



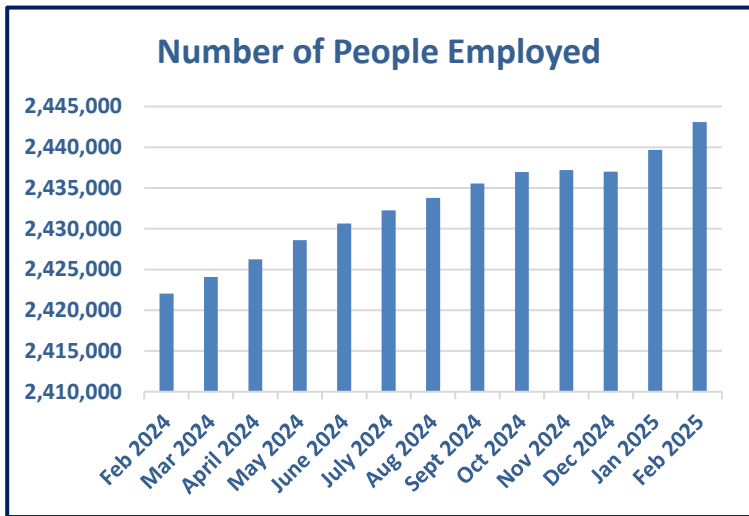
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For Release
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South Carolina’s Employment Situation: February 2025

HOUSEHOLD SURVEY: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

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.



EMPLOYMENT:

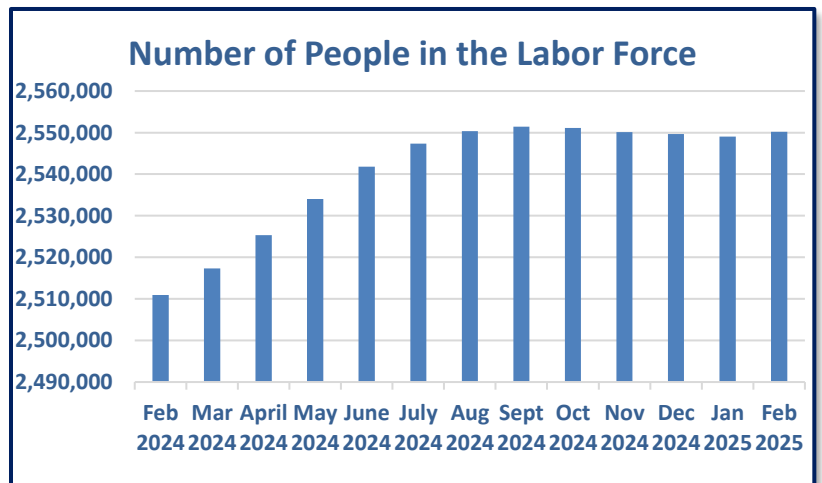
- The seasonally adjusted number of South Carolina workers increased to 2,443,080.
- That is an increase of 3,413 people over the January 2025 estimate.
- That is an increase of 21,049 people over the February 2024 estimate.

LABOR FORCE:

- The state’s estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) increased to 2,550,219 while the labor force participation rate was unchanged at 57.6 percent.
- That is an increase of 1,211 people over the January 2025 estimate.
- That is an increase of 39,259 individuals over the February 2024 estimate.

UNEMPLOYED:

- The estimate of unemployed people decreased to 107,139.
- That is a decrease of 2,202 people from the January estimate and an increase of 18,210 from the February 2024 estimate.
- The state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 4.3 percent to 4.2 percent. The national unemployment rate increased to 4.1 percent, according to the Current Population survey.



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.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Name	Counties	Rate	Monthly Change	Annual Change
Charleston-North Charleston	Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester	3.9%	↑ 0.3 pts	↑ 0.5 pts
Columbia	Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Richland, Saluda	4.3%	↑ 0.2 pts	↑ 0.6 pts
Florence	Darlington, Florence	4.8%	↑ 0.3 pts	↑ 0.8 pts
Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin	Anderson, Greenville, Laurens, Pickens	4.1%	↑ 0.3 pts	↑ 0.4 pts
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort	Beaufort, Jasper	4.3%	↑ 0.3 pts	↑ 0.4 pts
Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach	Horry	5.7%	↑ 0.2 pts	↑ 0.8 pts
Spartanburg	Spartanburg, Union	4.6%	↑ 0.3 pts	↑ 0.7 pts
Sumter	Sumter	5.5%	↑ 0.2 pts	↑ 0.6 pts

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

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

AREA		February 2025				January 2025				February 2024 **			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
Williamsburg County	↑	10,462	9,670	792	7.6	10,156	9,405	751	7.4	10,414	9,764	650	6.2
Marlboro County	↑	8,157	7,556	601	7.4	8,080	7,512	568	7.0	7,392	6,851	541	7.3
Marion County	↑	11,926	11,179	747	6.3	11,662	10,954	708	6.1	13,000	12,260	740	5.7
Lee County	↑	5,993	5,620	373	6.2	5,854	5,507	347	5.9	6,720	6,363	357	5.3
Dillon County	↑	12,776	11,996	780	6.1	12,184	11,466	718	5.9	13,385	12,678	707	5.3
Georgetown County	↑	28,475	26,742	1,733	6.1	27,727	26,161	1,566	5.6	26,936	25,690	1,246	4.6
Orangeburg County	↑	35,856	33,674	2,182	6.1	34,899	32,795	2,104	6.0	34,211	32,376	1,835	5.4
Clarendon County	↑	11,967	11,255	712	5.9	11,185	10,534	651	5.8	12,543	11,909	634	5.1
Allendale County	↓	2,809	2,646	163	5.8	2,574	2,419	155	6.0	2,428	2,248	180	7.4
Barnwell County	↑	8,548	8,056	492	5.8	8,194	7,725	469	5.7	7,774	7,294	480	6.2
Bamberg County	↓	5,521	5,206	315	5.7	5,361	5,052	309	5.8	4,777	4,443	334	7.0
Cherokee County	↓	22,863	21,564	1,299	5.7	22,719	21,402	1,317	5.8	23,127	21,944	1,183	5.1
Chester County	↑	14,745	13,902	843	5.7	14,253	13,483	770	5.4	13,996	13,252	744	5.3
Horry County	↑	169,234	159,634	9,600	5.7	167,723	158,525	9,198	5.5	161,195	153,223	7,972	4.9
Union County	↑	11,042	10,409	633	5.7	10,846	10,259	587	5.4	11,721	11,171	550	4.7
Fairfield County	↑	9,864	9,324	540	5.5	9,866	9,352	514	5.2	9,764	9,261	503	5.2
Greenwood County	↑	28,776	27,193	1,583	5.5	28,579	27,117	1,462	5.1	30,788	29,208	1,580	5.1
Sumter County	↑	42,684	40,333	2,351	5.5	41,810	39,606	2,204	5.3	42,171	40,116	2,055	4.9
McCormick County	↑	3,515	3,328	187	5.3	3,378	3,207	171	5.1	3,560	3,383	177	5.0
Colleton County	↑	15,952	15,140	812	5.1	15,589	14,855	734	4.7	16,695	16,047	648	3.9
Darlington County	↑	28,686	27,285	1,401	4.9	28,272	26,921	1,351	4.8	31,250	29,935	1,315	4.2
Chesterfield County	↑	19,352	18,421	931	4.8	18,221	17,361	860	4.7	21,842	20,924	918	4.2
Abbeville County	↑	10,605	10,110	495	4.7	10,356	9,911	445	4.3	9,776	9,281	495	5.1
Florence County	↑	65,028	61,970	3,058	4.7	64,242	61,425	2,817	4.4	69,204	66,468	2,736	4.0
Lancaster County	↑	50,013	47,645	2,368	4.7	49,709	47,519	2,190	4.4	45,589	43,600	1,989	4.4
Laurens County	↑	31,281	29,805	1,476	4.7	30,971	29,559	1,412	4.6	31,672	30,357	1,315	4.2
Calhoun County	↑	6,725	6,417	308	4.6	6,500	6,205	295	4.5	6,829	6,536	293	4.3
Richland County	↑	209,783	200,137	9,646	4.6	208,512	199,433	9,079	4.4	208,220	200,009	8,211	3.9
Aiken County	↑	76,818	73,326	3,492	4.5	75,626	72,416	3,210	4.2	75,315	72,209	3,106	4.1
Spartanburg County	↑	168,135	160,505	7,630	4.5	167,735	160,556	7,179	4.3	162,382	156,195	6,187	3.8
Jasper County	↑	14,304	13,672	632	4.4	13,837	13,254	583	4.2	14,209	13,663	546	3.8
Kershaw County	↑	32,862	31,403	1,459	4.4	32,081	30,750	1,331	4.1	31,163	29,917	1,246	4.0
Newberry County	-	18,823	17,997	826	4.4	18,237	17,440	797	4.4	19,548	18,783	765	3.9
Oconee County	↑	36,433	34,838	1,595	4.4	35,768	34,304	1,464	4.1	36,361	34,980	1,381	3.8
York County	↑	155,731	148,855	6,876	4.4	154,702	148,300	6,402	4.1	154,494	148,718	5,776	3.7
Beaufort County	↑	84,170	80,525	3,645	4.3	83,616	80,259	3,357	4.0	81,903	78,657	3,246	4.0
Edgefield County	↑	12,053	11,544	509	4.2	11,425	10,964	461	4.0	10,634	10,195	439	4.1
Pickens County	↑	65,094	62,338	2,756	4.2	64,617	62,137	2,480	3.8	60,900	58,539	2,361	3.9
Anderson County	↑	100,267	96,117	4,150	4.1	99,637	95,793	3,844	3.9	96,033	92,436	3,597	3.7
Hampton County	↑	8,272	7,930	342	4.1	7,632	7,339	293	3.8	8,393	8,075	318	3.8
Berkeley County	↑	128,975	123,805	5,170	4.0	127,807	123,060	4,747	3.7	118,532	114,301	4,231	3.6
Dorchester County	↑	86,255	82,843	3,412	4.0	85,795	82,683	3,112	3.6	86,027	83,048	2,979	3.5
Greenville County	↑	285,830	274,359	11,471	4.0	284,679	274,119	10,560	3.7	273,024	263,128	9,896	3.6
Lexington County	↑	156,318	150,172	6,146	3.9	155,239	149,662	5,577	3.6	160,042	154,768	5,274	3.3
Saluda County	↑	9,526	9,160	366	3.8	8,552	8,238	314	3.7	9,089	8,744	345	3.8
Charleston County	↑	233,544	224,826	8,718	3.7	231,880	223,861	8,019	3.5	232,973	225,406	7,567	3.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,550,219	2,443,080	107,139	4.2	2,549,008	2,439,667	109,341	4.3	2,510,960	2,422,031	88,929	3.5

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

**2024 substate estimates will be revised at the conclusion of the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual benchmarking process on April 18th.

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

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

EMPLOYER SURVEY: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

BLS conducts a monthly Current Employment Statistics survey of approximately 119,000 businesses and government agencies 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.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated decrease of 500 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,387,200.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide
Feb-25

Jobs by Industry	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	January 2025 to February 2025		February 2024 to February 2025	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,387,200	2,387,700	2,339,900	↓ -500	↓ 0.0%	↑ 47,300	↑ 2.0%
Construction	122,300	123,100	115,500	↓ -800	↓ -0.6%	↑ 6,800	↑ 5.9%
Manufacturing	261,700	262,500	263,300	↓ -800	↓ -0.3%	↓ -1,600	↓ -0.6%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	450,700	449,900	443,800	↑ 800	↑ 0.2%	↑ 6,900	↑ 1.6%
Information	30,000	29,700	28,400	↑ 300	↑ 1.0%	↑ 1,600	↑ 5.6%
Financial Activities	124,500	124,400	120,800	↑ 100	↑ 0.1%	↑ 3,700	↑ 3.1%
Professional and Business Services	316,500	315,800	311,400	↑ 700	↑ 0.2%	↑ 5,100	↑ 1.6%
Education and Health Services	310,400	309,400	296,000	↑ 1,000	↑ 0.3%	↑ 14,400	↑ 4.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	283,500	283,400	282,000	↑ 100	↑ 0.0%	↑ 1,500	↑ 0.5%
Other Services	92,800	92,200	90,100	↑ 600	↑ 0.7%	↑ 2,700	↑ 3.0%
Government	390,200	392,700	384,200	↓ -2,500	↓ -0.6%	↑ 6,000	↑ 1.6%

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated decrease of 500 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,387,200.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
Feb-25

Area	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024	January 2025 to February 2025		February 2024 to February 2025	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	2,387,200	2,387,700	2,339,900	↓ -500	↓ 0.0%	↑ 47,300	↑ 2.0%
Charleston/North Charleston	431,400	429,000	419,200	↑ 2,400	↑ 0.6%	↑ 12,200	↑ 2.9%
Columbia	435,100	433,300	426,700	↑ 1,800	↑ 0.4%	↑ 8,400	↑ 2.0%
Florence	98,100	97,700	96,100	↑ 400	↑ 0.4%	↑ 2,000	↑ 2.1%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin	476,200	475,600	467,900	↑ 600	↑ 0.1%	↑ 8,300	↑ 1.8%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort	89,500	89,600	87,600	↓ -100	↓ -0.1%	↑ 1,900	↑ 2.2%
Myrtle Beach	156,200	156,200	153,500	No Change	No Change	↑ 2,700	↑ 1.8%
Spartanburg	179,300	179,300	175,400	No Change	No Change	↑ 3,900	↑ 2.2%
Sumter	38,200	38,200	37,900	No Change	NoChange	↑ 300	↑ 0.8%

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.