

# Labor Resources for Latta, 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 Latta, South Carolina. Latta is located in Dillon 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 Latta.

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

<b>Labor Force Characteristics</b>	<b>within 30 min.</b>	<b>within 45 min.</b>	<b>South Carolina</b>
Population, 2004	71,671	190,914	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	33,177	97,077	2,046,179
<b>Availability of Labor</b>	<b>within 30 min.</b>	<b>within 45 min.</b>	<b>South Carolina</b>
Unemployed Workers, 2004	3,261	7,989	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	9.8%	8.9%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	317	743	22,196
<b>Average Wages</b>	<b>Dillon County</b>	<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>United States</b>
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$423	\$581	\$658

## Labor Force Characteristics for Latta, 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	33,177	97,077	2,046,179
Change since 2000	77	7,689	49,079
<b>Population</b>			
Population 2004	71,671	190,914	4,198,068
Change since 2000	1,084	5,561	186,056
Projected 2010	61,556	182,116	4,446,704
<b>Gender Distribution</b>			
Male	34,576	91,869	2,040,261
Female	37,095	99,045	2,132,454
<b>Age Distribution</b>			
Ages 20-34	14,439	38,459	875,330
Ages 35-49	15,065	40,801	925,330
Ages 50-64	12,797	34,927	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	34,532	92,725	2,084,880
<b>Highest Level of Educational Attainment</b>			
High School	23,272	61,732	778,054
Some College	10,601	32,643	500,194
Associate Degree	3,790	11,094	173,428
Bachelors Degree	6,316	19,618	351,526
Post Bachelor	3,262	9,619	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 Latta, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	29,916	89,088	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 Dillon County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
<b>Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>12,379</b>
<b>Mining</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,603</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>11,891</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>3,575</b>	<b>111,730</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>6,180</b>	<b>13,839</b>	<b>275,573</b>
Wood product manufacturing	185	596	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	19	97	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	46	325	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	179	803	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	144	501	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing			7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.			10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	564	1,045	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	4	36	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	3	29	7,846
Food manufacturing	112	391	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing			1,445
Textile mills	936	1,046	40,207
Textile product mills	65	211	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	296	482	5,321
Paper manufacturing	244	1,350	14,710
Printing and related support activities	52	118	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	236	763	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	36	115	23,054
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>2,058</b>	<b>62,523</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>3,618</b>	<b>10,226</b>	<b>224,031</b>
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>46,941</b>
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>4,297</b>	<b>12,147</b>	<b>156,232</b>
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>1,887</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>192,748</b>
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>3,963</b>	<b>186,481</b>

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

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

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
Perdue Farms Inc	Dillon	Poultry products	1002	1992
Dillon Yarn Corp	Dillon	Textured Yarn	414	1968
Wix Filtration Corp	Dillon	Air, oil & fuel filters	373	1977
Franco Mfg-Davids of Dillon Plt	Dillon	Comforters	300	1980
Smurfit-Stone	Latta	Corrugated packaging	225	1975
Anvil Knitwear	Hamer	Knitwear	192	1996
Carpostan Industries	Lake View	Upholstery material	151	1969
Mohawk	Dillon	Carpet yarn	150	1987
Dillon Furniture Manufacturing Co	Dillon	Household wood furniture	61	1960
Charles Craft Inc	Hamer	Specialty yarns	48	
Perdue Farms Inc	Dillon	Poultry products	1002	1992
Dillon Yarn Corp	Dillon	Textured Yarn	414	1968
Wix Filtration Corp	Dillon	Air, oil & fuel filters	373	1977
Franco Mfg-Davids of Dillon Plt	Dillon	Comforters	300	1980
Smurfit-Stone	Latta	Corrugated packaging	225	1975
Anvil Knitwear	Hamer	Knitwear	192	1996
Carpostan Industries	Lake View	Upholstery material	151	1969
Mohawk	Dillon	Carpet yarn	150	1987
Dillon Furniture Manufacturing Co	Dillon	Household wood furniture	61	1960
Charles Craft Inc	Hamer	Specialty yarns	48	

### 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)	33,177	97,077	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	77	7,689	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	46%	51%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	3,261	7,989	139,607
Unemployment Rate	9.8%	8.9%	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	317	743	22,196
Manufacturing	317	735	19,196
Distribution	-	-	1,213
Service	-	9	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	8,072	18,895	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 Dillon County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	50
Data Processing Technology	42
Engineering Technologies (Total)	48
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	24
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	*
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	122
Industrial Electronics	15
HVAC	56
Precision Production (Total)	71
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	28

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	Dillon County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$423	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$22,022	\$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	Dillon County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$26,273	\$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	\$23,345	\$31,898
Textile product mills	***	\$25,618
Apparel	***	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	\$25,249	\$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 Latta and Surrounding Area

<b>Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Dillon 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 & Solders	\$10.32	\$12.29	\$13.38
Woodworking Machine Setters	*	*	*
<b>Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Dillon 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