

Virginia's Economic Growth

After the Civil War and the Reconstruction era, Virginia experienced a great deal of growth. The following changes caused Virginia's economy to grow:

People began to relocate to the cities for jobs so they could provide for themselves and their families. This caused the cities of Virginia to grow with people, businesses, and factories.

Virginia became more industrialized

Railroads were key to the expansion of business, agriculture, and industry. They brought jobs, products, and people to the small towns of Virginia, causing these small towns to grow into cities.

Other parts of Virginia grew as other industries developed. Coal deposits, or layers of coal, were discovered in Tazewell County. This provided jobs for Virginians and a product to sell.

With the population of Virginia growing, the need to move products from one area of Virginia to another, and the movement of people throughout the state, the need for more and better roads increased.

We need better roads to travel easier!

Tobacco farming and tobacco products became important Virginia industries because it provided jobs for Virginians and a product to sell.