

# Labor Resources for Summerville, 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 Summerville, South Carolina. Summerville is located in Dorchester 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 Summerville.

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

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	166,006	329,133	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	74,942	147,414	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	4,312	8,953	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	5.8%	5.8%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	172	450	22,196
Average Wages	Dorchester County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$527	\$581	\$658

## Labor Force Characteristics for Summerville, 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	74,942	147,414	2,046,179
Change since 2000	-2,195	-6,964	49,079
<b>Population</b>			
Population 2004	166,006	329,133	4,198,068
Change since 2000	11,719	20,584	186,056
Projected 2010	176,442	355,284	4,446,704
<b>Gender Distribution</b>			
Male	81,498	161,745	2,040,261
Female	84,508	167,388	2,132,454
<b>Age Distribution</b>			
Ages 20-34	34,528	69,884	875,330
Ages 35-49	37,559	73,528	925,330
Ages 50-64	27,482	54,680	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	83,069	165,218	2,084,880
<b>Highest Level of Educational Attainment</b>			
High School	47,166	93,366	778,054
Some College	37,552	72,883	500,194
Associate Degree	12,168	23,496	173,428
Bachelors Degree	25,070	49,420	351,526
Post Bachelor	13,125	26,332	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 Summerville, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	70,629	138,462	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 Dorchester County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
<b>Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>12,379</b>
<b>Mining</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>1,603</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>11,891</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>4,334</b>	<b>8,857</b>	<b>111,730</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>6,608</b>	<b>13,323</b>	<b>275,573</b>
Wood product manufacturing	164	317	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	445	736	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	576	1,128	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	418	801	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	141	592	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	27	159	7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.			10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	527	1,332	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	94	216	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	155	308	7,846
Food manufacturing	80	186	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing			1,445
Textile mills	64	613	40,207
Textile product mills	90	135	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	7	15	5,321
Paper manufacturing			14,710
Printing and related support activities	73	174	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	495	1,178	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	61	105	23,054
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	<b>1,496</b>	<b>3,056</b>	<b>62,523</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>8,290</b>	<b>16,925</b>	<b>224,031</b>
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	<b>2,363</b>	<b>4,699</b>	<b>46,941</b>
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>8,214</b>	<b>17,581</b>	<b>156,232</b>
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>7,316</b>	<b>15,770</b>	<b>192,748</b>
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>6,566</b>	<b>13,446</b>	<b>186,481</b>

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

## Largest Industries by Total Employment In Dorchester County, SC

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
Robert Bosch Corp-Automotive Group	Charleston	Fuel injectors	2400	1974
Giant Cement Holding Inc	Summerville	Corporate headquarters	900	1883
LINQ Industrial Fabrics Inc	Summerville	Woven polypropylene fabric	400	1972
AAI Engineering Support	Summerville	Engineering, C-17 aircraft trainer	300	1997
Showa Denko Carbon Inc	Ridgeville	Graphite electrodes	209	1988
Giant Cement Co	Harleyville	Portland & masonry cement	205	1948
Linde Lift Truck Corp	Summerville	Industrial & narrow aisle forklifts	178	1977
MeadWestvaco	Summerville	Lumber	162	1969
Scout Boats	Summerville	Fiberglass boats	120	1989
Lafarge North America	Harleyville	Portland cement	120	1989
Key West Boats Inc	Ridgeville	Boat building & repairing	104	1988
Briteline Extrusions Inc	Summerville	Aluminum extrusions	101	1953
Carolina Truss Systems Inc	Summerville	Wood roof trusses	100	1980
ITT Conoflow	St George	Regulators & transducers	90	1965
Teepak LLC	St George	Non-edible food casings	80	1987
Cemplank	Summerville	Fiber cement	80	2000
Syn Strand Inc	Summerville	Extruded monofilament paper	77	1988
USCOA International Corp	St George	Decorated entrance mats	62	1889
Strand-Tech Martin Inc	Summerville	Steel strand for concrete industry	52	1998
Coastal Corrugated Inc	North Charleston	Corrugated boxes	51	1987

### 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)	74,942	147,414	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	-2,195	-6,964	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	45%	45%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	4,312	8,953	139,607
Unemployment Rate	5.8%	5.8%	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	172	450	22,196
Manufacturing	148	384	19,196
Distribution	17	50	1,213
Service	7	16	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	29,821	52,625	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 Dorchester County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	365
Data Processing Technology	163
Engineering Technologies (Total)	240
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	30
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	6
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	181
Industrial Electronics	24
HVAC	27
Precision Production (Total)	128
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	80

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	Dorchester County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$527	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$27,399	\$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	Dorchester County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$40,911	\$39,027
Wood product	\$27,961	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	\$48,119	\$39,031
Primary metal	\$33,929	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	\$34,238	\$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	\$22,538	\$34,350
Food	***	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	***	\$31,898
Textile product mills	\$24,637	\$25,618
Apparel	***	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	\$23,389	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	***	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	\$18,018	\$46,620

\*\*\*Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

## Occupational Wages In Summerville and Surrounding Area

<b>Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Dorchester Area</b>			
<b>Non-Exempt Occupations</b>	<b>Entry</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Experienced</b>
Assemblers and Fabricators	*	*	*
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$8.23	\$9.96	\$10.94
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	*	*	*
Chemical Equipment Operators	*	*	*
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	\$8.90	\$10.80	\$12.20
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	*	*	*
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	\$8.82	\$10.54	\$11.87
Logging Equipment Operators	\$9.43	\$11.17	\$12.95
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$11.02	\$15.26	\$18.69
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	\$9.92	\$11.79	\$13.27
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	*	*	*
Machinists	\$11.10	\$13.71	\$16.33
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	*	*	*
Molding & Casting Machine Op	\$10.17	\$11.46	\$12.96
Sewing Machine Operators	*	*	*
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	*	*	*
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$12.11	\$16.03	\$19.55
Welders, Cutters & Solders	\$11.99	\$13.79	\$15.84
Woodworking Machine Setters	*	*	*
<b>Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Dorchester Area*</b>			
<b>Exempt Occupations</b>	<b>Entry</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Experienced</b>
Chemical Engineers	\$52,640	\$66,540	\$79,900
Computer Programmers	\$31,940	\$40,440	\$47,660
Engineers, NEC	\$36,420	\$55,340	\$69,440
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$28,340	\$41,220	\$53,020
Industrial Engineers	\$52,060	\$60,400	\$68,920
Mechanical Engineers	\$36,340	\$45,420	\$55,800

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

\* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available