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The Charlotte Region is home to over 2.6 million people living in sixteen counties in two different states: 12 counties in North Carolina and 4 in South Carolina. It is strategically located in the center of the East Coast, and the importance of this Eastern time zone location cannot be overestimated. For example, within 2 hours' flight time or one days' delivery by motor freight, businesses in the Charlotte USA region can reach over 60% of the population of the United States and more than 60% of the nation's industrial base.

Charlotte USA is very well connected to the global economy. More than 1,800 foreign-owned companies employ more than 350,000 people in the two Carolinas, and more than one-third of these are located in the Charlotte region. There are 190 German-owned companies in the Charlotte region, which depends upon a major international airport for quick and convenient access to the global economy. As a result of direct flights to major international hubs such as Frankfurt, London, Munich, Paris, Rome, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo as well as numerous locations in Canada and Mexico, the Charlotte region is at most one plane change away from any important business destination in the world.

The Charlotte region's economy draws its strength from its remarkable diversity. Charlotte USA has emerged as the 2nd largest banking and financial center in the United States, second only to New York City. Charlotte USA is also home to the world headquarters of nine Fortune 500 companies, most of which are outside the financial sector and in varied industries such as energy, retail and manufacturing. These companies include Lowe's, Nucor, Duke Energy and Sonic Automotive among others.

The Charlotte region is also determined to preserve its exceptional quality of life. In the global economy, where anything can be made and sold anywhere on the globe, businesses will increasingly locate and expand their operations in places where their employees like to live and work. With its numerous theaters, professional sports teams, and prime location 2 hours from the mountains and 3 hours from the beach, the Charlotte region is ranked the Best Place to Live in the United States.

Total Population, 2010	2,687,799
Total Households, 2010	1,041,451
Median Age, 2010	37.1
Projected Population, 2015	3,008,096

Source: ESRI, 2010

Educational Attainment, 2010

Population 25 and Older	1,782,722
High School Diploma	28.6%
Some College	20.4%
Associate's Degree	8.7%
Bachelor's Degree	18.4%
Graduate or Professional Degree	8.2%
2010 SAT score, NC average	1,485
2010 SAT score, SC average	1,380

Income, 2010

Median Household Income	\$56,501
Per Capita Income	\$27,237

Employment by Industry, 2010

Agriculture, Mining	0.7%
Construction	8.1%
FIRE	8.9%
Manufacturing	14.5%
Public Administration	3.1%
Retail Trade	11.2%
Information	2.3%
Wholesale Trade	4.4%
Services	41.5%
Transportation, Utilities	5.3%
Total Employment, 16+	1,131,661

Labor Force, 2010

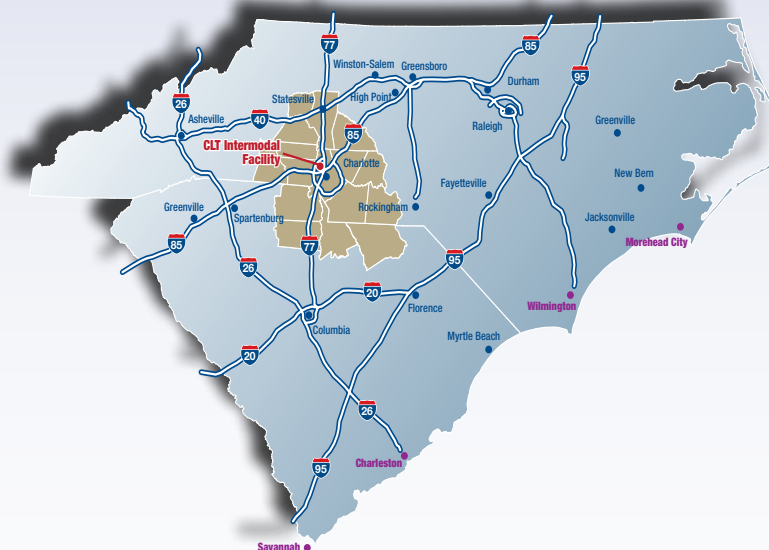
Labor Force	1,280,449
Unemployment Rate	12.2%

Source: ESRI 2010, NC/SC Dept of Public Education, NC/SC ESC



MAJOR EMPLOYERS (non government/retail)

Company	Major Product	Employees
Carolinas Health care System	Health care provider	27,432
Wells Fargo/Wachovia Corp.	Financial services provider	25,000
Bank of America	Financial services provider	15,000
Novant Healthcare	Health care provider	9,000
Delhaize America Inc/Food Lion	Grocery store chain	8,700



Announced Jobs & Investments

Jobs announced, 2010	9,463
Total investment announced, 2010	\$1,652,874,900

Source: NC and SC CIR 2010

Accessibility

Nearest Commercial Airport	Charlotte Douglas
Interstates	I-77, I-85, I-40
Foreign Trade Zone Accessibility	Yes #57
Population within 150 mile radius, 2010	13,154,909

Education

School Districts	23
Colleges & Universities	37
University of North Carolina, Charlotte Enrollment	25,300
Central Piedmont Community College Enrollment	75,000 (6 campuses)

Climate

Annual Mean Temp.	61.4F
Annual Mean High Temp.	71.7F

Average Hourly Earnings 2010 for Charlotte MSA

Utilities	\$32.55
Construction	\$25.19
Manufacturing	\$23.32
Wholesale Trade	\$26.12
Retail Trade	\$15.56
Transportation & Warehousing	\$21.00
Information	\$30.52
Financial Activities	\$27.18
Professional & Business Services	\$27.24
Management of Companies & Enterprises	\$32.76
Education & Health Services	\$22.96
Average Weekly Wage	\$22.59

Source: BLS 2010

Taxes

Type	North Carolina	South Carolina
Corporate Income Tax Rate	6.9% (4 factor approach)	5% (single sales factor)
Sales & Use Tax	4.75% statewide Local rate of 2%-2.5%	6% statewide Local rate of 1%-2%
Corporate License Fee / Franchise Tax	\$1.50 per \$1,000 and is applied to the greatest base. Min. is \$35.	\$1.25 per \$1,000 Min. is \$25.
Inventory Tax	None	None
Personal Income Tax	6%-7.75% (3 brackets)	2.5%-7% (6 brackets)
Property Tax	No state property tax. Locally assessed per \$100 of 100% assessed value.	No state property tax. Local rates based on millage rate multiplied by assessment ratio (6%-10.5%)
Manufacturing Fuels Sales Tax	A privilege tax of 0.3% is imposed on a manufacturing plant that purchases fuel (not electricity or piped natural gas) to operate the plant. Effective 7/10, the privilege tax is exempt.	None
Electricity Sales Tax	3% unless sold for qualifying manufacturing industries (exempt)	None
Natural Gas Sales Tax	Sales of piped natural gas to manufacturers are exempt	None
Telephone Service Sales Tax	Telecom/cable/satellite services combined rate of 7.75%. \$50,000 cap for call centers.	Sales tax exemption for long distance services, including 800 numbers.
Workers Compensation	\$.98 per \$100 of covered wages	\$1.47 per \$100 of covered wages
Unemployment Insurance	Average Rate: \$200.40 Employers Rate: 1.2% to 6.84% Taxable Base: \$19,700 per employee	Average Rate: \$157.30 Employers Rate: 3.4% -6.1% Taxable Base: \$7,000 per employee