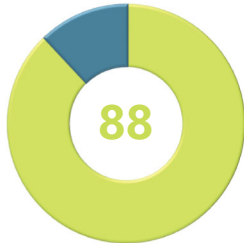


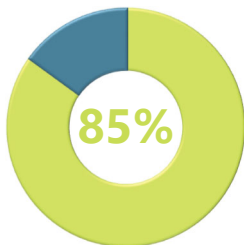
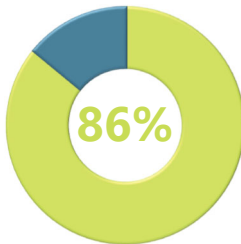
Business Costs

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



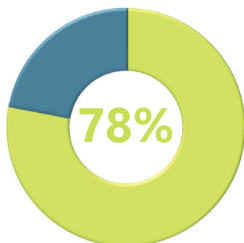
cost of living
index
(Charlotte=97,
US=100)

% of the avg NC
county tax rate
\$0.575 per \$100
valuation
(additional municipal
taxes range from
\$0.38-\$0.5875 per
\$100 valuation)

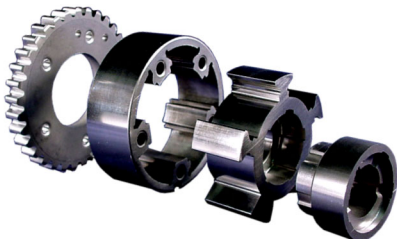


% of national
avg for industrial
electricity costs;
6.09 cents/kWh

2.5% 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, Clarendon	1,200	Seating Components
LGM/Jelliff Corp	Hickory	35	Automotive Ignition Systems
Continental Structural Plastics	Newton	50	Heavy Duty Truck Exteriors
Poppelmann Plastics	Clarendon	50	Plastic Automobile Parts
TSG Finishing	Hickory	150	Automobile Textile Finishing
ZF	Newton	250	Chassis Components

Logistics Network



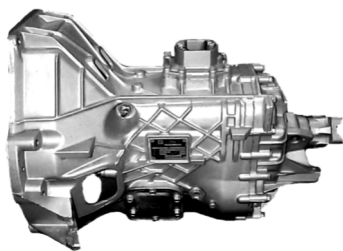
City	Distance	Drive Time
Charlotte, NC	59 miles	1 hr
Spartanburg, SC	87 miles	1 hr, 30 min
Charleston, SC	258 miles	3 hrs, 45 min
Atlanta, GA	258 miles	3 hrs, 45 min
Nashville, TN	368 miles	5 hrs, 30 min
Washington, DC	400 miles	6 hrs
Louisville, KY	433 miles	6 hrs, 30 min
Cincinnati, OH	438 miles	6 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, the Catawba EDC has assisted in the creation of over **2,000** jobs and over **\$2.4 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



Trivium Corporate Center



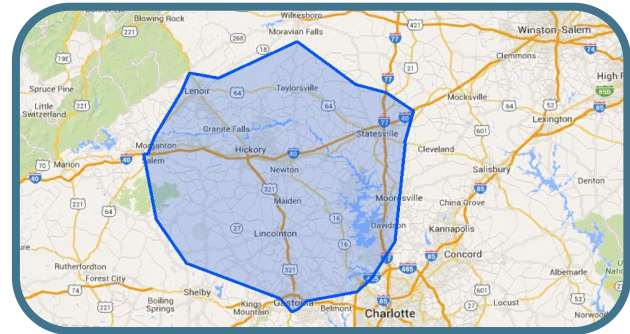
Trivium Corporate Center is a 270-acre Class A business park in Hickory, NC. The EDC-controlled park is zoned for office and light industrial and is located less than 2 miles from Interstate 40 and less than one hour from Charlotte Douglas International Airport. Conveniently located less than 1 mile from shopping, hotels and restaurants in the Hickory MSA's commercial center, the site is also ideal for corporate headquarters and is less than 1 mile from Catawba Valley Community College and its Workforce Solutions Complex.

Workforce

779,315
 population

395,002
 civilian labor force

Source: JobsEQ
 (US Census: American Community Survey)

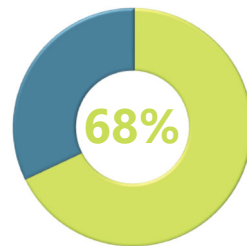


425
 manufacturers in
 Catawba County

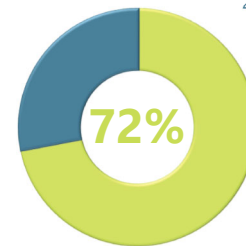
1 (yes, one)
 unionized
 manufacturer

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