



SC Department of Employment and Workforce NEWS RELEASE

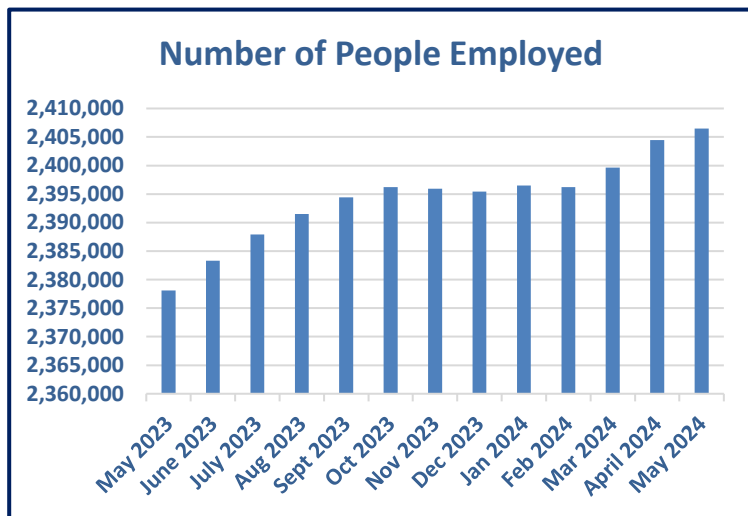
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For Release
June 25, 2024

South Carolina's Employment Situation: May 2024

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:

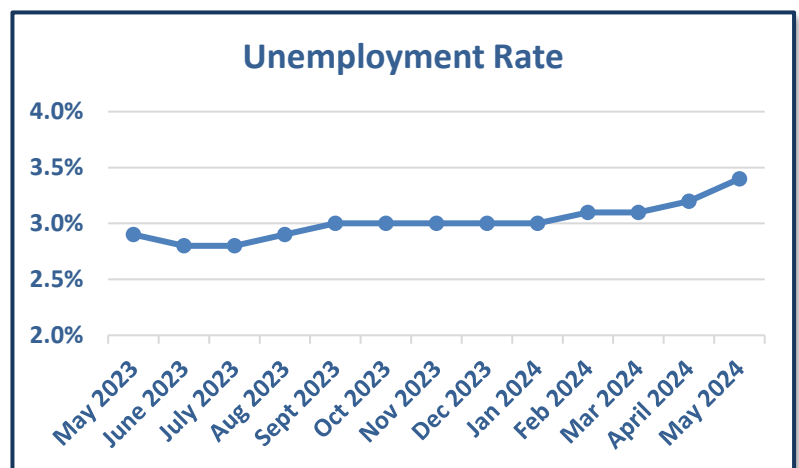
- The seasonally adjusted number of South Carolina workers increased to 2,406,502.
- That is an increase of 1,985 people over the April 2024 estimate.
- That is an increase of 28,382 people over the May 2023 estimate.

LABOR FORCE:

- The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) increased to 2,490,135, while the labor force participation rate remained at 57.2 percent.
- That is an increase of 5,836 people over the April 2024 estimate.
- That is a significant increase of 42,165 individuals over the May 2023 estimate.

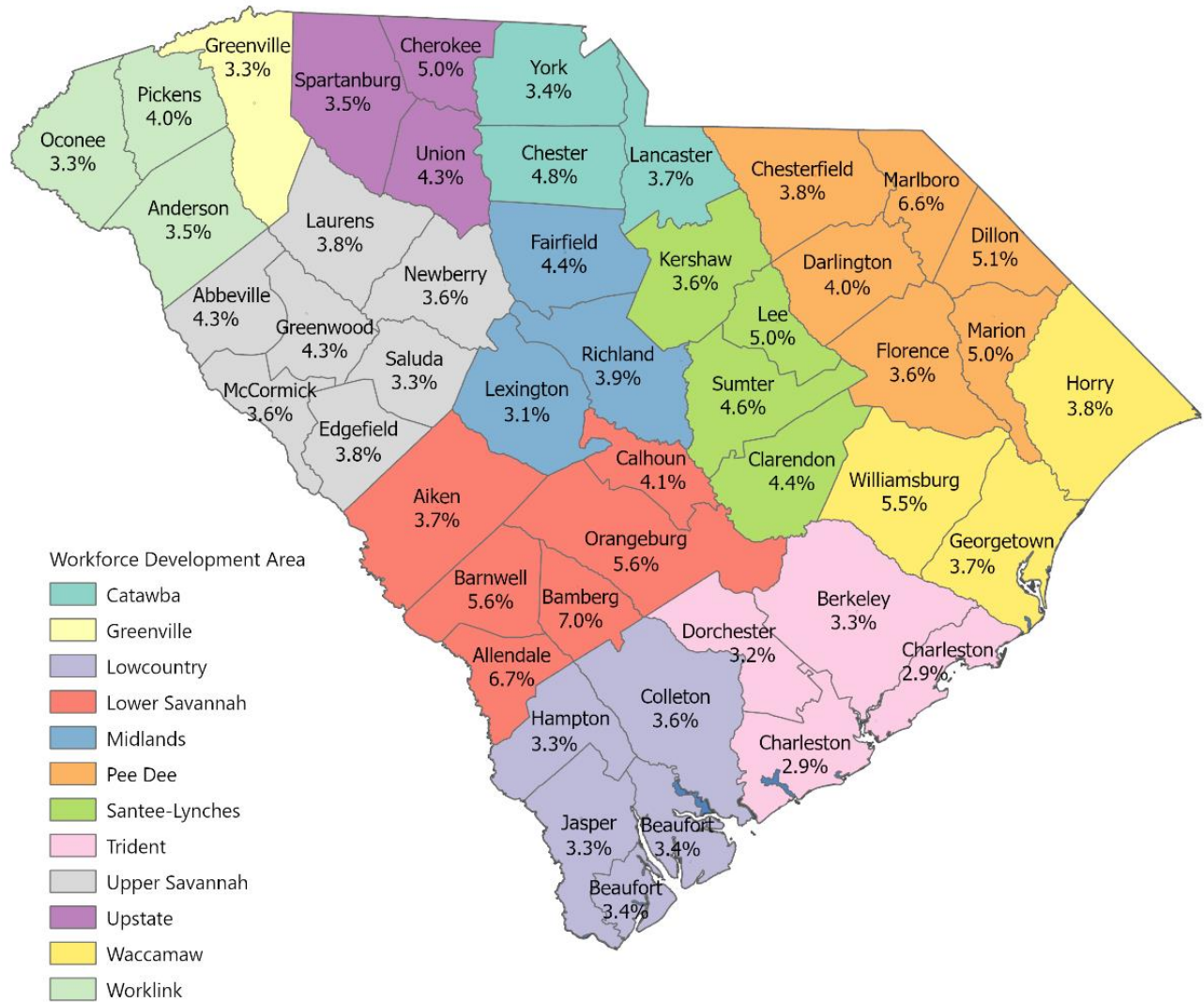
UNEMPLOYED:

- The estimate of unemployed people increased to 83,663.
- That is an increase of 3,851 people from April's estimate and an increase of 13,783 from the May 2023 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 3.4 percent. The national unemployment rate increased to 4.0 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	3.1%	↑ 0.7 pts	↑ 0.8 pts
Columbia	Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Richland, Saluda	3.5%	↑ 0.8 pts	↑ 0.9 pts
Florence	Darlington, Florence	3.7%	↑ 0.7 pts	↑ 0.9 pts
Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin	Anderson, Greenville, Laurens, Pickens	3.5%	↑ 0.8 pts	↑ 0.9 pts
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort	Beaufort, Jasper	3.4%	↑ 0.8 pts	↑ 1.0 pts
Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach	Horry, Brunswick (NC)	3.9%	↑ 0.6 pts	↑ 0.7 pts
Spartanburg	Spartanburg, Union	3.6%	↑ 0.8 pts	↑ 0.9 pts
Sumter	Sumter	4.6%	↑ 1.1 pts	↑ 1.1 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	May 2024				April 2024				May 2023				
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		
			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)	
Bamberg County	↑	4,752	4,421	331	7.0	4,693	4,434	259	5.5	4,581	4,358	223	4.9
Allendale County	↑	2,440	2,277	163	6.7	2,421	2,284	137	5.7	2,337	2,232	105	4.5
Marlboro County	↑	7,459	6,968	491	6.6	7,411	6,996	415	5.6	7,565	7,089	476	6.3
Barnwell County	↑	7,490	7,072	418	5.6	7,497	7,157	340	4.5	7,651	7,358	293	3.8
Orangeburg County	↑	33,661	31,788	1,873	5.6	33,475	32,005	1,470	4.4	33,309	32,021	1,288	3.9
Williamsburg County	↑	10,593	10,009	584	5.5	10,490	10,011	479	4.6	10,426	9,987	439	4.2
Dillon County	↑	13,211	12,539	672	5.1	13,151	12,568	583	4.4	13,105	12,574	531	4.1
Cherokee County	↑	22,733	21,604	1,129	5.0	22,842	21,958	884	3.9	23,724	22,864	860	3.6
Lee County	↑	6,751	6,416	335	5.0	6,705	6,438	267	4.0	6,538	6,303	235	3.6
Marion County	↑	12,977	12,324	653	5.0	12,953	12,383	570	4.4	12,739	12,224	515	4.0
Chester County	↑	13,932	13,266	666	4.8	13,865	13,306	559	4.0	13,740	13,264	476	3.5
Sumter County	↑	42,361	40,420	1,941	4.6	42,012	40,525	1,487	3.5	41,250	39,802	1,448	3.5
Clarendon County	↑	12,618	12,057	561	4.4	12,561	12,121	440	3.5	12,149	11,721	428	3.5
Fairfield County	↑	9,662	9,233	429	4.4	9,676	9,318	358	3.7	9,410	9,082	328	3.5
Abbeville County	↑	9,606	9,190	416	4.3	9,617	9,294	323	3.4	9,595	9,239	356	3.7
Greenwood County	↑	30,198	28,896	1,302	4.3	30,174	29,169	1,005	3.3	30,264	29,064	1,200	4.0
Union County	↑	11,673	11,173	500	4.3	11,655	11,259	396	3.4	11,368	10,954	414	3.6
Calhoun County	↑	6,794	6,516	278	4.1	6,802	6,578	224	3.3	6,583	6,392	191	2.9
Darlington County	↑	31,486	30,230	1,256	4.0	31,210	30,236	974	3.1	30,469	29,569	900	3.0
Pickens County	↑	60,791	58,348	2,443	4.0	60,713	58,998	1,715	2.8	59,345	57,672	1,673	2.8
Richland County	↑	207,528	199,535	7,993	3.9	207,678	201,464	6,214	3.0	202,747	197,138	5,609	2.8
Chesterfield County	↑	21,558	20,743	815	3.8	21,500	20,840	660	3.1	21,422	20,841	581	2.7
Edgefield County	↑	10,536	10,138	398	3.8	10,708	10,385	323	3.0	10,420	10,117	303	2.9
Horry County	↑	163,805	157,525	6,280	3.8	164,002	158,819	5,183	3.2	158,968	154,347	4,621	2.9
Laurens County	↑	31,446	30,247	1,199	3.8	31,509	30,570	939	3.0	30,746	29,846	900	2.9
Aiken County	↑	74,627	71,838	2,789	3.7	75,908	73,663	2,245	3.0	74,226	72,210	2,016	2.7
Georgetown County	↑	27,553	26,532	1,021	3.7	27,385	26,526	859	3.1	26,421	25,672	749	2.8
Lancaster County	↑	45,351	43,667	1,684	3.7	45,276	43,841	1,435	3.2	44,922	43,633	1,289	2.9
Colleton County	↑	16,980	16,365	615	3.6	16,983	16,495	488	2.9	16,165	15,697	468	2.9
Florence County	↑	69,702	67,207	2,495	3.6	69,364	67,351	2,013	2.9	67,622	65,810	1,812	2.7
Kershaw County	↑	30,942	29,833	1,109	3.6	30,971	30,111	860	2.8	30,148	29,355	793	2.6
McCormick County	↑	3,497	3,372	125	3.6	3,538	3,423	115	3.3	3,460	3,349	111	3.2
Newberry County	↑	19,080	18,385	695	3.6	19,069	18,524	545	2.9	19,003	18,528	475	2.5
Anderson County	↑	95,443	92,101	3,342	3.5	95,635	93,073	2,562	2.7	93,457	91,071	2,386	2.6
Spartanburg County	↑	161,941	156,209	5,732	3.5	161,848	157,359	4,489	2.8	157,423	153,285	4,138	2.6
Beaufort County	↑	82,447	79,677	2,770	3.4	82,081	79,915	2,166	2.6	80,039	78,121	1,918	2.4
York County	↑	154,321	149,006	5,315	3.4	153,979	149,675	4,304	2.8	152,920	149,031	3,889	2.5
Berkeley County	↑	119,110	115,210	3,900	3.3	118,605	115,565	3,040	2.6	115,102	112,267	2,835	2.5
Greenville County	↑	271,214	262,183	9,031	3.3	272,037	264,965	7,072	2.6	265,905	259,381	6,524	2.5
Hampton County	↑	8,466	8,186	280	3.3	8,422	8,201	221	2.6	8,181	7,981	200	2.4
Jasper County	↑	14,324	13,848	476	3.3	14,327	13,950	377	2.6	13,777	13,470	307	2.2
Oconee County	↑	35,834	34,638	1,196	3.3	35,846	34,896	950	2.7	35,639	34,784	855	2.4
Saluda County	↑	8,993	8,693	300	3.3	8,977	8,743	234	2.6	8,649	8,430	219	2.5
Dorchester County	↑	86,484	83,706	2,778	3.2	86,106	83,975	2,131	2.5	83,480	81,525	1,955	2.3
Lexington County	↑	159,282	154,392	4,890	3.1	159,675	155,916	3,759	2.4	155,562	152,083	3,479	2.2
Charleston County	↑	234,023	227,278	6,745	2.9	233,639	228,294	5,345	2.3	225,868	220,949	4,919	2.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↑	2,490,135	2,406,502	83,633	3.4	2,484,299	2,404,517	79,782	3.2	2,447,970	2,378,120	69,850	2.9

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 increase of 3,300 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,373,500.

Jobs by Industry	May 2024	April 2024	May 2023	April 2024 to May 2024		May 2023 to May 2024	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,373,500	2,370,200	2,293,100	↑ 3,300	↑ 0.1%	↑ 80,400	↑ 3.5%
Construction	116,200	115,200	110,700	↑ 1,000	↑ 0.9%	↑ 5,500	↑ 5.0%
Manufacturing	268,800	267,700	263,100	↑ 1,100	↑ 0.4%	↑ 5,700	↑ 2.2%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	450,500	451,200	440,800	↓ -700	↓ -0.2%	↑ 9,700	↑ 2.2%
Information	29,100	28,600	29,000	↑ 500	↑ 1.7%	↑ 100	↑ 0.3%
Financial Activities	124,700	124,700	121,500	No Change	No Change	↑ 3,200	↑ 2.6%
Professional and Business Services	321,100	320,200	311,800	↑ 900	↑ 0.3%	↑ 9,300	↑ 3.0%
Education and Health Services	296,100	296,000	279,400	↑ 100	↑ 0.0%	↑ 16,700	↑ 6.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	291,700	293,100	277,300	↓ -1,400	↓ -0.5%	↑ 14,400	↑ 5.2%
Other Services	91,600	90,700	85,700	↑ 900	↑ 1.0%	↑ 5,900	↑ 6.9%
Government	379,100	378,200	369,400	↑ 900	↑ 0.2%	↑ 9,700	↑ 2.6%

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

The monthly survey of businesses in South Carolina marked an estimated increase of 3,300 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,373,500.

Area	May 2024	April 2024	May 2023	April 2024 to May 2024		May 2023 to May 2024	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	2,373,500	2,370,200	2,293,100	↑ 3,300	↑ 0.1%	↑ 80,400	↑ 3.5%
Charleston/North Charleston	429,600	427,900	411,700	↑ 1,700	↑ 0.4%	↑ 17,900	↑ 4.3%
Columbia	434,800	434,600	423,500	↑ 200	↑ 0.0%	↑ 11,300	↑ 2.7%
Florence	98,300	98,100	95,100	↑ 200	↑ 0.2%	↑ 3,200	↑ 3.4%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin	467,000	468,000	456,100	↓ -1,000	↓ -0.2%	↑ 10,900	↑ 2.4%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort	91,400	91,200	88,400	↑ 200	↑ 0.2%	↑ 3,000	↑ 3.4%
Myrtle Beach	197,200	198,100	190,800	↓ -900	↓ -0.5%	↑ 6,400	↑ 3.4%
Spartanburg	175,500	175,200	169,700	↑ 300	↑ 0.2%	↑ 5,800	↑ 3.4%
Sumter	39,000	38,800	38,100	↑ 200	↑ 0.5%	↑ 900	↑ 2.4%

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.