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For Release
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South Carolina's Employment Situation February 2022

I. Household Survey¹ (Local Area Unemployment Statistics)

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working increased to 2,295,706.

- That is an increase of 3,406 people over the January estimate.
- That is a significant increase of 49,175 people over the February 2021 estimate.

Unemployment: The estimate of unemployed people showed little change at 82,658.

- That is an increase of 416 people from January's estimate and a significant decrease of 21,756 over the February 2021 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate showed no change over the month, remaining at 3.5 percent.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased to 3.8 percent in February from 4.0 percent in January, according to the Current Population Survey.

Labor force: The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) increased to 2,378,364 from January's level of 2,374,542.

- That is an increase of 3,822 people over the January estimate.
- That is an increase of 27,419 individuals over the February 2021 estimate.

II. Employer Survey² (Current Employment Statistics)

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted³)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated increase of 17,500 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,195,900.

- Industries that reported gains were Professional and Business Services (+7,100); Government (+2,700); Leisure and Hospitality (+2,200); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+2,000); Education and Health Services (+1,600); Manufacturing (+1,000); Financial Activities (+800); Other Services (+500); and Construction (+200).
- Decreases were observed in the Information (-700) industry.

From February 2021 to February 2022, South Carolina's economy has picked up 64,700 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Industries with strong growth were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+18,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+16,100); Professional and Business Services (+8,300); Manufacturing (+7,100); Financial Activities (+5,500); Other Services (+4,600); Education and Health Services (+2,600); Information (+1,100); and Construction (+900).
- There was a decline noticed in the Government (-500) industry over the year.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted⁴)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 33,300 from January 2022 to February 2022 for a total of 2,181,400.

- Increases were reported in the Professional and Business Services (+12,100); Government (+7,300); Leisure and Hospitality (+6,200); Education and Health Services (+4,300); Manufacturing (+1,600); Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+800); Other Services (+600); Financial Activities (+600); Construction (+300); and Mining and Logging (+100) industries.
- Decreases were reported in the Information (-600) industry.

Since February 2021, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 73,200 in South Carolina.

- Industries making strong annual gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+18,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+18,400); Professional and Business Services (+11,100); Manufacturing (+6,900); Financial Activities (+6,100); Other Services (+5,000); Education and Health Services (+1,800); Government (+1,800); Construction (+1,600); Information (+1,500); and Mining and Logging (+200).
- No industry showed a decline over the year.

¹**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.

²**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.

³**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.

⁴**Not Seasonally Adjusted:** Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have not been removed from these data.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide

February 2022

Area	February 2022	January 2022	February 2021	January 2022 to February 2022		February 2021 to February 2022	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,195,900	2,178,400	2,131,200	17,500	0.80%	64,700	3.04%
Construction	104,800	104,600	103,900	200	0.19%	900	0.87%
Manufacturing	255,300	254,300	248,200	1,000	0.39%	7,100	2.86%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	427,900	425,900	411,800	2,000	0.47%	16,100	3.91%
Information	27,800	28,500	26,700	-700	-2.46%	1,100	4.12%
Financial Activities	113,600	112,800	108,100	800	0.71%	5,500	5.09%
Professional and Business Services	302,000	294,900	293,700	7,100	2.41%	8,300	2.83%
Education and Health Services	256,500	254,900	253,900	1,600	0.63%	2,600	1.02%
Leisure and Hospitality	258,000	255,800	239,200	2,200	0.86%	18,800	7.86%
Other Services	80,600	80,100	76,000	500	0.62%	4,600	6.05%
Government	364,900	362,200	365,400	2,700	0.75%	-500	-0.14%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide

February 2022

Area	February 2022	January 2022	February 2021	January 2022 to February 2022		February 2021 to February 2022	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm	2,181,400	2,148,100	2,108,200	33,300	1.55%	73,200	3.47%
Mining and Logging	4,500	4,400	4,300	100	2.27%	200	4.65%
Construction	104,100	103,800	102,500	300	0.29%	1,600	1.56%
Manufacturing	255,100	253,500	248,200	1,600	0.63%	6,900	2.78%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	425,000	424,200	406,600	800	0.19%	18,400	4.53%
Information	27,900	28,500	26,400	-600	-2.11%	1,500	5.68%
Financial Activities	113,300	112,700	107,200	600	0.53%	6,100	5.69%
Professional and Business Services	302,200	290,100	291,100	12,100	4.17%	11,100	3.81%
Education and Health Services	256,400	252,100	254,600	4,300	1.71%	1,800	0.71%
Leisure and Hospitality	244,300	238,100	225,500	6,200	2.60%	18,800	8.34%
Other Services	80,200	79,600	75,200	600	0.75%	5,000	6.65%
Government	368,400	361,100	366,600	7,300	2.02%	1,800	0.49%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted

February 2022

Area	February 2022	January 2022	February 2021	January 2022 to February 2022		February 2021 to February 2022	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,195,900	2,178,400	2,131,200	17,500	0.80%	64,700	3.04%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	381,300	380,100	364,500	1,200	0.32%	16,800	4.61%
Columbia MSA	398,900	395,000	394,300	3,900	0.99%	4,600	1.17%
Florence MSA	90,500	90,400	89,300	100	0.11%	1,200	1.34%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	434,300	431,500	422,600	2,800	0.65%	11,700	2.77%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	84,400	83,800	81,100	600	0.72%	3,300	4.07%
Myrtle Beach MSA	179,700	178,800	170,200	900	0.50%	9,500	5.58%
Spartanburg MSA	166,100	165,700	162,800	400	0.24%	3,300	2.03%
Sumter MSA	38,200	38,100	38,200	100	0.26%	0	0.00%

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

February 2022

Area	February 2022	January 2022	February 2021	January 2022 to February 2022		February 2021 to February 2022	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,181,400	2,148,100	2,108,200	33,300	1.55%	73,200	3.47%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	378,000	375,000	361,500	3,000	0.80%	16,500	4.56%
Columbia MSA	398,700	391,500	393,700	7,200	1.84%	5,000	1.27%
Florence MSA	89,800	89,600	88,800	200	0.22%	1,000	1.13%
Greenville MSA	433,700	426,800	420,800	6,900	1.62%	12,900	3.07%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	82,400	81,300	79,200	1,100	1.35%	3,200	4.04%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	172,900	169,500	162,000	3,400	2.01%	10,900	6.73%
Spartanburg MSA	165,400	164,400	162,200	1,000	0.61%	3,200	1.97%
Sumter MSA	38,100	37,900	38,300	200	0.53%	-200	-0.52%

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		February 2022				January 2022				February 2021**			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL RATE (%)		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL RATE (%)		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL RATE (%)	
Marlboro County	↑	8,715	7,943	772	8.9	8,833	8,080	753	8.5	9,208	8,374	834	9.1
Allendale County	↑	2,384	2,199	185	7.8	2,371	2,188	183	7.7	2,636	2,384	252	9.6
Bamberg County	—	4,698	4,357	341	7.3	4,698	4,354	344	7.3	4,783	4,337	446	9.3
Orangeburg County	↓	34,113	31,772	2,341	6.9	34,108	31,673	2,435	7.1	34,837	32,018	2,819	8.1
Marion County	↓	12,752	11,889	863	6.8	12,826	11,929	897	7.0	13,326	12,293	1,033	7.8
Barnwell County	↓	7,462	6,960	502	6.7	7,504	6,992	512	6.8	7,965	7,340	625	7.8
Fairfield County	↑	9,311	8,734	577	6.2	9,193	8,640	553	6.0	9,564	8,890	674	7.0
Union County	↓	11,564	10,852	712	6.2	11,604	10,864	740	6.4	12,033	11,113	920	7.6
Williamsburg County	↑	10,846	10,186	660	6.1	10,870	10,217	653	6.0	11,769	10,909	860	7.3
Dillon County	↑	13,125	12,335	790	6.0	13,147	12,374	773	5.9	13,413	12,480	933	7.0
Chester County	↓	13,459	12,680	779	5.8	13,436	12,635	801	6.0	13,537	12,546	991	7.3
Horry County	↑	149,127	140,927	8,200	5.5	147,390	139,385	8,005	5.4	144,265	134,085	10,180	7.1
Lee County	↓	6,525	6,163	362	5.5	6,538	6,165	373	5.7	6,753	6,298	455	6.7
Clarendon County	↑	12,043	11,428	615	5.1	11,997	11,438	559	4.7	12,619	11,815	804	6.4
Georgetown County	↑	25,641	24,338	1,303	5.1	25,442	24,214	1,228	4.8	25,820	24,118	1,702	6.6
Cherokee County	↑	24,891	23,665	1,226	4.9	24,806	23,645	1,161	4.7	25,039	23,427	1,612	6.4
Lancaster County	↑	43,741	41,690	2,051	4.7	43,475	41,572	1,903	4.4	42,428	40,054	2,374	5.6
McCormick County	↑	3,287	3,134	153	4.7	3,278	3,142	136	4.1	3,373	3,155	218	6.5
Abbeville County	↑	9,607	9,162	445	4.6	9,576	9,178	398	4.2	10,089	9,542	547	5.4
Chesterfield County	↑	21,588	20,587	1,001	4.6	21,536	20,575	961	4.5	21,759	20,512	1,247	5.7
Sumter County	↑	42,530	40,556	1,974	4.6	42,466	40,662	1,804	4.2	43,788	41,197	2,591	5.9
Calhoun County	↑	6,427	6,137	290	4.5	6,336	6,069	267	4.2	6,550	6,184	366	5.6
Colleton County	↑	16,072	15,353	719	4.5	16,063	15,409	654	4.1	16,657	15,691	966	5.8
Darlington County	↑	29,739	28,399	1,340	4.5	29,772	28,513	1,259	4.2	30,318	28,558	1,760	5.8
Greenwood County	↑	30,218	28,851	1,367	4.5	30,113	28,867	1,246	4.1	31,626	29,807	1,819	5.8
Laurens County	↑	30,253	28,955	1,298	4.3	29,933	28,735	1,198	4.0	30,163	28,502	1,661	5.5
Florence County	↑	65,938	63,218	2,720	4.1	66,083	63,579	2,504	3.8	67,080	63,662	3,418	5.1
Oconee County	↑	34,113	32,730	1,383	4.1	33,826	32,695	1,131	3.3	34,873	33,278	1,595	4.6
Beaufort County	↑	76,785	73,749	3,036	4.0	75,865	73,350	2,515	3.3	77,144	73,599	3,545	4.6
Richland County	↑	198,026	190,039	7,987	4.0	195,639	188,199	7,440	3.8	198,983	188,506	10,477	5.3
York County	↑	148,354	142,451	5,903	4.0	147,648	142,134	5,514	3.7	143,622	136,798	6,824	4.8
Kershaw County	↑	29,389	28,231	1,158	3.9	28,948	27,931	1,017	3.5	29,373	27,969	1,404	4.8
Spartanburg County	↑	158,076	151,984	6,092	3.9	157,720	152,130	5,590	3.5	158,424	150,649	7,775	4.9
Aiken County	↑	74,461	71,660	2,801	3.8	74,398	72,046	2,352	3.2	75,676	72,306	3,370	4.5
Edgefield County	↑	10,389	9,991	398	3.8	10,353	10,027	326	3.1	10,809	10,317	492	4.6
Anderson County	↑	91,897	88,474	3,423	3.7	90,828	87,821	3,007	3.3	91,050	86,620	4,430	4.9
Berkeley County	↑	109,415	105,360	4,055	3.7	108,977	105,383	3,594	3.3	105,390	100,393	4,997	4.7
Jasper County	↑	13,147	12,659	488	3.7	13,024	12,609	415	3.2	12,923	12,327	596	4.6
Pickens County	↑	58,176	56,003	2,173	3.7	57,413	55,614	1,799	3.1	57,386	54,852	2,534	4.4
Charleston County	↑	214,762	207,085	7,677	3.6	214,086	207,207	6,879	3.2	211,808	201,655	10,153	4.8
Dorchester County	↑	79,353	76,489	2,864	3.6	79,044	76,501	2,543	3.2	77,865	74,183	3,682	4.7
Greenville County	↑	261,244	252,060	9,184	3.5	258,314	250,228	8,086	3.1	256,005	244,638	11,367	4.4
Hampton County	↑	7,939	7,663	276	3.5	7,885	7,637	248	3.1	8,135	7,749	386	4.7
Newberry County	↑	19,224	18,558	666	3.5	18,978	18,399	579	3.1	19,357	18,514	843	4.4
Saluda County	↑	8,338	8,043	295	3.5	8,160	7,913	247	3.0	8,665	8,286	379	4.4
Lexington County	↑	151,347	146,339	5,008	3.3	149,193	144,873	4,320	2.9	150,288	144,261	6,027	4.0
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↑	403,530	388,934	14,596	3.6	402,107	389,091	13,016	3.2	395,063	376,231	18,832	4.8
Columbia MSA	↑	402,838	387,523	15,315	3.8	397,469	383,625	13,844	3.5	403,423	384,096	19,327	4.8
Florence MSA	↑	95,677	91,617	4,060	4.2	95,855	92,092	3,763	3.9	97,398	92,220	5,178	5.3
Greenville -Anderson- Mauldin MSA	↑	441,570	425,492	16,078	3.6	436,488	422,398	14,090	3.2	434,604	414,612	19,992	4.6
Hilton Head Island- Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	↑	89,932	86,408	3,524	3.9	88,889	85,959	2,930	3.3	90,067	85,926	4,141	4.6
Myrtle Beach-Conway- North Myrtle Beach, SC- NC MSA	—	203,426	192,470	10,956	5.4	200,827	190,016	10,811	5.4	196,288	182,362	13,926	7.1
Spartanburg MSA	↑	169,640	162,836	6,804	4.0	169,324	162,994	6,330	3.7	170,457	161,762	8,695	5.1
Sumter MSA	↑	42,530	40,556	1,974	4.6	42,466	40,662	1,804	4.2	43,788	41,197	2,591	5.9
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	—	2,378,364	2,295,706	82,658	3.5	2,374,542	2,292,300	82,242	3.5	2,350,945	2,246,531	104,414	4.4

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

**2021 substate estimates will be revised at the conclusion of the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual benchmarking process on April 15th.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
— Unemployment Rate =