



SC Department of Employment and Workforce NEWS RELEASE

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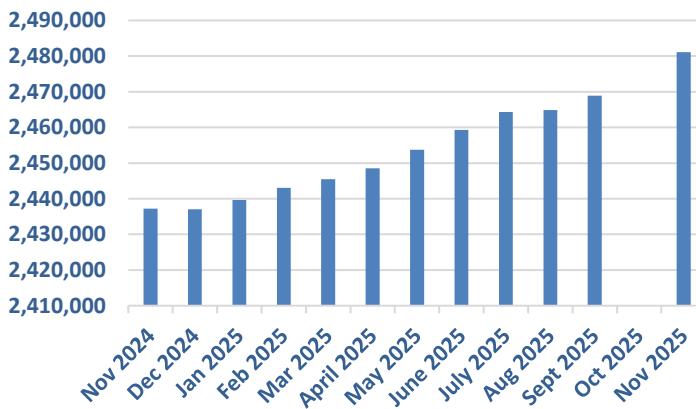
For Release
January 7, 2026

South Carolina's Employment Situation: November 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.

Number of People Employed



EMPLOYMENT:

- The seasonally adjusted number of South Carolina workers was estimated at 2,481,123.
- That is an increase of 43,940 people over the November 2024 estimate. *November over the month changes were not tabulated due to the Federal Government shutdown.*

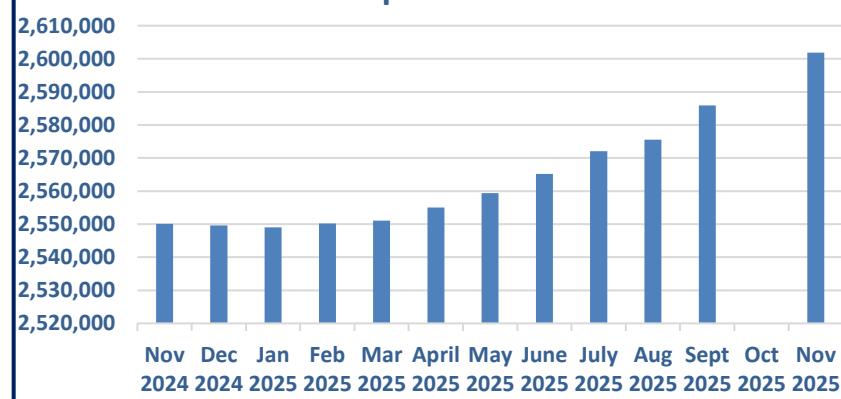
LABOR FORCE:

- The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) was at 2,601,819 while the labor force participation rate was 58 percent.
- That is an increase of 51,682 individuals over the November 2024 estimate. *November over the month changes were not tabulated due to the Federal Government shutdown.*

UNEMPLOYED:

- The estimated number of unemployed people was 120,696.
- That is an increase of 7,742 from the November 2024 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 4.6 percent. The national unemployment rate was estimated at 4.6 percent, according to the Current Population survey. *November over the month changes were not tabulated due to the Federal Government shutdown.*

Number of People in the Labor Force



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	4.2%	-	↑ 0.6 pts
Columbia	Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Richland, Saluda	4.8%	-	↑ 0.6 pts
Florence	Darlington, Florence	5.4%	-	↑ 0.7 pts
Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin	Anderson, Greenville, Laurens, Pickens	4.6%	-	↑ 0.7 pts
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort	Beaufort, Jasper	4.7%	-	↑ 0.9 pts
Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach	Horry	5.8%	-	↑ 1.0 pts
Spartanburg	Spartanburg, Union	5.1%	-	↑ 0.7 pts
Sumter	Sumter	6.2%	-	↑ 0.7 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	November 2025				October 2025 ***				November 2024			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)
Marlboro County	8,339	7,592	747	9.0	-	-	-	-	8,139	7,545	594	7.3
Williamsburg County	11,249	10,282	967	8.6	-	-	-	-	10,055	9,371	684	6.8
Clarendon County	11,026	10,139	887	8.0	-	-	-	-	11,207	10,552	655	5.8
Orangeburg County	34,992	32,347	2,645	7.6	-	-	-	-	35,129	32,936	2,193	6.2
Allendale County	2,620	2,426	194	7.4	-	-	-	-	2,580	2,433	147	5.7
Marion County	12,071	11,180	891	7.4	-	-	-	-	11,591	10,887	704	6.1
Bamberg County	5,464	5,067	397	7.3	-	-	-	-	5,377	5,053	324	6.0
Barnwell County	7,771	7,228	543	7.0	-	-	-	-	8,175	7,721	454	5.6
Lee County	6,063	5,650	413	6.8	-	-	-	-	5,877	5,480	397	6.8
Union County	11,379	10,600	779	6.8	-	-	-	-	10,890	10,257	633	5.8
Dillon County	12,022	11,214	808	6.7	-	-	-	-	12,156	11,381	775	6.4
Cherokee County	23,606	22,090	1,516	6.4	-	-	-	-	22,886	21,561	1,325	5.8
Chester County	14,919	13,984	935	6.3	-	-	-	-	14,270	13,448	822	5.8
Georgetown County	27,771	26,051	1,720	6.2	-	-	-	-	27,368	26,068	1,300	4.8
McCormick County	3,446	3,233	213	6.2	-	-	-	-	3,379	3,206	173	5.1
Sumter County	43,440	40,732	2,708	6.2	-	-	-	-	41,521	39,228	2,293	5.5
Chesterfield County	18,235	17,124	1,111	6.1	-	-	-	-	18,164	17,320	844	4.6
Colleton County	15,526	14,605	921	5.9	-	-	-	-	15,727	14,972	755	4.8
Greenwood County	29,807	28,055	1,752	5.9	-	-	-	-	28,755	27,205	1,550	5.4
Hampton County	7,878	7,425	453	5.8	-	-	-	-	7,676	7,377	299	3.9
Horry County	177,981	167,651	10,330	5.8	-	-	-	-	167,843	159,718	8,125	4.8
Darlington County	29,467	27,778	1,689	5.7	-	-	-	-	28,172	26,776	1,396	5.0
Fairfield County	10,210	9,625	585	5.7	-	-	-	-	9,851	9,348	503	5.1
Abbeville County	10,478	9,908	570	5.4	-	-	-	-	10,422	9,962	460	4.4
Laurens County	32,132	30,399	1,733	5.4	-	-	-	-	31,018	29,608	1,410	4.5
Florence County	66,890	63,341	3,549	5.3	-	-	-	-	63,974	61,077	2,897	4.5
Calhoun County	6,744	6,393	351	5.2	-	-	-	-	6,509	6,218	291	4.5
Lancaster County	51,958	49,254	2,704	5.2	-	-	-	-	49,524	47,296	2,228	4.5
Aiken County	77,941	73,937	4,004	5.1	-	-	-	-	75,247	72,083	3,164	4.2
Jasper County	14,509	13,774	735	5.1	-	-	-	-	13,884	13,320	564	4.1
Richland County	216,234	205,222	11,012	5.1	-	-	-	-	208,901	199,437	9,464	4.5
Kershaw County	33,311	31,632	1,679	5.0	-	-	-	-	32,126	30,787	1,339	4.2
York County	161,816	153,731	8,085	5.0	-	-	-	-	154,128	147,619	6,509	4.2
Newberry County	18,834	17,915	919	4.9	-	-	-	-	18,216	17,445	771	4.2
Oconee County	37,211	35,380	1,831	4.9	-	-	-	-	35,829	34,435	1,394	3.9
Pickens County	67,170	63,899	3,271	4.9	-	-	-	-	64,891	62,219	2,672	4.1
Spartanburg County	174,339	165,717	8,622	4.9	-	-	-	-	167,499	160,337	7,162	4.3
Anderson County	103,346	98,519	4,827	4.7	-	-	-	-	99,740	95,921	3,819	3.8
Edgefield County	11,752	11,205	547	4.7	-	-	-	-	11,394	10,946	448	3.9
Beaufort County	87,344	83,290	4,054	4.6	-	-	-	-	83,658	80,488	3,170	3.8
Saluda County	8,891	8,480	411	4.6	-	-	-	-	8,606	8,297	309	3.6
Berkeley County	133,035	127,104	5,931	4.5	-	-	-	-	128,103	123,197	4,906	3.8
Dorchester County	89,271	85,361	3,910	4.4	-	-	-	-	85,980	82,747	3,233	3.8
Greenville County	294,862	281,808	13,054	4.4	-	-	-	-	285,221	274,425	10,796	3.8
Lexington County	160,918	153,929	6,989	4.3	-	-	-	-	155,319	149,656	5,663	3.6
Charleston County	240,736	231,022	9,714	4.0	-	-	-	-	231,917	224,059	7,858	3.4
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED												
South Carolina	2,601,819	2,481,123	120,696	4.6	-	-	-	-	2,550,137	2,437,183	112,954	4.4

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

***October data was not collected due to the Federal Government shutdown.

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 increase of 1,200 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,424,800.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide
Nov-25

Jobs by Industry	November 2025	October 2025	November 2024	October 2025 to November 2025		November 2024 to November 2025	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
	2025	2024	2025	2024		2025	2024
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,424,800	2,423,600	2,376,400	↑ 1,200	↑ 0.0%	↑ 48,400	↑ 2.0%
Construction	121,500	121,800	120,800	↓ -300	↓ -0.2%	↑ 700	↑ 0.6%
Manufacturing	260,500	261,000	263,000	↓ -500	↓ -0.2%	↓ -2,500	↓ -1.0%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	455,900	455,400	447,100	↑ 500	↑ 0.1%	↑ 8,800	↑ 2.0%
Information	30,900	30,900	28,700	No Change	No Change	↑ 2,200	↑ 7.7%
Financial Activities	126,900	127,500	124,000	↓ -600	↓ -0.5%	↑ 2,900	↑ 2.3%
Professional and Business Services	325,400	323,400	317,100	↑ 2,000	↑ 0.6%	↑ 8,300	↑ 2.6%
Education and Health Services	316,600	315,700	307,600	↑ 900	↑ 0.3%	↑ 9,000	↑ 2.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	298,300	298,300	282,800	No Change	No Change	↑ 15,500	↑ 5.5%
Other Services	93,800	93,800	91,800	No Change	No Change	↑ 2,000	↑ 2.2%
Government	390,500	391,200	389,000	↓ -700	↓ -0.2%	↑ 1,500	↑ 0.4%

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated increase of 1,200 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,424,800.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
Nov-25

Area	November 2025	October 2025	November 2024	October 2025 to November 2025		November 2024 to November 2025	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
	2025	2024	2025	2024		2025	2024
Statewide	2,424,800	2,423,600	2,376,400	↑ 1,200	↑ 0.0%	↑ 48,400	↑ 2.0%
Charleston/North Charleston	435,900	435,900	428,100	No Change	No Change	↑ 7,800	↑ 1.8%
Columbia	440,400	440,300	434,800	↑ 100	↑ 0.0%	↑ 5,600	↑ 1.3%
Florence	99,400	99,600	96,800	↓ -200	↓ -0.2%	↑ 2,600	↑ 2.7%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin	479,800	479,000	474,800	↑ 800	↑ 0.2%	↑ 5,000	↑ 1.1%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort	91,600	91,700	89,700	↓ -100	↓ -0.1%	↑ 1,900	↑ 2.1%
Myrtle Beach	161,700	162,400	155,300	↓ -700	↓ -0.4%	↑ 6,400	↑ 4.1%
Spartanburg	182,800	182,300	179,100	↑ 500	↑ 0.3%	↑ 3,700	↑ 2.1%
Sumter	39,100	39,100	38,000	No Change	No Change	↑ 1,100	↑ 2.9%

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.