



Workforce Availability: Providing the Right People

South Carolina is the nation's 10th fastest-growing state, increasing its population by 20.08 percent between 2000 and 2014. The United States population grew by 13 percent during the same time period. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates*

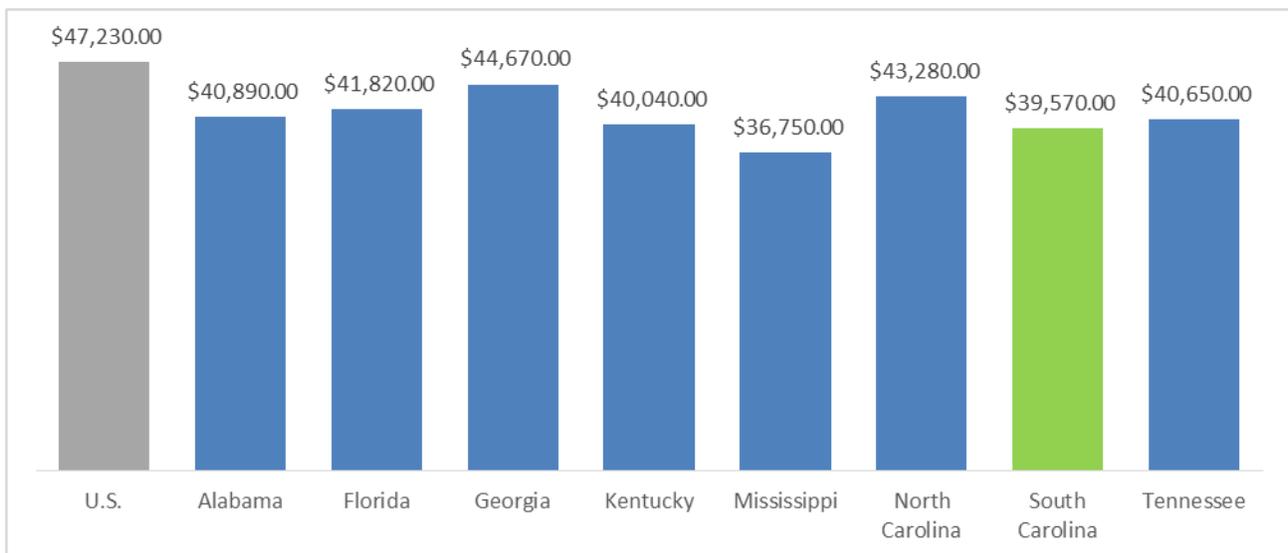
Yearly Percent Growth 2001-2014



Wages: Skilled Employees Offer Companies Unparalleled Value

With a cost of living 11 percent below the national average, South Carolina offers exceptionally productive employees at one of the lowest labor costs in the nation. South Carolina is a right-to-work state and had the 2nd lowest unionization rate in the nation, only 2.1 percent in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics*

Annual Wages in Southeastern States, 2014





Skilled Workers: Offering a High Concentration of Technical Employment

Since 2003, South Carolina's Centers of Economic Excellence Program has created over 10,000 knowledge-based jobs and invested over \$1.5 billion in talent and infrastructure at South Carolina's research universities.

South Carolina is ranked as a top 10 state in employment concentration for several careers needed by growing industries in the state. Some of the occupations include:

- **Chemical Engineers**
16 percent more than the national average
- **Computer Controlled Machine Operators**
78 percent more than the national average
- **Industrial Engineering Technicians**
79 percent more than the national average
- **Industrial Engineers**
92 percent more than the national average
- **Industrial Machinery Mechanics**
61 percent more than the national average

- **Industrial Production Managers**
31 percent more than national average
- **Civil Engineers**
43 percent more than national average
- **Mechanical Engineers**
51 percent more than national average
- **Environmental Engineers**
55 percent more than national average
- **Environmental Engineering Technicians**
49 percent more than national average
- **Nuclear Engineers**
285 percent more than national average
- **Nuclear Technicians**
478 percent more than national average

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 OES Estimates

Workforce Training: Committed to Strengthening the Competitive Edge of Businesses

Incumbent Worker Training – offered through the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce, may provide grant assistance that can absorb 50-75 percent of the cost associated with customized training and wages during on-the-job training. The program has grown to serve more than 14,000 workers and 200 businesses annually through training and offers a wide variety of funding opportunities and services.

Apprenticeship Carolina™ – also offered through the South Carolina Technical College System, may help businesses learn more about registered apprenticeships and determine if they should be a part of a company's workforce development solution. Apprenticeship Carolina™ specifically

supports the development of apprenticeships in occupations with particular concentration on the industry areas critical to South Carolina: advanced manufacturing, construction, energy, healthcare, information technology and tourism/hospitality.

readySC™ – offered through the South Carolina Technical College System, can coordinate training needs at no cost for eligible new or expanding companies throughout the state, tailored to meet a company's workforce requirements. More than a quarter million workers have been trained since the program's inception and it has been recognized as a national training leader by *Expansion Management* magazine.

Recent Rankings: South Carolina is Recognized Nationally

South Carolina's attractiveness to foreign investors was underscored in IBM's **2014 Global Location Trends report**. For the third consecutive year, South Carolina came in 1st in the nation for jobs through foreign investment. The data derived from IBM's Global Investment Locations database which tracks announcements by companies on their location decisions. Source: IBM, 2014 Global Location Trends, September 2015.

Area Development named South Carolina a **2015 Gold Shovel Award** winner in recognition of economic development projects undertaken in 2014. This is the **seventh year** in a row that South Carolina has received a Gold or Silver Shovel Award in its population category. South Carolina was a Gold Shovel Award recipient in 2014, 2012, and 2011 and a Silver Shovel Award recipient in 2013, 2010, and 2009. Source: Area Development, June 2015.

The **American Economic Development Institute (AEDI)** and Pollina Corporate named **South Carolina #9** in the Top 10 Pro-Business States study. The study is based on 32 factors controlled by state government, including taxes, human resources, education, right-to-work legislation, energy costs, infrastructure spending, regulatory environment, workers compensation laws, economic incentive programs, and state economic development efforts. Source: American Economic Development Institute, July 2014

