

Low Business Costs



1st

Lowest cost of doing business in the US

Forbes.com

1st

Most affordable places to live in the US

US News & World Report

90

Cost of living Index

Charlotte—98
United States—100

2.5%

North Carolina Corporate Income Tax

5.32¢

per kilowatt hour average industrial power rate

Location & Access



60% of the US population within 1 day's drive



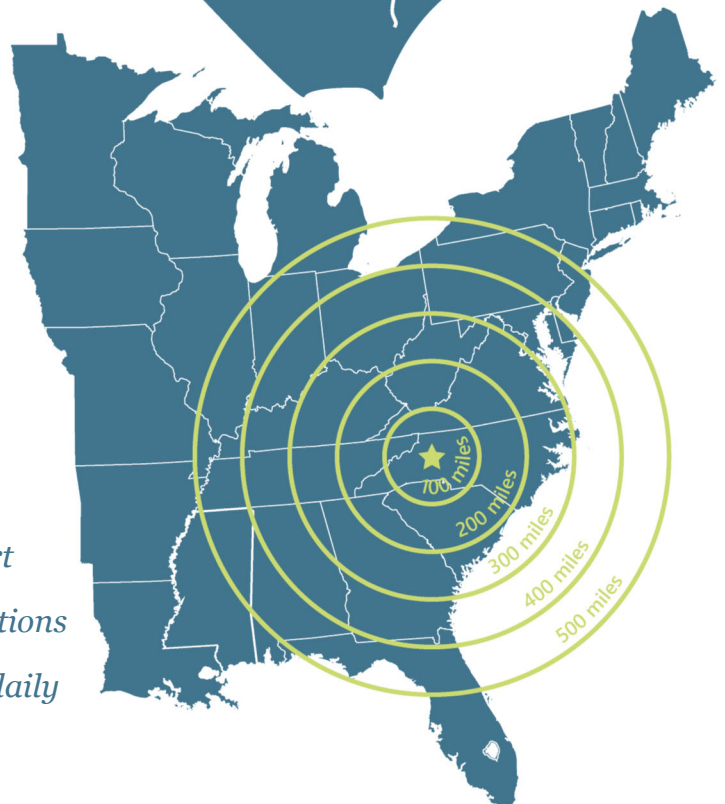
City	Distance	Drive Time
Charlotte, NC	59 miles	1 hr
Spartanburg, SC	87 miles	1 hr, 30 min
Charleston, SC	258 miles	3 hrs, 45 min
Atlanta, GA	258 miles	3 hrs, 45 min
Nashville, TN	368 miles	5 hrs, 30 min
Washington, DC	400 miles	6 hrs
Louisville, KY	433 miles	6 hrs, 30 min
Cincinnati, OH	438 miles	6 hrs, 30 min
Detroit, MI	620 miles	9 hrs, 30 min
New York, NY	632 miles	9 hrs, 30 min
Chicago, IL	726 miles	11 hrs
Miami, FL	778 miles	12 hrs

<1 hr. to Charlotte Douglas International Airport

1,400 daily operations **179** nonstop destinations

36 international destinations with direct flights daily to Paris, Frankfurt, Munich, and London

5th busiest airport in the US



Demographics



	Catawba County	Hickory MSA		Catawba County	Hickory MSA
Population (2021 ACS)	161,723	366,441	0-19 years	23.7%	22.5%
Population Growth (2016-2021)	3.4%	0.4%	20-24 years	6.4%	6.3%
Households (2021 ACS)	64,302	146,600	25-34 years	12.6%	11.7%
Median Household Income (2021)	\$59,603	\$52,737	35-44 years	11.0%	11.3%
Per Capita Income (2019)	\$31,038	\$29,107	45-54 years	13.6%	13.5%
Retail Sales (*14th highest in NC)	\$3.27B*	\$5.56B	55-64 years	14.0%	14.5%
Bank Deposits (*10th highest in NC)	\$3.50B*	\$5.61B	65+ years	18.7%	20.2%

Workforce Specialized in Manufacturing



45 minute drive time from County center

809,770 Population

402,790 Labor Force

	Company	Product	Employees
1	Corning Optical Comm.	Cable	1000+
2	CommScope Inc	Cable	1000+
3	GKN Driveline	Auto Supplies	500-999
4	AdvancePierre Foods Inc	Frozen Foods	500-999
5	Century Furniture LLC	Furniture	500-999
6	McCreary Modern Inc	Furniture	500-999
7	Sutter Street Manufacturing	Furniture	500-999
8	Shurtape Technologies	Adhesive Tapes	500-999
9	Bassett Furniture Industries of NC	Furniture	500-999
10	Prysmian Group	Cable	500-999

<1%
Unionization Rate

3.1%
Unemployment Rate
(September 2022)

1st
in NC and SC
for highest
concentration of
manufacturing

5th
in US for
highest
concentration of
manufacturing

31%
of workforce
employed in
Manufacturing
NC—12%
US—10%

425
Manufacturers
in Catawba
County

23,784
Workers
employed in
manufacturing
in Catawba
County

Education & Training



23
Colleges & Universities
within 50 miles

4
in Catawba County



Engineering degrees
& training
Enrollment: 50



4-year liberal arts
university
Enrollment: 2,405



4-year public
university
Enrollment:
Seated: 105
Online: 842



Technical/
Community College
Continuing Ed.
& Curriculum
Enrollment: 12,798