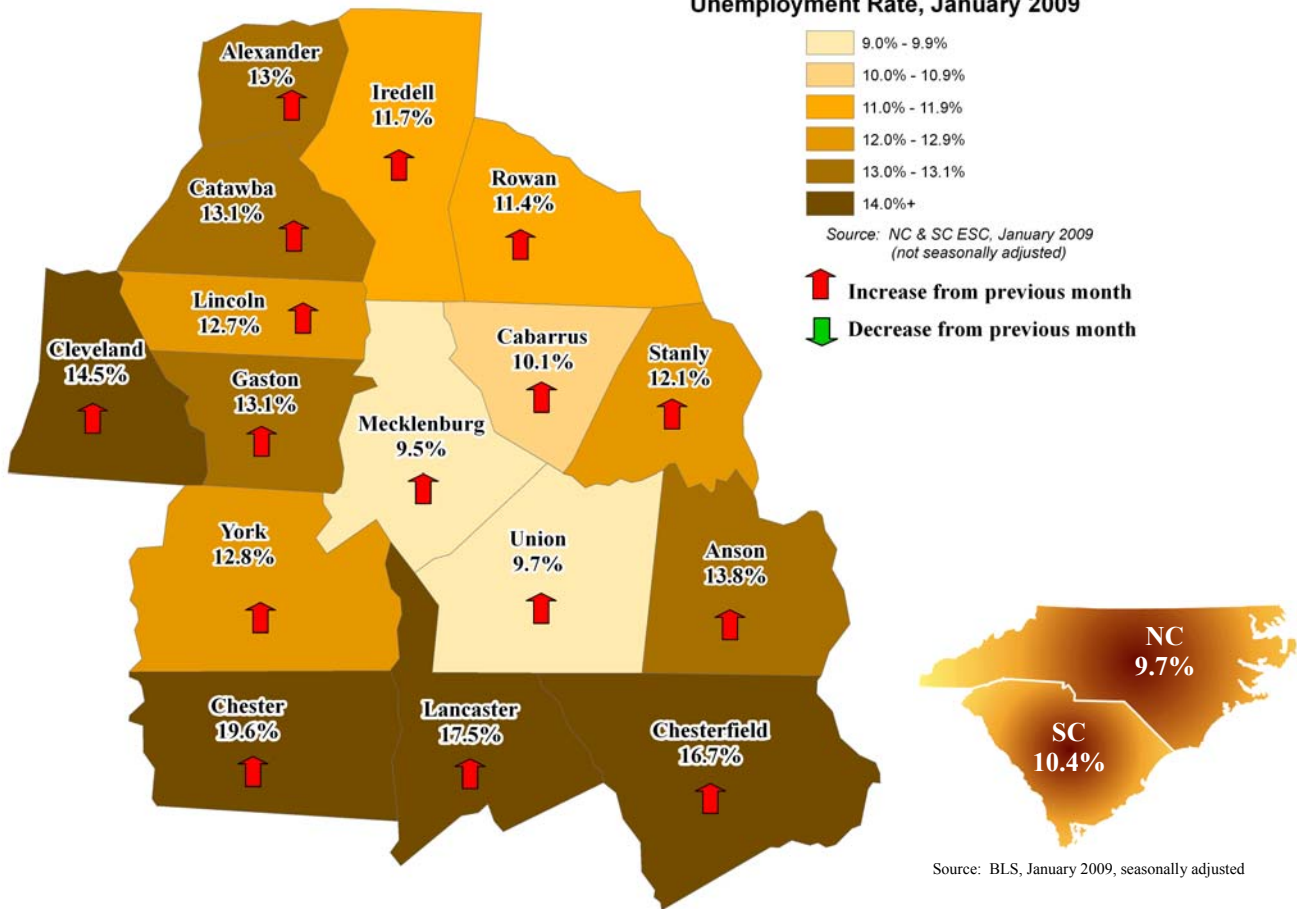


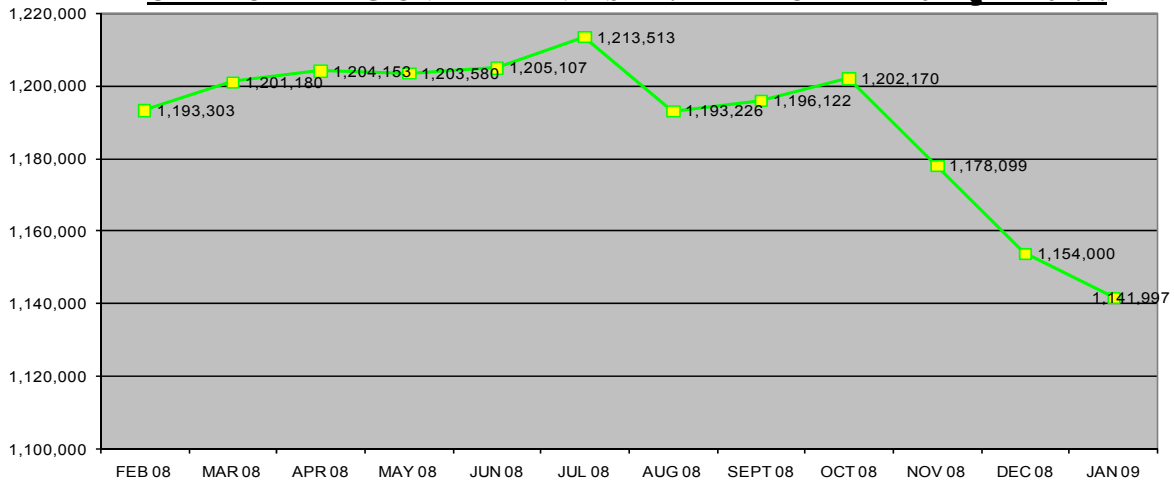


CHARLOTTE USA JOBS ACTIVITY:

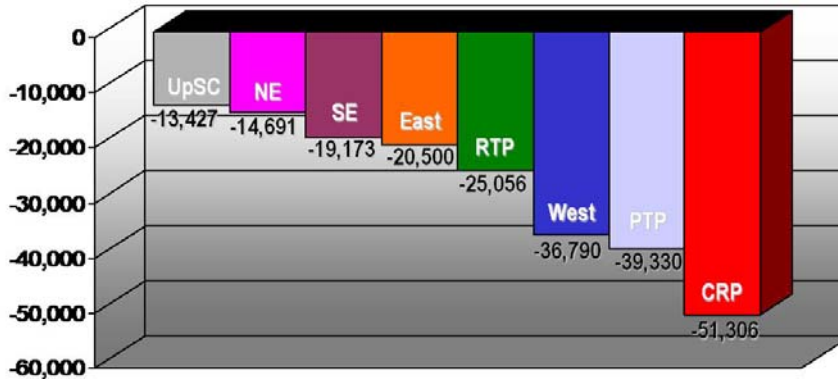
CHARLOTTE USA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



CHARLOTTE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP: "EMPLOYED" - Rolling 12 months



**NET JOBS: "EMPLOYED" - Rolling 12 months
Compared to other Regions in Carolinas**



Source: North Carolina Employment Security Commission, South Security Commission, Bureau of Labor Statistics, February 2008—January 2009

Charlotte Regional Partnership

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JULY 08	AUG 08	SEPT 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	Last 12 Months (Rolling)
Employed	1,193,303	1,201,180	1,204,153	1,203,580	1,205,107	1,213,513	1,193,226	1,196,122	1,202,170	1,178,099	1,154,000	1,141,997	-51,306

Piedmont Triad Partnership

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JULY 08	AUG 08	SEPT 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	Last 12 Months (Rolling)
Employed	760,866	764,964	765,975	762,642	763,382	767,831	757,233	754,797	760,456	747,631	743,362	721,536	-39,330

Advantage West Partnership

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JULY 08	AUG 08	SEPT 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	Last 12 Months (Rolling)
Employed	491,892	494,581	499,174	501,225	504,427	508,854	499,748	499,385	497,795	485,556	479,906	455,102	-36,790

Research Tri. Regional Part.

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JULY 08	AUG 08	SEPT 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	Last 12 Months (Rolling)
Employed	921,634	924,219	927,826	924,240	928,110	941,098	923,552	921,010	928,670	912,865	902,772	896,578	-25,056

North Carolina's Eastern Part.

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JULY 08	AUG 08	SEPT 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	Last 12 Months (Rolling)
Employed	424,475	427,435	430,821	430,866	434,332	434,147	429,468	428,734	428,098	422,228	417,401	403,975	-20,500

North Carolina's SouthEast Part.

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JULY 08	AUG 08	SEPT 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	Last 12 Months (Rolling)
Employed	457,983	461,526	466,286	466,668	469,861	469,557	463,581	463,355	462,520	453,346	446,803	438,810	-19,173

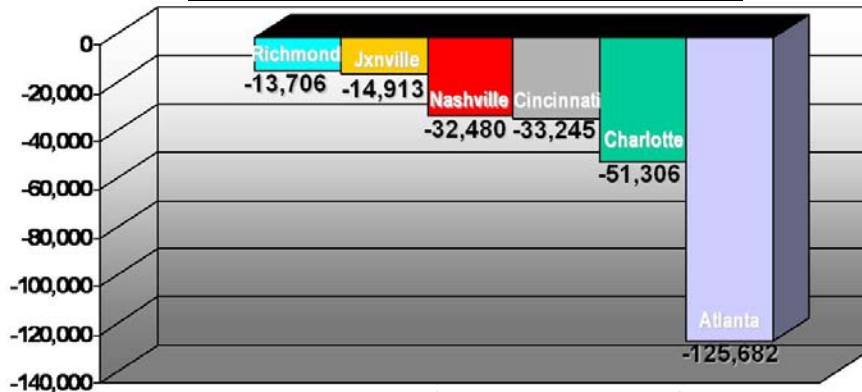
North Carolina's NorthEast Part.

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JULY 08	AUG 08	SEPT 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	Last 12 Months (Rolling)
Employed	159,787	162,303	164,596	165,782	169,808	169,818	167,479	165,782	164,000	160,955	157,729	145,096	-14,691

SC Upstate Alliance

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	JULY 08	AUG 08	SEPT 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	Last 12 Months (Rolling)
Employed	598,831	606,229	609,137	609,491	611,136	611,381	605,053	603,901	604,711	599,847	595,229	585,404	-13,427

**NET JOBS: "EMPLOYED" - Rolling 12 months
Compared to other Regions in Southeastern U.S.**



Source: NC, SC, OH, FL, GA, TN, IN, KY, VA Employment Security Commission LMI February 2008—January 2009

NEW & EXPANDING ANNOUNCEMENTS: FY2008-2009 (JULY 2008 - FEB 2009)

July 2008

Röchling Engineered Plastics	Gaston	Buying second building, adding 22+ jobs
Doosan Infracore Int'l	Mecklenburg	Establishing global headquarters in Charlotte, adding 100 jobs
All Tech Engineering	Mecklenburg	Opening Bunker Automation in Charlotte, adding 35+ jobs
FlowCon	Mecklenburg	Danish manufacturer of flow control valves, opening 4,800sf office and warehouse
Sencera International	Mecklenburg	Building 38-megawatt solar module factory, adding 65 jobs in Charlotte
Motorsports Construction	Iredell	General contractor specializing in facilities for the motorsports industry opening office
Sensory Spectrum Inc	Cabarrus	Planning to open a 35-employee office in Kannapolis, adjacent to the Core Lab building
Saddle Creek Corp	Cabarrus	Expanding distr ctr to 611,000sf; \$11 million investment will double existing center, 31+ jobs
American Prefabricated Drain	Chesterfield	Announcing \$2 million investment and 25 jobs at new Chesterfield location
ECN Industries	Lancaster	Investing \$1.5 million in move to Kershaw building
Sennebogen	Lincoln	German crane manufacturer, announcing \$5.1 million investment and 25 jobs
EBARA	York	Planning \$3.2 million expansion in Rock Hill, doubling size of current plant

August 2008

Celfa	Mecklenburg	Italian manufacturer, NA HQs in Huntersville; \$16 million investment, creating 90 jobs
Gneuss	Mecklenburg	Announcing 6,000sf expansion of existing warehouse/mfg operations
Fluor Coproration	Mecklenburg	Announcing addition of 100 engineering jobs to Charlotte office
Virtual Image Technology	Mecklenburg	Relocating back to Charlotte from Lancaster County
Lovelace Respiratory Research Group	Cabarrus	Announcing plans to join the N.C. Research Campus
Harmony Labs	Rowan	Investing \$3.5 million, 50 jobs
Daimler Trucks	Rowan	Reinstating 650 jobs after reporting an increase in customer orders
Daimler Trucks	York	Purchasing 396 acres for future HQs campus
Asphalt Paving Company	Iredell	Expanding to upfit existing building, adding 5 new jobs
Poppelmann Plastics USA	Catawba	German manufacturer, announcing \$5-8 million investment to add 60,000sf

September 2008

Bank of America	Mecklenburg	Buying Merrill Lynch for \$50 billion
Nelson Company	Catawba	36,000sf facility with 6 employees
Companhia Providencia	Iredell	Brazilian non-woven fabrics manufacturer, announcing 90 jobs, \$133 million investment
QuintEvents	Mecklenburg	Moving HQs from ATL, 29 jobs
Hof Textiles	Lincoln	Nonwovens mfger, announcing \$3 million expansion in capacity & production
Turbotec Products	Catawba	Expanding to 20,000sf facility, hiring 25 people initially
SEM Products	York	Consolidating Charlotte & Rockingham operations into one 70,000sf facility in Rock Hill
PCL Construction Services Inc.	Mecklenburg	Opening Charlotte office, hiring 50 employees over 3 years
KECO Coatings	Iredell	Finishing 1st expansion, adding 6,000sf and 10 jobs
Turbomeca Manufacturing	Union	Beginning production at new facility in Monroe
Toyota Manufacturing	Rowan	Chassis engineering center officially opening
FMC Lithium	Gaston	Cutting ribbon on new Center for Lithium Energy & Advanced Research
Tasca Racing	Cabarrus	Breaking ground on new 10,000sf HQs
T-Mobile	York	Filming TV commercial in Rock Hill

NEW & EXPANDING ANNOUNCEMENTS: FY2008-2009 (JULY 2008 - FEB 2009)
October 2008

Worms Way	Mecklenburg	5 jobs in new facility, adding jobs and square footage to accommodate expected growth
Pfaff Molds	Mecklenburg	37,000 sq. ft., \$5 million facility, more than tripling the company's local footprint and is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2009
MIAS Inc.	Mecklenburg	German materials handling systems manufacturer, purchasing land with plans by the end of 2009 to build its first North American manufacturing facility
Baird	Mecklenburg	Milwaukee-based investment firm opening new Charlotte office
Westinghouse Electric Co.	Mecklenburg	Expanding existing office presence to serve growing nuclear industry
Para Ordnance	Mecklenburg	Firearms mfg moving HQs from Toronto to Charlotte, creating 35-40 jobs
Technibilt	Catawba	Shopping cart mfg expanding existing Newton facility with \$3 million investment
Action Stainless & Alloys	York	Investing \$2.5 million in mfg, distribution and office space in new Rock Hill facility
Institute for Business & Home Safety	Chester	Testing organization investing \$27 million, creating 20 jobs on 90-acre site
East Coast Ethanol	Chester	Announcing plans to build \$230 million plant, creating at least 40 jobs directly
PepsiCo	Cabarrus	Announcing plans for 4,000sf lab at NCRC
IMACC Corporation	Gaston	Recycler investing \$1 million, creating 4-10 new jobs at new Gastonia location
Titan Fabrication	Gaston	Purchasing 31,000 square feet, investing over \$1 million invested and creating 10 new jobs
Jig-A-Loo	Iredell	Canadian-based lubricant company opening Statesville office, adding 5 jobs
Magna-Tech Manufacturing Corp.	Lincoln	Opening 25-employee facility and investing \$2.5 million; company will heat-treat and seal automotive castings that are used in engines & transmissions
Westgate Home Furnishings	Alexander	China-based company adding 30 new jobs
NC Municipal Power Agency	Union	Installing two 12-megawatt gas turbine electric power generators on a seven-acre site in Monroe, investing \$20 million
Greenheck Fans	Cleveland	Kitchen Ventilation Systems adding 102 jobs to Kings Mountain facility
KiON (Div of Clariant)	Mecklenburg	Hiring 10+ for G-Shield paint resistant polymer project

November 2008

Connexions Inc.	Cabarrus	Expanding operations in Concord, adding 250 customer service jobs
Carolina Beer	Iredell	Announcing plans to expand warehouse and distribution operations, investing \$11 million
PPG Industries Fiberglass	Cleveland	Announcing plans for \$20.5 million investment, adding 120 new jobs in next 3 years
Patient Care Technology Systems	Mecklenburg	Doubling the size of local operation to 12,500sf office
PBI Performance Products	York	Planning \$15 million expansion to meet growing demand
Greyne Custom Wood	Mecklenburg	HQ relocating from Baltimore, MD, employing 30 workers
Areva NP	Mecklenburg	French firm doubling local 545-employee workforce over next three years
Praxair	Mecklenburg	Coatings manufacturer adding 15 jobs
Precision Framing Systems	Mecklenburg	Michigan company opening distribution facility at Winn Dixie former complex

December 2008

PCI Group	Lancaster	Hiring 60 employees at Lancaster facility since September 2008; still short 5-10 employees
WOW! Furniture	Chester	Adding 45 jobs as refurbished textile mill facilities redeveloped to become home furnishings discount center
Titanium Holdings	Lancaster	Relocating to former HSBC building; hiring 300 employees over next 5 years
Southern Power	Cleveland	Building \$400 million natural gas-fired power plant near Grover, construction to start in 2010; creating 300 jobs over 2 years
Fiber-Line Inc	Catawba	Expanding to double size of Hickory plant, creating 5-10 new jobs in 2009
DesignLine International	Mecklenburg	Opening U.S. operations, hiring up to 200 for Hybrid electric bus manufacturing

NEW & EXPANDING ANNOUNCEMENTS: FY2008-2009 (JULY 2008 - FEB 2009)

January 2009		
Covation	Catawba	Customer support call center planning to hire 913 by the end of 2009
YRC Worldwide	Mecklenburg	Trucking company consolidating, transferring 210 jobs from Kernersville to Charlotte
SmoothWall	Mecklenburg	Internet security co., hiring 5 in sales and tech support
Forman Rossabi Black	Mecklenburg	Charlotte office of Greensboro law firm opening; originally unstaffed locally.
Southeastern Petroleum	Chester	Investing \$30 million and creating 24 jobs at newly announced manufacturing facility
JD Motorsports	Iredell	Adding 3 employees at newly purchased KX2 in Mooresville
C.M. Steel	York	Corporate headquarters investing \$7 million and creating 85 jobs
Bull Engineered Products	Mecklenburg	Plastic molding company expanding into new 18,000 sq ft facility
Great Wolf Lodge	Cabarrus	Hiring 400 to staff local resort
February 2009		
Presbyterian Hospital	Mecklenburg	Investing \$11 million in upgrades at Huntersville facility.
Pharmaceutical Product Dev.	Cabarrus	Adding 20 clinical researchers
TPM	Mecklenburg	Making new capital investment in its Charlotte operation, relocating to much larger facility
Romarco Minerals	Lancaster	Moving HQ from Canada to Lancaster and creating 20-25 jobs
CMH Flooring	Anson	Purchasing Space Flooring of Atlanta and gaining 300 employees.

CLOSINGS & LAYOFFS: FY2008-2009 (JULY 2008 - FEB 2009)

July 2008

Wachovia	Mecklenburg	Announcing 10,750 company-wide job cuts
Baumann Springs USA	Mecklenburg	Precision springs manufacturer closing plant, cutting 95 jobs
Commscope	Catawba	Hickory-based company cutting 85 jobs due to overseas consolidation

August 2008

Wachovia	Mecklenburg	Announcing 600 layoffs locally
Lending Tree	Mecklenburg	Announcing 25 layoffs; last of several job reductions being announced
Chris Craft	Cleveland	Announcing 40 layoffs at N.C. site; additional 40 layoffs at Fla. location
Daimler Trucks	Gaston	Laying off of 675 workers at Mt. Holly plant on the heels of Gaffney layoff announcement

September 2008

Norandal USA	Rowan	Laying off 22 employees; citing lagging shipments as reason for layoffs
Pulte Mortgage Co	Mecklenburg	Closing mortgage processing unit, 90 jobs; operations consolidated with HQs in Colo; cites continued downturn in housing market as reason for closing
Charlotte Observer	Mecklenburg	Cutting 10% of local workforce
GMAC	Mecklenburg	Cutting local workforce by 60%, 90 N.C. jobs affected
Wellman	Lancaster	Shuttering Lancaster HQs; centralizing operations in Miss; 86 workers affected locally
Canac	Iredell	Kitchen cabinet manufacturing facility closing; 552 workers losing jobs
Spectrum Dyed Yarns	Cleveland	Facility closing; 145 workers losing jobs
Hanes	Gaston	Facility closing; 140 workers losing jobs; one of nine closures among U.S. production facilities

October 2008

Cochrane Furniture	Lincoln	Facility closing; 185 employees losing jobs
Superior Essex	Chester	Laying off 20 employees; downturn in orders cited as reason
Performance Fibers	Rowan	Cutting ties with industrial services contractor, 44 jobs cut locally
Daimler Trucks	Gaston	Laying off additional 39 employees
Belk	Mecklenburg	Outsourcing 27 positions at corporate office
Ultra Machine & Fabrication	Cleveland	Laying off 38 employees; downturn in business activity cited as reason
Entertainment District Co	Cleveland	Laying off 400 employees; plant expected to close in phases
Portrait Homes	Mecklenburg	Laying off 85 employees; housing crisis cited as reason
Allison Erwin Co.	Mecklenburg	Closing; laying off 14 employees
Wells Fargo	York	Laying off small number of employees at call center
Philip Morris	Cabarrus	Announcing 180 hourly employees to be laid off Jan 2009

November 2008

Entertainment Distribution Co.	Cleveland	Company closing; laying off 419 employees by April 30, 2009
Superior Essex	Chester	Plant closing, laying off 200 workers
Wells Fargo	Lancaster	Laying off unspecified "small number" of workers at mortgage center in Fort Mill
Whitewater Center	Mecklenburg	In addition to seasonal job cuts, laying off additional 5-6 employees
Federal Reserve	Mecklenburg	Consolidating check processing operations; 53 jobs to be cut locally
Horizon Lines	Mecklenburg	Reducing its nonunion workforce by 10%, or 70 jobs
Eaton Corp	Cleveland	Citing reduced demand, laying off 51 employees
Bradington-Young	Gston/Catbwa	Furniture manufacturer laying off 15% of its workforce, 54 employees in Cherryville & Hickory

CLOSINGS & LAYOFFS: FY2008-2009 (JULY 2008 - FEB 2009)

November 2008 (cont)

AGI	Cleveland	Closing local facility, 123 salaried and hourly employees losing jobs
Hanesbrands Inc	Rowan	Announcing closing China Grove facility, 185 people losing jobs next month
Corning Cable Systems	Catawba	Laying off unspecified number of workers at Hickory location, cutting 300 workers companywide
Harland Clarke	Mecklenburg	Check manufacturing plant closing; laying off 100 workers
Dale Earnhardt Inc	Iredell	Announcing more than 115 jobs cuts
Temco	Mecklenburg	Laying off 40 workers
3D Systems	York	Eliminating 25 jobs, including five at Rock Hill headquarters

December 2008

Various race teams	Iredell	Bloomberg News reporting 189 jobs were cut at race teams this month
Petty Enterprises	Iredell	Laying off 35 employees at Mooresville facility
Caraustar Industries	Mecklenburg	Stopping production temporarily, 100+ hourly employees on leave without pay, company to decide in March when to restart production
Evernham Motorsports	Iredell	Laying off 35 employees in several departments
Eaton Corporation	Cleveland	Laying off 87 production employees "temporarily" at Grover facility
Piedmont Medical Center	York	Laying off 30 employees including unit secretaries, technicians and nurses; closing one floor
Linens N' Things	Cabarrus/ Iredell/Meck	Laying off more than 150 employees due to bankruptcy
Clayton Marcus Furniture	Cabarrus	Laying off 25 employees due to bankruptcy
Kohler Co.	Iredell	Closing due to economic conditions; 552 employees losing jobs
Bosch Tools	Lincoln	Closing, citing import competition; 230 employees losing jobs
SEM Products	Mecklenburg	Consolidating operations to Rock Hill; laying off 19 employees
Circuit City Stores	Mecklenburg	Retail locations closing; 45 employees losing jobs
Pulte Mortgage	Mecklenburg	Laying off 89 mortgage processing employees; cites consolidation
GMAC LLC	Mecklenburg	Auto financing firm laying off 70 employees due to restructuring
Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP	Mecklenburg	Laying off 9 attorneys at Charlotte office

January 2009

RL Stowe Mills	Gaston	200 person Belmont facility closing
Getrag Corp.	Catawba	Laying off 141 jobs in all departments
Gulistan Carpet	Iredell	120 jobs being eliminated due to closing
Freightliner	Gaston	Laying off 600 workers at Mount Holly plant and 275 workers from Gastonia plant
Freightliner	Rowan	Laying off 1,300 due to economic conditions
Parker Poe	Mecklenburg	Laying off 28 total employees across all offices
Pharr Yarn	Gaston	Laying off 25 employees due to economic conditions
Bank of America	Mecklenburg	Laying off 139 from Ballantyne office
Wells Fargo	Mecklenburg	Not retaining 175 Wachovia employees
STM	Catawba	Laying off 96 due to economy
GoldToeMoretz	Catawba	Laying off 56 workers

CLOSINGS & LAYOFFS: FY2008-2009 (JULY 2008 - FEB 2009)

January 2009 (cont)

Commscope	Catawba	Laying off 210 at Catawba facility
Commscope	Iredell	Laying off 20 at Statesville facility
Tyco	York	Laying off at Rock Hill plant
Food Lion	Rowan	Laying off 41 total jobs at both Salisbury locations
Liberty Homes	Iredell	Making 90 layoffs permanent
Parkdale Mills	Gaston	Closing textile plant (Plant 10) in March; eliminating 75 jobs
Auto Truck Transport Terminal	Cleveland	Laying off up to 150 layoffs due to Freightliner slowdown
GP Atlantic	York	Wholesaler closing; eliminating 22 jobs
Frontier Spinning Mills	Chesterfield	Facility closing; eliminating 176 jobs
Schaeffler Group (INA Bearings)	Chesterfield	Manufacturer laying off 108 in Cheraw
Performance Fibers	Rowan	Announcing 20% reduction in workforce

February 2009

Corning Cable	Catawba	Closing optical assembly plant in Hickory by the end of the year; unspecified number of lost jobs.
NGK Ceramics USA Inc	Iredell	Laying off 85 workers at Mooresville plant
Champion Laboratories	York	Oil filter manufacturer laying off 130 workers; 150 remain at the plant.
Orthofix International N.V.	Mecklenburg	Closing U.S. HQs in Huntersville and moving to Boston by 2010; all 6 workers relocating
EquiFirst Corp	Mecklenburg	Barclays plc closing EquiFirst mortgage business, eliminating 548 jobs
Billy Graham Evangelist Assn	Mecklenburg	Laying off 55 employees, 10% of staff
Anson Shirt	Anson	Closing plant; 70 employees losing jobs
Timken	Lincoln	Laying off 90 employees at Iron Station plant
The Stanford Group	Mecklenburg	South Park Office closed due to SEC investigation; 18 advisors /unknown number of support staff lose jobs
CP Morgan Homes	Mecklenburg	Company closing affecting 150 workers in Charlotte
Belk	Mecklenburg	IT Department being outsourced; laying off 40 workers.