

CHARLESTON | SOUTH CAROLINA | USA | ECONOMIC PROFILE

United States



Fast Facts

Population (2010 Census)	665,091
Growth Rate (2000-2010)	21%
U.S. Population Rank (2009)	80
Median Age (2010)	35.4
Total Civilian Labor Force (2009)	322,308
Unemployment Rate (2010)	9.4%
Avg. Household Income (2009)	\$63,686
Land/Water Area	3,163 sq. mi.

**“Top 10
fastest growing U.S. Metro
for knowledge workers”**

OUT OF 125 MID-SIZED METROS | 2006-2009

**“Best
U.S. Cities for
Technology Jobs”**

FORBES | 2009

**“#1 U.S. Metro
for growth in
college degrees”**

WALL STREET JOURNAL | 2011

Workforce Trends

Educational Attainment % of Population 25+ (2010)

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENT OR HIGHER

CHARLESTON MSA 88.0%

UNITED STATES 85.6%

HOLD A BACHELORS DEGREE OR HIGHER

CHARLESTON MSA 31.9%

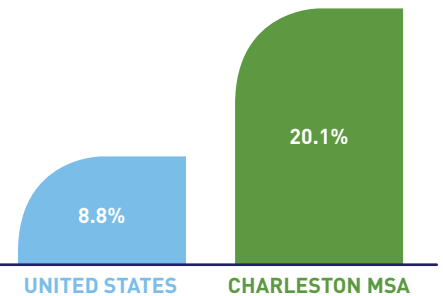
UNITED STATES 28.2%

HOLD AN ADVANCED DEGREE

CHARLESTON MSA 11.4%

UNITED STATES 10.4%

Labor Force Growth 2000-2010



Workforce & Education



- **READYSC:** delivers customized training for new/expanding business and industry at little or no cost to qualifying companies
- **APPRENTICESHIP CAROLINA:** focuses on advanced manufacturing, construction, energy, healthcare, information technology, tourism/hospitality; provides companies with financial advantages and additional training

Economic Drivers

PORT OF CHARLESTON: Has the deepest harbor and shipping channels in the South Atlantic and regularly hosts Post-Panamax vessels. The most efficient port in the U.S, it offers global connections to 150 countries around the world.

MILITARY: Local presence by nearly every agency in the U.S. Departments of Defense and Homeland Security. Employs 22,000+ in the region (active & civilian) and adds \$3 billion annually to the local economy.

HEALTHCARE & MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY: Four nationally recognized hospital systems, including the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). This growing research center and teaching hospital awards 800+ degrees each year, employs more than 11,000, and annually contributes over \$2.3 billion to the local economy.

VISITOR INDUSTRY: More than 4 million annual visitors provide a yearly economic impact of \$3 billion. Charleston is named #1 U.S. travel destination by readers of *Conde Nast Traveler* and #3 on the publication's "World's Best Cities" list.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

MEDICAL DEVICES & DIAGNOSTICS

HEALTH IT & TELEMEDICINE

CLINICAL TRIALS & DRUG /
VACCINE RESEARCH

BIOENGINEERING

University Driven Research



MUSC
11,000
Employees
\$243 million
in research

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA (MUSC)

- Drug Discovery Building & Bioengineering Building promote scientific discovery and economic development
- Collaboration with statewide universities Clemson University & the University of South Carolina
- MUSC Foundation for Research Development: focal point for technology transfer and corporate partnerships
- Hollings Cancer Center: official designation by National Cancer Institute

CENTER FOR MEDICAL INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Provide and coordinate resources and infrastructure to promote entrepreneurial endeavors
- Provide educational and mentorship opportunities in entrepreneurship
- Leverage the expertise of peer institutions and partner with industry

SC Launch

OFFERS QUALIFYING COMPANIES commercialization support, guidance and seed funding, and was recognized by Forbes Magazine as one of the 2010 Top Five Entrepreneurial Support Programs in the U.S.

SC Launch has assisted, helped form and/or land more than 178 companies since 2006.



www.sclaunch.org

Infrastructure



- Deepwater Port of Charleston
- Dual rail & integrated highway system
- Reliable, fast, broadband network
- International airport
- 4 executive airports

SCRA MUSC Innovation Center



STATE-OF-THE-ART RESEARCH facility and business incubator with lab spaces designed to support medical and bioscience research.

It includes 28,400 square feet of space and 11 wet laboratories.

www.research.musc.edu/APR/ic.html

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Henry L. Taylor, Brig. General, USAF (Ret.)

Charleston Regional Development Alliance | 843.760.4526 | htaylor@crda.org | charlestoneconomicdevelopment.com