Largest manufacturing workforce in the Southeast. Lowest corporate income tax in the nation. Two deepwater seaports. North Carolina is where businesses pick up speed. From the birth of stock car racing to the development of electric vehicle technology, North Carolina has a passion for all things automotive. Dozens of top automotive companies operate in North Carolina, including Linamar, Continental, Bridgestone, and NASCAR.

Automotive companies choose North Carolina for its winning combination of location, world-class workforce, robust supplier network, and business-friendly environment. Top-tier customized training programs support the industry’s continued success. Home to more than 10.5 million residents, our state is the ninth largest in population and ranks third for highest net migration rate in the U.S. With a designation by Forbes as "Best State for Business" three years in a row, more business and individuals are becoming part of our community every day. Accelerate with us. Consider North Carolina for your next location or expansion decision.

What can EDPNC do for you?
The Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC) proudly serves as North Carolina’s statewide economic development organization. The EDPNC recruits new businesses to the state, supports the needs of existing businesses, and connects exporters with customers around the globe.

We provide FREE assistance with:
- Real estate and site identification
- Incentive and tax benefit inquiries
- Regulatory navigation
- World-class workforce solutions
- Supplier and distribution connections
- Export services and global market expansion

For more information about North Carolina, contact the EDPNC at 919.447.7744 or clientservices@edpnc.com.
### North Carolina's Workforce and STEM Graduates

- **5.1M+ Labor Force**: Largely fueled by domestic in-migration, North Carolina has one of the largest labor forces in the U.S. From 2010-2019, North Carolina was among the top three states for net migration.

- **475K+ Employees**: North Carolina has the largest manufacturing workforce in the Southeastern U.S. In the last five years, the state’s manufacturing workforce has grown by 4%.

- **45K+ Engineers**: North Carolina’s engineering workforce has grown 18% over the past five years, leading the nation for engineering job growth.

- **#2 STEM**

  North Carolina is home to more than 25,000 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) grads annually, ranking second for STEM grads in the Southeastern U.S.

### North Carolina's Automotive Industry

North Carolina offers automotive companies an abundant and affordable supply of labor. North Carolina's automotive industry wages are about 8% below the national average.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assemblers and Fabricators</td>
<td>68,274</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>$29,336</td>
<td>$32,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisors of Production Workers</td>
<td>21,644</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>$58,552</td>
<td>$60,424</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricians</td>
<td>18,012</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$43,118</td>
<td>$55,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinists</td>
<td>12,041</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>$40,892</td>
<td>$43,617</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welding, Soldering and Brazing Workers</td>
<td>11,491</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>$39,703</td>
<td>$41,034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineers (Industrial and Mechanical)</td>
<td>17,808</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>$82,821</td>
<td>$87,197</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Continental, one of the Top Global Automotive Suppliers

Continental, one of the top five global automotive suppliers, produces advanced brake systems in North Carolina. Over the past five years, the company has announced more than $70 million in investment and 200 new jobs across the state.
THE PERFECT CLIMATE FOR GROWING TALENT

North Carolina offers one of the nation’s most renowned education systems, supplying companies a pipeline of skilled workers and unparalleled access to research & development resources.

UNIVERSITIES
UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE DEGREES

North Carolina has 53 colleges and universities. The publicly-funded University of North Carolina System draws students from all over the world to its 17 campuses. The state’s three Tier 1 research universities: North Carolina State University, Duke University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, are at the cutting edge of education and R&D. During the 2018-2019 academic year, North Carolina’s public universities conferred over 3,835 advanced engineering degrees.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES
VOCATIONAL DEGREES

The North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) is the nation’s third-largest community college system, pioneering the nation’s most advanced vocational and technical programs, including advanced manufacturing and automotive tracks. More than 680,000 students enroll at one of NCCCS’s 58 campuses each year. In 2019, North Carolina’s community colleges conferred over 2,000 automotive mechanics and engineering technology degrees & certificates, ranking among the top five states in the nation for completions in these programs.

NCWORKS
CUSTOMIZED TRAINING PROGRAMS

NCWorks is a free job screening, recruiting and training program for new and expanding businesses. North Carolina’s Customized Training program offers comprehensive training via our state’s community colleges as well as customized curricula tailored to address the specific needs of the automotive industry. In FY 2018-2019, the Customized Training program trained more than 38,000 employees from over 1,000 companies across the state, including GKN Driveline and GF Linamar.

INDUSTRY RESOURCES
TARGETED INDUSTRY SUPPORT

North Carolina has numerous programs and research centers that support automotive businesses. Examples include:

- The North Carolina Advanced Manufacturing Alliance (NCAMA) works with North Carolina community colleges to build innovative programs that provide workers with the skills and credentials they need to excel in North Carolina’s advanced manufacturing economy.
- The North Carolina Center for Automotive Research (NCCAR) assists the automotive industry with product research, testing, and development. The organization’s facilities include: a two-mile bidirectional road course, a two-acre vehicle dynamics area, and a seven-acre dirt facility.
- The North Carolina Motorsports and Automotive Research Center (NCMARC) at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte specializes in vehicle dynamics, aerodynamics, instrumentation, safety, and metrology, and has developed more than $2.25 million in external research related to these technologies.
- The Advanced Transportation Energy Center (ATEC) at North Carolina State University partners with electric vehicle (EV) and related component manufacturers to solve technology challenges associated with batteries, charging units, and vehicles.
- Polymers Center of Excellence works in the plastics industry to increase knowledge, provide technical support, and assist in the development of emerging technologies.
WE FOUND NORTH CAROLINA TO HAVE THE PERFECT COMBINATION OF A HIGH-QUALITY WORKFORCE AND CLOSE PROXIMITY TO A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

TETSUYA KUZE, VICE PRESIDENT OF YOKOHAMA CORPORATION OF NORTH AMERICA

UNMATCHED BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

#1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS - Forbes (2019)
#2 TOP STATE BUSINESS CLIMATE - Site Selection (2019)
#3 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS - CNBC (2019)
#3 COMPETITIVE LABOR ENVIRONMENT - Area Development (2019)

LOW COST OF LIVING
The cost of living in many of North Carolina’s metropolitan areas is well below the national average.

LOW BUILDING COSTS
Average construction costs in North Carolina’s metropolitan areas are up to 16% below the national average.

AAA BOND RATING
North Carolina is one of only four states to earn Standard & Poor’s highest rating for over 55 consecutive years.

UNPARALLELED INNOVATION
North Carolina businesses lead the nation in innovation with 70% patent growth over the past 10 years.

RIGHT TO WORK STATE
North Carolina is one of 27 right to work states.

LOW ELECTRICITY COSTS
NC’s industrial electricity costs are about 10% below the national average.

Source: Energy Information Administration
GO BIG. SPEND LESS.

2.5%  
CORPORATE INCOME TAX  
North Carolina has the lowest rate among the 44 states that levy this tax. NC uses single sales factor apportionment.

4.75%  
STATE SALES & USE TAX  
Counties levy an additional 2-2.75%. Sales tax exemptions are available for manufacturers, large fulfillment centers, and data centers.

5.25%  
PERSONAL INCOME TAX  
The standard deduction is $10,750 for single taxpayers and married couples filing separately, $21,500 for married couples, and $16,125 for heads of households.

NONE  
STATE PROPERTY TAX  
There is no state-level property tax. Real and personal property taxes vary by local government. In 2019, N.C. had the 6th lowest commercial and 10th lowest industrial effective property tax rates in the U.S.

INCENTIVES  
Targeted, performance-based incentive programs complement North Carolina’s competitive cost structure. The Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC) helps companies navigate the incentive process.

JOB DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT GRANT (JDIG)  
JDIG is a performance-based, discretionary incentive program that provides cash grants to new and expanding businesses to help offset the cost of locating or expanding a facility in North Carolina. Companies can qualify for a JDIG based on the project location, number of jobs, and average wage. The grant amount is based on a percentage of the personal income tax withholdings associated with new jobs.

ONE NORTH CAROLINA FUND (ONE NC)  
One NC is a discretionary cash-grant program that allows the Governor to respond quickly to competitive job-creation projects. Awards are based on the number of jobs, level of investment, project location, economic impact, and importance of the project to the region. Awards may be used in new or existing buildings for installation or purchase of equipment, structural repairs and/or renovations, construction and/or improvements to utility lines.

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS  
NC offers a number of programs to fund public infrastructure development, including the Community Development Block Grant Economic Development Program, Utility Account, Rural Division’s Economic Infrastructure Program, NCDOT’s Rail Industrial Access Program, NC Railroad Company’s NCRR Invests program, and the NC Department of Commerce’s Joint Economic Development Program with the NCDOT.

BUILDING REUSE PROGRAMS  
North Carolina offers two different programs that provide grants to renovate and upfit vacant industrial and commercial buildings including:
• Community Development Block Grant Building Reuse Program  
• Rural Division’s Building Reuse Program

OTHER INCENTIVE PROGRAMS  
• NCWorks Customized Training Program  
• Foreign Trade Zones  
• NC Biotech Center Economic Development Award  
• Recycling Business Development Award Grants  
• Golden LEAF Foundation Grants  
• Building Demolition Programs

Racing roots run deep in North Carolina. Home to the Charlotte Motor Speedway and NASCAR Hall of Fame, our state hosts the prestigious Coca-Cola 600 and NASCAR All-Star Race. UNCC Charlotte has one of the best motorsports engineering programs in the nation, supplying a pipeline of skilled workers.
MARKET ACCESS & TRANSPORTATION

North Carolina's robust transportation infrastructure connects companies to domestic and international markets. Ten airports offer commercial services, including four international airports that connect North Carolina to major cities in the U.S. and abroad. North Carolina also has the second-largest state-owned highway system and major controlled-access arteries such as I-95 (running the length of the East Coast), I-85, and I-40 (running from North Carolina to California). Two deepwater seaports and an integrated rail system ensure that North Carolina companies can easily reach suppliers and customers.

ROADS

Second-largest state-owned highway system
North Carolina's highways stretch for more than 80,000 miles (129,000 km). The state’s central East Coast location offers easy access to the country’s most important transportation corridors.

Major controlled-access arteries include:
- I-95, running the length of the East Coast
- I-40, linking North Carolina to California
- I-85, stretching through the manufacturing heart of the Southeast

PORTS

Two deepwater seaports in-state with on-dock rail
North Carolina’s ports offer fast turn times and capacity for ships carrying up to 14,000 TEUs. An inland port in Charlotte provides easy market access, North Carolina companies also enjoy easy access to the Port of Norfolk and the Port of Charleston.

Port of Wilmington
- Container and general cargo operations
- Channel depth of 42 feet M.L.L.W.
- On-terminal cold storage facility and 1M sf of covered storage
- Next-day rail service to Charlotte inland port

Port of Morehead City
- General cargo and bulk handling facility
- Channel depth of 45 feet M.L.L.W.
- 1M sf of covered storage

AIR

The world’s 7th busiest airport is located in Charlotte
Ten airports offer commercial services, including four international airports that provide easy access to global markets. International airports include:
- Charlotte-Douglas International Airport (CLT), world’s seventh-busiest airport
- Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU), fifth in passenger satisfaction among large North American Airports
- Wilmington International Airport (ILM), home to the ILM Business Park with easy access to highways, rail, and the Port of Wilmington
- Piedmont Triad International Airport (GSO), a premier air cargo center and home to the FedEx Mid-Atlantic Air Hub

RAIL

Two Class 1 Carriers
North Carolina has more than 3,200 miles (5,100km) of track. Two Class 1 carriers, CSX Transportation (CSX) and Norfolk Southern (NS), offer direct service to North American markets and to all major ports along the U.S. East Coast.

- Intermodal service hubs in Charlotte (NS, CSX) and Greensboro (NS). Another planned for Rocky Mount (CSX) in 2021.
- Direct intermodal service from Port of Wilmington to CSX terminal in Charlotte
- Major rail yards in Lexington (NS) and Hamlet (CSX)
- 19 regional railroads, including six that connect to both NS and CSX railroads
North Carolina was chosen for the location, for the utility and transportation advantages, and the state contains an exceptional workforce. In addition, we can service our customer base quicker and provide more cost-effective transportation.

Gerardo Muraíra, Operations Director, Nutec Group

With fast turnaround times, North Carolina’s two deepwater seaports offer easy access to domestic and international markets. The Port of Wilmington has one of the highest crane productivity rates on the U.S. East Coast and is significantly less congested than neighboring ports. With 40 crane moves per hour and an average of 52 minutes for a dual truck move, it’s no wonder the Port of Wilmington ranks as the most productive port in North America.