

INSIGHTS

July 2011

SC Department of Employment and Workforce

Economic Indicators

	United States	SC
Labor Force	153,228,000	2,161,655
Employed	139,296,000	1,925,231
Unemployed	13,931,000	236,424
Unemployment Rate	9.1%	10.9%

Average Hours & Earnings

Manufacturing	United States	SC
Avg. Weekly Earnings	\$ 958.74	\$ 696.80
Avg. Weekly Hours	40.3	41.9
Avg. Weekly Wages	\$ 23.79	\$ 16.63

Job Growth (Year over Year)

	% Change
Anderson MSA	3.61%
Charleston MSA	2.24%
Florence MSA	1.97%
Myrtle Beach MSA	4.74%

Labor Force Participation Rate

	2011	2010
U.S. Participation Rate	63.9%	64.6%
S.C. Participation Rate	60.7%	61.2%

Employment to Population Ratio

	2011	2010
U.S. Population Ratio	58.1%	58.4%
S.C. Population Ratio	54.1%	54.4%

United States Consumer Price Index

12-month CPI	3.6%
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In the News

The Community Profile Report has been developed to provide real-time statistics on South Carolina's workforce.



View the [S.C. Employment Situation Report](#)

South Carolina Employment Trends

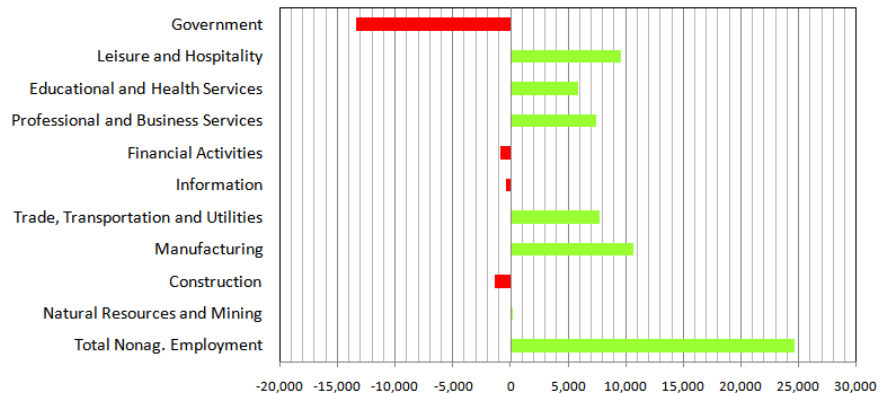
Nonfarm employment fell by 7,200 (unadjusted) in July. This decline was far less than the normal June-to-July average loss of 18,000. The total July 2011 jobs count is 24,600 higher (a 1.36% increase) than for July 2010. Private, non-governmental jobs had an over-the-month increase of 6,400 and are above a year ago by 38,000. Only two industry sectors reported decreases in July. Government registered the sharpest decline at 13,600, while Financial Activities saw a modest decrease of 200.

Employment expansions in several industry sectors helped to temper the declines. With retailers making an early push on back-to-school sales and with the tourist season in full swing, the largest gains were reported in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,700) and Leisure and Hospitality (+1,400). Education and Health Services also reported a healthy gain of 1,300.

The Manufacturing sector continues to add more jobs, registering growth for the sixth consecutive month. Manufacturing employment increased 1,800 from a month ago and up 10,700 from a year ago. Healthy gains in Durable Goods, which includes goods with a useful expectancy of at least three years, are the primary factor behind the Manufacturing advances. Another positive sign includes an increase in the average hourly earnings in Manufacturing to \$16.63, up from \$16.36 in June.

Of the state's Metropolitan Statistical Areas, three showed job gains: Myrtle Beach (+2,600), Florence (+900), and Charleston (+100). The leader over the year, Myrtle Beach, has seen the majority of its growth in Retail Trade. There were jobs losses in Spartanburg (-3,400), Anderson (-2,200), Columbia (-2,000), Greenville (-600), and Sumter (-500).

South Carolina Job Changes by Industry
July 2010 - July 2011



Insights is prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The current month's estimates are preliminary, while all previous data are subject to revision. All estimates are projected from a first quarter 2010 benchmark.

Employment
6,218

Unemployment
10,360

Unemployment
Rate 0.4%

Unemployment Rate Climbs

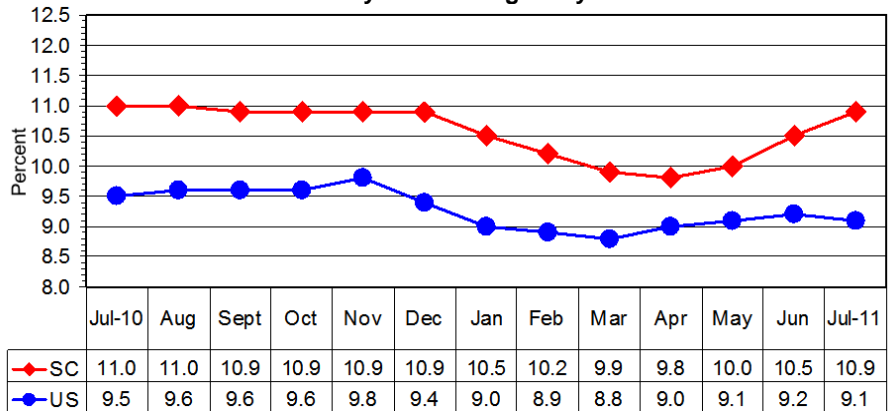
The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose from 10.5% in June to 10.9% in July. The labor force expanded by approximately 4,100 from June to July, which was the third consecutive monthly increase and the largest climb so far this year. Additions to the labor force, primarily new entrants, along with an already elevated number of job seekers, have edged up the total number of unemployed by 10,360 to 236,420 for July.

The national rate declined from 9.2% in June to 9.1% in July.

Of all states in the southeast region, South Carolina had the highest increase in the unemployment rate, followed by Georgia and North Carolina.

Seasonal changes will be seen in the state's labor market as tourism moderates and students and teachers return to school in August and September.

U.S. and S.C. Unemployment Rates
July 2010 through July 2011



Regional Changes in Unemployment Rates

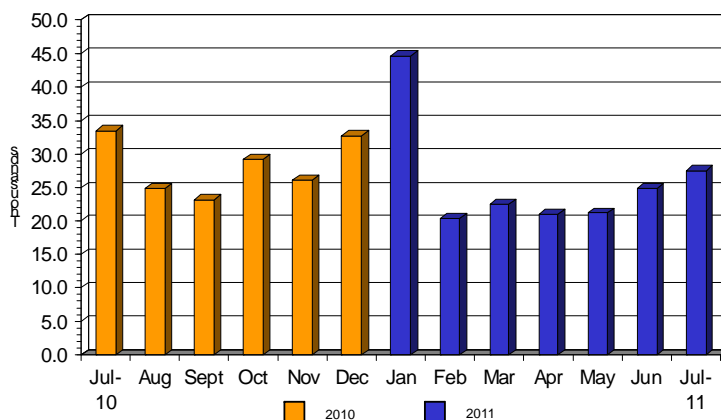
States	July 2011	June 2011	% Change	July 2010	% Change
Florida	10.7	10.7	0.0	11.5	-0.8
South Carolina	10.9	10.5	0.4	11.0	-0.1
Georgia	10.1	9.9	0.2	10.1	0.0
North Carolina	10.1	9.9	0.2	10.3	-0.2

July Initial Unemployment Claims

South Carolina's initial unemployment claims for July were 27,535, which was a decrease of 5,963 (17.8%) from July 2010. This is a considerable drop from a high of 40,455 in 2008. The Unemployment Insurance Benefits Paid also showed a significant decline from a year ago—falling 12.4%. Over the month, the Average Duration of Benefits remained at 15.9 weeks.

The number of UI Benefit Exhaustions fell by 16.2% since last year. Benefit Exhaustions represent individuals who have depleted the balance of their regular UI Benefits claim. Typically, exhaustees may become eligible for additional weeks of benefits during times of high unemployment.

S.C. Unemployment Insurance Initial Claims *
July 2010 through July 2011



SC Unemployment Activities

Total Initial Claims*	27,535
Regular UI Benefits Paid	\$ 36,852,137
UI Benefits Exhausted	6,151
Average Duration Benefits Paid (weeks)	15.9
Average Weekly Benefits Amount	236.08

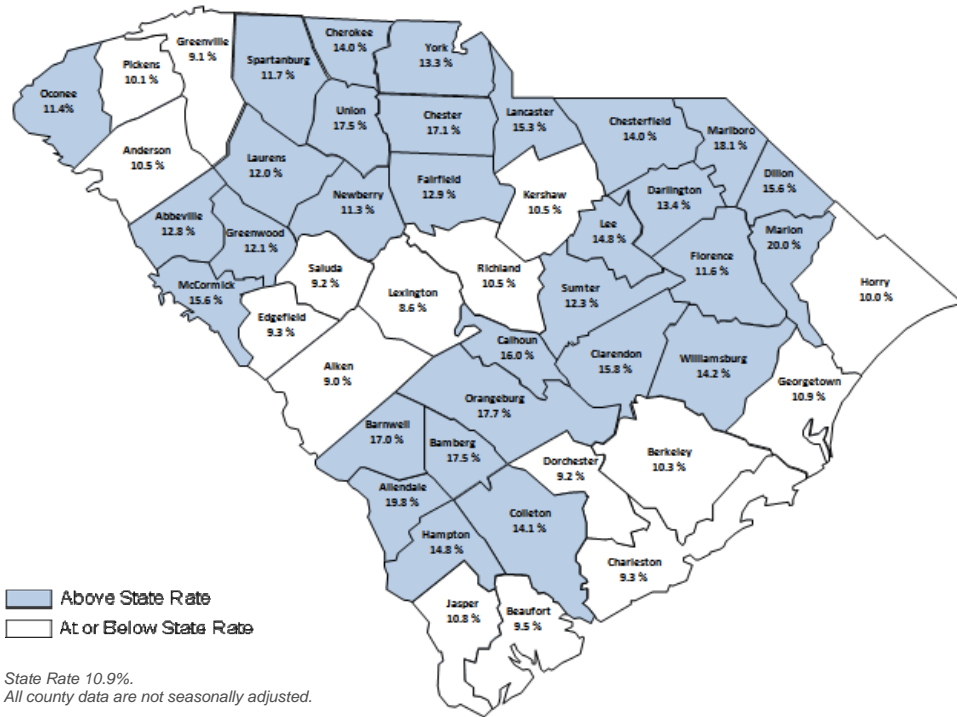
*All Programs

July Unemployment Rates by County

Comparing June to July, 14 counties reported rate increases; eight counties saw no change; and more than half of the counties in the state (24) had drops in their rates. Rate increases were seen in Calhoun and Orangeburg counties, with upward movement of 4.0% and 2.4% respectively. The largest declines were noted in Edgefield and Horry counties.

Since July 2010, York, Marlboro, and Chesterfield counties have had the largest rate drops. Horry, Charleston, and Anderson counties had the largest number of people finding work over the year.

Highest County Unemployment Rate		Lowest County Unemployment Rate	
Marion	20.0%	Dorchester	9.2%
Allendale	19.8%	Saluda	9.2%
Marlboro	18.1%	Greenville	9.1%
Orangeburg	17.7%	Aiken	9.0%
Bamberg	17.5%	Lexington	8.6%



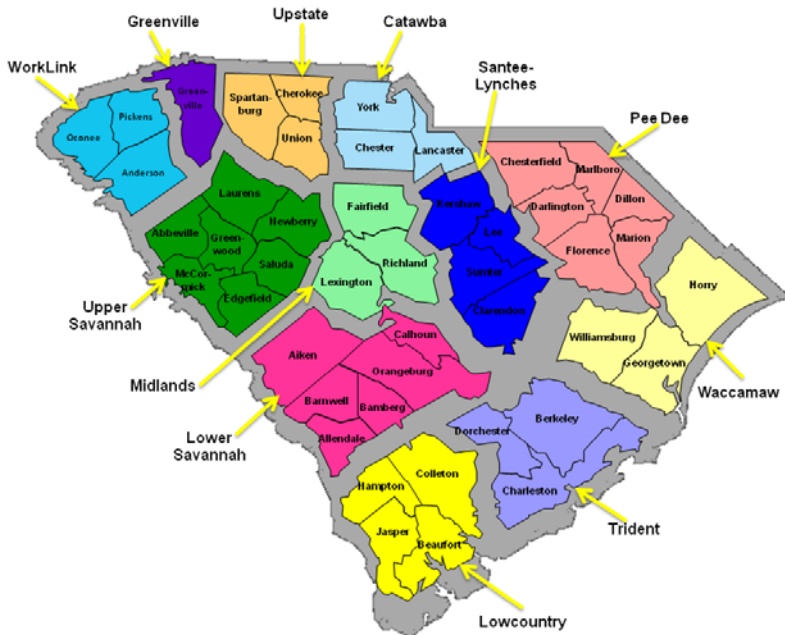
State Unemployment Rates

Nevada	12.9
California	12.0
Michigan	10.9
South Carolina	10.9
D.C.	10.8
Rhode Island	10.8
Florida	10.7
Mississippi	10.4
Georgia	10.1
North Carolina	10.1
Alabama	10.0
Tennessee	9.8
Illinois	9.5
Kentucky	9.5
New Jersey	9.5
Oregon	9.5
Arizona	9.4
Idaho	9.4
Washington	9.3
Connecticut	9.1
Ohio	9.0
Missouri	8.7
Colorado	8.5
Indiana	8.5
Texas	8.4
Arkansas	8.2
Delaware	8.1
West Virginia	8.1
New York	8.0
Pennsylvania	7.8
Wisconsin	7.8
Alaska	7.7
Maine	7.7
Montana	7.7
Louisiana	7.6
Massachusetts	7.6
Utah	7.5
Maryland	7.2
Minnesota	7.2
New Mexico	6.7
Kansas	6.5
Hawaii	6.1
Virginia	6.1
Iowa	6.0
Wyoming	5.8
Vermont	5.7
Oklahoma	5.5
New Hampshire	5.2
South Dakota	4.7
Nebraska	4.1
North Dakota	3.3

Areas	Unemployed		Areas	Unemployed		Areas	Unemployed	
	July 2011	July 2010		July 2011	July 2010		July 2011	July 2010
Abbeville	1,413	1,429	Darlington	4,252	4,152	Lee	1,250	1,221
Aiken	6,885	6,412	Dillon	2,174	2,209	Lexington	11,571	11,035
Allendale	679	642	Dorchester	6,112	5,825	Marion	2,565	2,645
Anderson	9,094	9,469	Edgefield	1,028	1,069	Marlboro	2,111	2,409
Bamberg	1,158	1,055	Fairfield	1,395	1,471	McCormick	524	503
Barnwell	1,503	1,557	Florence	7,500	7,152	Newberry	2,091	2,038
Beaufort	6,332	5,783	Georgetown	3,412	3,570	Oconee	3,604	3,762
Berkeley	8,598	8,391	Greenville	20,394	20,950	Orangeburg	7,511	6,634
Calhoun	1,126	785	Greenwood	3,749	3,734	Pickens	5,836	5,957
Charleston	17,001	16,696	Hampton	1,206	1,130	Richland	19,251	18,138
Cherokee	3,464	3,702	Horry	14,492	14,377	Saluda	830	814
Chester	2,506	2,695	Jasper	1,145	1,068	Spartanburg	15,580	15,755
Chesterfield	2,633	2,907	Kershaw	3,144	3,176	Sumter	5,656	5,640
Clarendon	2,091	1,900	Lancaster	4,658	4,854	Union	1,980	2,117
Colleton	2,542	2,307	Laurens	3,940	4,013	Williamsburg	2,338	2,302
						York	14,741	17,474

Unemployment Rates by Workforce Investment Areas (WIAs)

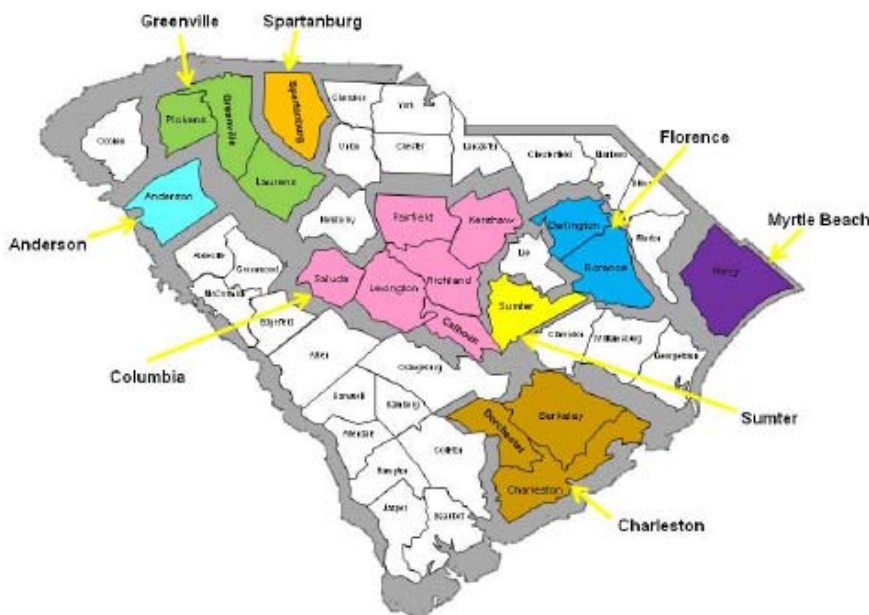
July 2011



Catawba WIA	14.0%
www.catawbacog.org	
Greenville WIA	9.1%
www.greenvillewib.com	
Lowcountry WIA	10.9%
www.lowcountryworkforce.org	
Lower Savannah WIA	13.0%
www.lswia.org	
Midlands WIA	9.8%
www.midlandsworkforce.org	
Pee Dee WIA	13.8%
www.peedeewib.org	
Santee-Lynches WIA	12.4%
www.slworkforcedev.org	
Trident WIA	9.5%
www.toscc.org	
Upper Savannah WIA	11.6%
www.us1stops.com	
Upstate WIA	12.4%
www.upstatawib.org	
Waccamaw WIA	10.5%
www.wrcog.org	
Worklink WIA	10.6%
www.worklinkweb.com	

Unemployment Rates by Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)

July 2011



Anderson MSA	10.5%
Charleston - North	
Charleston - Summerville MSA	9.5%
Columbia MSA	10.0%
Florence MSA	12.2%
Greenville MSA	9.6%
Myrtle Beach - North Myrtle Beach - Conway MSA	10.0%
Spartanburg MSA	11.7%
Sumter MSA	12.3%