



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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South Carolina's Employment Situation December 2012

Unemployment rate ticks up slightly; Numbers show improvement from last year

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly to 8.4 percent in December from 8.3 percent in November. The rate was 1.2 percent lower than the December 2011 rate of 9.6 percent.

Over the month, the number of employed improved by 5,325 to 1,969,560. The number of unemployed grew since November by 3,211 to 180,032 in December, and the labor force expanded by 8,536 to 2,149,592.

Nationally, the unemployment rate remained at 7.8 percent, with roughly 28,000 more Americans working and 164,000 additional people searching for work.

South Carolina's nonagricultural employment (not seasonally adjusted) fell 5,800 from November to December 2012, reaching 1,874,300. This was the first decline since July 2012. Since a year ago, non-farm jobs were up 31,500 or 1.7 percentage points, compared to a national increase of 1.4 percentage points.

Employment by Industry

- Although overall payroll employment declined in December, several industries saw growth: Trade Transportation and Utilities (+2,400), Education and Health Services (+1,100), and Construction (+700). Modest increases were seen in Financial Activities (+300) and Information (+100). In addition, retail trade demand remained high, and health care needs continued in a positive direction during the month.
- Leisure and Hospitality fell 5,900 due to a drop in demand for arts, entertainment, and recreation, as well as accommodation and food services. Local government services and employment services demand was also down during the month causing a drop of 2,300 in Government and 1,700 in Professional and Business Services.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide
December 2012

Jobs by Industry	December 2012	November 2012	December 2011	November 2012 to December 2012		December 2011 to December 2012	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	1,874,300	1,880,100	1,842,800	-5,800	-0.31%	31,500	1.71%
Natural Resources and Mining	3,600	3,600	3,800	0	0.00%	-200	-5.26%
Construction	75,600	74,900	75,600	700	0.93%	0	0.00%
Manufacturing	225,900	225,900	221,000	0	0.00%	4,900	2.22%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	363,500	361,100	359,600	2,400	0.66%	3,900	1.08%
Information	27,500	27,400	26,300	100	0.36%	1,200	4.56%
Financial Activities	99,200	98,900	96,600	300	0.30%	2,600	2.69%
Professional and Business Services	226,800	228,500	229,200	-1,700	-0.74%	-2,400	-1.05%
Education and Health Services	227,900	226,800	218,400	1,100	0.49%	9,500	4.35%
Leisure and Hospitality	206,600	212,500	201,400	-5,900	-2.78%	5,200	2.58%
Other Services	69,100	69,600	69,700	-500	-0.72%	-600	-0.86%
Government	348,600	350,900	341,200	-2,300	-0.66%	7,400	2.17%

Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
December 2012

INDUSTRY TITLE	December 2012	November 2012	December 2011	November 2012 to December 2012		December 2011 to December 2012	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	1,874,300	1,880,100	1,842,800	-5,800	-0.31%	31,500	1.71%
Anderson MSA	58,800	58,500	58,500	300	0.51%	300	0.51%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	301,500	302,500	297,800	-1,000	-0.33%	3,700	1.24%
Columbia MSA	354,500	355,300	349,700	-800	-0.23%	4,800	1.37%
Florence MSA	84,500	85,300	82,600	-800	-0.94%	1,900	2.30%
Greenville MSA	307,700	308,000	307,400	-300	-0.10%	300	0.10%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	109,600	113,200	109,800	-3,600	-3.18%	-200	-0.18%
Spartanburg MSA	123,200	123,200	118,200	0	0.00%	5,000	4.23%
Sumter MSA	36,800	36,900	37,200	-100	-0.27%	-400	-1.08%

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 STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

AREA		December 2012				November 2012				December 2011			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
Marion County	↑	11,876	9,829	2,047	17.2	11,743	9,896	1,847	15.7	11,897	9,746	2,151	18.1
Allendale County	↑	3,297	2,782	515	15.6	3,286	2,786	500	15.2	3,331	2,763	568	17.1
Marlboro County	↑	11,462	9,697	1,765	15.4	11,271	9,698	1,573	14.0	11,616	9,652	1,964	16.9
Barnwell County	↑	8,417	7,249	1,168	13.9	8,370	7,261	1,109	13.2	8,469	7,169	1,300	15.4
Clarendon County	↑	12,384	10,717	1,667	13.5	12,309	10,739	1,570	12.8	12,461	10,676	1,785	14.3
Bamberg County	↓	6,201	5,372	829	13.4	6,221	5,378	843	13.6	6,178	5,255	923	14.9
Dillon County	↑	13,276	11,500	1,776	13.4	13,141	11,520	1,621	12.3	13,222	11,297	1,925	14.6
Union County	↑	11,449	9,915	1,534	13.4	11,350	9,921	1,429	12.6	11,415	9,679	1,736	15.2
Chester County	↑	14,554	12,641	1,913	13.1	14,449	12,642	1,807	12.5	14,518	12,370	2,148	14.8
McCormick County	↑	3,361	2,933	428	12.7	3,317	2,935	382	11.5	3,325	2,880	445	13.4
Orangeburg County	↓	41,202	36,076	5,126	12.4	41,447	36,116	5,331	12.9	40,971	35,289	5,682	13.9
Williamsburg County	↑	16,120	14,216	1,904	11.8	16,023	14,281	1,742	10.9	16,214	14,065	2,149	13.3
Chesterfield County	↑	18,870	16,666	2,204	11.7	18,721	16,695	2,026	10.8	18,769	16,384	2,385	12.7
Hampton County	↑	7,751	6,851	900	11.6	7,709	6,859	850	11.0	7,729	6,748	981	12.7
Lancaster County	↑	30,934	27,334	3,600	11.6	30,710	27,341	3,369	11.0	30,597	26,703	3,894	12.7
Cherokee County	↑	24,947	22,173	2,774	11.1	24,751	22,189	2,562	10.4	24,719	21,588	3,131	12.7
Horry County	↑	122,675	109,019	13,656	11.1	124,443	112,446	11,997	9.6	124,094	109,154	14,940	12.0
Lee County	↑	8,075	7,182	893	11.1	8,049	7,203	846	10.5	8,185	7,168	1,017	12.4
Colleton County	↑	17,116	15,276	1,840	10.8	17,039	15,311	1,728	10.1	17,161	15,065	2,096	12.2
Abbeville County	↑	10,849	9,684	1,165	10.7	10,768	9,688	1,080	10.0	10,637	9,536	1,101	10.4
Fairfield County	↑	10,598	9,466	1,132	10.7	10,570	9,497	1,073	10.2	10,739	9,418	1,321	12.3
Sumter County	↑	43,797	39,347	4,450	10.2	43,667	39,419	4,248	9.7	44,571	39,861	4,710	10.6
York County	↑	112,507	100,985	11,522	10.2	111,185	101,013	10,172	9.1	111,993	98,474	13,519	12.1
Greenwood County	↑	31,083	27,958	3,125	10.1	30,853	27,976	2,877	9.3	30,415	27,309	3,106	10.2
Darlington County	↑	30,532	27,505	3,027	9.9	30,644	27,776	2,868	9.4	30,333	27,051	3,282	10.8
Edgefield County	↑	10,994	9,913	1,081	9.8	10,880	9,961	919	8.4	11,150	10,093	1,057	9.5
Georgetown County	↑	29,715	26,881	2,834	9.5	29,596	27,070	2,526	8.5	29,621	26,534	3,087	10.4
Florence County	↑	62,644	56,774	5,870	9.4	62,814	57,333	5,481	8.7	62,137	55,836	6,301	10.1
Calhoun County	↓	6,630	6,016	614	9.3	6,733	6,036	697	10.4	6,700	5,986	714	10.7
Oconee County	↑	31,305	28,484	2,821	9.0	31,184	28,513	2,671	8.6	30,918	28,078	2,840	9.2
Laurens County	↑	30,471	27,745	2,726	8.9	30,259	27,799	2,460	8.1	30,597	27,853	2,744	9.0
Aiken County	↑	73,849	67,420	6,429	8.7	73,247	67,751	5,496	7.5	75,103	68,644	6,459	8.6
Anderson County	↑	81,586	74,769	6,817	8.4	81,189	74,670	6,519	8.0	82,296	74,931	7,365	8.9
Spartanburg County	↑	134,296	122,948	11,348	8.4	134,086	123,062	11,024	8.2	132,050	119,663	12,387	9.4
Jasper County	↑	10,569	9,700	869	8.2	10,491	9,712	779	7.4	10,365	9,478	887	8.6
Kershaw County	↑	29,328	26,957	2,371	8.1	29,358	27,045	2,313	7.9	29,316	26,819	2,497	8.5
Richland County	↑	180,150	165,671	14,479	8.0	180,256	166,213	14,043	7.8	179,884	164,827	15,057	8.4
Newberry County	↑	18,237	16,795	1,442	7.9	18,143	16,791	1,352	7.5	18,218	16,557	1,661	9.1
Berkeley County	↑	83,529	77,165	6,364	7.6	83,664	77,578	6,086	7.3	84,055	76,801	7,254	8.6
Pickens County	↑	57,473	53,141	4,332	7.5	57,515	53,244	4,271	7.4	58,032	53,347	4,685	8.1
Saluda County	↑	8,952	8,292	660	7.4	8,916	8,319	597	6.7	8,965	8,250	715	8.0
Beaufort County	↑	64,927	60,242	4,685	7.2	64,852	60,318	4,534	7.0	63,732	58,866	4,866	7.6
Dorchester County	↑	67,907	63,094	4,813	7.1	68,078	63,431	4,647	6.8	67,908	62,796	5,112	7.5
Charleston County	↑	174,844	162,758	12,086	6.9	175,196	163,628	11,568	6.6	174,902	161,990	12,912	7.4
Greenville County	↑	222,842	207,789	15,053	6.8	222,867	208,192	14,675	6.6	224,856	208,596	16,260	7.2
Lexington County	↑	132,015	123,287	8,728	6.6	132,045	123,690	8,355	6.3	131,970	122,658	9,312	7.1
Charleston MSA	↑	326,279	303,016	23,263	7.1	326,939	304,637	22,302	6.8	326,865	301,586	25,279	7.7
Columbia MSA	↑	367,675	339,690	27,985	7.6	367,878	340,801	27,077	7.4	367,575	337,958	29,617	8.1
Florence MSA	↑	93,176	84,279	8,897	9.5	93,458	85,109	8,349	8.9	92,470	82,887	9,583	10.4
Greenville MSA	↑	310,786	288,675	22,111	7.1	310,642	289,235	21,407	6.9	313,485	289,796	23,689	7.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↑	2,149,592	1,969,560	180,032	8.4	2,141,056	1,964,235	176,821	8.3	2,159,404	1,951,325	208,079	9.6

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

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