

Labor Resources for Bishopville, South Carolina

Executive Summary

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

Labor Situation at a Glance in Bishopville, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	83,509	317,596	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	42,801	152,379	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	3,054	11,285	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	7.1%	7.8%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	242	834	22,196
Average Wages	Lee County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$434	\$581	\$658

Labor Force Characteristics for Bishopville, 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.

Labor Force			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force 2004	42,801	152,379	2,046,179
Change since 2000	4,941	7,124	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	83,509	317,596	4,198,068
Change since 2000	1,046	3,703	186,056
Projected 2010	70,823	219,449	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	39,585	152,239	2,040,261
Female	43,924	165,358	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	16,275	65,602	875,330
Ages 35-49	18,192	69,296	925,330
Ages 50-64	14,990	54,879	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	40,353	156,865	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	28,241	110,641	778,054
Some College	14,035	50,089	500,194
Associate Degree	4,913	18,094	173,428
Bachelors Degree	7,934	29,007	351,526
Post Bachelor	3,574	12,753	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 Bishopville, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	39,747	141,094	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.

Monthly Employment by Sector In Lee County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	171	586	12,379
Mining	4	32	1,603
Utilities	29	108	11,891
Construction	1,403	3,811	111,730
Manufacturing	5,882	16,816	275,573
Wood product manufacturing	225	513	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	21	87	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	386	650	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	479	1,780	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	125	482	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing			7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.			10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	304	658	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	20	61	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	7	16	7,846
Food manufacturing	112	394	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing			1,445
Textile mills	709	2,590	40,207
Textile product mills	146	486	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	13	58	5,321
Paper manufacturing	1,297	2,370	14,710
Printing and related support activities	25	71	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	585	1,913	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	88	288	23,054
Wholesale Trade	585	1,970	62,523
Retail Trade	2,856	8,998	224,031
Transportation and Warehousing	316	1,300	46,941
Education and Health Services	3,255	11,592	156,232
Leisure and Hospitality	1,733	5,555	192,748
Professional and Business Services	1,643	4,375	186,481

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In Lee County				
Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
South Atlantic Cannery Inc	Bishopville	Carbonated beverages	117	1974
Rexam Beverage Can Co	Bishopville	Beverage containers	101	1975
Zimac's Inc	Lynchburg	Draperies	50	1971
Container Corp of Carolina	Bishopville	Solid waste hauler	45	
Parker Hannifin	Bishopville	Automotive plastic molded parts	44	1999
Haier America Refrigerators	Bishopville	Refrigerator wholesale distribution	30	2004
Southern States	Bishopville	Ginning Cotton	11	

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)	42,801	152,379	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	4,941	7,124	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	51%	48%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	3,054	11,285	139,607
Unemployment Rate	7.1%	7.8%	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	242	834	22,196
Manufacturing	242	820	19,196
Distribution		11	1,213
Service		3	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	10,850	36,690	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 Lee County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	115
Data Processing Technology	107
Engineering Technologies (Total)	91
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	43
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	*
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	239
Industrial Electronics	15
HVAC	56
Precision Production (Total)	102
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	54

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	Lee County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$434	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$22,559	\$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	Lee County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$43,882	\$39,027
Wood product	***	\$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	***	\$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 Bishopville and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Lee Area			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	\$8.06	\$9.35	\$10.50
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$7.46	\$9.27	\$10.86
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	*	*	*
Chemical Equipment Operators	\$15.13	\$16.37	\$17.36
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	*	*	*
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	*	*	*
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	*	*	*
Logging Equipment Operators	\$9.43	\$10.58	\$12.75
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$9.95	\$13.68	\$16.76
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	*	*	*
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$12.42	\$14.42	\$16.83
Machinists	\$8.95	\$13.90	\$17.43
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	\$8.37	\$10.40	\$11.32
Molding & Casting Machine Op	*	*	*
Sewing Machine Operators	\$6.29	\$7.81	\$8.91
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$6.90	\$10.17	\$14.35
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$10.41	\$14.51	\$17.07
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$10.81	\$13.20	\$15.83
Woodworking Machine Setters	\$7.74	\$9.04	\$10.34
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Lee Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	\$54,580	\$68,680	\$82,340
Computer Programmers	\$32,660	\$43,800	\$55,300
Engineers, NEC	\$41,540	\$55,880	\$66,380
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$28,520	\$36,220	\$43,800
Industrial Engineers	\$46,500	\$54,200	\$64,060
Mechanical Engineers	\$45,860	\$52,800	\$64,240

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

* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available