

Labor Resources for Sumter, 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 Sumter, South Carolina. Sumter is located in Sumter 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 Sumter.

Labor Situation at a Glance in Sumter, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	111,611	272,464	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	44,325	119,182	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	3,874	9,317	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	8.7%	7.5%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	42	325	22,196
Average Wages	Sumter County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$486	\$581	\$658

Labor Force Characteristics for Sumter, 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	44,325	119,182	2,046,179
Change since 2000	-4,538	-4,747	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	111,611	272,464	4,198,068
Change since 2000	-406	1,710	186,056
Projected 2010	46,404	136,166	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	53,224	131,425	2,040,261
Female	58,388	141,039	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	23,457	59,189	875,330
Ages 35-49	23,879	58,845	925,330
Ages 50-64	17,891	45,181	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	54,593	136,312	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	40,348	97,970	778,054
Some College	16,534	40,235	500,194
Associate Degree	6,025	15,179	173,428
Bachelors Degree	7,740	22,515	351,526
Post Bachelor	3,501	9,688	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 Sumter, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	40,451	109,865	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 Sumter County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	98	266	12,379
Mining		7	1,603
Utilities	41	78	11,891
Construction	308	1,728	111,730
Manufacturing	3,166	8,886	275,573
Wood product manufacturing	55	294	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	1	46	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	13	152	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	415	862	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	5	238	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing			7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.		10	10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	8	207	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing		21	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing		12	7,846
Food manufacturing	5	175	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing		1	1,445
Textile mills	1,518	2,121	40,207
Textile product mills	3	174	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	1	29	5,321
Paper manufacturing	44	622	14,710
Printing and related support activities	1	29	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	13	694	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	2	109	23,054
Wholesale Trade	252	1,115	62,523
Retail Trade	1,421	5,140	224,031
Transportation and Warehousing	214	730	46,941
Education and Health Services	2,212	7,850	156,232
Leisure and Hospitality	869	3,251	192,748
Professional and Business Services	620	2,362	186,481

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In Sumter County, SC

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
Gold Kist Inc	Sumter	Poultry products	2360	1991
Santee Print Works	Sumter	Cotton fabric finishing	1100	1950
Becton Dickinson Vacutainer Systems	Sumter	Disposable blood collection devices	740	1969
Cooper Hand Tools	Sumter	Hand tools	600	1974
Eaton Corporation	Sumter	Electrical distribution equipment	495	1980
Madison Industries Inc	Sumter	Bath sets	400	1955
Sumter Cabinet Co	Sumter	Furniture	380	1889
Martin Color-Fi Inc	Sumter	Fiber	260	1984
Carolina Furniture Works Inc	Sumter	Furniture	213	1946
Interlake Material Handling	Sumter	Pallet rack storage systems	211	1988
Florence Concrete Products-Sumter Plt	Sumter	Pre cast concrete	197	1962
Builders First Source	Sumter	Roof & floor trusses	170	1981
Caterpillar Inc	Sumter	Planetary shafts	134	1998
Energys Inc	Sumter	Laser cutting	130	1996
Sumter Packaging Corporation	Sumter	Corrugated shipping containers	125	1958
Southeastern Chemical & Solvent Co	Sumter	Waste recycling for fuel	120	1997
Manchester Farms	Dalzell	Processed quail	120	
Kaydon Corp-Plant 12	Sumter	Bearings	120	1977
Osteen Publishing Co	Sumter	Newspapers	117	1894
International Paper	Sumter	Copier paper	114	1991

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)	44,325	119,182	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	-4,538	-4,747	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	40%	44%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	3,874	9,317	139,607
Unemployment Rate	8.7%	7.5%	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	42	325	22,196
Manufacturing	40	309	19,196
Distribution	1	17	1,213
Service	-	-	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	9,848	26,770	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 Sumter County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	65
Data Processing Technology	65
Engineering Technologies (Total)	43
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	19
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	*
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	117
Industrial Electronics	*
HVAC	*
Precision Production (Total)	31
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	26

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	Sumter County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$486	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$25,267	\$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	Sumter County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$30,817	\$39,027
Wood product	***	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	***	\$39,031
Primary metal	***	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	\$36,879	\$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	\$29,114	\$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 Sumter and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Sumter 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 & Solders	\$10.81	\$13.20	\$15.83
Woodworking Machine Setters	\$7.74	\$9.04	\$10.34
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Sumter 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