

# WORKFORCE & TRAINING



Our greatest strength is our people.

Iredell County is an attractive destination for businesses. A labor force of 89,000, a regional workforce of 1.1 million, an annual population growth rate of 1.5% for the past 10 years.

Workforce Snapshot	
Total Employment (All Industries)	73,839
Civilian Labor Force	89,318
Number Unemployed	3,390
Largest Industry	Manufacturing (11,557)
Unemployment Rate	3.8%
Average Weekly Wage	\$947

Iredell County Insured Employment & Wages by Industry			
Industry	Average Employment	Annual Wages Paid	Average Wage Per Employee
Manufacturing	11,207	\$601,012,517	\$53,628.31
Health Care and Social Assistance	8,451	\$381,749,346	\$45,172.09
Retail Trade	9,564	\$244,241,794	\$25,537.62
Accommodation & Food Service	6,920	\$98,744,389	\$14,269.42
Educational Services	5,054	\$181,084,748	\$35,829.99
Administrative & Waste Services	4,591	\$128,415,176	\$27,971.07
Construction	4,351	\$174,067,133	\$40,006.24
Wholesale Trade	3,362	\$173,301,880	\$51,547.26
Transportation & Warehousing	2,135	\$84,064,365	\$39,374.41
Public Administration	2,662	\$106,475,157	\$39,998.18
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2,104	\$104,292,351	\$49,568.61
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	2,683	\$150,909,685	\$56,246.62
Other Services	1,697	\$45,392,072	\$26,748.42
Finance & Insurance	1,192	\$70,029,635	\$58,749.69
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	649	\$23,054,370	\$35,522.91
Information	575	\$21,067,939	\$36,639.89
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	438	\$20,659,483	\$47,167.77
Utilities	244	\$18,220,452	\$74,673.98
Mining	32	\$1,466,564	\$45,830.13

Source: NCESC: Quarterly Census Employment & Wages by Supersector or Domain, aggregate of all types.

Iredell County Employment & Wages by Manufacturing Industry			
Industry	Average Employment	Total Wages	Average Annual Wage
Machinery Manufacturing	1,565	\$102,882,125	\$65,739
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1,401	\$78,006,884	\$55,679
Plastics & Rubber Products Manufacturing	1,260	\$59,196,922	\$46,982
Textile Mills	774	\$35,683,560	\$46,103
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	1,098	\$50,492,271	\$45,986
Paper Manufacturing	582	\$37,402,782	\$64,266
Food Manufacturing	375	\$20,047,969	\$53,461
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Mfg	637	\$29,776,828	\$46,745
Electrical Equipment and Appliances	*	*	*
Primary Metal Manufacturing	390	\$19,296,800	\$49,479
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	204	\$12,390,566	\$60,738
Apparel Manufacturing	374	\$35,683,560	\$95,411
Textile Product Mills	253	\$8,809,583	\$34,820
Furniture and Related Product Mfg	297	\$9,127,898	\$30,734
Wood Product Manufacturing	109	\$3,889,829	\$35,687
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg	197	\$11,219,693	\$56,953
Chemical Manufacturing	713	\$61,374,596	\$86,079
Printing and Related Support Activities	*	*	*
Source: Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, Employment and Wages by Industry Aggregate of all types by Subsector (3 digit)			
* Indicates disclosure suppression			
Chart by: Centralina Council of Governments, August 2018			

## WORKFORCE & TRAINING



### A Right to Work State

North Carolina is an “at-will” employment state and one of 23 states with a “Right-To-Work” law. An employer may not require an employee to join a union refrain from joining a union or labor organization as a condition of employment or continuation of employment by the employer.

### Certified Work Ready Community (CWRC)

The State of North Carolina joined ACT’s National Certified Work Ready Communities initiative. Iredell County is a certified Work Ready Community and actively engaged in maintaining status. Iredell has 133 employer that recognize or recommend the ACT WorkKeys NCRC.

### Customize Training

Companies creating 12 or more jobs in excess of their previous 3-year maximum employment levels may be eligible for [customized training funds through the North Carolina Community College System](#). Resources may support training assessment, program development, instructional cost, and training delivery for new front-line personnel.

### North Carolina Manufacturing Institute (NCMI)

[North Carolina Manufacturing Institute](#) is a collaboration between private and public sector partners to build a clear and achievable pathway for people to acquire skills in order to access good manufacturing jobs. NCMI is offered in Iredell, Rowan, and Cabarrus Counties.

### On the Job Training

[On-the-Job Training](#) provides a means of expand and enhance workforce services. OJT is a viable way for unemployed workers seeking employment and their employers that need workers to offset initial training cost to fill skilled positions.

### Upskills Carolina Grant

Upskills Carolina provides training resources and funding for new and existing employees by offering training instruction on site as well as in the class rooms of the community and other training venues.