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For Release
March 24, 2023

South Carolina's Employment Situation February 2023

I. Household Survey¹ (Local Area Unemployment Statistics)

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working increased to 2,306,083.

- That is a significant increase of 7,303 people over the January 2023 estimate.
- That is an increase of 10,022 people over the February 2022 estimate.

Unemployment: The estimate of unemployed people increased to 76,090.

- That is an increase of 44 people from January's estimate and a decrease of 1,143 from the February 2022 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.2 percent.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate increased from January's rate of 3.4 percent to 3.6 percent, according to the Current Population Survey.

Labor force: The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) increased to 2,382,173.

- That is an increase of 7,347 people over the January estimate.
- That is an increase of 8,879 individuals over the February 2022 estimate.

II. Employer Survey² (Current Employment Statistics)

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted³)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated increase of 2,100 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,278,100.

- Industries that reported gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+1,900); Professional and Business Services (+1,800); and Government (+1,700).
- Financial Activities (-1,300); Education and Health Services (-600); Construction (-600); Manufacturing (-600); Other Services (-100); and Information (-100) industries declined.
- Trade, Transportation, and Utilities marked no change.

From February 2022 to February 2023, South Carolina's economy has picked up 53,900 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Industries with strong growth were Education and Health Services (+13,800); Leisure and Hospitality (+10,600); Government (+8,400); Professional and Business Services (+6,600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,300); Manufacturing (+2,400); Financial Activities (+2,100); Construction (+1,900); Information (+1,900); and Other Services (+1,700).

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted⁴)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 20,900 from January 2023 to February 2023 for a total of 2,263,600.

- Professional and Business Services (+9,800); Government (+7,100); Leisure and Hospitality (+4,900); Education and Health Services (+2,100); and Construction industries (+200) increased.
- Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-1,400); Financial Activities (-900); Manufacturing (-800); and Other Services (-100) industries marked declines.
- The Mining and Logging and Information industries showed no change over the month.

Since February 2022, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 56,000 in South Carolina.

- Industries making strong annual gains were Educational and Health Services (+13,100); Professional and Business Services (+8,900); Government (+8,900); Leisure and Hospitality (+8,600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,600); Construction (+3,400); Financial Activities (+3,000); Information (+2,200); Other Services (+1,700); Manufacturing (+1,400); and Mining and Logging (+200).

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

February-23

Jobs by Industry	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	January 2023 to February 2023		February 2022 to February 2023	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,278,100	2,276,000	2,224,200	2,100	0.09%	53,900	2.42%
Construction	109,300	109,900	107,400	-600	-0.55%	1,900	1.77%
Manufacturing	261,300	261,900	258,900	-600	-0.23%	2,400	0.93%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	438,000	438,000	433,700	0	0.00%	4,300	0.99%
Information	31,400	31,500	29,500	-100	-0.32%	1,900	6.44%
Financial Activities	117,200	118,500	115,100	-1,300	-1.10%	2,100	1.82%
Professional and Business Services	312,500	310,700	305,900	1,800	0.58%	6,600	2.16%
Education and Health Services	274,800	275,400	261,000	-600	-0.22%	13,800	5.29%
Leisure and Hospitality	273,200	271,300	262,600	1,900	0.70%	10,600	4.04%
Other Services	82,400	82,500	80,700	-100	-0.12%	1,700	2.11%
Government	373,500	371,800	365,100	1,700	0.46%	8,400	2.30%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide

February-23

Industry	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	January 2023 to February 2023		February 2022 to February 2023	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,263,600	2,242,700	2,207,600	20,900	0.93%	56,000	2.54%
Mining and Logging	4,500	4,500	4,300	0	0.00%	200	4.65%
Construction	109,600	109,400	106,200	200	0.18%	3,400	3.20%
Manufacturing	260,800	261,600	259,400	-800	-0.31%	1,400	0.54%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	434,500	435,900	429,900	-1,400	-0.32%	4,600	1.07%
Information	31,300	31,300	29,100	0	0.00%	2,200	7.56%
Financial Activities	117,200	118,100	114,200	-900	-0.76%	3,000	2.63%
Professional and Business Services	314,100	304,300	305,200	9,800	3.22%	8,900	2.92%
Private Education and Health Services	275,000	272,900	261,900	2,100	0.77%	13,100	5.00%
Leisure and Hospitality	259,000	254,100	250,400	4,900	1.93%	8,600	3.43%
Other Services	82,000	82,100	80,300	-100	-0.12%	1,700	2.12%
Government	375,600	368,500	366,700	7,100	1.93%	8,900	2.43%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted

February-23

INDUSTRY TITLE	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	January 2023 to February 2023		February 2022 to February 2023	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,278,100	2,276,000	2,224,200	2,100	0.09%	53,900	2.42%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	408,400	404,300	387,100	4,100	1.01%	21,300	5.50%
Columbia MSA	414,800	416,600	410,400	-1,800	-0.43%	4,400	1.07%
Florence MSA	94,800	94,400	92,600	400	0.42%	2,200	2.38%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	455,000	454,500	444,400	500	0.11%	10,600	2.39%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	87,300	87,500	84,700	-200	-0.23%	2,600	3.07%
Myrtle Beach MSA	190,200	189,400	181,200	800	0.42%	9,000	4.97%
Spartanburg MSA	169,600	169,300	166,700	300	0.18%	2,900	1.74%
Sumter MSA	39,300	39,400	39,100	-100	-0.25%	200	0.51%

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

February-23

Area	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	January 2023 to February 2023		February 2022 to February 2023	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,263,600	2,242,700	2,207,600	20,900	0.93%	56,000	2.54%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	405,800	398,500	384,700	7,300	1.83%	21,100	5.48%
Columbia MSA	413,800	412,400	411,600	1,400	0.34%	2,200	0.53%
Florence MSA	94,300	93,800	92,200	500	0.53%	2,100	2.28%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	454,800	449,700	443,900	5,100	1.13%	10,900	2.46%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	85,300	85,300	82,900	0	0.00%	2,400	2.90%
Myrtle Beach MSA	183,200	180,600	173,500	2,600	1.44%	9,700	5.59%
Spartanburg MSA	169,100	168,000	165,900	1,100	0.65%	3,200	1.93%
Sumter MSA	39,100	39,100	39,200	0	0.00%	-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.

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

AREA		February 2023				January 2023				February 2022 **			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
Marlboro County	↓	8,065	7,415	650	8.1	8,217	7,442	775	9.4	8,709	7,934	775	8.9
Allendale County	↓	2,236	2,094	142	6.4	2,207	2,059	148	6.7	2,380	2,196	184	7.7
Bamberg County	↓	4,560	4,297	263	5.8	4,523	4,258	265	5.9	4,692	4,352	340	7.2
Williamsburg County	↓	10,674	10,080	594	5.6	10,606	9,996	610	5.8	10,829	10,171	658	6.1
Marion County	↓	12,591	11,898	693	5.5	12,484	11,788	696	5.6	12,724	11,864	860	6.8
Dillon County	↓	12,929	12,256	673	5.2	12,823	12,135	688	5.4	13,104	12,316	788	6.0
Orangeburg County	-	32,987	31,282	1,705	5.2	32,536	30,831	1,705	5.2	34,064	31,731	2,333	6.8
Union County	↓	11,375	10,796	579	5.1	11,283	10,698	585	5.2	11,575	10,864	711	6.1
Barnwell County	-	7,455	7,084	371	5.0	7,390	7,024	366	5.0	7,455	6,956	499	6.7
Clarendon County	↑	11,845	11,248	597	5.0	11,707	11,130	577	4.9	12,025	11,412	613	5.1
Lee County	↓	6,348	6,029	319	5.0	6,323	5,984	339	5.4	6,514	6,151	363	5.6
Fairfield County	↓	9,218	8,773	445	4.8	9,163	8,707	456	5.0	9,287	8,712	575	6.2
Horry County	↓	151,870	144,604	7,266	4.8	149,570	142,164	7,406	5.0	148,600	140,420	8,180	5.5
Chester County	-	13,506	12,876	630	4.7	13,360	12,733	627	4.7	13,460	12,683	777	5.8
Sumter County	-	42,295	40,339	1,956	4.6	42,112	40,171	1,941	4.6	42,442	40,471	1,971	4.6
Abbeville County	↑	9,586	9,164	422	4.4	9,477	9,074	403	4.3	9,604	9,160	444	4.6
Cherokee County	↓	24,452	23,372	1,080	4.4	24,119	23,043	1,076	4.5	24,873	23,649	1,224	4.9
Georgetown County	↑	25,940	24,804	1,136	4.4	25,502	24,457	1,045	4.1	25,598	24,298	1,300	5.1
Greenwood County	↑	30,044	28,775	1,269	4.2	29,706	28,484	1,222	4.1	30,208	28,845	1,363	4.5
Calhoun County	↑	6,427	6,166	261	4.1	6,357	6,110	247	3.9	6,410	6,121	289	4.5
Colleton County	↑	15,897	15,243	654	4.1	15,661	15,049	612	3.9	16,060	15,344	716	4.5
Lancaster County	↑	44,184	42,394	1,790	4.1	43,581	41,926	1,655	3.8	43,745	41,698	2,047	4.7
Darlington County	↑	30,034	28,840	1,194	4.0	29,716	28,588	1,128	3.8	29,637	28,299	1,338	4.5
Edgefield County	↑	10,202	9,797	405	4.0	10,035	9,678	357	3.6	10,395	9,998	397	3.8
McCormick County	↑	3,578	3,435	143	4.0	3,531	3,401	130	3.7	3,285	3,132	153	4.7
Kershaw County	↑	29,509	28,365	1,144	3.9	29,203	28,156	1,047	3.6	29,315	28,160	1,155	3.9
Laurens County	↑	30,649	29,442	1,207	3.9	30,062	29,017	1,045	3.5	30,382	29,088	1,294	4.3
Aiken County	↑	73,007	70,232	2,775	3.8	72,152	69,657	2,495	3.5	74,512	71,714	2,798	3.8
Beaufort County	↑	77,045	74,121	2,924	3.8	76,146	73,668	2,478	3.3	76,640	73,612	3,028	4.0
Chesterfield County	↑	21,163	20,355	808	3.8	20,855	20,094	761	3.6	21,560	20,563	997	4.6
Saluda County	↑	8,341	8,035	306	3.7	8,155	7,896	259	3.2	8,318	8,024	294	3.5
Florence County	↑	66,818	64,398	2,420	3.6	66,220	63,915	2,305	3.5	65,703	62,993	2,710	4.1
Hampton County	↑	7,844	7,563	281	3.6	7,755	7,488	267	3.4	7,928	7,653	275	3.5
Oconee County	↑	34,337	33,114	1,223	3.6	33,856	32,725	1,131	3.3	34,119	32,739	1,380	4.0
Pickens County	↑	59,102	56,990	2,112	3.6	58,143	56,227	1,916	3.3	58,431	56,262	2,169	3.7
Richland County	↑	198,203	191,040	7,163	3.6	197,051	190,124	6,927	3.5	197,519	189,551	7,968	4.0
Anderson County	↑	93,203	89,945	3,258	3.5	91,628	88,742	2,886	3.1	92,301	88,886	3,415	3.7
Spartanburg County	↑	156,570	151,083	5,487	3.5	154,866	149,782	5,084	3.3	158,232	152,153	6,079	3.8
Berkeley County	↑	113,225	109,405	3,820	3.4	110,833	107,337	3,496	3.2	109,470	105,422	4,048	3.7
Jasper County	↑	13,262	12,808	454	3.4	13,073	12,680	393	3.0	13,123	12,636	487	3.7
York County	↑	150,141	144,985	5,156	3.4	148,431	143,487	4,944	3.3	148,373	142,481	5,892	4.0
Greenville County	↑	264,989	256,277	8,712	3.3	260,683	252,916	7,767	3.0	262,398	253,236	9,162	3.5
Newberry County	↑	19,270	18,626	644	3.3	18,905	18,309	596	3.2	19,195	18,531	664	3.5
Dorchester County	↑	82,066	79,430	2,636	3.2	80,232	77,908	2,324	2.9	79,390	76,534	2,856	3.6
Lexington County	↑	151,993	147,166	4,827	3.2	150,566	146,207	4,359	2.9	150,965	145,967	4,998	3.3
Charleston County	↑	222,309	215,337	6,972	3.1	217,231	211,077	6,154	2.8	214,861	207,198	7,663	3.6
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↑	417,600	404,172	13,428	3.2	408,296	396,322	11,974	2.9	403,721	389,154	14,567	3.6
Columbia MSA	↑	403,691	389,545	14,146	3.5	400,495	387,200	13,295	3.3	401,814	386,535	15,279	3.8
Florence MSA	↑	96,852	93,238	3,614	3.7	95,936	92,503	3,433	3.6	95,340	91,292	4,048	4.2
Greenville - Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↑	447,943	432,654	15,289	3.4	440,516	426,902	13,614	3.1	443,512	427,472	16,040	3.6
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	↑	90,307	86,929	3,378	3.7	89,219	86,348	2,871	3.2	89,763	86,248	3,515	3.9
Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach, SC-NC MSA	↓	208,570	198,512	10,058	4.8	205,872	195,630	10,242	5.0	202,735	191,806	10,929	5.4
Spartanburg MSA	↑	167,945	161,879	6,066	3.6	166,149	160,480	5,669	3.4	169,807	163,017	6,790	4.0
Sumter MSA	-	42,295	40,339	1,956	4.6	42,112	40,171	1,941	4.6	42,442	40,471	1,971	4.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	-	2,382,173	2,306,083	76,090	3.2	2,374,826	2,298,780	76,046	3.2	2,373,294	2,296,061	77,233	3.3

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

**2022 substate estimates will be revised at the conclusion of the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual benchmarking process on April 21st.

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