



Media Contact:

communications@dew.sc.gov

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South Carolina's Employment Situation December 2022

I. Household Survey¹ (Local Area Unemployment Statistics)

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working decreased to 2,300,110.

- That is a decrease of 2,528 people over the November estimate.
- That is an increase of 13,549 people over the December 2021 estimate.

Unemployment: The estimate of unemployed people decreased to 77,361.

- That is a decrease of 767 people from November's estimate and a decrease of 7,376 over the December 2021 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.3 percent from November's estimate.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate declined from November's revised rate of 3.6 percent to 3.5 percent, according to the Current Population Survey.

Labor force: The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) decreased to 2,377,471 from November's level of 2,380,766.

- That is a decrease of 3,295 people over the November estimate.
- That is an increase of 6,173 individuals over the December 2021 estimate.

II. Employer Survey² (Current Employment Statistics)

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted³)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated decrease of 3,100 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,243,600.

- Industries that reported gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+1,700); Education and Health Services (+1,400); Manufacturing (+500); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+200); and Other Services (+100).
- Professional and Business Services (-4,000); Government (-1,700); Construction (-600); Financial Activities (-500); and Information (-100) industries declined.

From December 2021 to December 2022, South Carolina's economy has picked up 71,700 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Industries with strong growth were Leisure and Hospitality (+18,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+15,100); Professional and Business Services (+10,700); Education and Health Services (+9,900); Manufacturing (+7,200); Financial Activities (+4,700); Other Services (+4,000); Government (+3,500); and Information (+2,500).
- The Construction industry declined (-4,900).

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted⁴)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 5,600 from November 2022 to December 2022 for a total of 2,258,400.

- Industries reporting gains were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+6,600); Manufacturing (+1,000); and Education and Health Services (+600).
- The Professional and Business Services (-5,900); Government (-2,700); Leisure and Hospitality (-2,300); Construction (-1,300); Financial Activities (-900); Other Services (-600); and Mining and Logging (-100) industries marked declines.
- The Information industry showed no change over the month.

Since December 2021, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 71,700 in South Carolina.

- Industries making strong annual gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+18,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+14,400); Educational and Health Services (+10,700); Professional and Business Services (+9,800); Manufacturing (+7,200); Financial Activities (+4,700); Government (+4,400); Other Services (+4,100); Information (+2,300); and Mining and Logging (+200).
- The Construction (-4,900) industry showed a decline over the year.

¹**Household Survey:** Nationally, there is a monthly Current Population Survey of about 60,000 households conducted by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to determine employment status of the civilian population. This information, along with other inputs, are used by DEW to operate the Local Area Unemployment Statistics program, which estimates the number of individuals employed and those not employed, but actively seeking employment for statewide and a variety of substate geographies.

²**Employer Survey:** BLS conducts a monthly Current Employment Statistics survey of about 44,000 employers which yields national estimates of nonagricultural wage and salary employment, hours, and earnings by industry. These data are processed by DEW to generate comparable data for the state and its metropolitan statistical areas.

³**Seasonally Adjusted:** Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a regular pattern each year (i.e. tourist-related hiring and school closings in the summer). These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other nonseasonal movements in data over time.

⁴**Not Seasonally Adjusted:** Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have not been removed from these data.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

**Statewide
December-22**

| Jobs by Industry | December 2022 | November 2022 | December 2021 | November 2022 to December 2022 | | December 2021 to December 2022 | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | # | % | # | % |
| | | | | Change | Change | Change | Change |
| Total Nonfarm Employment | 2,243,600 | 2,246,700 | 2,171,900 | -3,100 | -0.14% | 71,700 | 3.30% |
| Construction | 100,100 | 100,700 | 105,000 | -600 | -0.60% | -4,900 | -4.67% |
| Manufacturing | 261,200 | 260,700 | 254,000 | 500 | 0.19% | 7,200 | 2.83% |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 436,000 | 435,800 | 420,900 | 200 | 0.05% | 15,100 | 3.59% |
| Information | 30,300 | 30,400 | 27,800 | -100 | -0.33% | 2,500 | 8.99% |
| Financial Activities | 117,600 | 118,100 | 112,900 | -500 | -0.42% | 4,700 | 4.16% |
| Professional and Business Services | 303,600 | 307,600 | 292,900 | -4,000 | -1.30% | 10,700 | 3.65% |
| Education and Health Services | 264,200 | 262,800 | 254,300 | 1,400 | 0.53% | 9,900 | 3.89% |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 271,100 | 269,400 | 252,300 | 1,700 | 0.63% | 18,800 | 7.45% |
| Other Services | 83,600 | 83,500 | 79,600 | 100 | 0.12% | 4,000 | 5.03% |
| Government | 371,300 | 373,000 | 367,800 | -1,700 | -0.46% | 3,500 | 0.95% |

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide
December-22**

| Industry | December 2022 | November 2022 | December 2021 | November 2022 to December 2022 | | December 2021 to December 2022 | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | # | % | # | % |
| | | | | Change | Change | Change | Change |
| Total Nonfarm Employment | 2,258,400 | 2,264,000 | 2,186,700 | -5,600 | -0.25% | 71,700 | 3.28% |
| Mining and Logging | 4,600 | 4,700 | 4,400 | -100 | -2.13% | 200 | 4.55% |
| Construction | 100,000 | 101,300 | 104,900 | -1,300 | -1.28% | -4,900 | -4.67% |
| Manufacturing | 261,700 | 260,700 | 254,500 | 1,000 | 0.38% | 7,200 | 2.83% |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 447,000 | 440,400 | 432,600 | 6,600 | 1.50% | 14,400 | 3.33% |
| Information | 30,300 | 30,300 | 28,000 | 0 | 0.00% | 2,300 | 8.21% |
| Financial Activities | 117,500 | 118,400 | 112,800 | -900 | -0.76% | 4,700 | 4.17% |
| Professional and Business Services | 307,500 | 313,400 | 297,700 | -5,900 | -1.88% | 9,800 | 3.29% |
| Education and Health Services | 266,100 | 265,500 | 255,400 | 600 | 0.23% | 10,700 | 4.19% |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 262,700 | 265,000 | 243,900 | -2,300 | -0.87% | 18,800 | 7.71% |
| Other Services | 83,200 | 83,800 | 79,100 | -600 | -0.72% | 4,100 | 5.18% |
| Government | 377,800 | 380,500 | 373,400 | -2,700 | -0.71% | 4,400 | 1.18% |

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted

December-22

| Industry | December 2022 | November 2022 | December 2021 | November 2022 to December 2022 | | December 2021 to December 2022 | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | # | % | # | % |
| | | | | Change | Change | Change | Change |
| Statewide | 2,243,600 | 2,246,700 | 2,171,900 | -3,100 | -0.14% | 71,700 | 3.30% |
| Charleston/North Charleston MSA | 400,300 | 402,600 | 378,000 | -2,300 | -0.57% | 22,300 | 5.90% |
| Columbia MSA | 404,600 | 404,400 | 397,900 | 200 | 0.05% | 6,700 | 1.68% |
| Florence MSA | 90,800 | 90,400 | 90,400 | 400 | 0.44% | 400 | 0.44% |
| Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA | 446,700 | 447,000 | 427,900 | -300 | -0.07% | 18,800 | 4.39% |
| Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA | 85,100 | 84,400 | 83,500 | 700 | 0.83% | 1,600 | 1.92% |
| Myrtle Beach MSA | 181,900 | 182,600 | 178,900 | -700 | -0.38% | 3,000 | 1.68% |
| Spartanburg MSA | 169,500 | 169,800 | 165,300 | -300 | -0.18% | 4,200 | 2.54% |
| Sumter MSA | 38,200 | 37,900 | 38,300 | 300 | 0.79% | -100 | -0.26% |

Note: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Not Seasonally Adjusted

December-22

| Area | December 2022 | November 2022 | December 2021 | November 2022 to December 2022 | | December 2021 to December 2022 | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | # | % | # | % |
| | | | | Change | Change | Change | Change |
| Statewide | 2,258,400 | 2,264,000 | 2,186,700 | -5,600 | -0.25% | 71,700 | 3.28% |
| Charleston/North Charleston MSA | 402,100 | 405,000 | 379,800 | -2,900 | -0.72% | 22,300 | 5.87% |
| Columbia MSA | 407,500 | 407,300 | 400,800 | 200 | 0.05% | 6,700 | 1.67% |
| Florence MSA | 92,000 | 90,900 | 91,200 | 1,100 | 1.21% | 800 | 0.88% |
| Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA | 449,500 | 452,200 | 432,200 | -2,700 | -0.60% | 17,300 | 4.00% |
| Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA | 85,100 | 84,000 | 83,100 | 1,100 | 1.31% | 2,000 | 2.41% |
| Myrtle Beach MSA | 177,300 | 180,500 | 174,400 | -3,200 | -1.77% | 2,900 | 1.66% |
| Spartanburg MSA | 171,200 | 171,000 | 167,100 | 200 | 0.12% | 4,100 | 2.45% |
| Sumter MSA | 38,400 | 38,000 | 38,400 | 400 | 1.05% | 0 | 0.00% |

Note: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

| AREA | | December 2022 | | | | November 2022 | | | | December 2021 | | | |
|---|---|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|
| | | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | |
| | | | | LEVEL | RATE (%) | | | LEVEL | RATE (%) | | | LEVEL | RATE (%) |
| Marlboro County | ↑ | 8,438 | 7,751 | 687 | 8.1 | 8,337 | 7,742 | 595 | 7.1 | 8,773 | 8,113 | 660 | 7.5 |
| Allendale County | ↑ | 2,176 | 2,038 | 138 | 6.3 | 2,151 | 2,038 | 113 | 5.3 | 2,367 | 2,211 | 156 | 6.6 |
| Bamberg County | ↑ | 4,498 | 4,266 | 232 | 5.2 | 4,474 | 4,250 | 224 | 5.0 | 4,658 | 4,368 | 290 | 6.2 |
| Marion County | ↑ | 12,331 | 11,722 | 609 | 4.9 | 12,307 | 11,748 | 559 | 4.5 | 12,727 | 11,973 | 754 | 5.9 |
| Orangeburg County | ↑ | 32,555 | 30,994 | 1,561 | 4.8 | 32,360 | 30,901 | 1,459 | 4.5 | 33,976 | 31,881 | 2,095 | 6.2 |
| Williamsburg County | ↑ | 10,561 | 10,055 | 506 | 4.8 | 10,500 | 10,047 | 453 | 4.3 | 10,872 | 10,298 | 574 | 5.3 |
| Dillon County | ↑ | 12,765 | 12,168 | 597 | 4.7 | 12,675 | 12,120 | 555 | 4.4 | 13,017 | 12,339 | 678 | 5.2 |
| Lee County | ↑ | 6,250 | 5,955 | 295 | 4.7 | 6,203 | 5,930 | 273 | 4.4 | 6,493 | 6,185 | 308 | 4.7 |
| Union County | ↑ | 11,347 | 10,822 | 525 | 4.6 | 11,305 | 10,818 | 487 | 4.3 | 11,498 | 10,877 | 621 | 5.4 |
| Barnwell County | ↑ | 7,374 | 7,041 | 333 | 4.5 | 7,330 | 7,033 | 297 | 4.1 | 7,467 | 7,036 | 431 | 5.8 |
| Clarendon County | ↑ | 11,614 | 11,095 | 519 | 4.5 | 11,530 | 11,100 | 430 | 3.7 | 11,987 | 11,489 | 498 | 4.2 |
| Fairfield County | ↑ | 8,987 | 8,592 | 395 | 4.4 | 8,941 | 8,589 | 352 | 3.9 | 9,196 | 8,722 | 474 | 5.2 |
| Chester County | ↑ | 13,433 | 12,874 | 559 | 4.2 | 13,354 | 12,846 | 508 | 3.8 | 13,405 | 12,727 | 678 | 5.1 |
| Horry County | ↑ | 145,214 | 139,430 | 5,784 | 4.0 | 146,536 | 141,644 | 4,892 | 3.3 | 147,766 | 141,224 | 6,542 | 4.4 |
| Sumter County | ↑ | 40,932 | 39,292 | 1,640 | 4.0 | 40,373 | 38,960 | 1,413 | 3.5 | 42,180 | 40,574 | 1,606 | 3.8 |
| Cherokee County | ↓ | 24,229 | 23,337 | 892 | 3.7 | 24,328 | 23,371 | 957 | 3.9 | 24,823 | 23,806 | 1,017 | 4.1 |
| Georgetown County | ↑ | 25,212 | 24,305 | 907 | 3.6 | 25,247 | 24,479 | 768 | 3.0 | 25,510 | 24,462 | 1,048 | 4.1 |
| Abbeville County | ↑ | 9,542 | 9,216 | 326 | 3.4 | 9,488 | 9,188 | 300 | 3.2 | 9,654 | 9,301 | 353 | 3.7 |
| Chesterfield County | ↑ | 20,906 | 20,203 | 703 | 3.4 | 20,811 | 20,172 | 639 | 3.1 | 21,481 | 20,620 | 861 | 4.0 |
| Calhoun County | ↑ | 6,242 | 6,035 | 207 | 3.3 | 6,216 | 6,040 | 176 | 2.8 | 6,367 | 6,128 | 239 | 3.8 |
| Darlington County | ↑ | 28,917 | 27,969 | 948 | 3.3 | 28,501 | 27,623 | 878 | 3.1 | 29,691 | 28,595 | 1,096 | 3.7 |
| Greenwood County | ↑ | 29,946 | 28,950 | 996 | 3.3 | 29,776 | 28,846 | 930 | 3.1 | 30,361 | 29,262 | 1,099 | 3.6 |
| Lancaster County | ↑ | 43,839 | 42,381 | 1,458 | 3.3 | 43,626 | 42,302 | 1,324 | 3.0 | 43,533 | 41,870 | 1,663 | 3.8 |
| McCormick County | ↑ | 3,436 | 3,324 | 112 | 3.3 | 3,397 | 3,301 | 96 | 2.8 | 3,290 | 3,165 | 125 | 3.8 |
| Colleton County | ↑ | 15,599 | 15,102 | 497 | 3.2 | 15,617 | 15,177 | 440 | 2.8 | 16,053 | 15,487 | 566 | 3.5 |
| Edgefield County | ↑ | 10,163 | 9,851 | 312 | 3.1 | 10,150 | 9,854 | 296 | 2.9 | 10,273 | 9,981 | 292 | 2.8 |
| Kershaw County | ↑ | 28,637 | 27,777 | 860 | 3.0 | 28,563 | 27,766 | 797 | 2.8 | 29,114 | 28,195 | 919 | 3.2 |
| Laurens County | ↑ | 29,829 | 28,922 | 907 | 3.0 | 29,900 | 29,081 | 819 | 2.7 | 29,781 | 28,704 | 1,077 | 3.6 |
| Aiken County | ↑ | 72,905 | 70,820 | 2,085 | 2.9 | 72,535 | 70,642 | 1,893 | 2.6 | 73,787 | 71,644 | 2,143 | 2.9 |
| Beaufort County | ↑ | 75,596 | 73,423 | 2,173 | 2.9 | 74,534 | 72,645 | 1,889 | 2.5 | 76,193 | 73,931 | 2,262 | 3.0 |
| Florence County | ↑ | 64,361 | 62,485 | 1,876 | 2.9 | 63,479 | 61,713 | 1,766 | 2.8 | 65,954 | 63,745 | 2,209 | 3.3 |
| Richland County | ↑ | 192,961 | 187,301 | 5,660 | 2.9 | 192,295 | 186,897 | 5,398 | 2.8 | 196,483 | 189,914 | 6,569 | 3.3 |
| Saluda County | ↑ | 8,059 | 7,832 | 227 | 2.8 | 8,072 | 7,878 | 194 | 2.4 | 8,221 | 8,001 | 220 | 2.7 |
| Spartanburg County | ↑ | 155,882 | 151,506 | 4,376 | 2.8 | 155,349 | 151,364 | 3,985 | 2.6 | 157,320 | 152,290 | 5,030 | 3.2 |
| York County | ↑ | 149,121 | 144,986 | 4,135 | 2.8 | 148,533 | 144,676 | 3,857 | 2.6 | 147,982 | 143,133 | 4,849 | 3.3 |
| Anderson County | ↑ | 90,855 | 88,411 | 2,444 | 2.7 | 91,025 | 88,819 | 2,206 | 2.4 | 90,397 | 87,703 | 2,694 | 3.0 |
| Oconee County | ↑ | 33,380 | 32,464 | 916 | 2.7 | 33,516 | 32,718 | 798 | 2.4 | 33,813 | 32,809 | 1,004 | 3.0 |
| Pickens County | - | 57,539 | 56,013 | 1,526 | 2.7 | 57,825 | 56,284 | 1,541 | 2.7 | 57,192 | 55,540 | 1,652 | 2.9 |
| Berkeley County | ↑ | 110,840 | 107,939 | 2,901 | 2.6 | 111,080 | 108,418 | 2,662 | 2.4 | 108,424 | 105,212 | 3,212 | 3.0 |
| Hampton County | ↑ | 7,700 | 7,497 | 203 | 2.6 | 7,644 | 7,459 | 185 | 2.4 | 7,917 | 7,687 | 230 | 2.9 |
| Jasper County | ↑ | 12,995 | 12,651 | 344 | 2.6 | 12,886 | 12,582 | 304 | 2.4 | 13,092 | 12,713 | 379 | 2.9 |
| Newberry County | ↑ | 18,583 | 18,103 | 480 | 2.6 | 18,527 | 18,095 | 432 | 2.3 | 18,973 | 18,457 | 516 | 2.7 |
| Dorchester County | ↑ | 80,353 | 78,351 | 2,002 | 2.5 | 80,549 | 78,719 | 1,830 | 2.3 | 78,674 | 76,383 | 2,291 | 2.9 |
| Greenville County | ↑ | 258,494 | 251,938 | 6,556 | 2.5 | 259,012 | 253,052 | 5,960 | 2.3 | 257,085 | 249,874 | 7,211 | 2.8 |
| Lexington County | ↑ | 147,835 | 144,165 | 3,670 | 2.5 | 147,360 | 144,055 | 3,305 | 2.2 | 150,130 | 146,222 | 3,908 | 2.6 |
| Charleston County | ↑ | 217,542 | 212,279 | 5,263 | 2.4 | 218,183 | 213,498 | 4,685 | 2.1 | 213,073 | 206,934 | 6,139 | 2.9 |
| Charleston - North Charleston MSA | ↑ | 408,735 | 398,569 | 10,166 | 2.5 | 409,812 | 400,635 | 9,177 | 2.2 | 400,171 | 388,529 | 11,642 | 2.9 |
| Columbia MSA | ↑ | 392,721 | 381,702 | 11,019 | 2.8 | 391,447 | 381,225 | 10,222 | 2.6 | 399,511 | 387,182 | 12,329 | 3.1 |
| Florence MSA | ↑ | 93,278 | 90,454 | 2,824 | 3.0 | 91,980 | 89,336 | 2,644 | 2.9 | 95,645 | 92,340 | 3,305 | 3.5 |
| Greenville - Anderson- Mauldin MSA | ↑ | 436,717 | 425,284 | 11,433 | 2.6 | 437,762 | 427,236 | 10,526 | 2.4 | 434,455 | 421,821 | 12,634 | 2.9 |
| Hilton Head Island- Bluffton-Beaufort MSA | ↑ | 88,591 | 86,074 | 2,517 | 2.8 | 87,420 | 85,227 | 2,193 | 2.5 | 89,285 | 86,644 | 2,641 | 3.0 |
| Myrtle Beach-Conway- North Myrtle Beach, SC- NC MSA | ↑ | 199,089 | 190,967 | 8,122 | 4.1 | 201,549 | 193,935 | 7,614 | 3.8 | 201,384 | 192,583 | 8,801 | 4.4 |
| Spartanburg MSA | ↑ | 167,229 | 162,328 | 4,901 | 2.9 | 166,654 | 162,182 | 4,472 | 2.7 | 168,818 | 163,167 | 5,651 | 3.3 |
| Sumter MSA | ↑ | 40,932 | 39,292 | 1,640 | 4.0 | 40,373 | 38,960 | 1,413 | 3.5 | 42,180 | 40,574 | 1,606 | 3.8 |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| South Carolina | - | 2,377,471 | 2,300,110 | 77,361 | 3.3 | 2,380,766 | 2,302,638 | 78,128 | 3.3 | 2,371,298 | 2,286,561 | 84,737 | 3.6 |

Current month's estimates are preliminary. All data are subject to revision.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
- Unemployment Rate =