



Gov. McMaster (R)

**“Our ports system is one of the greatest assets we have in South Carolina that sets us apart, and with the construction phase of the Charleston harbor deepening project beginning, the number of opportunities for South Carolinians will continue to grow.”**

— Gov. Henry McMaster, July 19, 2017, on the signing of a Project Partnership Agreement to mark the beginning of the construction phase of the Charleston Harbor Deepening Project

**South Carolina**  
**Department of Commerce**  
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# South Carolina

**Pop. (2017):** 5,037,131

**Median household income:** \$48,678

**Credit Rating:** AA+/Stable

**Pop. growth 2017-2022:** 1.21%

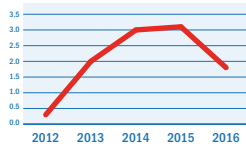
**Median age:** 39.1

**Right-to-work state:** Yes

## Legislative Update

- “Over the past year, we have adopted comprehensive infrastructure funding, solidified the funding for deepening of the Charleston port, and been named the least unionized state in the nation,” wrote Sonoco President and CEO and South Carolina Chamber of Commerce Chair M. Jack Sanders in the organization’s December 2017 annual publication. “As we prepare for next year’s legislative session, it is important we focus on workforce development.”
- The renewable energy economic development and jobs act, including significant property tax abatements for distributed energy resource (DER) property and commercial-owned renewable energy resource property, is on hold until 2018.

**GDP**  
**26<sup>th</sup>**



**2016 GDP**  
 (in millions of current US\$)  
**\$209,859**



**37<sup>th</sup>**

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2017-2018: **0**



**27<sup>th</sup>**

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: **\$689,330**



**2<sup>nd</sup>**

Number of NCRCs: **422,883** | Percent Improvement 2017-2018: **15%**



**35<sup>th</sup>**

ITIF Score: **55.3**



**13<sup>th</sup>**

Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): **6.38**



**19<sup>th</sup>**

## Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2017

COMPANY	CITY	COUNTY	TYPE	NEW/ EXPANDED	PRODUCT	INVESTMENT (US\$ M)	EMP
Bayerische Motoren Werke AG (BMW)	Spartanburg	Spartanburg	MF	E	Auto Parts	600	1,000
AB Volvo	Ridgeville	Berkeley	MF	E	Auto Parts	520	1,910
Samsung Electronics America	Newberry	Newberry	MF	N	Electrical Equipment	380	950
Electrolux North America	Anderson	Anderson	MF	E	Appliances	200	
Roseburg Forest Products Co.	Chester	Chester	MF	N	Plywood	200	145
Wacker Chemie AG	Charleston	Charleston	MF	E	Plastics	150	50
Gestamp North America	Union	Union	MF	E	Auto Parts	129	130
Trane	Columbia	Richland	MF	E	HVAC Equipment	96	700
Charter Nex Films	Blythewood	Richland	MF	N	Plastics	85	110
Ruiz Food Products	Florence	Florence	MF	E	Food	79	705
Borgwarner	Seneca	Oconee	MF	E	Auto Parts	72	160
Arthrex	Sandy Springs	Anderson	MF	N	Medical Instruments	69	1,000
IFA Rotorion - North America	Summerville	Dorchester	MF	E	Auto Parts	69	120
Roy Metal Finishing Co.	Greenville	Greenville	MF	E	Electroplating	60	
Sundaram-Clayton	Ridgeville	Dorchester	MF	N	Metal	50	130

DT = Data Center MF = Manufacturing OF = Office HQ = Headquarters RD = Research & Development DW = Distribution/Warehouse

## Did You Know?

Volvo Cars announced in September it would invest an additional \$520 million in its Berkeley County operations and create 1,910 new jobs. This new commitment adds to the company’s initial 2015 announcement — its first US plant — and brings the collective total to more than \$1 billion in investment and 3,900 jobs.

BMW marked the 25th anniversary of its decision to build a plant in Spartanburg by announcing a \$600-million, 1,000-job expansion.

As of October 2017, the state boasted a workforce of over 2.3 million, 55,200 online job postings, a 3.9-percent unemployment rate and a median single-family home sales price of \$190,500.

# 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.

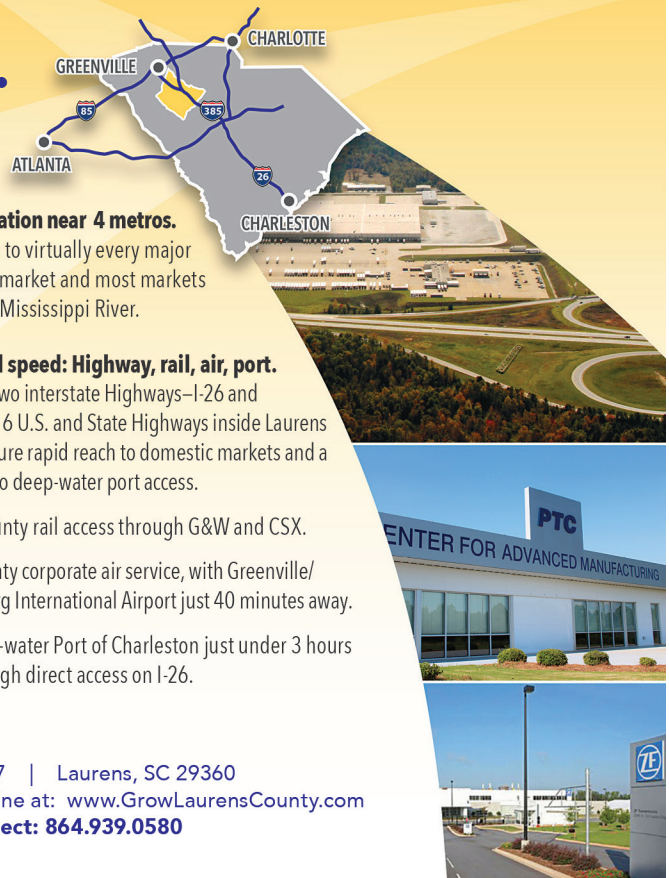
- 2-day drive to virtually every major East Coast market and most markets east of the Mississippi River.

## 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.



PO Box 427 | Laurens, SC 29360  
Visit us online at: [www.GrowLaurensCounty.com](http://www.GrowLaurensCounty.com)  
**Let's Connect: 864.939.0580**



## OUR WORKFORCE IS THE BEST AT MAKING THE PIECES THAT MAKE THE WHOLE

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- ➔ State-of-the-art training facilities
- ➔ Available workforce of more than 1.1 million

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