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South Carolina's Employment Situation October 2021

I. Household Survey¹

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working increased to 2,313,476.

- That is an increase of 4,156 people over the September 2021 estimate.
- That is an increase of 7,218 people over the October 2020 estimate.

Unemployment: Unemployment estimates decreased to 94,322 people.

- That is a significant decrease of 4,738 people from the September 2021 estimate and a significant decrease of 36,535 over the October 2020 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased significantly to 3.9 percent in October from 4.1 percent in September.

Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased to 4.6 percent in October from 4.8 percent in September.

Labor force: The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) was little changed over the month, decreasing to 2,407,798.

- That is a decrease of 582 people over the September 2021 estimate.
- That is a decrease of 29,317 individuals over the October 2020 estimate.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted³)

The Current Employment Survey² of businesses in South Carolina marked an increase of 6,700 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,157,500.

- Industries reporting gains were Manufacturing (+4,200); Professional and Business Services (+2,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,500); Other Services (+800); Financial Activities (+500); Education and Health Services (+200); and Information (+100).
- Decreases were observed in the Construction (-1,900); Government (-600); and Leisure and Hospitality (-100) industries.

From October 2020 to October 2021, South Carolina's economy has picked up 65,500 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Industries with strong growth were reported in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+19,600); Leisure and Hospitality (+17,600); Manufacturing (+7,400); Education and Health Services (6,300); Construction (5,100); Other Services (+5,000); Government (+4,000); Professional and Business Services (+1,100); and Information (+700).
- There was a decline in the Financial Activities (-1,400) industry.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted⁴)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment climbed 17,900 from September 2021 to October 2021 for a total of 2,165,500.

- Increases were reported in Professional and Business Services (+5,400); Manufacturing (+3,500); Government (3,200); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+2,900); Educational and Health Services (+2,800); Financial Activities (+1,400); Other Services (+900); Information (+200); and Mining and Logging (+100) industries.
- Decreases were reported in the Leisure and Hospitality (-1,400); and Construction (-1,100) industries.

Since October 2020, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs increased 70,100 in South Carolina.

- Industries making strong annual gains were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+21,200); Leisure and Hospitality (+20,800); Manufacturing (+8,300), Other Services (+5,700); Education and Health Services (+5,400); Construction (+4,300); Government (+4,300); Information (+800); and Mining and Logging (+100).
- Declines were noticed in the Financial Activities (-500) and Professional and Business Services (-300) industries.

¹**Household Survey (Current Population Survey):** is a monthly survey of about 60,000 households conducted by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This survey provides monthly statistics on employment, unemployment, and related subjects analyzed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²**Current Employment Statistics Survey:** is a monthly survey of about 40,000 employers which yields estimates of nonagricultural wage and salary employment, hours, and earnings by industry.

³**Seasonally Adjusted:** Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less 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.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
October 2021

Area	October 2021	September 2021	October 2020	September 2021 to October 2021		October 2020 to October 2021	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,157,500	2,150,800	2,092,000	6,700	0.31%	65,500	3.13%
Construction	107,700	109,600	102,600	-1,900	-1.73%	5,100	4.97%
Manufacturing	252,900	248,700	245,500	4,200	1.69%	7,400	3.01%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	422,000	420,500	402,400	1,500	0.36%	19,600	4.87%
Information	25,400	25,300	24,700	100	0.40%	700	2.83%
Financial Activities	104,400	103,900	105,800	500	0.48%	-1,400	-1.32%
Professional and Business Services	286,100	284,100	285,000	2,000	0.70%	1,100	0.39%
Education and Health Services	256,100	255,900	249,800	200	0.08%	6,300	2.52%
Leisure and Hospitality	250,700	250,800	233,100	-100	-0.04%	17,600	7.55%
Other Services	78,000	77,200	73,000	800	1.04%	5,000	6.85%
Government	369,700	370,300	365,700	-600	-0.16%	4,000	1.09%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
October 2021

Area	October 2021	September 2021	October 2020	September 2021 to October 2021		October 2020 to October 2021	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	2,165,500	2,147,600	2,095,400	17,900	0.83%	70,100	3.35%
Mining and Logging	4,500	4,400	4,400	100	2.27%	100	2.27%
Construction	107,200	108,300	102,900	-1,100	-1.02%	4,300	4.18%
Manufacturing	252,700	249,200	244,400	3,500	1.40%	8,300	3.40%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	422,400	419,500	401,200	2,900	0.69%	21,200	5.28%
Information	25,100	24,900	24,300	200	0.80%	800	3.29%
Financial Activities	105,300	103,900	105,800	1,400	1.35%	-500	-0.47%
Professional and Business Services	287,600	282,200	287,900	5,400	1.91%	-300	-0.10%
Education and Health Services	258,100	255,300	252,700	2,800	1.10%	5,400	2.14%
Leisure and Hospitality	250,100	251,500	229,300	-1,400	-0.56%	20,800	9.07%
Other Services	78,500	77,600	72,800	900	1.16%	5,700	7.83%
Government	374,000	370,800	369,700	3,200	0.86%	4,300	1.16%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted

October 2021

Area	October 2021	September 2021	October 2020	September 2021 to October 2021		October 2020 to October 2021	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,157,500	2,150,800	2,092,000	6,700	0.31%	65,500	3.13%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	369,400	368,000	355,400	1,400	0.38%	14,000	3.94%
Columbia MSA	396,400	394,300	387,800	2,100	0.53%	8,600	2.22%
Florence MSA	90,100	90,000	89,300	100	0.11%	800	0.90%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	424,400	422,300	411,900	2,100	0.50%	12,500	3.03%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	83,900	83,700	80,800	200	0.24%	3,100	3.84%
Myrtle Beach MSA	171,800	170,800	165,900	1,000	0.59%	5,900	3.56%
Spartanburg MSA	166,300	165,900	160,700	400	0.24%	5,600	3.48%
Sumter MSA	38,100	38,400	38,200	-300	-0.78%	-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

October 2021

Area	October 2021	September 2021	October 2020	September 2021 to October 2021		October 2020 to October 2021	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,165,500	2,147,600	2,095,400	17,900	0.83%	70,100	3.35%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	368,900	365,800	355,100	3,100	0.85%	13,800	3.89%
Columbia MSA	398,800	395,100	389,300	3,700	0.94%	9,500	2.44%
Florence MSA	90,100	89,900	88,900	200	0.22%	1,200	1.35%
Greenville MSA	426,900	421,900	412,900	5,000	1.19%	14,000	3.39%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	84,100	83,600	80,700	500	0.60%	3,400	4.21%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	170,900	171,700	164,400	-800	-0.47%	6,500	3.95%
Spartanburg MSA	167,500	166,000	161,900	1,500	0.90%	5,600	3.46%
Sumter MSA	38,100	38,200	38,200	-100	-0.26%	-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	October 2021				September 2021				October 2020				
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		
			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)	
Marlboro County	↓	8,908	8,294	614	6.9	8,948	8,300	648	7.2	9,505	8,712	793	8.3
Allendale County	↓	2,426	2,275	151	6.2	2,466	2,306	160	6.5	2,692	2,449	243	9.0
Orangeburg County	↓	33,420	31,427	1,993	6.0	33,864	31,657	2,207	6.5	34,835	31,937	2,898	8.3
Bamberg County	↓	4,690	4,419	271	5.8	4,704	4,400	304	6.5	4,836	4,429	407	8.4
Marion County	↓	13,041	12,334	707	5.4	13,156	12,402	754	5.7	13,732	12,732	1,000	7.3
Barnwell County	↓	7,516	7,114	402	5.3	7,548	7,125	423	5.6	8,114	7,574	540	6.7
Union County	↓	12,117	11,511	606	5.0	12,089	11,435	654	5.4	12,243	11,348	895	7.3
Dillon County	↓	13,200	12,558	642	4.9	13,231	12,546	685	5.2	13,533	12,781	752	5.6
Williamsburg County	↓	11,190	10,658	532	4.8	11,343	10,763	580	5.1	12,096	11,240	856	7.1
Chester County	↓	13,591	12,951	640	4.7	13,502	12,817	685	5.1	13,978	12,903	1,075	7.7
Fairfield County	↓	9,604	9,153	451	4.7	9,585	9,108	477	5.0	9,819	9,152	667	6.8
Lee County	↓	6,624	6,330	294	4.4	6,653	6,332	321	4.8	6,979	6,521	458	6.6
Clarendon County	↓	12,343	11,861	482	3.9	12,435	11,937	498	4.0	12,914	12,159	755	5.8
Chesterfield County	↓	21,771	20,954	817	3.8	21,822	20,950	872	4.0	22,198	21,013	1,185	5.3
Horry County	↓	148,391	142,763	5,628	3.8	149,535	143,609	5,926	4.0	148,734	139,647	9,087	6.1
Abbeville County	↓	9,807	9,444	363	3.7	9,791	9,409	382	3.9	10,164	9,648	516	5.1
Cherokee County	↓	25,508	24,560	948	3.7	25,392	24,364	1,028	4.0	25,965	24,291	1,674	6.4
Georgetown County	↓	26,018	25,062	956	3.7	26,203	25,192	1,011	3.9	26,608	24,962	1,646	6.2
McCormick County	↓	3,310	3,188	122	3.7	3,327	3,195	132	4.0	3,386	3,189	197	5.8
Lancaster County	↓	42,880	41,338	1,542	3.6	42,572	40,931	1,641	3.9	43,469	41,072	2,397	5.5
Sumter County	↓	43,065	41,521	1,544	3.6	43,247	41,597	1,650	3.8	44,827	42,256	2,571	5.7
Calhoun County	↓	6,589	6,356	233	3.5	6,597	6,331	266	4.0	6,724	6,357	367	5.5
Greenwood County	↓	30,561	29,490	1,071	3.5	30,538	29,366	1,172	3.8	32,097	30,290	1,807	5.6
Darlington County	↓	30,176	29,145	1,031	3.4	30,272	29,143	1,129	3.7	31,313	29,507	1,806	5.8
Colleton County	↓	16,302	15,766	536	3.3	16,318	15,759	559	3.4	17,026	16,063	963	5.7
Laurens County	↓	30,379	29,401	978	3.2	30,213	29,169	1,044	3.5	30,667	29,007	1,660	5.4
Florence County	↓	67,124	65,026	2,098	3.1	67,266	65,027	2,239	3.3	68,831	65,415	3,416	5.0
Richland County	↓	200,888	194,663	6,225	3.1	200,153	193,383	6,770	3.4	204,814	194,033	10,781	5.3
York County	↓	145,735	141,271	4,464	3.1	144,483	139,843	4,640	3.2	147,251	140,080	7,171	4.9
Berkeley County	-	106,686	103,617	3,069	2.9	106,095	102,996	3,099	2.9	106,761	101,869	4,892	4.6
Kershaw County	↓	29,652	28,806	846	2.9	29,560	28,657	903	3.1	30,102	28,788	1,314	4.4
Spartanburg County	↓	160,859	156,128	4,731	2.9	160,104	155,036	5,068	3.2	162,117	154,048	8,069	5.0
Anderson County	↓	92,081	89,469	2,612	2.8	91,319	88,688	2,631	2.9	92,439	88,244	4,195	4.5
Dorchester County	↓	78,754	76,537	2,217	2.8	78,384	76,096	2,288	2.9	78,981	75,239	3,742	4.7
Charleston County	↓	213,534	207,789	5,745	2.7	212,910	206,808	6,102	2.9	214,738	203,713	11,025	5.1
Hampton County	↓	8,164	7,945	219	2.7	8,198	7,961	237	2.9	8,402	8,020	382	4.5
Oconee County	↓	34,413	33,480	933	2.7	34,525	33,538	987	2.9	35,462	34,114	1,348	3.8
Greenville County	↓	259,515	252,766	6,749	2.6	257,679	250,512	7,167	2.8	260,626	249,213	11,413	4.4
Pickens County	↓	58,178	56,646	1,532	2.6	57,735	56,167	1,568	2.7	58,074	55,773	2,301	4.0
Aiken County	↓	74,969	73,060	1,909	2.5	74,691	72,681	2,010	2.7	77,204	74,213	2,991	3.9
Beaufort County	↓	79,068	77,059	2,009	2.5	78,933	76,866	2,067	2.6	78,699	75,499	3,200	4.1
Edgefield County	↓	10,657	10,391	266	2.5	10,636	10,362	274	2.6	11,001	10,582	419	3.8
Jasper County	-	13,153	12,828	325	2.5	13,175	12,843	332	2.5	13,040	12,474	566	4.3
Newberry County	↓	19,510	19,039	471	2.4	19,532	19,029	503	2.6	19,682	18,909	773	3.9
Saluda County	↑	8,659	8,453	206	2.4	8,648	8,447	201	2.3	8,877	8,584	293	3.3
Lexington County	↓	152,259	148,693	3,566	2.3	151,628	147,884	3,744	2.5	153,908	148,279	5,629	3.7
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	398,974	387,943	11,031	2.8	397,389	385,900	11,489	2.9	400,480	380,821	19,659	4.9
Columbia MSA	↓	407,651	396,124	11,527	2.8	406,171	393,810	12,361	3.0	414,244	395,193	19,051	4.6
Florence MSA	↓	97,300	94,171	3,129	3.2	97,538	94,170	3,368	3.5	100,144	94,922	5,222	5.2
Greenville -Anderson- Mauldin MSA	↓	440,153	428,282	11,871	2.7	436,946	424,536	12,410	2.8	441,806	422,237	19,569	4.4
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,407,798	2,313,476	94,322	3.9	2,408,380	2,309,320	99,060	4.1	2,437,115	2,306,258	130,857	5.4

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

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