



Report Cover Page

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Aeronautics

Our Growing Aeronautics Cluster



- The number of Aerospace Engineers in our Labor Shed grew by 23% from 2011-2014
- The number of Avionics Technicians on our Labor Shed grew by 129% from 2011-2014
- The number of people employed in Aircraft Parts manufacturing in our Labor Shed grew by 282% from 2011-2014
- Bell Helicopter has a structural assembly, finishing, and outfitting facility in Sullivan County employing almost 500 people
- Wysong Enterprises is a leader in aeronautical modifications and installations offering audio-video integrations, special mission brackets and full aircraft completions for EMS, law enforcement, corporate and broadcast applications in their Sullivan County facility.

- DEC Technologies manufactures and sells more than 1,500 FAA-PMA-approved parts to the worldwide commercial airline and aerospace industry in Sullivan County
- Dart Helicopter Services sells helicopter parts and components in Sullivan County.
- Northeast State Community College and Bell Helicopter have partnered for aviation degree and certificate programs
- Aviation Week & Space Technology ranks Virginia Tech (125 miles from Sullivan County) as one of the best universities for aerospace employee recruitment.
- Virginia Tech’s Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering graduates 100 Bachelor’s, 25 Master’s, and 10 Doctoral degrees per year with focuses in aerodynamics, hydrodynamics, structural mechanics, material science, dynamics and control, multidisciplinary design optimization, and energy systems
- The University of Tennessee in Knoxville (99 miles from Sullivan County) has an aerospace engineering program and does extensive research in the areas of hypersonic aerodynamics, atmospheric entry, and computational fluid dynamics.
- We have an aviation industrial park with direct access to runways, cargo facilities, etc.

Skilled Labor

| NAICS Code | Employment by Sector | U.S. Average | Sullivan County |
|------------|--|--------------|-----------------|
| 11 | Crop & Animal Production | 1.1% | < 1% |
| 21 | Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction | 0.6% | < 1% |
| 22 | Utilities | 0.5% | < 1% |
| 23 | Construction | 5.6% | 7.8% |
| 31 | Manufacturing | 11.0% | 16.5% |
| 42 | Wholesale Trade | 5.2% | 3.2% |
| 44 | Retail Trade | 13.6% | 11.8% |
| 48 | Transportation & Warehousing | 3.7% | 3.4% |
| 51 | Information | 2.6% | 2.1% |
| 52 | Finance & Insurance | 5.3% | 2.7% |
| 53 | Real Estate & Rental & Leasing | 1.8% | 1% |
| 54 | Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services | 7.0% | 2.2% |
| 55 | Management of Companies & Enterprises | 1.7% | 1.6% |
| 56 | Waste Management & Remediation Services | 6.7% | 4.9% |
| 61 | Educational Services | 2.3% | 1.1% |
| 62 | Health Care & Social Assistance | 14.9% | 16.8% |
| 71 | Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation | 1.8% | < 1% |
| 72 | Accommodation & Food Services | 10.4% | 8.8% |
| 81 | Other Services (except Public Administration) | 4.1% | 4.0% |
| 99 | Unclassified | 0.2% | < 1% |

Under 3.5% of employees in

Sullivan County are a member of a union

- Tennessee is a Right-To-Work state
- Sullivan County has 10 times the employment in manufacturing Aircraft Parts than the average US County
- Sullivan County has 20 times the employment as Avionics Technicians than the average US County
- Sullivan County has 14 times more Materials Scientists than the average US county
- Our labor shed features 6111 team assemblers, 1377 welders, 1209 machinists, 1052 software developers, 776 mechanical engineers, 674 sheet metal workers, 544 electrical and electronics technicians, 397 electrical engineers, 271 Industrial Engineering Technicians

Engineering Talent

- Sullivan County has 122% more Industrial Engineers than the average US county
- The number of Aerospace Engineers in our Labor Shed grew by 23% from 2011-2014
- An average of 676 people graduate with an Engineering degree in our Labor Shed each Year
- Our labor shed features 776 mechanical engineers, 397 electrical engineers

Tri Cities Airport and Aviation Park

Certified Aviation Park with Direct Runway Access

[Click here for more on Aviation Park](#)

- The Tri Aviation Park located at the airport features:
 - 35 acres with direct airfield access to two runways, ready for immediate development.
 - 175 acres additional is under preparation for development.
 - Up to 21 pad-ready acres.
 - Gas: 2", 60psi line provided by Atmos Energy.
 - Water: 12" line provided by City of Johnson City
 - Sewer: Services provided by City of Johnson City
 - Communications: Fiber & copper in place, provided by CenturyLink.
 - Electric: Service provided by Bristol Tennessee Essential Services (BTES)
 - Airfield Access: Direct cargo apron, taxiway and runway access.
 - On-site Customs Port and Foreign-Trade Zone
- Primary runway: 5/23 – 8,000 feet by 150 feet. Runway 5 has a category II Instrument Landing System (ILS) and 23 has a category I ILS
- Secondary runway: 9/27 – 4,447 feet by 150 feet
- Upgraded Instrument Landing System, Mark 20 ILS, GPS compatible, remote maintenance and monitoring
- The airport features eight conventional hangars ranging in size from 8,000-square-feet to 28,000-square-feet of storage space. (Total of 13,250-square-feet storage, plus 7,500-square-feet of office space).
- The Tri-Cities Regional Airport in Kingsport has multiple daily flights to Charlotte, Atlanta, Orlando, and St. Petersburg

[Click here for more on Tri Cities Regional Airport](#)

Additional Site for Aeronautics:

Partnership Park I

- 108 Acre Industrial-Business Park
- 4 miles from Interstate 81
- 5-28 acre sites available

[Click here for more on Partnership Park I](#)

Colleges/Universities Aviation Focus

[NESCC & Bell Press Release](#)

[NESCC & Bell Curriculum Catalog](#)



- Northeast State Community College and Bell Helicopter have partnered for aviation degree and certificate programs. The program includes training instructors from Bell teaming with classroom personnel to teach students. The program's base load is electromechanical.

- Aviation Week & Space Technology ranks Virginia Tech (125 miles from Sullivan County) as one of the best universities for aerospace employee recruitment.
- Virginia Tech's Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering graduates 100 Bachelor's, 25 Master's, and 10 Doctoral degrees per year with focuses in aerodynamics, hydrodynamics, structural mechanics, material science, dynamics and control, multidisciplinary design optimization, and energy systems.
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[Click here for more Workforce Training Information](#)

Transportation

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Interstates 81 & 26 Intersect in Sullivan County



- Sullivan County is served by 2 Class I Railroads - CSX & Norfolk Southern
- Tri-Cities Regional Airport
 - Served by Delta Airlines, US Airways, and Allegiant Air
 - Nonstop Access to: Atlanta, Charlotte, Orlando, and St. Petersburg
 - Primary Runway - 8,000' x 150'
 - Upgraded Instrument Landing System
 - More than 200,000 passenger boardings per year

[Click here for more on Transportation](#)

Support Services

- 67 Machine Shops
- 23 Fabricated Structural Metal Manufacturers
- 13 Tool and Die Companies
- 10 Electroplating, Polishing, and Anodizing Manufacturers
- 9 Metal Coating and Engraving Manufacturers
- 9 Sheet Metal Work Manufacturers
- 6 Printed Circuit Assemblers
- 4 Machine Tool Manufacturers
- 3 Rolled Steel Shape Manufacturing

- 3 Aluminium Rolling, Drawing, and Extruding

[Click here to see more Support Services](#)

Low Natural Disaster Risk

- According to usa.com, Sullivan County has a 34.60 Tornado Index which is much lower than the US average of 136.45 and Tennessee's average of 175.35
- According to usa.com, Sullivan County has a 0.16 Earthquake Index compared to a US average of 1.81.

Additional Information

[Utilities](#)

[Taxes and Business Climate](#)

[Primary and Secondary Education](#)

[Colleges and Universities](#)

[Incentives](#)