



VA COUNCIL OF CEOS
follow the leaders

VACEOs membership data collected from Virginia Chamber of Commerce for
 Blueprint Virginia 2025 business plan.
 Thursday, March 23, 2017.

Agree or Disagree: Virginia's economy is headed in the right direction.	Total Responses	78	
	Unique Participants	78	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Strongly Agree	5	6.41
	Agree	57	73.08
	Neutral	14	17.95
	Disagree	2	2.56
	Strongly Disagree	0	0
Rank these in order of importance to Virginia's business climate.	Total Responses	45	
	Unique Participants	45	
	Response options	Rank	
	Education & Workforce Development	1	
	Tax & Regulatory Reform	3	
	Transportation Infrastructure	5	
	Health Care	4	
	Technology & Innovation	2	
Agree or Disagree: Virginia is preparing the workforce that businesses need.	Total Responses	85	
	Unique Participants	85	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Strongly Agree	0	0
	Agree	18	21.18
	Neutral	37	43.53
	Disagree	26	30.59
	Strongly Disagree	4	4.71
Rank in order of importance the skills critical to developing our future workforce	Total Responses	57	
	Unique Participants	57	
	Response options	Rank	
	STEM Skills (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)	1	
	Soft Skills (time management, leadership, etc.)	3	
	Communications Skills (technical writing, public speaking, etc.)	2	
	Middle Skills (vocational - more than a high school diploma, less than a 4-year degree)	3	
Choose One: If you were in the General Assembly, where would you invest to improve the talent supply in Virginia?	Total Responses	85	
	Unique Participants	85	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	K - 12 Education	45	52.94
	Early Childhood Education	5	5.88

	4 Year Higher Education	1	1.18
	Community College System / Vocational Training	34	40
Choose One: What is the biggest obstacle preventing a young person from entering a skilled trade as a career path?	Total Responses	84	
	Unique Participants	84	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Social Stigma	15	17.86
	Lack of knowledge about the benefits and earning potential	26	30.95
	Institutional Focus on College For All as a Measure of Success	41	48.81
	Lack of Statewide Programs	2	2.38
Yes or No: Would better access to non-traditional public education (such as virtual or charter schools) improve education and help close the workforce skills gap?	Total Responses	88	
	Unique Participants	88	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Yes	48	54.55
	No	21	23.86
	Unsure / No Opinion	19	21.59
Choose One: Which of these industries will drive growth in your region?	Total Responses	86	
	Unique Participants	86	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Aerospace	0	0
	Cybersecurity	7	8.14
	Defense	3	3.49
	Energy	5	5.81
	Emerging Industries / Sharing Economy	34	39.53
	Agriculture / Food Processing	0	0
	Life Sciences	13	15.12
	Advanced Manufacturing	22	25.58
	Tourism / Hospitality	2	2.33
Agree or Disagree: Virginia's legal climate is a significant consideration in a business' decision on whether to locate or expand here.	Total Responses	89	
	Unique Participants	89	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Strongly Agree	28	31.46
	Agree	32	35.96
	Neutral	22	24.72
	Disagree	6	6.74
	Strongly Disagree	1	1.12
Agree or Disagree: Frivolous lawsuits have increased the cost of running your business.	Total Responses	87	
	Unique Participants	87	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Strongly Agree	34	39.08
	Agree	22	25.29
	Neutral	20	22.99
	Disagree	5	5.75
	Strongly Disagree	6	6.9
Choose One: How would you characterize the environment for startup companies in Virginia?	Total Responses	86	
	Unique Participants	86	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Better than most states	46	53.49
	On-par with most states	37	43.02

	Worse than most states	3	3.49
Agree or Disagree: Virginia should start moving forward now with comprehensive tax reform to make us more economically competitive.	Total Responses	88	
	Unique Participants	88	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Strongly Agree	63	71.59
	Agree	15	17.05
	Neutral	5	5.68
	Disagree	4	4.55
	Strongly Disagree	1	1.14
Choose One: Our transportation infrastructure connects products and services to customers and global markets. Where should Virginia concentrate its transportation investments?	Total Responses	88	
	Unique Participants	88	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Building and Maintaining Roads and Bridges	52	59.09
	Investing in Ports	9	10.23
	Expanding Freight Rail	1	1.14
	Increasing Transit	15	17.05
	Improving Aviation	11	12.5
Agree or Disagree: Exports of goods and services should be a greater focus for economic development in Virginia.	Total Responses	88	
	Unique Participants	88	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Strongly Agree	31	35.23
	Agree	45	51.14
	Neutral	11	12.5
	Disagree	0	0
	Strongly Disagree	1	1.14
Yes or No: Have recent or pending regulations slowed your business's plans for growth?	Total Responses	79	
	Unique Participants	79	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Yes	31	39.24
	No	37	46.84
	Unsure	11	13.92
Choose One: Which of these entities has created the greatest regulatory burden for your business or organization?	Total Responses	84	
	Unique Participants	84	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)	7	8.33
	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)	11	13.1
	Department of Labor	44	52.38
	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	4	4.76
	Other	18	21.43
Rank in order of importance these areas of concern for your business over the next eight years.	Total Responses	38	
	Unique Participants	38	
	Response options	Rank	
	Rising Health Care Costs	1	
	Increased Regulations	2	
	Negative Legal Environment	4	
	Increasingly Complicated Tax Code	3	

Yes or No: Is sustainability a priority for your organization?	Total Responses	83	
	Unique Participants	83	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Yes	35	42.17
	No	48	57.83
Choose One: What is the number one energy concern for your business or membership?	Total Responses	82	
	Unique Participants	82	
	Response options	Count	Percent
	Access	1	1.22
	Affordability	50	60.98
	Reliability	20	24.39
	Energy Diversification	4	4.88
	Energy Conservation	7	8.54
Rank in order of priority the tools that would be most helpful for your business to encourage hiring veterans as they transition out of the military.	Total Responses	58	
	Unique Participants	58	
	Response options	Rank	
	Veterans Mentoring Services (create on-boarding programs to assist transition of vetera	2	
	Career Assistance (job fairs, resume building, interview prep, etc.)	3	
	Standard Definitions of Military Skill Sets that Translate to Civilian Industries	4	
	Tax Incentives for Hiring Veterans	1	
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