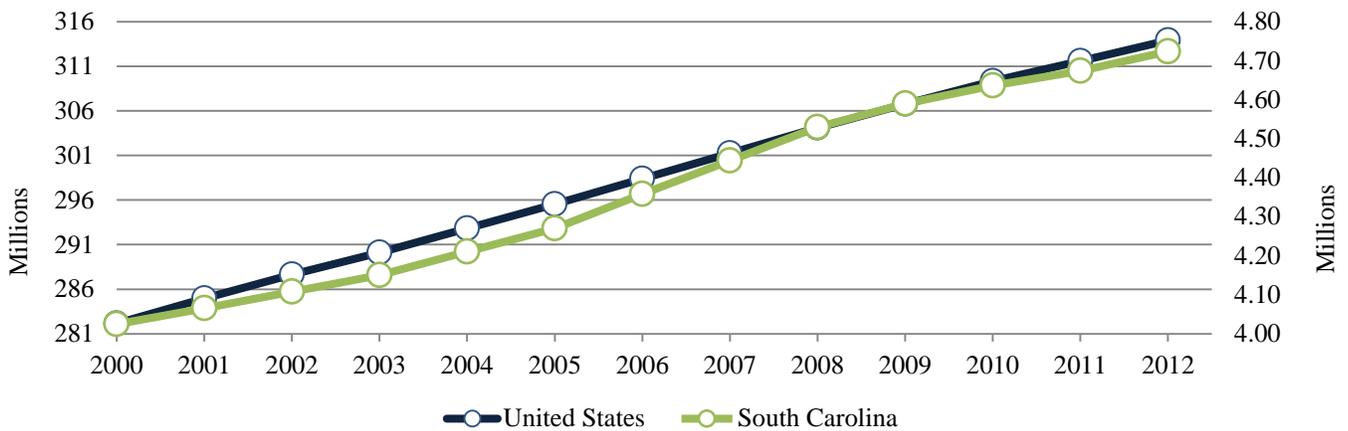


South Carolina Offers One of the Fastest-Growing, Most Productive Workforces in the Nation, Ensuring Companies Find the Employees They Need.

WORKFORCE AVAILABILITY *Providing the Right People*

South Carolina is the nation's 10th fastest-growing state, increasing its population by 17.4 percent between 2000 and 2012. The United States population grew by 11.3 percent during the same time period. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates)

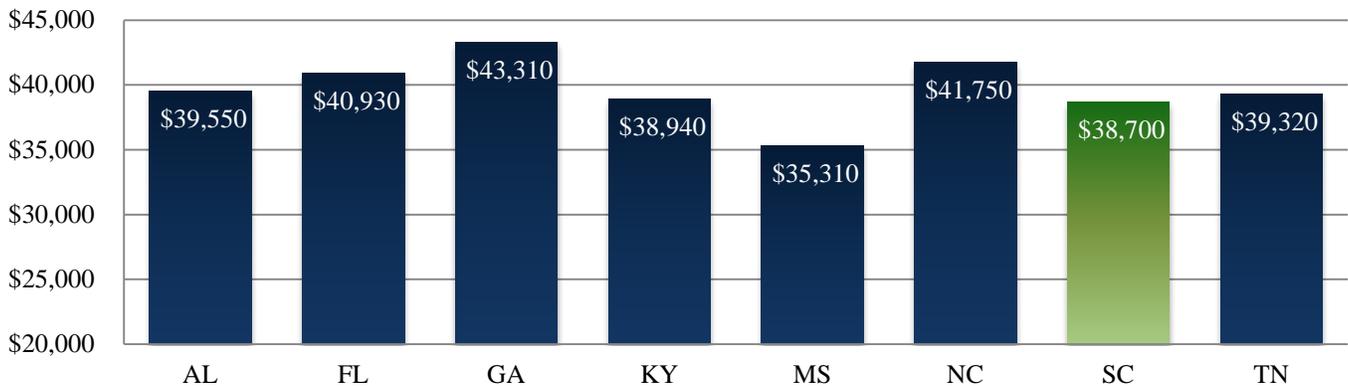
Population Growth 2000-2012



WAGES *Skilled Employees Offer Companies Unparalleled Value*

With a cost of living 12 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 3rd lowest unionization rate in the nation, only 3.3 percent in 2012. (Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics)

Annual Wages in Southeastern States, 2012



SKILLED WORKERS *Offering a High Concentration of Technical Employment*

Since 2003, South Carolina's Centers of Economic Excellence Program has created over 2,000 knowledge-based jobs and invested over \$500 million 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**
142 percent more than the national average
- **Chemical Processing Operators**
244 percent more than the national average
- **Chemical Technicians**
59 percent more than the national average
- **Computer Controlled Machine Operators**
68 percent more than the national average
- **Industrial Engineering Technicians**
61 percent more than the national average
- **Industrial Engineers**
64 percent more than the national average

- **Industrial Machinery Mechanics**
42 percent more than the national average
- **Industrial Production Managers**
24 percent more than national average
- **Civil Engineers**
47 percent more than national average
- **Mechanical Engineers**
78 percent more than national average
- **Environmental Engineers**
65 percent more than national average
- **Environmental Engineering Technicians**
71 percent more than national average
- **Nuclear Engineers**
120 percent more than national average
- **Nuclear Technicians**
990 percent more than national average

(Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2011 Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates)

WORKFORCE TRAINING *Committed to Strengthening the Competitive Edge of Businesses*

The South Carolina Department of Commerce is committed to meeting a business' specific workforce needs. The state has provided invaluable training to businesses through the following programs:

- **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.
- **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.

- **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.

RECENT RANKINGS *South Carolina is Recognized Nationally*

- CNBC ranks South Carolina's workforce 6th in the nation. The ranking is based on quality and availability of workers as well as union membership and the success of state worker training programs in placing participants in jobs.
(Source: CNBC America's Top States for Business, June 2011)
- Besides the 2nd lowest state overall unionization rate in the nation, South Carolina's unionization rate for manufacturing at 1.6% also ranks 2nd lowest in the nation.
(Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, January 2012, www.unionstats.com)
- The Community College Futures Assembly, a national think tank that convenes annually to discuss critical issues facing two-year colleges, recognized Apprenticeship Carolina™ as one of ten innovative workforce development best practices.
(Source: Community College Futures Assembly, January 2009)