The SC Council on Competitiveness is excited to release the 2020 SC Logistics Economic Impact Study, highlighting the logistics sector’s impact on South Carolina’s economy and its growth over the past decade. The study, completed by research economist Dr. Joseph C. Von Nessen, updates the overall economic impact, employee wage averages, and employment growth rates found in the 2017 study as well as showing the increased reliance on technology within the logistics industry.

“Logistics has always been a critical part of our economy. 2020 has highlighted how vital it is to our daily lives that we manage the start-to-finish process of how we make, move, and deliver the products we want. From home building supplies and automobiles, to medicines and groceries, logistics touches every product, in every business, every day. Our success as one of the nation’s top advanced manufacturing states would be impossible without a strong logistics sector.”

Susie Shannon, President & CEO, SC Council on Competitiveness

"After reviewing the results of our study, we are very encouraged by the direction and future of the logistics cluster in South Carolina. The results are not only a clear indication of the hard work and leadership of our logistics firms, but they also highlight the importance of developing the next generation of our technically skilled logistics workforce.”

Taylor Jackson, Director of SC Logistics, SC Council on Competitiveness
$37.2 BILLION
TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT IN SOUTH CAROLINA

2020 ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

SOME QUICK DEFINITIONS

PROVIDER
Either internal or external logistics functions existing primarily to transport raw materials and/or final products from one firm to another or from a firm to a final consumer.

EMBEDDED
Internal logistics functions existing within a firm in service of that firm’s operations.

AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE COMPARISONS

Direct Jobs Within SC Logistics (Embedded) $76,592
Direct Jobs Within SC Logistics (Provider) $47,547
All Jobs Supported by SC Logistics $48,412
All Jobs in South Carolina $45,189

SC LOGISTICS’ INCREASING RELIANCE ON SC TECH
SC Logistics companies have tripled their spending with SC technology suppliers over the last decade.

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH OVER TIME
+ 7.0% ANNUAL GROWTH

2017
- 35,814 EXTERNAL
- 74,044 INTERNAL
- TOTAL: 113,865

2020
- 47,683 EXTERNAL
- 87,807 INTERNAL
- TOTAL: 139,650

ANNUAL GROWTH IN EMBEDDED FUNCTIONS EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina 15.7%
Florida 8.6%
Mississippi 7.8%
Georgia 6.0%
Tennessee 5.3%
Kentucky 4.7%
Arkansas 4.6%
North Carolina 4.6%
Alabama 2.6%
Virginia 2.3%
West Virginia -0.1%

SC Logistics continues to thrive in 2020, with +2.4% employment growth.
July 2020 vs. July 2019

SCCompetes.org
SC COUNCIL ON COMPETITIVENESS