

South Carolina at a Glance

The state of South Carolina is situated between North Carolina and Georgia in the Southeastern United States and is **strategically located halfway between New York City and Miami**. Home to over 4.6 million people, South Carolina is similar in size to Ireland.



Advantage South Carolina

South Carolina offers unparalleled value to companies seeking the ideal business location. As a result, over 700 international firms call South Carolina home. **Ranking 4th in the United States, foreign affiliated companies account for 7% of private employment in South Carolina.** Leading the charge in the manufacturing revival, South Carolina's manufacturing industry experienced 12% growth in output from 2001 to 2010, evolving into a growing technology-centric, capital-intensive sector.

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South Carolina ranks first among US states for jobs created by new and expanding international firms.

IBM Global Location Trends Report, 2012

Low Cost of Doing Business

South Carolina businesses thrive thanks to lower operating and capital costs. The average salary ranks the 8th lowest in the nation. **Business-friendly regulations and smart investments in energy infrastructure** give South Carolina the region's most affordable power costs. Industrial power costs in the state average only 5.9 cents per kilowatt hour, the lowest in the Southeast.

Transportation Infrastructure

Served by 5 interstate highways, an efficient port with numerous worldwide shipping connections and the capability to support post-Panamax vessels, two Class One rail carriers and three major airports, **South Carolina offers manufacturers numerous means of reaching customers and suppliers around the world.**

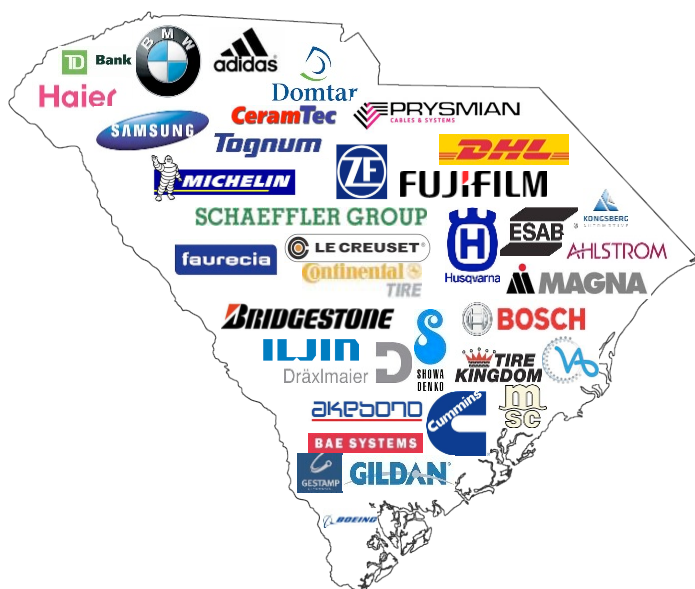
Workforce and Education

As a right-to-work state with the second lowest unionization rate in the country, South Carolina businesses can rely on a stable, efficient workforce at competitive wage rates and free from work stoppages. Over the past decade, **South Carolina boasts the 8th fastest growing labor force nationwide.**

Favorable Tax Climate and Incentives

The Palmetto State offers a host of tax incentives and tax advantages to businesses choosing to locate or expand their manufacturing operations in the state:

- No state property tax
- No local income tax
- No inventory tax
- Favorable corporate income tax structure
- Job Development Tax Credits
- Economic Development Set-Aside Grants
- Corporate Headquarters Tax Credits
- Research and Development Tax Credits



South Carolina is represented in Europe with dedicated staff and a long and successful track record of helping international companies establish, relocate and expand business operations in the United States.



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