



Media Contact:

communications@dew.sc.gov

For Release
April 21, 2023

South Carolina's Employment Situation March 2023

I. Household Survey¹ (Local Area Unemployment Statistics)

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working increased to 2,316,712.

- That is a significant increase of 10,648 people over the February 2023 estimate.
- That is an increase of 14,667 people over the March 2022 estimate.

Unemployment: The estimate of unemployed people increased to 76,435.

- That is an increase of 392 people from February's estimate and an increase of 266 from the March 2022 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.2 percent.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased from February's rate of 3.6 percent to 3.5 percent, according to the Current Population Survey.

Labor force: The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) increased to 2,393,147.

- That is a significant increase of 11,040 people over the February estimate.
- That is an increase of 14,933 individuals over the March 2022 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 4,200 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,283,500.

- Industries that reported gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+1,400); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,200); Manufacturing (+900); Financial Activities (+700); Government (+500); Education and Health Services (+400); Information (+300); Other Services (+200); and Construction (+100).
- The Professional and Business Services industry (-1,500) declined.

From March 2022 to March 2023, South Carolina's economy has picked up 60,600 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Industries with strong growth were Education and Health Services (+15,600); Leisure and Hospitality (+12,200); Government (+8,600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+8,300); Professional and Business Services (+3,800); Financial Activities (+3,700); Manufacturing (+2,600); Information (+2,400); Other Services (+1,700); and Construction (+1,500).

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted⁴)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 11,200 from February 2023 to March 2023 for a total of 2,276,000.

- Leisure and Hospitality (+9,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+2,400); Government (+2,400); Manufacturing (+1,200); Information (+500); and Financial Activities (+400) industries increased over the month.
- Professional and Business Services (-4,200); Other Services (-300); and Education and Health Services (-200) industries marked declines.
- Mining and Logging and Construction industries showed no change over the month.

Since March 2022, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 64,500 in South Carolina.

- Industries making strong annual gains were Educational and Health Services (+14,800); Leisure and Hospitality (+12,000); Government (+9,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+8,800); Professional and Business Services (+6,400); Financial Activities (+4,200); Information (+2,800); Construction (+2,500); Manufacturing (+2,000); Other Services (+1,000); and Mining and Logging (+200).

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.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide

March-23

Jobs by Industry	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	February 2023 to March 2023		March 2022 to March 2023	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,283,500	2,279,300	2,222,900	4,200	0.18%	60,600	2.73%
Construction	109,300	109,200	107,800	100	0.09%	1,500	1.39%
Manufacturing	262,900	262,000	260,300	900	0.34%	2,600	1.00%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	439,900	438,700	431,600	1,200	0.27%	8,300	1.92%
Information	31,800	31,500	29,400	300	0.95%	2,400	8.16%
Financial Activities	119,000	118,300	115,300	700	0.59%	3,700	3.21%
Professional and Business Services	309,200	310,700	305,400	-1,500	-0.48%	3,800	1.24%
Education and Health Services	275,400	275,000	259,800	400	0.15%	15,600	6.00%
Leisure and Hospitality	274,700	273,300	262,500	1,400	0.51%	12,200	4.65%
Other Services	82,600	82,400	80,900	200	0.24%	1,700	2.10%
Government	374,200	373,700	365,600	500	0.13%	8,600	2.35%

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 INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide

March-23

Industry	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	February 2023 to March 2023		March 2022 to March 2023	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,276,000	2,264,800	2,211,500	11,200	0.49%	64,500	2.92%
Mining and Logging	4,500	4,500	4,300	0	0.00%	200	4.65%
Construction	109,400	109,400	106,900	0	0.00%	2,500	2.34%
Manufacturing	262,600	261,400	260,600	1,200	0.46%	2,000	0.77%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	437,500	435,100	428,700	2,400	0.55%	8,800	2.05%
Information	31,800	31,300	29,000	500	1.60%	2,800	9.66%
Financial Activities	118,500	118,100	114,300	400	0.34%	4,200	3.67%
Professional and Business Services	308,800	313,000	302,400	-4,200	-1.34%	6,400	2.12%
Education and Health Services	275,300	275,500	260,500	-200	-0.07%	14,800	5.68%
Leisure and Hospitality	267,900	258,900	255,900	9,000	3.48%	12,000	4.69%
Other Services	81,700	82,000	80,700	-300	-0.37%	1,000	1.24%
Government	378,000	375,600	368,200	2,400	0.64%	9,800	2.66%

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

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted

March-23

INDUSTRY TITLE	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	February 2023 to March 2023		March 2022 to March 2023	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,283,500	2,279,300	2,222,900	4,200	0.18%	60,600	2.73%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	409,700	407,800	387,800	1,900	0.47%	21,900	5.65%
Columbia MSA	415,000	415,000	410,700	0	0.00%	4,300	1.05%
Florence MSA	95,400	94,800	92,600	600	0.63%	2,800	3.02%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	455,600	455,200	444,600	400	0.09%	11,000	2.47%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	86,500	87,000	84,200	-500	-0.57%	2,300	2.73%
Myrtle Beach MSA	189,400	189,600	180,600	-200	-0.11%	8,800	4.87%
Spartanburg MSA	170,200	169,800	166,100	400	0.24%	4,100	2.47%
Sumter MSA	39,400	39,300	38,900	100	0.25%	500	1.29%

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

March-23

Area	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	February 2023 to March 2023		March 2022 to March 2023	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,276,000	2,264,800	2,211,500	11,200	0.49%	64,500	2.92%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	408,400	405,000	384,800	3,400	0.84%	23,600	6.13%
Columbia MSA	415,200	414,400	411,400	800	0.19%	3,800	0.92%
Florence MSA	95,000	94,200	92,400	800	0.85%	2,600	2.81%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	456,000	455,300	443,700	700	0.15%	12,300	2.77%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	85,600	85,300	83,100	300	0.35%	2,500	3.01%
Myrtle Beach MSA	186,800	183,000	177,200	3,800	2.08%	9,600	5.42%
Spartanburg MSA	170,000	169,400	166,100	600	0.35%	3,900	2.35%
Sumter MSA	39,300	39,100	39,000	200	0.51%	300	0.77%

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		March 2023				February 2023				March 2022			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL RATE (%)		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL RATE (%)		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL RATE (%)	
Marlboro County	↑	8,190	7,495	695	8.5	8,061	7,413	648	8.0	8,450	7,927	523	6.2
Allendale County	↑	2,285	2,138	147	6.4	2,235	2,094	141	6.3	2,373	2,237	136	5.7
Bamberg County	↓	4,585	4,328	257	5.6	4,559	4,296	263	5.8	4,574	4,334	240	5.2
Dillon County	↑	13,090	12,363	727	5.6	12,921	12,250	671	5.2	12,867	12,275	592	4.6
Marion County	↓	12,740	12,066	674	5.3	12,581	11,890	691	5.5	12,739	12,106	633	5.0
Williamsburg County	↓	10,778	10,207	571	5.3	10,668	10,074	594	5.6	10,895	10,391	504	4.6
Orangeburg County	↓	33,139	31,470	1,669	5.0	32,983	31,284	1,699	5.2	32,947	31,307	1,640	5.0
Union County	↓	11,473	10,909	564	4.9	11,391	10,813	578	5.1	11,281	10,768	513	4.5
Clarendon County	↓	11,944	11,371	573	4.8	11,843	11,247	596	5.0	12,259	11,787	472	3.9
Fairfield County	-	9,302	8,852	450	4.8	9,229	8,785	444	4.8	9,350	8,884	466	5.0
Lee County	↓	6,411	6,105	306	4.8	6,347	6,027	320	5.0	6,422	6,132	290	4.5
Barnwell County	↓	7,513	7,158	355	4.7	7,456	7,086	370	5.0	7,578	7,218	360	4.8
Chester County	↓	13,675	13,072	603	4.4	13,488	12,860	628	4.7	13,381	12,813	568	4.2
Sumter County	↓	42,557	40,719	1,838	4.3	42,290	40,340	1,950	4.6	42,328	40,780	1,548	3.7
Cherokee County	↓	24,500	23,483	1,017	4.2	24,455	23,379	1,076	4.4	24,533	23,597	936	3.8
Horry County	↓	154,553	148,059	6,494	4.2	151,805	144,559	7,246	4.8	148,132	142,094	6,038	4.1
Abbeville County	↓	9,588	9,207	381	4.0	9,585	9,164	421	4.4	9,499	9,149	350	3.7
Calhoun County	-	6,475	6,218	257	4.0	6,435	6,175	260	4.0	6,459	6,248	211	3.3
Greenwood County	↓	30,166	28,956	1,210	4.0	30,036	28,772	1,264	4.2	29,907	28,858	1,049	3.5
McCormick County	↓	3,596	3,457	139	3.9	3,579	3,435	144	4.0	3,329	3,203	126	3.8
Darlington County	↓	30,356	29,211	1,145	3.8	29,969	28,779	1,190	4.0	29,894	28,864	1,030	3.4
Georgetown County	↓	26,292	25,296	996	3.8	25,932	24,799	1,133	4.4	25,745	24,736	1,009	3.9
Lancaster County	↓	44,693	43,000	1,693	3.8	44,120	42,338	1,782	4.0	43,674	42,095	1,579	3.6
Newberry County	↑	19,551	18,799	752	3.8	19,272	18,630	642	3.3	19,294	18,783	511	2.6
Colleton County	↓	15,990	15,407	583	3.6	15,884	15,232	652	4.1	15,710	15,152	558	3.6
Edgefield County	↓	10,199	9,842	357	3.5	10,212	9,807	405	4.0	10,312	10,003	309	3.0
Laurens County	↓	30,739	29,657	1,082	3.5	30,668	29,465	1,203	3.9	30,174	29,166	1,008	3.3
Aiken County	↓	73,027	70,576	2,451	3.4	73,078	70,307	2,771	3.8	73,743	71,439	2,304	3.1
Chesterfield County	↓	21,289	20,574	715	3.4	21,148	20,342	806	3.8	21,486	20,730	756	3.5
Richland County	↓	199,532	192,763	6,769	3.4	198,452	191,305	7,147	3.6	199,004	192,786	6,218	3.1
Saluda County	↓	8,405	8,120	285	3.4	8,350	8,045	305	3.7	8,514	8,275	239	2.8
Florence County	↓	67,337	65,122	2,215	3.3	66,676	64,263	2,413	3.6	66,181	64,071	2,110	3.2
Kershaw County	↓	29,608	28,618	990	3.3	29,543	28,403	1,140	3.9	29,638	28,710	928	3.1
Pickens County	↓	59,313	57,392	1,921	3.2	59,138	57,034	2,104	3.6	58,025	56,331	1,694	2.9
York County	↓	151,889	147,005	4,884	3.2	149,938	144,797	5,141	3.4	148,306	143,680	4,626	3.1
Beaufort County	↓	77,125	74,706	2,419	3.1	76,965	74,046	2,919	3.8	75,685	73,307	2,378	3.1
Oconee County	↓	34,533	33,455	1,078	3.1	34,333	33,115	1,218	3.5	34,097	33,044	1,053	3.1
Spartanburg County	↓	157,696	152,730	4,966	3.1	156,789	151,319	5,470	3.5	155,426	150,766	4,660	3.0
Anderson County	↓	93,464	90,634	2,830	3.0	93,265	90,016	3,249	3.5	91,666	89,034	2,632	2.9
Berkeley County	↓	114,184	110,781	3,403	3.0	113,027	109,219	3,808	3.4	108,733	105,526	3,207	2.9
Greenville County	↓	266,175	258,239	7,936	3.0	265,166	256,477	8,689	3.3	260,745	253,573	7,172	2.8
Hampton County	↓	7,894	7,656	238	3.0	7,840	7,560	280	3.6	8,010	7,782	228	2.8
Dorchester County	↓	82,805	80,413	2,392	2.9	81,922	79,295	2,627	3.2	78,843	76,626	2,217	2.8
Charleston County	↓	223,942	217,713	6,229	2.8	221,941	214,980	6,961	3.1	213,407	207,448	5,959	2.8
Jasper County	↓	13,223	12,852	371	2.8	13,248	12,796	452	3.4	13,006	12,600	406	3.1
Lexington County	↓	152,736	148,418	4,318	2.8	152,182	147,367	4,815	3.2	152,611	148,644	3,967	2.6
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	420,931	408,907	12,024	2.9	416,890	403,494	13,396	3.2	400,983	389,600	11,383	2.8
Columbia MSA	↓	406,058	392,989	13,069	3.2	404,191	390,080	14,111	3.5	405,576	393,547	12,029	3.0
Florence MSA	↓	97,693	94,333	3,360	3.4	96,645	93,042	3,603	3.7	96,075	92,935	3,140	3.3
Greenville - Anderson- Mauldin MSA	↓	449,691	435,922	13,769	3.1	448,237	432,992	15,245	3.4	440,610	428,104	12,506	2.8
Hilton Head Island- Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	↓	90,348	87,558	2,790	3.1	90,213	86,842	3,371	3.7	88,691	85,907	2,784	3.1
Myrtle Beach-Conway- North Myrtle Beach, SC- NC MSA	↓	212,365	203,281	9,084	4.3	208,494	198,459	10,035	4.8	204,321	195,673	8,648	4.2
Spartanburg MSA	↓	169,169	163,639	5,530	3.3	168,180	162,132	6,048	3.6	166,707	161,534	5,173	3.1
Sumter MSA	↓	42,557	40,719	1,838	4.3	42,290	40,340	1,950	4.6	42,328	40,780	1,548	3.7
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	-	2,393,147	2,316,712	76,435	3.2	2,382,107	2,306,064	76,043	3.2	2,378,214	2,302,045	76,169	3.2

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

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