



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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South Carolina's Employment Situation March 2013

Unemployment rate down; Industry employment up 18,200

South Carolina's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 8.4 percent in March from February's rate of 8.6 percent. The number of employed persons was 1,992,113, and the unemployed totaled 182,978, which is the lowest level since October of 2008.

From February to March, the state's labor force saw a minor decline to 2,175,091. Nationally, the unemployment rate fell from 7.7 percent in February to 7.6 percent in March.

Employment by Industry

Non-farm jobs (not seasonally adjusted) in the state increased 18,200 from February to March to a total of 1,875,200.

- Leisure and Hospitality reported a large gain (+9,800) as the tourist season gears up. The largest part of the increase was felt in the Accommodation and Food Service subsector. Improvements in March were also reported in Professional and Business Services (+2,600; mostly in the Employment Services subsector); Government (+2,200; generally in Local Government); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,900; mainly in Retail Trade); and Financial Activities (+1,600). Smaller increases were seen in Other Services (+700) and Manufacturing (+600).
- Three industries reported losses: Construction (-400; primarily in Specialty Trade Contractors), Information (-400), and Education and Health Services (-400; mostly in Healthcare and Social Assistance).

Since March 2012, non-farm jobs in the state have increased 24,700. The largest over-the-year rise was in Leisure and Hospitality (+11,300), followed by Government (+5,700); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,400); and Financial Activities (+4,200).

- Increases in Manufacturing (+1,400) and Construction (+1,000) also helped push growth.
- A large drop in the last year was reported in Professional and Business Services (-4,100).

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide
March 2013

| Jobs by Industry | March 2013 | February 2013 | March 2012 | February 2013 to March 2013 | | March 2012 to March 2013 | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | # Change | % Change | # Change | % Change |
| Total Nonfarm Employment | 1,875,200 | 1,857,000 | 1,850,500 | 18,200 | 0.98% | 24,700 | 1.33% |
| Natural Resources and Mining | 3,800 | 3,800 | 3,900 | 0 | 0.00% | -100 | -2.56% |
| Construction | 78,500 | 78,900 | 77,500 | -400 | -0.51% | 1,000 | 1.29% |
| Manufacturing | 221,000 | 220,400 | 219,600 | 600 | 0.27% | 1,400 | 0.64% |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 353,900 | 352,000 | 349,500 | 1,900 | 0.54% | 4,400 | 1.26% |
| Information | 26,000 | 26,400 | 25,600 | -400 | -1.52% | 400 | 1.56% |
| Financial Activities | 101,500 | 99,900 | 97,300 | 1,600 | 1.60% | 4,200 | 4.32% |
| Professional and Business Services | 229,900 | 227,300 | 234,000 | 2,600 | 1.14% | -4,100 | -1.75% |
| Education and Health Services | 212,000 | 212,400 | 211,700 | -400 | -0.19% | 300 | 0.14% |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 222,100 | 212,300 | 210,800 | 9,800 | 4.62% | 11,300 | 5.36% |
| Other Services | 69,200 | 68,500 | 69,000 | 700 | 1.02% | 200 | 0.29% |
| Government | 357,300 | 355,100 | 351,600 | 2,200 | 0.62% | 5,700 | 1.62% |

Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
March 2013

| INDUSTRY TITLE | March 2013 | February 2013 | March 2012 | February 2013 to March 2013 | | March 2012 to March 2013 | |
|---|---------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | # Change | % Change | # Change | % Change |
| Statewide | 1,875,200 | 1,857,000 | 1,850,500 | 18,200 | 0.98% | 24,700 | 1.33% |
| Anderson MSA | 61,200 | 61,000 | 61,300 | 200 | 0.33% | -100 | -0.16% |
| Charleston/North Charleston MSA | 304,600 | 303,000 | 302,900 | 1,600 | 0.53% | 1,700 | 0.56% |
| Columbia MSA | 356,700 | 354,700 | 353,300 | 2,000 | 0.56% | 3,400 | 0.96% |
| Florence MSA | 83,700 | 83,500 | 83,500 | 200 | 0.24% | 200 | 0.24% |
| Greenville MSA | 309,000 | 306,700 | 306,300 | 2,300 | 0.75% | 2,700 | 0.88% |
| Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA | 114,000 | 109,700 | 111,100 | 4,300 | 3.92% | 2,900 | 2.61% |
| Spartanburg MSA | 125,100 | 124,700 | 122,500 | 400 | 0.32% | 2,600 | 2.12% |
| Sumter MSA | 37,600 | 37,200 | 37,300 | 400 | 1.08% | 300 | 0.80% |

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 STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

| AREA | March 2013 | | | | | February 2013 | | | | March 2012 | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|------|
| | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | | |
| | | | LEVEL | RATE (%) | | | LEVEL | RATE (%) | | | LEVEL | RATE (%) | |
| Marion County | ↓ | 11,427 | 9,577 | 1,850 | 16.2 | 11,491 | 9,452 | 2,039 | 17.7 | 11,580 | 9,398 | 2,182 | 18.8 |
| Allendale County | ↓ | 3,216 | 2,740 | 476 | 14.8 | 3,232 | 2,710 | 522 | 16.2 | 3,219 | 2,675 | 544 | 16.9 |
| Marlboro County | ↓ | 11,314 | 9,744 | 1,570 | 13.9 | 11,487 | 9,646 | 1,841 | 16.0 | 11,576 | 9,616 | 1,960 | 16.9 |
| Bamberg County | ↓ | 5,833 | 5,042 | 791 | 13.6 | 5,830 | 4,987 | 843 | 14.5 | 5,856 | 4,990 | 866 | 14.8 |
| Barnwell County | ↓ | 8,373 | 7,248 | 1,125 | 13.4 | 8,372 | 7,178 | 1,194 | 14.3 | 8,312 | 7,083 | 1,229 | 14.8 |
| Union County | ↓ | 11,478 | 10,004 | 1,474 | 12.8 | 11,511 | 9,919 | 1,592 | 13.8 | 11,485 | 9,885 | 1,600 | 13.9 |
| Chester County | ↓ | 14,757 | 12,943 | 1,814 | 12.3 | 14,827 | 12,826 | 2,001 | 13.5 | 14,757 | 12,719 | 2,038 | 13.8 |
| Dillon County | ↓ | 12,783 | 11,211 | 1,572 | 12.3 | 12,887 | 11,102 | 1,785 | 13.9 | 12,875 | 11,023 | 1,852 | 14.4 |
| Orangeburg County | ↓ | 40,075 | 35,213 | 4,862 | 12.1 | 39,999 | 34,849 | 5,150 | 12.9 | 40,624 | 35,488 | 5,136 | 12.6 |
| Clarendon County | ↓ | 12,129 | 10,682 | 1,447 | 11.9 | 12,189 | 10,577 | 1,612 | 13.2 | 12,208 | 10,531 | 1,677 | 13.7 |
| McCormick County | ↓ | 3,344 | 2,966 | 378 | 11.3 | 3,363 | 2,937 | 426 | 12.7 | 3,372 | 2,931 | 441 | 13.1 |
| Williamsburg County | ↓ | 14,792 | 13,135 | 1,657 | 11.2 | 14,858 | 12,987 | 1,871 | 12.6 | 14,801 | 12,796 | 2,005 | 13.5 |
| Hampton County | ↓ | 7,709 | 6,856 | 853 | 11.1 | 7,696 | 6,780 | 916 | 11.9 | 7,564 | 6,625 | 939 | 12.4 |
| Chesterfield County | ↓ | 18,725 | 16,746 | 1,979 | 10.6 | 18,899 | 16,589 | 2,310 | 12.2 | 18,754 | 16,461 | 2,293 | 12.2 |
| Cherokee County | ↓ | 25,165 | 22,567 | 2,598 | 10.3 | 25,282 | 22,367 | 2,915 | 11.5 | 25,345 | 22,378 | 2,967 | 11.7 |
| Colleton County | ↓ | 16,961 | 15,215 | 1,746 | 10.3 | 16,941 | 15,072 | 1,869 | 11.0 | 16,686 | 14,715 | 1,971 | 11.8 |
| Fairfield County | ↓ | 10,416 | 9,356 | 1,060 | 10.2 | 10,522 | 9,318 | 1,204 | 11.4 | 10,697 | 9,311 | 1,386 | 13.0 |
| Lancaster County | ↓ | 32,246 | 28,956 | 3,290 | 10.2 | 32,430 | 28,685 | 3,745 | 11.5 | 32,027 | 28,307 | 3,720 | 11.6 |
| Lee County | ↓ | 8,003 | 7,183 | 820 | 10.2 | 8,009 | 7,127 | 882 | 11.0 | 8,076 | 7,088 | 988 | 12.2 |
| York County | ↓ | 113,278 | 101,989 | 11,289 | 10.0 | 114,883 | 101,471 | 13,412 | 11.7 | 112,605 | 100,204 | 12,401 | 11.0 |
| Abbeville County | ↓ | 10,856 | 9,819 | 1,037 | 9.6 | 10,826 | 9,726 | 1,100 | 10.2 | 11,043 | 10,001 | 1,042 | 9.4 |
| Calhoun County | ↓ | 6,669 | 6,032 | 637 | 9.6 | 6,691 | 6,007 | 684 | 10.2 | 6,637 | 6,003 | 634 | 9.6 |
| Greenwood County | ↓ | 30,828 | 27,932 | 2,896 | 9.4 | 30,760 | 27,625 | 3,135 | 10.2 | 30,714 | 27,608 | 3,106 | 10.1 |
| Horry County | ↓ | 126,006 | 114,159 | 11,847 | 9.4 | 124,332 | 110,500 | 13,832 | 11.1 | 124,610 | 110,976 | 13,634 | 10.9 |
| Darlington County | ↓ | 30,090 | 27,296 | 2,794 | 9.3 | 30,297 | 27,283 | 3,014 | 9.9 | 30,196 | 27,222 | 2,974 | 9.8 |
| Sumter County | ↓ | 44,332 | 40,344 | 3,988 | 9.0 | 44,360 | 40,045 | 4,315 | 9.7 | 44,871 | 40,340 | 4,531 | 10.1 |
| Florence County | ↓ | 62,545 | 57,065 | 5,480 | 8.8 | 63,060 | 57,035 | 6,025 | 9.6 | 63,252 | 56,910 | 6,342 | 10.0 |
| Georgetown County | ↓ | 29,474 | 26,894 | 2,580 | 8.8 | 29,365 | 26,503 | 2,862 | 9.7 | 28,164 | 25,213 | 2,951 | 10.5 |
| Edgefield County | ↓ | 11,134 | 10,210 | 924 | 8.3 | 11,181 | 10,182 | 999 | 8.9 | 11,230 | 10,224 | 1,006 | 9.0 |
| Oconee County | ↓ | 31,519 | 29,037 | 2,482 | 7.9 | 31,599 | 28,766 | 2,833 | 9.0 | 31,200 | 28,536 | 2,664 | 8.5 |
| Aiken County | ↓ | 76,508 | 70,514 | 5,994 | 7.8 | 76,925 | 70,316 | 6,609 | 8.6 | 76,808 | 70,609 | 6,199 | 8.1 |
| Spartanburg County | ↓ | 136,485 | 125,927 | 10,558 | 7.7 | 136,998 | 125,644 | 11,354 | 8.3 | 136,040 | 123,994 | 12,046 | 8.9 |
| Laurens County | ↓ | 30,018 | 27,743 | 2,275 | 7.6 | 30,055 | 27,594 | 2,461 | 8.2 | 30,400 | 27,599 | 2,801 | 9.2 |
| Jasper County | ↓ | 10,613 | 9,823 | 790 | 7.4 | 10,566 | 9,726 | 840 | 8.0 | 10,050 | 9,120 | 930 | 9.3 |
| Richland County | ↓ | 181,943 | 168,423 | 13,520 | 7.4 | 181,678 | 167,744 | 13,934 | 7.7 | 182,287 | 167,620 | 14,667 | 8.0 |
| Anderson County | ↓ | 83,852 | 77,767 | 6,085 | 7.3 | 84,151 | 77,549 | 6,602 | 7.8 | 85,101 | 77,912 | 7,189 | 8.4 |
| Newberry County | ↓ | 18,283 | 16,962 | 1,321 | 7.2 | 18,273 | 16,828 | 1,445 | 7.9 | 18,280 | 16,712 | 1,568 | 8.6 |
| Berkeley County | ↓ | 84,953 | 79,175 | 5,778 | 6.8 | 85,097 | 78,974 | 6,123 | 7.2 | 85,974 | 79,148 | 6,826 | 7.9 |
| Pickens County | ↓ | 57,109 | 53,299 | 3,810 | 6.7 | 56,995 | 53,012 | 3,983 | 7.0 | 57,565 | 53,023 | 4,542 | 7.9 |
| Saluda County | ↓ | 8,929 | 8,333 | 596 | 6.7 | 8,966 | 8,299 | 667 | 7.4 | 8,971 | 8,293 | 678 | 7.6 |
| Dorchester County | ↓ | 69,266 | 64,726 | 4,540 | 6.6 | 69,203 | 64,561 | 4,642 | 6.7 | 69,718 | 64,704 | 5,014 | 7.2 |
| Kershaw County | ↓ | 29,251 | 27,333 | 1,918 | 6.6 | 29,488 | 27,223 | 2,265 | 7.7 | 29,522 | 27,203 | 2,319 | 7.9 |
| Beaufort County | ↓ | 65,160 | 60,901 | 4,259 | 6.5 | 64,943 | 60,295 | 4,648 | 7.2 | 61,290 | 56,541 | 4,749 | 7.7 |
| Charleston County | ↓ | 176,142 | 165,292 | 10,850 | 6.2 | 176,501 | 164,872 | 11,629 | 6.6 | 177,831 | 165,235 | 12,596 | 7.1 |
| Greenville County | ↓ | 226,457 | 212,439 | 14,018 | 6.2 | 226,190 | 211,294 | 14,896 | 6.6 | 227,226 | 211,339 | 15,887 | 7.0 |
| Lexington County | ↓ | 134,141 | 126,086 | 8,055 | 6.0 | 134,137 | 125,577 | 8,560 | 6.4 | 134,903 | 125,484 | 9,419 | 7.0 |
| Charleston MSA | ↓ | 330,361 | 309,193 | 21,168 | 6.4 | 330,801 | 308,407 | 22,394 | 6.8 | 333,523 | 309,087 | 24,436 | 7.3 |
| Columbia MSA | ↓ | 371,349 | 345,562 | 25,787 | 6.9 | 371,484 | 344,169 | 27,315 | 7.4 | 373,018 | 343,914 | 29,104 | 7.8 |
| Florence MSA | ↓ | 92,635 | 84,361 | 8,274 | 8.9 | 93,357 | 84,318 | 9,039 | 9.7 | 93,449 | 84,132 | 9,317 | 10.0 |
| Greenville MSA | ↓ | 313,584 | 293,481 | 20,103 | 6.4 | 313,240 | 291,900 | 21,340 | 6.8 | 315,192 | 291,962 | 23,230 | 7.4 |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| South Carolina | ↓ | 2,175,091 | 1,992,113 | 182,978 | 8.4 | 2,178,666 | 1,991,593 | 187,073 | 8.6 | 2,168,888 | 1,967,813 | 201,075 | 9.3 |

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

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