



# AUTOMOTIVE

Charleston  
South Carolina

## We Drive Innovation.

The Charleston region is home to 100+ automotive OEMs, suppliers, and component manufacturers, with a strategic East Coast location and global access through the Port of Charleston to 150+ countries.

**#1**

for exports and #8 for imports in Foreign Trade Zone 21

BUSINESS FACILITIES

**#3**

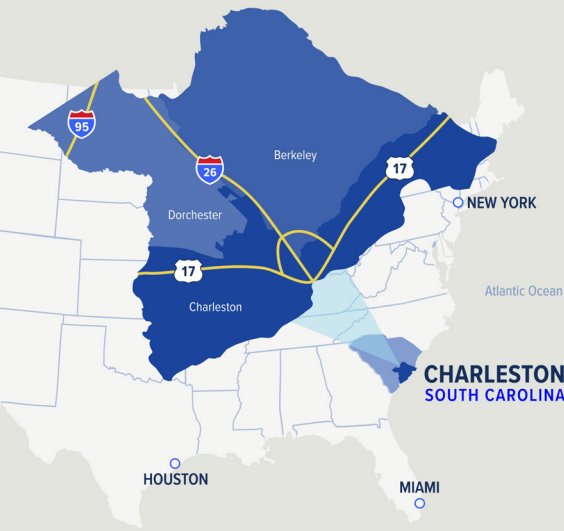
Among Mid-Sized U.S. Metros for Prime-Age Labor Force (25-54)

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

**#1**

South Carolina has the Highest Concentration of FDI Jobs Among U.S. States

GLOBALBUSINESS.ORG, 2025



## Automotive Footprint

Home to **100+ automotive manufacturers and suppliers**, the Charleston region is one of the nation's fastest-growing automotive ecosystems, strengthened by long-standing manufacturers like **Bosch** and **Cummins**, and global leaders like **Mercedes-Benz Vans** and the **Volvo Cars** Charleston plant.

A deep bench of engineers and skilled technicians trained through regional technical colleges supports excellence in component manufacturing, internal combustion and electric vehicle assembly, and remanufacturing. Companies benefit from low operating costs, resilient supply chains, and efficient market access, with **The Port of Charleston offering the deepest harbor on the U.S. East Coast and global connectivity to more than 150 countries.**

- **Nonstop air service offering 100+ daily flights to 50+ cities across North America.**
- **8th largest U.S. container port, with the deepest harbor on the East Coast at 52 feet.**
- **An integrated transportation network allows shipments to reach most domestic markets within 48 hours.**

## Skilled Workforce & Talent

Charleston's workforce combines skilled engineering talent with hands-on technical expertise to support component manufacturing, vehicle assembly, and the remanufacture/maintenance of automotive parts.

**Home to 13,000+ automotive-related workers**, the region's labor force is growing three times faster than the U.S. average, with **40+ new residents arriving daily**. With **45,000+ students enrolled in local colleges and universities**, Charleston provides a strong and expanding pipeline of talent.

Workforce development is anchored by programs like **readySC** and the **SC Technical College**, offering customized training at little to no cost to employers. Trident Technical College further strengthens the pipeline with specialized automotive and advanced manufacturing training programs that prepare students for immediate entry into the workforce.



**You're  
In Good  
Company  
Here**



**Mercedes-Benz**  
Vans. Born to run.



**BOSCH**



**For More Information Contact: David Ginn, President & CEO**

Charleston Regional Development Alliance | +1 843.860.3536 | dginn@crda.org | CharlestonForBusiness.com