



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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South Carolina's Employment Situation April 2013

Unemployment rate drops to lowest in five years

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell significantly in April to 8.0 percent from March's 8.4 percent estimate. This is the lowest rate since October 2008 and represents the largest month-to-month decrease since May 1987.

The number of employed people increased by 2,935 from March to April to 1,995,078. This is the tenth consecutive monthly increase in people finding work across the state. The estimated number of unemployed persons was 174,352. Nationally, the unemployment rate declined slightly to 7.5 percent.

"This drop in unemployment is yet another piece of great news for South Carolina," said Governor Nikki Haley. "Our outstanding companies, our loyal and dedicated workforce, and our competitive business environment have our economy turning again. There's no doubt that South Carolina is on the move, and we couldn't be more excited about the great things in store for our state."

Employment by Industry

Non-farm jobs (not seasonally adjusted) increased 15,100 from March to April to a total of 1,889,500. Growth was concentrated in service-providing industries with Leisure and Hospitality leading the way.

- With a gain of 8,700 jobs, Leisure and Hospitality reported an increase for the third consecutive month, as employers continued their seasonal hiring in the coastal areas and the state capital. This hiring was primarily in Accommodation and Food Services. In addition, the Retail Trade subsector expanded. Improvements in April were also reported in Professional and Business Services (+2,700); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+2,300), Construction (+1,300), Education and Health Services (+1,300), and Financial Activities (+700).
- Only the Manufacturing industry reported a loss (-900) as employment in both durable and non-durable goods fell.

Since April 2012, non-seasonally adjusted non-farm jobs in the state were up 26,200.

- The Leisure and Hospitality industry led the gain (+10,400). Government (+5,900); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,700); and Financial Activities (+4,100) also reported growth.

- Increases in Construction (+3,000) and Manufacturing (+1,000) assisted in job expansion.
- Professional and Business Services (-4,800) saw the largest decline since a year ago, and there was a modest decrease in Mining and Logging (-100).

“South Carolina’s April unemployment rate is outstanding news as we continue along the road of economic recovery, said John L. Finan, SC Department of Employment and Workforce administrator. The 0.4 percent decrease from March marks the largest month-to-month drop since May 1987, and the number of South Carolinians finding work continues to increase each month. As the Palmetto State’s unemployment rate closes in on the national average, DEW remains dedicated to helping both businesses and jobseekers.”

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide

April 2013

Jobs by Industry	April 2013	March 2013	April 2012	March 2013 to April 2013		April 2012 to April 2013	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	1,889,500	1,874,400	1,863,300	15,100	0.81%	26,200	1.41%
Natural Resources and Mining	3,800	3,800	3,900	0	0.00%	-100	-2.56%
Construction	79,600	78,300	76,600	1,300	1.66%	3,000	3.92%
Manufacturing	220,900	221,800	219,900	-900	-0.41%	1,000	0.45%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	355,800	353,500	351,100	2,300	0.65%	4,700	1.34%
Information	26,000	26,000	25,700	0	0.00%	300	1.17%
Financial Activities	102,200	101,500	98,100	700	0.69%	4,100	4.18%
Professional and Business Services	232,300	229,600	237,100	2,700	1.18%	-4,800	-2.02%
Education and Health Services	213,400	212,100	211,100	1,300	0.61%	2,300	1.09%
Leisure and Hospitality	230,400	221,700	220,000	8,700	3.92%	10,400	4.73%
Other Services	68,300	69,100	68,900	-800	-1.16%	-600	-0.87%
Government	356,800	357,000	350,900	-200	-0.06%	5,900	1.68%

Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

April 2013

INDUSTRY TITLE	April 2013	March 2013	April 2012	March 2013 to April 2013		April 2012 to April 2013	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	1,889,500	1,874,400	1,863,300	15,100	0.81%	26,200	1.41%
Anderson MSA	61,600	61,200	61,300	400	0.65%	300	0.49%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	307,500	304,100	306,400	3,400	1.12%	1,100	0.36%
Columbia MSA	358,100	356,700	353,200	1,400	0.39%	4,900	1.39%
Florence MSA	83,400	83,700	83,200	-300	-0.36%	200	0.24%
Greenville MSA	310,400	309,000	307,200	1,400	0.45%	3,200	1.04%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	120,600	114,000	118,800	6,600	5.79%	1,800	1.52%
Spartanburg MSA	124,900	125,100	122,200	-200	-0.16%	2,700	2.21%
Sumter MSA	37,600	37,500	37,600	100	0.27%	0	0.00%

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		April 2013				March 2013				April 2012			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
Marion County, SC	↓	11,320	9,626	1,694	15.0	11,412	9,575	1,837	16.1	11,586	9,551	2,035	17.6
Allendale County, SC	↓	3,169	2,727	442	13.9	3,213	2,740	473	14.7	3,169	2,664	505	15.9
Marlboro County, SC	↓	11,139	9,691	1,448	13.0	11,305	9,743	1,562	13.8	11,528	9,545	1,983	17.2
Bamberg County, SC	↓	5,766	5,041	725	12.6	5,828	5,042	786	13.5	5,760	4,935	825	14.3
Barnwell County, SC	↓	8,313	7,285	1,028	12.4	8,365	7,248	1,117	13.4	8,203	7,047	1,156	14.1
Union County, SC	↓	11,403	10,020	1,383	12.1	11,469	10,002	1,467	12.8	11,360	9,820	1,540	13.6
Dillon County, SC	↓	12,647	11,174	1,473	11.6	12,772	11,206	1,566	12.3	12,734	10,942	1,792	14.1
Orangeburg County, SC	↓	39,731	35,249	4,482	11.3	40,027	35,198	4,829	12.1	40,118	35,192	4,926	12.3
Chester County, SC	↓	14,647	13,005	1,642	11.2	14,759	12,954	1,805	12.2	14,602	12,689	1,913	13.1
Clarendon County, SC	↓	11,999	10,665	1,334	11.1	12,116	10,677	1,439	11.9	12,203	10,539	1,664	13.6
Williamsburg County, SC	↓	14,784	13,163	1,621	11.0	14,778	13,131	1,647	11.1	14,591	12,733	1,858	12.7
McCormick County, SC	↓	3,339	2,977	362	10.8	3,342	2,966	376	11.3	3,342	2,933	409	12.2
Hampton County, SC	↓	7,623	6,850	773	10.1	7,703	6,855	848	11.0	7,519	6,636	883	11.7
Chesterfield County, SC	↓	18,593	16,773	1,820	9.8	18,732	16,746	1,986	10.6	18,624	16,412	2,212	11.9
Cherokee County, SC	↓	25,088	22,667	2,421	9.7	25,147	22,564	2,583	10.3	25,080	22,294	2,786	11.1
Lancaster County, SC	↓	32,217	29,129	3,088	9.6	32,254	28,969	3,285	10.2	31,932	28,349	3,583	11.2
Lee County, SC	↓	7,894	7,136	758	9.6	7,994	7,180	814	10.2	7,961	7,006	955	12.0
Colleton County, SC	↓	16,868	15,261	1,607	9.5	16,947	15,206	1,741	10.3	16,614	14,750	1,864	11.2
Fairfield County, SC	↓	10,372	9,399	973	9.4	10,410	9,356	1,054	10.1	10,621	9,298	1,323	12.5
Calhoun County, SC	↓	6,679	6,059	620	9.3	6,663	6,032	631	9.5	6,655	5,994	661	9.9
Abbeville County, SC	↓	10,822	9,855	967	8.9	10,850	9,817	1,033	9.5	10,929	9,921	1,008	9.2
York County, SC	↓	113,212	103,128	10,084	8.9	113,483	102,214	11,269	9.9	113,257	100,944	12,313	10.9
Greenwood County, SC	↓	30,788	28,080	2,708	8.8	30,805	27,923	2,882	9.4	30,547	27,559	2,988	9.8
Darlington County, SC	↓	29,780	27,189	2,591	8.7	30,074	27,297	2,777	9.2	29,914	27,069	2,845	9.5
Florence County, SC	↓	62,024	56,841	5,183	8.4	62,520	57,065	5,455	8.7	62,724	56,588	6,136	9.8
Sumter County, SC	↓	44,117	40,430	3,687	8.4	44,309	40,345	3,964	8.9	44,907	40,511	4,396	9.8
Horry County, SC	↓	131,139	120,523	10,616	8.1	126,008	114,212	11,796	9.4	130,600	118,200	12,400	9.5
Georgetown County, SC	↓	29,587	27,229	2,358	8.0	29,456	26,889	2,567	8.7	28,556	25,836	2,720	9.5
Oconee County, SC	↓	31,489	29,154	2,335	7.4	31,504	29,033	2,471	7.8	30,979	28,418	2,561	8.3
Edgefield County, SC	↓	11,209	10,386	823	7.3	11,126	10,216	910	8.2	11,263	10,300	963	8.6
Spartanburg County, SC	↓	136,059	126,132	9,927	7.3	136,434	125,938	10,496	7.7	135,511	123,945	11,566	8.5
Laurens County, SC	↓	30,051	27,879	2,172	7.2	30,011	27,754	2,257	7.5	30,258	27,664	2,594	8.6
Richland County, SC	↓	181,842	169,193	12,649	7.0	181,876	168,424	13,452	7.4	181,699	167,373	14,326	7.9
Newberry County, SC	↓	18,147	16,890	1,257	6.9	18,273	16,959	1,314	7.2	18,018	16,522	1,496	8.3
Aiken County, SC	↓	76,926	71,730	5,196	6.8	76,477	70,556	5,921	7.7	77,076	71,134	5,942	7.7
Anderson County, SC	↓	83,988	78,262	5,726	6.8	83,863	77,807	6,056	7.2	84,763	77,924	6,839	8.1
Jasper County, SC	↓	10,593	9,887	706	6.7	10,605	9,820	785	7.4	10,147	9,301	846	8.3
Saluda County, SC	↓	8,943	8,371	572	6.4	8,924	8,333	591	6.6	8,949	8,281	668	7.5
Berkeley County, SC	↓	85,470	80,048	5,422	6.3	84,837	79,086	5,751	6.8	86,520	80,085	6,435	7.4
Kershaw County, SC	↓	29,268	27,458	1,810	6.2	29,250	27,333	1,917	6.6	29,432	27,163	2,269	7.7
Pickens County, SC	↓	57,127	53,560	3,567	6.2	57,113	53,320	3,793	6.6	57,497	53,148	4,349	7.6
Beaufort County, SC	↓	65,309	61,296	4,013	6.1	65,117	60,877	4,240	6.5	62,276	57,662	4,614	7.4
Dorchester County, SC	↓	69,682	65,440	4,242	6.1	69,168	64,653	4,515	6.5	70,267	65,470	4,797	6.8
Charleston County, SC	↓	177,371	167,115	10,256	5.8	175,897	165,106	10,791	6.1	179,683	167,191	12,492	7.0
Greenville County, SC	↓	226,635	213,478	13,157	5.8	226,458	212,523	13,935	6.2	227,199	211,835	15,364	6.8
Lexington County, SC	↓	134,276	126,662	7,614	5.7	134,091	126,086	8,005	6.0	134,262	125,300	8,962	6.7
Charleston MSA	↓	332,523	312,603	19,920	6.0	329,902	308,845	21,057	6.4	336,469	312,745	23,724	7.1
Columbia MSA	↓	371,380	347,142	24,238	6.5	371,213	345,564	25,649	6.9	371,615	343,408	28,207	7.6
Florence MSA	↓	91,804	84,030	7,774	8.5	92,594	84,362	8,232	8.9	92,639	83,657	8,982	9.7
Greenville MSA	↓	313,812	294,917	18,895	6.0	313,583	293,598	19,985	6.4	314,955	292,647	22,308	7.1
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,169,430	1,995,078	174,352	8.0	2,174,733	1,992,143	182,590	8.4	2,169,009	1,968,114	200,895	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 =