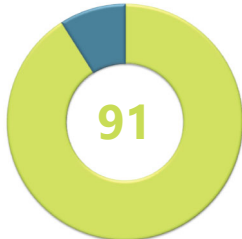


# AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURING

## Catawba County, North Carolina

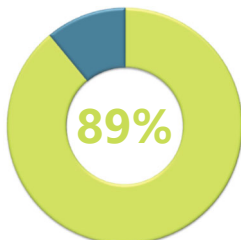
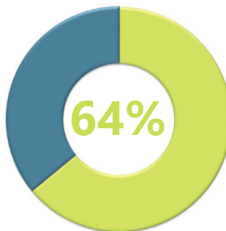
### Business Costs

**#1** in the US for  
lowest business costs as  
ranked by Forbes.com



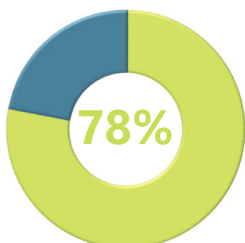
Cost of living  
index  
Charlotte=99  
NC=94  
US=100

% of the avg NC  
county tax rate  
\$0.3985 per  
\$100 valuation  
(additional municipal  
taxes range from  
\$0.38-\$0.50 per \$100  
valuation)

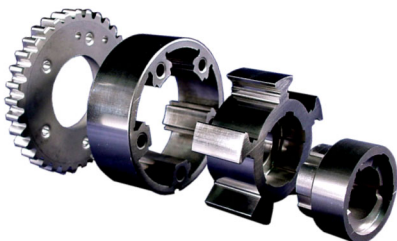


% of national  
avg for industrial  
electricity costs;  
7.15 cents/kWh  
(US Energy Info  
Administration)

**2.5%** NC corporate  
income tax rate,  
lowest in the US;  
dropping to zero by 2030



% of the US tax  
index for the  
manufacturing  
sector



### Automotive Suppliers in Catawba County

Company Name	Location	Local Employees	Industry Sector
GKN ePowerTrain	Maiden	1,000	Automotive Gears
HSM Solutions	Hickory, Conover, Claremont	700	Seating Components
Hanes Industries	Conover	150	Nonwoven Textiles
TSG Finishing	Hickory	150	Automobile Textile Finishing
ZF	Newton	200	Chassis Components
Poppelmann Plastics	Claremont	150	Plastic Automotive Parts
Pregis	Conover	100	Tape/Materials for Auto Protection
GKN Sinter Metals	Conover	50	Cam Caps & Transmission Components
Carolina Nonwovens	Maiden	63	Acoustical Insulation
Dalco Nonwovens	Conover	60	Interior Nonwoven Subfloor
RMC Advanced Technologies	Newton	45	Heavy Duty Truck Exteriors
LGM/Jelliff Corp	Hickory	10	Automotive Ignition Systems
Piedmont-Cleveland-Cliffs	Newton	15	Steel Plates for Heavy Trucks
Cataler NA	Hickory	30	Automotive Catalysts

### Logistics Network



**80%**  
of American & Canadian  
automotive plants are  
accessible within 1 day

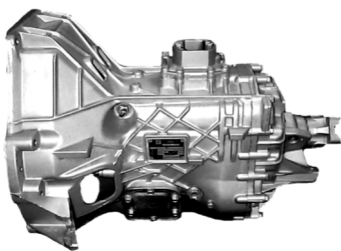
City	Distance	Drive Time
Charlotte, NC	59 miles	1 hr
Spartanburg, SC	87 miles	1 hr, 30 min
Charleston, SC	258 miles	3 hrs, 45 min
Atlanta, GA	258 miles	3 hrs, 45 min
Nashville, TN	368 miles	5 hrs, 30 min
Washington, DC	400 miles	6 hrs
Louisville, KY	433 miles	6 hrs, 30 min
Cincinnati, OH	438 miles	6 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



In the last five years, (2019-2023) the Catawba EDC has assisted in the creation of nearly **3,000 jobs** and over **\$2.3 billion** in investment.

"I moved here in 1996 and had the pleasure to work through numerous expansion projects with the Catawba EDC, establishing the GKN Maiden facility as a world leader in modern automotive all wheel drive systems. We have enjoyed a great operating environment and a great quality of life. I have found the City, the County, and the State of North Carolina to provide a pro-business environment with a low cost of doing business. We have partnered with the Community College for training in manufacturing technology and a German-style apprenticeship program. Of course, access to the nearby Charlotte International Airport also allows us five daily connections to Frankfurt and Europe."

**Jochen Wieland**  
VP Operations, All Wheel Drive & Transaxle Solutions  
GKN ePowerTrain



## Southeastern US Automotive OEMs & Sampling of Tier 1 Suppliers in NC

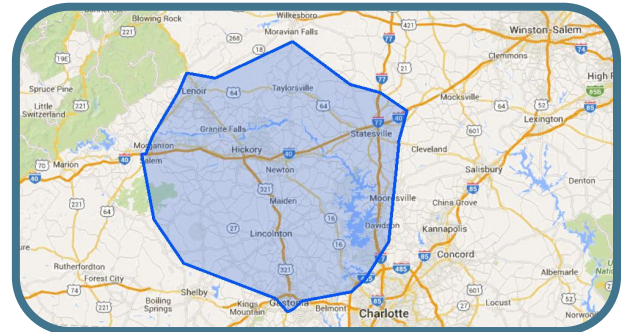


## Workforce

**822,985**  
population

**413,652**  
civilian labor force

Source: JobsEQ

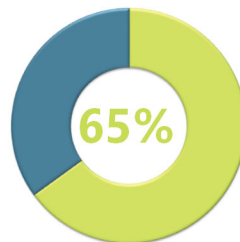


**421**  
manufacturers in  
Catawba County

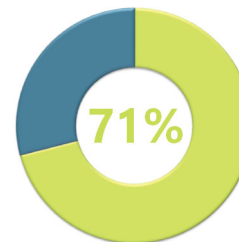
**1** (yes, one)  
unionized  
manufacturer

**23,778**  
employed by  
NC motor vehicle &  
parts manufacturers

**4,545**  
employed by motor  
vehicle & parts  
manufacturers within  
45-minute drive time



% of US avg wage  
for transportation.  
equipment mfg;  
80% of NC avg



% of US avg wage  
for mfg; 83% of  
NC avg

Source: BLS, Jobs EQ

## Electric Vehicle Manufacturers & Suppliers

ALBEMARLE



CELGARD

HEXAGON  
AGILITY

Livent

Thomas  
BUILT BUSES

ARRIVAL

PIEDMONT  
LITHIUM

POLYPORE

sgl carbon

TOYOTA

Wolfspeed