

## Job Search Succeeds

In 2007, after working 21 years as a technician for the Bosch Group in Sumter, Lisa Edmond received the news she had been dreading: the company was going offshore, and taking her job with it.

“I had to get out and look for another job,” she said. “It was difficult getting back into the job market after working for 21 years.”

That is when she sought help from Sumter’s One-Stop Workforce Center. Her Workforce Investment Area (WIA) case manager, Heather Gray, not only helped her with her resume, but also directed her to a variety of workshops in resume writing, interview skills and dressing for success.

In the meantime, the job search continued on a regular basis.

“We use the JobLink System, which is the main system that we refer people on,” said Ms. Gray. “We would look at the job listings, or she would e-mail me, and we would send the referrals out, or let her fill out the applications.”

After months of searching, Ms. Edmond finally found work as a Quality Control technician with FN Manufacturing in Northeast Columbia, which is a precision manufacturer of military and law enforcement weapons and machine guns.

Her manufacturing background paid off. Business Systems Supervisor, Joan Curfman, explained, the job involves looking “at the surface finish of our parts, which is chrome-plating and phosphating. She’s verifying that they have the chrome



*Lisa Edmond did not let unemployment slow her down. While looking for work, she went back to school.*

and the phosphate per our contractual requirements, so that we can pass them on to the other areas of the plant.”

Ms. Curfman said another employee referred her new employee to her, and that hiring her has been a good choice.

“Lisa Edmond is doing a fantastic job in quality,” she said. “She’s in an area where it’s not very comfortable, but she’s doing a fantastic job inspecting parts. She has taken the lead in making sure that quality parts get back to the assembly area.”

Ms. Edmond did not let unemployment slow down her dreams of not only getting a job, but of advancing, once she found one. While looking for work, she successfully pursued a master’s degree in management, with the goal of one day having a

*Continued on page 2*

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quality management position. Although it is too soon to say, FN may provide just the opportunity.

“You could go, within limits, as far as you wanted” at the company, says Human Resources Manager Wendell Patton. “By limits I mean the closer to the top job you get, the less opportunity there is, because there’s less people in those jobs. But certainly getting to the second tier — we have the president, his staff, and then the management level beneath that — would be within the reach of anybody that wanted to get to that area.”

People are hired at FN based on their experience, particularly in machinery, which was a positive factor in Ms. Edmond’s employment.

Patton also said that he looks at longevity, stability of employment, and how well a potential employee fits into the “family-oriented” FN culture. The company receives 12,000 to 15,000 applications per year.

“As far as opportunity is concerned, we prefer to promote from within,” Patton said. “Most of our managers

here began in other jobs. Our philosophy at FN is different from any company I’ve ever worked for. We believe that when we bring someone in, we want to utilize their skills, where some companies may decide if you can’t perform in one area, they would let you go. We will find a place to put that person to utilize their skills. So if you were to interview other managers, other supervisors, you will find managers and supervisors that have worked all over the company, in different areas. They will have a strength that we need and we’ll move them. We’re a very fluid organization.”

The same job-finding resources that helped Ms. Edmond are open to anyone at any of the SC Employment Security Commission’s 36 Workforce Centers around the state. (see page 15 for locations)

Ms. Gray said that case managers at the Workforce Centers can refer job seekers directly to open jobs. They may also assess them to determine if they qualify for training programs.

Aside from the usual instructional workshops, Ms. Gray said the



WIA Case Manager, Heather Gray, in the Sumter Workforce Center, guided Lisa Edmond through the job search process.

Sumter Workforce Center is developing a JobLink workshop “that will allow people to get on JobLink and show them how to navigate through the program.”

Currently, the Workforce Center has numerous job listings, ranging from entry-level cashiering positions to jobs in engineering.

Ms. Edmond’s own advice for others is simple and to the point, “Don’t give up. Keep going to the One-Stop. Do what they tell you to do. Keep moving forward. You’ll get there. It’s going to take some time. It’s not going to happen overnight.”

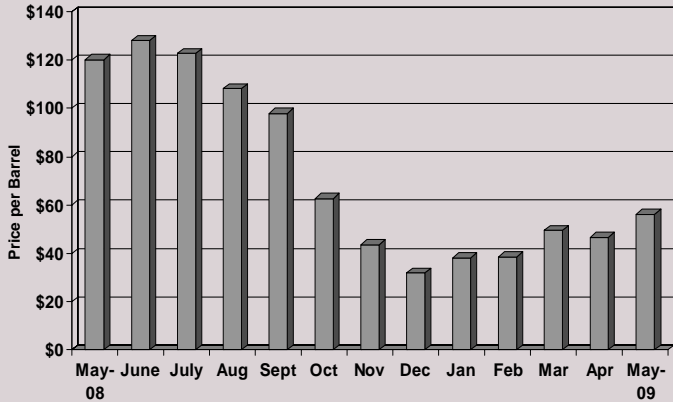
by Rodney Welch,  
ESC Communications Department



FN Manufacturing, in Northeast Columbia, produces weapons for the military and law enforcement markets.

# Economic Trends

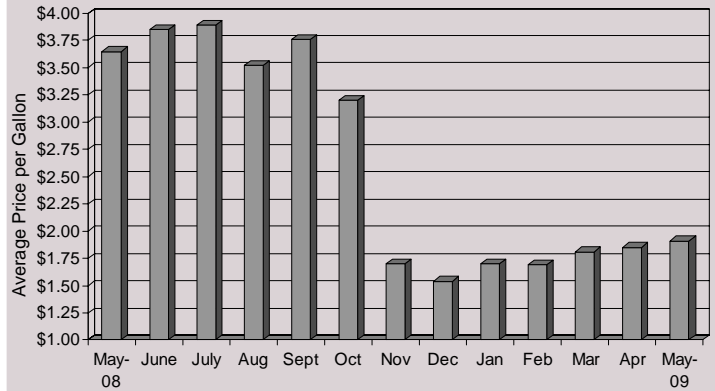
**U.S. Crude Oil Prices**  
May 2008 through May 2009



Source: Energy Information Admin. at eia.doe.gov

Crude oil prices have decreased from their high level last summer. If prices remain steady, forecasters expect to see more cuts at the pump.

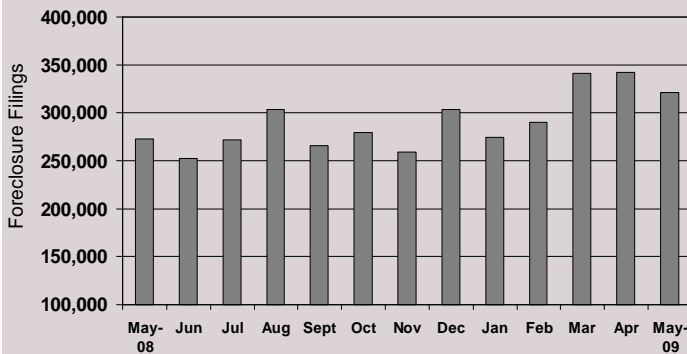
**South Carolina Gasoline Prices**  
May 2008 through May 2009



Source: gasbuddy.com

Average gasoline prices rose to \$1.92 per gallon in South Carolina for May.

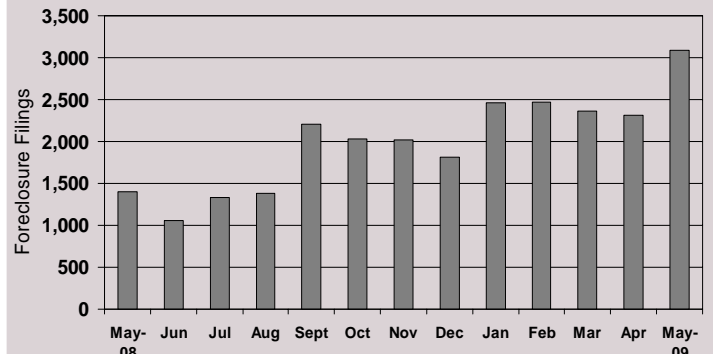
**Nationwide Housing Foreclosures**  
May 2008 through May 2009



Source: RealtyTrac

Lenders filed 6% fewer foreclosure notices in May, but the total number of filings was still the third-highest monthly total on record.

**South Carolina Monthly Foreclosures**  
May 2008 - May 2009



Source: RealtyTrac

On May 4, 2009, the South Carolina Supreme Court ordered a temporary stop to foreclosure sales on mortgages owned by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, or that were otherwise eligible for modification under the Home Affordable Modification Program [HAMP]. This is intended to give homeowners the opportunity to participate in the federal loan program.

compiled by S.T. McLaughlin and J. Moon







May 2009

## Unemployment Rate Soars . . .

The unemployment rate continued to rise, increasing from 8.9% to 9.4%. The number of unemployed persons increased by 787,000 to 14.5 million in May. Since the start of the recession in December 2007, the number of unemployed persons has risen by 7.0 million, and the unemployment rate has grown by 4.5 percentage points. Unemployment rates rose in May for adult men (9.8%), adult women (7.5%), whites (8.6%), and Hispanics (12.7%). The jobless rates for teenagers (22.7%) and blacks (14.9%) were little changed.

**Regional and State Rates...** In May, the West reported the highest regional jobless rate, 10.1%, followed by the Midwest at 9.8%. The last time any region had a rate of at least 10.0% was September 1983, when the Midwest posted a rate of 10.1%. The Northeast recorded the lowest rate in May, with 8.3%. All four regions registered statistically significant unemployment rate increases from April. All four regions also reported significant jobless rate increases from May 2008, the largest of which was in the West (+4.2 percentage points). Michigan again reported the highest jobless rate, 14.1% in May. The states with the next highest rates were Oregon, 12.4%; Rhode Island and **South Carolina, 12.1%** each; California, 11.5%; Nevada, 11.3%; and North Carolina, 11.1%. Six additional states and the District of Columbia recorded unemployment rates of at least 10.0%. The California, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, and South Carolina rates were the highest on record for those states. Florida, at 10.2%, and Georgia, at 9.7%, also posted series highs. Nebraska and

North Dakota registered the lowest unemployment rates, 4.4% each.

**Employment Tumbles...**Total non-farm payroll employment declined by 345,000 in May to 132.2 million. Since the recession began in December 2007, payroll employment has fallen by 6.0 million. In May, job losses continued to be widespread across major industry sectors. Job losses continued in Manufacturing, which fell by 156,000 in May. Three durable goods industries — Motor Vehicles and Parts (-30,000), Machinery (-26,000), and Fabricated Metal Products (-19,000) — accounted for nearly half of the overall decline. Since its most recent peak in February 2000, employment in Motor Vehicles and Parts has fallen by almost 50%. Mining dropped another 11,000 jobs, about the same number as in April. Construction decreased by 59,000, compared with an average monthly job loss of 117,000 in the industry for the previous 6 months. Professional and Business Services dropped 51,000 jobs. This compares with an average loss of 136,000 jobs per month in the prior 6 months. Leisure and Hospitality was flat over the month. Retail Trade was down by 18,000 and Wholesale Trade fell by 22,000 over the month, with over half of the decrease (-14,000) among Durable Goods wholesalers. Financial Activities continued to decrease (-30,000), while Securities lost 10,000 jobs and Real Estate lost 9,000. Employment in Information decreased by 24,000. Health Care increased by 24,000, which was about in line with its average monthly job growth so far in 2009, and Government showed little change in May.

**Average Hourly and Weekly Earnings...**In May, average hourly earnings of production and non-supervisory workers on private non-farm payrolls were essentially unchanged at \$18.54, seasonally adjusted. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings increased by 3.1%, while average weekly earnings

rose by only 1.2%, reflecting a decline in the average workweek. The average workweek for production and non-supervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls edged down by 0.1 hour to 33.1 hours, seasonally adjusted. The manufacturing workweek decreased by 0.2 hour to 39.3 hours.

**Producer Price Index (PPI) Increases...** The Producer Price Index, which measures the cost of a basket of goods and services from the perspective of the seller, increased 0.2% in May, seasonally adjusted. This rise followed a 0.3% advance in April and a 1.2% decrease in March. The 2.9% increase in finished energy goods prices more than offset a 1.6% decline in the index for finished consumer foods and a 0.1% decrease in prices for finished goods other than foods and energy. Movements in the PPI tend to forecast movements in the CPI.

**Consumer Prices Up...**The Consumer Price Index (CPI), which measures the average change in prices over time of goods and services from the purchaser's perspective, increased 0.3% in May before seasonal adjustment. Over the last 12 months, the index has fallen 1.3%. This is the largest decline since April 1950, and is due mainly to a 27.3% decline in the energy index. The food index decreased for the fourth consecutive month, falling 0.2% as the indexes for all major grocery store food groups declined.

#### Sources:

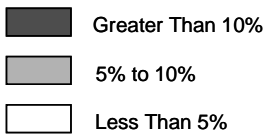
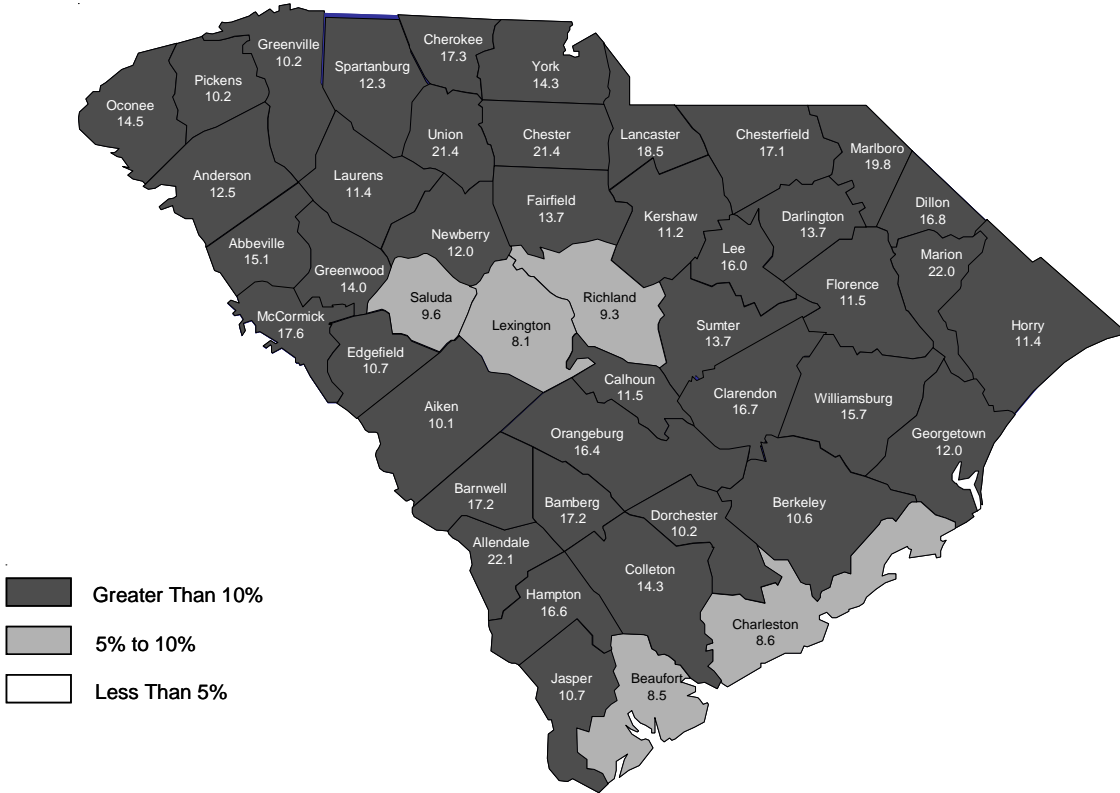
- Bureau of Labor Statistics
- U.S. Department of Labor

edited by S.T. McLaughlin  
and J. Moon



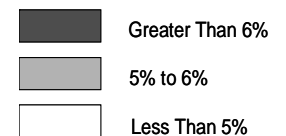
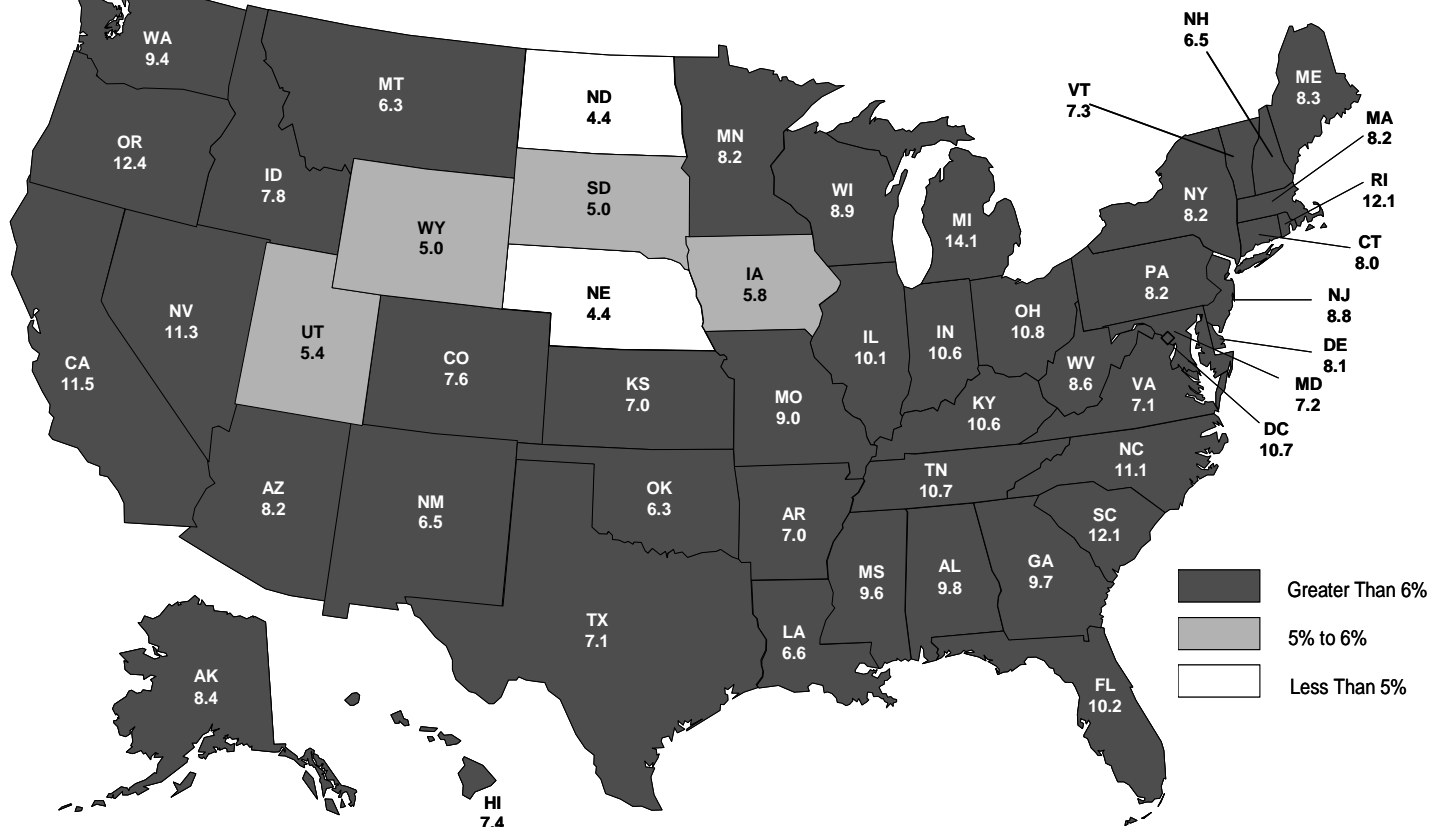
# South Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

May 2009 State Unemployment Rate = 12.1%



# United States Unemployment Rates by State

May 2009 National Unemployment Rate = 9.4%



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



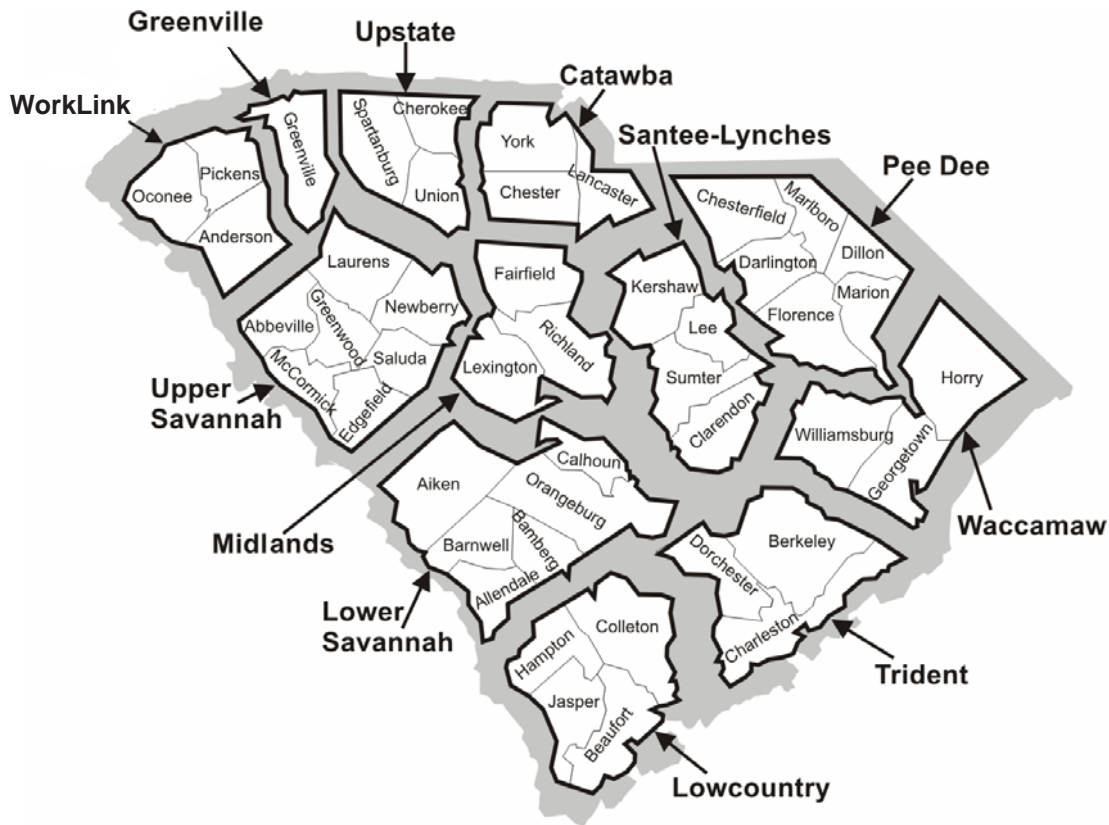
## Labor Force and Unemployment by County and Metropolitan Area (MA) May 2009

County/MA	Labor Force			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008
Abbeville	11,758	11,635	11,415	1,772	1,664	823	15.1	14.3	7.2
Aiken	77,533	77,450	75,203	7,850	7,291	3,820	10.1	9.4	5.1
Allendale	3,388	3,342	3,289	750	719	506	22.1	21.5	15.4
Anderson MSA	89,248	88,632	85,723	11,135	10,211	4,968	12.5	11.5	5.8
Bamberg	6,289	6,167	6,291	1,082	974	613	17.2	15.8	9.7
Barnwell	9,131	9,017	8,797	1,568	1,465	834	17.2	16.2	9.5
Beaufort	63,377	63,141	64,476	5,387	5,295	2,748	8.5	8.4	4.3
Berkeley	82,296	81,396	79,709	8,759	8,068	4,172	10.6	9.9	5.2
Calhoun	7,253	7,179	6,946	836	756	423	11.5	10.5	6.1
Charleston	180,678	178,574	177,425	15,575	13,941	7,832	8.6	7.8	4.4
Cherokee	26,439	26,226	25,575	4,583	4,404	1,978	17.3	16.8	7.7
Chester	16,032	15,978	15,157	3,430	3,392	1,576	21.4	21.2	10.4
Chesterfield	19,380	19,280	18,470	3,323	3,281	1,340	17.1	17.0	7.3
Clarendon	12,766	12,616	12,454	2,133	2,044	1,125	16.7	16.2	9.0
Colleton	17,079	16,812	16,579	2,445	2,250	1,184	14.3	13.4	7.1
Darlington	33,225	32,777	31,249	4,556	4,110	2,260	13.7	12.5	7.2
Dillon	13,237	13,173	12,847	2,218	2,194	1,181	16.8	16.7	9.2
Dorchester	65,810	65,072	63,733	6,702	6,132	3,017	10.2	9.4	4.7
Edgefield	11,370	11,369	11,063	1,218	1,148	663	10.7	10.1	6.0
Fairfield	11,700	11,664	11,461	1,601	1,555	1,195	13.7	13.3	10.4
Florence	66,206	65,791	63,104	7,613	7,201	3,857	11.5	10.9	6.1
Georgetown	30,703	30,276	30,985	3,689	3,476	1,913	12.0	11.5	6.2
Greenville	231,831	230,544	225,841	23,576	21,567	10,742	10.2	9.4	4.8
Greenwood	30,537	30,310	30,601	4,260	4,086	2,028	14.0	13.5	6.6
Hampton	7,913	7,790	7,690	1,313	1,224	629	16.6	15.7	8.2
Horry/Myrtle Beach MSA	135,297	132,308	135,512	15,434	14,875	7,355	11.4	11.2	5.4
Jasper	10,197	10,092	10,208	1,086	1,004	510	10.7	9.9	5.0
Kershaw	31,367	31,198	30,103	3,528	3,332	1,804	11.2	10.7	6.0
Lancaster	30,042	30,110	29,460	5,570	5,672	3,063	18.5	18.8	10.4
Laurens	34,591	34,450	33,724	3,950	3,703	2,076	11.4	10.7	6.2
Lee	8,461	8,407	8,073	1,350	1,326	708	16.0	15.8	8.8
Lexington	136,227	135,521	132,806	11,024	10,195	5,532	8.1	7.5	4.2
McCormick	13,682	13,404	12,791	3,008	2,805	1,484	22.0	20.9	11.6
Marion	12,078	12,291	11,459	2,389	2,626	1,224	19.8	21.4	10.7
Marlboro	3,502	3,446	3,438	617	563	337	17.6	16.3	9.8
Newberry	18,721	18,515	18,553	2,252	2,110	1,166	12.0	11.4	6.3
Oconee	31,404	31,164	30,518	4,541	4,338	1,903	14.5	13.9	6.2
Orangeburg	40,949	40,141	41,086	6,714	5,994	3,477	16.4	14.9	8.5
Pickens	60,834	60,526	59,564	6,232	5,735	3,168	10.2	9.5	5.3
Richland	186,128	184,426	181,572	17,293	15,426	9,944	9.3	8.4	5.5
Saluda	9,479	9,409	9,189	911	832	479	9.6	8.8	5.2
Spartanburg MSA	142,873	141,639	137,065	17,566	16,297	8,020	12.3	11.5	5.9
Sumter MSA	42,943	42,709	43,491	5,898	5,773	3,416	13.7	13.5	7.9
Union	12,696	12,502	11,704	2,722	2,547	1,171	21.4	20.4	10.0
Williamsburg	15,837	15,572	15,288	2,491	2,314	1,402	15.7	14.9	9.2
York	109,986	110,017	107,075	15,702	15,751	6,988	14.3	14.3	6.5
<b>Multi-County MSAs</b>									
Charleston MSA	328,785	325,042	320,866	31,036	28,141	15,021	9.4	8.7	4.7
Columbia MSA	382,154	379,397	372,077	35,193	32,097	19,377	9.2	8.5	5.2
Florence MSA	99,431	98,568	94,353	12,169	11,311	6,117	12.2	11.5	6.5
Greenville MSA	327,257	325,520	319,130	33,759	31,005	15,987	10.3	9.5	5.0
<b>South Carolina*</b>	<b>2,206.0</b>	<b>2,198.4</b>	<b>2,141.1</b>	<b>266.2</b>	<b>250.2</b>	<b>135.7</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>
<b>United States*</b>	<b>155,080</b>	<b>154,730</b>	<b>154,510</b>	<b>14,510</b>	<b>13,720</b>	<b>8,540</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>5.5</b>

\*Seasonally adjusted; in thousands



# Unemployment Rates by Workforce Investment Area (WIA) May 2009



WIA Areas	May 2009	WIA Areas	May 2009	WIA Areas	May 2009
<b>CATAWBA WIA</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>MIDLANDS WIA</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>UPPER SAVANNAH WIA</b>	<b>12.5</b>
Chester County	21.4	Fairfield County	13.7	McCormick County	17.6
Lancaster County	18.5	Richland County	9.3	Abbeville County	15.1
York County	14.3	Lexington County	8.1	Greenwood County	14.0
				Newberry County	12.0
		<b>PEE DEE WIA</b>	<b>14.6</b>	Laurens County	11.4
<b>GREENVILLE WIA</b>	<b>10.2</b>	Marion County	22.0	Edgefield County	10.7
Greenville County	10.2	Marlboro County	19.8	Saluda County	9.6
		Chesterfield County	17.1		
		Dillon County	16.8	<b>UPSTATE WIA</b>	<b>13.7</b>
<b>LOWCOUNTRY WIA</b>	<b>10.4</b>	Darlington County	13.7	Union County	21.4
Hampton County	16.6	Florence County	11.5	Cherokee County	17.3
Colleton County	14.3			Spartanburg County	12.3
Jasper County	10.7	<b>SANTEE-LYNCHES WIA</b>	<b>13.5</b>		
Beaufort County	8.5	Clarendon County	16.7	<b>WACCAMAW WIA</b>	<b>11.9</b>
		Lee County	16.0	Williamsburg County	15.7
<b>LOWER SAVANNAH WIA</b>	<b>13.0</b>	Sumter County	13.7	Georgetown County	12.0
Allendale County	22.1	Kershaw County	11.2	Horry County	11.4
Barnwell County	17.2				
Bamberg County	17.2	<b>TRIDENT WIA</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>WORKLINK WIA</b>	<b>12.1</b>
Orangeburg County	16.4	Berkeley County	10.6	Oconee County	14.5
Calhoun County	11.5	Dorchester County	10.2	Anderson County	12.5
Aiken County	10.1	Charleston County	8.6	Pickens County	10.2

## Statewide Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment May 2009

Industry				Net Change From:	
	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2008
<b>Total Nonagricultural Employment</b>	<b>1,873,200</b>	<b>1,861,400</b>	<b>1,963,500</b>	<b>11,800</b>	<b>-90,300</b>
Total Private	1,526,200	1,514,200	1,610,500	12,000	-84,300
Goods Producing	325,100	326,100	364,400	-1,000	-39,300
Service Providing	1,548,100	1,535,300	1,599,100	12,800	-51,000
<b>Private Service Providing</b>	<b>1,201,100</b>	<b>1,188,100</b>	<b>1,246,100</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>-45,000</b>
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>4,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-200</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>104,200</b>	<b>103,000</b>	<b>114,300</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>-10,100</b>
Construction of Buildings	26,500	26,500	29,300	0	-2,800
Heavy & Civil Engineering	13,900	13,700	15,900	200	-2,000
Specialty Trade Contractors	63,800	62,800	69,100	1,000	-5,300
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>216,700</b>	<b>218,900</b>	<b>245,700</b>	<b>-2,200</b>	<b>-29,000</b>
Durable Goods	118,900	120,800	137,500	-1,900	-18,600
Primary Metal & Fabricated Metal Products	33,300	33,200	33,700	100	-400
Computer & Electronic Products, Electrical Equip., Appliance & Component	18,000	17,900	18,500	100	-500
Transportation Equipment	30,800	30,600	31,900	200	-1,100
Nondurable Goods	97,800	98,100	108,200	-300	-10,400
Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products	18,700	18,500	18,900	200	-200
Textile Mills, Textile Mills Products & Apparel	22,300	22,600	28,600	-300	-6,300
Petroleum, Coal Products & Chemical	20,300	20,400	21,500	-100	-1,200
Plastics & Rubber Products	20,000	20,000	20,500	0	-500
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>360,800</b>	<b>358,000</b>	<b>374,800</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>-14,000</b>
Wholesale Trade	67,300	67,100	71,300	200	-4,000
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	34,000	34,200	37,700	-200	-3,700
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	20,800	20,800	20,900	0	-100
Retail Trade	229,900	228,500	238,400	1,400	-8,500
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	28,800	28,700	29,900	100	-1,100
Food & Beverage Stores	42,900	42,400	43,600	500	-700
Health & Personal Care Stores	15,900	15,800	15,600	100	300
Clothing & Clothing Accessories Stores	18,600	18,500	21,800	100	-3,200
General Merchandise Stores	46,000	45,900	49,400	100	-3,400
Transportation, Warehouse & Utilities	63,600	62,400	65,100	1,200	-1,500
Utilities	12,800	12,500	12,700	300	100
Transportation & Warehousing	50,800	49,900	52,400	900	-1,600
<b>Information</b>	<b>29,800</b>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>28,800</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	6,800	6,800	6,900	0	-100
Telecommunications	13,500	13,300	13,300	200	200
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>104,000</b>	<b>102,300</b>	<b>106,600</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>-2,600</b>
Finance & Insurance	74,400	73,500	75,900	900	-1,500
Credit Intermediation & Related Activities	34,900	34,200	37,800	700	-2,900
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	29,600	28,800	30,700	800	-1,100

**Note: Due to U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics restrictions, some industry employment estimates published in prior years will no longer be available. Monthly estimates for metropolitan areas with a population less than 50,000 will not be published; therefore, data for the Sumter MSA will not be available.**

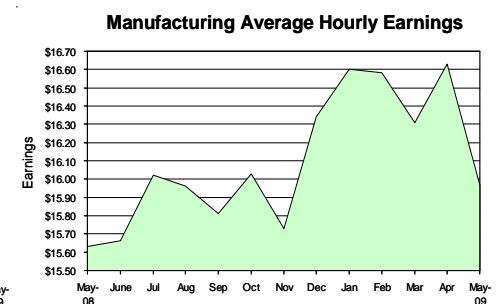
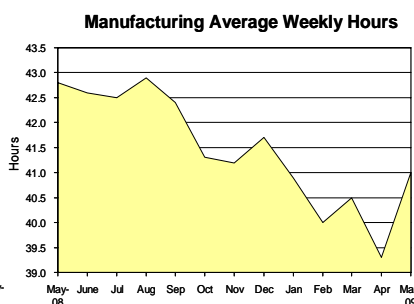
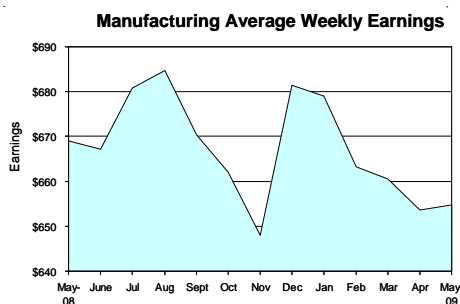


## Statewide Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (continued from previous page)

Industry	May	Apr.	May	Net Change From:	
	2009	2009	2008	Apr. 2009	May 2008
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>211,800</b>	<b>211,900</b>	<b>226,700</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-14,900</b>
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	75,500	76,400	76,900	-900	-1,400
Architectural, Engineering & Related Services	20,900	20,900	20,800	0	100
Management of Companies & Enterprises	15,500	15,500	15,800	0	-300
Administrative & Support, Waste Mgt. & Remediation Svcs	120,800	120,000	134,000	800	-13,200
Administrative & Support Services	109,100	108,000	122,900	1,100	-13,800
Employment Services	44,200	43,200	55,100	1,000	-10,900
Services to Buildings & Dwellings	34,200	33,100	34,100	1,100	100
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	<b>208,900</b>	<b>207,800</b>	<b>207,400</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>1,500</b>
Health Care & Social Assistance	172,800	171,500	173,400	1,300	-600
Ambulatory Health Care Services	69,000	68,100	67,300	900	1,700
Hospitals	43,000	42,800	43,000	200	0
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	36,200	36,000	35,900	200	300
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>213,900</b>	<b>206,800</b>	<b>229,300</b>	<b>7,100</b>	<b>-15,400</b>
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	31,100	29,200	31,600	1,900	-500
Amusement, Gambling & Recreation	24,800	23,700	25,700	1,100	-900
Accommodation & Food Services	182,800	177,600	197,700	5,200	-14,900
Accommodation	28,300	27,500	31,800	800	-3,500
Food Services & Drinking Places	154,500	150,100	165,900	4,400	-11,400
<b>Other Services (except Public Administration)</b>	<b>71,900</b>	<b>71,800</b>	<b>72,500</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-600</b>
Repair & Maintenance	17,100	17,000	17,700	100	-600
Personal & Laundry Services	18,100	18,100	17,900	0	200
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>347,000</b>	<b>347,200</b>	<b>353,000</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-6,000</b>
Federal Government	31,600	30,700	30,300	900	1,300
State Government	99,000	100,500	101,200	-1,500	-2,200
State Government Education	44,500	45,900	45,600	-1,400	-1,100
Local Government	216,400	216,000	221,500	400	-5,100
Local Government Education	111,900	111,900	114,000	0	-2,100

### May 2009 Average Hours and Earnings

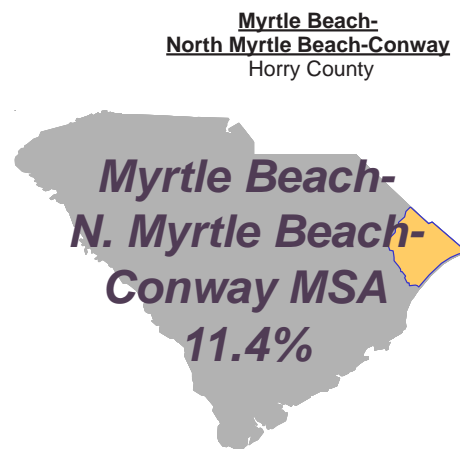
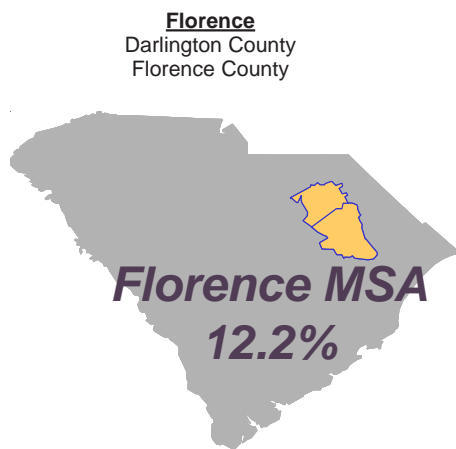
Industry	Average Weekly Earnings (\$)			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings (\$)		
	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>654.77</b>	653.56	668.96	<b>41.0</b>	39.3	42.8	<b>15.97</b>	16.63	15.63
<b>Durable Goods</b>	<b>677.82</b>	685.11	687.49	<b>42.9</b>	41.0	44.7	<b>15.80</b>	16.71	15.38
<b>Nondurable Goods</b>	<b>629.79</b>	616.20	643.99	<b>38.9</b>	37.3	40.3	<b>16.19</b>	16.52	15.98



## Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas May 2009

Industry	Florence			Myrtle Beach		
	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008
<b>Total Nonagricultural Employment</b>	<b>88,000</b>	<b>87,400</b>	<b>89,200</b>	<b>122,000</b>	<b>118,600</b>	<b>130,700</b>
Total Private	71,400	70,800	72,000	106,300	103,000	115,200
Goods Producing	15,700	15,700	17,300	12,500	12,500	14,100
Service Providing	72,300	71,700	71,900	109,500	106,100	116,600
Private Service Providing	55,700	55,100	54,700	93,800	90,500	101,100
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>17,100</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>17,400</b>	<b>26,200</b>	<b>26,300</b>	<b>26,800</b>
Retail Trade				21,700	21,500	21,800
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>				<b>34,600</b>	<b>32,200</b>	<b>38,400</b>
Accommodations & Food Services				28,400	26,200	31,200
Food Services & Drinking Places				15,800	15,400	20,600
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>17,200</b>	<b>15,700</b>	<b>15,600</b>	<b>15,500</b>
Federal Government	800	700	800	600	500	600
State Government	3,300	3,300	3,600	3,500	3,600	3,500
Local Government	12,500	12,600	12,800	11,600	11,500	11,400

### May 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas



## Palmetto Progress . . . News on Job Creation in South Carolina's Economy

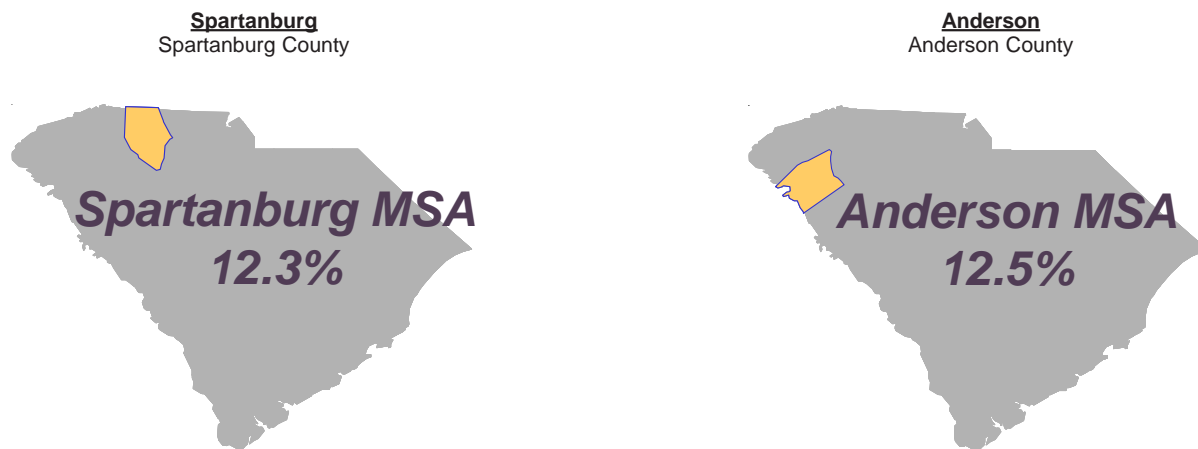
**Berkeley County** — Welded Tube-Berkeley plans to expand its local operation and add 20 to 30 jobs during the next nine months. The company, a subsidiary of Welded Tube of Canada, manufactures sprinkler pipe products for use in fire protection systems, and mechanical and light structural tubing, such as racking, handrail and other manufactured products. Company officials plan to make a significant investment to expand their product line into a higher performance pipe product used in the transmission of basic utilities, air, water, gas and steam, and in the energy sector for well-water removal. ([www.postandcourier.com](http://www.postandcourier.com))

**Lexington County** — Work is under way on a \$25 million, 465,000-square-foot regional distribution center for Home Depot in Lexington County. The center, which features 11 acres under one roof and 20 acres of concrete parking for distribution trailers and workers, will employ 300. Work on the site began Memorial Day, and a 28-week construction schedule will have the building completed by Thanksgiving, said Kurt Eyring, vice president of contractor Miller-Valentine Group. The center is being built on U.S. 321 near Dixiana. The center, which will include 171 dock doors and 18,000 square feet of office space, will serve stores in South

## Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas May 2009

Industry	Spartanburg			Anderson		
	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008
<b>Total Nonagricultural Employment</b>	<b>126,100</b>	<b>125,300</b>	<b>129,800</b>	<b>62,400</b>	<b>62,400</b>	<b>64,700</b>
Total Private	106,700	106,200	110,400	50,200	50,300	52,200
Goods Producing	31,800	31,900	34,800	15,800	15,800	17,000
Service Providing	94,300	93,400	95,000	46,600	46,600	47,700
Private Service Providing	74,900	74,300	75,600	34,400	34,500	35,200
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>25,700</b>	<b>25,800</b>	<b>27,100</b>	<b>12,100</b>	<b>12,100</b>	<b>13,300</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>25,700</b>	<b>25,400</b>	<b>27,200</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>11,400</b>	<b>11,900</b>
Retail Trade	13,700	13,600	14,200	8,300	8,200	8,400
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>19,400</b>	<b>19,100</b>	<b>19,400</b>	<b>12,200</b>	<b>12,100</b>	<b>12,500</b>
Federal Government	600	500	500	400	300	300
State Government	3,900	3,800	4,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
Local Government	14,900	14,800	14,800	9,700	9,700	10,100

### May 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas



Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee and parts of Georgia. It will have the capacity to service up to 150 stores. *(TheState)*

**Spartanburg County** — Easley-based United Tool & Mold, Inc. (UTM) announced its plans to invest up to \$5 million to add nearly 13,000-square-feet and 20 highly skilled jobs to its facility in Duncan. The company, which builds and repairs plastic injection and blow molding machinery, said the expansion will help support the growing demands of its customers in the automotive, consumer products/appliances, aerospace, trucking and medical industries. *(Spartanburg Herald-Journal)*

**Richland County** — Bridge to Life Ltd., a development-stage biotechnology company formed to advance the science of organ preservation and to develop, manufacture, and sell medical technologies, will locate its new facility in Richland County. The company will invest \$45 million and create 70 new high-paying jobs. Bridge to Life will locate its global headquarters in Columbia. They have plans to begin commercialization of two FDA-approved products designed for use in the procurement, storage and shipping of human donor organs for transplantation. The company offers services and products to the organ transplant community, as well as to physicians and hospitals. *(www.swampfox.ws)*

## Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas May 2009

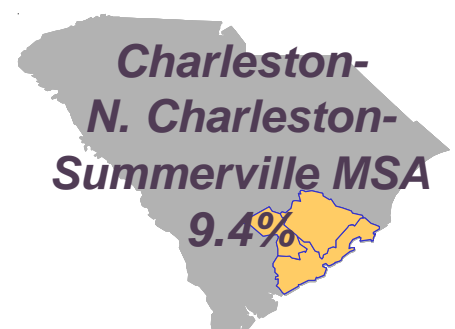
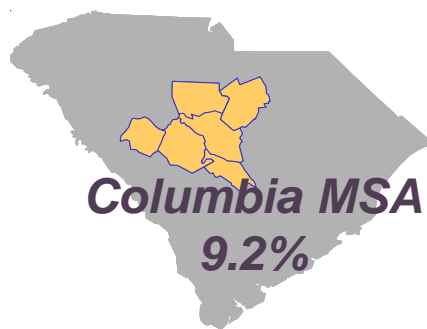
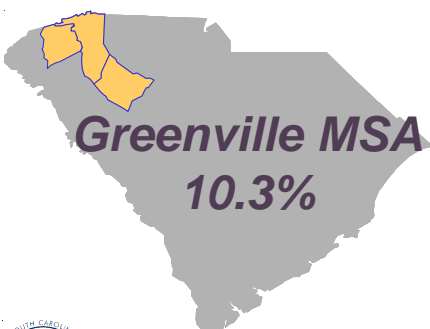
Industry	Greenville			Columbia			Charleston		
	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008
<b>Total Nonagricultural Employment</b>	<b>313,900</b>	<b>313,500</b>	<b>324,600</b>	<b>363,100</b>	<b>361,900</b>	<b>369,900</b>	<b>296,600</b>	<b>294,400</b>	<b>305,600</b>
Total Private	269,000	268,800	279,900	283,100	281,500	288,900	237,900	236,100	247,200
Goods Producing	57,500	57,500	61,200	48,700	48,600	50,700	39,800	39,900	42,700
Service Providing	256,400	256,000	263,400	314,400	313,300	319,200	256,800	254,500	262,900
Private Service Providing	211,500	211,300	218,700	234,400	232,900	238,200	198,100	196,200	204,500
<b>Mining, Logging &amp; Construction</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>16,400</b>	<b>18,200</b>	<b>19,200</b>	<b>19,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>18,700</b>	<b>18,700</b>	<b>19,800</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>40,900</b>	<b>41,100</b>	<b>43,000</b>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>29,600</b>	<b>30,700</b>	<b>21,100</b>	<b>21,200</b>	<b>22,900</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>62,500</b>	<b>61,600</b>	<b>65,600</b>	<b>67,500</b>	<b>67,000</b>	<b>69,400</b>	<b>55,900</b>	<b>55,800</b>	<b>58,100</b>
Wholesale Trade	14,700	14,600	14,900	16,100	16,100	16,600	8,800	8,800	8,900
Retail Trade	35,500	34,900	38,000	40,200	39,600	41,000	35,000	35,000	36,700
Food & Beverage Stores				6,300	6,200	6,400			
General Merchandise Stores				8,500	8,500	8,900	8,000	8,000	7,600
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	12,300	12,100	12,700	11,200	11,300	11,800	12,100	12,000	12,500
<b>Information</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>7,300</b>	<b>7,200</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>5,600</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>14,900</b>	<b>15,200</b>	<b>30,100</b>	<b>29,900</b>	<b>30,300</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>14,000</b>
Credit Intermediation & Related Act.				7,900	7,900	8,100			
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>52,600</b>	<b>53,600</b>	<b>55,500</b>	<b>39,900</b>	<b>39,900</b>	<b>42,700</b>	<b>43,000</b>	<b>42,600</b>	<b>43,500</b>
Admin., Supp., Waste Mgt & Rem. Svc.	31,500	31,300	34,100	20,400	20,200	22,300	23,500	23,200	23,400
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>32,200</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>31,900</b>	<b>45,100</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>43,500</b>	<b>32,900</b>	<b>32,700</b>	<b>32,000</b>
Health Care & Social Assistance	24,100	24,000	23,300						
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>29,800</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>31,200</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>30,800</b>	<b>32,200</b>	<b>35,200</b>	<b>34,100</b>	<b>39,700</b>
Accommodations & Food Services							30,700	30,200	34,700
Food Services & Drinking Places				24,900	24,600	26,100	26,400	26,000	27,400
<b>Other Services (except Pub. Adm.)</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>11,900</b>	<b>12,100</b>	<b>14,300</b>	<b>14,200</b>	<b>14,100</b>	<b>11,400</b>	<b>11,400</b>	<b>11,600</b>
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>44,900</b>	<b>44,700</b>	<b>44,700</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,400</b>	<b>81,000</b>	<b>58,700</b>	<b>58,300</b>	<b>58,400</b>
Federal Government	2,200	2,100	2,200	10,200	9,900	9,700	8,700	8,500	8,400
State Government	10,400	10,400	10,800	33,000	33,800	34,700	21,800	21,800	22,400
Local Government	32,300	32,200	31,700	36,800	36,700	36,600	28,200	28,000	27,600

### May 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas

**Greenville**  
Greenville County  
Laurens County  
Pickens County

**Columbia**  
Calhoun County  
Fairfield County  
Kershaw County  
Lexington County  
Richland County  
Saluda County

**Charleston-North Charleston-Summerville**  
Berkeley County  
Charleston County  
Dorchester County





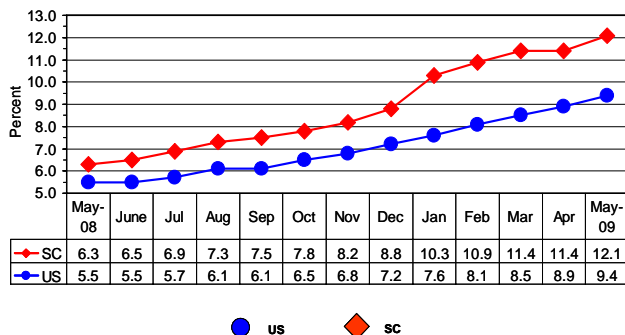
### Estimated Number of Manufacturing Production Workers May 2009

Industry	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	Net Change From:	
				Apr. 2009	May 2008
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>159,300</b>	160,500	188,400	-1,200	-29,100
Durable Goods	85,000	86,600	105,000	-1,600	-20,000
Nondurable Goods	74,300	73,900	83,400	400	-9,100

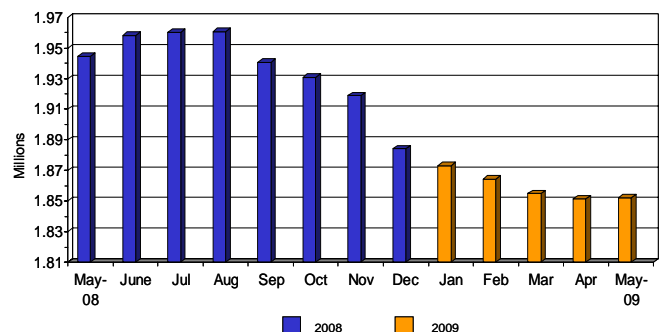
### Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment May 2009

Industry	May 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2008	Net Change From:	
				Apr. 2009	May 2008
<b>Total Nonagricultural Employment</b>	<b>1,852,000</b>	1,851,400	1,944,500	600	-92,500
<b>Construction</b>	<b>103,800</b>	103,800	113,800	0	-10,000
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>215,800</b>	218,500	244,500	-2,700	-28,700
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>358,900</b>	358,400	374,800	500	-15,900
Retail Trade	228,300	228,900	238,800	-600	-10,500
<b>Information</b>	<b>29,600</b>	29,600	28,700	0	900
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>103,900</b>	102,500	106,300	1,400	-2,400
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>209,500</b>	211,500	224,800	-2,000	-15,300
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	<b>208,400</b>	206,600	206,900	1,800	1,500
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>205,800</b>	204,000	221,100	1,800	-15,300
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	29,700	29,000	29,500	700	200
Accommodation & Food Services	176,100	175,000	191,600	1,100	-15,500
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>71,100</b>	71,200	71,500	-100	-400
<b>Government</b>	<b>341,000</b>	341,100	347,700	-100	-6,700
Federal Government	31,600	30,900	30,300	700	1,300
State Government	97,900	98,500	100,300	-600	-2,400
Local Government	211,500	211,700	217,100	-200	-5,600

US & SC Unemployment Rates  
May 2008 through May 2009



SC Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment  
May 2008 through May 2009



The **South Carolina Workforce TRENDS** is a monthly publication of the South Carolina Employment Security Commission, Labor Market Information Department.

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## GLOSSARY

**Benchmark** – A statistical technique applied to annual data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year, due to sampling error and statistical modeling.

**Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)** – BLS is part of the U.S. Department of Labor and functions as the principal data-gathering agency of the federal government in the field of labor economics. BLS collects, processes, analyzes and disseminates data relating to employment, unemployment, the labor force, productivity, prices, family expenditures, wages, industrial relations, and occupational safety and health.

**Employment** – A count of all persons who worked full or part-time or received pay from a nonagricultural employer for any part of the pay period that included the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Because this count comes from a survey of employers, persons who work for two different companies would be counted twice. Therefore, nonfarm payroll employment is really a count of the number of jobs, rather than the number of persons employed. Persons may receive pay from a job if they are temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, vacations, or a labor-management dispute. This count is based on where the jobs are located, regardless of where the workers reside, and is sometimes referred to as employment "by place of work." Nonfarm payroll employment data are collected and compiled by the Current Employment Statistics (CES) Survey.

**Labor Market Information (LMI)** – LMI is a body of knowledge that describes the nature, characteristics, and operation of those mechanisms, institutions, and participants involved in the matching of labor supply with demand. LMI is made up of a variety of economic, social, and demographic information. The information describes current conditions and forecasts conditions at a future date. LMI is comprised of population data, labor force data, occupational data, general economic trends, and career data. LMI information can be used to determine policy and program needs, to allocate resources, and to establish program performance standards.

**Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment** – An estimate of all part- and full-time wage and salary employees who worked during, or received pay from the pay period that included the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work.

**Seasonal Adjustment** – A statistical technique applied to monthly data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year due to seasonal events, such as changes in the weather, major holidays, shifts in production schedules, harvest times, and the opening and closing of schools.

**Unemployment** – An estimate of the number of persons who did not have a job, but were available for work and actively seeking work during the calendar week that includes the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month.

**Workforce Investment Act (WIA)** – The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 provides the framework for a unique national workforce development system designed to meet the needs of both the nation's businesses and the needs of job seekers or those who want to further their careers. South Carolina has 12 Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA). The Act requires that each local workforce investment area establish a One-Stop Delivery System including at least one full-service or comprehensive one-stop career center. The full-service one-stop career center must have universal access, including a host of mandatory human services, employment related programs and a partnership, inclusive of each mandatory program that exists in the local community.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept of Labor

## TECHNICAL NOTES

**South Carolina Workforce Trends** 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. Industries are classified according to the *North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)*. All estimates

are projected from a first quarter 2008 benchmark.

**Nonagricultural wage and salary employment** estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Therefore, these data are not strictly comparable with the labor force data which represent persons by place of residence. Excluded from wage and salary estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees, and unpaid family workers. A small percentage of wage and salary workers cannot be allocated to specific counties because of the nature of their jobs. Therefore, county data will not add to state totals.

**Production worker** estimates include full and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month for production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

**Labor force** data are adjusted to the Current Population Survey benchmark, and represent employment and unemployment by place of residence. These data are not comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. Workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. Total employment in the labor force also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, and self-employed. The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing total unemployment by the labor force, and is expressed as a percent. Because of the conceptual differences stated above, total employment may in some instances be lower than nonagricultural wage and salary employment.

## EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION Statewide Workforce Centers

**Abbeville**

353 Highway 28 Bypass  
Abbeville, SC 29620  
(864) 459-5486

**Aiken**

1571 Richland Avenue, East  
Aiken, SC 29802  
(803) 641-7640

**Anderson**

309 West Whitner Street  
Anderson, SC 29622  
(864) 226-6273

**Barnwell**

248 Wall Street  
Barnwell, SC 29812  
(803) 259-7116

**Beaufort**

164 Castlerock Road  
Beaufort, SC 29906  
(843) 524-3351

**Bennettsville**

Highway 9-W Cheraw Hwy  
Bennettsville, SC 29512  
(843) 479-4081

**Camden**

205 East DeKalb Street  
Camden, SC 29020  
(803) 432-5153

**Charleston**

176 Lockwood Boulevard  
Charleston, SC 29403  
(843) 953-8400

**Chester**

764 Wilson Street  
Chester, SC 29706  
(803) 377-8147

**Clinton**

18 Hazel Drive  
Clinton, SC 29325  
(864) 833-0142

**Coastal**

200-A Victory Lane  
Conway, SC 29526  
(843) 234-9675

**Columbia**

700 Taylor Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
(803) 737-5627

**Florence**

1558 West Evans Street  
Florence, SC 29501  
(843) 669-4271

**Gaffney**

133 Wilmac Road  
Gaffney, SC 29342  
(864) 489-3112

**Georgetown**

2704 Highmarket Street  
Georgetown, SC 29442  
(843) 546-8581

**Greenville**

706 Pendleton Street  
Greenville, SC 29602  
(864) 242-3531

**Greenwood**

519 Monument Street  
Greenwood, SC 29648  
(864) 223-1681

**Hampton**

12 Walnut Street  
Hampton, SC 29924  
(803) 943-3291

**Hartsville**

1319 South Fourth Street  
Hartsville, SC 29551  
(843) 332-1554

**Kingstree**

530 Martin Luther King Jr.  
Kingstree, SC 29556  
(843) 354-7436

**Lancaster**

705 North White Street  
Lancaster, SC 29720  
(803) 285-6966

**Lexington**

714 South Lake Drive,  
Suite 140  
Lexington, SC 29071  
(803) 359-6131

**Liberty**

317 Summit Drive  
Liberty, SC 29657  
(864) 843-9512

**Marion**

2413 East Highway 76  
Marion, SC 29571  
(843) 423-6900

**Moncks Corner**

107 East Main Street  
Moncks Corner, SC 29461  
(843) 761-4400

**Newberry**

833 Main Street  
Newberry, SC 29108  
(803) 276-2110

**Orangeburg**

1804 Joe S. Jeffords Highway  
Orangeburg, SC 29116  
(803) 534-3336

**Ridgeland**

7774 West Main Street  
Ridgeland, SC 29936  
(843) 726-3750

**Rock Hill**

1228 Fincher Road  
Rock Hill, SC 29731  
(803) 328-3881

**Seneca**

11091 Radio Station Road  
Seneca, SC 29679  
(864) 882-5638

**Spartanburg**

364 South Church Street (ES)  
440 South Church Street (UI)  
Spartanburg, SC 29304  
(864) 573-7525 ES  
(864) 573-7231 UI

**Summerville**

2885 West 5th North Street  
Summerville, SC 29484  
(843) 821-0695

**Sumter**

29 East Calhoun Street  
Sumter, SC 29151  
(803) 773-7359

**Union**

440 Duncan Highway  
Union, SC 29379  
(864) 427-5672

**Walterboro**

101 Mable T. Willis Blvd  
Walterboro, SC 29488  
(843) 538-8980

**Winnsboro**

1009 Kincaid Bridge Road  
Winnsboro, SC 29180  
(803) 635-2292



### Sites of Interest on the Internet

**SC Employment Security Commission**  
[www.sces.org](http://www.sces.org)

**SC Labor Market Information**  
[www.sces.org/lmi](http://www.sces.org/lmi)

**SC Government**  
[www.sc.gov](http://www.sc.gov)

**Federal Jobs**  
[www.fedworld.gov](http://www.fedworld.gov)

**Career Voyages**  
[www.careervoyages.gov](http://www.careervoyages.gov)

**Job Bank USA**  
[www.jobbankusa.com](http://www.jobbankusa.com)

**Career One-Stop**  
[www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)

**Career Builder**  
[www.careerbuilder.com](http://www.careerbuilder.com)

**Job Fair Info**  
[www.jobexpo.com](http://www.jobexpo.com)  
[www.cfgcareerfaairs.com](http://www.cfgcareerfaairs.com)

**Teaching Jobs**  
[www.k-12jobs.com](http://www.k-12jobs.com)

**Former Military**  
[militarytransitiontimes.com](http://militarytransitiontimes.com)  
[www.acap.army.mil](http://www.acap.army.mil)

**Jobs for Women**  
[www.womenforhire.com](http://www.womenforhire.com)

**Hispanic Alliance & Career Enhancement**  
[www.hace-usa.org](http://www.hace-usa.org)

Total Cost:	\$2,171.36
Total Printed:	3,600
Unit Cost:	\$0.60

This issue reflects labor market information for MAY 2009, the most current data available.





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The minimum wage was enacted in 1938 as part of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The first minimum wage was \$0.25 an hour. This has increased over the years and the current federal minimum wage is \$6.55. an hour.

On July 24, 2009, the federal hourly minimum wage will increase to \$7.25.

### U. S. Hourly Minimum Wage 1950 - 2009

