

think! VT

# WHY VERMONT?

For starters, people love living here. Spontaneous discussions about how great Vermont is happen every day. Our small population fosters opportunities for individuals and businesses to make a meaningful impact on things that matter to them. Come join a collaborative community where business leaders and state officials actually care — and help find solutions.

## LET US SHOW YOU WHAT A DIFFERENCE A STATE MAKES.

# #1

**Safest State in America**

— (2016) WalletHub

# #1

**Healthiest Small Businesses**

— (2016) Experian

# #1

**Best State for Working Moms (#3 for Dads)**

— (2016) WalletHub

# #1

**Best State for Local Food**

— (2016) Localvore Index

# LIVE

Our state is more than pretty landscapes.

# GROW

We have the human, social and financial capital you require.

# WORK

There's no better place to advance your career.

# PLAY

We take our fun seriously.



### ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Over 1,000 manufacturing firms and a new generation of market leaders are driving innovation in this sector, which accounts for approximately 11% of state GDP.



### SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

More Vermonters have jobs in tech occupations and in tech industries than in any other sector, and tech-related employment is growing seven times faster than employment overall.



### FINANCIAL SERVICES & INSURANCE

Vermont is a national and global leader as a domicile for captive insurance, ranking number one in the United States and among the top three captive domiciles worldwide.



### RENEWABLE ENERGY & GREEN BUSINESSES

Firms in Vermont's clean energy sector research, design, construct, and install wind, solar, and hydroelectric systems and lead the nation in energy-efficiency services.



### FOOD SYSTEMS & ARTISANAL PRODUCTS

Vermont boasts iconic food and beverage brands, like Ben & Jerry's, Cabot, and Keurig Green Mountain, and ranks as the top state for craft breweries per capita.



### TOURISM & OUTDOOR RECREATION

Vermont is a global tourist destination that attracts 13 million visitors every year who spend about \$2.5 billion annually on lodging, food, beverages, goods, and services.

Vermont is home to globally competitive businesses and many remarkable brands because we foster originality, respect quality, and bring out the best in people. If you are looking to start, grow, or expand your business, you will find everything you need in Vermont.

**SITE ASSISTANCE**

Gain access to 80 million people within a half-day drive by expanding, relocating, or establishing a U.S. presence in Vermont.

- Searchable Site Locator database of land and commercial/industrial buildings available.
- 12 Regional Development Corporations provide local market insight.

**FINANCIAL INCENTIVES**

For businesses projecting exceptional growth, Vermont offers an incentive based on incremental job and payroll creation and capital investments.

- Performance-based cash incentive (not a tax credit) to locate or expand in Vermont.
- Grant and loan programs available for specific regions and sectors.

**WORKFORCE**

Vermont consistently ranks high for education quality, and our employers have a steady stream of young talent on their doorsteps.

- State funding can pay up to 50% of the cost to train employees in new processes or skills.
- 40,000 students attend Vermont's 22 colleges and universities each year.

**CAPITAL FINANCING**

A variety of financing options in the state support all stages of growth, from angel investing to an array of revolving loan funds and venture capital.

- Real estate and equipment financing available at advantageous rates/terms.
- Start-up companies can raise up to \$2 million in capital by selling shares to in-state investors.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

We Rank  
**#1**  
on the  
**Opportunity Index**  
(2016) Opportunity Index

**80**  
million people  
live within  
a half-day drive  
of Vermont

We Rank  
**#2**  
on the **Main Street  
Entrepreneurship Index  
for Small States**  
(2016) Kauffman Foundation

**40**  
thousand students  
attend Vermont's  
**22 colleges and  
universities each year**  
— (2016) AVIC

**LOCATION AND PROXIMITY**

Centrally located between the urban centers of Montreal, Boston, and New York.

- Interstates 89 and 91 provide direct highway access.
- Proximity to the Port of Montreal.
- Burlington International Airport has frequent one-hour flights to Toronto and New York and two-hour flights to Chicago and Washington, D.C.
- 10+ smaller airports statewide.
- Rail corridor connects to Canada, New York, and points south.

Burlington to Montreal: 95 miles  
Burlington to Boston: 216 miles  
Burlington to NYC: 300 miles



**EXPORT AND GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING ASSISTANCE**

Technical support is available to businesses of all sizes to access new markets through international trade and government contracts.

- STEP grants and tax credit assistance available for trade missions/shows and export education.
- In 2017, the Vermont Procurement Technical Assistance Center helped businesses earn over \$197 million in government contracts.