



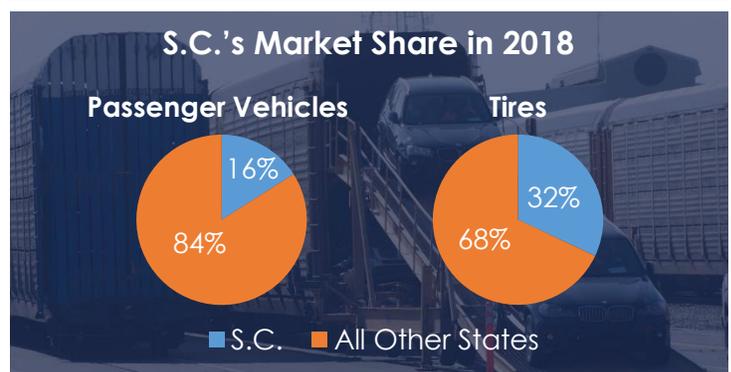
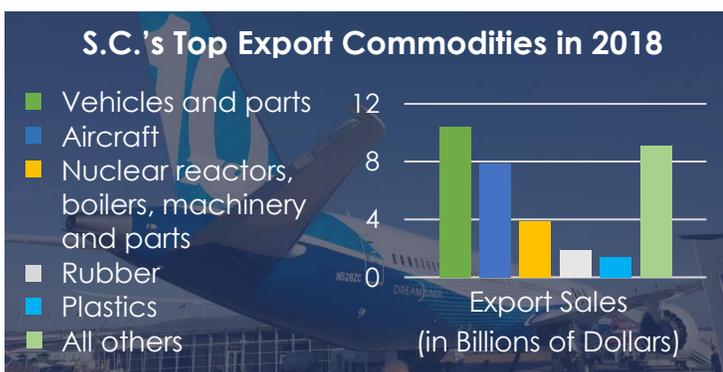
2018 INTERNATIONAL TRADE REPORT

For the ninth consecutive year, the state of South Carolina set a record for total export sales in 2018, as the state’s exporters sold \$34.6 billion in products in more than 195 countries and territories around the world. This sales figure represents a 7.5 percent increase over the 2017 total and ranks 14th among all states.

“Just as South Carolina’s reputation as a global industry leader continues to spread; so does our international trade activity,” said Gov. Henry McMaster. “I’m proud that our exporters have achieved yet another record year and look forward to watching them build on this success in the years to come.”

“We’ve cultivated a globally-connected economy in South Carolina, and last year’s export sales total reflects that,” said Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt. “Moving forward, we will continue to prioritize the growth of our international trade footprint and will encourage companies of all sizes to expand their reach into new markets overseas.”

South Carolina’s international trade activity grew and diversified in 2018:



“South Carolina is a leader in manufacturing, and export goods are a strong driver of the Port’s year-over-year growth story,” said S.C. Ports Authority (SCPA) President and CEO Jim Newsome. “The modernization and expansion efforts underway at our Port, including the Charleston Harbor Deepening Project and Leatherman Terminal construction, position SCPA to continue to support our state’s exporters and enhance South Carolina’s role in the global marketplace.”

To continue growing the state’s export activity and to assist firms of all sizes that seek to get involved in international trade, S.C. Commerce offers the South Carolina Export Incentives Program. The initiative reimburses small and medium-sized business participation in S.C. Commerce trade missions, major trade exhibitions and international matchmaking, using U.S. Commercial Service programs. It also finances export training and other export-related initiatives by S.C. Commerce.

FY 2017-18 Impact of South Carolina’s Export Incentives Program:



58

**Small & Medium-
Sized Firms
Participated**



33

**New
Jobs
Created**



43

**Trade Shows
& Missions
Attended**



\$55M

**In Export
Sales
Achieved**



33

**New
Markets
Reached**

For more information on the South Carolina Export Incentives Program, including how eligible firms can participate, visit <http://bit.ly/scexports>.



www.SCcommerce.com