Technological Advances and the Carolinas Labor Market

December 17, 2015
"The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Open Market Committee shall maintain long run growth of the monetary and credit aggregates commensurate with the economy's long run potential to increase production, so as to promote effectively the goals of maximum employment, stable prices and moderate long-term interest rates."
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The views expressed here are my own and do not represent those of my colleagues at the Federal Reserve
Combined employment in the Carolinas

Index, Jan. 1990 = 100

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics
Employment Shares in the Carolinas, Then and Now

Percent of total employment

**1990**
- Govt 16%
- Mfg 26%
- TTU 20%
- E&H svc 7%
- Bus svc 8%
- Fin svc 4%
- Info 2%
- Other svc 3%

**2014**
- Govt 17%
- Mfg 11%
- TTU 19%
- E&H svc 13%
- Bus svc 14%
- Fin svc 2%
- Info 5%
- Other svc 4%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics
Carolinas Industry Concentration Relative to US Average

Location Quotients, (an LQ of 1.0 indicates average concentration)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics
Unemployment Rates

Percent of labor force

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics
Per Capita Disposable Personal Income

Percent, relative to the U.S. avg.

Source: Census Bureau, BEA
Average earnings by educational attainment

Population 25 and older

Median weekly earnings, workers 25 years and over (2013 constant dollars)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics
Unemployment rate by educational attainment

Population 25 and older

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics
Labor force participation by educational attainment

Employment to population ratio, 25 and older

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics
Population 25-34 with at least a HS Diploma

Source: Bureau of the Census, American Communities Survey
Population 25-64 with a Bachelor’s Degree or Higher

Source: Bureau of the Census, American Communities Survey
State by State STEM Readiness, SERI Index

Source: American Physical Society, Forum on Education
Labor Force Participation and Unemployment Rates

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics
Building a more agile workforce

• Key considerations in building our labor force:
  – Finish what you start - completion is the key!
  – Prepare for the journey
  – Recognize that the decisions to invest in yourself early in life pay off in adulthood
  – Thus, workforce development efforts that target younger workers may have higher payoffs in the long run
Thank you!
Mfg Concentrations by MSA, Employment Growth

(ranking of employment growth)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics