

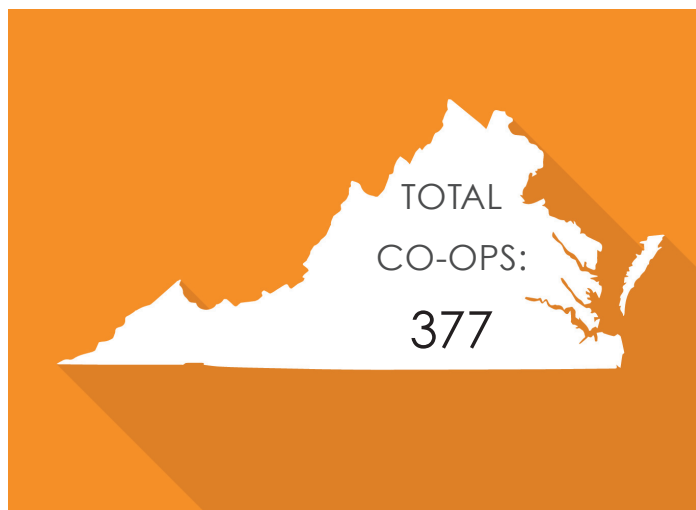
VIRGINIA

ASSETS: **\$88 BILLION**

REVENUE: **\$8.8 BILLION**

MEMBERS: **6 MILLION**

JOBS CREATED: **30,100**



VIRGINIA CO-OPS AT A GLANCE

Co-ops in Virginia are working to build a better world by creating quality jobs, building community wealth, protecting the environment, reducing poverty and strengthening the local economy.

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE BANK (NCB)

NCB was created to address the financial needs of an underserved market niche —people who join together cooperatively to meet personal, social or business needs, especially in low-income communities.

ROANOKE NATURAL FOODS CO-OP

With two locations in Roanoke, Virginia, Roanoke Natural Foods Co-op provides access to high-quality local, organic and natural products that aren't always available at most conventional grocery stores.



Roanoke Natural Foods Co-op builds on the support of its community by expanding local impact. It's "Chip In" program rewards charities when customers bring their own bags.

VIRGINIA TOP CO-OPS BY SECTOR

CREDIT UNIONS: **204**

CHILDCARE: **38**

AGRICULTURE: **36**

HOUSING: **22**

ARTS & CRAFTS: **16**

ELECTRIC: **14**

INSURANCE: **10**

ABOUT CO-OPS

According to federally-supported research by the University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives, co-ops inject \$3 trillion into the U.S. economy every year. Located in every state and every Congressional district in the U.S., co-ops create millions of jobs and offer solutions to meet challenging public policy issues—from affordable housing to early childhood learning. They spur economic growth in underserved rural America; empower individuals, families and communities; and ensure that Americans have access to high-quality goods and services at competitive prices from businesses they trust.

PROFILE: NATIONAL RURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE

Working with its members, Herndon-based National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC) provides technology solutions for rural communities by scouting new technologies, aggregating the collective strength of its members when developing those technology solutions and integrating those solutions into members' existing infrastructure and unique situation.

NRTC's founding organizations—an alliance of electric cooperatives called the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC)—envisioned a cooperative of cooperatives. NRTC would assist rural co-ops' diversification into new technologies, such as multichannel TV, automated meter reading and other services that most rural communities did not have when NRTC began in the 1980s.

NRTC continues to develop solutions that make a difference across rural America. They start by researching the newest technologies, and then focus on their members. Which technologies best fit their needs? How do these technologies enhance their businesses? NRTC measures success by how well technology solutions create member success.



The National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative embraces the rural challenge, helping its members band together, aggregate costs and make shrinking the world through technology affordable.

Thanks to the cooperative business model, the residents of many rural communities enjoy amazing technologies that have transformed the way Americans live in the 21st century. Broadband is just one example. NRTC has a long history of investing in satellite technologies to extend affordable broadband to the most remote regions of the nation.

NRTC embraces the rural challenge, helping their members band together, aggregate costs and make shrinking the world affordable for communities across the nation.

Founded in 1916, the National Cooperative Business Association CLUSA International is the trade association for cooperative businesses in the U.S. and an international development organization active in Africa, Southeast Asia and Latin America. For 100 years, NCBA CLUSA has advanced, promoted and defended co-op enterprise, highlighting the impact that co-ops have in bettering the lives of individuals, families and communities.

NCBA CLUSA
The National Cooperative Business Association • CLUSA International

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