



“When the President believes you have a major contribution to make to the welfare of our nation, and to our nation’s standing in the world, that is a calling that is important to heed.”

— Gov. Nikki Haley, after announcing her intention to join the Trump administration. Her nomination to be Ambassador to the United Nations is contingent on confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Gov. Nikki Haley (R)

South Carolina
Department of Commerce
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 Columbia, SC 29201
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 SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
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South Carolina

Pop. (2016): 4,943,188
Median household income: \$45,563
Credit Rating: AA+/Stable

Pop. growth 2016–2021: 1.15%
Median age: 38.9
Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

- Gov. Haley approved a bill allowing the state to borrow \$2.2 billion over the next ten years to replace old bridges and pave roads. The state’s DOT chief said the new law will free up other state monies, and thus trigger more than \$4 billion in roadway spending. The S.C. Chamber of Commerce said the measure demonstrated Haley’s commitment to fixing the state’s antiquated roads and bridges.
- Infrastructure spending in the current S.C. budget also includes \$70 million dollars to build an interchange on I-26 in Berkeley County to facilitate a new Volvo plant, part of the \$200 million the state offered in incentives to land the facility.
- S 267 will shorten South Carolina’s legislative session by setting an adjournment date of the second Thursday of May, instead the first Thursday in June.

GDP
26th



2015 GDP
 (in millions of current US\$)
\$201,005



37
 Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2016-2017: **0**



28
 Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: **\$665,319**



1
 Number of NCRCS: **360,985** | Percent Improvement 2016-2017: **17%**



36
 College Attainment Percent: **40.7%**



15
 Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): **6.46**



18

BUSINESS-CENTERED.

In the heart of the Southeast’s Power Triangle



Laurens County puts you in the center of the action in a pro-business community that offers:

Shovel-ready sites in superbly developed business environments.

World-class workforce training at the Center for Advanced Manufacturing at Piedmont Technical College.

Right-to-work labor force in a state with one of the nation’s lowest unionization rates.

Attractive incentives in addition to low costs of doing business.

R&D support through Clemson University, home of the International Center of Automotive Research.

Strategic location near 4 metros.

- 2-day drive to virtually every major East Coast market and most markets east of the Mississippi River.

Multi-modal speed: Highway, rail, air, port.

- Highway:** Two interstate Highways—I-26 and I-385—plus 6 U.S. and State Highways inside Laurens County assure rapid reach to domestic markets and a direct link to deep-water port access.
- Rail:** In-county rail access through G&W and CSX.
- Air:** In-county corporate air service, with Greenville/Spartanburg International Airport just 40 minutes away.
- Port:** Deep-water Port of Charleston just under 3 hours away through direct access on I-26.



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