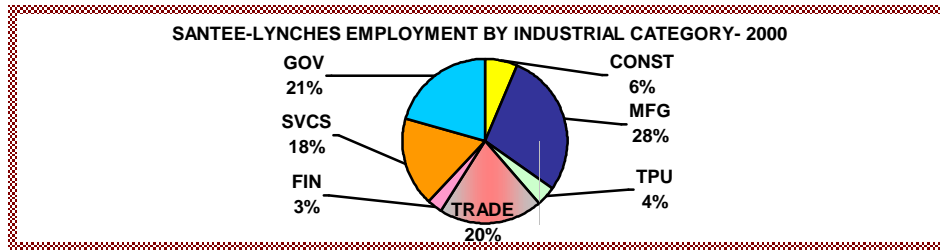


SANTEE-LYNCHES EMPLOYMENT SERIES

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES DOMINATE REGION'S EMPLOYMENT BASE.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

As we enter the twenty first century, the Manufacturing Sector remains the dominant employer in the Santee-Lynches Workforce Investment Area (WIA). Although all the area's industrial categories grew over the last ten years, the Santee-Lynches WIA retained its predominantly manufacturing structure. The bulk of the remaining non-agricultural jobs in the WIA are in the Government, Trade, and Services. The final three categories Construction, TPU (Transportation & Public Utilities) and FIRE (Finance, Insurance & Real Estate) are less than fifteen percent (15%) of the WIA's employment. This is about the normal percentage especially for the more rural portions of the State.



Source: 2000 Covered Employment & Wages – SC Employment Security Commission

The area's manufacturing base is very diverse and includes almost every identified industry sub-sector. The percent of Government employment is significantly higher than the South Carolina average, even though employment in this sector does not include the active duty military personnel at Shaw Air Force Base. One reason for this higher employment percentage is that certain prescribed government services are required at the local level regardless of county population. Approximately one out of every two jobs in the Santee-Lynches WIA is in either the Manufacturing or Government sector.

The Services and Trade categories account for a number of the remaining jobs in the region but their percentage of overall employment is significantly lower than the South Carolina norm. These categories are the national and the state growth leaders, but they have not seen the same employment growth in the Santee-Lynches area. A comparison of the employment patterns of the Santee-Lynches Region and the State average show that this area is moving at a much slower pace toward the "new economy model".

PERCENT EMPLOYMENT BY CATEGORY 2000			
	Manufacturing & Government	Trade & Services	Construction, TPU, & Financial
Santee-Lynches	49%	38%	13%
South Carolina	36%	49%	15%

Source: 2000 Covered Employment & Wages – SC Employment Security Comm.

Although the Region has a diverse manufacturing sector, almost twenty-five percent (25%) of manufacturing jobs either are in industries that are at risk of moving off shore or require little or no significant technical skills.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Manufacturing remains positioned as the dominant industry sector in the region. It is likely to remain the lead sector for some time to come. The workforce opportunity is to focus on how best to connect workers with advanced manufacturing jobs, requiring substantial and increasingly technical skills.