

# VIRGINIA'S I-64 INNOVATION CORRIDOR: RICHMOND REGION AND HAMPTON ROADS

## The World's Next Global Internet Hub

### I-64 INNOVATION CORRIDOR

A handful of locations around the world make the world wide web work. They are called Global Internet Hubs and are defined by seven core characteristics.

They also are all thriving cities. But this is about to change.

The world's next Global Internet Hub isn't a single city but rather America's 12th megaregion known as the I-64 Innovation Corridor.

Located just two hours south of Washington, D.C., the I-64 Innovation Corridor runs from the Richmond region to Hampton Roads — two neighboring Virginia metro areas. This 8,000-square-mile megaregion has a combined population of 3 million-plus residents, placing it among the top 20 largest U.S. population centers.

The I-64 Innovation Corridor also has gained a place on the intercontinental internet map. Since 2019, this corridor has experienced a 73% compound annual growth rate in international internet bandwidth, according to TeleGeography. This statistic — paired with the enormous digital infrastructure investments already made here and the billions of dollars in existing and proposed data centers — leaves no doubt that the I-64 Innovation Corridor is well on its way to becoming a Global Internet Hub.

**1 Reliable and Sustainable Power**

- 24% of its output powers data centers today
- Capacity to support digital infrastructure growth for years to come
- Committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050

**RICHMOND REGION**  
(1.3 million residents)

100+ Miles to North Anna Nuclear Power Station

100+ Miles to Data Center Alley in Northern Virginia - The Largest Data Center Market in the World

**3 Internet Exchanges (IXs)**

- One Internet Exchange - DE-CIX - in Richmond area
- DE-CIX connects carrier and data center neutral Internet Exchanges in the U.S. - New York, Dallas, Chicago, Phoenix, and Richmond - and connects to 40-plus IXs worldwide, 3,000-plus networks, and 500-plus data centers

**2 Robust and Redundant Local Terrestrial Networks**

- About 30 major carriers and communication providers
- Growing dark fiber availability
- 100 gigabit broadband currently available for businesses
- National ISPs have and continue to invest and expand fiber in the market
- Major ISPs connected to subsea cables through Globalix Data Center

**4 Heavy Concentration of Data Centers**

- 12 data centers operate in the megaregion
- More data centers are planned
- Two world-class data centers

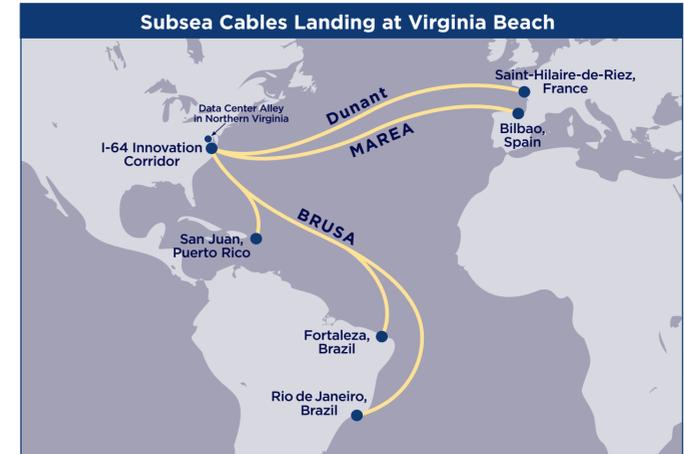
**5 Abundant Intercity Fiber Connections**

- Multiple diverse terrestrial fiber routes between Hampton Roads and Richmond
- Major universities linked through the Mid-Atlantic Research Infrastructure Alliance (MARIA)
- Growing and diverse connections to major centers including Ashburn (Northern Virginia), Chicago, and Atlanta

### 10 Largest Global Internet Hubs

(Defined as Metropolitan Markets for International Internet Bandwidth)

- Frankfurt, Germany
  - Singapore, Republic of Singapore
  - London, United Kingdom
  - Amsterdam, Netherlands
  - Paris, France
  - Hong Kong, China
  - Marseille, France
  - Miami, United States
  - Stockholm, Sweden
  - Vienna, Austria
- Source: TeleGeography, 2023



**Cybersecurity Expertise**

The I-64 Innovation Corridor stands as a beacon of cybersecurity excellence, bolstered by its rich history of military and defense expertise. This megaregion seamlessly integrates advanced digital safeguards with its expansive digital infrastructure. Tens of thousands of experienced cybersecurity and national security employees work in the I-64 Innovation Corridor, one of the greatest concentrations of cyber experts in America. For instance, the Richmond area is home of the Federal Reserve's National IT organization — a nationwide team delivering technology solutions and support across the Federal Reserve System including cybersecurity/cyber intelligence positions.

**Virginia's I-64 Innovation Corridor Digital Assets**

Category	Assets
Data Centers	1 CarMax Innovation Center, Richmond 2 Activation Capital, VA Bio+Tech Park, Richmond 3 Michael Wassmer Innovation Center, Richmond 4 Lighthouse Labs, Richmond 5 Dominion Energy Innovation Center, Ashland 6 Lockheed Martin Center for Innovation (also known as The Lighthouse), Suffolk 7 Innovate Hampton Roads, Hampton 8 757 Collab (757 Startup Studios, 757 Accelerate, and 757 Angels), Norfolk 9 Launchpad, Williamsburg 10 REAKTOR Technology Innovation Center, Hampton
Data Center and DE-CIX Internet Exchange	
Digital Assets	
Power	

**The Megaregion's Talent and Development Partners**

The I-64 Innovation Corridor is home to many universities, community colleges, and trade schools:

Hampton Roads Workforce Council	Capital Region Workforce Partnership
Brightpoint Community College	Hampton University
Bryant & Stratton College	Norfolk State University
Camp Community College	Old Dominion University
Centura College	Randolph-Macon College
Christopher Newport University	Regent University
Eastern Shore Community College	Reynolds Community College
ECPI	Richard Bland College
Fortis College	South University
	Tidewater Community College
	University of Richmond
	Virginia Commonwealth University
	Virginia Peninsula Community College
	Virginia State University
	Virginia Union University
	Virginian Wesleyan University
	William & Mary

**Megaregion Digital Infrastructure Providers**

**1 Energy**: Dominion Energy

**2, 5 Network Carriers and Communications Providers**: AOC CONNECT, allied, ALL POINTS BROADBAND, Arelion, AT&T, cogent, COMCAST, COX, CROWN CASTLE, firefly, glofiber, GTS GLOBAL TECHNICAL SYSTEMS, GTT, Hosted BACKBONE, HURRICANE ELECTRIC INTERNET SERVICES, Internet Subway, LUMEN, LUMOS, Megaport, METRO FIBER NETWORKS, INC., Mid-Atlantic BROADBAND, orange, PACKETFABRIC, RURALBAND FIBER INTERNET, SEGRA, Spectrum, SummitIG, TELCOM SYSTEMS, TELXIUS, T-Mobile, UNITAS GLOBAL, Uniti Fiber, verizon, SkyWire, windstream, zayo

**3 Internet Exchange**: DE-CIX

**4 Data Centers in the Richmond Region**: Chirisa Technology Parks, edgeconnex, FLEXENTIAL, INFOTEL, LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES, Meta, PIXEL FACTORY, QTS, BANK OF AMERICA

**4 Data Centers in Hampton Roads**: edgeconnex, globalix, ZONE5

**Software-Defined Networking Providers**: Megaport, MOX, PACKETFABRIC

**7 Subsea Cables**: BRUSA, Dunant, MAREA

**HAMPTON ROADS REGION**  
(1.8 million residents)

Jefferson Lab's High Performance Data Facility

NASA Langley Research Center

Phases of Hampton Roads Network Fiber Ring

3 Subsea Cables, Camp Pendleton (capacity for a 4th cable)

7 Access to Subsea Cables

- Three subsea cables come ashore in the Camp Pendleton area of Virginia Beach:
  - MAREA (connects to Spain; opened May 2018)
  - BRUSA (connects to Brazil and Puerto Rico; opened August 2018)
  - Dunant (connects to France; opened January 2021)
- Capacity for a fourth subsea cable at Camp Pendleton
- Globalix has received all permits for an additional diverse cable landing site in the Sandbridge area of Virginia Beach, with a capacity of four conduits. Construction is set to start in May 2024 with completion scheduled in late 2024

Planned Globalix Cable Landing Site, Sandbridge (capacity for 4 cables)

Naval Station Norfolk

Naval Air Station Oceana

Telxius Cable Landing Station

Globalix Data Center

EdgeConnex Norfolk Data Center

Zone5 Data Center

Port of Virginia

Extension to Isle of Wight County

Extension to Southampton County

Surry Nuclear Power Station

Jefferson Lab

NASA

**RVA757 connects**

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Dominion Energy's Planned Offshore Wind Project (construction planned to begin in 2024 and be completed in 2026)

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