

A Growing, Diverse Economic Base

- The Charleston region has enjoyed unprecedented business growth over the past several years. Since 1995, new and expanding businesses have invested more than \$5.5 billion in our region.
- The regional economy has evolved from one focused heavily on the military to one that is much more diversified — including sophisticated manufacturing operations, companies involved in the biosciences, headquarters operations, and companies developing next-generation communications technology.

Internationally Owned Operations

The Charleston region is attracting a growing number of internationally owned operations, representing countries from around the globe. Currently, about 70 firms in the Charleston region are owned by parent companies outside of the United States. Together, these firms represent about 20 countries and locally employ around 9,000.

Expansion Management magazine regularly names Charleston as one of the top locations for European expansion.

Largest International Employers

Nationality	Company	Employees
German	Robert Bosch	2,450
	American LaFrance	450
	Behr Heat Transfer Systems	400
	Lanxess Corporation	400
	Getrag Precision Gear	300
	Daimler Vans Manufacturing	200
	Linde Lift Truck Corp.	200
	MTU Drive Shafts LLC	200
	Berchtold Corporation	150
	French	Mikasa
Lafarge Building Materials		150
Rhodia		150
British	Charleston Place	700
	Cummins Turbo Technologies	350
	Gates Corporation	250
	BP	250
	Sea Containers America / Charleston Marine Containers Inc.	150
Canadian	Linq Industrial Fabrics	100
Mexican	DAK Americas	250
Dutch	Hagemeyer	350
Spanish	Giant Cement Holdings	850
Belgian	Agfa	150
Japanese	Showa Denko Carbon	200
Chilean	Terranova Forest Products	100
Italian	Global Aeronautica	150
Swiss	Mediterranean Shipping Company	150
Danish	Maersk Sealand	100

“Best Performing Cities: Where America’s Jobs Are Created”

Ranked 12th among largest U.S. metros

*Milken Institute
September 2007*

★ ★ ★ ★

“Job Market Leaders”

Ranked 5th in private-sector job growth

*Bizjournals
September 2007*

★ ★ ★ ★

“Where to Live Now. Best Towns in America”

“Best Big City” on the East Coast

*Outside
August 2007*

★ ★ ★ ★

“Hot Growth for Incomes”

Ranked 5th in top metros

*Bizjournals
June 2007*

★ ★ ★ ★

“Best Places for Business Attraction”

A top 15 midsize metro

*Expansion Management
May/June 2007*

★ ★ ★ ★

“Top U.S. Cities for Doing Business”

A top 15 midsize metro

*Inc.
May 2007*

Manufacturing Operations

Manufacturing represents approximately 8% of total employment in the Charleston region. Although the percentage of the workforce employed in manufacturing has remained fairly steady, the number of people employed in this sector has grown significantly in the past few years.

Largest Manufacturing Employers

Company	Product or Service	Employees
Robert Bosch Corporation	Fuel injectors, antilock braking systems	2,450
MeadWestvaco	Specialty paper, chemicals, lumber	1,650
Force Protection	Blast-protected vehicles	850
Giant Cement Co.	Portland & masonry cements	850
Nucor Steel	Steel roll & steel beam	850
Detyens Shipyard	Ship building, repair	800
Alcoa Mt. Holly	Aluminum ingot	600
The Post and Courier	Newspaper publishing	600
Caterpillar Remanufacturing Serv.	Auto transmission remanufacturing	500
American LaFrance	Emergency & vocational vehicles	450
C.R. Bard Inc.	Catheters	450
Behr Heat Transfer Systems	Motor vehicle parts & accessories	400
J.W. Aluminum	Aluminum foil, sheet products	400
Lanxess Corporation	Chemicals, fibers	400
Cummins Turbo Technologies	Turbochargers for diesel engines	350

Largest Distribution Employers

Company	Product or Service	Employees
Hagemeyer	Electrical & industrial equipment / tools	350
McNaughton Apparel Holdings	Women's apparel	300
Quoizel	Decorative lighting products	250
Carolina Nurseries	Ornamental nursery products	250
Mikasa (American Commercial)	Household products (glassware)	250
Pearlstine Distributors	Beer and wine	200
Linde Lift Truck	Forklift trucks; parts	200
Coastal Glass Distributors LLC	Glass fabrication & distribution	150
Briggs Plumbing Products	Plumbing fixtures and faucets	150
Standard Corporation	Warehousing / distribution services	100
Terranova Forest Products	Pine moldings & millwork	100



Headquarters Operations

As advances in information technology allow more flexibility in siting a headquarters, the Charleston region is catching worldwide attention. And all that attention is expanding our headquarters portfolio, which has more than doubled since the mid 1990s.

Large Headquarters Facilities*

Company	Type of Headquarters	Product or Service
American LaFrance	Corporate	Emergency & vocational vehicles
ArborGen, LLC	Corporate	Forest-related biotechnology
ArjoWiggins	U.S.	Medical division headquarters
AstenJohnson, Inc.	Corporate	Machinery components
AT&T	Regional	Telecommunications services
Benefitfocus.com	Corporate	Employee benefits software
Berchtold Corporation	U.S.	Surgical lighting / power supply
Blackbaud, Inc.	Corporate	Software for non-profits
Briggs Plumbing Products, Inc.	Corporate	Plumbing fixtures; faucets
First Federal of Charleston	Corporate	Banking / financial services
Giant Cement Holding, Inc.	U.S.	Cement products
Global Aeronautica	Corporate	Aircraft components
Hagemeyer North America	N. American	Commercial distribution services
HCA Healthcare	Regional	Healthcare facility management
Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union	Corporate	Banking / financial
Life Cycle Engineering	Corporate	Engineering & related services
LINQ Industrial Fabrics	U.S.	Industrial textiles
MAERSK Sealand	Regional	Steamship agency
Modulant	World	Software for data sharing
Paso Sound Products	Corporate	Communications equipment
PeopLease Corporation	National	Employment services
Piggly Wiggly Carolina Co.	Corporate	Grocery wholesaler / retailer
Polymer Group	Corporate	Synthetic fibers and fabrics
Quoizel, Inc.	U.S.	Decorative lighting products
Rogers & Brown Custom Brokers, Inc.	World	International customs brokerage



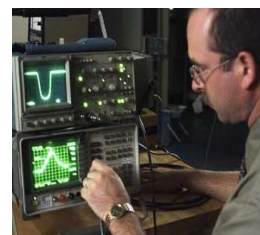
* A "headquarters" is defined as an operation that handles the majority of a company's business functions on a regional, national or worldwide basis.

To qualify, the company must also provide direction and support to other facilities located outside the Charleston region.

Largest Regional Employers

Top 15 Major Employers

Company	Product or Service	Employees
United States Navy C/O Naval Weapons Station	Area Naval commands	18,450
Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC)	Healthcare, medical research, post-secondary education	10,000
Charleston Air Force Base	United States Air Force	6,150
Charleston County School District	Education/public schools	5,150
Roper St. Francis Healthcare	Healthcare	3,800
Berkeley County School District	Education/public schools	3,600
Piggly Wiggly Carolina Corp.	Grocery headquarters / area stores	2,500
Robert Bosch Corporation	Fuel injection and braking systems	2,450
Dorchester County School District II	Education/public schools	2,200
Charleston County	Local government	2,000
Trident Health System	Hospital System	2,000
Santee Cooper	Electric utility	1,750
MeadWestvaco	Paper, chemicals, lumber	1,650
City of Charleston	Local government	1,450
College of Charleston	Post secondary education	1,100



Data Source

Center for Business Research
Charleston Metro
Chamber of Commerce,
February 2006