

# Labor Resources for Bennettsville, South Carolina

## Executive Summary

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This profile contains information about the labor force within a 30 minute and 45 minute commuting distance from the center of Bennettsville, South Carolina. Bennettsville is located in Marlboro County, South Carolina.

The profile examines three issues: labor force characteristics, the availability of labor, and the average wages and salaries in the community of Bennettsville.

## Labor Situation at a Glance in Bennettsville, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	40,954	105,942	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	18,239	51,275	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	2,131	4,784	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	11.7%	10.1%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	99	371	22,196
Average Wages	Marlboro County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$519	\$581	\$658

## Labor Force Characteristics for Bennettsville, South Carolina

The composition and size of a community's labor force is linked very closely with demographic and economic conditions and trends in the region. The following labor force profile provides basic information on the population base and labor force characteristics so that the reader can better assess labor force conditions in the community.

<b>Labor Force</b>			
	<b>30 min. Drive time</b>	<b>45 min. Drive time</b>	<b>South Carolina</b>
Labor Force 2004	18,239	51,275	2,046,179
Change since 2000	343	3,722	49,079
<b>Population</b>			
Population 2004	40,954	105,942	4,198,068
Change since 2000	-212	305	186,056
Projected 2010	48,679	114,835	4,446,704
<b>Gender Distribution</b>			
Male	19,113	49,832	2,040,261
Female	21,841	56,110	2,132,454
<b>Age Distribution</b>			
Ages 20-34	8,313	21,031	875,330
Ages 35-49	9,104	23,190	925,330
Ages 50-64	7,365	19,395	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	20,245	51,700	2,084,880
<b>Highest Level of Educational Attainment</b>			
High School	14,985	36,586	778,054
Some College	6,230	16,519	500,194
Associate Degree	1,994	5,653	173,428
Bachelors Degree	2,964	8,279	351,526
Post Bachelor	1,388	3,818	178,529

*\*Prime working age group:* People between the ages of 18-54 are often referred to as the prime working age group. In staffing a new facility, prudent managers often prefer to staff its production work force with workers whose ages form a normal distribution curve. This provides for stability, flexibility and continuity of knowledge.

Source: 2004 Estimates Based on 2000 U.S. Census of Population and Woods and Poole, 2003 Edition

## Employment Characteristics for Bennettsville, South Carolina

<b>Total Employment</b>			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	16,109	46,491	1,906,571

*Total Employment* data include all full and part-time wage and salaried workers in the area. These people may or may not reside in the area.

<b>Monthly Employment by Sector In Marlboro County</b>			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
<b>Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>12,379</b>
<b>Mining</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1,603</b>
<b>Utilities</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>11,891</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>111,730</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>4,403</b>	<b>10,655</b>	<b>275,573</b>
Wood product manufacturing	233	442	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	4	15	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	80	466	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	326	1,126	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	9	60	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing			7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.			10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	325	539	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing		1	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	1	7	7,846
Food manufacturing	8	61	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing			1,445
Textile mills	257	1,067	40,207
Textile product mills		7	9,724
Apparel manufacturing		9	5,321
Paper manufacturing	255	1,499	14,710
Printing and related support activities	6	38	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing		27	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing		4	23,054
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>62,523</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>3,668</b>	<b>224,031</b>
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>46,941</b>
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>3,172</b>	<b>156,232</b>
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>2,064</b>	<b>192,748</b>
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>1,575</b>	<b>186,481</b>

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

## Largest Industries by Total Employment In *Marlboro* County

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
Mohawk Carpet-Oak River Mill	Bennettsville	Synthetic carpet yarn	616	1956
Marley Engineered Products	Bennettsville	Electric resistance heaters	521	1922
Delta Finishing Plt 3-Delta Mills Mkt Co	Wallace	Finished cotton & blended fabrics	432	1950
Delta Mills Inc	Wallace	Finished cotton & blended fabrics	370	1950
Weyerhaeuser	Bennettsville	Fine paper mill	323	1988
SOPAKCO Inc	Bennettsville	Thermo stabilized meats	323	1948
Reliance Trading Corp	Bennettsville	Artificial plants & flowers	296	1996
Musashi South Carolina	Bennettsville	Precision parts for ATVs	230	2000
Delta Mills Inc	Wallace	Finished synthetic & blended fabric	181	1960
Ox Bodies Inc	Bennettsville	Dump trucks	144	1997
Palmetto Brick Co	Cheraw	Brick	133	1919
Pacific MDF Products Inc of SC	Clio	MDF millwork & molding	128	1994
International Cup Corp/Soller LLC	Bennettsville	Drinking & vending cups	118	1988
Weyerhaeuser-MDF Div	Bennettsville	Reconstituted wood products	106	1990
Weyerhaeuser	Bennettsville	Particleboard	105	2001
Rockwell Automation	Clio	Conveyor drives	95	1999
Powell Manufacturing Co Inc	Bennettsville	Farm machinery	75	1951
Bennettsville Printing LLC	Bennettsville	Printing & finishing fabrics	55	1995
Sandhill Quilting Co	Wallace	Quilted furniture van pads	50	1962
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co	Bennettsville	Soft drinks	49	1949

### Employer-Employee Relationship

Employer-employee relations in South Carolina are very stable and the state consistently ranks as one of the least unionized in the nation. In 2004, only 4.5 percent of the state's workers were members of a labor union. Additionally, the state has consistently had one of the lowest work stoppage rates in the United States. On average, less than .01 percent of working time was lost due to strikes in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries combined.

## Availability of Labor

### Labor Force Participation & Unemployment

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force (2004)	18,239	51,275	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	343	3,722	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	45%	48%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	2,131	4,784	139,607
Unemployment Rate	11.7%	10.1%	6.8%

The *labor force participation rate* is the percentage which results from dividing the labor force count by the total population.

*Unemployment* reflects the total number of persons who do not have a job and are actively seeking employment.

### Other Potential Sources of Labor Supply

Total Jobs Lost Due to Mass Closings and Layoffs Past Two Years			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Total	99	371	22,196
Manufacturing	97	366	19,196
Distribution			1,213
Service	2	5	1,745
Other	-	-	42

Recent closings and layoffs are a rich source of skilled and experienced labor for companies seeking to locate or expand in a given area. Industries in which layoffs and closings occur can provide some indication of the skills and knowledge-base of many unemployed and underemployed workers in a region.

Commuters to Other Areas			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Commuters to other areas	6,213	15,527	31,833

Source: 2000 U.S. Census of Population

Workers commuting to places outside their resident are a significant source of experienced labor for new and expanding industries. These workers may be willing to consider an opportunity for employment nearer their place of residence.

## Recent Graduates of South Carolina's Colleges and Universities

Certificates/Degrees Conferred From Technical Colleges in Select Degrees Within 45 Minute Drive Time of Marlboro County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	139
Data Processing Technology	123
Engineering Technologies (Total)	134
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	48
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	*
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	283
Industrial Electronics	55
HVAC	112
Precision Production (Total)	194
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	91

Graduation From South Carolina's Four Year Colleges and Universities In Select Degrees		
	Degrees Conferred (2002-2004)	
	Bachelors	Post- Grad
Computer and Information Science (Total)	910	108
Computer Engineering	150	149
Computer Programming	12	5
Engineering & Related Technologies (Total)	1,316	786
Chemical Engineering	136	38
Electrical Engineering	257	150
Industrial Engineering	78	44
Mechanical Engineering	268	95
Business Admin & Management	4,754	1,018
International Business/Trade	178	276

Source: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

## Wages and Salaries

Average Wage and Salary Comparison			
Sector	Marlboro County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$519	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$26,982	\$30,240	\$37,508
Avg. Hourly Prod. Wages**	N/A	\$14.73	\$16.14

\*Covered Wages and Employment, 2003, SC Employment Securities Commission

\*\* Employment & Earnings, 2004, U.S. Department of Labor

Average Annual Salary Manufacturing Sectors, 2004		
Sector	Marlboro County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$32,836	\$39,027
Wood product	\$33,702	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	***	\$39,031
Primary metal	***	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	***	\$37,533
Machinery	***	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	***	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	***	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	\$27,338	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	***	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	***	\$34,350
Food	***	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	***	\$31,898
Textile product mills	***	\$25,618
Apparel	***	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	***	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	***	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	***	\$46,620

\*\*\*Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

## Occupational Wages In Bennettsville and Surrounding Area

<b>Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Marlboro Area</b>			
<b>Non-Exempt Occupations</b>	<b>Entry</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Experienced</b>
Assemblers and Fabricators	\$9.48	\$10.89	\$12.74
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$7.89	\$10.36	\$12.02
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	\$7.64	\$8.94	\$10.09
Chemical Equipment Operators	\$12.98	\$15.86	\$18.72
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	*	*	*
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	\$14.36	\$14.94	\$16.54
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	\$11.97	\$13.87	\$16.17
Logging Equipment Operators	\$9.85	\$12.91	\$14.03
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$10.34	\$13.60	\$16.21
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	\$11.88	\$13.55	\$15.51
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$12.30	\$14.66	\$16.28
Machinists	\$12.92	\$14.77	\$16.80
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	\$8.10	\$10.40	\$12.29
Molding & Casting Machine Op	\$13.52	\$15.45	\$17.26
Sewing Machine Operators	\$6.80	\$8.12	\$9.54
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$8.37	\$9.75	\$10.94
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$11.45	\$15.43	\$19.46
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$10.32	\$12.29	\$13.38
Woodworking Machine Setters	*	*	*
<b>Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Marlboro Area*</b>			
<b>Exempt Occupations</b>	<b>Entry</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Experienced</b>
Chemical Engineers	\$47,280	\$61,580	\$77,780
Computer Programmers	\$28,640	\$41,560	\$53,660
Engineers, NEC	*	*	*
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$30,260	\$39,300	\$46,220
Industrial Engineers	\$38,520	\$49,500	\$59,320
Mechanical Engineers	\$47,000	\$55,160	\$64,000

Source: *Occupational Wage Survey*, SC Employment Security Commission

\* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available