



SOUTH CAROLINA



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OPPORTUNITY IS EVERYWHERE

Steeped in history and tradition from the Atlantic coast to the Appalachian Mountains, South Carolina offers a mild climate with natural beauty, world-renowned events, a low cost of living and a location that is beyond compare. Strategically set half way between New York and Miami, South Carolina is centrally located on the U.S. East Coast, offering unparalleled opportunities.

As a state, we encourage companies to come and discover what global heavyweights BMW, Volvo Cars, Boeing, Bridgestone, Mercedes-Benz Vans, Continental, Google and Michelin already know –

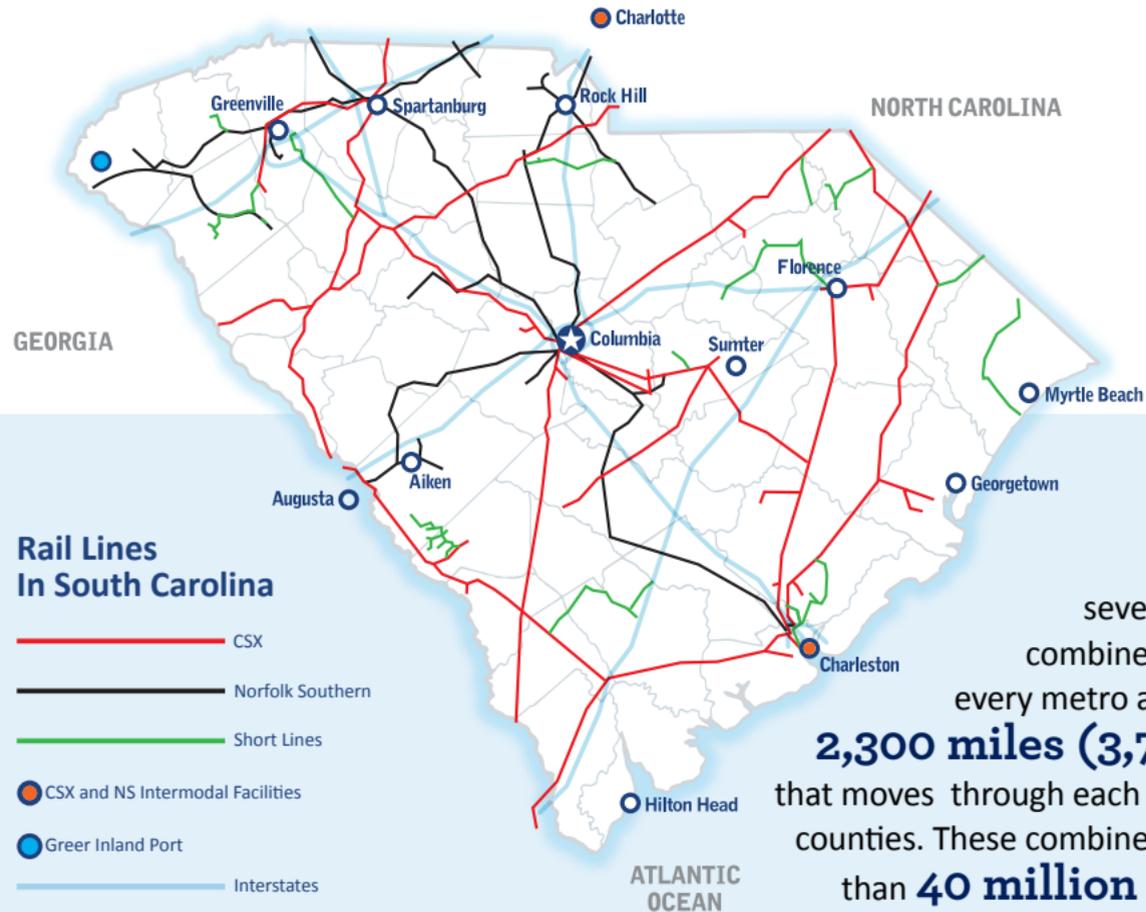
South Carolina is just right for business.



UNPARALLELED INFRASTRUCTURE & ACCESSIBILITY

South Carolina's unparalleled transportation opportunities make reaching any market an easy task. The state's central U.S. East Coast location, coupled with an integrated transportation system of highways, airports, seaports and railways, ensures any company can easily reach every one of its markets, efficiently sending and receiving shipments around the world.

The center of South Carolina is **within 1,600 miles (2,500 km) of 35 states** and approximately two-thirds (207 million) of the entire U.S. population.



RAIL

CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern and several short line railroads combine to offer rail service in every metro area, operating almost **2,300 miles (3,700 km) of rail** that moves through each of South Carolina's 46 counties. These combined services allow more than **40 million tons of freight** to move over South Carolina railroads each year.



LAND AND AIR

Any location in South Carolina is within an hour of a commercial airport, or a few hours' drive of international airports in Charlotte or Atlanta.

In addition, the state is crisscrossed by **five interstate highways**, offering excellent east-west and north-south access to the rest of the nation.



SEA

The Port of Charleston is one of the busiest container ports along the Southeast and Gulf coasts and is recognized as one of the **nation's most efficient** and productive ports averaging 43 moves per hour per crane. The Port of Charleston has the **deepest shipping channels** in the Southeast and can accommodate up to a 48 foot (15 meters) draft during high tide and a 45 foot (14 meters) draft 24 hours a day. Upon completion of the harbor deepening project, the Port of Charleston will be 52 feet (16 meters) deep and the deepest on the East Coast.

The Port of Charleston's inland port extends the Port's reach 212 miles (341 km) inland to Greer, S.C., providing shippers with access to more than **95 million consumers** within a one-day drive.



WORKING HARD TO ENHANCE BOTTOM LINES

With one of the **lowest corporate tax** rates in the nation, combined with highly competitive wages and one of the lowest unionization rates in the country, **South Carolina** is the ideal location for business growth and development.

In addition, the state's leadership takes pride in being accessible to companies of any size, which is why small companies and large corporations alike recognize the business climate in South Carolina as one of the **best in the nation.**



COMPETITIVE, CUSTOMIZED INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

South Carolina offers a variety of competitive and customized incentive programs to meet any company's needs.

- Corporate income tax credits
- Discretionary income, license or withholding tax incentives and rebates
- Discretionary local property tax incentives
- readySC™ (customized workforce training program)

**To review all South Carolina incentives, visit SCcommerce.com.*

GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE BUSINESS STRUCTURE

It's not just companies in the United States recognizing the value of South Carolina. More than **1,200 operations** of foreign-affiliated companies do business in South Carolina. For the third time in the last four years, IBM-Plant Location International has ranked South Carolina **first** per capita in attracting jobs through foreign investment.

Foreign-affiliated companies (majority-owned) employ 115,900 South Carolinians – 7.6 percent of the state's private industry employment – placing **South Carolina 1st in the nation** in the percent of its workforce employed by foreign-affiliated companies.

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT



Foreign Owned Companies In South Carolina

Flag size represents the total number of companies for each country of origin within a specific county.





RIGHT-TO-WORK STATE



STRONG & DEPENDABLE WORKFORCE

South Carolina is ranked as a top 10 state in employment concentration for **key occupations** needed by industry. Some of these occupations are engineers, technicians, team assemblers, machine operators and machine assemblers.

South Carolina is a Right-to-Work state, supporting the rights of employees to decide for themselves whether to join or financially support a union, thereby creating a more **stable labor market** and environment for businesses in the state.

RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE & ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ENERGY

When it comes to providing reliable, affordable energy for industry, **South Carolina** is a powerhouse, with some of the lowest industrial power rates in the nation. Costing an average of **11 percent less** than the national average, the state can attribute its low-cost, reliable power to an integrated system using multiple energy sources, including hydroelectric, nuclear, coal and natural gas, as well as other renewable resources.



KEEPING IT COMPETITIVE

A purchaser-oriented, material and service locator program that connects SC companies with SC suppliers and vendors to help **control costs and delivery times** in order to make companies more **successful** in today's competitive environment.

HIGHER EDUCATION

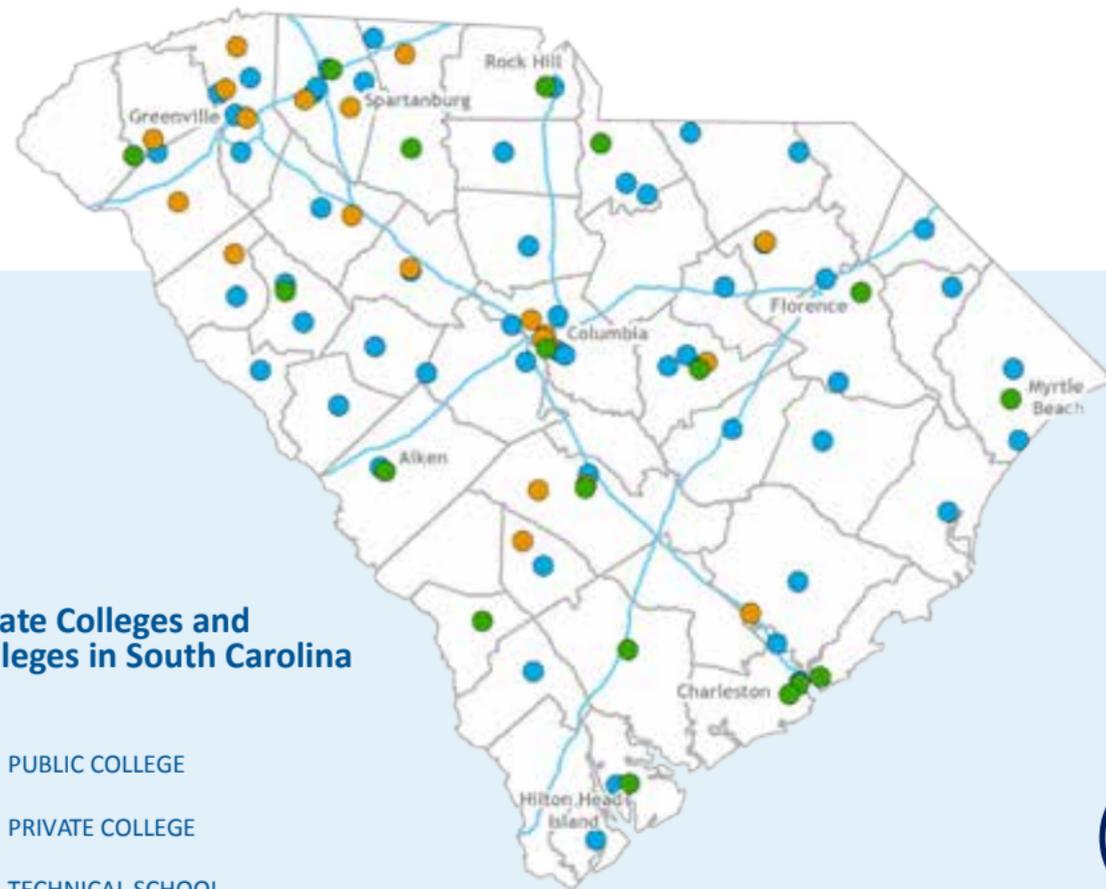
More than **240,000 students** are enrolled in the state's public and private institutions. Additionally, South Carolina has three internationally recognized university research institutions and is home to one of America's **17 national** laboratories.

PROVEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

For more than 50 years, the SC Technical College System has offered one of the state's most powerful economic development incentives, **readySC™**. This comprehensive program is customized to recruit, screen and train students based on the company's needs, and is funded by state dollars.

Public & Private Colleges and Technical Colleges in South Carolina

-  PUBLIC COLLEGE
-  PRIVATE COLLEGE
-  TECHNICAL SCHOOL



A photograph of a large, multi-story brick building with a prominent clock tower, illuminated at dusk. The building is set against a backdrop of rolling hills and a sunset sky.

CLEMSON

Research and innovation continue to be driving factors for Clemson University, with advanced technology and state-of-the-art laboratories. The university is growing several graduate programs for the **21,500+ students** and building more than 100 new research and economic development centers across the state that are dedicated to automotive excellence, advanced materials, international diversity, community outreach, ethics and the arts. Clemson provides an environment where researchers and industry professionals can come together to create ideas for the future.

A photograph of a large, light-colored stone sign for the Medical University of South Carolina. The sign reads "MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA" and "FOUNDED IN 1924". A person is walking past the sign in the foreground, and there are trees and buildings in the background.

MUSC

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) has grown from a small private medical school into one of the **nation's top** academic health science centers, with a medical center (MUSC Health) and six colleges. As South Carolina's only comprehensive academic health center providing a full range of programs in the biomedical sciences, MUSC is engaged in activities statewide, and has received more than **\$232 million dollars** in research grant support. Of all the universities and institutions of higher learning in South Carolina, MUSC brings the most biomedical, extramural research funding to the state.



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The state's flagship university with its 39,500+ student body has a history of more than **200 years of academic leadership**. With a focus on research areas that tackle global challenges such as health care, the environment, alternative energy sources and the creation of advanced materials, the University of South Carolina offers comprehensive programs to help shape the state. The Moore School of Business is consistently **ranked No. 1** in the nation for its international business programs.



RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

South Carolina knows one of the best ways to stay competitive in today's business environment is through research and development and innovation. The Palmetto State offers an abundance of opportunities and support.

SCLaunch[®]

This program was created to facilitate applied research, product development and commercialization programs and to strengthen South Carolina's knowledge-based economy by creating high wage-earning jobs. In doing so, it provides entrepreneurs with key tools for success to help build technology startups, jobs and equity in the future for South Carolina

A large, modern multi-story building with a prominent glass facade and a complex structural design, including a large glass-enclosed staircase. The building is set against a clear blue sky with some light clouds.

CU-ICAR

A circular logo featuring a white silhouette of a palmetto tree and a crescent moon on a dark blue background.

Clemson University's International Center for Automotive Research (CU-ICAR). This is a state-of-the-art advanced-technology research campus where academia, industry and government organizations engage in synergistic collaboration. With more than \$215 million in public and private investment, CU-ICAR represents the ultimate public/private partnership, directly fueling a knowledge base critical to the automotive and other mobility industries.

A modern, multi-story office building with a mix of grey panels and large windows. The SCRA logo is visible on the upper part of the building. An American flag and a South Carolina state flag are flying on poles in front of the building.

SCRA

South Carolina Research Authority (SCRA). Designed to support both federal and corporate work by providing research parks, wet labs, secure facilities, advanced manufacturing and IT infrastructure. SCRA has world-class research facilities that are critical to supporting start-up companies, including Innovation Centers at each of the state's three research universities – Clemson University, the Medical University of South Carolina and the University of South Carolina.



SiMT

The Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing Technology (SiMT).

The premier technical service provider and training facility for industry in the southeastern portion of the United States. Its facilities are located on a **146-acre campus** in Florence. SiMT provides engineering/CAD/CAM, rapid prototyping, and 3D/virtual reality services as well as leading edge manufacturing workforce development and business process training.



MCNAIR CENTER

The McNAIR Center at the University of South Carolina was established in 2011 to grow South Carolina's knowledge-based economy and support industry through aerospace education, **research and industry advancement**. With a large and growing amount of the aerospace sector based in the Southeast, the McNair Center helps to support research involving aerospace analysis, design, optimization and manufacturing of engineered materials and structures.

The Center also works with the University of South Carolina and the state to support educational programs from grade school through graduate school and beyond.

QUALITY OF LIFE

The Palmetto State is rich in history, culture, recreation and astounding natural beauty. People from around the world have recognized the unsurpassed quality of life South Carolina has to offer from **187 miles of ocean coastline** to great golf and other outdoor experiences. The mild climate allows residents to enjoy outdoor activities year-round with more than **400 golf courses** and **47 state parks**. Surrounded by nature, the performing arts, festivals and sports there is something for all ages.



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