

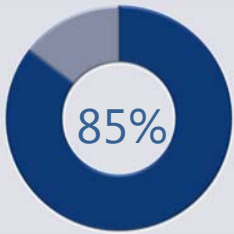
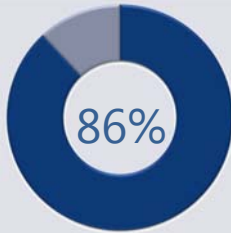
## Business Costs

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



cost of living index  
(Charlotte=97, US=100)

% of the avg NC county tax rate  
\$0.575 per \$100 valuation  
(additional municipal taxes range from \$0.38-\$0.5665 per \$100 valuation)



% of national avg for industrial electricity costs; 6.09 cents/kWh

3% NC corporate income tax rate, lowest in the US



% of the US tax index for the manufacturing sector



## Automotive Suppliers in Catawba County

Company Name	Location	Local Employees	Industry Sector
3M Polymask	Conover	100	Tape/Materials for Auto Protection
American Roller Bearing	Hickory	350	Anti-friction Bearings
Arcelor Mittal	Newton	12	Steel Plates for Heavy Trucks
Carolina Nonwovens	Maiden	62	Acoustical Insulation
Dalco Nonwovens	Conover	60	Interior Nonwoven Subfloor
GKN Driveline	Maiden	1,300	Automotive Gears
GKN Sinter Metals	Conover	99	Cam Caps & Transmission Components
Hanes Industries	Conover	250	Nonwoven Textiles
HSM Solutions	Hickory, Conover, Claremont	1,200	Seating Components
LGM/Jelliff Corp	Hickory	35	Automotive Ignition Systems
Continental Structural Plastics	Newton	50	Heavy Duty Truck Exteriors
Poppelmann Plastics	Claremont	50	Plastic Automobile Parts
TSG Finishing	Hickory	150	Automobile Textile Finishing
ZF	Newton	250	Chassis Components

## Logistics Network



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

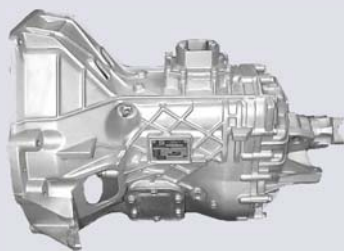
City	Distance	Drive Time
Charlotte, NC	59 miles	1 hr
Spartanburg, SC	82 miles	1 hr, 30 min
Charleston, SC	258 miles	3 hrs, 45 min
Atlanta, GA	258 miles	3 hrs, 45 min
Chattanooga, TN	288 miles	5 hrs
Washington, DC	400 miles	6 hrs
Cincinnati, OH	438 miles	6 hrs, 30 min
Detroit, MI	620 miles	9 hrs, 30 min
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, the Catawba EDC has assisted in the creation of over **2,000** jobs and over **\$2 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 Driveline**



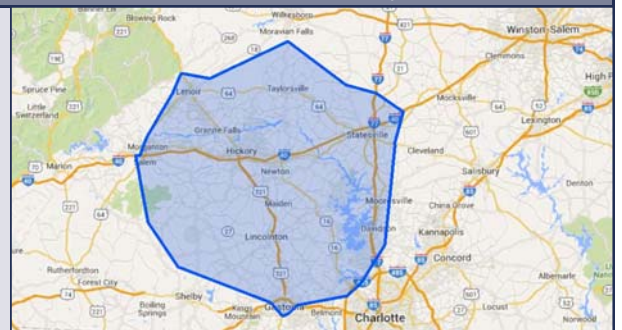
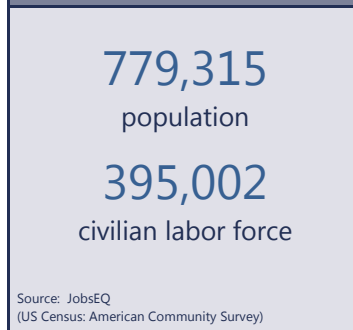
**Huffman Site — 42.46 acres**



The 42.46 acre Huffman Site is located less than 1 mile from I-40 and 50 minutes from the Charlotte Regional Airport. The site is zoned Industrial with all due diligence complete. The Norfolk Southern mainline is adjacent to the property. The site is available for purchase or a build-to-suit opportunity.

**Workforce**

45 minute drive time from the center of Catawba County

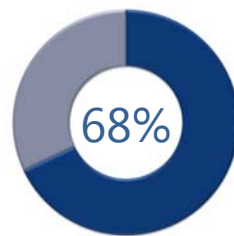


**420**  
 manufacturers in  
 Catawba County

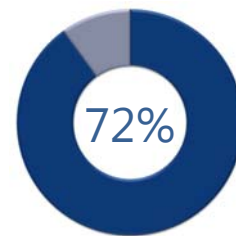
**1** (yes, one)  
 unionized  
 manufacturer

**26,400**  
 employed by  
 NC motor vehicle &  
 parts manufacturers

**5,300**  
 employed by motor  
 vehicle & parts  
 manufacturers within  
 45 minute drive time



% of US avg wage  
 for transportation.  
 equipment mfg;  
 79.0% of NC avg



% of US avg wage  
 for mfg; 82.9% of  
 NC avg

Source: JobsEQ (Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages)

**Automotive Cluster**

**34**  
 of the top 150 North  
 American OEM parts  
 suppliers have  
 facilities in NC

**19**  
 of the top 150 North  
 American OEM parts  
 suppliers have  
 multiple facilities in NC

**2**  
 of the largest OEM parts  
 suppliers are located in  
 Catawba County—ZF &  
 GKN Driveline

**Catawba County EDC**  
 Julie Pruett, Director of Recruitment

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