



Media Contact:
Heather Bianca

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South Carolina's Employment Situation September 2020

I. Household Survey¹

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working increased to 2,268,821.

- That is an increase of 2,571 people over August 2020.
- That is also a significant decrease of 54,021 people over September 2019.

Unemployment: Unemployment estimates declined significantly to 121,485 people.

- That is a significant decrease of 33,324 people since August 2020 and a notable increase of 64,035 over September 2019.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.1 percent in September from August's revised estimate of 6.4 percent.

Nationally, the unemployment rate declined from 8.4 percent in August to 7.9 percent in September.

Labor force: The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) decreased significantly to 2,390,306.

- That is a substantial decrease of 30,753 people over August 2020.
- That is an increase of 10,014 individuals over September 2019.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted³)

The Current Employment Survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an increase of 24,800 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,119,700.

- Industries reporting gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+8,200); Other Services (+7,300); Professional and Business Services (+4,900); Manufacturing (+3,600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,500); Financial Activities (+600); Construction and Information (+300), respectively.

- Decreases were noticed in the Government (-2,600) industry.

From September 2019 to September 2020, South Carolina's economy has lost 79,600 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Only the Other Services (+8,700) and Construction (+2,200) industries reported gains over the year.
- Decreases were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (-46,800); Education and Health Services (-14,200); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-11,100); Government (-9,300); Professional and Business Services (-5,800); Financial Activities (-1,800); Information (-800); and Manufacturing (-400).

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted²)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 19,200 from August 2020 to September 2020 for a total of 2,115,200.

- Industries reporting growth during this period were Government (+8,100); Other Services (+5,500); Professional and Business Services (+4,300); Education and Health Services (+2,700); Manufacturing (+2,600); and Information (+100).
- Industries reporting declines were Leisure and Hospitality (-2,900); Financial Activities (-600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-500); and Mining and Logging (-100).
- Construction remained flat.

Since September 2019, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were down 76,400 overall in South Carolina.

- Only the Other Services (+8,800) and Construction (+1,900) industries showed annual gains.
- Industries recording an over the year loss are Leisure and Hospitality (-49,200); Education and Health Services (-12,900); Government (-9,900); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-8,800); Professional and Business Services (-4,000); Financial Activities (-1,400); Information (-600); and Mining and Logging (-300). Manufacturing has remained flat.

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
September

Area	September 2020	August 2020	September 2019	August 2020 to September 2020		September 2019 to September 2020	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,119,700	2,094,900	2,199,300	24,800	1.18%	-79,600	-3.62%
Construction	109,600	109,300	107,400	300	0.27%	2,200	2.05%
Manufacturing	259,400	255,800	259,800	3,600	1.41%	-400	-0.15%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	399,200	397,700	410,300	1,500	0.38%	-11,100	-2.71%
Information	25,900	25,600	26,700	300	1.17%	-800	-3.00%
Financial Activities	103,800	103,200	105,600	600	0.58%	-1,800	-1.70%
Professional and Business Services	295,100	290,200	300,900	4,900	1.69%	-5,800	-1.93%
Education and Health Services	245,100	244,300	259,300	800	0.33%	-14,200	-5.48%
Leisure and Hospitality	224,700	216,500	271,500	8,200	3.79%	-46,800	-17.24%
Other Services	89,000	81,700	80,300	7,300	8.94%	8,700	10.83%
Government	363,700	366,300	373,000	-2,600	-0.71%	-9,300	-2.49%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
September

Area	September 2020	August 2020	September 2019	August 2020 to September 2020		September 2019 to September 2020	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm	2,115,200	2,096,000	2,191,600	19,200	0.92%	-76,400	-3.49%
Mining and Logging	4,200	4,300	4,500	-100	-2.33%	-300	-6.67%
Construction	109,400	109,400	107,500	0	0.00%	1,900	1.77%
Manufacturing	258,700	256,100	258,700	2,600	1.02%	0	0.00%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	396,800	397,300	405,600	-500	-0.13%	-8,800	-2.17%
Information	25,700	25,600	26,300	100	0.39%	-600	-2.28%
Financial Activities	103,900	104,500	105,300	-600	-0.57%	-1,400	-1.33%
Professional and Business Services	294,000	289,700	298,000	4,300	1.48%	-4,000	-1.34%
Education and Health Services	246,100	243,400	259,000	2,700	1.11%	-12,900	-4.98%
Leisure and Hospitality	223,300	226,200	272,500	-2,900	-1.28%	-49,200	-18.06%
Other Services	88,800	83,300	80,000	5,500	6.60%	8,800	11.00%
Government	364,300	356,200	374,200	8,100	2.27%	-9,900	-2.65%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
September**

Area	September 2020	August 2020	September 2019	August 2020 to September 2020		September 2019 to September 2020	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,119,700	2,094,900	2,199,300	24,800	1.18%	-79,600	-3.62%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	351,400	351,400	379,200	0	0.00%	-27,800	-7.33%
Columbia MSA	388,800	384,600	406,500	4,200	1.09%	-17,700	-4.35%
Florence MSA	90,600	89,700	92,600	900	1.00%	-2,000	-2.16%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	426,300	419,100	434,900	7,200	1.72%	-8,600	-1.98%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	82,000	82,200	84,600	-200	-0.24%	-2,600	-3.07%
Myrtle Beach MSA	157,800	153,500	175,500	4,300	2.80%	-17,700	-10.09%
Spartanburg MSA	152,700	151,700	164,700	1,000	0.66%	-12,000	-7.29%
Sumter MSA	37,700	37,100	39,800	600	1.62%	-2,100	-5.28%

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
September**

Area	September 2020	August 2020	September 2019	August 2020 to September 2020		September 2019 to September 2020	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,115,200	2,096,000	2,191,600	19,200	0.92%	-76,400	-3.49%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	351,600	351,300	375,900	300	0.09%	-24,300	-6.46%
Columbia MSA	388,000	383,300	405,300	4,700	1.23%	-17,300	-4.27%
Florence MSA	90,300	89,400	92,400	900	1.01%	-2,100	-2.27%
Greenville MSA	424,900	417,500	433,500	7,400	1.77%	-8,600	-1.98%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	81,400	84,000	84,300	-2,600	-3.10%	-2,900	-3.44%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	158,400	160,600	176,700	-2,200	-1.37%	-18,300	-10.36%
Spartanburg MSA	152,900	151,100	164,100	1,800	1.19%	-11,200	-6.83%
Sumter MSA	37,500	36,700	39,700	800	2.18%	-2,200	-5.54%

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	September 2020					August 2020				September 2019			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
			LEVEL	RATE (%)				LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)
Marlboro County	↓	9,438	8,661	777	8.2	9,720	8,662	1,058	10.9	9,154	8,864	290	3.2
Chester County	↓	13,503	12,431	1,072	7.9	13,855	12,424	1,431	10.3	13,366	12,959	407	3.0
Allendale County	↓	2,619	2,417	202	7.7	2,752	2,452	300	10.9	2,597	2,481	116	4.5
Orangeburg County	↓	35,984	33,275	2,709	7.5	37,115	33,324	3,791	10.2	34,361	32,919	1,442	4.2
Union County	↓	11,881	10,984	897	7.5	12,100	10,903	1,197	9.9	11,667	11,366	301	2.6
Bamberg County	↓	4,978	4,612	366	7.4	5,161	4,651	510	9.9	4,857	4,623	234	4.8
Marion County	↓	13,103	12,213	890	6.8	13,523	12,276	1,247	9.2	12,871	12,469	402	3.1
Williamsburg County	↓	12,244	11,432	812	6.6	12,665	11,456	1,209	9.5	11,847	11,443	404	3.4
Fairfield County	↓	9,709	9,079	630	6.5	9,934	9,061	873	8.8	9,551	9,231	320	3.4
Cherokee County	↓	26,067	24,387	1,680	6.4	26,499	24,269	2,230	8.4	25,220	24,655	565	2.2
Lee County	↓	6,688	6,265	423	6.3	6,872	6,277	595	8.7	6,578	6,358	220	3.3
Horry County	↓	142,464	133,886	8,578	6.0	149,080	136,632	12,448	8.3	148,074	144,679	3,395	2.3
Barnwell County	↓	8,049	7,584	465	5.8	8,260	7,616	644	7.8	8,122	7,845	277	3.4
Georgetown County	↓	26,174	24,649	1,525	5.8	27,012	24,835	2,177	8.1	25,643	24,999	644	2.5
Lancaster County	↓	40,867	38,576	2,291	5.6	41,842	38,529	3,313	7.9	41,201	40,188	1,013	2.5
Sumter County	↓	43,530	41,114	2,416	5.6	44,065	40,592	3,473	7.9	43,401	42,339	1,062	2.4
McCormick County	↓	3,382	3,198	184	5.4	3,429	3,201	228	6.6	3,341	3,272	69	2.1
Clarendon County	↓	12,708	12,039	669	5.3	13,029	12,088	941	7.2	12,553	12,199	354	2.8
Darlington County	↓	31,218	29,553	1,665	5.3	31,951	29,538	2,413	7.6	30,267	29,490	777	2.6
Colleton County	↓	17,030	16,151	879	5.2	17,452	16,205	1,247	7.1	16,720	16,328	392	2.3
Charleston County	↓	211,425	200,690	10,735	5.1	217,452	201,545	15,907	7.3	211,700	208,376	3,324	1.6
Greenwood County	↓	31,723	30,097	1,626	5.1	32,276	30,003	2,273	7.0	31,096	30,392	704	2.3
Calhoun County	↓	6,606	6,274	332	5.0	6,744	6,278	466	6.9	6,557	6,374	183	2.8
Spartanburg County	↓	153,458	145,751	7,707	5.0	155,732	144,603	11,129	7.1	153,637	150,884	2,753	1.8
York County	↓	138,950	132,070	6,880	5.0	141,617	131,713	9,904	7.0	140,400	137,612	2,788	2.0
Dillon County	↓	13,278	12,621	657	4.9	13,615	12,707	908	6.7	12,884	12,491	393	3.1
Richland County	↓	201,853	191,922	9,931	4.9	204,656	190,637	14,019	6.9	199,327	195,343	3,984	2.0
Chesterfield County	↓	22,193	21,134	1,059	4.8	22,661	21,189	1,472	6.5	21,738	21,292	446	2.1
Laurens County	↓	31,185	29,675	1,510	4.8	31,571	29,377	2,194	6.9	30,143	29,479	664	2.2
Dorchester County	↓	77,558	73,997	3,561	4.6	79,410	74,267	5,143	6.5	78,280	76,934	1,346	1.7
Florence County	↓	68,731	65,557	3,174	4.6	69,798	65,316	4,482	6.4	66,789	65,397	1,392	2.1
Abbeville County	↓	10,090	9,633	457	4.5	10,226	9,590	636	6.2	9,971	9,723	248	2.5
Berkeley County	↓	102,998	98,500	4,498	4.4	105,425	98,817	6,608	6.3	104,291	102,437	1,854	1.8
Anderson County	↓	93,948	90,088	3,860	4.1	94,650	89,018	5,632	6.0	91,258	89,517	1,741	1.9
Hampton County	↓	8,400	8,057	343	4.1	8,754	8,244	510	5.8	8,270	8,113	157	1.9
Greenville County	↓	263,079	252,565	10,514	4.0	264,710	249,437	15,273	5.8	255,332	250,979	4,353	1.7
Jasper County	↓	12,759	12,252	507	4.0	13,447	12,712	735	5.5	12,518	12,304	214	1.7
Kershaw County	↓	29,247	28,086	1,161	4.0	29,707	28,021	1,686	5.7	29,216	28,561	655	2.2
Newberry County	↓	18,894	18,198	696	3.7	19,347	18,330	1,017	5.3	18,849	18,447	402	2.1
Beaufort County	↓	78,179	75,330	2,849	3.6	82,267	78,076	4,191	5.1	77,235	75,848	1,387	1.8
Edgefield County	↓	10,488	10,126	362	3.5	10,835	10,301	534	4.9	10,546	10,334	212	2.0
Pickens County	↓	58,743	56,702	2,041	3.5	58,922	56,012	2,910	4.9	57,479	56,334	1,145	2.0
Aiken County	↓	73,585	71,076	2,509	3.4	75,546	71,880	3,666	4.9	74,177	72,647	1,530	2.1
Oconee County	↓	35,405	34,218	1,187	3.4	35,973	34,150	1,823	5.1	35,048	34,377	671	1.9
Lexington County	↓	150,130	145,176	4,954	3.3	151,722	144,591	7,131	4.7	150,085	147,642	2,443	1.6
Saluda County	↓	8,671	8,425	246	2.8	8,926	8,560	366	4.1	8,718	8,545	173	2.0
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	391,981	373,187	18,794	4.8	402,287	374,629	27,658	6.9	394,271	387,747	6,524	1.7
Columbia MSA	↓	406,216	388,962	17,254	4.2	411,689	387,148	24,541	6.0	403,454	395,696	7,758	1.9
Florence MSA	↓	99,949	95,110	4,839	4.8	101,749	94,854	6,895	6.8	97,056	94,887	2,169	2.2
Greenville -Anderson- Mauldin MSA	↓	446,955	429,030	17,925	4.0	449,853	423,844	26,009	5.8	434,212	426,309	7,903	1.8
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,390,306	2,268,821	121,485	5.1	2,421,059	2,266,250	154,809	6.4	2,380,292	2,322,842	57,450	2.4

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

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