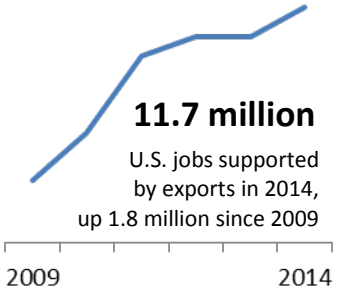
INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

SOUTH CAROLINA EXPORTS, JOBS, AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Exports Support Jobs for American Workers

$2.23 trillion Value of U.S. goods and services exports in 2015

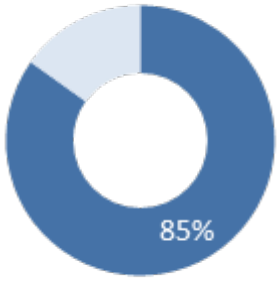


153,816

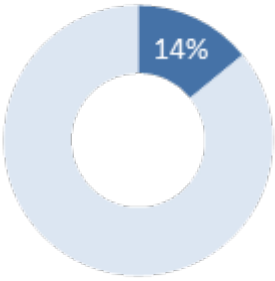
U.S. jobs supported by goods exports from South Carolina in 2014

Exports Sustain South Carolina Businesses

5,832 Companies exported from South Carolina in 2013



Small-Medium Enterprise share of South Carolina exporters (< 500 employees)



SME share of South Carolina's merchandise exports in 2013

South Carolina's Metropolitan Exports in 2014

Metro Area	Total Merchandise Exports	Share of State Exports
Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin	$15.2 billion	49.4%
Charleston-North Charleston	$5.9 billion	19.0%
Spartanburg	$2.2 billion	7.1%
Columbia	$2.0 billion	6.5%
Florence	$700 million	2.3%

Foreign Investment and Jobs in South Carolina

2013 Major Sources of Foreign Investment
Germany
France
Japan
United Kingdom

127,300

Workers employed by foreign-controlled companies in 2013

7.9%

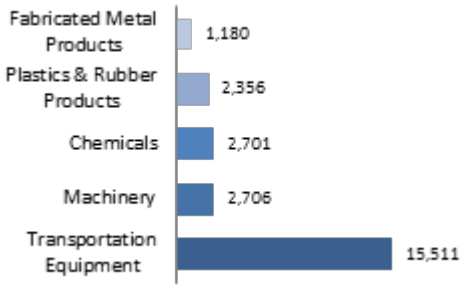
Total 2013 private-industry employment supported by foreign investment

South Carolina Depends on World Markets

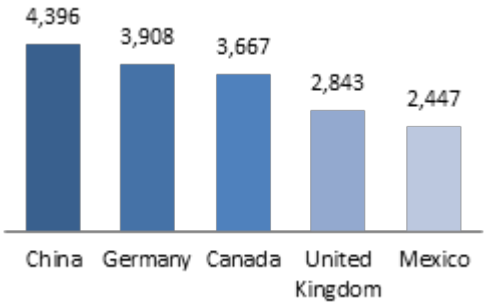
$30.9 billion 2015 total exports of merchandise from South Carolina

$10.2 billion Merchandise exports to U.S.'s 20 Free Trade Agreement Partners

South Carolina's Top 5 Export Industries
(Value in Millions of US dollars)

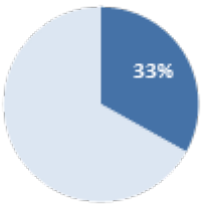


South Carolina's Top 5 Export Markets
(Value in Millions of US dollars)



81% Export growth to FTA Partners since 2005

Share of South Carolina's exports



**Indicates that portions of the MSA are shared with one or more other states.*
Updated February 2016.

South Carolina: Exports, Jobs, and Foreign Investment

February 2016

Exports Support Jobs for American Workers

Total exports from South Carolina helped contribute to the $2.23 trillion of U.S. goods and services exports in 2015. Nationally, U.S. jobs supported by exports reached an estimated 11.7 million in 2014, up 1.8 million since 2009. In 2014, goods exports from the state of South Carolina supported nearly 154,000 jobs.

Exports Sustain Thousands of South Carolina Businesses

A total of 5,832 companies exported from South Carolina locations in 2013. Of those, 4,948 (84.8 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Small and medium-sized firms generated one-seventh (14.1 percent) of South Carolina's total exports of merchandise in 2013.

Foreign Investment and Jobs in South Carolina

In 2013, foreign-controlled companies employed 127,300 South Carolina workers. Major sources of foreign investment in South Carolina in 2013 included Germany, France, Japan, and United Kingdom.

Foreign investment in South Carolina was responsible for 7.9 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2013.

South Carolina Depends on World Markets

South Carolina's export shipments of merchandise in 2015 totaled $30.9 billion.

The state's largest market was China. South Carolina posted merchandise exports of $4.4 billion to China in 2015, representing 14.2 percent of the state's total merchandise exports. China was followed by Germany ($3.9 billion), Canada ($3.7 billion), United Kingdom ($2.8 billion), and Mexico ($2.4 billion).

The state's largest merchandise export category was transportation equipment, which accounted for $15.5 billion of South Carolina's total merchandise exports in 2015. Other top merchandise exports were machinery, except electrical ($2.7 billion); chemicals ($2.7 billion); plastics & rubber products ($2.4 billion); and fabricated metal products ($1.2 billion).

South Carolina's Metropolitan Exports

In 2014, merchandise exports from South Carolina metropolitan areas included: Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin ($15.2 billion), Charleston-North Charleston ($5.9 billion), Spartanburg ($2.2 billion), Columbia ($2.0 billion), Florence ($700 million), Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach ($371 million, portions of this MSA are shared with one or more other states), Sumter ($204 million) and Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort ($48 million).

Free Trade Agreements

The United States currently has free trade agreements in force with 20 countries, which accounted for $10.2 billion (33 percent) of South Carolina's exports in 2015. Since 2005, exports from South Carolina to these markets grew by 81 percent, with NAFTA, Singapore, Australia, Colombia, and Korea showing the largest dollar growth during this period.

Prepared by the Office of Trade and Economic Analysis, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

For more resources please see www.trade.gov/mas/ian. Sources include resources from the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration, Bureau of the Census, and Bureau of Economic Analysis.