

MANUFACTURING



#1

**Best state
for business**

—Forbes

28,200

**Manufacturing jobs
in Durham County**

—edpnc.org

#5

**Best state for
manufacturing**

—Site Selection Group

NC has the largest manufacturing workforce in the Southeast. We offer four international airports, two deep water seaports and a strong rail system that enhances our supply chain advantages. We also have the second-largest state-owned highway system in the nation, consisting of more than 90,000 miles of road with easy access to some of the country's most important transportation corridors.

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KEY INDUSTRIES

HOME TO ESTABLISHED COMPANIES

Durham's roots were planted around 1870 in the tobacco industry, with the Bull Durham factory at the time being the largest producer of smoking tobacco in the United States.

Today there are **7,763 manufacturing organizations in North Carolina**, accounting for 19.04% of the total output in the state. (source: NCMEP) Automotive companies choose Durham County for its strong combination of location, highly educated workforce, existing industry strength, and business-friendly environment.



WITH THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR AS #1 STATE FOR BUSINESS, EVEN MORE COMPANIES ARE GROWING IN DURHAM:

In July of 2019, Merck selected Durham County as a site for new projects. The company will **invest more than \$650 million and create more than 400 jobs** over five years. Read more [here](#).

The largest school bus manufacturer in the country, Thomas Built Buses has thrived in NC for more than 100 years, and **33 of the top 100** global OEM automotive parts suppliers in North America have operations in NC.

MEET THE DURHAM WORKFORCE

