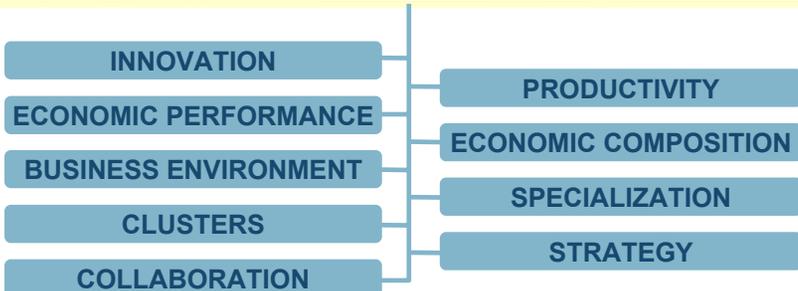


# South Carolina Competitiveness Initiative Project Overview and Hospitality and Tourism Cluster



**Governor's Conference on Tourism and Travel  
Hilton Head, South Carolina  
February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

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Professor Porter donated his time as senior advisor to this project  
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# Agenda

- **Overview of the South Carolina Competitiveness Initiative**
- Findings for the State of South Carolina Overall
- Findings and Implications for South Carolina's Tourism Cluster
- Next Steps for South Carolina

# Introduction

## *Special thanks to . . .*

- Palmetto Business Forum
- Palmetto Foundation for the Economic Development of South Carolina
- Palmetto Institute
- South Carolina Chamber of Commerce
- South Carolina Department of Commerce
- South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism; and...
- Several hundred people who participated in our surveys and interviews

## Surveys

### **Web-based survey: 443 executives**

- 42 from the automotive cluster
- 43 from the chemical products cluster
- 52 from the textiles cluster
- 80 from the hospitality and tourism cluster
- 226 executives from other clusters

## Interviews

### **111 regional and cluster experts**

- 59 Cluster interviews
  - 7 automotive
  - 9 chemical products
  - 9 textile
  - 34 hospitality and tourism
- 62 Non-cluster interviews
  - 19 Private sector
  - 8 Academic
  - 4 Government
  - 8 Rural
  - 23 Economic development orgs

Source: Monitor in-depth interviews and survey of key industry, academic and government leaders; June–September, 2002

## Why This Initiative?

### Key Issues:

- Average wages in South Carolina were 80.5% of the U.S. average in 2001
- South Carolina's wage growth was 3.6% from 1990–2001, vs. 3.9% for the U.S.
- Unemployment in the state was 7.1% in October 2003, vs. 6.0% for the U.S.
- The rise of many low cost competitors (e.g., China) means that these trends will persist unless South Carolina moves away from its traditional low cost positioning

### Project Objectives:

- Bring together the relevant stakeholders in the region
- Assess the competitive position of the state and selected clusters
- Identify key challenges, opportunities, and new strategic directions
- Install a process to act on the findings from the study and measure progress

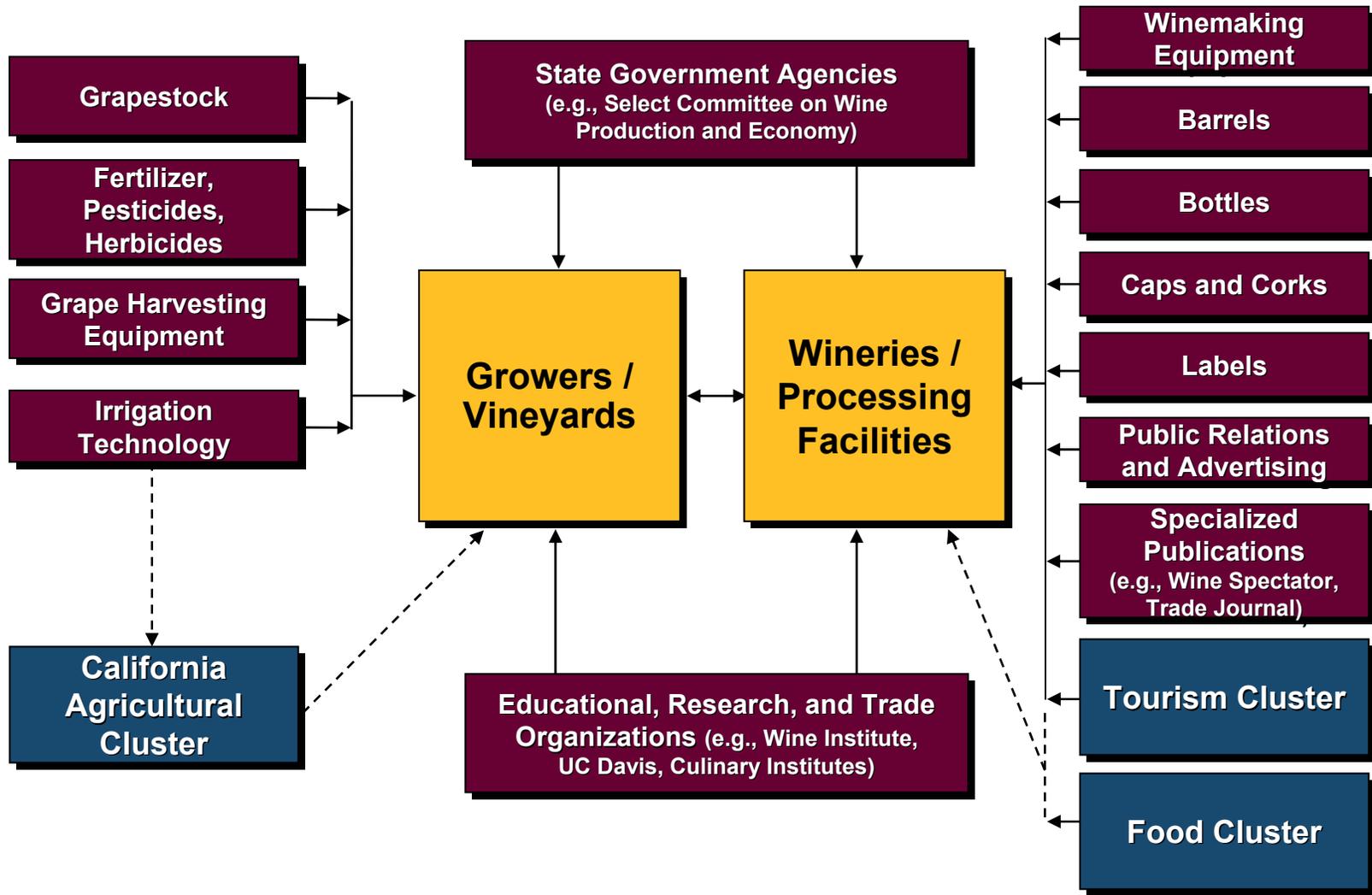
## What Is Competitiveness?

- Competitiveness is **not low wages or low taxes**
- Competitiveness is **productivity**:
  - Productivity depends on both on the **value** of products and services (e.g., uniqueness, quality) as well as the **efficiency** with which they are produced
  - Productivity is not measured as units produced per worker, but as **value produced per worker**
  - It is not **what** industries a region competes in that matters, but **how** firms compete in those industries
  - Productivity sets a nation's or region's **standard of living**
  - It is highly productive workers that will **attract companies** to a region, allow **existing companies** to grow, and lead to job creation in that region



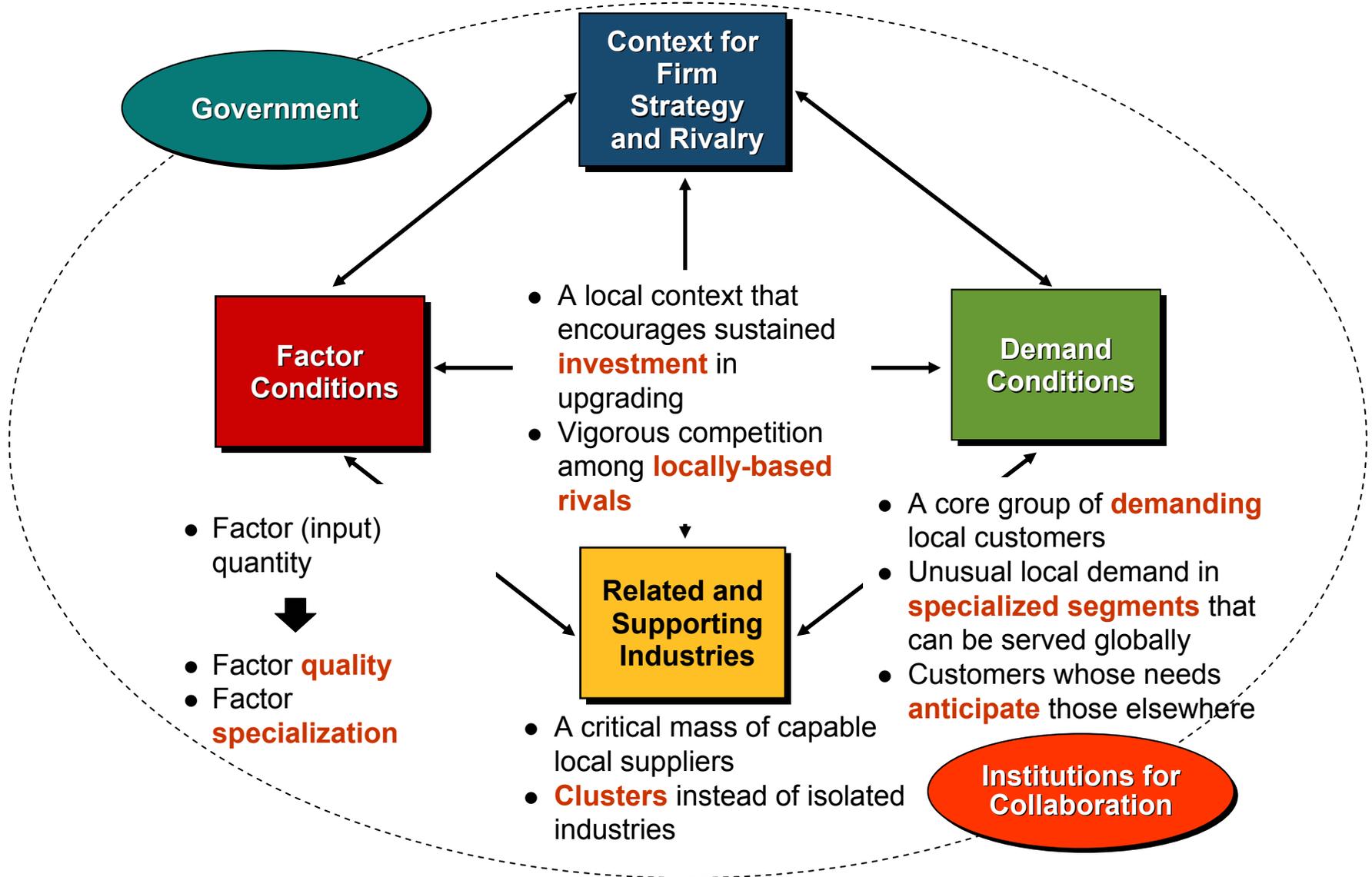
- Nations or regions compete in offering the **most productive environment** for business

# The California Wine Cluster



Source: California Wine Institute, Internet Search, California State Legislature. Based on Research by MBA 1997 Students R. Alexander, R. Arney, N. Black, E. Frost, and A. Shivananda

# The Business Environment and Innovative Capacity



# Shifting Responsibilities for Economic Development

## Old Model

- **Government** drives economic development through policy decisions and incentives



## New Model

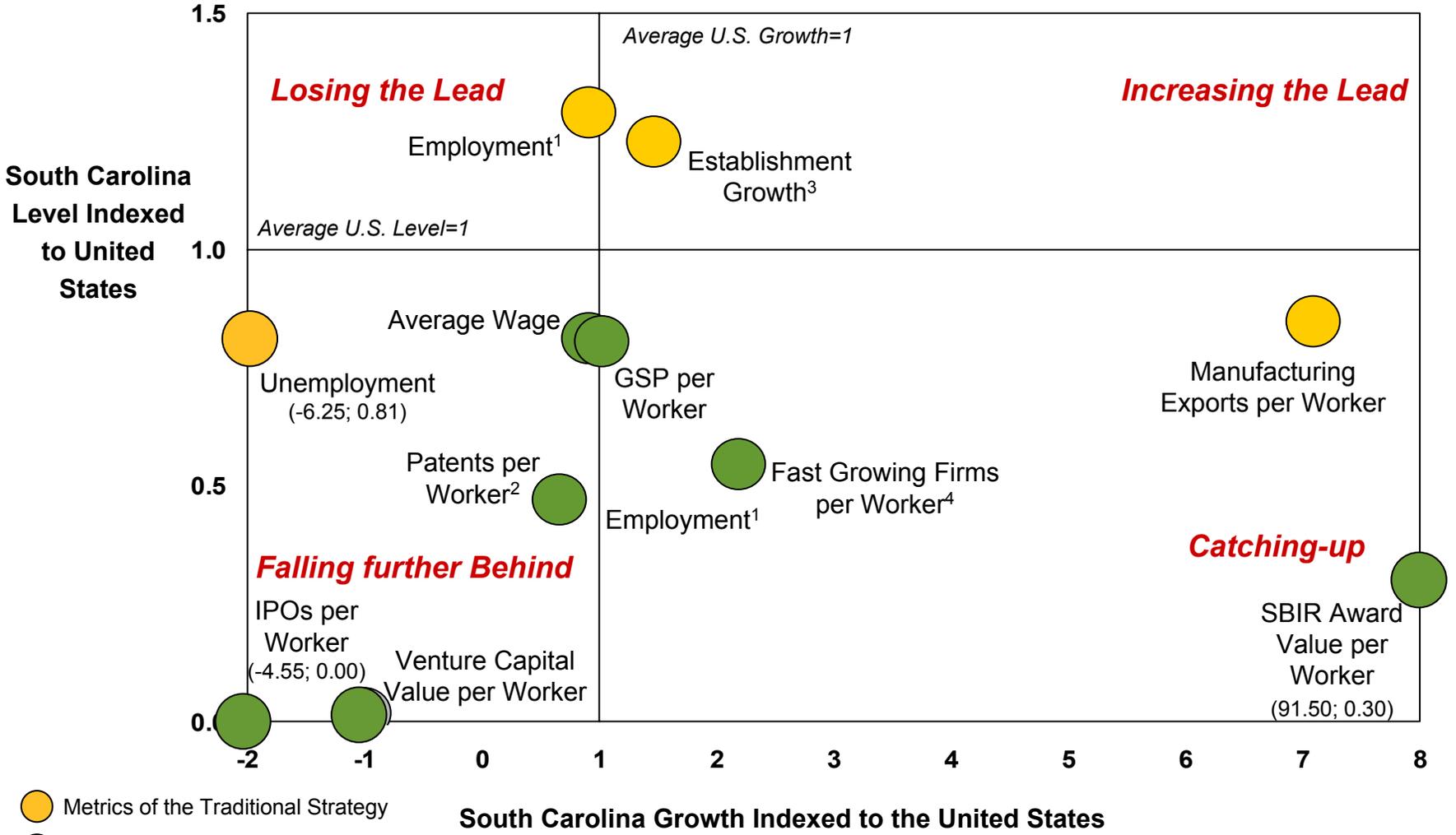
- Economic development is a **collaborative process** involving government at multiple levels, companies, teaching and research institutions, and institutions for collaboration

# Agenda

- Overview of the South Carolina Competitiveness Initiative
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# South Carolina Economic Performance and Innovation Output Overview

## South Carolina Performance Indexed to the United States

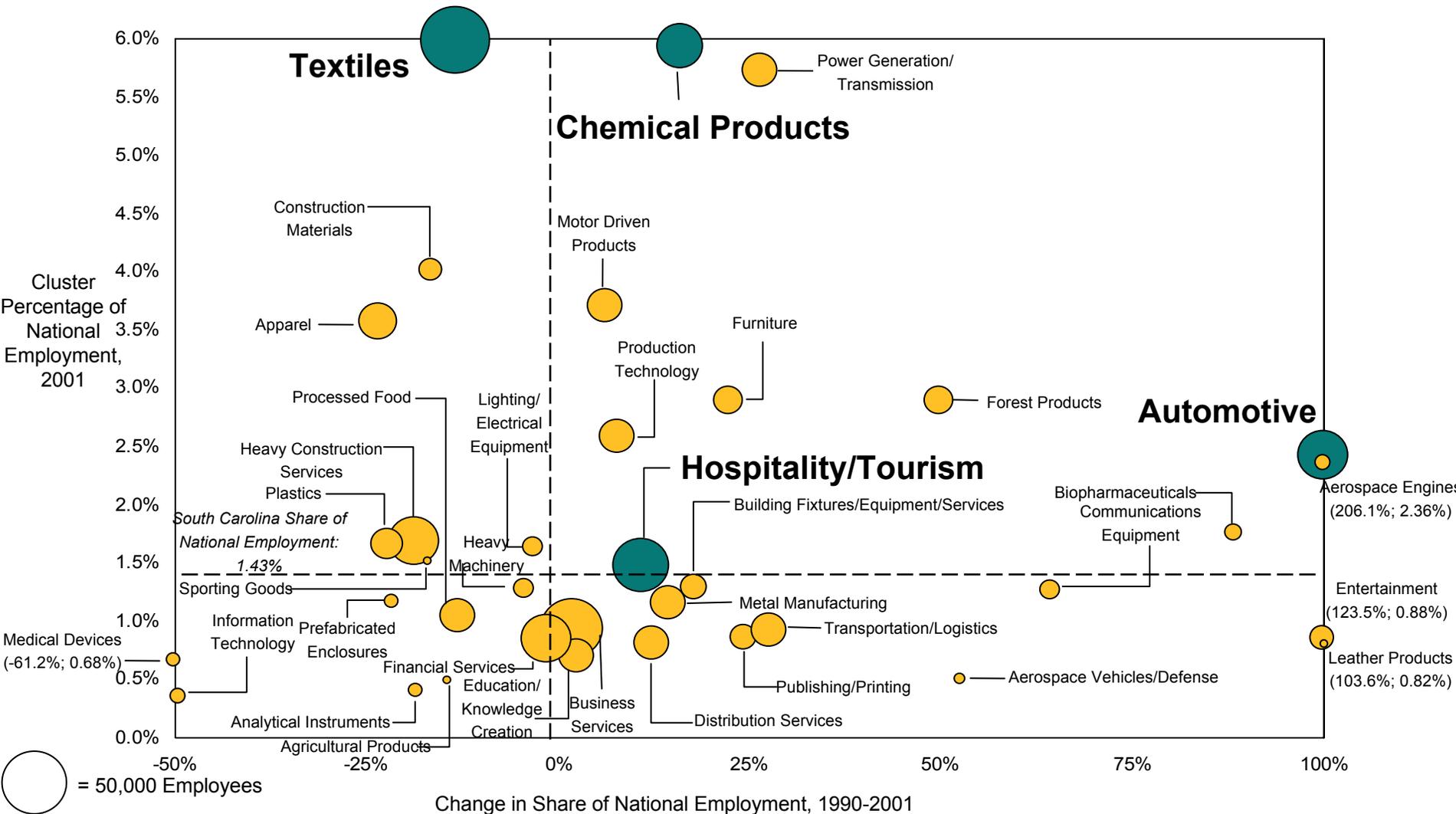


Note: <sup>1</sup> South Carolina employment level indexed to the U.S. level by using growth over past six months as a proxy. <sup>2</sup> "Growth" is patent growth, not patent per worker growth. <sup>3</sup> Same as "employment" except using past two years' growth. <sup>4</sup> Fast growing firms "most recent value" and "growth" for South Carolina measured relative to seven southern states used in previous analyses.

# Specialization by Traded Cluster

## South Carolina Share of National Employment and Share Growth

### South Carolina Share of National Employment by Employment Share Growth 1990-2001



Note: Traded clusters with less than 1,000 employees in South Carolina are not displayed. These clusters are Oil & Gas Products & Services; Tobacco; Fishing & Fishing Products; & Footwear. Clusters located out of scale have been placed on the border with coordinates labeled (% change in national cluster employment share; % of national cluster employment).

Source: Cluster Mapping Project, Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School

# Economic Performance in South Carolina

## Common Perspectives

It is often believed that average wages in South Carolina are lower than for the US because of:

- A few large, low wage cluster;
  - *But, the data indicate wages are relatively low across almost all of South Carolina's clusters;*
- The relatively large rural population;
  - *But, the data show that lower wages in South Carolina metros explain far more of the gap between South Carolina and the US;*
- Lower per capita income in the relatively large African-American community;
  - *But, data indicate that per capita income in South Carolina is relatively low across all demographic groups*

### ***What accounts for South Carolina's lower average wages?***

- **Competitiveness**
  - ***Average wages are lower because of lower value created per worker per year in South Carolina***

# South Carolina Business Environment

## Findings from the Survey and Interviews

### Advantages:

- Low cost of doing business: wages, taxes, rents, utilities
- Flexible, hard working labor force
- High quality of life along some dimensions
- Good transportation infrastructure: seaport and interstates
- Responsive, high quality technical colleges
- Proximity to assets in Georgia and North Carolina (e.g., capital, air and seaports, research)

### Disadvantages:

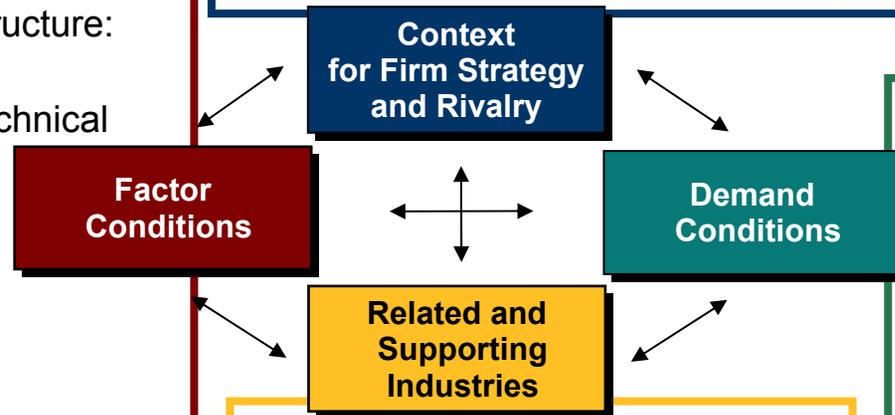
- Relatively few advanced degree holders: scientists and engineers
- Limited supply of skilled workers: technicians, advanced metal workers
- Relatively weak K-12 and advanced educational systems
- Lack of first-tier research universities
- Limited air access: few direct flights

### Advantages:

----

### Disadvantages:

- Limited local competition
- Difficult environment for start-ups
- Few local headquarters or core operations



### Advantages:

- Sophisticated (albeit few) manufacturers across many clusters
- Frequent feedback between end-user manufacturers and suppliers

### Disadvantages

- Consumers are not as sophisticated and trend-setting as in other states

### Advantages:

- Presence across numerous manufacturing oriented clusters

### Disadvantages:

- Few high quality, specialized suppliers
- Limited interaction with local suppliers on product and process development

Source: Monitor Regional Competitiveness Survey, Interviews, Monitor Analysis

# South Carolina Business Environment

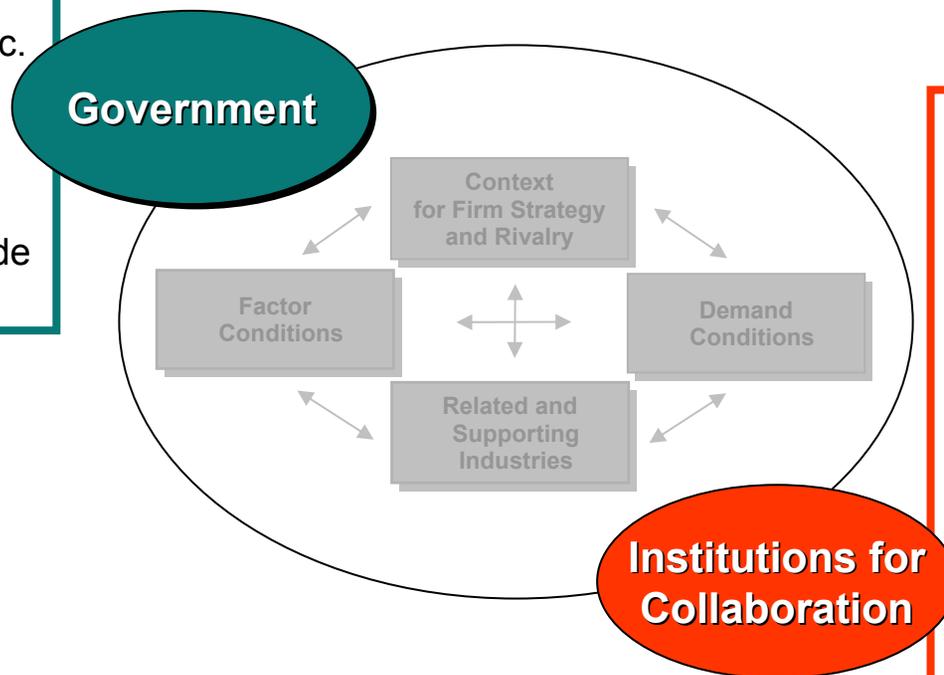
## Findings from the Survey and Interviews

### Advantages:

- Historically responsive to needs of relocating companies: e.g., rapid set-up times, worker training packages, etc.

### Disadvantages:

- Incentives and attention skewed to attracting large outside firms to the state



### Advantages:

- Many effective organizations for marketing South Carolina, and selling companies on the state

### Disadvantages:

- Limited coordination between universities and companies
- Few cluster-specific institutions for collaboration
- Few organizations working to upgrade the quality of all elements in the business environment

# Agenda

- Overview of the South Carolina Competitiveness Initiative
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- **Findings and Implications for South Carolina's Tourism Cluster**
- Next Steps for South Carolina

# South Carolina's Hospitality and Tourism Cluster

## Past Studies Reviewed

- 2003 Governor's Quality of Life Task Force Report
- 2003 The Contributions of Travel & Tourism to South Carolina's Economy
- 2002-2003 South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Marketing Plan
- 2002 The South Carolina Challenge: Regional Economic Analysis
- 2002 The New Challenge for the Charleston Region: Building an Innovation Economy
- 2001 South Carolina Tourism Report Series (various)
- 2001 South Carolina: WTTC's The Impact of Travel and Tourism on Jobs and the Economy
- 1999 A Vision for the Future of South Carolina's Tourism Industry As Envisioned by the Tourism Industry

Source: Monitor analysis of select studies, and Monitor interviews of private and public sector leaders

# Building Competitive Advantage in South Carolina

## Hospitality and Tourism Cluster Interviews

*We have conducted 34 interviews of regional leaders in the tourism cluster*

### Private Sector

- Scott Blue - Sales and Marketing Director, South Carolina Aquarium
- Andy Cajka - General Manager Southern Hospitality Group
- John Curry - President, The Curry Company
- Prem Devadas - Managing Partner, Kiawah Island Golf Resort
- John Durst - Vice-President of Strategic Planning/Public Affairs, C.C. Riggs
- Paula Ellis - Publisher, The Sun News
- Mary Eaddy - Wordsmith, Inc.
- Shep Guyton - Silver Carolina Development
- Andrew Gurtis - President, Darlington Raceway
- Satch Krantz - Director, Riverbanks Zoological Park
- Peter MacIntyre - General Manager, Ripley's Aquarium

### Private Sector

- Mickey McCamish - Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday
- Frans Mustert - President & CEO, Patricia Resorts
- Michael Poynter - Vice President and General Manager, Radisson Plaza Hotel
- Bettis Rainsford - President, Rainsford Development Company
- Ed Riggs - Director of Sales, Charleston Area Convention Center
- Dick Rosen - FHTP Production
- Dennis Wade - President & CEO, The Jackson Companies
- Douglas Wendel - President & CEO, Burroughs & Chapin Co., Inc.
- Steve Wilmot - Director, Heritage Classic Foundation

Source: Monitor interviews of private and public sector leaders

# Building Competitive Advantage in South Carolina

## Hospitality and Tourism Cluster Interviews (cont.)

### Academia

- Carl Boger - Chairman, School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism
- John Crotts - Director of Hospitality and Tourism Program, College of Charleston
- Cate Ferriera - Associate Professor, Horry Georgetown Technical College)
- Gary Loftus - Director, Center for Economic Coastal Carolina University
- Frankie Miller- Dean of Hospitality, Trident Technical College
- Pat Moody - Dean of the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Administration
- Al Parish - Director of the Center of Economic Forecasting, Charleston Southern University

### Cluster-Specific Organizations

- Helen Hill - Director, Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Tom Sponseller - Executive Director, Hospitality Association of South Carolina
- Chris Stone - President, Greenville Convention and Visitors Bureau

### Government

- Mike Flack – Executive Director, Columbia Metropolitan Airport
- Julie Flowers - Senior Research Manager, South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
- Isabel Hill - Director of Policy and Research, South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
- Chad Prosser - Director, South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism

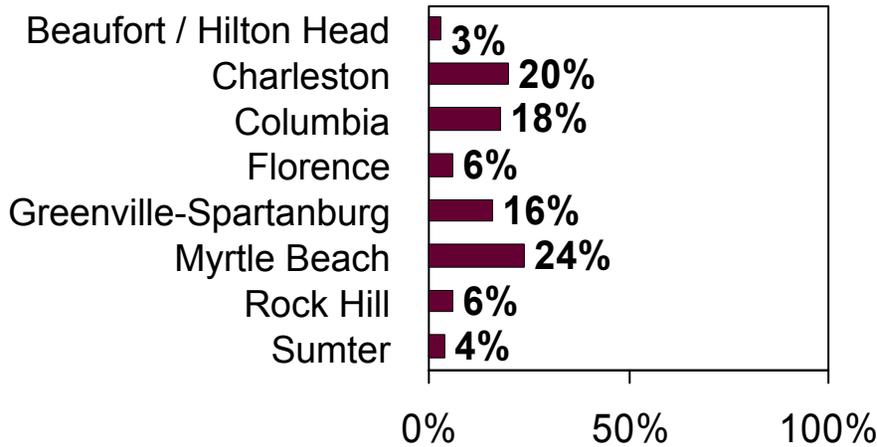
Source: Monitor interviews of private and public sector leaders

# Work Plan and Progress

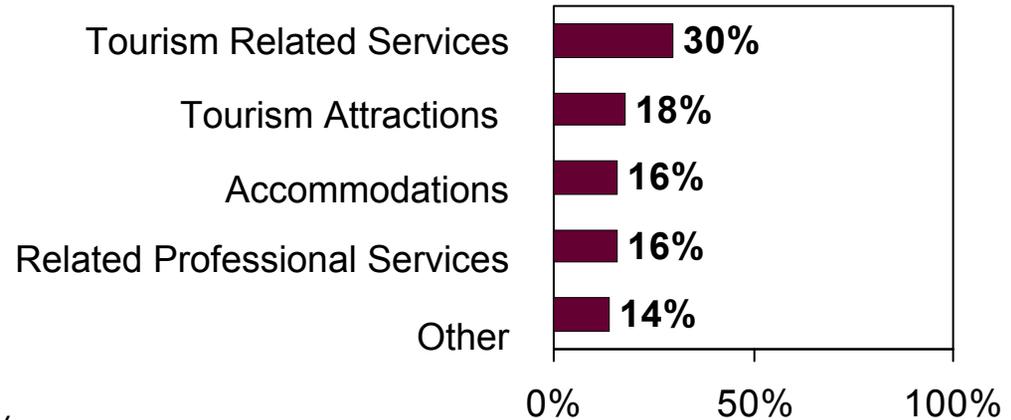
## Preliminary Demographics from the Hospitality and Tourism Survey

*We have also surveyed 80 private and public sector leaders in the cluster*

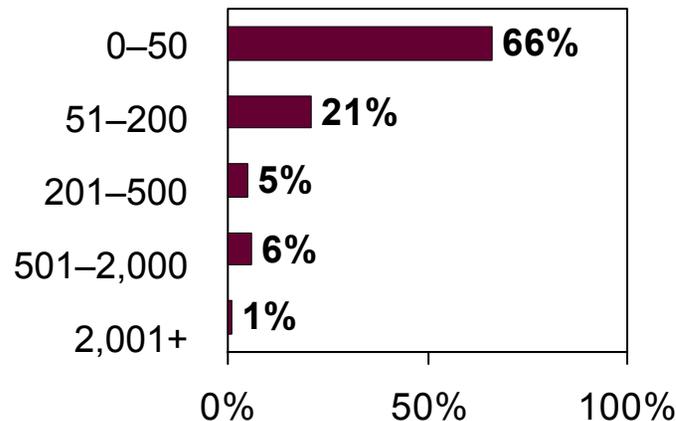
### Where is Your Company Located?



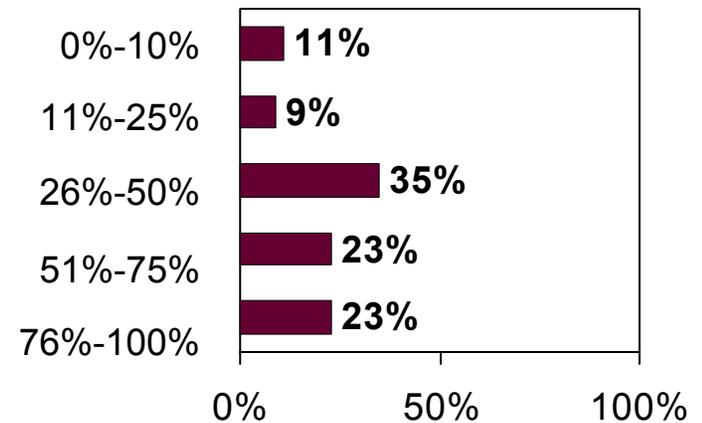
### What type of business are you in?



### How Many Employees are There?



### What percentage of your sales are to South Carolinians?



Source: Monitor Regional Competitiveness Survey

Note: this presentation includes survey response data from 80 tourism private and public sector leaders

# Agenda

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- Findings and Implications for South Carolina's Tourism Cluster

## – Implicit Strategy

- Next Steps for South Carolina

# South Carolina's Hospitality and Tourism Cluster

## Implicit Economic Strategy

### Components of a Strategy

#### Objectives

#### Positioning

#### Value Proposition

#### Assets

#### Organization

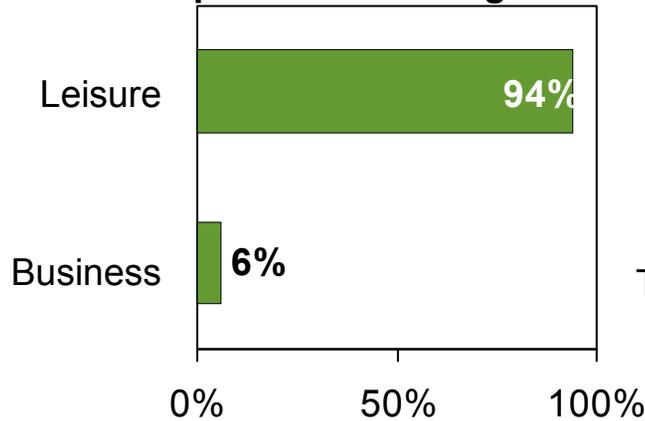
### South Carolina's Current Implicit Strategy:

- Increase the number of visitors to South Carolina
- Family relaxation for drive-in, out-of-state tourists
- Long, unspoiled coastline with both upscale and low-cost offerings
- Southern Hospitality
- Accessible beaches and beach-front communities
- Charleston historic district and military history sites
- Numerous world-class golf courses
- Relatively fragmented tourism promotional system with power at local levels
- Government-led tourism strategy and promotion
- Limited number of statewide institutions for collaboration

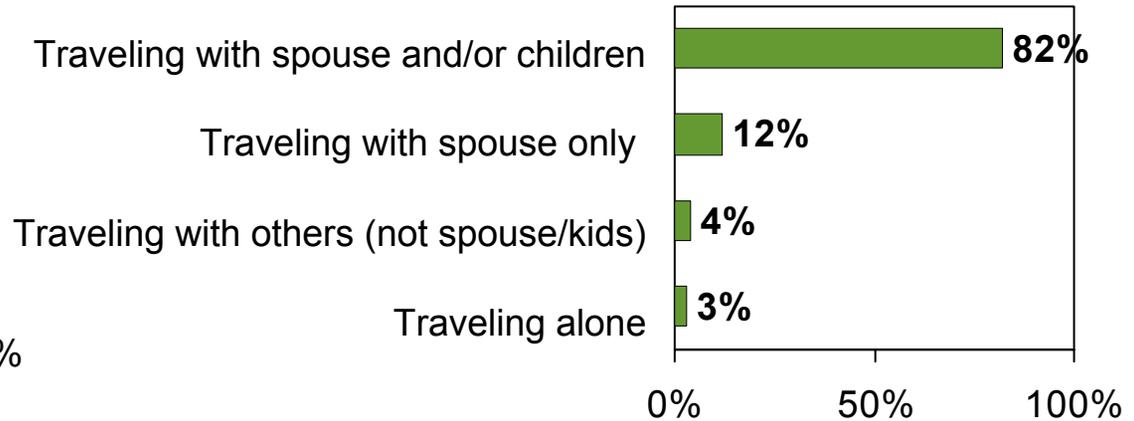
# Survey Results

## Type of Tourist South Carolina Should Prioritize and Target

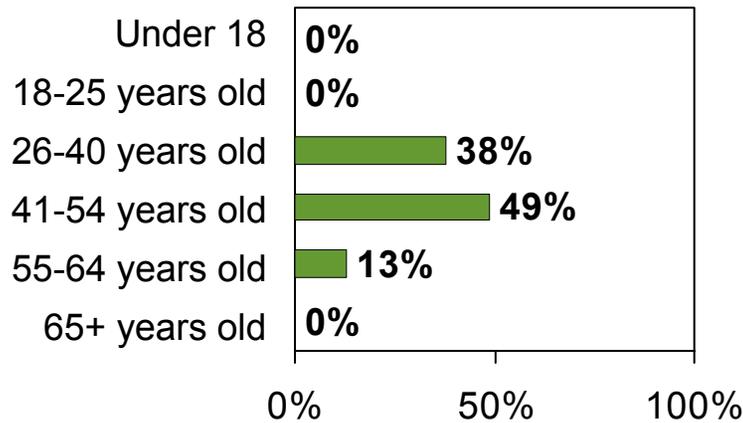
What type of tourist / trip should South Carolina prioritize and target?



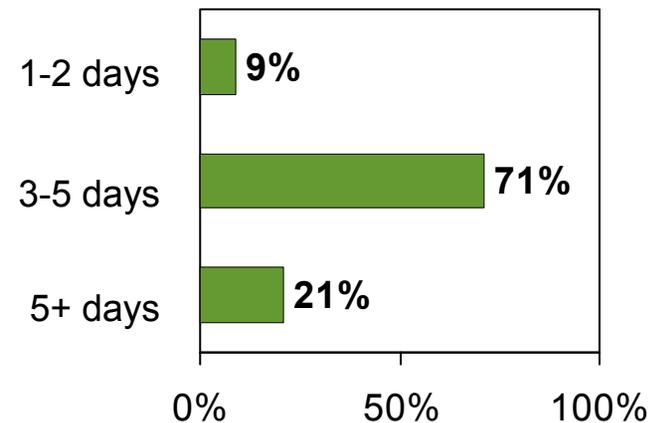
What is the traveling profile of the type of tourist that South Carolina should prioritize and target?



What age group should South Carolina prioritize and target?



What is the length of stay of the type of tourist South Carolina should prioritize and target?

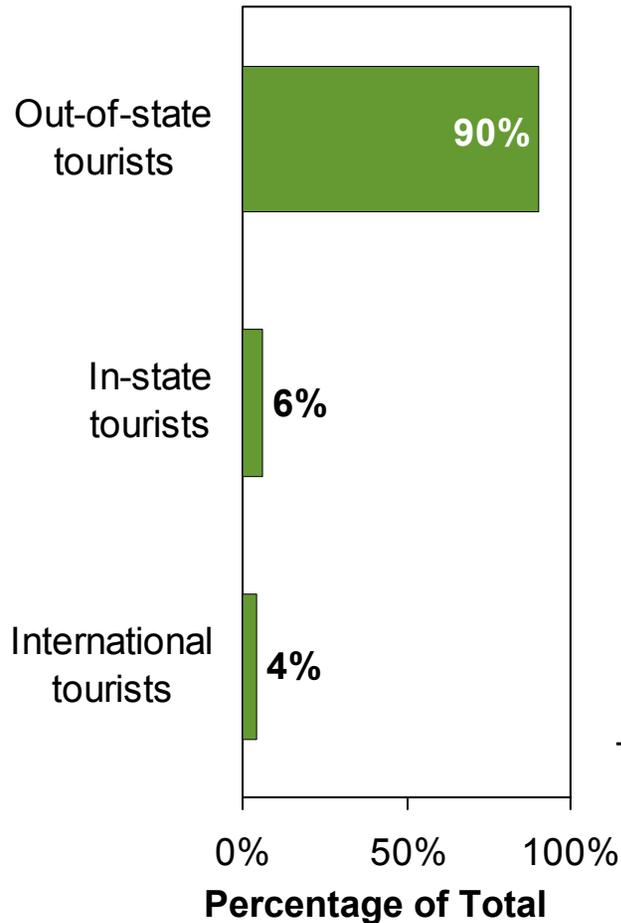


Source: Monitor Regional Competitiveness Survey

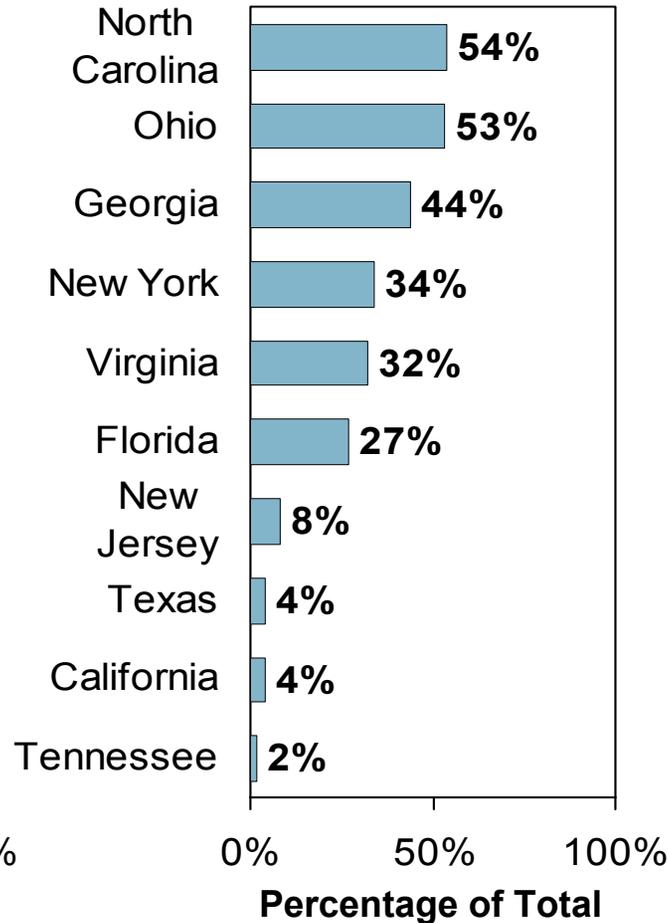
# Survey Results

## Type of Tourist South Carolina Should Prioritize and Target

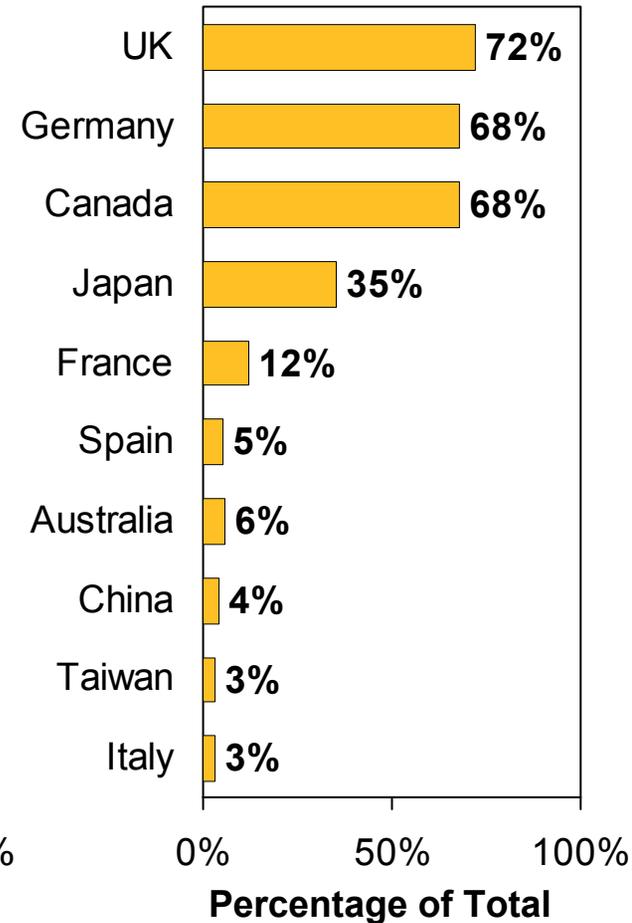
Origin of the type of tourist South Carolina should target



Top three states South Carolina should target



Top three countries South Carolina should target

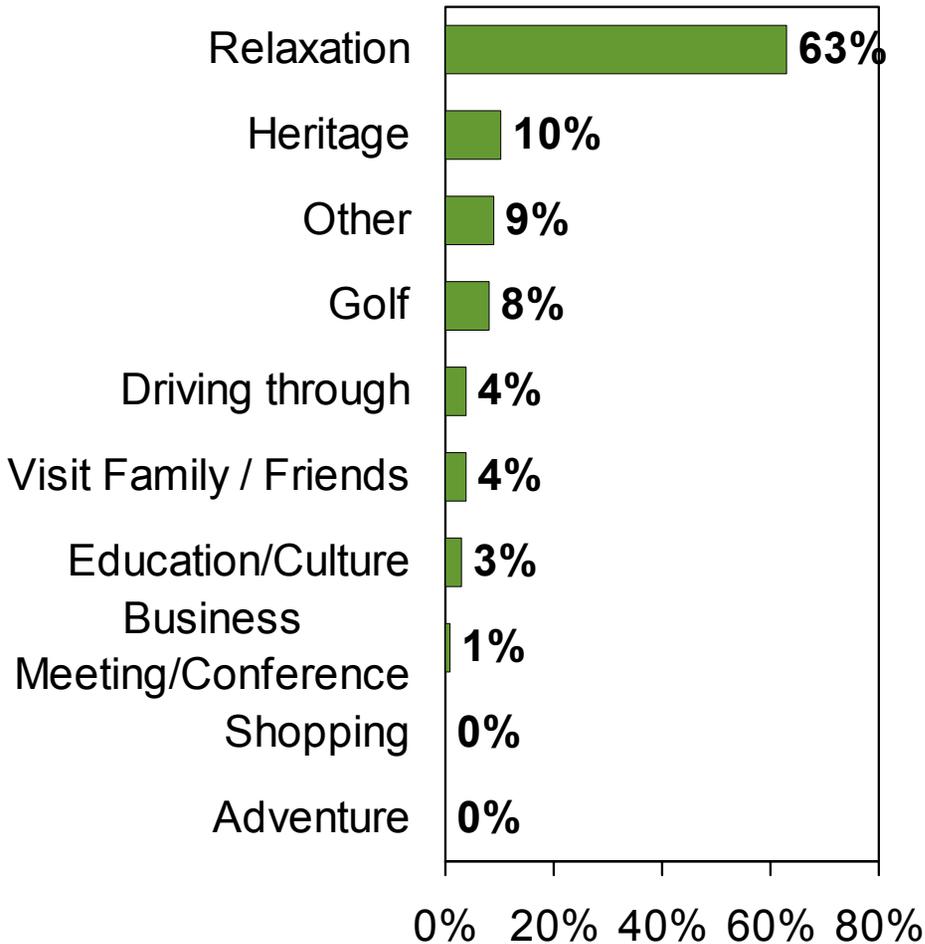


Source: Monitor Regional Competitiveness Survey

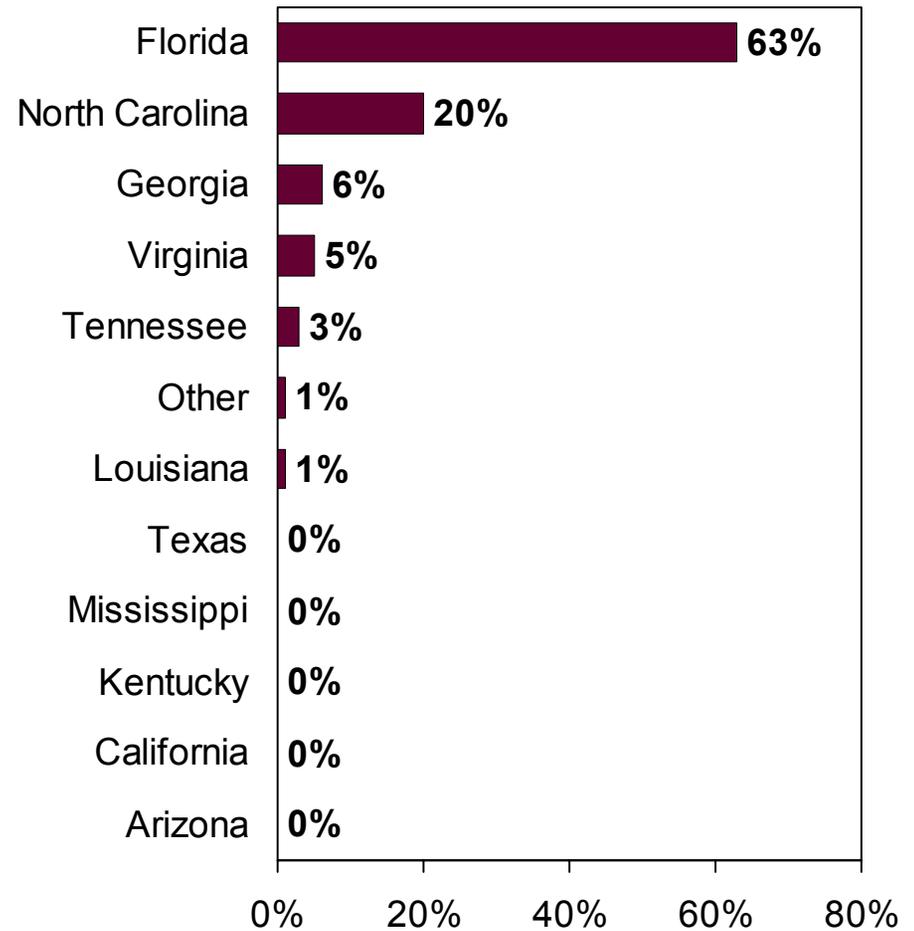
# Survey Results

## Reasons for Coming to South Carolina and Main Direct Competitors

### Main reason tourists come to South Carolina



### Top direct competitor to South Carolina in attracting tourists



Source: Monitor Regional Competitiveness Survey

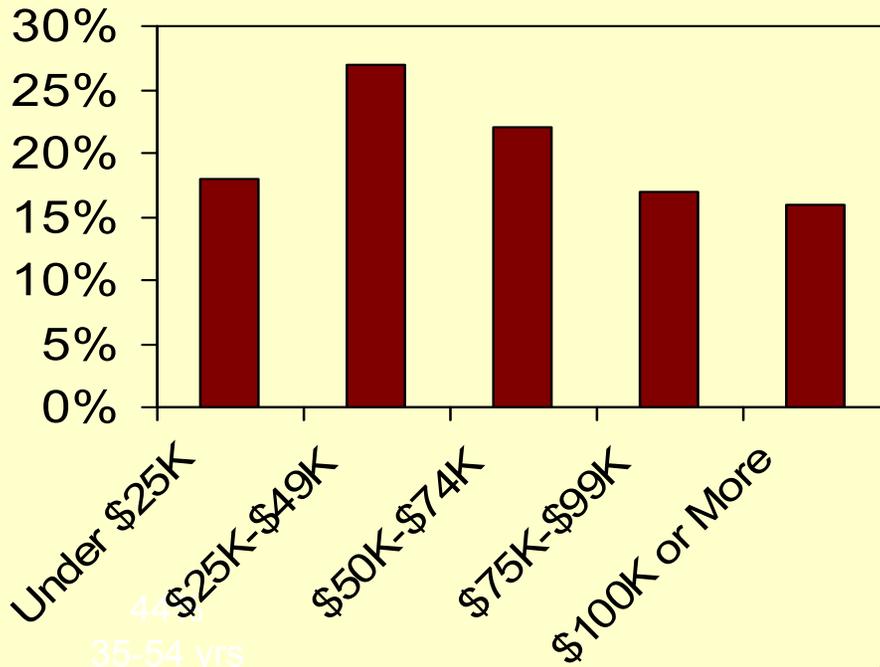
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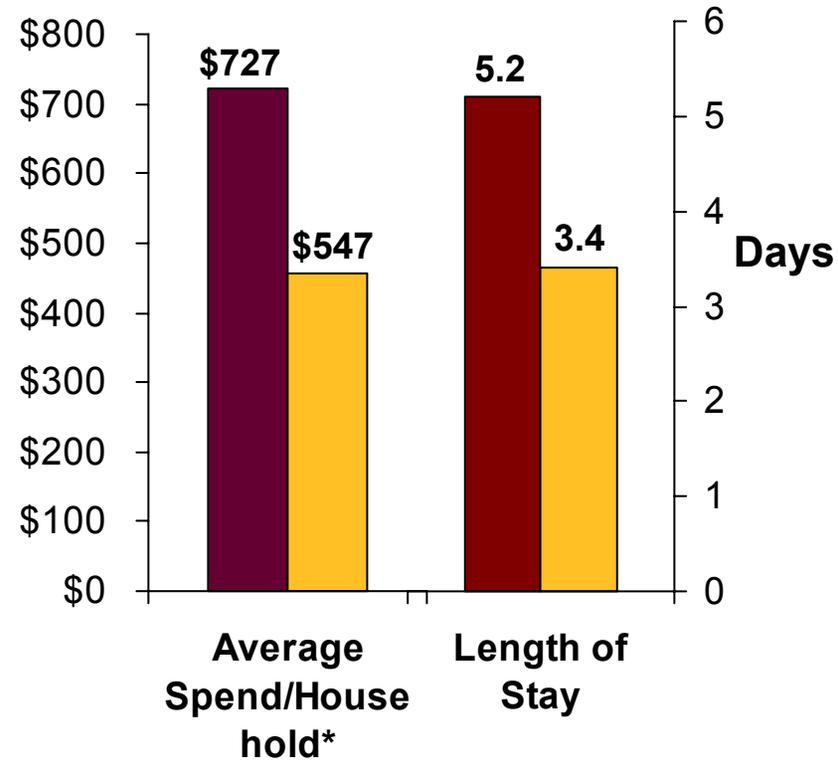
# Historic Traveler Composition and Trip Characteristics

There are 98.9 million historic travelers accounting for 141.7 million person-trips

### Annual Household Income of Historic Travelers



Historic Traveler  
 Average Traveler

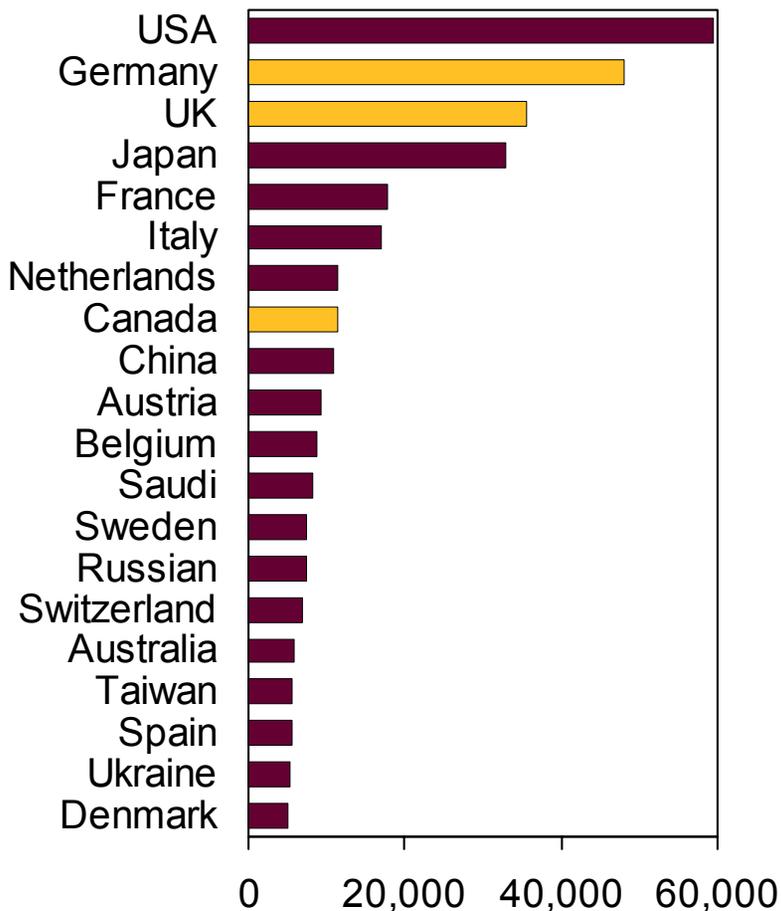


44%  
 35-54 yrs

Note: Spend does not include transportation to/from destination  
 Source: Travel Industry Association, 2001; Monitor analysis

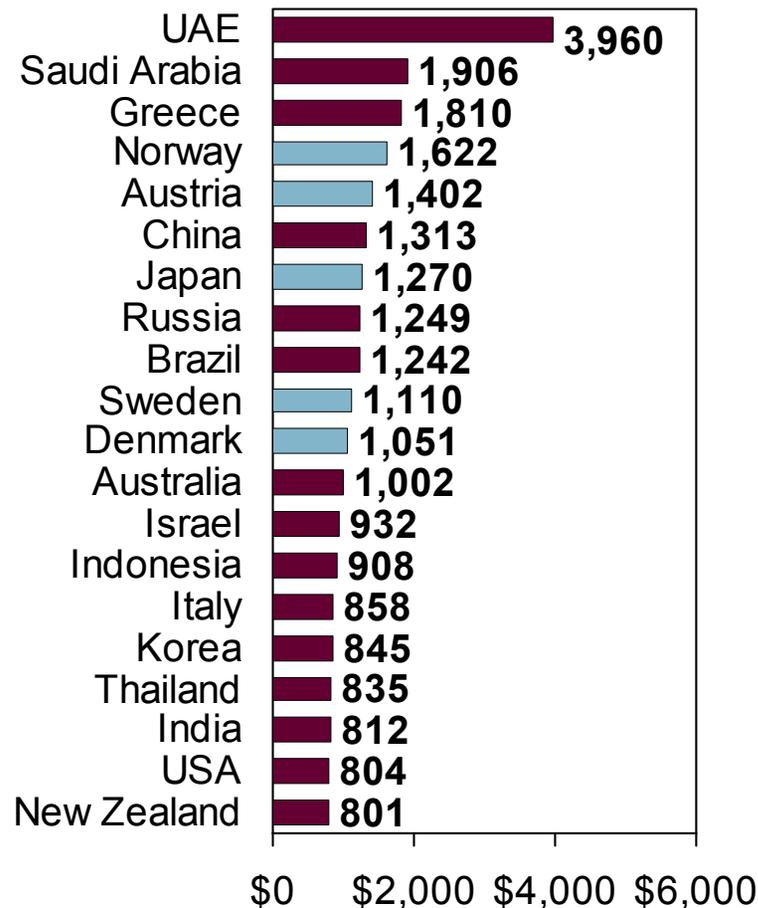
# Largest Countries by Number of Outbound Trips, Expenditure, and Expenditure Per Capita on Outbound Tourism

## Top 20 Countries by Total Expenditure on Outbound Tourism, 1999



Expenditure (USD\$ thousands)

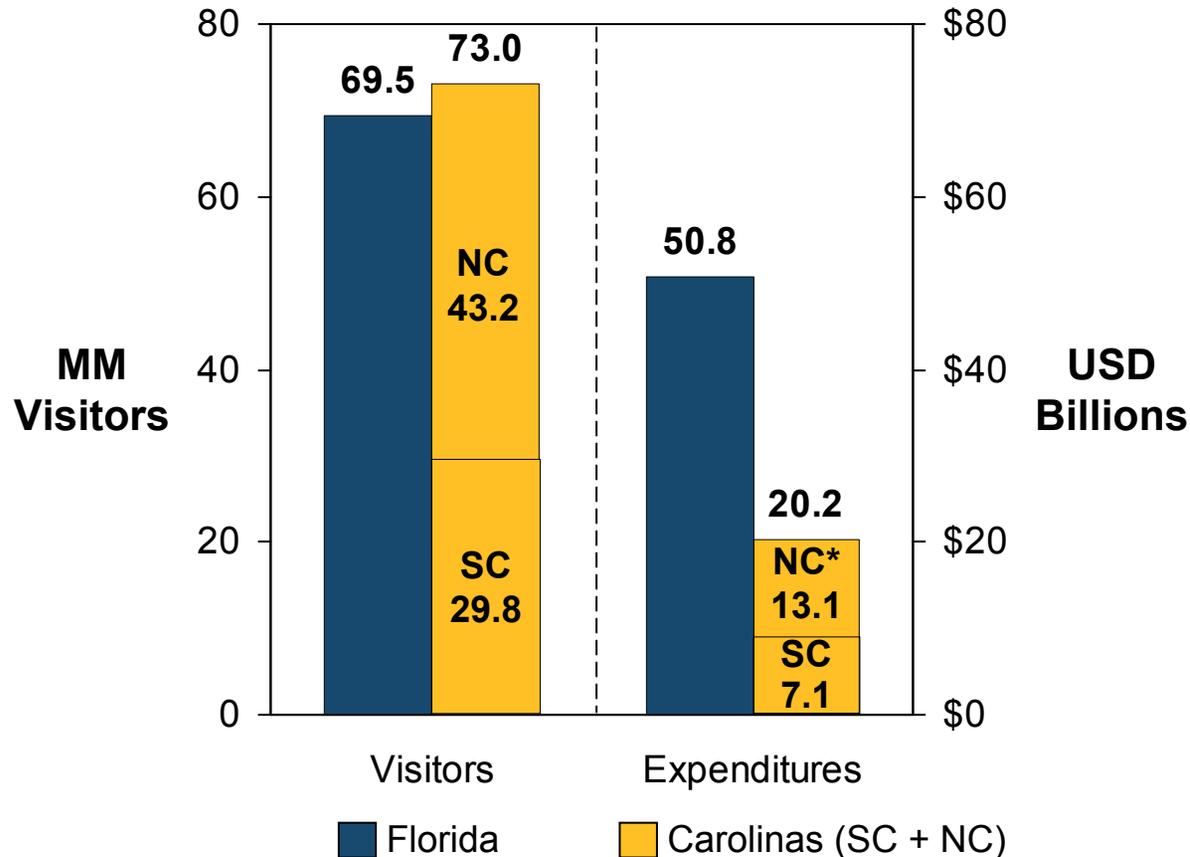
## Top 20 Countries by Outbound Tourism Expenditure Per Capita, 1999



Outbound Tourism Expenditure Per Capita (USD\$)

## Florida vs. Carolinas Visitors and Expenditures

### Visitors and Direct Expenditures for South Carolina, North Carolina and Florida, 2001

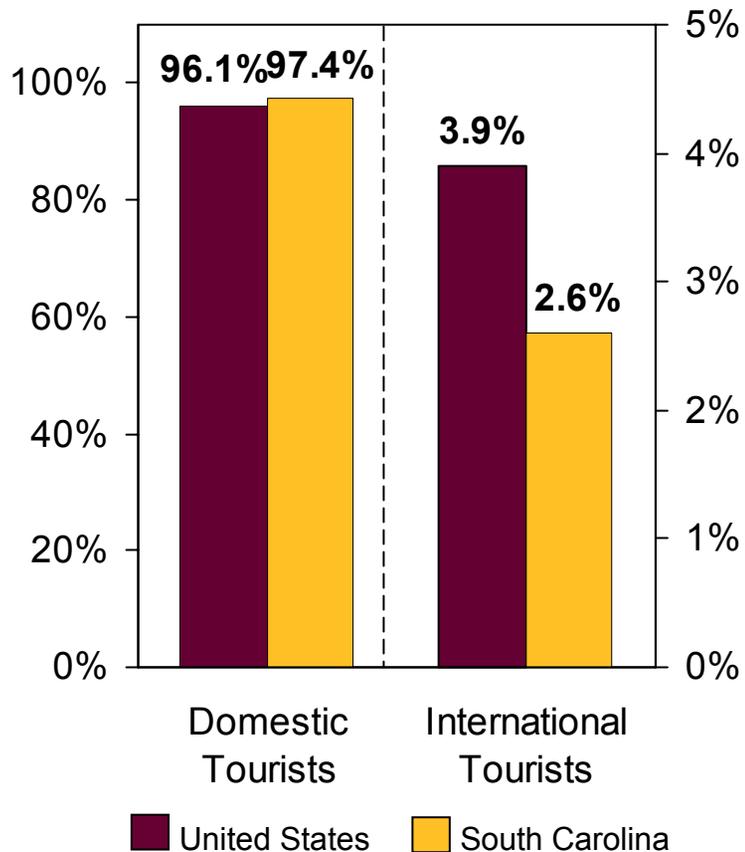


\*\* North Carolina expenditures for 2001 include estimated expenditures of international visitors

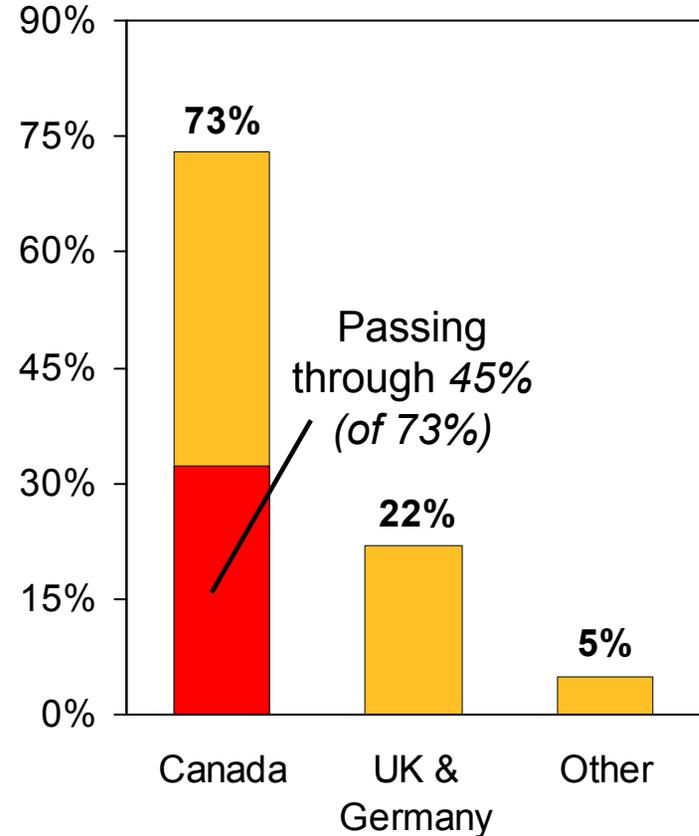
Source: TIA May 2003 Forecast Summary, SC PRT, FL 2002 Governor's Conference on Tourism; Monitor Analysis

## U.S. and South Carolina International Visitors

**% of Domestic and International Visitor Trips\* in the US and South Carolina, 2001**



**Origin of South Carolina's International Visitors, 1999**



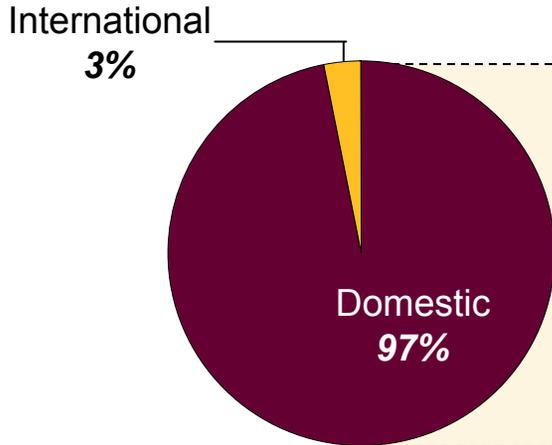
\* Visitor Trips exclude 'pass through' visitors to make SC comparable to the U.S.

Source: TIA May 2003 Forecast Summary, SC PRT, FL 2002 Governor's Conference on Tourism, WTTC South Carolina Report; Monitor Analysis

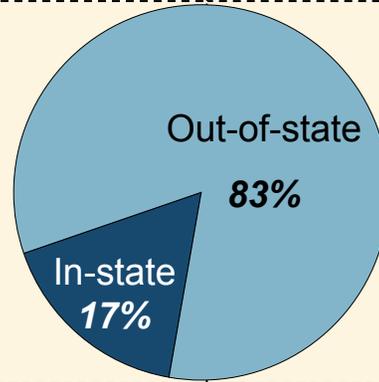
# Domestic Tourist Volume and Composition

## South Carolina's Domestic Tourist Volume, 1999

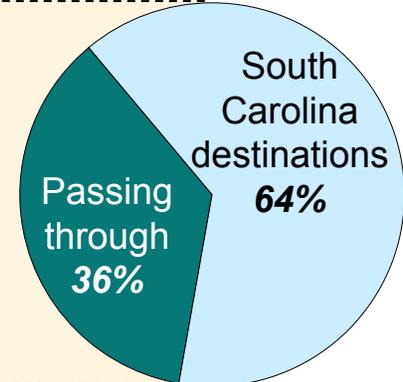
**29.1 million  
total visitors**



**28.3 million  
domestic visitors**

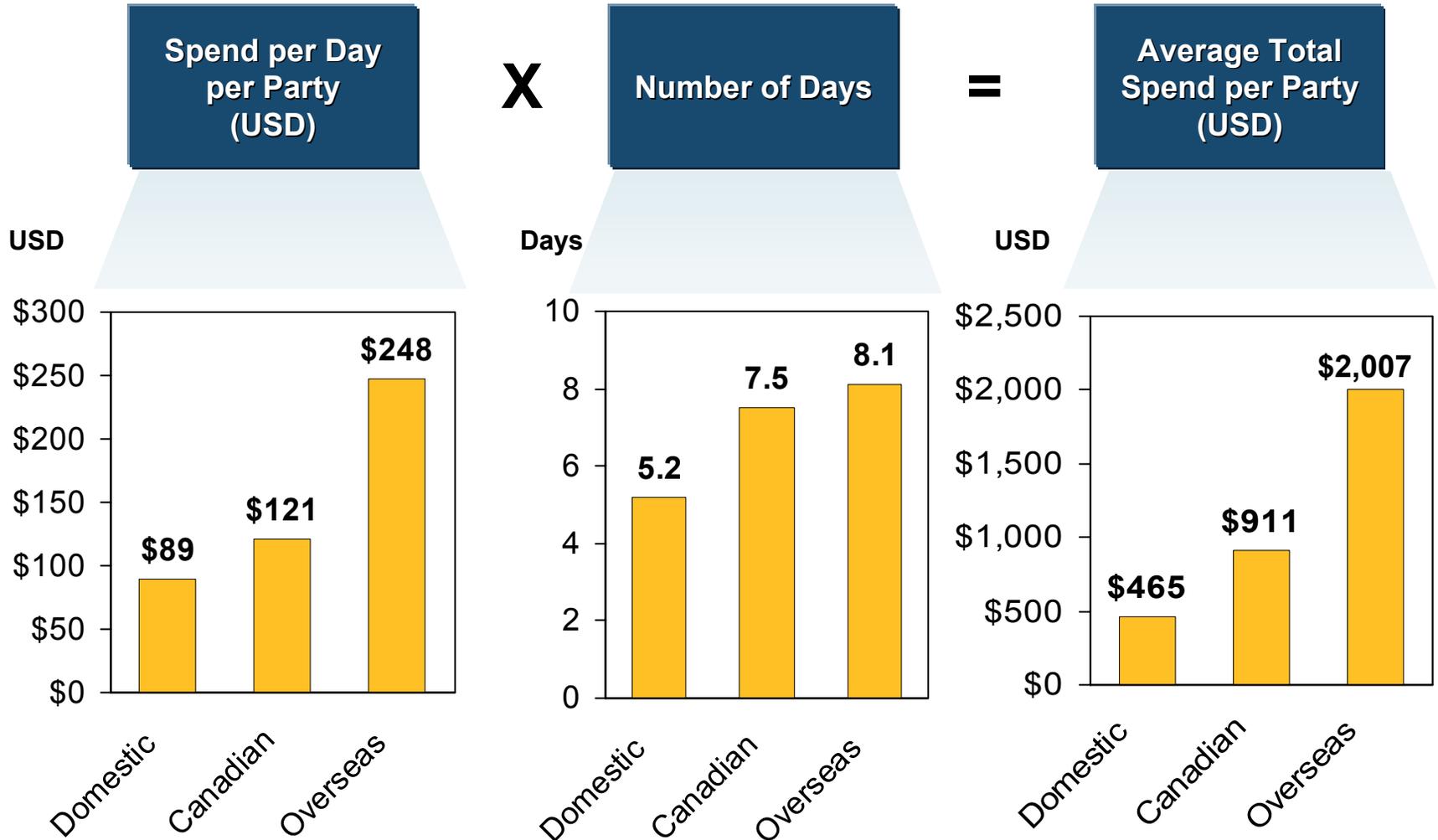


**23.6 million  
out-of-state visitors**



# Domestic and International Tourist Average Expenditure in South Carolina

## Average Total Spend per Overnight Tourist Party by Origin, 2001



Source: WTTC South Carolina Report, 2000; SC PRT; Monitor Analysis

# Summary of Tourism Trends Analysis

## Tourism Trends

- Travel is increasingly year-round
- Shift towards more active, adventurous travel
- Family vacations are increasing as a percentage of total trips
- Travelers increasingly looking for an **experience**
  - Historic/Heritage travelers
- Key small countries exhibit higher spending per tourist than traditional large countries
- Long-haul visitors spend more per trip than drive-in visitors



## Implications for South Carolina

- Broaden and increase attractiveness of off-season offerings
- Leverage diversity of natural preserves
- Further attract families by continuing to develop and upgrade related attractions
- Numerous historical assets can be leveraged in combination with other draws
  - Charleston, historic sites, plantations
- Develop a comprehensive segmentation of international markets
- Measure success by spending per visitor rather than number of visitors

Source: Monitor analysis

# Agenda

- Overview of the South Carolina Competitiveness Initiative
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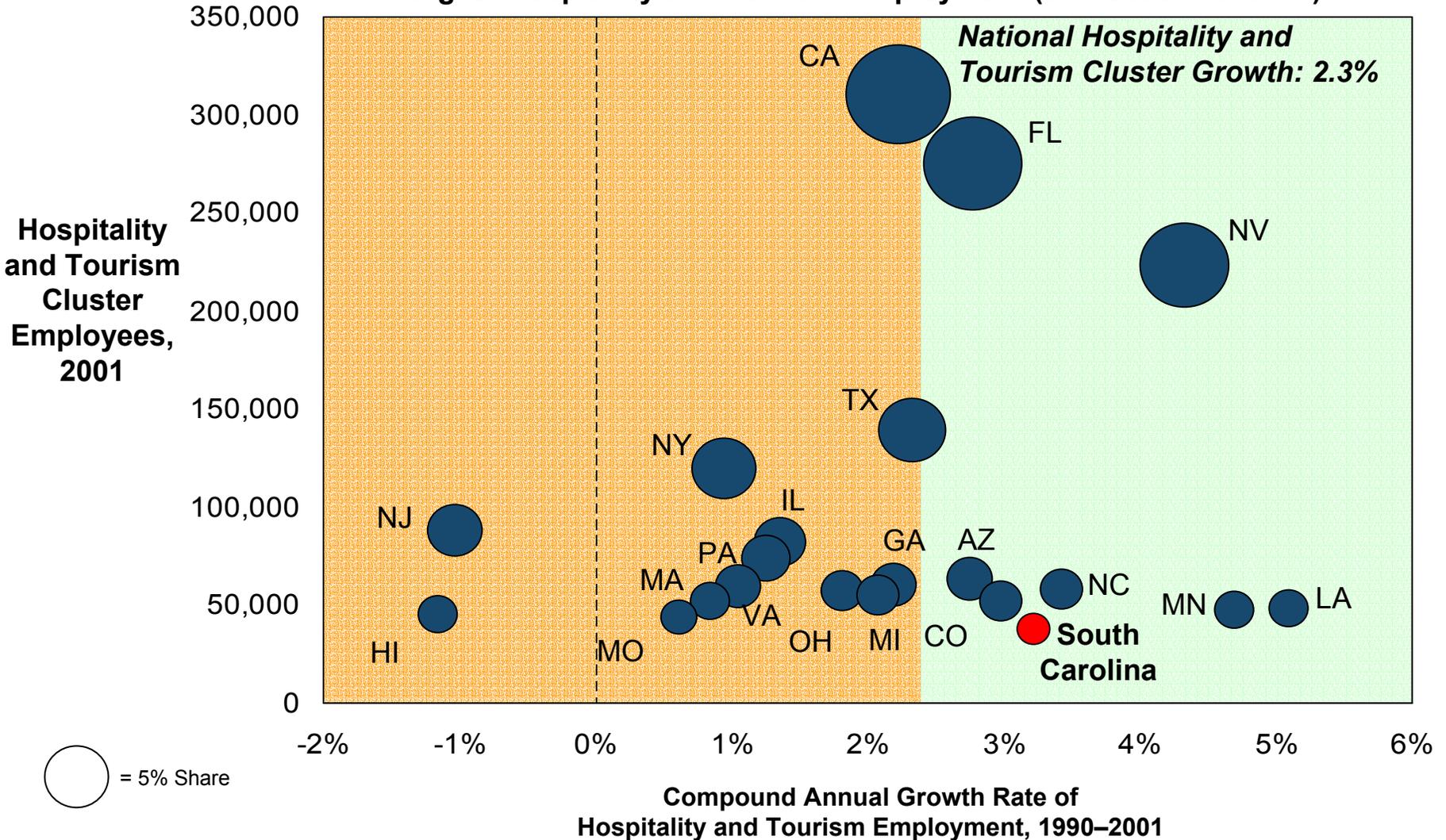
## – Competitiveness and Economic Performance

- Next Steps for South Carolina

# Hospitality and Tourism Employment

## Employment Level, Growth and National Share

Employment Level, Growth and National Share of the 20 States with the Largest Hospitality and Tourism Employment (and South Carolina)



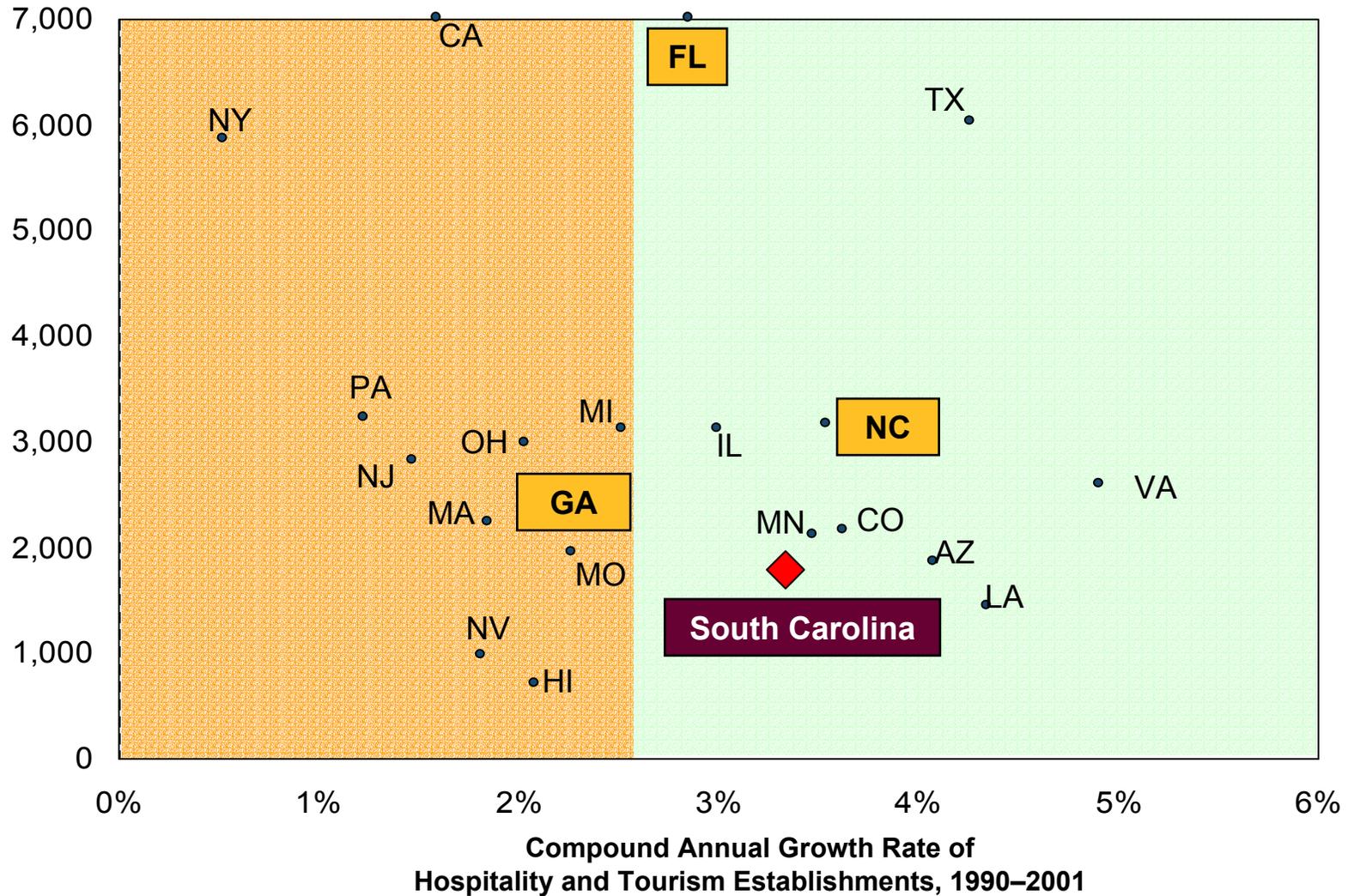
○ = 5% Share

Source: Cluster Mapping Project, Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School

# Hospitality and Tourism Establishments

## Number and Growth of Establishments

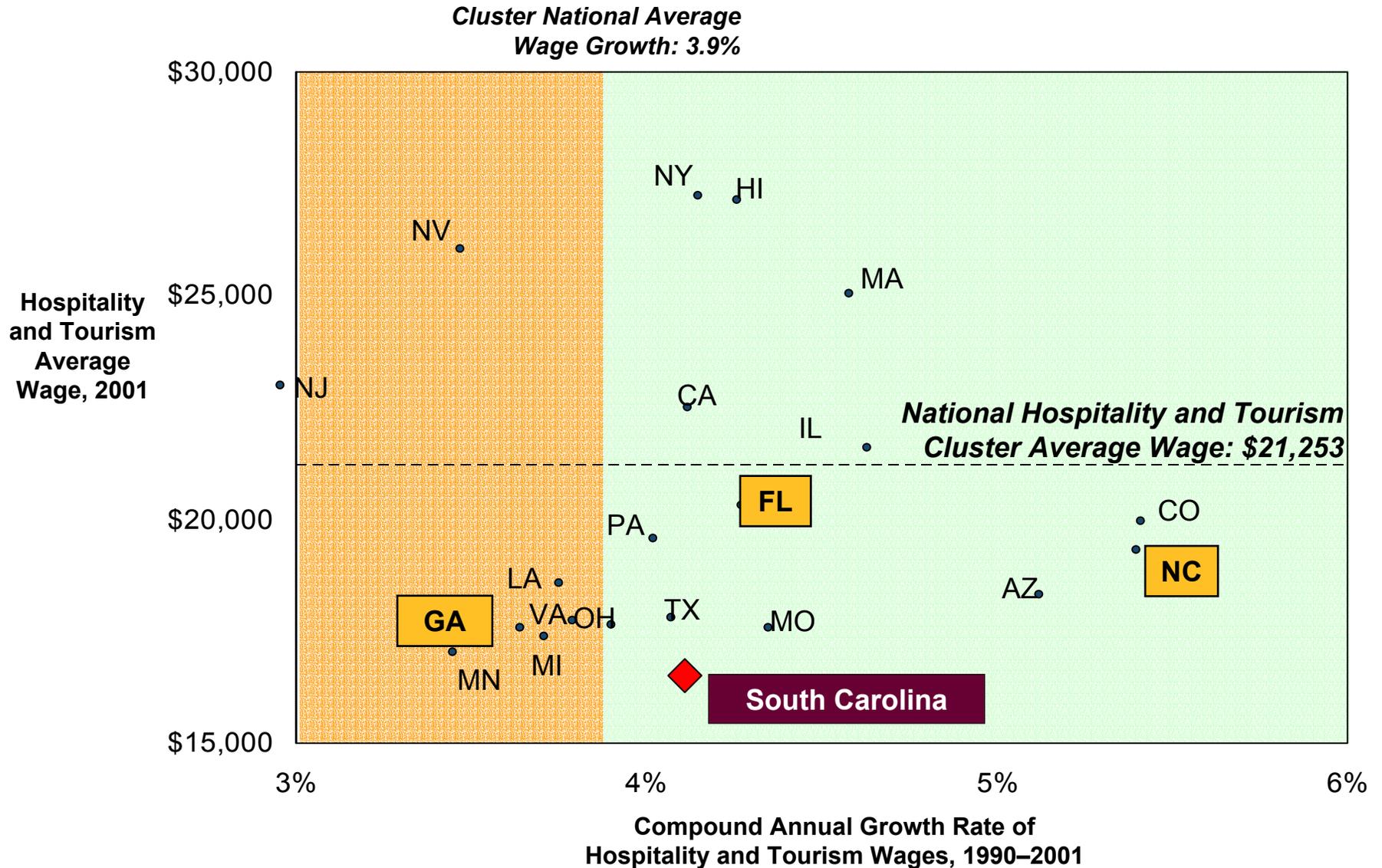
*National Hospitality and Tourism Cluster*  
*Establishment Growth: 2.6%*



Source: Cluster Mapping Project, Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School

# Economic Performance of Select Hospitality and Tourism Clusters

## Average Wage and Changes in Average Wage

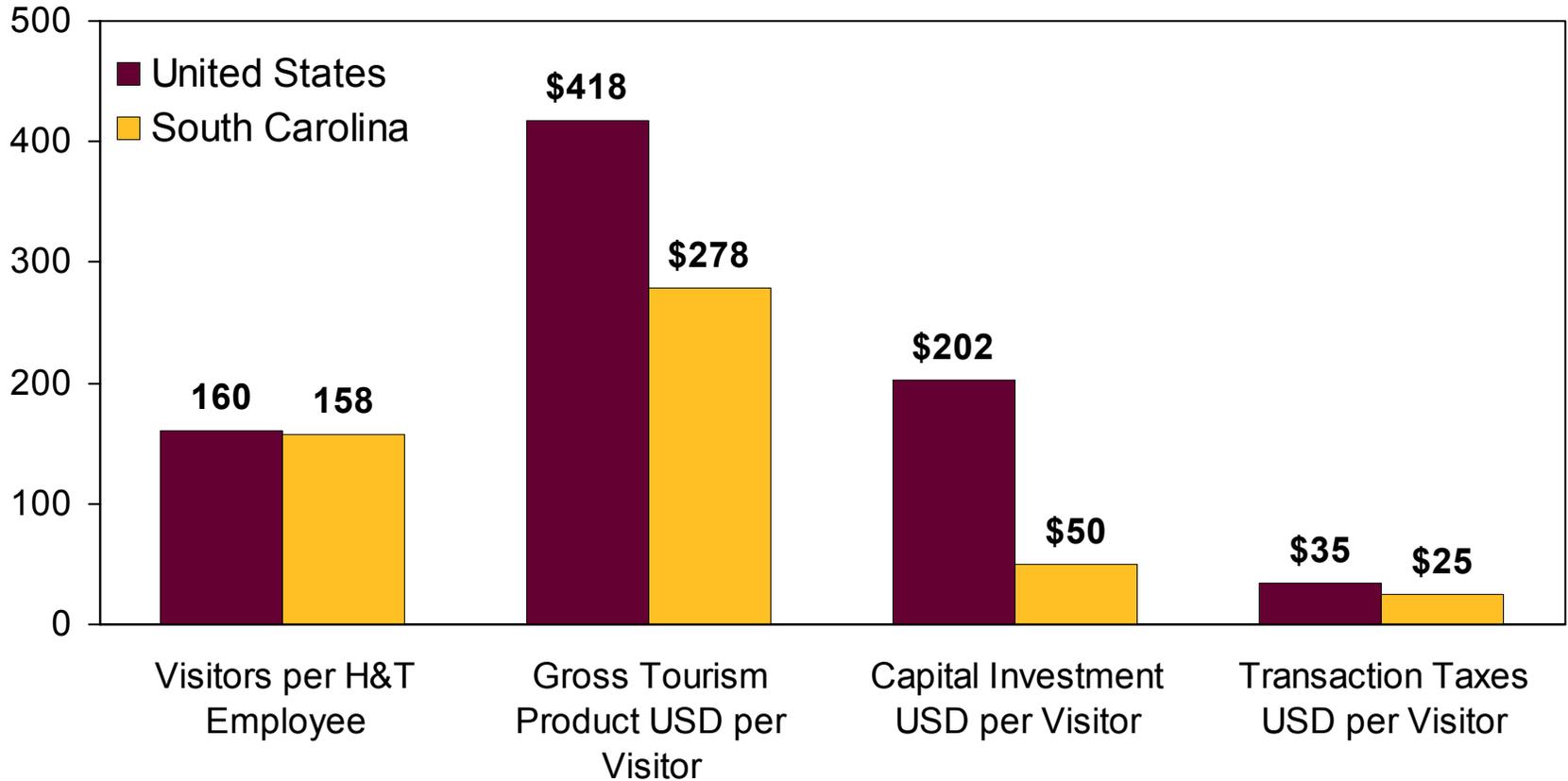


Source: Cluster Mapping Project, Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School

# Tourism Industry Benchmark Metrics per Visitor

## U.S. versus South Carolina

### Key Per Visitor Metrics of South Carolina and United States Tourism Industry — 2001



\* Visitor Trips exclude 'pass through' visitors to make SC comparable to the U.S.  
 \*\* Transaction Taxes using projected for SC 2001, actual U.S. 2002  
 Source: SC PRT; TIA; WTTC United States Report, 2003; Monitor Analysis

# Agenda

- Overview of the South Carolina Competitiveness Initiative
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## – The Business Environment and Strategic Implications

- Next Steps for South Carolina

## Issues Emerging from the Interviews

### Strategy

"More tourists are not always better. We should do more strategic planning on what segments do we want to promote."

"The problem is that we don't think strategically, we think politically."

### Collaboration

"We do almost no packaging here, no collective marketing. Each company/region can stand alone, but stands to gain much more if they would work together."

"We need to cooperate more with other regions inside and outside the state. Nine to thirteen days European visitors don't go to just one destination. PRT would be a good catalyst for that."

### Product

"People are hungry for historical places - I really believe it is a great opportunity if we are able to develop a meaningful tourism experience."

"Most of our off-season marketing has been based on price, instead of making an exciting product offering."

### Labor, Education, and Research

"We have the chance of making South Carolina a total model of what should be done in H&T education, involving high schools, colleges, universities and industry in topics from workforce training, to grad level education and research."

"There is no reason why our universities could not be the premiere research center for tourism in the US, why they could not take the lead in setting metrics and standards. We should have a world class H&T Program here."

# South Carolina Tourism Business Environment

## Findings from the Surveys and Interviews

### Advantages:

- Relatively high number of airports
- Active technical college system
- Attractive assets, including climate, golf courses, coastline, mountains
- Unique military and American history assets

### Disadvantages:

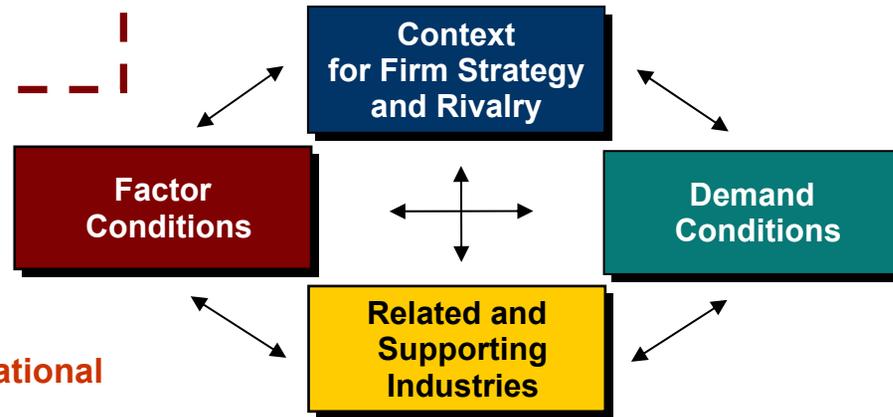
- Lack of hub airport means few direct flights to key markets and expensive fares
- **Relatively weak K-12 and specialized advanced educational programs for locals**
- **Limited supply of local skilled workers**
- Lack of interstate access to Myrtle Beach
- Underdeveloped port passenger terminal in Charleston
- Few specialized tourism research centers

### Advantages:

- Intense local competition

### Disadvantages:

- **Few local headquarters of core operations**
- **Limited collaboration between firms on development of integrated product offerings**
- **Highly fragmented industry lacking major anchor organizations**



### Advantages:

- Frequent feedback from customers on product improvements

### Disadvantages:

- **Relatively small presence of international visitors**
- **Lack of high-end tourism consumers beyond Hilton Head and Charleston**

### Advantages:

- A number of specialized transportation-related sub-clusters

### Disadvantages:

- Relatively low quality of suppliers
- **Limited interaction on new product development**
- Few support industries that capture a significant portion of the value chain (i.e., tour operators, reservation systems, large travel agencies)

Note: Red bold letters illustrate key themes; Dotted boxes indicate potentially leverageable assets

Source: Monitor Competitiveness Survey, Interviews, Monitor Analysis

# South Carolina Tourism Business Environment

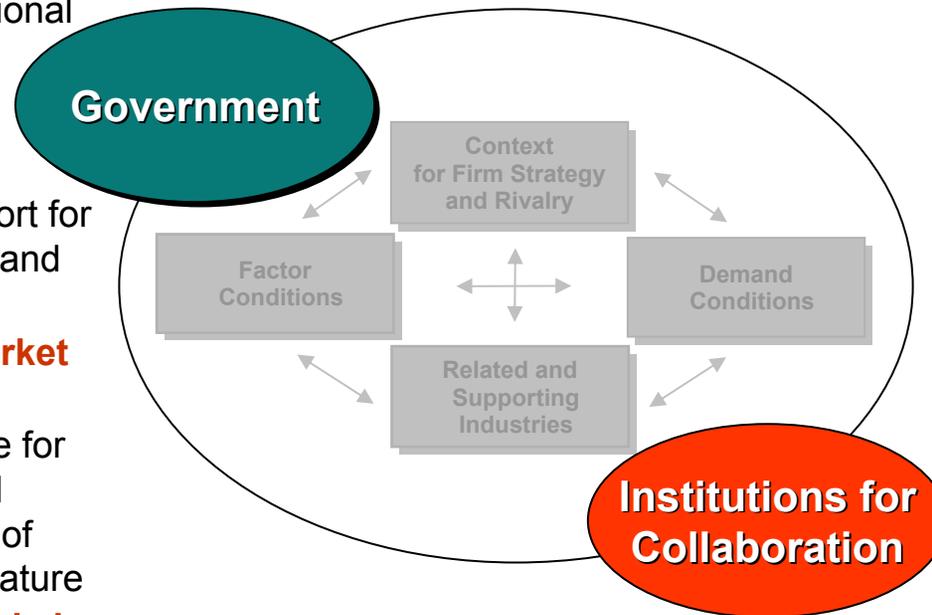
## Findings from the Surveys and Interviews (Cont.)

### Advantages:

- Relatively good recent collaboration between public and private sectors
- Recent improvements in marketing and promotional efforts by the state

### Disadvantages:

- Need for greater support for specialized education and training programs
- **Lack of adequate market research**
- Limited funds available for tourism promotion and perceived overall lack of support from the legislature
- **Historically limited role in providing policy framework and catalyzing collaborative efforts**



### Advantages:

- Emergence of several regional organizations for and initiatives aiming to build networks
- Effective organizations for marketing key tourism destination areas

### Disadvantages:

- **Few statewide organizations working to upgrade the quality of all elements of the business environment**
- Limited coordination between universities, government and companies
- **Numerous regional cluster institutions yet limited focus on building partnerships**

Note: Red bold letters illustrate key themes; Dotted boxes indicate potentially leverageable assets  
 Source: Monitor Competitiveness Survey, Interviews, Monitor Analysis

# South Carolina's Hospitality and Tourism Cluster

## New Directions

### Visitors

**Identify attractive segments using key criteria:**

- High per capita tourism expenditures
- High conversion rate
- Cost-effective marketing and distribution channels
- Critical mass of visitors
- Adequate transportation infrastructure in place

### Updated Strategy

**Create a differentiated position that provides the right destination for the right tourist segments by:**

- Improving visitor mix
- Packaging, cross-selling, and cross-promoting
- Broadening and upgrading of product offering
- Increasing conversion of pass-through / business visitors
- Increasing shoulder season occupancy
- Leveraging tourism to attract talent and businesses to SC

### Product Offering

**Identify and create assets that set South Carolina apart:**

- Coastline and beach resorts
- Historic cities, towns, plantations, and military sites
- Golf courses
- Southern hospitality
- State parks and forests
- Cultural attractions
- Family attractions
- Retail offering

# Agenda

- Overview of the South Carolina Competitiveness Initiative
- Findings for the State of South Carolina Overall
- Findings and Implications for South Carolina's Tourism Cluster
- **Next Steps for South Carolina**

# New Directions for South Carolina

## Traditional Strategy

- **Create Jobs:** traditional objectives were to create jobs and attract capital investments
- **Low Cost:** South Carolina has competed as a low cost location using:
  - Tax breaks and incentives;
  - Abundant labor; and
  - Good physical infrastructure
- **Recruit Companies:** efforts targeted outside operations based on the number of jobs and size of investments they would bring
- **Government in the Driver's Seat:** government has led with effort and skill from the executive branch, and tax incentives and regulatory policy from the legislative branch



## New Directions

- **Raise Prosperity:** new objectives should be to raise the prosperity of South Carolinians
- **High Value:** South Carolina must begin to compete by enabling firms to create higher value, which will:
  - Raise prosperity; *and*
  - Lead to job creation, and capital investments
- **Build Clusters:** efforts should include:
  - Upgrading business environment to retain and grow companies; *and*
  - Recruiting companies based on fit with existing clusters and assets; *and*
  - Investing in new assets to seed clusters
- **Public-Private Collaboration:** development should be a collaborative process involving government at multiple levels, as well as firms, teaching and research institutions, and institutions for collaboration

## **Eight Campaigns to Reach the Economic Vision**

*To achieve this vision South Carolina should pursue several campaigns, including:*

**Campaign 1: Activate and Upgrade Clusters**

**Campaign 2: Continue to Enhance Education and Workforce Training**

**Campaign 3: Invest in Research and the University System**

**Campaign 4: Increase Support for Start-ups and Local Firms**

**Campaign 5: Create an Explicit Economic Development Plan for Distressed Areas**

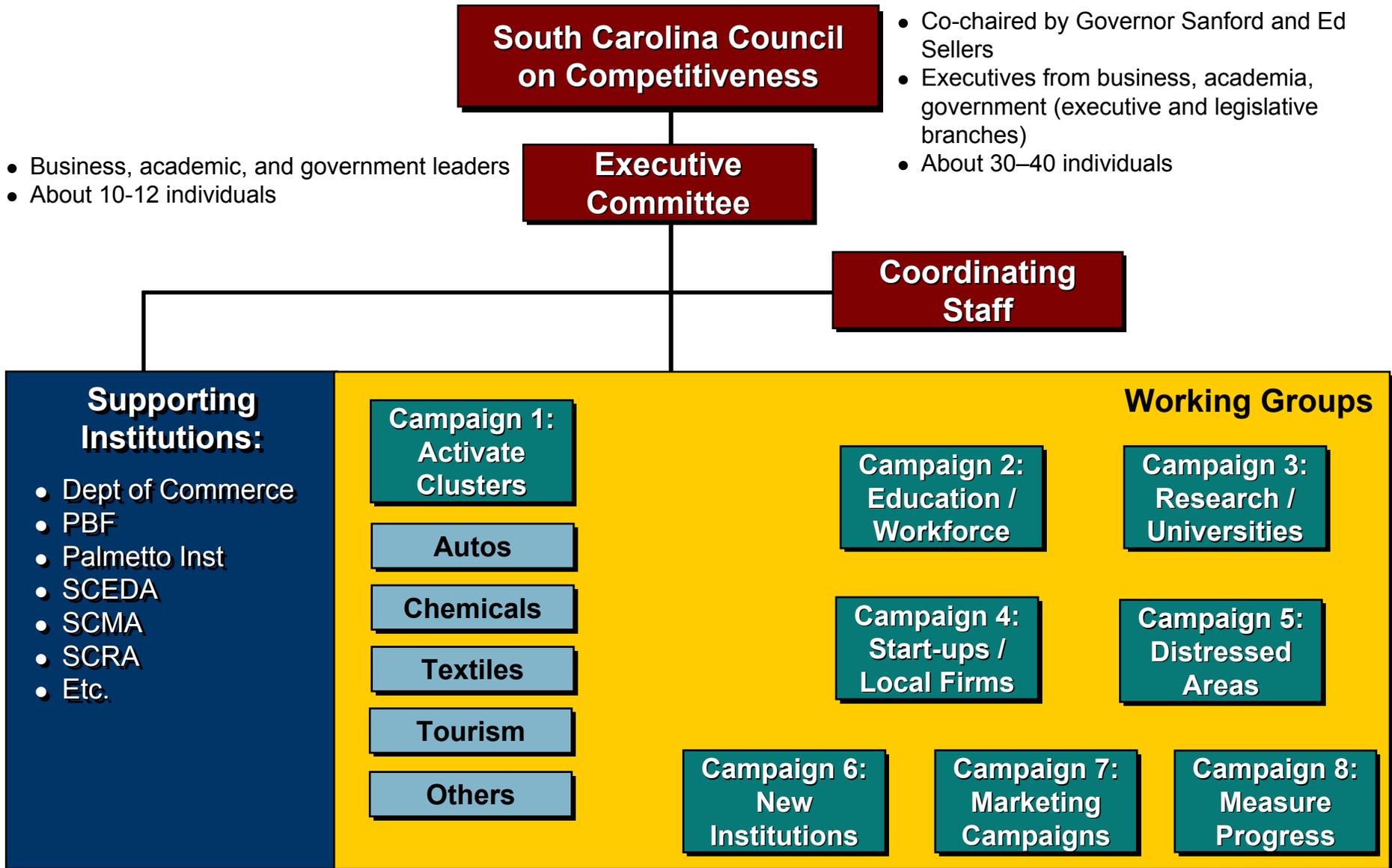
**Campaign 6: Create New Institutions to Support Economic Development**

**Campaign 7: Launch Internal and External Marketing Campaigns**

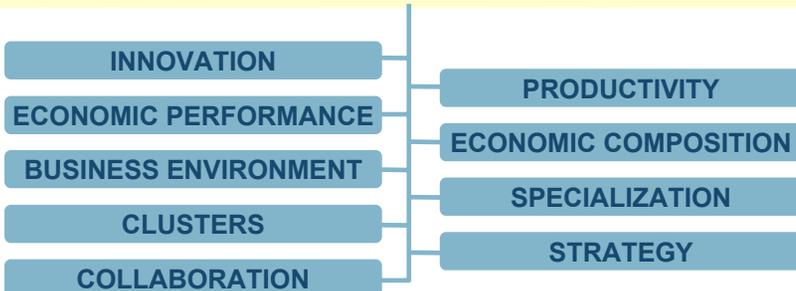
**Campaign 8: Measure Progress**

# An Integrated Process with Multiple Working Committees

## Accountable for Specific Results



# South Carolina Competitiveness Initiative Project Overview and Hospitality and Tourism Cluster



**Governor's Conference on Tourism and Travel  
Hilton Head, South Carolina  
February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

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