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For Immediate Release
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South Carolina's Employment Situation August 2020

I. Household Survey¹

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working increased to 2,264,535.

- That is a significant increase of 18,532 people over July 2020.
- That is also a significant decrease of 52,248 people over August 2019.

Unemployment: Unemployment estimates declined significantly to 152,936 people.

- That is a decrease of 59,966 people since July 2020 and a notable increase of 92,796 over August 2019.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 6.3 percent in August from July's revised estimate of 8.7 percent.

Nationally, the unemployment rate declined from 10.2 percent in July to 8.4 percent in August.

Labor force: The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) decreased significantly to 2,417,471.

- That is a substantial decrease of 41,434 people over July 2020.
- That is a significant increase of 40,458 individuals over August 2019.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted³)

The Current Employment Survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an increase of 19,700 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,092,200.

- Industries reporting gains were Government (+10,900); Professional and Business Services (+5,300); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+3,100); Leisure and Hospitality (+2,800); Construction (+1,100); Financial Activities (+500); and Other Services (+500).

- Decreases were noticed in the Education and Health Services (-4,000); Information (-400); and Manufacturing (-200).

From August 2019 to August 2020, South Carolina's economy has lost 104,700 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Only the Other Services (+1,400) and Construction (+1,200) industries reported gains over the year.
- Decreases were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (-55,800); Education and Health Services (-15,600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-12,500); Professional and Business Services (-8,600); Government (-7,300); Manufacturing (-3,600); Financial Activities (-2,200); and Information (-1,500).

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted²)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 16,100 from July 2020 to August 2020 for a total of 2,094,100.

- Industries reporting growth during this period were Government (+13,800); Professional and Business Services (+3,300); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+2,200); Construction (+1,000); Other Services (+700); Financial Activities (+300); and Mining and Logging (+100).
- Industries reporting declines were Leisure and Hospitality (-2,800); Education and Health Services (-1,100); Information (-800); and Manufacturing (-600).

Since August 2019, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were down 102,700 overall in South Carolina.

- Only the Other Services (+2,600) and Construction (+500) industries showed annual gains.
- Industries recording an over-the-year loss are Leisure and Hospitality (-57,000); Education and Health Services (-16,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-12,200); Professional and Business Services (-7,600); Government (-6,700); Manufacturing (-2,700); Financial Activities (-2,000); Information (-1,400); and Mining and Logging (-200).

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
August**

Area	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	July 2020 to August 2020		August 2019 to August 2020	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,092,200	2,072,500	2,196,900	19,700	0.95%	-104,700	-4.77%
Construction	108,300	107,200	107,100	1,100	1.03%	1,200	1.12%
Manufacturing	256,500	256,700	260,100	-200	-0.08%	-3,600	-1.38%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	396,400	393,300	408,900	3,100	0.79%	-12,500	-3.06%
Information	25,600	26,000	27,100	-400	-1.54%	-1,500	-5.54%
Financial Activities	103,100	102,600	105,300	500	0.49%	-2,200	-2.09%
Professional and Business Services	290,900	285,600	299,500	5,300	1.86%	-8,600	-2.87%
Education and Health Services	243,500	247,500	259,100	-4,000	-1.62%	-15,600	-6.02%
Leisure and Hospitality	215,700	212,900	271,500	2,800	1.32%	-55,800	-20.55%
Other Services	81,400	80,900	80,000	500	0.62%	1,400	1.75%
Government	366,500	355,600	373,800	10,900	3.07%	-7,300	-1.95%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide
August**

Area	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	July 2020 to August 2020		August 2019 to August 2020	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	2,094,100	2,078,000	2,196,800	16,100	0.77%	-102,700	-4.67%
Mining and Logging	4,300	4,200	4,500	100	2.38%	-200	-4.44%
Construction	108,400	107,400	107,900	1,000	0.93%	500	0.46%
Manufacturing	256,900	257,500	259,600	-600	-0.23%	-2,700	-1.04%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	396,000	393,800	408,200	2,200	0.56%	-12,200	-2.99%
Information	25,600	26,400	27,000	-800	-3.03%	-1,400	-5.19%
Financial Activities	104,500	104,200	106,500	300	0.29%	-2,000	-1.88%
Professional and Business Services	290,400	287,100	298,000	3,300	1.15%	-7,600	-2.55%
Education and Health Services	242,700	243,800	258,700	-1,100	-0.45%	-16,000	-6.18%
Leisure and Hospitality	225,700	228,500	282,700	-2,800	-1.23%	-57,000	-20.16%
Other Services	83,000	82,300	80,400	700	0.85%	2,600	3.23%
Government	356,600	342,800	363,300	13,800	4.03%	-6,700	-1.84%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted

August

Area	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	July 2020 to August 2020		August 2019 to August 2020	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,092,200	2,072,500	2,196,900	19,700	0.95%	-104,700	-4.77%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	350,700	348,100	377,900	2,600	0.75%	-27,200	-7.20%
Columbia MSA	383,800	384,000	406,700	-200	-0.05%	-22,900	-5.63%
Florence MSA	89,800	90,300	92,900	-500	-0.55%	-3,100	-3.34%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	419,700	415,700	434,300	4,000	0.96%	-14,600	-3.36%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	81,800	78,600	84,500	3,200	4.07%	-2,700	-3.20%
Myrtle Beach MSA	154,500	152,300	174,900	2,200	1.44%	-20,400	-11.66%
Spartanburg MSA	152,800	151,200	164,500	1,600	1.06%	-11,700	-7.11%
Sumter MSA	38,200	37,500	39,800	700	1.87%	-1,600	-4.02%

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

August

Area	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	July 2020 to August 2020		August 2019 to August 2020	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,094,100	2,078,000	2,196,800	16,100	0.77%	-102,700	-4.67%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	350,600	349,000	378,600	1,600	0.46%	-28,000	-7.40%
Columbia MSA	382,700	380,800	404,500	1,900	0.50%	-21,800	-5.39%
Florence MSA	89,500	89,600	92,500	-100	-0.11%	-3,000	-3.24%
Greenville MSA	418,200	412,600	432,500	5,600	1.36%	-14,300	-3.31%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	83,600	81,000	86,100	2,600	3.21%	-2,500	-2.90%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	161,600	161,300	181,600	300	0.19%	-20,000	-11.01%
Spartanburg MSA	152,200	148,900	163,000	3,300	2.22%	-10,800	-6.63%
Sumter MSA	37,800	37,300	39,400	500	1.34%	-1,600	-4.06%

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	August 2020				July 2020				August 2019				
	LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOYMENT		
	FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)	FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)	FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)	
Allendale County	↓	2,739	2,444	295	10.8	2,821	2,428	393	13.9	2,677	2,526	151	5.6
Marlboro County	↓	9,678	8,636	1,042	10.8	10,045	8,641	1,404	14.0	9,278	8,866	412	4.4
Chester County	↓	13,824	12,412	1,412	10.2	14,253	12,310	1,943	13.6	13,542	12,965	577	4.3
Orangeburg County	↓	36,949	33,227	3,722	10.1	38,149	33,219	4,930	12.9	34,494	32,631	1,863	5.4
Bamberg County	↓	5,144	4,638	506	9.8	5,285	4,620	665	12.6	4,987	4,678	309	6.2
Union County	↓	12,124	10,947	1,177	9.7	12,527	10,831	1,696	13.5	11,658	11,241	417	3.6
Williamsburg County	↓	12,618	11,429	1,189	9.4	12,951	11,436	1,515	11.7	12,127	11,553	574	4.7
Marion County	↓	13,505	12,264	1,241	9.2	13,904	12,295	1,609	11.6	13,138	12,582	556	4.2
Fairfield County	↓	9,875	9,029	846	8.6	10,205	9,053	1,152	11.3	9,648	9,228	420	4.4
Lee County	↓	6,865	6,283	582	8.5	7,070	6,284	786	11.1	6,690	6,408	282	4.2
Cherokee County	↓	26,445	24,246	2,199	8.3	27,361	24,226	3,135	11.5	25,296	24,505	791	3.1
Horry County	↓	149,565	137,231	12,334	8.2	155,342	138,191	17,151	11.0	152,853	148,069	4,784	3.1
Georgetown County	↓	26,954	24,806	2,148	8.0	27,655	24,811	2,844	10.3	26,216	25,313	903	3.4
Lancaster County	↓	41,794	38,493	3,301	7.9	42,663	38,188	4,475	10.5	41,523	40,145	1,378	3.3
Barnwell County	↓	8,231	7,595	636	7.7	8,596	7,591	1,005	11.7	8,260	7,885	375	4.5
Sumter County	↓	44,998	41,581	3,417	7.6	46,091	41,527	4,564	9.9	43,309	41,818	1,491	3.4
Darlington County	↓	31,864	29,508	2,356	7.4	32,896	29,750	3,146	9.6	30,715	29,629	1,086	3.5
Charleston County	↓	216,524	200,777	15,747	7.3	222,996	201,733	21,263	9.5	213,629	208,642	4,987	2.3
Clarendon County	↓	13,052	12,131	921	7.1	13,384	12,086	1,298	9.7	12,913	12,424	489	3.8
Colleton County	↓	17,390	16,156	1,234	7.1	17,786	16,165	1,621	9.1	16,935	16,384	551	3.3
Spartanburg County	↓	156,181	145,208	10,973	7.0	159,016	143,676	15,340	9.6	153,135	149,159	3,976	2.6
York County	↓	141,461	131,591	9,870	7.0	144,173	130,649	13,524	9.4	141,040	137,097	3,943	2.8
Calhoun County	↓	6,717	6,256	461	6.9	6,876	6,263	613	8.9	6,651	6,396	255	3.8
Greenwood County	↓	32,158	29,930	2,228	6.9	33,037	29,948	3,089	9.4	31,100	30,099	1,001	3.2
Laurens County	↓	31,542	29,377	2,165	6.9	32,286	29,247	3,039	9.4	30,284	29,362	922	3.0
Richland County	↓	203,781	189,947	13,834	6.8	209,184	190,911	18,273	8.7	199,311	193,712	5,599	2.8
Dillon County	↓	13,572	12,676	896	6.6	13,835	12,651	1,184	8.6	13,133	12,621	512	3.9
McCormick County	↓	3,414	3,192	222	6.5	3,508	3,194	314	9.0	3,382	3,276	106	3.1
Chesterfield County	↓	22,597	21,143	1,454	6.4	23,092	21,106	1,986	8.6	22,081	21,420	661	3.0
Dorchester County	↓	79,073	73,982	5,091	6.4	81,584	74,369	7,215	8.8	78,966	77,006	1,960	2.5
Florence County	↓	69,652	65,250	4,402	6.3	71,623	65,894	5,729	8.0	67,258	65,286	1,972	2.9
Berkeley County	↓	104,986	98,434	6,552	6.2	108,340	98,976	9,364	8.6	105,149	102,471	2,678	2.5
Abbeville County	↓	10,191	9,567	624	6.1	10,486	9,580	906	8.6	9,934	9,596	338	3.4
Anderson County	↓	94,592	89,021	5,571	5.9	96,435	88,703	7,732	8.0	91,398	88,920	2,478	2.7
Hampton County	↓	8,717	8,212	505	5.8	8,789	8,110	679	7.7	8,539	8,312	227	2.7
Greenville County	↓	264,550	249,446	15,104	5.7	270,025	248,616	21,409	7.9	255,228	249,089	6,139	2.4
Kershaw County	↓	29,592	27,921	1,671	5.6	30,313	27,998	2,315	7.6	29,444	28,527	917	3.1
Jasper County	↓	13,370	12,639	731	5.5	13,404	12,372	1,032	7.7	12,881	12,558	323	2.5
Newberry County	↓	19,277	18,277	1,000	5.2	19,598	18,220	1,378	7.0	19,287	18,733	554	2.9
Beaufort County	↓	81,744	77,604	4,140	5.1	81,873	76,004	5,869	7.2	79,372	77,262	2,110	2.7
Oconee County	↓	35,895	34,079	1,816	5.1	36,814	34,045	2,769	7.5	35,191	34,198	993	2.8
Pickens County	↓	58,903	56,014	2,889	4.9	60,133	55,823	4,310	7.2	57,550	55,906	1,644	2.9
Edgefield County	↓	10,795	10,274	521	4.8	11,006	10,238	768	7.0	10,785	10,478	307	2.8
Aiken County	↓	75,249	71,686	3,563	4.7	76,902	71,669	5,233	6.8	75,153	72,937	2,216	2.9
Lexington County	↓	151,126	144,074	7,052	4.7	154,302	144,595	9,707	6.3	150,508	147,016	3,492	2.3
Saluda County	↓	8,895	8,530	365	4.1	9,020	8,473	547	6.1	9,034	8,803	231	2.6
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	400,583	373,193	27,390	6.8	412,920	375,078	37,842	9.2	397,744	388,119	9,625	2.4
Columbia MSA	↓	409,986	385,757	24,229	5.9	419,900	387,293	32,607	7.8	404,596	393,682	10,914	2.7
Florence MSA	↓	101,516	94,758	6,758	6.7	104,519	95,644	8,875	8.5	97,973	94,915	3,058	3.1
Greenville -Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↓	449,587	423,858	25,729	5.7	458,879	422,389	36,490	8.0	434,460	423,277	11,183	2.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,417,471	2,264,535	152,936	6.3	2,458,905	2,246,003	212,902	8.7	2,376,923	2,316,783	60,140	2.5

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

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