INSIGHTS

2.6%

S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce   **Business Intelligence Department**

View the S.C. Employment Situation Report

Economic Indicators
October 2019 - Seasonally Adjusted

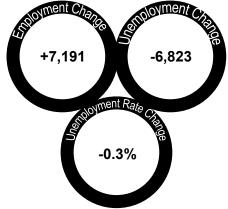|	U.S.	S.C.
Labor Force	164,364,000	2,381,125
Employed	158,510,000	2,318,762
Unemployed	5,855,000	62,363
Unemployed Rate	3.6%	2.6%

Employment growth continues; unemployment rate falls to 2.6 percent, lowest ever again

The number of individuals working rose by 7,191 in October, establishing a new record of 2,318,762 people employed.
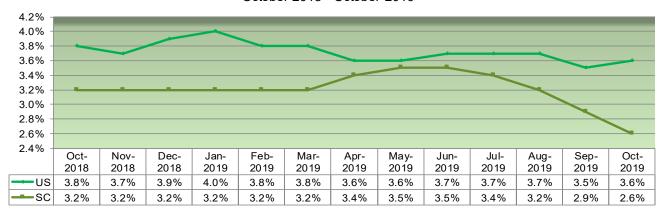
Unemployment fell over the month by 6,823 to 62,363 people. Additionally, the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined to 2.6 percent for the month, reaching the lowest ever recorded rate for the second consecutive month. The state's labor force grew by 368 to 2,381,125.

Since October of 2018, employment increased by 64,392 people. Likewise, the labor force rose by 51,825. The level of unemployed declined by 12,567 people.

Nationally, the unemployment rate rose from 3.5 percent to 3.6 percent in October.

Employment Change +7,191

Unemployment Change -6,823

Unemployment Rate Change -0.3%

South Carolina vs U.S. Unemployment Rate
October 2018 - October 2019

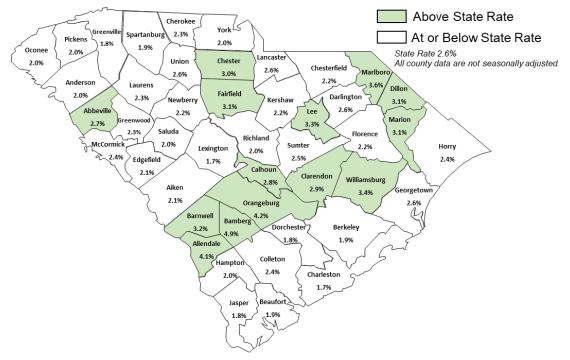|	Oct-2018	Nov-2018	Dec-2018	Jan-2019	Feb-2019	Mar-2019	Apr-2019	May-2019	Jun-2019	Jul-2019	Aug-2019	Sep-2019	Oct-2019
US	3.8%	3.7%	3.9%	4.0%	3.8%	3.8%	3.6%	3.6%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	3.5%	3.6%
SC	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.4%	3.5%	3.5%	3.4%	3.2%	2.9%	2.6%

U.S. unemployment rate rises in October;
S.C. rate reaches lowest ever again at 2.6 percent, ranked 4th lowest

Unemployment rates were lower in October in four states, higher in two states and stable in 44 states and the District of Columbia. Eight states had jobless rate decreases from a year earlier, three states had increases and 39 states and the District had little or no change. The national unemployment rate rose to 3.6 percent, while South Carolina's unemployment rate dropped to 2.6 percent, ranking 4th lowest of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Nonfarm payroll employment increased in four states in October 2019, decreased in one state and was essentially unchanged in 45 states and the District of Columbia. Twenty-seven states had over-the-year increases in nonfarm payroll employment in October. The largest job gains occurred in California (+308,000), Texas (+297,100) and Florida (+228,600). The largest percentage gains occurred in Utah (+3.2 percent), Florida (+2.6 percent) and Arizona (+2.5 percent).

October unemployment rates by county

All county unemployment rates rose across the state as the not seasonally adjusted statewide employment rate increased over the month. Rates ranged from a low of 1.7 percent in Charleston and Lexington counties to a high of 4.9 percent in Bamberg County.

State	Rate
Vermont	2.2
North Dakota	2.5
Utah	2.5
Colorado	2.6
Iowa	2.6
New Hampshire	2.6
South Carolina	2.6
Virginia	2.6
Hawaii	2.7
Alabama	2.8
Maine	2.8
Idaho	2.9
Massachusetts	2.9
South Dakota	3.0
Kansas	3.1
Missouri	3.1
Nebraska	3.1
Florida	3.2
Indiana	3.2
Minnesota	3.2
New Jersey	3.2
Oklahoma	3.3
Wisconsin	3.3
Georgia	3.4
Montana	3.4
Tennessee	3.4
Texas	3.4
Arkansas	3.5
Connecticut	3.6
Maryland	3.6
Rhode Island	3.6
United States	3.6
Delaware	3.7
Wyoming	3.8
California	3.9
Illinois	3.9
New York	4.0
North Carolina	4.0
Michigan	4.1
Nevada	4.1
Oregon	4.1
Ohio	4.2
Pennsylvania	4.2
Kentucky	4.3
Louisiana	4.5
Washington	4.5
Arizona	4.8
New Mexico	4.8
West Virginia	4.8
District of Columbia	5.4
Mississippi	5.5
Alaska	6.2

October 2019

Highest County Unemployment Rates		Lowest County Unemployment Rates	
Bamberg County	4.9%	Charleston County	1.7%
Orangeburg County	4.2%	Lexington County	1.7%
Allendale County	4.1%	Dorchester County	1.8%
Marlboro County	3.6%	Greenville County	1.8%
Williamsburg County	3.4%	Jasper County	1.8%

October 2019

Economic Indicators
Average Hours & Earnings

Manufacturing	United States (SA)	S.C. (Unadj.)
Avg Weekly Earnings	$1,125.98	$881.88
Avg Weekly Hours	40.3	42.5
Avg Hourly Wages	$27.94	$20.75

South Carolina nonfarm employment trends for October—seasonally adjusted

In October 2019 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payrolls increased +4,200 over the month to a record high level of 2,185,000.

Industries reporting increases in employment were Leisure and Hospitality (+2,300); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+2,200); Financial Activities (+1,100); Education and Health Services (+700); Government (+600); Construction (+500) and Other Services (+300).
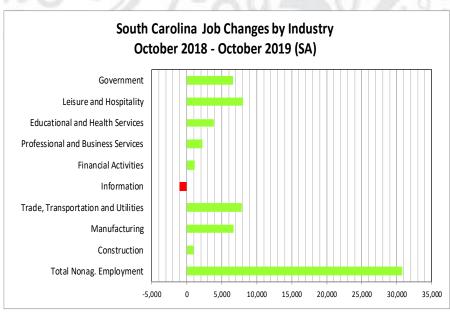
Decreases were seen in the Professional and Business Services (-2,600); Manufacturing (-700) and Information (-200) industries.
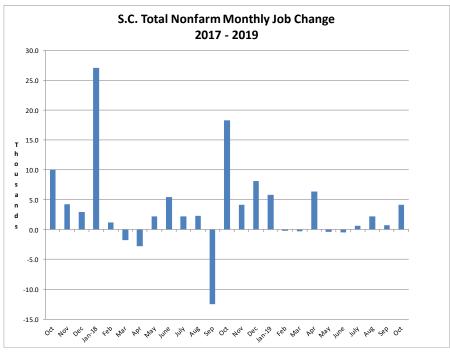
From October 2018 to October 2019, South Carolina's economy has added 30,800 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

Industries with strong growth were Leisure and Hospitality (+8,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,900); Manufacturing (+6,700); Government (+6,600); Education and Health Services (+3,900); Other Services (+1,800); Financial Activities (1,100) and Construction (+1,000).

Decreases were seen in Professional and Business Services (-5,400) and Information (-1,000).

For the Metropolitan Statistical Areas, the top seasonally adjusted, total nonfarm payroll job increase was seen in Myrtle Beach (+2,000).

South Carolina Job Changes by Industry October 2018 - October 2019 (SA)

S.C. Total Nonfarm Monthly Job Change 2017 - 2019

Economic Indicators (October 2019)
Top Job Growth by MSA (SA)

	Over Month % Change	Over Year % Change
Sumter MSA	0.73%	1.23%
Florence MSA	0.00%	0.98%
Charleston MSA	-0.16%	0.43%
Columbia MSA	-0.25%	0.15%

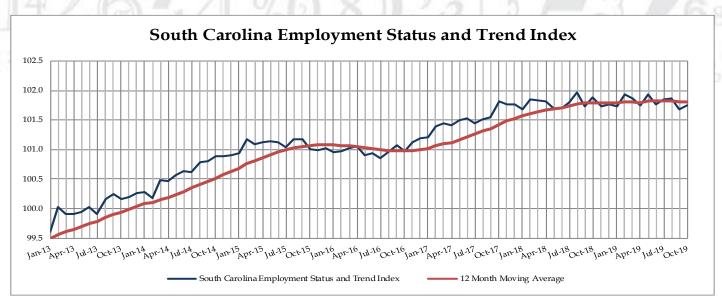To see the monthly not seasonally adjusted data series, go to

www.SCWorkforceInfo.com

(Employment and Wage Data section)

Employment Changes by County
August 2019 through October 2019

County	Employment			Net Change From	
	Oct 2019	Sep 2019	Aug 2019	Sep '19 - Oct '19	Aug '19 - Sep '19
Abbeville	9,994	9,915	9,786	79	129
Aiken	73,935	73,232	73,632	703	-400
Allendale	2,671	2,607	2,649	64	-42
Anderson	89,618	89,283	89,082	335	201
Bamberg	4,783	4,683	4,714	100	-31
Barnwell	8,247	8,127	8,111	120	16
Beaufort	77,583	76,930	78,612	653	-1,682
Berkeley	101,343	101,535	101,568	-192	-33
Calhoun	6,534	6,494	6,563	40	-69
Charleston	206,552	207,270	207,540	-718	-270
Cherokee	25,430	25,199	24,847	231	352
Chester	13,354	13,252	13,250	102	2
Chesterfield	21,981	21,729	21,721	252	8
Clarendon	12,377	12,180	12,252	197	-72
Colleton	16,600	16,492	16,451	108	41
Darlington	29,784	29,628	29,794	156	-166
Dillon	12,522	12,298	12,399	224	-101
Dorchester	75,201	75,345	75,418	-144	-73
Edgefield	10,476	10,353	10,514	123	-161
Fairfield	9,423	9,370	9,435	53	-65
Florence	65,524	65,445	65,390	79	55
Georgetown	25,619	25,362	25,445	257	-83
Greenville	249,741	248,865	248,096	876	769
Greenwood	30,938	30,598	30,296	340	302
Hampton	8,280	8,112	8,288	168	-176
Horry	148,462	148,901	151,396	-439	-2,495
Jasper	12,415	12,374	12,668	41	-294
Kershaw	28,634	28,479	28,658	155	-179
Lancaster	40,057	39,815	39,752	242	63
Laurens	29,713	29,595	29,609	118	-14
Lee	6,525	6,429	6,472	96	-43
Lexington	146,852	146,266	146,741	586	-475
McCormick	3,407	3,380	3,349	27	31
Marion	12,762	12,640	12,676	122	-36
Marlboro	9,027	8,897	8,829	130	68
Newberry	18,638	18,308	18,512	330	-204
Oconee	35,173	34,802	34,620	371	182
Orangeburg	33,548	33,115	33,024	433	91
Pickens	56,163	56,013	55,835	150	178
Richland	195,682	195,000	194,848	682	152
Saluda	8,704	8,560	8,880	144	-320
Spartanburg	150,195	149,940	148,522	255	1,418
Sumter	43,797	43,348	43,242	449	106
Union	11,621	11,609	11,503	12	106
Williamsburg	12,091	11,926	11,908	165	18
York	137,226	136,579	135,987	647	592

South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index rises in October

South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index

South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index — 12 Month Moving Average

"With the Index remaining below its 12-month moving average in October, SCESTI indicates a negative direction for employment change over the next several months."

S.C. Employment Status and Trend Index (SCESTI), an aggregate of five labor-market indicators, rose to 101.75 in October from its revised September value of 101.68. The Index remained below its 12-month moving average, which dipped by one-hundredth of a point to 101.80 for the month.

Three of the five underlying labor-market components moved in a negative direction in October. The Conference Board's Consumer Confidence Index decreased by four-tenths of a point from September's value of 126.3 to 125.9 in October. Initial claims for Unemployment Insurance rose from a September average of 2,234 per week to an October average of 2,328 per week. The Conference Board's Employment Trends Index fell in October to 110.11 points from a September revised value of 110.87. The Conference Board's Help Wanted Online® data, which tracks the number of available job openings posted online, rose by 2,286 ads in October to 68,386 from 66,100 in September. The Bureau of Labor Statistic's S.C. Weekly Manufacturing Hours data showed production hours increasing to a preliminary 42.5 hours per week in October from its revised September level of 41.8.

SCESTI fell below its year-ago figure of 101.88 in October of 2018. With the Index remaining below its 12-month moving average in October, SCESTI indicates a negative direction for employment change over the next several months.
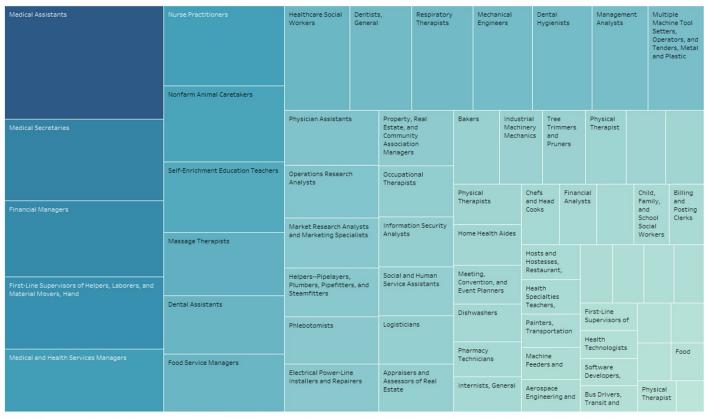
S.C. Online Job Advertisements   S.C. Avg. Weekly Manufacturing Hours   U.S. Consumer Confidence Index   U.S. Employment Trends Index   S.C. Initial Claims/ Unemployment Insurance

Emerging Occupations

Examining the latest occupational projections reveals an interesting set of emerging positions over the next 10 years (2016-2026). Restricting the list of occupations to those with fewer than 500 jobs in the 2016 base year (not emerged yet), growing by more than 20 percent (nearly double the state rate of 11.6 percent) and adding more than 50 jobs over the period (enough to be impactful) highlights an emerging set of occupations across the state of South Carolina as shown in the graphic below.

Emerging Occupations Across S.C.

SOC Title. Color shows sum of Projection Employment. Size shows sum of Projection Employment. The marks are labeled by SOC Title. The data is filtered on SOC Level and Area. The SOC Level filter includes values greater than or equal to 4. The Area filter excludes South Carolina.

Thirty-nine percent of these emerging occupations are in the Health Sciences career cluster. Nurse Practitioners, Physicians and Medical Assistants and Physical and Occupational Therapists are among the top emerging positions. Human Service workers, such as Massage Therapists, Healthcare Social Workers and Assistants, are emerging also. Multiple Machine Tool Setters and Operators are emerging in the Manufacturing cluster, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineers in the STEM cluster and First-Line Supervisors of Helpers, Laborers and Material Movers in the Transportation, Distribution and Logistics cluster. In terms of educational attainment required to obtain an emerging occupation, 39 percent of positions demand a Bachelor's degree or higher (Logicians, Financial Managers and Analysts, Information Security Analysts), while 21 percent require postsecondary education to a four-year degree (Dental Hygienists and Assistants, Respiratory Therapists, Phlebotomists).