

# SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact: communications@dew.sc.gov

For Release December 22, 2023

# South Carolina's Employment Situation November 2023

### I. Household Survey<sup>1</sup> (Local Area Unemployment Statistics)

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working increased to 2,398,350.

- That is an increase of 5,136 people over the October 2023 estimate.
- That is a significant increase of 104,700 people over the November 2022 estimate.

Unemployment: The estimate of unemployed people increased to 73,346.

- That is an increase of 1,473 people from October's estimate and a decrease of 4,111 from the November 2022 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 3.0 percent from October's estimate of 2.9 percent.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased to 3.7 percent from October's estimate of 3.9 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 2,471,696.

- That is an increase of 6,609 people over the October 2023 estimate.
- That is a significant increase of 100,589 individuals over the November 2022 estimate.

## II. Employer Survey<sup>2</sup> (Current Employment Statistics)

### Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted<sup>3</sup>)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated increase of 6,700 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,322,900.

- Industries reporting gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+3,800); Education and Health Services (+1,900); Other Services (+1,200); Construction (+700); Government (+500); and Professional and Business Services (+300).
- The Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-1,100); Manufacturing (-200); Financial Activities (-200); and Information (-100) industries declined.

From November 2022 to November 2023, South Carolina's economy has picked up 60,600 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Industries making strong growth were Education and Health Services (+16,200); Leisure and Hospitality (+14,700); Professional and Business Services (+8,800); Government (+8,200); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,300); Construction (+2,600); Financial Activities (+2,000); Other Services (+1,200); and Information (+600).
- Manufacturing (-900) declined.

### Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted<sup>4</sup>)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 15,300 from October 2023 to November 2023 for a total of 2,339,200.

- Trade Transportation and Utilities (+4,900); Professional and Business Services (+3,500); Government (+2,900); Education and Health Services (+2,900); Other Services (+1,300); Construction (+1,000); and Manufacturing (+500) industries increased over the month.
- Financial Activities (-1,200); Leisure and Hospitality (-300); Mining and Logging(-100); and Information (-100) declined.

Since November 2022, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 58,300 in South Carolina.

- Industries making strong annual gains were Educational and Health Services (+16,900); Leisure and Hospitality (+13,500); Professional and Business Services (+8,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+8,600); Government (+6,100); Construction (+2,400); Financial Activities (+1,300); Other Services (+1,100); and Information (+500).
- Manufacturing (-800); and Mining and Logging (-100) declined.

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>Not Seasonally Adjusted: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have <u>not</u> been removed from these data.

#### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

#### Statewide November-23

				October 2023 to		November 2022 to	
				November	2023	Novemb	-
	November	October	November	#	%	#	%
Jobs by Industry	2023	2023	2022	Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,322,900	2,316,200	2,262,300	6,700	0.29%	60,600	2.68%
Construction	112,300	111,600	109,700	700	0.63%	2,600	2.37%
Manufacturing	261,700	261,900	262,600	-200	-0.08%	-900	-0.34%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	444,200	445,300	436,900	-1,100	-0.25%	7,300	1.67%
Information	31,900	32,000	31,300	-100	-0.31%	600	1.92%
Financial Activities	120,800	121,000	118,800	-200	-0.17%	2,000	1.68%
Professional and Business Services	317,500	317,200	308,700	300	0.09%	8,800	2.85%
Education and Health Services	287,900	286,000	271,700	1,900	0.66%	16,200	5.96%
Leisure and Hospitality	281,800	278,000	267,100	3,800	1.37%	14,700	5.50%
Other Services	83,800	82,600	82,600	1,200	1.45%	1,200	1.45%
Government	376,500	376,000	368,300	500	0.13%	8,200	2.23%

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 INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide November-23

			Ī	October 2	2023	November 2022		
				to		to		
				November	2023	Novemb	er 2023	
	November	October	November	#	%	#	%	
Industry	2023	2023	2022	Change	Change	Change	Change	
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,339,200	2,323,900	2,280,900	15,300	0.66%	58,300	2.56%	
Mining and Logging	4,500	4,600	4,600	-100	-2.17%	-100	-2.17%	
Construction	112,400	111,400	110,000	1,000	0.90%	2,400	2.18%	
Manufacturing	262,400	261,900	263,200	500	0.19%	-800	-0.30%	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	449,600	444,700	441,000	4,900	1.10%	8,600	1.95%	
Information	31,700	31,800	31,200	-100	-0.31%	500	1.60%	
Financial Activities	120,500	121,700	119,200	-1,200	-0.99%	1,300	1.09%	
Professional and Business Services	323,600	320,100	314,800	3,500	1.09%	8,800	2.80%	
Education and Health Services	291,100	288,200	274,200	2,900	1.01%	16,900	6.16%	
Leisure and Hospitality	276,100	276,400	262,600	-300	-0.11%	13,500	5.14%	
Other Services	84,100	82,800	83,000	1,300	1.57%	1,100	1.33%	
Government	383,200	380,300	377,100	2,900	0.76%	6,100	1.62%	

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

#### South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted

November-23

			1	October 2023		Novembe	r 2022
				to		to	
				November	2023	Novembe	r 2023
	November	October	November	#	%	#	%
INDUSTRY TITLE	2023	2023	2022	Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,322,900	2,316,200	2,262,300	6,700	0.29%	60,600	2.68%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	427,100	425,200	403,800	1,900	0.45%	23,300	5.77%
Columbia MSA	422,800	420,500	414,200	2,300	0.55%	8,600	2.08%
Florence MSA	97,000	96,600	94,300	400	0.41%	2,700	2.86%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	460,900	460,500	452,800	400	0.09%	8,100	1.79%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	88,500	87,800	86,600	700	0.80%	1,900	2.19%
Myrtle Beach MSA	192,100	192,200	188,200	-100	-0.05%	3,900	2.07%
Spartanburg MSA	172,600	172,400	169,000	200	0.12%	3,600	2.13%
Sumter MSA	39,900	39,800	39,100	100	0.25%	800	2.05%

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	South Carolina &	Metropolitan	Not Seasonally	/ Adjusted
---	------------------	--------------	----------------	------------

#### November-23

				October 2023 to		November 202 to	
				November	2023	Novembe	r 2023
	November	October	November	#	%	#	%
Area	2023	2023	2022	Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,339,200	2,323,900	2,280,900	15,300	0.66%	58,300	2.56%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	430,300	425,400	406,300	4,900	1.15%	24,000	5.91%
Columbia MSA	426,100	422,700	417,500	3,400	0.80%	8,600	2.06%
Florence MSA	98,000	96,700	95,000	1,300	1.34%	3,000	3.16%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	463,400	462,300	457,500	1,100	0.24%	5,900	1.29%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	88,200	87,400	86,000	800	0.92%	2,200	2.56%
Myrtle Beach MSA	190,200	192,200	186,100	-2,000	-1.04%	4,100	2.20%
Spartanburg MSA	174,000	173,100	170,200	900	0.52%	3,800	2.23%
Sumter MSA	40,100	39,800	39,200	300	0.75%	900	2.30%

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)

			November 2	023			October 20	023			November	2022	
		LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLO		LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPL		LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLO	
AREA		FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)	FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)	FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)
Marlboro County	↑	7,268	6,804	464	6.4	7,256	6,797	459	6.3	8,072	7,512	560	6.9
Bamberg County		4,591	4,333	258	5.6	4,595	4,341	254	5.5	4,447	4,231	216	4.9
Allendale County	↑	2,324	2,197	127	5.5	2,342	2,217	125	5.3	2,176	2,072	104	4.8
Barnwell County	↑	7,648	7,277	371	4.9	7,660	7,301	359	4.7	7,296	7,014	282	3.9
Williamsburg County	↑	10,191	9,700	491	4.8	10,257	9,787	470	4.6	10,397	9,945	452	4.3
Orangeburg County	_	33,769	32,293	1,476	4.4	33,680	32,203	1,477	4.4	32,234	30,880	1,354	4.2
Marion County	-	12,730	12,207	523	4.1	12,806	12,277	529	4.1	12,291	11,759	532	4.3
Chester County	↑	13,822	13,271	551	4.0	13,808	13,269	539	3.9	13,119	12,626	493	3.8
Dillon County	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$	13,193	12,669	524	4.0	13,238	12,698	540	4.1	12,588	12,038	550	4.4
Clarendon County	-	12,127	11,658	469	3.9	12,223	11,752	471	3.9	11,567	11,122	445	3.8
Fairfield County	↑	9,431	9,064	367	3.9	9,392	9,043	349	3.7	8,992	8,645	347	3.9
Cherokee County	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$	23,961	23,055	906	3.8	24,057	23,008	1,049	4.4	24,177	23,190	987	4.1
Lee County	1	6,557	6,308	249	3.8	6,564	6,324	240	3.7	6,232	5,956	276	4.4
Union County	$\mathbf{V}$	11,532	11,104	428	3.7	11,520	11,087	433	3.8	11,092	10,626	466	4.2
Sumter County	<b>1</b>	42,906	41,347	1,559	3.6	42,698	41,130	1,568	3.7	41,012	39,526	1,486	3.6
Abbeville County	<b>1</b>	9,655	9,317	338	3.5	9,603	9,255	348	3.6	9,434	9,118	316	3.3
Georgetown County	1	26,075	25,218	857	3.3	26,307	25,481	826	3.1	25,376	24,583	793	3.1
Greenwood County	¥	30,282	29,277	1,005	3.3	30,108	29,091	1,017	3.4	29,604	28,627	977	3.3
Horry County	1	155,554	150,359	5,195	3.3	157,159	152,152	5,007	3.2	148,586	143,569	5,017	3.4
Lancaster County	↑	45,172	43,685	1,487	3.3	45,144	43,682	1,462	3.2	42,949	41,582	1,367	3.2
Calhoun County	-	6,596	6,383	213	3.2	6,591	6,380	211	3.2	6,261	6,078	183	2.9
Chesterfield County		21,422	20,729	693	3.2	21,461	20,771	690	3.2	20,607	19,953	654	3.2
Darlington County	↓	31,005	30,014	991	3.2	30,802	29,797	1,005	3.3	29,233	28,312	921	3.2
Laurens County		31,058	30,075	983	3.2	31,096	30,095	1,001	3.2	29,792	28,931	861	2.9
Edgefield County	↓ ▲	10,356	10,036	320	3.1	10,460	10,121	339	3.2	10,053	9,734	319	3.2
McCormick County	1	3,434	3,326	108	3.1	3,433	3,331	102	3.0	3,491	3,392	99	2.8
Aiken County Kershaw County	↓ ↓	73,766 30,206	71,554 29,295	2,212 911	3.0 3.0	74,099 30,141	71,819 29,220	2,280 921	3.1 3.1	71,826 28,801	69,789 27,952	2,037 849	2.8 2.9
Pickens County	¥	59,912	58,122	1,790	3.0	60,036	58,080	1,956	3.3	57,659	55,997	1,662	2.9
Richland County	Ť	202,846	196,665	6,181	3.0	201,913	195,513	6,400	3.2	193,927	188,234	5,693	2.9
Colleton County	<u> </u>	16,210	15,736	474	2.9	16,262	15,790	472	2.9	15,617	15,156	461	3.0
Florence County	$\checkmark$	68,886	66,873	2,013	2.9	68,373	66,290	2,083	3.0	65,097	63,236	1,861	2.9
Newberry County	<u> </u>	18,918	18,374	544	2.9	19,058	18,498	560	2.9	18,687	18,224	463	2.5
Spartanburg County	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$	159,925	155,340	4,585	2.9	159,713	154,998	4,715	3.0	152,872	148,676	4,196	2.7
Beaufort County	_	78,953	76,760	2,193	2.8	78,787	76,569	2,218	2.8	75,076	73,036	2,040	2.7
Hampton County	<b>1</b>	8,130	7,904	226	2.8	8,183	7,946	237	2.9	7,656	7,458	198	2.6
Jasper County	_	13,689	13,306	383	2.8	13,719	13,338	381	2.8	12,958	12,632	326	2.5
Saluda County	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$	8,657	8,411	246	2.8	8,752	8,496	256	2.9	8,129	7,920	209	2.6
York County	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$	153,615	149,245	4,370	2.8	153,498	149,101	4,397	2.9	146,234	142,211	4,023	2.8
Anderson County	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$	94,309	91,740	2,569	2.7	94,363	91,673	2,690	2.9	90,714	88,367	2,347	2.6
Greenville County	-	268,530	261,282	7,248	2.7	268,313	260,993	7,320	2.7	258,106	251,773	6,333	2.5
Oconee County	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$	35,852	34,867	985	2.7	35,826	34,831	995	2.8	33,669	32,817	852	2.5
Berkeley County	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$	118,890	115,774	3,116	2.6	117,815	114,642	3,173	2.7	109,868	107,016	2,852	2.6
Dorchester County	$\mathbf{V}$	86,241	84,074	2,167	2.5	85,521	83,286	2,235	2.6	79,643	77,702	1,941	2.4
Charleston County	-	233,463	227,963	5,500	2.4	231,673	226,105	5,568	2.4	215,691	210,739	4,952	2.3
Lexington County	$\checkmark$	155,602	151,812	3,790	2.4	155,195	151,257	3,938	2.5	148,560	145,031	3,529	2.4
Charleston -	-	438,594	427,811	10,783	2.5	435,009	424,033	10,976	2.5	405,202	395,457	9,745	2.4
North Charleston MSA Columbia MSA	$\checkmark$	413,338	401,630	11,708	2.8	411,984	399,909	12,075	2.9	394,670	383,860	10,810	2.7
Florence MSA	¥	413,338 99,891	401,630 96,887	3,004	3.0	411,984 99,175	399,909 96,087	3,088	3.1	94,330	91,548	2,782	2.7
Greenville -Anderson-													
Mauldin MSA Hilton Head Island-	↓	453,809	441,219	12,590	2.8	453,808	440,841	12,967	2.9	436,271	425,068	11,203	2.6
Bluffton-Beaufort MSA Myrtle Beach-Conway-	-	92,642	90,066	2,576	2.8	92,506	89,907	2,599	2.8	88,034	85,668	2,366	2.7
North Myrtle Beach, SC- NC MSA	↑	213,460	205,833	7,627	3.6	216,140	208,698	7,442	3.4	205,383	197,778	7,605	3.7
Spartanburg MSA	<b>1</b>	171,457	166,444	5,013	2.9	171,233	166,085	5,148	3.0	163,964	159,302	4,662	2.8
Sumter MSA	≁	42,906	41,347	1,559	3.6	42,698	41,130	1,568	3.7	41,012	39,526	1,486	3.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	•												_
South Carolina	1	2,471,696	2,398,350	73,346	3.0	2,465,087	2,393,214	71,873	2.9	2,371,107	2,293,650	77,457	3.3

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

↑ ↓ Unemployment Rate Up

Unemployment Rate Down

-Unemployment Rate =