



OPEN

what's new... in Lexington County

Volume 02
Issue 03
Date October 2019

Workforce and Talent Development Key to Continued Economic Expansion

With the Lexington County unemployment rate hovering at 2.5% we have essentially reached full employment. At the same time, more people are working in Lexington County than ever before. Meanwhile, growth is expected to continue as the number of active Projects-in-the-Pipeline, as of September, is 15, up six from last quarter. Finding, training and retaining talent is a top priority for the County economic development team and working closely with readySC™ is essential to our future success. readySC™ is a division of the SC Technical College System. They offer services to employers including recruitment solutions, training and instruction strategies as well as tailored curriculum to fit a company's specific needs.

The 15 projects mentioned above have the potential to generate \$639.3 million in new investment and the creation of another 1,619 new jobs. In addition, one project is in the announcement pending stage with a capital investment of \$18 million and 40 jobs. One other project is in the pending stage. We will continue to work in partnership with employers and our workforce development allies, such as readySC™ to ensure Lexington County remains a great place to do business and is capable of fulfilling workforce and talent demands.

Sarah J. Johnson
Interim Director
Department of Economic Development

The Economic Development staff is responsible for promoting the County of Lexington as a place to locate new job-creating enterprises and to assist enterprises already located in the County in expansion programs. The Department also develops, manages and markets County-owned business parks consisting of more than 500 acres of available, fully serviced sites. To learn more or see a list of available buildings and sites visit:
www.lexingtoncountyusa.com

Economic Development Briefs

Not seasonally adjusted County employment in August was 146,509, up 3,294, or 2.3% from one year ago. Lexington County's 3-year employment growth was 3.5%, which outpaced the MSA's 2.3% growth in employment. August's unemployment rate was 2.4%. The number of workers in the labor force has reached historic highs in June, July, and August while unemployment rates reached historic lows.

Comparing the most current available industry data, the top growth sectors in the County from the 1st quarter 2018 to the 1st quarter 2019 were: health care; manufacturing; information; professional, scientific, and technical services; and public administration.

Gross taxable monthly sales in June were \$1.23 billion, net taxable sales were \$429 million.

| Industry Sector Rank by Total Employment | |
|---|--------|
| Based on the most recent available data for employment by sectors, in the 1 st quarter 2019: | |
| Health care and social assistance: | 17,414 |
| Retail trade: | 16,889 |
| Accommodation & food service: | 11,978 |
| Manufacturing | 11,926 |
| Educational services: | 10,189 |
| Transportation & warehousing: | 8,378 |
| Construction: | 6,560 |
| Administrative & waste management: | 6,451 |
| Wholesale trade: | 5,837 |
| Public administration: | 4,876 |

- Lexington County Council**
- District 1: Scotty "Scott" Whetstone (Chair)
 - District 2: Paul Lawrence "Larry" Brigham, Jr. (Vice Chair)
 - District 3: Darrell Hudson
 - District 4: Debra B. "Debbie" Summers
 - District 5: Bobby C. Keisler
 - District 6: Erin Long Bergeson
 - District 7: Beth A. Carrigg
 - District 8: Glen M. Conwell
 - District 9: M. Todd Cullum
- County Administrator
Joe Mergo, III



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ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

