



SC Department of Employment and Workforce NEWS RELEASE

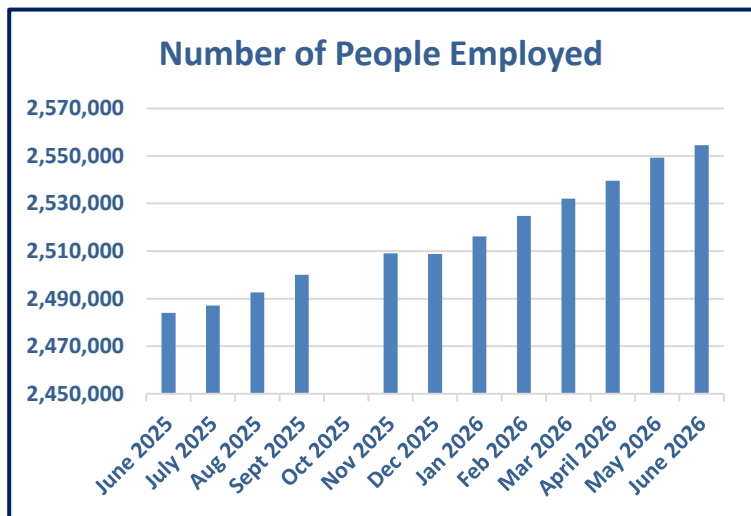
Media Contact:
communications@dew.sc.gov

For Release
July 21, 2026

South Carolina's Employment Situation: June 2026

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:

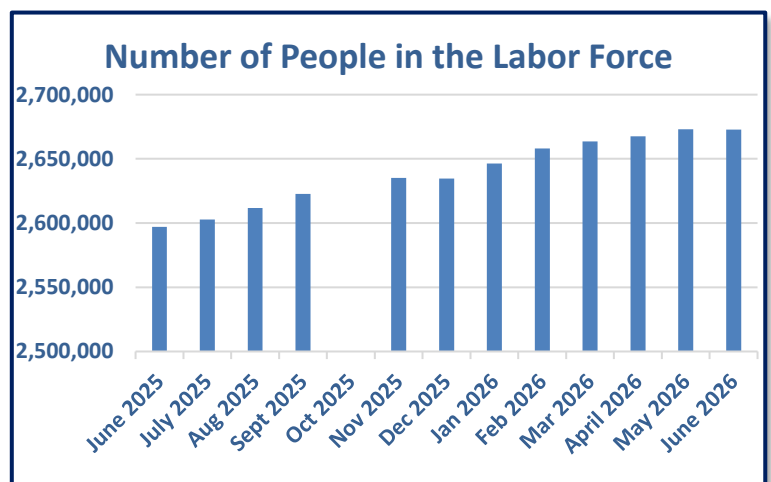
- The seasonally adjusted number of South Carolina workers increased to 2,554,577.
- That is an increase of 5,261 people over the May 2026 estimate.
- That is a significant increase of 70,538 people over the June 2025 estimate.

LABOR FORCE:

- The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) decreased to 2,672,865 while the labor force participation rate decreased to 58.9 percent.
- That is a decrease of 104 people over the May 2026 estimate.
- That is a significant increase of 75,810 individuals over the June 2025 estimate.

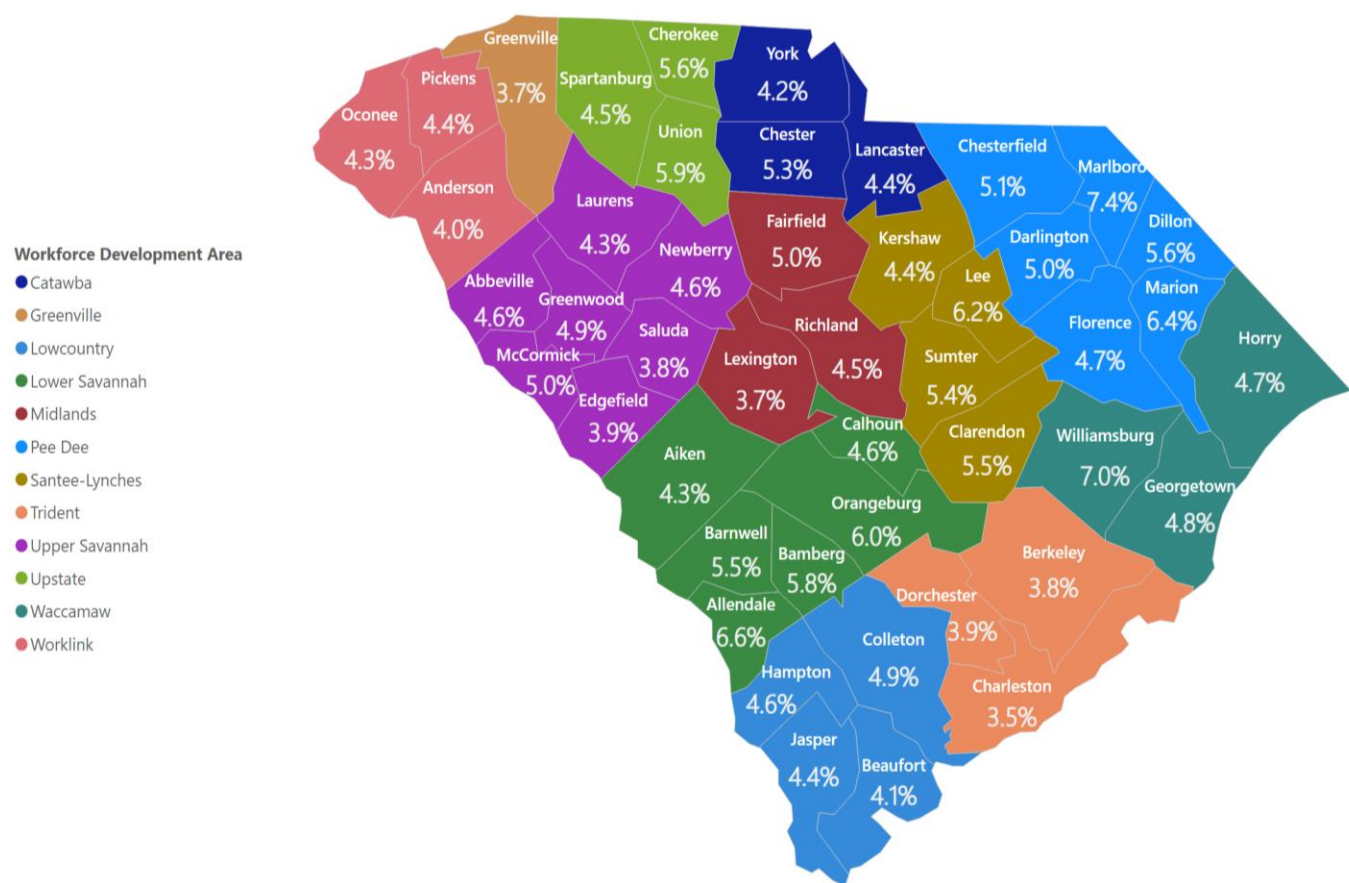
UNEMPLOYED:

- The estimate of unemployed people decreased to 118,288.
- That is a significant decrease of 5,365 people from the May estimate and an increase of 5,272 from the June 2025 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased significantly to 4.4 percent. The national unemployment rate decreased to 4.2 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	3.7%	↑ 0.5 pts	↓ -0.1 pts
Columbia	Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Richland, Saluda	4.2%	↑ 0.4 pts	↓ -0.3 pts
Florence	Darlington, Florence	4.8%	↑ 0.5 pts	↓ -0.2 pts
Greenville-Anderson-Greer	Anderson, Greenville, Laurens, Pickens	3.9%	↑ 0.3 pts	↓ -0.3 pts
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort-Port Royal	Beaufort, Jasper	4.1%	↑ 0.6 pts	↓ -0.3 pts
Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach	Horry	4.7%	↑ 0.3 pts	↓ -0.3 pts
Spartanburg	Spartanburg, Union	4.6%	↑ 0.6 pts	↓ -0.2 pts
Sumter	Sumter	5.4%	↑ 0.5 pts	↓ -0.1 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	June 2026					May 2026					June 2025				
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		RATE (%)
			LEVEL					LEVEL					LEVEL		
Marlboro County	↑	8,407	7,789	618	7.4	8,421	7,851	570	6.8		8,361	7,759	602	7.2	
Williamsburg County	↑	10,698	9,954	744	7.0	10,705	10,020	685	6.4		10,976	10,121	855	7.8	
Allendale County	↑	2,703	2,525	178	6.6	2,766	2,606	160	5.8		2,700	2,535	165	6.1	
Marion County	↑	12,470	11,677	793	6.4	12,459	11,750	709	5.7		12,242	11,460	782	6.4	
Lee County	↑	6,116	5,736	380	6.2	6,115	5,773	342	5.6		6,078	5,720	358	5.9	
Orangeburg County	↑	35,305	33,196	2,109	6.0	35,836	33,901	1,935	5.4		35,191	32,891	2,300	6.5	
Union County	↑	11,179	10,519	660	5.9	11,191	10,576	615	5.5		10,858	10,244	614	5.7	
Bamberg County	↑	5,411	5,097	314	5.8	5,534	5,258	276	5.0		5,405	5,074	331	6.1	
Cherokee County	↑	23,734	22,405	1,329	5.6	23,910	22,714	1,196	5.0		23,819	22,397	1,422	6.0	
Dillon County	↑	12,494	11,800	694	5.6	12,590	11,958	632	5.0		12,535	11,782	753	6.0	
Barnwell County	↑	8,306	7,853	453	5.5	8,391	7,979	412	4.9		8,136	7,664	472	5.8	
Clarendon County	↑	12,075	11,412	663	5.5	12,347	11,739	608	4.9		11,643	10,915	728	6.3	
Sumter County	↑	43,182	40,864	2,318	5.4	43,314	41,186	2,128	4.9		42,782	40,440	2,342	5.5	
Chester County	↑	14,817	14,032	785	5.3	14,845	14,130	715	4.8		14,471	13,658	813	5.6	
Chesterfield County	↑	19,110	18,140	970	5.1	19,475	18,625	850	4.4		18,977	17,985	992	5.2	
Darlington County	↑	29,384	27,902	1,482	5.0	29,398	28,078	1,320	4.5		28,771	27,295	1,476	5.1	
Fairfield County	↑	10,146	9,638	508	5.0	10,122	9,653	469	4.6		9,903	9,380	523	5.3	
McCormick County	↑	3,588	3,407	181	5.0	3,591	3,442	149	4.1		3,541	3,355	186	5.3	
Colleton County	↑	16,224	15,435	789	4.9	16,265	15,575	690	4.2		15,988	15,118	870	5.4	
Greenwood County	↑	30,147	28,664	1,483	4.9	30,284	28,922	1,362	4.5		29,706	28,066	1,640	5.5	
Georgetown County	↑	29,240	27,837	1,403	4.8	28,838	27,569	1,269	4.4		28,890	27,360	1,530	5.3	
Florence County	↑	67,154	63,965	3,189	4.7	67,153	64,284	2,869	4.3		65,739	62,508	3,231	4.9	
Horry County	↑	189,916	181,029	8,887	4.7	185,991	177,894	8,097	4.4		181,972	172,795	9,177	5.0	
Abbeville County	↑	10,661	10,170	491	4.6	10,763	10,321	442	4.1		10,477	9,961	516	4.9	
Calhoun County	↑	6,798	6,484	314	4.6	6,842	6,573	269	3.9		6,683	6,365	318	4.8	
Hampton County	↑	7,953	7,587	366	4.6	8,131	7,798	333	4.1		8,050	7,687	363	4.5	
Newberry County	↑	19,196	18,319	877	4.6	19,428	18,650	778	4.0		19,034	18,165	869	4.6	
Richland County	↑	218,859	208,930	9,929	4.5	218,648	209,752	8,896	4.1		213,853	203,645	10,208	4.8	
Spartanburg County	↑	177,574	169,607	7,967	4.5	176,663	169,710	6,953	3.9		172,725	164,589	8,136	4.7	
Jasper County	↑	15,565	14,875	690	4.4	15,572	14,991	581	3.7		15,371	14,670	701	4.6	
Kershaw County	↑	34,220	32,707	1,513	4.4	34,358	33,036	1,322	3.8		33,554	32,010	1,544	4.6	
Lancaster County	↑	52,922	50,606	2,316	4.4	52,600	50,478	2,122	4.0		51,351	48,926	2,425	4.7	
Pickens County	↑	69,593	66,550	3,043	4.4	69,353	66,598	2,755	4.0		67,213	64,055	3,158	4.7	
Aiken County	↑	81,607	78,135	3,472	4.3	81,789	78,731	3,058	3.7		79,696	76,124	3,572	4.5	
Laurens County	↑	33,249	31,816	1,433	4.3	33,210	31,893	1,317	4.0		32,239	30,662	1,577	4.9	
Oconee County	↑	38,615	36,956	1,659	4.3	38,636	37,237	1,399	3.6		37,577	35,906	1,671	4.4	
York County	↑	162,310	155,508	6,802	4.2	161,419	155,168	6,251	3.9		157,647	150,385	7,262	4.6	
Beaufort County	↑	89,175	85,546	3,629	4.1	88,504	85,455	3,049	3.4		87,642	83,831	3,811	4.3	
Anderson County	↑	106,810	102,534	4,276	4.0	106,438	102,606	3,832	3.6		103,091	98,689	4,402	4.3	
Dorchester County	↑	92,212	88,655	3,557	3.9	91,922	88,761	3,161	3.4		90,389	86,773	3,616	4.0	
Edgefield County	↑	13,058	12,550	508	3.9	13,243	12,808	435	3.3		12,843	12,337	506	3.9	
Berkeley County	↑	138,267	132,989	5,278	3.8	138,036	133,308	4,728	3.4		135,784	130,291	5,493	4.0	
Saluda County	↑	9,168	8,822	346	3.8	9,489	9,177	312	3.3		9,176	8,813	363	4.0	
Greenville County	↑	305,584	294,193	11,391	3.7	304,554	294,204	10,350	3.4		294,915	283,018	11,897	4.0	
Lexington County	↑	162,941	156,852	6,089	3.7	162,913	157,495	5,418	3.3		159,189	152,881	6,308	4.0	
Charleston County	↑	245,646	237,063	8,583	3.5	245,039	237,575	7,464	3.0		241,006	232,146	8,860	3.7	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED															
South Carolina	↓	2,672,865	2,554,577	118,288	4.4	2,672,969	2,549,316	123,653	4.6		2,597,055	2,484,039	113,016	4.4	

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

↑ 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 400 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,404,600.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide
Jun-26

Jobs by Industry	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026 to June 2026		June 2025 to June 2026	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,404,600	2,405,000	2,386,300	↓ -400	↓ 0.0%	↑ 18,300	↑ 0.8%
Construction	127,500	127,500	124,100	No Change	No Change	↑ 3,400	↑ 2.7%
Manufacturing	262,600	262,700	262,100	↓ -100	↓ 0.0%	↑ 500	↑ 0.2%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	444,500	445,800	444,700	↓ -1,300	↓ -0.3%	↓ -200	↓ 0.0%
Information	25,200	25,800	27,700	↓ -600	↓ -2.3%	↓ -2,500	↓ -9.0%
Financial Activities	123,400	123,200	123,000	↑ 200	↑ 0.2%	↑ 400	↑ 0.3%
Professional and Business Services	312,500	313,700	316,900	↓ -1,200	↓ -0.4%	↓ -4,400	↓ -1.4%
Education and Health Services	321,900	323,000	313,800	↓ -1,100	↓ -0.3%	↑ 8,100	↑ 2.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	288,500	287,700	282,900	↑ 800	↑ 0.3%	↑ 5,600	↑ 2.0%
Other Services	94,700	94,500	91,600	↑ 200	↑ 0.2%	↑ 3,100	↑ 3.4%
Government	399,000	396,300	394,700	↑ 2,700	↑ 0.7%	↑ 4,300	↑ 1.1%

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated decrease of 400 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,404,600.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
Jun-26

Area	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	May 2026 to June 2026		June 2025 to June 2026	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	2,404,600	2,405,000	2,386,300	↓ -400	↓ 0.0%	↑ 18,300	↑ 0.8%
Charleston/North Charleston	433,300	434,500	432,900	↓ -1,200	↓ -0.3%	↑ 400	↑ 0.1%
Columbia	436,200	436,200	435,100	No Change	No Change	↑ 1,100	↑ 0.3%
Florence	96,200	96,400	96,600	↓ -200	↓ -0.2%	↓ -400	↓ -0.4%
Greenville/Anderson/Greer	485,800	485,500	478,600	↑ 300	↑ 0.1%	↑ 7,200	↑ 1.5%
Hilton Head/Bluffton/Beaufort/Port Royal	90,400	90,200	89,100	↑ 200	↑ 0.2%	↑ 1,300	↑ 1.5%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/North Myrtle Beach	159,700	159,500	156,000	↑ 200	↑ 0.1%	↑ 3,700	↑ 2.4%
Spartanburg	179,900	179,500	178,500	↑ 400	↑ 0.2%	↑ 1,400	↑ 0.8%
Sumter	37,400	37,500	38,000	↓ -100	↓ -0.3%	↓ -600	↓ -1.6%

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.