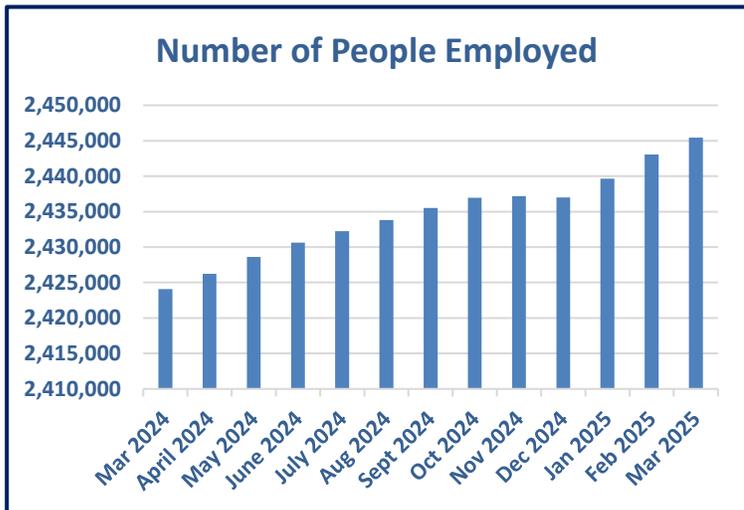For Release
April 18, 2025

South Carolina's Employment Situation: March 2025

HOUSEHOLD SURVEY: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

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.
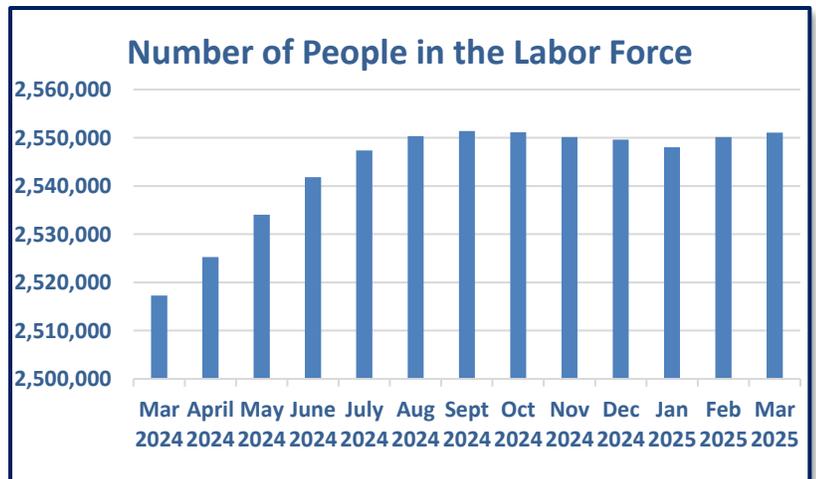
Number of People Employed

EMPLOYMENT:
- The seasonally adjusted number of South Carolina workers increased to 2,445,419.
- That is an increase of 2,369 people over the February 2025 estimate.
- That is an increase of 21,332 people over the March 2024 estimate.

LABOR FORCE:
- The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) increased to 2,551,076 while the labor force participation rate declined to 57.5 percent.
- That is an increase of 914 people over the February 2025 estimate.
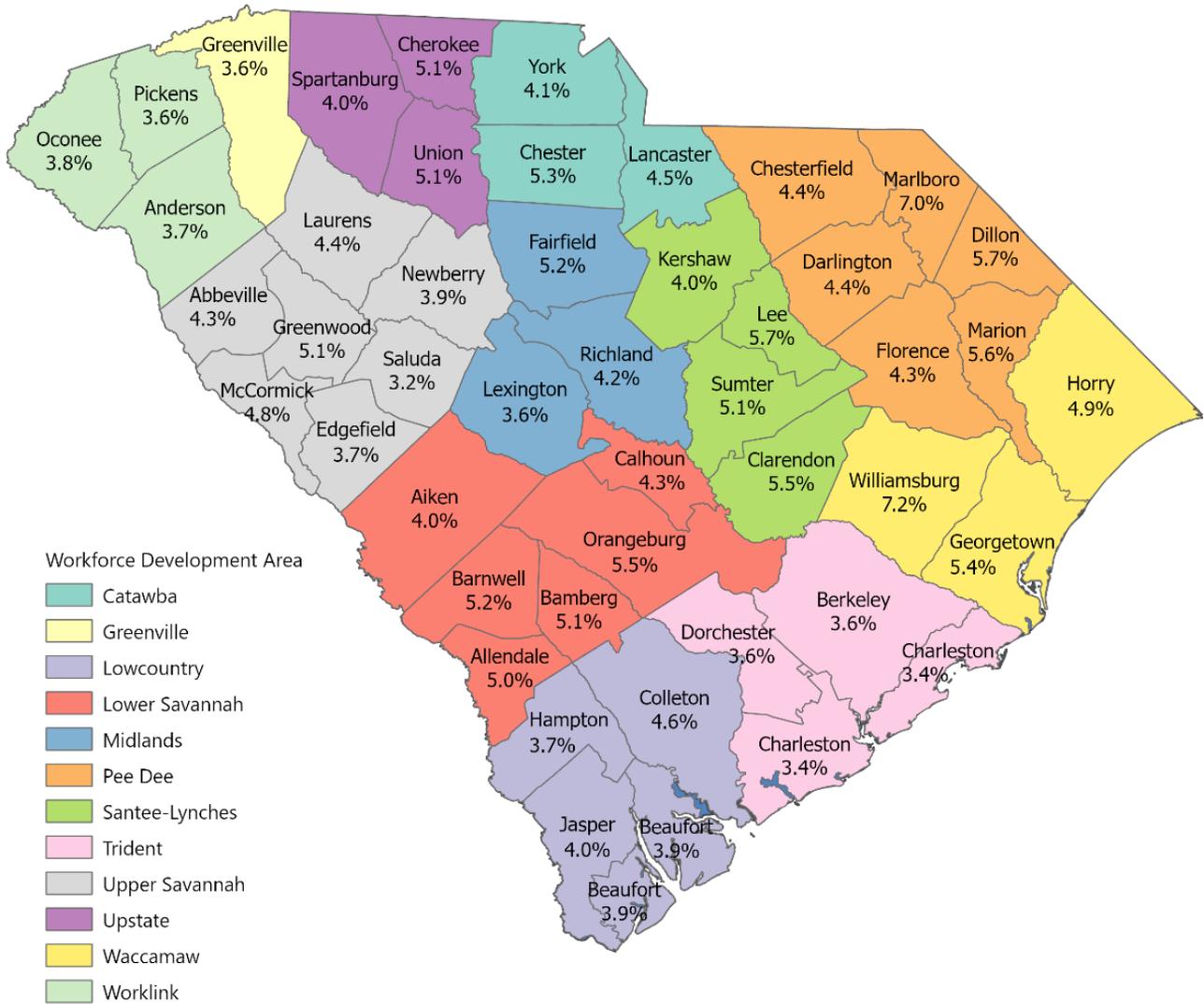- That is an increase of 33,782 individuals over the March 2024 estimate.

UNEMPLOYED:
- The estimate of unemployed people decreased to 105,657.
- That is a decrease of 1,455 people from the February estimate and an increase of 12,450 from the March 2024 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 4.2 percent to 4.1 percent. The national unemployment rate increased to 4.2 percent, according to the Current Population survey.

Number of People in the Labor Force

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.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Workforce Development Area
- Catawba
- Greenville
- Lowcountry
- Lower Savannah
- Midlands
- Pee Dee
- Santee-Lynches
- Trident
- Upper Savannah
- Upstate
- Waccamaw
- Worklink

County rates shown on map:
- Greenville 3.6%
- Pickens 3.6%
- Oconee 3.8%
- Cherokee 5.1%
- Spartanburg 4.0%
- York 4.1%
- Anderson 3.7%
- Union 5.1%
- Chester 5.3%
- Lancaster 4.5%
- Chesterfield 4.4%
- Marlboro 7.0%
- Laurens 4.4%
- Fairfield 5.2%
- Kershaw 4.0%
- Darlington 4.4%
- Dillon 5.7%
- Abbeville 4.3%
- Newberry 3.9%
- Lee 5.7%
- Marion 5.6%
- Greenwood 5.1%
- Saluda 3.2%
- Richland 4.2%
- Florence 4.3%
- Horry 4.9%
- McCormick 4.8%
- Lexington 3.6%
- Sumter 5.1%
- Edgefield 3.7%
- Calhoun 4.3%
- Clarendon 5.5%
- Williamsburg 7.2%
- Aiken 4.0%
- Orangeburg 5.5%
- Georgetown 5.4%
- Barnwell 5.2%
- Bamberg 5.1%
- Berkeley 3.6%
- Allendale 5.0%
- Dorchester 3.6%
- Charleston 3.4%
- Colleton 4.6%
- Hampton 3.7%
- Charleston 3.4%
- Jasper 4.0%
- Beaufort 3.9%
- Beaufort 3.9%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Name	Counties	Rate	Monthly Change	Annual Change
Charleston-North Charleston	Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester	3.5%	↓ -0.4 pts	↑ 0.4 pts
Columbia	Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Richland, Saluda	3.9%	↓ -0.4 pts	↑ 0.4 pts
Florence	Darlington, Florence	4.3%	↓ -0.5 pts	↑ 0.3 pts
Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin	Anderson, Greenville, Laurens, Pickens	3.7%	↓ -0.4 pts	↑ 0.4 pts
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort	Beaufort, Jasper	3.9%	↓ -0.4 pts	↑ 0.5 pts
Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach	Horry	4.9%	↓ -0.8 pts	↑ 0.4 pts
Spartanburg	Spartanburg, Union	4.1%	↓ -0.5 pts	↑ 0.4 pts
Sumter	Sumter	5.1%	↓ -0.4 pts	↑ 0.6 pts

Not Seasonally Adjusted: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have <u>not</u> been removed from these data.

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

AREA		March 2025 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)	February 2025 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)	March 2024 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)
Williamsburg County	↓	10,433	9,678	755	7.2	10,458	9,668	790	7.6	10,370	9,716	654	6.3
Marlboro County	↓	8,132	7,566	566	7.0	8,158	7,556	602	7.4	8,239	7,692	547	6.6
Dillon County	↓	12,669	11,950	719	5.7	12,772	11,994	778	6.1	12,325	11,651	674	5.5
Lee County	↓	5,970	5,631	339	5.7	5,991	5,619	372	6.2	5,966	5,626	340	5.7
Marion County	↓	11,947	11,280	667	5.6	11,923	11,177	746	6.3	11,848	11,133	715	6.0
Clarendon County	↓	11,924	11,269	655	5.5	11,969	11,257	712	5.9	11,781	11,230	551	4.7
Orangeburg County	↓	35,599	33,625	1,974	5.5	35,853	33,673	2,180	6.1	35,625	33,809	1,816	5.1
Georgetown County	↓	28,657	27,099	1,558	5.4	28,470	26,740	1,730	6.1	28,073	26,884	1,189	4.2
Chester County	↓	14,709	13,936	773	5.3	14,735	13,894	841	5.7	14,393	13,634	759	5.3
Barnwell County	↓	8,518	8,077	441	5.2	8,548	8,057	491	5.7	8,248	7,797	451	5.5
Fairfield County	↓	9,890	9,380	510	5.2	9,864	9,325	539	5.5	9,760	9,307	453	4.6
Bamberg County	↓	5,476	5,194	282	5.1	5,513	5,199	314	5.7	5,430	5,102	328	6.0
Cherokee County	↓	22,735	21,573	1,162	5.1	22,890	21,593	1,297	5.7	23,228	22,051	1,177	5.1
Greenwood County	↓	28,681	27,214	1,467	5.1	28,772	27,192	1,580	5.5	28,634	27,412	1,222	4.3
Sumter County	↓	42,548	40,387	2,161	5.1	42,707	40,360	2,347	5.5	41,976	40,100	1,876	4.5
Union County	↓	11,072	10,510	562	5.1	11,078	10,446	632	5.7	10,814	10,279	535	4.9
Allendale County	↓	2,802	2,661	141	5.0	2,810	2,647	163	5.8	2,698	2,526	172	6.4
Horry County	↓	172,960	164,514	8,446	4.9	169,203	159,610	9,593	5.7	169,752	162,163	7,589	4.5
McCormick County	↓	3,503	3,335	168	4.8	3,516	3,329	187	5.3	3,418	3,250	168	4.9
Colleton County	↓	15,971	15,239	732	4.6	15,944	15,133	811	5.1	15,822	15,203	619	3.9
Lancaster County	↓	50,021	47,783	2,238	4.5	49,980	47,615	2,365	4.7	49,460	47,471	1,989	4.0
Chesterfield County	↓	19,301	18,450	851	4.4	19,349	18,418	931	4.8	19,237	18,382	855	4.4
Darlington County	↓	28,585	27,314	1,271	4.4	28,677	27,278	1,399	4.9	28,295	27,116	1,179	4.2
Laurens County	↓	31,425	30,029	1,396	4.4	31,279	29,806	1,473	4.7	30,945	29,756	1,189	3.8
Abbeville County	↓	10,540	10,085	455	4.3	10,605	10,110	495	4.7	10,153	9,743	410	4.0
Calhoun County	↓	6,739	6,450	289	4.3	6,726	6,418	308	4.6	6,551	6,268	283	4.3
Florence County	↓	64,822	62,047	2,775	4.3	65,007	61,952	3,055	4.7	64,367	61,794	2,573	4.0
Richland County	↓	210,102	201,315	8,787	4.2	209,785	200,153	9,632	4.6	207,047	199,138	7,909	3.8
York County	↓	155,707	149,281	6,426	4.1	155,627	148,762	6,865	4.4	153,791	148,209	5,582	3.6
Aiken County	↓	76,639	73,557	3,082	4.0	76,864	73,374	3,490	4.5	76,672	73,853	2,819	3.7
Jasper County	↓	14,295	13,720	575	4.0	14,324	13,690	634	4.4	13,932	13,419	513	3.7
Kershaw County	↓	32,908	31,582	1,326	4.0	32,862	31,406	1,456	4.4	32,102	30,979	1,123	3.5
Spartanburg County	↓	168,948	162,143	6,805	4.0	168,711	161,090	7,621	4.5	166,021	160,010	6,011	3.6
Beaufort County	↓	84,142	80,873	3,269	3.9	84,273	80,633	3,640	4.3	83,226	80,391	2,835	3.4
Newberry County	↓	18,725	18,002	723	3.9	18,821	17,997	824	4.4	18,789	18,071	718	3.8
Oconee County	↓	36,422	35,030	1,392	3.8	36,428	34,836	1,592	4.4	36,282	35,060	1,222	3.4
Anderson County	↓	100,580	96,845	3,735	3.7	100,262	96,117	4,145	4.1	99,515	96,212	3,303	3.3
Edgefield County	↓	12,018	11,572	446	3.7	12,060	11,552	508	4.2	11,770	11,372	398	3.4
Hampton County	↓	8,243	7,940	303	3.7	8,275	7,933	342	4.1	7,990	7,689	301	3.8
Berkeley County	↓	129,430	124,717	4,713	3.6	128,722	123,559	5,163	4.0	126,582	122,613	3,969	3.1
Dorchester County	↓	86,556	83,469	3,087	3.6	86,085	82,678	3,407	4.0	85,059	82,291	2,768	3.3
Greenville County	↓	286,910	276,477	10,433	3.6	285,817	274,359	11,458	4.0	284,549	275,178	9,371	3.3
Lexington County	↓	156,648	151,078	5,570	3.6	156,319	150,183	6,136	3.9	154,339	149,567	4,772	3.1
Pickens County	↓	65,193	62,814	2,379	3.6	65,089	62,338	2,751	4.2	64,468	62,414	2,054	3.2
Charleston County	↓	234,386	226,534	7,852	3.4	233,097	224,386	8,711	3.7	230,058	223,190	6,868	3.0
Saluda County	↓	9,506	9,199	307	3.2	9,525	9,160	365	3.8	8,932	8,643	289	3.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,551,076	2,445,419	105,657	4.1	2,550,162	2,443,050	107,112	4.2	2,517,294	2,424,087	93,207	3.7

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

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
– Unemployment Rate =

Not Seasonally Adjusted: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have <u>not</u> been removed from these data.

EMPLOYER SURVEY: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

BLS conducts a monthly Current Employment Statistics survey of approximately 119,000 businesses and government agencies 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.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated increase of 10,200 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,400,000.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide
Mar-25

Jobs by Industry	March 2025	February 2025	March 2024	February 2025 to March 2025 # Change	February 2025 to March 2025 % Change	March 2024 to March 2025 # Change	March 2024 to March 2025 % Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,400,000	2,389,800	2,344,600	↑ 10,200	↑ 0.4%	↑ 55,400	↑ 2.4%
Construction	123,800	122,600	116,000	↑ 1,200	↑ 1.0%	↑ 7,800	↑ 6.7%
Manufacturing	263,000	262,300	263,500	↑ 700	↑ 0.3%	↓ -500	↓ -0.2%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	450,000	450,500	444,200	↓ -500	↓ -0.1%	↑ 5,800	↑ 1.3%
Information	29,800	29,900	28,300	↓ -100	↓ -0.3%	↑ 1,500	↑ 5.3%
Financial Activities	125,700	125,000	121,000	↑ 700	↑ 0.6%	↑ 4,700	↑ 3.9%
Professional and Business Services	322,700	318,200	312,200	↑ 4,500	↑ 1.4%	↑ 10,500	↑ 3.4%
Education and Health Services	310,800	309,800	296,900	↑ 1,000	↑ 0.3%	↑ 13,900	↑ 4.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	286,500	283,800	283,100	↑ 2,700	↑ 1.0%	↑ 3,400	↑ 1.2%
Other Services	92,900	92,700	90,300	↑ 200	↑ 0.2%	↑ 2,600	↑ 2.9%
Government	390,200	390,400	384,700	↓ -200	↓ -0.1%	↑ 5,500	↑ 1.4%

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated increase of 10,200 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,400,000.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
Mar-25

Area	March 2025	February 2025	March 2024	February 2025 to March 2025 # Change	February 2025 to March 2025 % Change	March 2024 to March 2025 # Change	March 2024 to March 2025 % Change
Statewide	2,400,000	2,389,800	2,344,600	↑ 10,200	↑ 0.4%	↑ 55,400	↑ 2.4%
Charleston/North Charleston	433,300	431,100	421,500	↑ 2,200	↑ 0.5%	↑ 11,800	↑ 2.8%
Columbia	437,700	435,600	427,300	↑ 2,100	↑ 0.5%	↑ 10,400	↑ 2.4%
Florence	97,900	98,000	96,300	↓ -100	↓ -0.1%	↑ 1,600	↑ 1.7%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin	479,300	476,900	469,200	↑ 2,400	↑ 0.5%	↑ 10,100	↑ 2.2%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort	89,500	89,500	87,900	No Change	No Change	↑ 1,600	↑ 1.8%
Myrtle Beach	158,200	156,700	154,400	↑ 1,500	↑ 1.0%	↑ 3,800	↑ 2.5%
Spartanburg	180,700	180,100	175,500	↑ 600	↑ 0.3%	↑ 5,200	↑ 3.0%
Sumter	38,400	38,200	38,100	↑ 200	↑ 0.5%	↑ 300	↑ 0.8%

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.