

Labor Resources for Fountain Inn, 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 Fountain Inn, South Carolina. Fountain Inn is located in Greenville 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 Fountain Inn.

Labor Situation at a Glance in Fountain Inn, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	309,918	664,548	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	194,909	395,454	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	9,969	22,228	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	5.1%	6.8%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	838	1,995	22,196
Average Wages	Greenville County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$646	\$581	\$658

Labor Force Characteristics for Fountain Inn, 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	194,909	395,454	2,046,179
Change since 2000	44,721	70,743	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	309,918	664,548	4,198,068
Change since 2000	12,260	24,841	186,056
Projected 2010	292,391	646,576	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	150,609	322,456	2,040,261
Female	159,309	342,092	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	63,458	136,220	875,330
Ages 35-49	70,618	150,088	925,330
Ages 50-64	54,510	117,765	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	154,423	330,360	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	86,928	190,835	778,054
Some College	60,655	130,573	500,194
Associate Degree	21,815	46,821	173,428
Bachelors Degree	47,671	94,843	351,526
Post Bachelor	21,791	44,222	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 Fountain Inn, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	184,939	373,226	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 Greenville County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	346	839	12,379
Mining	44	92	1,603
Utilities	380	1,125	11,891
Construction	7,544	15,625	111,730
Manufacturing	24,258	49,487	275,573
Wood product manufacturing	355	707	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	483	1,014	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	31	60	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	2,515	5,105	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	2,942	4,886	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	716	1,124	7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	584	1,245	10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	1,714	3,653	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	737	1,617	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	313	770	7,846
Food manufacturing	487	913	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing			1,445
Textile mills	2,220	4,748	40,207
Textile product mills	1,042	1,555	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	210	364	5,321
Paper manufacturing	512	1,085	14,710
Printing and related support activities	426	913	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	2,334	4,007	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	4,443	7,304	23,054
Wholesale Trade	5,254	10,183	62,523
Retail Trade	17,194	35,879	224,031
Transportation and Warehousing	5,266	8,937	46,941
Education and Health Services	22,600	52,966	156,232
Leisure and Hospitality	12,051	25,598	192,748
Professional and Business Services	19,668	37,476	186,481

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In Greenville County

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
General Electric Co	Greenville	Gas turbines	3,600	1967
Lockheed Martin Corporation	Greenville	Aircraft & logistics centers	3,032	1984
Michelin North America Inc	Greenville	Radial tires	2,668	1975
BI-LO LLC	Greenville	Regional Grocery Headquarters	2,100	1961
Sealed Air Corp-Cryovac Div	Simpsonville	Plastic bags	1,700	1998
Hitachi Electronic Devices (USA)	Greenville	Television picture tubes	1,150	1989
NewSouth Communications	Greenville	Telecommunications provider	771	2000
Mitsubishi Polyester Film LLC	Greer	Polyester film	662	1963
House of Raeford	Greenville	Processed poultry	630	1992
Collins & Aikman-Greenville Operations	Greenville	Automotive carpet	600	1987
The Greenville News	Greenville	Newspapers	582	1874
Kemet Electronics Corp	Simpsonville	Capacitors	562	1967
Ahold Information Services	Greenville	Information technology center	560	1996
Nutra Manufacturing	Greenville	Vitamins & supplements	500	1978
Sloan Construction Co	Greenville	Hot mix asphalt	500	1931
Honeywell International	Greer	Engine blades & discs	500	1981
Drive Automotive Industries of America	Piedmont	Body assemblies for automobiles	483	1994
Rockwell Automation-Power Systems	Greenville	Gear products	465	1981
Atlas Food System	Greenville	Contract vending	450	1947
Metromont	Greenville	Pre stressed concrete	450	1959

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)	194,909	395,454	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	44,721	70,743	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	63%	60%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	9,969	22,228	139,607
Unemployment Rate	5.1%	6.8%	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	838	1,995	22,196
Manufacturing	734	1,813	19,196
Distribution	41	67	1,213
Service	63	115	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	24,859	62,334	31,833

Source: 2000 U.S. Census of Population

Workers commuting to places outside their residence 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 Greenville County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	481
Data Processing Technology	377
Engineering Technologies (Total)	334
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	63
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	33
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	889
Industrial Electronics	154
HVAC	239
Precision Production (Total)	323
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	87

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	Greenville County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$646	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$33,583	\$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	Greenville County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$43,834	\$39,027
Wood product	\$23,775	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	\$40,526	\$39,031
Primary metal	***	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	\$37,055	\$37,533
Machinery	\$50,416	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	\$44,985	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	\$41,109	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	\$44,697	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	\$33,065	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	\$32,352	\$34,350
Food	\$29,410	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	\$32,997	\$31,898
Textile product mills	\$28,453	\$25,618
Apparel	\$34,155	\$23,705
Paper	\$47,443	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	\$33,878	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	\$47,596	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	\$54,243	\$46,620

***Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

Occupational Wages In Fountain Inn and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Greenville County Area*			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	*	*	*
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$8.52	\$11.30	\$13.79
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	\$8.97	\$11.77	\$14.53
Chemical Equipment Operators	\$12.43	\$14.08	\$16.00
Chemical Plant & System Operators	\$13.33	\$15.81	\$18.45
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	*	*	*
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	\$9.67	\$11.83	\$14.18
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	*	*	*
Logging Equipment Operators	*	*	*
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$10.89	\$15.65	\$19.32
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	\$11.45	\$12.87	\$14.67
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	*	*	*
Machinists	\$16.00	\$18.26	\$21.03
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	\$10.15	\$12.83	\$14.56
Molding & Casting Machine Op	\$8.58	\$12.74	\$17.44
Sewing Machine Operators	\$6.46	\$8.49	\$10.82
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$9.09	\$10.87	\$12.49
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$13.51	\$17.91	\$21.42
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$13.98	\$17.66	\$21.19
Woodworking Machine Setters	*	*	*
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Greenville County Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	*	*	*
Computer Programmers	\$37,200	\$52,080	\$64,960
Engineers, NEC	\$34,180	\$56,860	\$78,040
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$33,480	\$44,300	\$50,040
Industrial Engineers	\$49,340	\$64,240	\$81,340
Mechanical Engineers	\$48,780	\$56,680	\$70,740

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

* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available