

MBREDC E-Newsletter



Survey Reveals Most Important Issues for Business Owners this Election Year

Article from [Grand Strand CEO](#)

Paychex, Inc., a leading provider of human resources, payroll, benefits, and insurance solutions, surveyed 500 business owners with 500 employees or less to better understand what issues are most important to their organizations as they prepare to go to the polls in November.

While most business owners surveyed (72 percent) are experiencing growth, having increased their profits since 2018, the economy remains top of mind as Election Day approaches. In order of importance, the top issues for business owners are:

The economy (95 percent ranked it at least "somewhat important")

Taxes (90 percent)

Healthcare (76 percent)

Tariffs/trade policies (67 percent)

Immigration (60 percent)

Gun policy (56 percent)

Opioid crisis (55 percent)

Climate change (54 percent)

Income inequality (54 percent)

"Every business is unique, but the issues that keep business owners up at night are often universal," said Martin Mucci, Paychex president and CEO. "The economy, taxes, and healthcare have historically been significant areas of focus for legislators and business owners alike and will clearly remain a priority during this election cycle.

"As November approaches, Paychex will continue to remain on top of these issues and how they may affect our 670,000 customers, helping them navigate the impacts

they may have now or in the future," Mucci added.

The most important issue among respondents varies depending on age. Business owners ages 39-54 and 55+ both ranked the economy as their top "very important" issue at 77 percent and 63 percent, respectively. However, business owners ages 18-38 prioritized healthcare with 49 percent saying it's "very important," followed closely by the economy at 46 percent.

Ranking fourth overall on the list of issues, tariffs/trade policies are on the minds of many business owners, with 67 percent saying this matter is at least "somewhat important." Businesses in the manufacturing sector, however, placed a higher level of importance on this issue with 80 percent saying it's at least "somewhat important" to them heading into the election season. The same can be said for businesses in the Midwest (78 percent).

The current survey results align with the issues prioritized by business owners ahead of the 2016 election, as well. Four years ago, the most important issues to this group of voters were also the economy, taxes, and healthcare.



Click the image to watch the video aired at the Annual Meeting

2020 is Off to a Good Start

Article from [Grand Strand CEO](#)

Starting the year on a strong note, the US economy added 225,000 jobs in January and the unemployment rate ticked up slightly to 3.6 percent. Today's job report provides more evidence of accelerating employment growth, with the last three months averaging 211,000 new jobs. Stronger employment growth may reflect growing confidence of employers, as some of the geopolitical risks -- such as the US-China trade spat -- subsided in recent months.

Amid stagnant growth in the working-age population, strong employment growth will likely further tighten the labor market in 2020. As a result, we can expect increasing challenges around recruitment and retention, higher labor cost growth, and a further squeeze on corporate profits.

The tightening labor market continues to draw more people into the work force, especially women. The labor force participation rate of women aged 25-54 reached 77 percent in January. That marks a near record, just shy of the record rate in April 2000. The improvement in labor force participation will partly offset the impact of

strong job growth, slow further tightening in the labor market, and help fuel continued employment and economic growth.

While in general, strong employment numbers raise the likelihood of an interest rate hike, we think the probability of the Federal Reserve doing so is still extremely low.

JANUARY 2020 JOBS REPORT

MONTHLY OVERVIEW



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
RAISED SLIGHTLY TO 3.6%



225,000 JOBS WERE ADDED TO THE MARKET



THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS CHANGED LITTLE IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY WITH A SLIGHT INCREASE TO 5.9 MILLION.

MAJOR JOB CHANGES BY INDUSTRY



THE HEALTHCARE MARKET
ADDED 36,000 JOBS

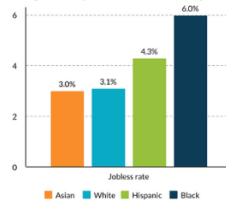


TRANSPORTATION AND
WAREHOUSING ADDED 28,000 JOBS



THE CONSTRUCTION MARKET
ADDED 44,000 JOBS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY RACE



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR ADULT
MEN INCREASED TO 3.3%.
ADULT WOMEN REMAINED THE
SAME AT 3.2%



JOB GAINS FOR BOTH NOVEMBER
AND DECEMBER WERE REVISED UP
TO 261,000 AND 147,000
RESPECTIVELY.

Dates to Mark on Your Calendar for 2020

These dates and events are tentative and subject to change, however, we will make every effort to keep the date and topic as originally planned.

SAVE / THE / DATE

**Dates and events are tentative and subject to change.*

2020

MYRTLE BEACH
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FEBRUARY 13TH
M2M Speed Networking

MARCH 12TH
Existing Industry Networking
& Tour at Advanced
Manufacturing Center

MARCH 26TH
Networking Night at Grand Prix

APRIL 23RD
Spring Social

MAY 13TH
MBREDC, Hospitality &
Tourism; The Partnership

JUNE 18TH
CEO Panel

AUGUST 13TH
MBREDC & Existing
Industry B2B

SEPTEMBER 24TH
Community Update
Forum CoHosting
w/ CCAR

OCTOBER 8TH
Fall Social

JANUARY 2021
Annual Meeting

If you would like to receive updates, e-newsletters, and invites to events please contact us at ssteele@mbredc.org or 843.347.4604.



Instagram Facebook

Upcoming Events



RSVP to SSteele@mbredc.org

Thank you to our event partner:



Member News

[The Brandon Agency Honored with Eight Awards in Advertising Competition](#)

[Three Possible Outcomes for Santee Cooper](#)

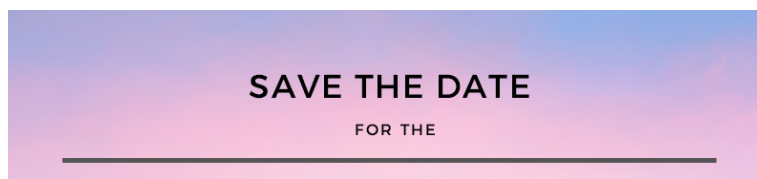
[CCU Women in Philanthropy and Leadership Establishes the Theresa M. DeCenzo Inspiring Women Award](#)

[Tidelands Health Leader Recognized for Inspiring Leadership](#)

[United Community Bank Ranks in Top 25 in Forbes America's Best Banks](#)

[LS3P Congratulates New CEO](#)

[Ports Report Best Calendar Year in History](#)



Grand Strand's Largest Job Fair!

Location: Myrtle Beach Convention Center
Tuesday March 24, 2020 11am-6pm

Contact: Leslie Moloney, lmoloney@dbcradio.com, 843-503-2144

Participant:

- Includes fully draped booth area with 8 Foot table (linens included) and two chairs. This includes 8 Foot backdrop, and 3 feet side walls
- Listing on program and in online information.

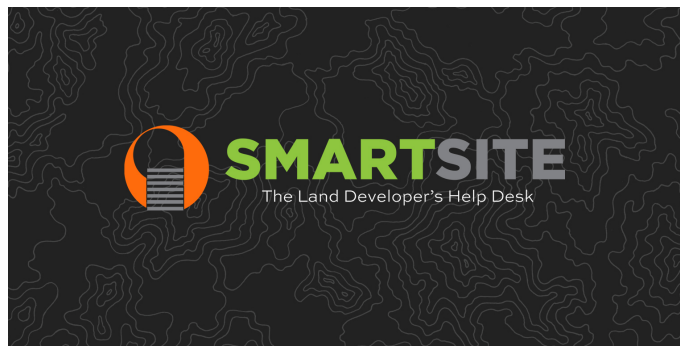
Each booth is \$550. Electric is extra depending on voltage needed. Double booth is \$1,000 plus electric.

*****SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE*****

Special!! All booth prices 10 percent off if purchased by February 16th!!

Logos at the top include: DICK BROADCASTING, ENERGY 92.1, WAVE 104.3, WRNN 99.5, WTKR New York, and LEANE FM. A BestHire logo is also present.

Partner Spotlight



This month we highlight MBREDC partner [SmartSite Management](#)

SmartSite fills a critical void in site development construction planning and oversight. Leveraging their award-winning consultants' expertise, SmartSite's data collection, prediction and reporting processes result in greater transparency, less risk, and higher margins for all.

From concept through completion, SmartSite creates, implements, and enforces phasing, schedules, budgets and contract documents. Their value engineering and unique process have provided unprecedented predictability on over \$1B in projects in less than 10 years.

For more information contact: [Paul Gray](#)

New & Renewing Partners

New Partners

[FSI Office](#)

[Mosby Carolina Forest](#)

[Top Golf](#)

[Hooks Systems Technology](#)

Renewing Partners

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- [Founders Centre I, LLC](#)



MBREDC Chairman's Partners





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