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail, and the Civil War Trail commemorating the Wilson-Kautz Raid.