

NORTH CAROLINA | TEXTILES



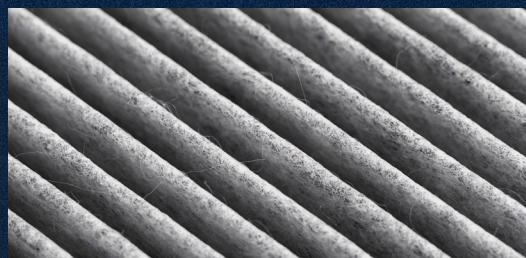
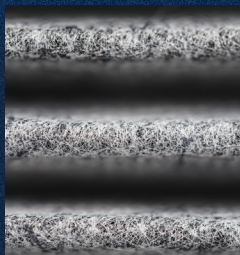
**NORTH
CAROLINA**

CREATING A NEW PATTERN
FOR THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY



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 Muraira,
*Chief Operations Officer and President of Fibers Division,
NUTEC GROUP*

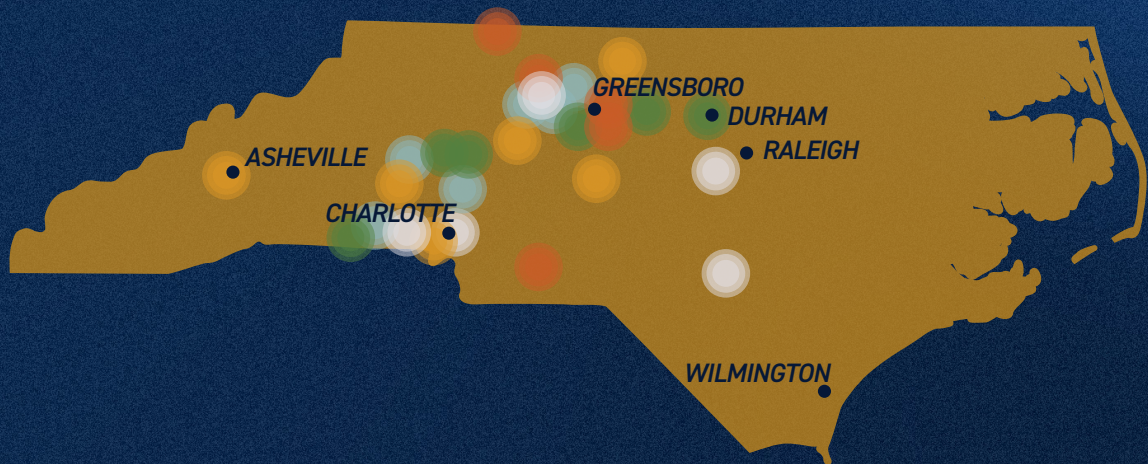


NORTH CAROLINA: WEAVING TOGETHER TRADITION AND TECHNOLOGY

INDUSTRY LEADERS CHOOSE NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina is historically the heart of textiles and nonwovens in the US, recognized as the center of textile manufacturing in the mid-1900s. Impacts of globalization caused textile mills to close nationwide, and by the late 20th century, the textile industry had shifted away from domestic manufacturing. But our state is resilient; as demand for domestic production returns, companies looking to innovate in this field look to our state for its diverse array of manufacturers and expansive network of resources.

North Carolina is a top state for talent, boasting the second-largest textile manufacturing labor force in the country and the only university in the country with a college devoted to textiles education and research.



Apparel & Fibers:

- Hanesbrands Inc.
- Kontoor Brands, Inc.
- Premier Fibers
- Renfro Brands
- Unifi Manufacturing, Inc.

Transportation:

- Tenowo
- Saertex
- Lydall
- Polyvlies
- Tosaf
- Atsi

Home & Office Furnishings:

- Freudenberg
- Dalco
- TD Fiber
- Uniquetex
- Outdura
- Glen Raven

Medical & Hygiene:

- Berry
- Avgol
- Jacob Holm
- Fibertex
- Personal Care
- Nufabrx
- Albaad

Military & Law Enforcement:

- Coville
- Polarmax
- Soffe
- Stitch Partners
- Elevate Textiles

TEXTILE & NONWOVENS INDUSTRY LEADERS



INDUSTRY RESOURCES

North Carolina has many programs and research centers that support nonwovens businesses:

- **The Nonwovens Institute (NWI)** at North Carolina State University (NCSU) is an innovative global partnership between industry, government, and academia. It is the world's first and only accredited academic program for the interdisciplinary study of engineered fabrics and is the largest industry/university cooperative research center in the nation.
- **The Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry (INDA)** serves hundreds of member companies in the nonwovens industry doing business globally by providing sourcing and business development services.
- **The Textile Protection and Comfort Center (TPACC)** at NCSU is a world leader in lab-based instrumented systems and has facilities devoted to the analysis of heat and flame protection, chemical resistance, and comfort performance.
- **Zeis Textiles Extension (ZTE)** at NCSU supplies training and certification in textiles and serves the industry's prototyping production needs for entrepreneurs as well as corporations. Since its establishment, ZTE has taught more than 600 courses to over 12,000 students with an economic impact of nearly \$300 million for clients.
- **The Carolina Textile District (CTD)** offers qualified sourcing, a full value-chain connection through its Mill Network, and serves as an incubator for textile entrepreneurs, particularly in western North Carolina. CTD connects clients with designers and patternmakers, printers, fabric finishers, materials sources, cut and sew facilities, furniture mills, textile testing centers, and more.
- **The National Council of Textile Organizations (NCTO)** is a unique association representing the entire spectrum of the textile industry from fiber and yarn producers, fabric and home furnishings, finished goods and apparel products, and textile distributors. From fibers to finished products, machinery manufacturers, and power suppliers, NCTO is the voice of the US textile industry, advocating for policies to grow the industry.

TALENT & LABOR

North Carolina offers textile and nonwovens companies an abundant and affordable supply of labor.

Occupation	Labor Availability	Employment Concentration (% higher than national average)	Median Annual Earnings
Production Workers	28,400	36%	\$34,900
Supervisors of Production Workers	23,400	10%	\$61,300
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	22,500	20%	\$38,000
Industrial Machinery Installation, Repair, and Maintenance Workers	18,000	12%	\$55,200
Textile Machine Operators	11,300	470%	\$30,500
Sewing Machine Operators	9,700	258%	\$30,500

SKILLED & EDUCATED WORKFORCE

#1 LARGEST NONWOVENS WORKFORCE IN THE US

- North Carolina has the third largest textile and apparel workforce in the nation, with an **employment concentration of 3.49x higher than the national average** and is home to the **largest concentration of nonwovens companies in the US**, particularly those that specialize in engineered fabrics. These high-tech fabrics made from bonded fibers are in countless products from medical masks, and personal protective equipment (PPE), to automotive liners, firefighting suits, and military uniforms.

#1 PRODUCER OF TEXTILE SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING GRADUATES

- North Carolina leads the way in producing top-tier talent for the textile industry, supplying companies with a pipeline of skilled workers and unmatched access to textile and nonwovens R&D resources. The North Carolina State University (NCSU) Wilson College of Textiles is the only university in the United States with a college entirely devoted to textiles education and is the **#1 textiles institution in the world**. It serves as a hub for R&D, a supplier of industry talent, and an exceptional asset for industry partnerships throughout the US and the world.
- Six of North Carolina's community colleges have dedicated training programs and manufacturing technology centers that provide a wide array of services to companies. **The Textile Technology Center at Gaston Community College** provides a variety of services for textile companies including sample production, product testing, and customized training. **The Manufacturing Solutions Center, a division of Catawba Valley Community College**, assists the textile industry in competing in global markets through training, testing, product development, and marketing services. **The fiber program at Haywood Community College** provides an immersive curriculum encompassing textile products and contemporary fiber art.



ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
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