

“As South Carolina continues to attract major investments and tens of thousands of new jobs, developing our workforce is more important than ever ... These scholarships are still available, so spread the word that there are good-paying jobs out there, and if you do the work, South Carolina will train you for them.”

— Gov. Henry McMaster, on September 13th, announcing that 32,426 residents have earned an industry credential through the state’s Workforce Scholarships for the Future Program, which launched in 2021

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South Carolina

Pop. (2023): 5,311,184

Median household income (2023): \$60,025

Credit Rating: AA+ / Stable

Pop. growth 2023–2028: 0.61%

Median age (2023): 40.1

Right-to-work state: Yes

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

In October 2023, Governor McMaster signed S. 164 into law, which repealed the state’s Certificate of Need (CON) required by most healthcare facilities to construct new sites, purchase certain medical equipment or provide certain medical services. Until 2027, CON will be used for construction of new hospitals or expansion of hospital beds, exempting hospital relocations in the same county or construction of a new hospital up to 50 beds in counties currently without these facilities. The bill also creates the Certificate of Need Committee, which will be tasked to recommend improvements to rural healthcare access or trends associated with quality and quantity of access in these rural areas.

Governor McMaster’s FY 2023-2024 Executive Budget focused on investments in education, infrastructure, public safety and tax relief for residents and businesses. Notably the budget included \$850 million to the South Carolina Department of Transportation for construction, expansion or improvements to the state’s roads, bridges, highways and Interstate 73. In addition, the budget gave \$500 million to the state’s Department of Commerce to use for outstanding obligations and incentives related to new economic development. For mega-site development and acquisition a one-time fund of \$200 million was allocated to identify and secure land for redevelopment.



29th

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2023–2024: +2



30th

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure in \$000s: 808,860



3rd

Number of NCRCs: 470,839 | Percent Improvement 2022–2023: 0.38%



22nd

2023 Workers’ Comp Index Rate: 1.35



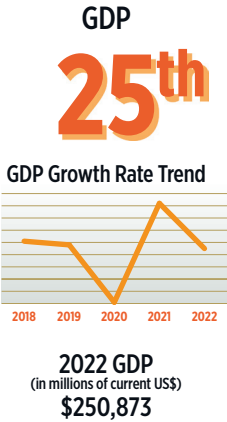
13th

Industrial power cost per kWh: \$7.13



10th

Total Revenue as Share of Total Expenses, FY 2007-2021: 105.9%



LAURENS COUNTY Development Corporation SOUTH CAROLINA, USA

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- **Shovel-ready sites** in superbly developed business environments
- **World-class workforce** makes Laurens County the best environment possible for today’s advanced manufacturing and businesses to succeed



BUSINESS-CENTERED IN THE HEART OF THE SOUTHEAST’S POWER TRIANGLE



INTERSTATES

- Two interstates: I-26 and I-385 connecting to the I-85 corridor.
- 4th largest state-maintained highway system in the nation.



AIR

- 30 minutes from Greenville-Spartanburg International (GSP)
- Five major airlines; average of 50 non-stop daily departures
- Direct service to 17 major cities and airports across the U.S.



PORT & INLAND PORTS

- **Port of Charleston**
 - Less than a 3-hour drive
 - Most productive and deepest East Coast port
 - Serves more than 150 nations
- **Inland Port Dillon-** < 3-hour drive
- **Inland Port Greer-** < 1-hour drive



RAIL

- Over 40 Cargo/Freight carriers within a 60-mile radius
- Class I commercial rail service provided by CSX