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For Release
October 22, 2021

South Carolina's Employment Situation September 2021

I. Household Survey¹

Employment: The seasonally adjusted, monthly survey of households estimated the number of South Carolinians working increased to 2,307,087.

- That is an increase of 4,167 people over the August 2021 estimate.
- That is an increase of 14,569 people over the September 2020 estimate.

Unemployment: Unemployment estimates decreased to 98,170 people.

- That is a decrease of 3,311 people from the August 2021 estimate and a significant decrease of 32,230 over the September 2020 estimate.
- The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 4.1 percent in September from 4.2 percent in August.

Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased to 4.8 percent in September from 5.2 percent in August.

Labor force: The state's estimated labor force (people working plus unemployed people looking for work) increased to 2,405,257.

- That is an increase of 856 people over the August 2021 estimate.
- That is a decrease of 17,661 individuals over the September 2020 estimate.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted³)

The Current Employment Survey² of businesses in South Carolina marked an increase of 4,700 nonfarm payroll jobs over the month to a level of 2,147,500.

- Industries that reported gains were in the Leisure and Hospitality (+3,400); Education and Health Services (+2,100); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,800); Other Services (+1,200); and Financial Activities (+400).
- Decreases were observed in the Manufacturing (-1,600); Professional and Business Services (-1,500); Government (-700); Construction (-300); and Information (-100) industries.

From September 2020 to September 2021, South Carolina's economy has picked up 66,800 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Industries with strong growth were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+25,100); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+14,800); Education and Health Services (+8,300); Construction (+7,600); Government (+5,700); Manufacturing (+3,700); Other Services (+3,600); and Information (+400).
- Declines were noticed in the Financial Activities (-1,900) and Professional and Business Services (-500) industries.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted⁴)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment climbed 3,500 from August 2021 to September 2021 for a total of 2,145,500.

- Increases were reported in Government (+12,100); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+2,200); Education and Health Services (+2,100); and Other Services (1,100) industries.
- Decreases were reported in the Leisure and Hospitality (-8,200); Construction (-1,900); Professional and Business Services (-1,800); Manufacturing (-1,600); and Information (-500) industries.
- Mining and Logging and Financial Activities industries remained flat.

Since September 2020, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 67,900 overall in South Carolina.

- Industries making strong annual gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+24,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+17,600); Education and Health Services (+7,800); Government (+5,900); Construction (+5,300); Manufacturing (+4,800); Other Services (+4,500); and Information (+200).
- Declines were noticed in the Financial Activities (-1,300) and Professional and Business Services (-900) industries.
- Mining and Logging Industry remained flat.

¹**Household Survey (Current Population Survey):** is a monthly survey of about 60,000 households conducted by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This survey provides monthly statistics on employment, unemployment, and related subjects analyzed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²**Current Employment Statistics Survey:** is a monthly survey of about 40,000 employers which yields estimates of nonagricultural wage and salary employment, hours, and earnings by industry.

³**Seasonally Adjusted:** Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less 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.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
September 2021

Area	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	August 2021 to September 2021		September 2020 to September 2021	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,147,500	2,142,800	2,080,700	4,700	0.22%	66,800	3.21%
Construction	109,900	110,200	102,300	-300	-0.27%	7,600	7.43%
Manufacturing	247,700	249,300	244,000	-1,600	-0.64%	3,700	1.52%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	419,500	417,700	404,700	1,800	0.43%	14,800	3.66%
Information	25,200	25,300	24,800	-100	-0.40%	400	1.61%
Financial Activities	103,700	103,300	105,600	400	0.39%	-1,900	-1.80%
Professional and Business Services	282,600	284,100	283,100	-1,500	-0.53%	-500	-0.18%
Education and Health Services	256,200	254,100	247,900	2,100	0.83%	8,300	3.35%
Leisure and Hospitality	249,700	246,300	224,600	3,400	1.38%	25,100	11.18%
Other Services	76,900	75,700	73,300	1,200	1.59%	3,600	4.91%
Government	371,700	372,400	366,000	-700	-0.19%	5,700	1.56%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
September 2021

Area	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	August 2021 to September 2021		September 2020 to September 2021	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Total Nonfarm	2,145,500	2,142,000	2,077,600	3,500	0.16%	67,900	3.27%
Mining and Logging	4,400	4,400	4,400	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Construction	107,900	109,800	102,600	-1,900	-1.73%	5,300	5.17%
Manufacturing	248,500	250,100	243,700	-1,600	-0.64%	4,800	1.97%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	418,800	416,600	401,200	2,200	0.53%	17,600	4.39%
Information	24,800	25,300	24,600	-500	-1.98%	200	0.81%
Financial Activities	103,800	103,800	105,100	0	0.00%	-1,300	-1.24%
Professional and Business Services	281,400	283,200	282,300	-1,800	-0.64%	-900	-0.32%
Education and Health Services	255,600	253,500	247,800	2,100	0.83%	7,800	3.15%
Leisure and Hospitality	250,200	258,400	226,200	-8,200	-3.17%	24,000	10.61%
Other Services	77,500	76,400	73,000	1,100	1.44%	4,500	6.16%
Government	372,600	360,500	366,700	12,100	3.36%	5,900	1.61%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
September 2021

Area	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	August 2021 to September 2021		September 2020 to September 2021	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,147,500	2,142,800	2,080,700	4,700	0.22%	66,800	3.21%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	367,000	366,500	354,300	500	0.14%	12,700	3.58%
Columbia MSA	393,800	391,600	386,300	2,200	0.56%	7,500	1.94%
Florence MSA	89,900	89,600	88,300	300	0.33%	1,600	1.81%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	421,900	421,300	412,800	600	0.14%	9,100	2.20%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	83,900	83,100	79,200	800	0.96%	4,700	5.93%
Myrtle Beach MSA	170,600	168,200	164,000	2,400	1.43%	6,600	4.02%
Spartanburg MSA	166,300	165,700	159,600	600	0.36%	6,700	4.20%
Sumter MSA	38,300	38,300	37,200	0	0.00%	1,100	2.96%

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
September 2021

Area	September 2021	August 2021	September 2020	August 2021 to September 2021		September 2020 to September 2021	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
Statewide	2,145,500	2,142,000	2,077,600	3,500	0.16%	67,900	3.27%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	364,900	366,300	351,100	-1,400	-0.38%	13,800	3.93%
Columbia MSA	394,600	389,400	384,700	5,200	1.34%	9,900	2.57%
Florence MSA	89,700	89,400	87,900	300	0.34%	1,800	2.05%
Greenville MSA	422,200	419,700	411,100	2,500	0.60%	11,100	2.70%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	83,700	84,600	79,300	-900	-1.06%	4,400	5.55%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	171,200	173,600	164,700	-2,400	-1.38%	6,500	3.95%
Spartanburg MSA	166,400	165,100	159,600	1,300	0.79%	6,800	4.26%
Sumter MSA	38,100	37,900	37,100	200	0.53%	1,000	2.70%

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	September 2021				August 2021				September 2020				
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		
			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)	
Marlboro County	↓	9,069	8,421	648	7.1	9,176	8,459	717	7.8	9,515	8,674	841	8.8
Bamberg County	↓	4,476	4,174	302	6.7	4,619	4,233	386	8.4	4,772	4,375	397	8.3
Orangeburg County	↓	33,047	30,849	2,198	6.7	33,480	30,848	2,632	7.9	35,088	32,097	2,991	8.5
Allendale County	↓	2,428	2,267	161	6.6	2,487	2,283	204	8.2	2,647	2,423	224	8.5
Marion County	↓	13,242	12,493	749	5.7	13,537	12,579	958	7.1	13,647	12,672	975	7.1
Barnwell County	↓	7,566	7,142	424	5.6	7,748	7,222	526	6.8	8,032	7,525	507	6.3
Union County	↓	12,107	11,454	653	5.4	12,216	11,420	796	6.5	12,215	11,238	977	8.0
Williamsburg County	↓	11,135	10,557	578	5.2	11,421	10,665	756	6.6	12,143	11,258	885	7.3
Chester County	↓	13,513	12,830	683	5.1	13,732	12,889	843	6.1	13,839	12,671	1,168	8.4
Dillon County	↓	13,344	12,662	682	5.1	13,722	12,895	827	6.0	13,347	12,628	719	5.4
Fairfield County	↓	9,568	9,095	473	4.9	9,645	9,051	594	6.2	9,720	9,030	690	7.1
Lee County	↓	6,675	6,353	322	4.8	6,806	6,398	408	6.0	6,907	6,440	467	6.8
Cherokee County	↓	24,829	23,805	1,024	4.1	25,055	23,745	1,310	5.2	25,855	24,040	1,815	7.0
Chesterfield County	↓	21,506	20,632	874	4.1	21,773	20,749	1,024	4.7	21,998	20,838	1,160	5.3
McCormick County	↓	3,251	3,118	133	4.1	3,291	3,116	175	5.3	3,386	3,189	197	5.8
Calhoun County	↓	6,588	6,322	266	4.0	6,621	6,301	320	4.8	6,634	6,269	365	5.5
Horry County	↓	149,157	143,232	5,925	4.0	153,502	145,672	7,830	5.1	149,555	140,248	9,307	6.2
Abbeville County	↓	9,698	9,321	377	3.9	9,761	9,297	464	4.8	10,115	9,616	499	4.9
Clarendon County	↓	12,626	12,128	498	3.9	12,938	12,277	661	5.1	12,773	12,032	741	5.8
Georgetown County	↓	25,568	24,562	1,006	3.9	26,412	25,063	1,349	5.1	26,633	24,973	1,660	6.2
Lancaster County	↓	42,615	40,971	1,644	3.9	43,059	41,100	1,959	4.5	42,886	40,408	2,478	5.8
Greenwood County	↓	30,248	29,087	1,161	3.8	30,574	29,094	1,480	4.8	31,856	30,086	1,770	5.6
Sumter County	↓	43,186	41,543	1,643	3.8	43,607	41,464	2,143	4.9	43,875	41,205	2,670	6.1
Darlington County	↓	30,209	29,085	1,124	3.7	30,778	29,287	1,491	4.8	30,905	29,088	1,817	5.9
Colleton County	↓	16,204	15,647	557	3.4	16,599	15,826	773	4.7	16,933	15,981	952	5.6
Laurens County	↓	30,219	29,177	1,042	3.4	30,534	29,169	1,365	4.5	30,567	28,913	1,654	5.4
Richland County	↓	199,800	193,089	6,711	3.4	200,275	191,474	8,801	4.4	202,716	191,869	10,847	5.4
Florence County	↓	67,118	64,895	2,223	3.3	68,073	65,086	2,987	4.4	68,243	64,767	3,476	5.1
Spartanburg County	↓	160,378	155,310	5,068	3.2	161,549	154,858	6,691	4.1	160,878	152,471	8,407	5.2
York County	↓	144,628	139,984	4,644	3.2	145,749	140,221	5,528	3.8	145,479	138,008	7,471	5.1
Kershaw County	↓	29,516	28,615	901	3.1	29,682	28,469	1,213	4.1	29,676	28,411	1,265	4.3
Anderson County	↓	91,325	88,717	2,608	2.9	92,254	88,607	3,647	4.0	92,178	87,987	4,191	4.5
Berkeley County	↓	105,839	102,752	3,087	2.9	107,686	103,547	4,139	3.8	105,773	100,883	4,890	4.6
Charleston County	↓	212,413	206,331	6,082	2.9	216,061	207,772	8,289	3.8	213,832	202,131	11,701	5.5
Dorchester County	↓	78,203	75,917	2,286	2.9	79,537	76,514	3,023	3.8	78,400	74,514	3,886	5.0
Hampton County	↓	8,187	7,950	237	2.9	8,430	8,106	324	3.8	8,256	7,886	370	4.5
Oconee County	↓	34,250	33,272	978	2.9	34,722	33,371	1,351	3.9	35,338	34,047	1,291	3.7
Greenville County	↓	257,735	250,596	7,139	2.8	259,562	250,195	9,367	3.6	259,987	248,556	11,431	4.4
Aiken County	↓	74,554	72,552	2,002	2.7	76,323	73,642	2,681	3.5	76,254	73,476	2,778	3.6
Pickens County	↓	57,757	56,186	1,571	2.7	58,189	56,071	2,118	3.6	57,893	55,675	2,218	3.8
Beaufort County	↓	79,067	76,995	2,072	2.6	81,096	78,175	2,921	3.6	77,400	74,313	3,087	4.0
Edgefield County	↓	10,618	10,344	274	2.6	10,916	10,536	380	3.5	10,854	10,451	403	3.7
Newberry County	↓	19,439	18,935	504	2.6	19,757	19,071	686	3.5	19,414	18,651	763	3.9
Jasper County	↓	13,194	12,863	331	2.5	13,494	13,026	468	3.5	12,911	12,350	561	4.3
Lexington County	↓	151,391	147,662	3,729	2.5	151,683	146,666	5,017	3.3	151,934	146,561	5,373	3.5
Saluda County	↓	8,639	8,436	203	2.3	8,812	8,523	289	3.3	8,649	8,376	273	3.2
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	396,455	385,000	11,455	2.9	403,284	387,833	15,451	3.8	398,005	377,528	20,477	5.1
Columbia MSA	↓	405,502	393,219	12,283	3.0	406,718	390,484	16,234	4.0	409,329	390,516	18,813	4.6
Florence MSA	↓	97,327	93,980	3,347	3.4	98,851	94,373	4,478	4.5	99,148	93,855	5,293	5.3
Greenville -Anderson- Mauldin MSA	↓	437,036	424,676	12,360	2.8	440,539	424,042	16,497	3.7	440,625	421,131	19,494	4.4
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,405,257	2,307,087	98,170	4.1	2,404,401	2,302,920	101,481	4.2	2,422,918	2,292,518	130,400	5.4

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

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