

Labor Resources for Kingstree, 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 Kingstree, South Carolina. Kingstree is located in Williamsburg 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 Kingstree.

Labor Situation at a Glance in Kingstree, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	37,927	131,641	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	17,994	63,971	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	1,753	5,356	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	9.7%	9.2%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	602	1,222	22,196
Average Wages	Williamsburg County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$721	\$581	\$658

Labor Force Characteristics for Kingstree, 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	17,994	63,971	2,046,179
Change since 2000	1,791	5,627	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	37,927	131,641	4,198,068
Change since 2000	11,976	20,382	186,056
Projected 2010	132,848	272,560	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	18,270	63,294	2,040,261
Female	19,657	68,347	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	7,519	26,809	875,330
Ages 35-49	7,963	27,907	925,330
Ages 50-64	7,105	23,835	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	18,338	64,178	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	11,405	41,637	778,054
Some College	7,328	24,372	500,194
Associate Degree	2,513	8,252	173,428
Bachelors Degree	4,859	15,155	351,526
Post Bachelor	2,352	7,303	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 Kingstree, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	16,241	58,615	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 Williamsburg County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	139	331	12,379
Mining	36	72	1,603
Utilities	14	85	11,891
Construction	2,393	4,916	111,730
Manufacturing	6,976	14,697	275,573
Wood product manufacturing	232	538	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	276	490	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	60	249	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	944	1,832	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	495	1,049	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing			7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	221	340	10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	935	1,529	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	42	76	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	154	241	7,846
Food manufacturing	98	367	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	21	32	1,445
Textile mills	1,011	1,768	40,207
Textile product mills	42	196	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	30	94	5,321
Paper manufacturing	62	287	14,710
Printing and related support activities	135	223	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	689	1,654	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	190	364	23,054
Wholesale Trade	2,386	4,442	62,523
Retail Trade	5,636	11,903	224,031
Transportation and Warehousing	721	1,684	46,941
Education and Health Services	8,994	19,139	156,232
Leisure and Hospitality	4,841	9,751	192,748
Professional and Business Services	4,206	7,869	186,481

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In Williamsburg County, SC

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
Tupperware US Inc	Hemingway	Plastic housewares	630	1976
ClientLogic Corp	Kingstree	Technical support call center	400	2001
Firestone Building products	Kingstree	Rubber sheeting	230	1994
Hemingway Apparel Inc	Hemingway	Sleepwear	175	1963
House of Raeford Farms	Nesmith	Poultry products	150	1987
Hemingway Apparel Inc	Hemingway	Ladies' lingerie	145	1978
Three-D Metal Works Inc	Andrews	Fabrication welding	130	1993
Martek Biosciences Corp	Kingstree	Enzymes	96	1994
The Wise Co	Greeleyville	Boat interiors	91	1973
Palmetto Synthetics LLC	Kingstree	Synthetic fibers	75	1998
Lane Manufacturing Lane	Lane	Textile processing	60	2000
CV Unlimited	Hemingway	CV axels	60	1994
Thantex	Andrews	Non woven fabrics	55	1996
Watford Industry Inc	Kingstree	Welding shop	53	1979
Moore Knits Inc	Andrews	T-shirts	40	1993

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)	17,994	63,971	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	1,791	5,627	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	47%	49%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	1,753	5,356	139,607
Unemployment Rate	9.7%	9.2%	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	602	1,222	22,196
Manufacturing	600	1,215	19,196
Distribution	2	6	1,213
Service	-	1	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	5,095	16,066	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

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	Williamsburg County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$721	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$37,508	\$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	Williamsburg County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$43,128	\$39,027
Wood product	\$32,774	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	\$29,622	\$39,031
Primary metal	\$35,487	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	\$37,584	\$37,533
Machinery	\$41,765	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	***	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	\$35,932	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	\$32,831	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	\$23,899	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	\$36,174	\$34,350
Food	\$16,284	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	\$37,044	\$35,765
Textile mills	\$39,210	\$31,898
Textile product mills	***	\$25,618
Apparel	\$15,119	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	\$34,540	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	\$48,654	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	\$33,267	\$46,620

***Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

Occupational Wages In Kingstree and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Williamsburg Area			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	*	*	*
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$10.50	\$11.90	\$13.27
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	\$8.17	\$9.87	\$11.78
Chemical Equipment Operators	*	*	*
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	*	*	*
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	*	*	*
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	\$11.07	\$12.37	\$13.16
Logging Equipment Operators	\$10.39	\$14.79	\$19.25
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$9.88	\$13.83	\$16.70
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	*	*	*
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$10.76	\$13.80	\$16.73
Machinists	\$10.77	\$14.52	\$16.82
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	*	*	*
Molding & Casting Machine Op	*	*	*
Sewing Machine Operators	*	*	*
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$7.90	\$9.29	\$10.61
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$10.30	\$13.44	\$15.74
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$10.80	\$13.73	\$15.85
Woodworking Machine Setters	\$7.87	\$11.23	\$13.28
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Williamsburg Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	*	*	*
Computer Programmers	\$31,720	\$42,440	\$51,000
Engineers, NEC	*	*	*
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$26,480	\$37,360	\$44,520
Industrial Engineers	\$40,760	\$54,160	\$63,680
Mechanical Engineers	*	*	*

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

* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available