



We continue with our series of the “Best of Economic Development in the American South” with the “Best of the Southern Auto Corridor.” The timing is great for publishing this considering Toyota and Mazda are currently searching the Southern Automotive Corridor for a site for a new plant.

The results are based on SB&D’s knowledge of the auto industry in the region, data from SouthernAutoCorridor.com and a poll of members of the Southern Economic Development Roundtable.

There are 10 categories per state in the “Best of the Southern Auto Corridor” and the communities or sites chosen are listed based on what we believe are the top of their classes.

We think you will enjoy reading the results of the “Best of the Southern Auto Corridor.” By a wide margin, the automotive industry is the largest in the South and has topped all sectors in large project counts in 22 out of the last 23 years. Again, this unique forum can help guide you and your business to a profitable place in the American South, the fourth largest economy in the world.



Mercedes-Benz is nearing the end of a major, \$1.3 billion expansion of its plant in Vance, Ala., where the German automaker assembles SUVs and the C-Class sedan.

best of alabama

1. Alabama’s Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- AIDT
- Alabama Community College System
- Low cost utilities
- Port of Mobile
- Workforce
- Right to work laws

Also receiving votes: Available sites; Business climate; Four OEMs in the State; Incentives; Location; Low operating costs.

2. Alabama’s Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- Mercedes-Benz
- Honda
- Hyundai
- Toyota

Also receiving votes: DENSO; Eissmann; Faurecia; Gestamp; Glovis; Johnson Controls; Kamtek; Lear; Mando; Nemak; North American Lighting; REHAU; SMP; Topre; Toyota Boshoku; Yoruzu; ZF.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in Alabama

- Alabama Robotics Technology Park
- Auburn University
- Southern Alliance for Advanced Vehicle Manufacturing
- University of Alabama Huntsville

Also receiving votes: REHAU R&D Center; Southern Research Institute; University of Alabama.

4. Alabama’s Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Wallace State Community College
- Beville State Community College
- Calhoun Community College
- Jefferson State Community College

Also receiving votes: Faulkner State; Shelton State; Northeast Alabama.

5. Best Sites in Alabama for OEMs

- Limestone County Site - Huntsville, Ala.
- South Alabama Megasite - Baldwin County, Ala.
- Wasden Russell Property - Montgomery County, Ala.
- Westervelt Calera Megasite - Shelby County, Ala.

6. Best Places in North Alabama for Parts Suppliers

- Cullman County - Cullman, Ala.
- Morgan County - Decatur, Ala.
- Etowah County - Gadsden, Ala.
- The Shoals - Florence, Ala.

Also receiving votes: Limestone County - Athens, Ala.; Madison County - Huntsville, Ala.; Marion County - Hamilton, Ala..

7. Best Places in West Alabama for Parts Suppliers

- Tuscaloosa County - Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Walker County - Jasper, Ala.
- Marion County - Hamilton, Ala.
- Dallas County - Selma, Ala.

8. Best Places in Central Alabama for Parts Suppliers

- Montgomery County - Montgomery, Ala.
- Jefferson County - Birmingham, Ala.
- Shelby County - Calera, Ala.
- Talladega County, Ala. - Talladega, Ala.
- Elmore County - Wetumpka, Ala.

Also receiving votes: Autauga County - Prattville, Ala.; Bibb County - Centreville, Ala.

9. Best Places in East Alabama for Parts Suppliers

- Lee County - Auburn, Ala.
- Lee County - Opelika, Ala.
- Calhoun County - Anniston, Ala.
- Chambers County - Lafayette, Ala.

10. Best Places in South Alabama for Parts Suppliers

- Baldwin County - Bay Minette, Ala.
- Coffee County, Ala. - Enterprise, Ala.
- Dale County - Ozark, Ala.
- Crenshaw County, Ala. - Luverne, Ala.
- Butler County, Ala. - Greenville, Ala.

Also receiving votes: Houston County - Dothan, Ala.

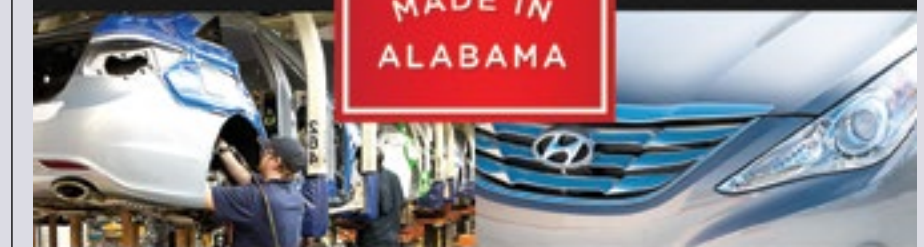


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best of georgia



Kia — one of Georgia's most important employers in the auto industry — operates its plant in West Point, Ga.

1. Georgia's Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- Georgia's Quick Start training program
- Right to work laws
- Georgia ports
- Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

Also receiving votes: Available sites; Business climate; Workforce.

2. Georgia's Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- Kia Motors
- Mercedes-Benz
- Honda
- Mando

Also receiving votes: Blue Bird; General Motors; Johnson Controls; Pirelli Tire; Porsche; Robert Bosch; Sewon; Toyo Tire; ZF.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in Georgia

- Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute
- Georgia Center of Innovation for Manufacturing
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Porsche Headquarters - Atlanta

Also receiving votes: Georgia Tech Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Machines; Georgia Tech Research Institute.

4. Georgia's Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- West Georgia Technical College
- Dalton State
- Augusta Technical College

Also receiving votes: Lanier Technical College; South Georgia Technical College.

5. Best Sites in Georgia for Automotive OEMs

- Heart of Georgia Mega Site - Dublin, Ga.
- Tradeport West - Midway, Ga.
- Georgia Historic Heartland Megasite - Social Circle, Ga.
- Augusta Corporate Park - Augusta, Ga.

Also receiving votes: South Cook Industrial Park - Adel, Ga.; Belfast Commerce Park - Richmond Hill, Ga.; Sibley Smith Industrial Park - Milledgeville, Ga.; Bridgeport Site - Coweta County, Ga.

6. Best Places in North Georgia for Parts Suppliers

- Gwinnett County - Lawrenceville, Ga.
- Bartow County - Cartersville, Ga.
- Hall County - Gainesville, Ga.
- Cherokee County - Canton, Ga.

Also receiving votes: Jackson County - Jefferson, Ga.; Whitfield County - Dalton, Ga.; Catoosa County - Ringgold, Ga.; Floyd County - Rome, Ga.; Franklin County - Carnesville, Ga.; Hart County - Hartwell, Ga.; Walker County - Lafayette, Ga.; Walton County - Monroe, Ga.

7. Best Places in West Georgia for Parts Suppliers

- Troup County - La Grange, Ga.
- Carroll County - Carrollton, Ga.
- Meriwether County - Greenville, Ga.
- Coweta County - Newnan, Ga.
- Muscogee County - Columbus, Ga.

Also receiving votes: Haralson County - Buchanan, Ga.

8. Best Places in Central Georgia for Parts Suppliers

- Laurens County - Dublin, Ga.
- Henry County - McDonough, Ga.
- Spalding County - Griffin, Ga.
- Bibb County - Macon, Ga.
- Clayton County - Jonesboro, Ga.

Also receiving votes: Fayette County - Fayetteville, Ga.; Newton County - Covington, Ga.

9. Best Places in East Georgia for Parts Suppliers

- Bulloch County - Statesboro, Ga.
- Chatham County - Savannah, Ga.
- Liberty County - Hinesville, Ga.
- Bryan County - Pembroke, Ga.

10. Best Places in South Georgia for Parts Suppliers

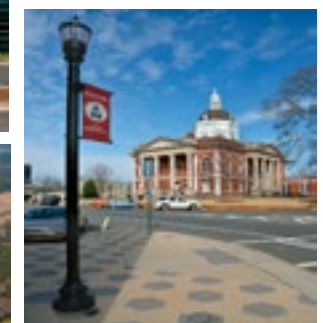
- Cook County - Adel, Ga.
- Tift County - Tifton, Ga.
- Thomas County - Thomasville, Ga.
- Coffee County - Douglas, Ga.

Also receiving votes: Dougherty County - Albany, Ga.; Lowndes County - Valdosta, Ga.

Mercedes-Benz is finishing up its new North American headquarters in the Atlanta suburb of Sandy Springs.



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best of kentucky



Toyota's luxury line, Lexus, is only made in one place in the U.S. — Georgetown, Ky.

1. Kentucky's Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- Right to work laws
- Location
- Large automotive assembly and supplier network
- Excellent road, rail and air freight network

Also receiving votes: Kentucky Community & Technical College System; Workforce; Air freight hubs.

2. Kentucky's Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- Ford
- Toyota
- General Motors

Also receiving votes: Akebono Brake; ArvinMeritor; Dana; Hitachi Automotive; Martinrea.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in Kentucky

- University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER)
- University of Louisville Speed School/EV-STS Partnership
- Conn Center for Renewable Energy Research
- Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation

4. Kentucky's Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Elizabethtown Community & Technical College
- Southcentral Kentucky Community & Technical College
- Jefferson Community & Technical College
- Owensboro Community & Technical College

Also receiving votes: Hopkinsville Community College; Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College; Bluegrass Community & Technical College.

5. Best Sites in Kentucky for OEMs

- Glendale Megasite - Hardin County, Ky.
- West Kentucky Megasite - Graves County, Ky.
- 4 Star Regional Industrial Park - Henderson County, Ky.
- Bluegrass Crossings Business Centre - Ohio County, Ky.
- Kentucky Transpark - Warren County, Ky.

Also receiving votes: Paradise Regional Business Park - Muhlenberg County, Ky.; Washington County Commerce Center - Washington County, Ky.; Commerce Industrial Park - Christian County, Ky.

6. Best Places in North Kentucky for Parts Suppliers

- Jefferson County - Louisville, Ky.
- Scott County - Georgetown, Ky.
- Boone County - Florence, Ky.

CONTINUED

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At a second Louisville plant, Ford makes the Ford Escape as well as Lincoln SUVs.



7. Best Places in West Kentucky for Parts Suppliers

- Christian County - Hopkinsville, Ky.
- Henderson County - Henderson, Ky.
- Daviess County - Owensboro, Ky.
- Calloway County - Murray, Ky.
- Graves County - Mayfield, Ky.

Also receiving votes: Trigg County - Cadiz, Ky.

8. Best Places in Central Kentucky for Parts Suppliers

- Fayette County - Lexington, Ky.
- Boyle County - Danville, Ky.
- Nelson County - Bardstown, Ky.

- Hardin County - Elizabethtown, Ky.
- Madison County - Richmond, Ky.
- Marion County - Lebanon, Ky.

Also receiving votes: Mercer County - Harrodsburg, Ky.

9. Best Places in East Kentucky for Parts Suppliers

- Clark County - Winchester, Ky.
- Mason County - Maysville, Ky.
- Boyd County - Ashland, Ky.
- Rowan County - Morehead, Ky.

- Montgomery County - Mt. Sterling, Ky.

10. Best Places in South Kentucky for Parts Suppliers

- Warren County - Bowling Green, Ky.
- Simpson County - Franklin, Ky.
- Pulaski County - Somerset, Ky.
- Barren County - Glasgow, Ky.
- Laurel County - London, Ky.

Also receiving votes: Russell County - Jamestown, Ky.; Whitley/Knox Counties - Corbin.



A well-trained workforce assembles the Toyota Corolla at the Japanese automaker's plant in Blue Springs, Miss.

1. Mississippi's Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- Abundant water and energy
- Right to work laws
- Aggressive state and local incentives
- Low operating costs
- Workforce

Also receiving votes: Location.

2. Mississippi's Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- Nissan
- Toyota
- Continental
- Yokohama

Also receiving votes: PACCAR; Cooper Tires; FEUER Powertrain; Toyota Boshoku; BorgWarner; GRAMMER.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in Mississippi

- Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems at Mississippi State
- Center for Manufacturing Excellence
- Mississippi Polymer Institute

4. Mississippi's Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Northeast Mississippi Community College

- Northwest Mississippi Community College
- East Mississippi Community College
- Hinds Community College

Also receiving votes: Itawamba Community College; Jones County Community College; Pearl River Community College.

5. Best Sites in Mississippi for OEMs

- Infinity Megasite - Columbus, Miss.
- Golden Triangle Industrial Park - Columbus, Miss.
- The Hive - Tupelo, Miss.
- Tunica Metro Megasite - Tunica, Miss.

Also receiving votes: I-55 Industrial Park.

6. Best Places in North Mississippi for Parts Suppliers

- Lee County - Tupelo, Miss.
- Tishomingo County - Iuka, Miss.
- Tunica County - Tunica, Miss.
- Union County - New Albany, Miss.
- Tate County - Senatobia, Miss.

Also receiving votes: Pontotoc County - Pontotoc, Miss.; Itawamba County - Fulton, Miss.

7. Best Places in West Mississippi for Parts Suppliers

- Warren County - Vicksburg, Miss.

- Tunica County - Tunica, Miss.
- Sunflower County - Indianola, Miss.

8. Best Places in Central Mississippi for Parts Suppliers

- Madison County - Canton, Miss.
- Hinds County - Jackson, Miss.
- Rankin County - Brandon, Miss.

Also receiving votes: Attala County - Kosciusko, Miss.; Grenada County - Grenada, Miss.

9. Best Places in East Mississippi for Parts Suppliers

- Lowndes County - Columbus, Miss.
- Lee County - Tupelo, Miss.
- Clay County - West Point, Miss.
- Lauderdale County - Meridian, Miss.
- Oktibbeha County - Starkville, Miss.

Also receiving votes: Monroe County - Aberdeen, Miss.

10. Best Places in South Mississippi for Parts Suppliers

- Adams County - Natchez, Miss.
- Jones County - Laurel, Miss.
- Pike County - Magnolia, Miss.

Also receiving votes: Lincoln County - Brookhaven, Miss.



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- Nearly 10,000 community members belong to Louisville's maker and hacker spaces
- 10 products launched to market in first year from FirstBuild – a collaborative makerspace micro-factory



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best of missouri



About 7,000 people work at Ford's Kansas City Assembly Plant where the ultra-popular F-150 is made.

1. Missouri's Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- Central location
- Quality workforce
- Incentives
- Right to work laws

2. Missouri's Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- Ford
- General Motors
- Eaton Cooper Bussman
- Magna

Also receiving votes: LMV Automotive; Faurecia; Federal Mogul; Johnson Controls; Lear; Detroit Tool; American Performance Technologies; Leggett & Platt; Yanfeng.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in Missouri

- Emerson Center for Engineering Manufacturing
- Missouri State University Center for Applied Science and Engineering
- Institute of Materials Science & Engineering

4. Missouri's Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Metropolitan Community College
- Ozarks Technical Community College
- Ranken Technical College
- St. Louis Community College

Also receiving votes: State Technical College; St. Charles Community College.

5. Best Sites in Missouri for OEMs

- Ewing Industrial Park - Boone County, Mo.
- Moberly Area Industrial Park - Randolph County, Mo.
- KCI Intermodal Business Centre - Kansas City, Mo.

6. Best Places in North Missouri for Parts Suppliers

- Clay County - Liberty, Mo.
- Jackson County - Kansas City, Mo.
- Platte County - Platte City, Mo.
- Randolph County - Moberly, Mo.

Also receiving votes: Adair County - Kirksville, Mo.; Cass County - Harrisonville, Mo.; Nodaway County - Maryville, Mo.

7. Best Places in West Missouri for Parts Suppliers

- Jackson County - Kansas City, Mo.
- Clay County - Liberty, Mo.
- Jasper County - Joplin, Mo.
- Johnson County - Warrensburg, Mo.

Also receiving votes: Newton County - Neosho, Mo.; Cass County - Harrisonville, Mo.

8. Best Places in Central Missouri for Parts Suppliers

- Boone County - Columbia, Mo.
- Pettis County - Sedalia, Mo.
- Laclede County - Lebanon, Mo.

9. Best Places in East Missouri for Parts Suppliers

- St. Charles County - St. Charles, Mo.
- St. Louis County - Clayton, Mo.
- Warren County - Warrenton, Mo.
- Franklin County - Union, Mo.

Also receiving votes: Jefferson County - Hillsboro, Mo.

10. Best Places in South Missouri for Parts Suppliers

- Greene County - Springfield, Mo.
- Jasper County - Joplin, Mo.
- Cape Girardeau County - Cape Girardeau, Mo.
- Christian County - Ozark, Mo.



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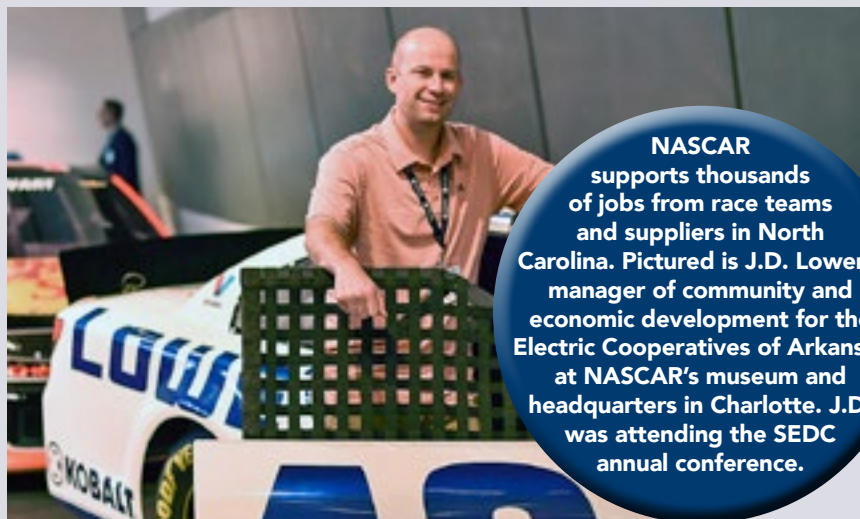
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best of north carolina



NASCAR supports thousands of jobs from race teams and suppliers in North Carolina. Pictured is J.D. Lowery, manager of community and economic development for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas at NASCAR's museum and headquarters in Charlotte. J.D. was attending the SEDC annual conference.

1. North Carolina's Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- Right to work laws
- Several certified megasites
- Competitive energy costs
- Transportation infrastructure
- Deep-water seaports

Also receiving votes: Business-friendly labor environment; Low tax burden; Expansive rail system.

2. North Carolina's Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- Aisin AW North Carolina
- Continental
- NASCAR
- Freightliner
- BorgWarner

Also receiving votes: DENSO; Goodyear; GKN Driveline; Daimler; Cooper Standard; Bridgestone; Thomas Built Buses.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in North Carolina

- North Carolina Center for Automotive Research
- North Carolina Motorsports and Automotive Research Center
- Advanced Transportation Energy Center
- Future Renewable Electric Energy Delivery and Management Systems Center

4. North Carolina's Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Forsyth Technical Community College
- Catawba Valley Community College
- Central Piedmont Community College
- Rowan-Cabarrus Community College

Also receiving votes: Wake Technical Community College.

5. Best Sites in North Carolina for OEMs

- Chatham-Siler City Advanced Manufacturing Site - Chatham County, N.C.
- Kingsboro Megasite - Edgecombe County, N.C.
- Greensboro-Randolph Megasite - Randolph County, N.C.
- The Moncure Megasite - Chatham County, N.C.

6. Best Places in Northern North Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Forsyth County - Winston-Salem, N.C.
- Guilford County - Greensboro, N.C.
- Durham County - Durham, N.C.
- Person County - Roxboro, N.C.

Also receiving votes: Granville County - Oxford, N.C.

7. Best Places in Western North Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Buncombe County - Asheville, N.C.
- Henderson County - Hendersonville, N.C.
- Catawba County - Hickory, N.C.
- Rutherford County - Rutherfordton, N.C.
- Burke County - Morganton, N.C.

Also receiving votes: Cleveland County - Shelby, N.C.; Polk County - Columbus, N.C.; Caldwell County - Lenoir.

8. Best Places in Central North Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Mecklenburg County - Charlotte, N.C.
- Iredell County - Statesville, N.C.
- Cabarrus County - Concord, N.C.
- Lee County - Sanford, N.C.
- Lincoln County - Lincolnton, N.C.
- Stanly County - Albemarle, N.C.
- Randolph County - Asheboro, N.C.

Also receiving votes: Alamance County - Graham, N.C.; Harnett County - Lillington, N.C.; Davidson County - Lexington, N.C.; Chatham County - Pittsboro, N.C.; Johnston County - Smithfield, N.C.

9. Best Places in East North Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Wayne County - Goldsboro, N.C.
- Pitt County - Greenville, N.C.
- Cumberland County - Fayetteville, N.C.
- Edgecombe County - Tarboro, N.C.
- Nash County - Rocky Mount, N.C.

10. Best Places in Southern North Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Robeson County - Lumberton, N.C.
- Gaston County - Gastonia, N.C.
- Union County - Monroe, N.C.
- Columbus County - Whiteville, N.C.

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best of south carolina



In 2015, South Carolina landed two new assembly plants — Volvo and Mercedes-Benz. Pictured is the groundbreaking of the Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Van plant in North Charleston.

1. South Carolina's Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- readySC workforce training program
- Port of Charleston
- Right to work laws
- Competitive energy costs

Also receiving votes: Technical college system; Skilled workforce; Aggressive state and local incentives; Economic development leadership.

2. South Carolina's Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- BMW
- Volvo
- Michelin
- Mercedes-Benz
- Bridgestone
- Continental Tire

Also receiving votes: ZF Transmissions; Giti Tire; Honda; MTU; Robert Bosch; Nucor; Timken; KEMET; BorgWarner; Koyo; Schaeffler.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in South Carolina

- Clemson University's International Center for Automotive Research
- International Transportation Innovation Center
- SCRA Applied Technologies
- SCLaunch

4. South Carolina's Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Midlands Technical College
- Aiken Technical College
- Greenville Technical College

Also receiving votes: Piedmont Technical College; Calhoun Technical College; York Technical College; Trident Technical College.

5. Best Sites in South Carolina for OEMs

- I-26 Megasite - Newberry County, S.C.
- I-95 Megasite - Clarendon County, S.C.
- Carolinas I-95 Megasite - Dillon County, S.C.
- Central South Carolina Megasite - Kershaw County, S.C.

Also receiving votes: White Hawk Megasite - Florence County, S.C.

6. Best Places in Northern South Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Spartanburg County - Spartanburg, S.C.
- Greenville County - Greenville, S.C.
- York County - Rock Hill, S.C.
- Florence County - Florence, S.C.
- Chester County - Chester, S.C.

Also receiving votes: Chesterfield County - Chesterfield, S.C.

7. Best Places in Western South Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Greenville County, S.C. - Greenville, S.C.
- Aiken County, S.C. - Aiken, S.C.
- Anderson County - Anderson, S.C.
- Laurens County - Laurens, S.C.
- Newberry County - Newberry, S.C.
- Pickens County - Pickens, S.C.

Also receiving votes: Oconee County - Walhalla, S.C.; Cherokee County - Gaffney, S.C.

8. Best Places in Central South Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Aiken County, S.C. - Aiken, S.C.
- Sumter County - Sumter, S.C.
- Richland County - Columbia, S.C.
- Lexington County - Lexington, S.C.
- Orangeburg County - Orangeburg, S.C.
- Kershaw County - Camden, S.C.

9. Best Places in Eastern South Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Berkeley County - Moncks Corner, S.C.
- Charleston County - Charleston, S.C.
- Florence County - Florence, S.C.
- Darlington County - Darlington, S.C.
- Clarendon County - Manning, S.C.

10. Best Places in Southern South Carolina for Parts Suppliers

- Charleston County - Charleston, S.C.
- Berkeley County - Moncks Corner, S.C.
- Dorchester County - Summerville, S.C.

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best of tennessee



Nissan's North American headquarters is located in a Nashville suburb in Williamson County, Tenn.

1. Tennessee's Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- Location
- Large automotive assembly and supplier network
- Right to work laws
- Competitive energy costs

Also receiving votes: TVA power; Free community college; Large and talented workforce.

2. Tennessee's Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- Nissan
- Volkswagen
- General Motors
- Bridgestone
- DENSO

Also receiving votes: Hankook Tire; Calsonic Kansei; Magneti Marelli; SL Tennessee; Yorozu; Alcoa; Dupont; M-Tek.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in Tennessee

- Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- UT Center for Industrial Services
- Middle Tennessee STEM Innovation Hub
- ETSU Northeast Tennessee STEM Innovation Hub

Also receiving votes: Center for Manufacturing Research at Tennessee Tech.

4. Tennessee's Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Chattanooga State
- Pellissippi State
- Southwest Tennessee
- Jackson State

Also receiving votes: Volunteer State; Walters State .

5. Best Sites in Tennessee for OEMs

- Memphis Regional Megasite - Haywood County, Tenn.
- Clarksville-Montgomery County Corporate Business Park North
- East Tennessee Progress Center - Morristown, Tenn.
- Heritage Center - Oak Ridge, Tenn.
- Bill Collins Site - Sumner County, Tenn.
- Plateau Partnership Park - Roane County, Tenn.

Also receiving votes: Partnership Park II - Bristol, Tenn.; Highlands Business Park - Cookeville, Tenn.;

6. Best Places in North Tennessee for Parts Suppliers

- Montgomery County - Clarksville, Tenn.
- Davidson County, - Nashville, Tenn.
- Sumner County - Gallatin, Tenn.
- Wilson County - Lebanon, Tenn.

7. Best Places in West Tennessee for Parts Suppliers

- Shelby County - Memphis, Tenn.
- Madison County - Jackson, Tenn.
- Dyer County - Dyersburg, Tenn.
- Obion County - Union City, Tenn.

Also receiving votes: Haywood County - Brownsville; Fayette County - Somerville.

8. Best Places in Central Tennessee for Parts Suppliers

- Rutherford County - Murfreesboro, Tenn.
- Maury County - Columbia, Tenn.
- Wilson County - Lebanon, Tenn.
- Putnam County - Cookeville, Tenn.

Also receiving votes: Bedford County - Shelbyville, Tenn.; Dickson County - Charlotte, Tenn.; Warren County - McMinnville, Tenn. Lewis County - Hohenwald, Tenn.; Cumberland County - Crossville, Tenn.

9. Best Places in East Tennessee for Parts Suppliers

- Knox County - Knoxville, Tenn.
- Anderson County - Clinton, Tenn.
- Hamblen County - Morristown, Tenn.
- Blount County - Maryville, Tenn.
- Washington County - Johnson City, Tenn.
- Sullivan County - Blountville, Tenn.
- Roane County - Kingston, Tenn.

Also receiving votes: Greene County - Greeneville, Tenn.; Rhea County - Dayton, Tenn.; Loudon County - Loudon, Tenn.

10. Best Places in South Tennessee for Parts Suppliers

- Hamilton County - Chattanooga, Tenn.
- Giles County - Pulaski, Tenn.
- Bradley County - Cleveland, Tenn.
- Coffee County - Manchester, Tenn.
- McMinn County - Athens, Tenn.

Also receiving votes: Franklin County - Winchester, Tenn.; Lincoln County - Fayetteville, Tenn.; Lawrence County - Lawrenceburg, Tenn.



best of texas



GM is finishing up a \$1.3 billion expansion at its plant in Arlington, Texas.

1. Texas' Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- Large population and labor shed
- Right to work laws
- Border commerce with Mexico
- Deep-water ports

Also receiving votes: Competitive energy costs.

2. Texas' Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- General Motors
- Toyota
- Peterbilt
- Continental Automotive Systems

Also receiving votes: DENSO; Lear; IAC Group; JTEKT; Johnson Controls; Federal Mogul; DANA; Tenneco; Asahi Glass; HOERBIGER; Global Products; Mueller; Toyotetsu; Takami Stamping; Forma Automotive; MetoKote.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in Texas

- Southwest Research Institute Office of Automotive Engineering
- Texas Instruments (automotive semiconductors)
- Samsung (auto semiconductors)

4. Texas' Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Tarrant County College
- Richland College
- Northwest Vista College
- El Paso Community College
- Laredo Community College

5. Best Sites in Texas for OEMs

- Hutto-Taylor Megasite (located between Hutto and Taylor, Texas)
- Alliance Texas - Fort Worth, Texas
- Cedar Port Industrial Park - Houston, Texas
- Port of Corpus Christi Industrial District I - Corpus Christi, Texas

6. Best Places in North Texas for Parts Suppliers

- Tarrant County - Fort Worth, Texas
- Denton County - Denton, Texas
- Collin County - McKinney, Texas
- Ellis County - Ennis, Texas
- Wise County - Decatur, Texas

Also receiving votes: Dallas County - Dallas, Texas; Wichita - Wichita Falls, Texas; Grayson County - Sherman, Texas.

7. Best Places in West Texas for Parts Suppliers

- El Paso County - El Paso, Texas
- Lubbock County - Lubbock, Texas

8. Best Places in Central Texas for Parts Suppliers

- McLennan County - Waco, Texas
- Hays County - San Marcos, Texas
- Bell County - Belton, Texas
- Williamson County - Georgetown, Texas

Also receiving votes: Hill County - Hillsboro, Texas.

9. Best Places in East Texas for Parts Suppliers

- Harris County - Houston, Texas
- Smith County - Tyler, Texas
- Gregg County - Longview, Texas
- Austin County - Sealy, Texas

10. Best Places in South Texas for Parts Suppliers

- Bexar County - San Antonio, Texas
- Hidalgo County - McAllen, Texas
- Cameron County - Brownsville, Texas
- Webb County - Laredo, Texas

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best of virginia



Volvo Trucks of America has a large assembly plant in Dublin, Va.

1. Virginia's Best Assets for the Automotive Industry

- Right to work laws
- Easy access to the South, Northeast and Midwest
- Port of Virginia

2. Virginia's Most Important Employers in the Automotive Industry

- Volvo Truck
- Continental
- Volkswagen
- Federal Mogul

Also receiving votes: Corning; Goodyear; Metalsa; Toray; Tenneco.

3. The Best in Automotive R&D in Virginia

- Virginia Tech Transportation Institute
- Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing
- Global Center for Automotive Performance Simulation
- National Center for Coatings, Application, Research and Education

Also receiving votes: Center for Collision Safety and Analysis.

4. Virginia's Best Community Colleges for Automotive Worker Training

- Patrick Henry Community College
- Virginia Western Community College
- Southside Community College
- Northern Virginia Community College

Also receiving votes: Dabney S. Lancaster Community College; New River Community College.

5. Best Sites in Virginia for OEMs

- Mid-Atlantic Advanced Manufacturing Center - Greensville County, Va.
- Sussex Megasite - Sussex County, Va.
- Commonwealth Crossing - Henry County, Va.
- Berry Hill MegaPark - Pittsylvania County, Va.
- Chesterfield County Site

Also receiving votes: Shirley T. Holland Intermodal Park - Isle of Wight County, Va.

6. Best Places in Northern Virginia for Parts Suppliers

- Rockingham County - Harrisonburg, Va.
- Culpeper County - Culpeper, Va.
- Frederick County - Winchester, Va.
- Shenandoah County - Woodstock, Va.
- Warren County - Front Royal, Va.

7. Best Places in Western Virginia for Parts Suppliers

- Roanoke County - Roanoke, Va.
- Montgomery County - Christiansburg, Va.
- Pulaski County - Pulaski, Va.
- Smyth County - Marion, Va.
- Wythe County - Wytheville, Va.
- Botetourt County - Fincastle, Va.

Also receiving votes: Washington County - Abingdon, Va.

8. Best Places in Central Virginia for Parts Suppliers

- Bedford County - Lynchburg, Va.
- Campbell County - Rustburg, Va.
- Rockbridge County - Lexington, Va.

9. Best Places in East Virginia for Parts Suppliers

- Chesterfield County - Chesterfield, Va.
- Virginia Beach - Virginia Beach, Va.
- Chesapeake - Chesapeake, Va.
- Newport News - Newport News, Va.
- Greenville County - Emporia, Va.

10. Best Places in South Virginia for Parts Suppliers

- Henry County - Martinsville, Va.
- Pittsylvania County - Danville, Va.
- Halifax County - South Boston, Va.
- Lunenburg County - Lunenburg, Va.

Also receiving votes: Charlotte County - Keysville, Va. 📍

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