



## SC Department of Employment and Workforce

### NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

### **South Carolina's Employment Situation November 2015**

#### **Employment Gains Set New Record Unemployment Rate Continues To Fall**

South Carolina's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell for the sixth consecutive month, declining from 5.6 percent in October to 5.5 percent in November, a level not seen since August 2001.

The number of people working in South Carolina climbed in November, increasing by 9,147 to a record level of 2,137,493. Employment increased an estimated 71,202 people over the year, an all-time record increase for the state.

The number of unemployed individuals decreased in November by 2,743 to 123,913. Since November 2014, the level of unemployed has decreased by 22,664. The labor force increased by 6,404 to 2,261,406 people. Since November 2014, the labor force has grown substantially by nearly 48,538.

Nationally, the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5 percent over the month.

#### **Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup>)**

November seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payrolls increased by 5,600 over the month to reach the level of 2,024,900.

- South Carolina's most notable increases occurred in Professional and Business Services (+1,800); Construction (+1,100); and Education and Health Services (+1,000).
- Additional gains were seen in Leisure and Hospitality (+900); Manufacturing (+800); Financial Activities (+500); and Government (+500).
- Industries reporting decreases were Information (-400); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-300); and Other Services (-300).

Compared to November 2014, seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 52,100.

- The largest increases were reported in Professional and Business Services (+15,400); Education and Health Services (+11,300); Leisure and Hospitality (+10,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+9,200); Construction (+6,800); Government (+3,600); and Other Services (+800).

- Industries reporting declines were Financial Activities (-2,500); Manufacturing (-1,500); and Information (-800).

### **Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted<sup>2</sup>)**

The not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment in November 2015 reported an over-the-month increase of 7,400 to a level of 2,034,400. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities rose by 4,200 jobs as the trade industry begins its seasonal hiring period. Additional upturns in employment were due to increases in Government (+2,300); Manufacturing (+1,400); Education and Health Services (+1,100); Professional and Business Services (+900); Financial Activities (+600); and Other Services (+500).

The most significant loss was reported in Leisure and Hospitality (-3,200), followed by smaller declines in Construction (-300) and Information (-100).

From November 2014 to November 2015, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 52,500 overall in South Carolina's workforce. Industries marking strong annual gains came from Professional and Business Services (+15,500); Education and Health Services (+11,400); Leisure and Hospitality (+9,900); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+9,300); Construction (+6,800); Government (+3,700); and Other Services (+800). Declines were seen in Financial Activities (-2,500); Manufacturing (-1,400); Information (-800); and Natural Resources and Mining (-200).

<sup>1</sup>**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.

<sup>2</sup>**Not Seasonally Adjusted:** Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have not been removed from these data.

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**NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

Statewide  
November 2015

Industry	November 2015	October 2015	November 2014	October 2015 to November 2015		November 2014 to November 2015	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>2,024,900</b>	<b>2,019,300</b>	<b>1,972,800</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>0.28%</b>	<b>52,100</b>	<b>2.64%</b>
Construction	89,800	88,700	83,000	1,100	1.22%	6,800	8.19%
Manufacturing	230,900	230,100	232,400	800	0.35%	-1,500	-0.65%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	387,000	387,300	377,800	-300	-0.08%	9,200	2.44%
Information	26,400	26,800	27,200	-400	-1.52%	-800	-2.94%
Financial Activities	94,400	93,900	96,900	500	0.53%	-2,500	-2.58%
Professional and Business Services	276,100	274,300	260,700	1,800	0.65%	15,400	5.91%
Education and Health Services	238,800	237,800	227,500	1,000	0.42%	11,300	4.97%
Leisure and Hospitality	242,500	241,600	232,500	900	0.37%	10,000	4.30%
Other Services	72,500	72,800	71,700	-300	-0.41%	800	1.12%
Government	362,800	362,300	359,200	500	0.14%	3,600	1.00%

**NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

Statewide  
November 2015

Industry	November 2015	October 2015	November 2014	October 2015 to November 2015		November 2014 to November 2015	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>2,034,400</b>	<b>2,027,000</b>	<b>1,981,900</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>0.37%</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>2.65%</b>
Natural Resources and Mining	3,700	3,700	3,900	0	0.00%	-200	-5.13%
Construction	89,500	89,800	82,700	-300	-0.33%	6,800	8.22%
Manufacturing	231,800	230,400	233,200	1,400	0.61%	-1,400	-0.60%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	391,800	387,600	382,500	4,200	1.08%	9,300	2.43%
Information	26,400	26,500	27,200	-100	-0.38%	-800	-2.94%
Financial Activities	94,800	94,200	97,300	600	0.64%	-2,500	-2.57%
Professional and Business Services	277,100	276,200	261,600	900	0.33%	15,500	5.93%
Education and Health Services	240,600	239,500	229,200	1,100	0.46%	11,400	4.97%
Leisure and Hospitality	237,100	240,300	227,200	-3,200	-1.33%	9,900	4.36%
Other Services	73,200	72,700	72,400	500	0.69%	800	1.10%
Government	368,400	366,100	364,700	2,300	0.63%	3,700	1.01%

**NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

**South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas  
November 2015**

Area	November 2015	October 2015	November 2014	October 2015 to November 2015		November 2014 to November 2015	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>2,024,900</b>	<b>2,019,300</b>	<b>1,972,800</b>	<b>5,600</b>	<b>0.28%</b>	<b>52,100</b>	<b>2.64%</b>
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	335,100	332,100	325,300	3,000	0.90%	9,800	3.01%
Columbia MSA	386,500	384,600	375,000	1,900	0.49%	11,500	3.07%
Florence MSA	85,000	85,500	84,800	-500	-0.59%	200	0.24%
Sumter MSA	38,600	38,600	38,600	0	0.00%	0	0.00%

**NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

**South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas  
November 2015**

Area	November 2015	October 2015	November 2014	October 2015 to November 2015		November 2014 to November 2015	
				#	%	#	%
				Change	Change	Change	Change
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>2,034,400</b>	<b>2,027,000</b>	<b>1,981,900</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>0.37%</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>2.65%</b>
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	336,100	333,100	326,200	3,000	0.90%	9,900	3.03%
Columbia MSA	390,900	386,800	379,200	4,100	1.06%	11,700	3.09%
Florence MSA	86,200	85,500	86,000	700	0.82%	200	0.23%
Greenville MSA	405,400	405,300	396,000	100	0.02%	9,400	2.37%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	72,500	72,500	72,600	0	0.00%	-100	-0.14%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	154,400	155,700	152,300	-1,300	-0.83%	2,100	1.38%
Spartanburg MSA	145,400	144,300	141,100	1,100	0.76%	4,300	3.05%
Sumter MSA	38,800	38,800	38,800	0	0.00%	0	0.00%

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE**  
**(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

AREA		November 2015				October 2015				November 2014			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
				LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)
Marion County	↓	12,979	11,800	1,179	9.1	13,168	11,862	1,306	9.9	12,781	11,431	1,350	10.6
Allendale County	↓	2,919	2,655	264	9.0	2,974	2,685	289	9.7	2,904	2,555	349	12.0
Bamberg County	↓	5,649	5,140	509	9.0	5,775	5,180	595	10.3	5,614	4,932	682	12.1
Orangeburg County	↓	38,559	35,131	3,428	8.9	39,545	35,272	4,273	10.8	38,392	33,718	4,674	12.2
Marlboro County	↓	10,078	9,196	882	8.8	10,219	9,239	980	9.6	9,820	8,816	1,004	10.2
Williamsburg County	↓	13,252	12,085	1,167	8.8	13,574	12,142	1,432	10.5	12,897	11,671	1,226	9.5
Dillon County	↓	12,737	11,757	980	7.7	12,927	11,840	1,087	8.4	12,534	11,354	1,180	9.4
Georgetown County	↓	26,058	24,055	2,003	7.7	26,596	24,230	2,366	8.9	25,285	23,208	2,077	8.2
Fairfield County	↓	10,274	9,516	758	7.4	10,286	9,466	820	8.0	9,977	9,180	797	8.0
Lee County	↓	6,489	6,016	473	7.3	6,567	6,036	531	8.1	6,410	5,844	566	8.8
Barnwell County	↓	8,882	8,240	642	7.2	8,989	8,281	708	7.9	8,756	7,952	804	9.2
Chester County	↓	13,844	12,864	980	7.1	13,973	12,867	1,106	7.9	13,614	12,385	1,229	9.0
Clarendon County	↓	13,208	12,307	901	6.8	13,425	12,392	1,033	7.7	12,993	11,910	1,083	8.3
Hampton County	↓	8,474	7,902	572	6.8	8,613	7,973	640	7.4	8,346	7,683	663	7.9
Darlington County	↓	29,508	27,579	1,929	6.5	29,707	27,526	2,181	7.3	29,545	27,264	2,281	7.7
Horry County	-	133,227	124,589	8,638	6.5	134,767	126,035	8,732	6.5	131,761	121,830	9,931	7.5
Union County	↓	11,762	10,992	770	6.5	11,809	10,965	844	7.1	11,536	10,607	929	8.1
Sumter County	↓	43,681	40,922	2,759	6.3	44,056	41,009	3,047	6.9	43,744	40,605	3,139	7.2
Edgefield County	↓	10,740	10,086	654	6.1	10,988	10,137	851	7.7	10,605	9,891	714	6.7
Calhoun County	↓	7,052	6,632	420	6.0	7,109	6,604	505	7.1	6,949	6,400	549	7.9
Cherokee County	↓	23,947	22,543	1,404	5.9	24,124	22,576	1,548	6.4	23,771	21,651	2,120	8.9
Florence County	↓	64,125	60,313	3,812	5.9	64,286	60,105	4,181	6.5	64,203	59,561	4,642	7.2
McCormick County	↓	3,615	3,400	215	5.9	3,651	3,411	240	6.6	3,543	3,276	267	7.5
Colleton County	↓	17,297	16,289	1,008	5.8	17,440	16,328	1,112	6.4	16,844	15,652	1,192	7.1
Abbeville County	↓	10,719	10,113	606	5.7	10,830	10,144	686	6.3	10,510	9,713	797	7.6
Lancaster County	↓	35,342	33,394	1,948	5.5	35,556	33,391	2,165	6.1	34,490	32,142	2,348	6.8
Laurens County	↓	30,427	28,781	1,646	5.4	30,709	28,884	1,825	5.9	30,018	27,910	2,108	7.0
Aiken County	↓	73,619	69,709	3,910	5.3	74,239	69,884	4,355	5.9	72,998	68,349	4,649	6.4
Chesterfield County	↓	21,736	20,574	1,162	5.3	21,900	20,662	1,238	5.7	21,241	19,835	1,406	6.6
Greenwood County	↓	32,186	30,488	1,698	5.3	32,456	30,602	1,854	5.7	31,492	29,300	2,192	7.0
Kershaw County	↓	28,723	27,197	1,526	5.3	28,762	27,046	1,716	6.0	27,977	26,231	1,746	6.2
Oconee County	↓	35,259	33,426	1,833	5.2	35,441	33,575	1,866	5.3	34,287	32,178	2,109	6.2
Richland County	↓	197,156	186,995	10,161	5.2	197,209	185,589	11,620	5.9	191,868	180,229	11,639	6.1
Pickens County	↓	56,102	53,264	2,838	5.1	56,402	53,408	2,994	5.3	55,051	51,634	3,417	6.2
Spartanburg County	↓	138,819	131,953	6,866	4.9	139,057	131,623	7,434	5.3	135,739	127,356	8,383	6.2
Beaufort County	↓	68,330	65,062	3,268	4.8	68,952	65,327	3,625	5.3	68,477	64,494	3,983	5.8
Berkeley County	↓	91,734	87,362	4,372	4.8	91,705	86,818	4,887	5.3	89,583	84,158	5,425	6.1
Dorchester County	↓	71,194	67,748	3,446	4.8	71,146	67,341	3,805	5.3	69,388	65,266	4,122	5.9
York County	↓	124,284	118,309	5,975	4.8	124,792	118,224	6,568	5.3	121,350	113,832	7,518	6.2
Saluda County	↓	8,893	8,475	418	4.7	8,972	8,497	475	5.3	8,686	8,201	485	5.6
Anderson County	↓	87,868	83,786	4,082	4.6	88,491	84,029	4,462	5.0	86,348	81,244	5,104	5.9
Newberry County	↓	18,860	17,999	861	4.6	19,020	18,090	930	4.9	18,360	17,324	1,036	5.6
Jasper County	↓	11,402	10,893	509	4.5	11,488	10,950	538	4.7	11,414	10,767	647	5.7
Greenville County	↓	238,119	227,702	10,417	4.4	239,623	228,314	11,309	4.7	233,392	220,779	12,613	5.4
Lexington County	↓	142,942	136,783	6,159	4.3	142,815	135,924	6,891	4.8	139,091	131,875	7,216	5.2
Charleston County	↓	195,408	187,213	8,195	4.2	195,266	186,157	9,109	4.7	190,213	180,313	9,900	5.2
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	358,336	342,323	16,013	4.5	358,117	340,316	17,801	5.0	349,184	329,737	19,447	5.6
Columbia MSA	↓	395,040	375,598	19,442	4.9	395,153	373,126	22,027	5.6	384,548	362,116	22,432	5.8
Florence MSA	↓	93,633	87,892	5,741	6.1	93,993	87,631	6,362	6.8	93,748	86,825	6,923	7.4
Greenville - Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↓	412,516	393,533	18,983	4.6	415,225	394,635	20,590	5.0	404,809	381,567	23,242	5.7
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,261,406	2,137,493	123,913	5.5	2,255,002	2,128,346	126,656	5.6	2,212,868	2,066,291	146,577	6.6

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 =