

## WORKFORCE TRENDS

# Newsline



Released: November 20, 2009

### South Carolina's Unemployment Rate Increases in October

South Carolina's unemployment rate rose in October to 12.1%, the State Employment Security Commission reported today. This was four-tenths of a point above the revised September rate of 11.7%. Based on estimates produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, the state's labor force totaled 2,173,462 in October, an increase of 1,880. The number of unemployed increased 9,736 to 262,956. The national unemployment rate was 10.2% in October, up from 9.8% in September.

The state's job count increased by 1,100 in October with most of the increases occurring in Professional and Business Services (+4,600), Government (+3,500), and Retail Trade (+2,300). Partially offsetting the gains were losses in Leisure and Hospitality (-5,600), Manufacturing (-1,600), and Construction (-1,300). The state's overall job count was 60,500 below the year-ago level and nearly 95,000 below the December 2007 level when the current recession began.

On October 2, 2009, the Bureau of Labor Statistics stated that job losses reported for the nation during the 12-month period ending last March were 824,000 more than were originally reported. This revision was the result of an annual benchmarking process where preliminary job count estimates developed through sampling and estimating models are revised based on more up-to-date data from employer payroll records. South Carolina, as well as all other states, will be conducting their annual benchmarking over the next few months. If national trends are followed, most states will likely show greater jobs losses than are currently being reported in the preliminary estimates. The revised benchmarked data will be released early in 2010.

"Going forward, our state faces significant challenges as it tries to replace the large number of jobs lost due to the recession that began in December of 2007," said Sam Foster, Interim Executive Director of the Commission.



S. C. Employment Security Commission Samuel R. Foster, Interim Executive Director

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**WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT**

October-09

Industry	October 2009	September 2009	October 2008	Net Change From Month Ago	Year Ago
<b>Total Nonag. Employment</b>	<b>1,853,600</b>	<b>1,852,500</b>	1,914,100	<b>1,100</b>	<b>-60,500</b>
Natural Resources and Mining	4,100	4,100	4,200	0	-100
Construction	96,600	97,900	113,500	-1,300	-16,900
Manufacturing	210,900	212,500	237,500	-1,600	-26,600
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	356,900	355,600	368,200	1,300	-11,300
Information	29,600	29,600	29,100	0	500
Financial Activities	102,000	102,500	105,200	-500	-3,200
Professional and Business Services	223,400	218,800	219,000	4,600	4,400
Educational and Health Services	209,200	209,200	210,200	0	-1,000
Leisure and Hospitality	200,800	206,400	208,800	-5,600	-8,000
Government	349,200	345,700	348,100	3,500	1,100

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATES RANKED BY COUNTY**

**Unemployment Rate**

Rank	County	Unemployment Rate		
		October 2009	September 2009	Change
1	Allendale	22.2	22.2	0.0
2	Chester	21.6	21.4	0.2
3	Marlboro	21.0	21.1	-0.1
4	Marion	20.7	20.9	-0.2
5	Union	20.6	20.4	0.2
6	Barnwell	19.4	18.8	0.6
7	Lancaster	19.2	18.9	0.3
8	Bamberg	17.8	17.9	-0.1
	Orangeburg	17.8	18.4	-0.6
10	Dillon	17.7	17.4	0.3
11	Chesterfield	17.4	17.7	-0.3
12	Cherokee	16.8	16.7	0.1
13	McCormick	16.7	16.0	0.7
14	Hampton	16.3	16.0	0.3
15	Clarendon	16.2	15.9	0.3
16	Williamsburg	16.0	15.2	0.8
17	Lee	15.8	15.5	0.3
18	York	15.7	15.4	0.3
19	Abbeville	15.2	14.7	0.5
20	Colleton	14.3	14.0	0.3
	Oconee	14.3	14.1	0.2
22	Greenwood	14.2	13.5	0.7
23	Sumter	13.9	13.8	0.1
24	Calhoun	13.1	14.2	-1.1
25	Darlington	13.0	12.8	0.2
	Georgetown	13.0	12.3	0.7
27	Anderson	12.9	12.3	0.6
28	Spartanburg	12.5	12.1	0.4
29	Horry	12.2	10.9	1.3
30	Fairfield	12.1	12.9	-0.8
	Florence	12.1	11.5	0.6
32	Newberry	11.9	11.7	0.2
33	Laurens	11.8	11.7	0.1
34	Jasper	11.4	10.8	0.6
35	Edgefield	11.2	10.6	0.6
36	Pickens	11.0	10.5	0.5
37	Berkeley	10.9	10.6	0.3
38	Greenville	10.6	10.2	0.4
39	Kershaw	10.5	10.4	0.1
40	Dorchester	10.3	10.2	0.1
41	Aiken	10.0	9.9	0.1
42	Richland	9.8	9.4	0.4
	Saluda	9.8	9.2	0.6
44	Charleston	9.4	9.0	0.4
45	Beaufort	9.0	8.6	0.4
46	Lexington	8.6	8.3	0.3

**LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT BY LABOR MARKET AREA**

**October-09**

AREA:	LABOR FORCE			UNEMPLOYMENT			% OF LABOR FORCE		
	October 2009	September 2009	October 2008	October 2009	September 2009	October 2008	October 2009	September 2009	October 2008
ABBEVILLE	11,494	11,378	11,405	1,751	1,668	1,039	15.2	14.7	9.1
AIKEN	75,161	74,968	75,545	7,499	7,387	5,235	10.0	9.9	6.9
ALLENDALE	3,286	3,261	3,371	730	725	633	22.2	22.2	18.8
ANDERSON MSA	87,227	86,152	85,565	11,252	10,604	6,700	12.9	12.3	7.8
BAMBERG	6,180	6,175	6,297	1,101	1,108	874	17.8	17.9	13.9
BARNWELL	9,146	9,053	8,958	1,773	1,704	1,103	19.4	18.8	12.3
BEAUFORT	62,376	61,998	64,644	5,636	5,309	3,977	9.0	8.6	6.2
BERKELEY	80,438	79,907	80,090	8,767	8,446	5,654	10.9	10.6	7.1
CALHOUN	7,281	7,343	7,157	952	1,042	693	13.1	14.2	9.7
CHARLESTON	177,651	176,288	178,134	16,737	15,846	11,012	9.4	9.0	6.2
CHEROKEE	25,640	25,634	25,757	4,297	4,284	2,933	16.8	16.7	11.4
CHESTER	15,740	15,690	15,251	3,395	3,360	2,014	21.6	21.4	13.2
CHESTERFIELD	18,980	18,995	18,787	3,310	3,362	2,055	17.4	17.7	10.9
CLARENDON	12,413	12,344	12,507	2,015	1,967	1,440	16.2	15.9	11.5
COLLETON	16,628	16,507	16,867	2,379	2,314	1,672	14.3	14.0	9.9
DARLINGTON	32,244	32,404	31,628	4,184	4,147	3,073	13.0	12.8	9.7
DILLON	13,034	12,951	12,989	2,308	2,247	1,596	17.7	17.4	12.3
DORCHESTER	64,257	63,992	64,157	6,649	6,552	4,326	10.3	10.2	6.7
EDGEFIELD	11,094	11,011	11,155	1,237	1,165	912	11.2	10.6	8.2
FAIRFIELD	11,335	11,382	11,501	1,375	1,466	1,328	12.1	12.9	11.5
FLORENCE	65,272	65,254	63,612	7,923	7,502	5,252	12.1	11.5	8.3
GEORGETOWN	30,062	29,933	30,509	3,898	3,691	2,576	13.0	12.3	8.4
GREENVILLE	226,729	226,861	227,334	23,942	23,245	14,993	10.6	10.2	6.6
GREENWOOD	29,948	29,681	30,309	4,239	4,014	2,768	14.2	13.5	9.1
HAMPTON	7,666	7,601	7,703	1,249	1,217	815	16.3	16.0	10.6
HORRY/MYR BCH MSA	128,818	130,864	129,801	15,745	14,215	11,243	12.2	10.9	8.7
JASPER	10,065	9,982	10,265	1,150	1,075	733	11.4	10.8	7.1
KERSHAW	30,694	30,493	30,506	3,238	3,157	2,463	10.5	10.4	8.1
LANCASTER	29,696	29,550	29,522	5,708	5,586	3,825	19.2	18.9	13.0
LAURENS	33,823	33,917	33,939	3,987	3,959	2,697	11.8	11.7	7.9
LEE	8,254	8,202	8,234	1,303	1,272	953	15.8	15.5	11.6
LEXINGTON	135,144	134,004	133,922	11,661	11,063	7,799	8.6	8.3	5.8
MARION	13,042	13,079	13,059	2,699	2,727	2,079	20.7	20.9	15.9
MARLBORO	11,817	11,835	11,921	2,486	2,503	1,884	21.0	21.1	15.8
McCORMICK	3,382	3,347	3,423	566	536	421	16.7	16.0	12.3
NEWBERRY	18,160	18,010	18,622	2,152	2,101	1,564	11.9	11.7	8.4
OCONEE	30,575	30,469	30,662	4,365	4,302	2,775	14.3	14.1	9.1
ORANGEBURG	40,670	40,875	40,798	7,219	7,521	5,174	17.8	18.4	12.7
PICKENS	59,725	59,665	59,959	6,557	6,279	4,286	11.0	10.5	7.1
RICHLAND	184,661	183,061	182,823	18,145	17,276	12,747	9.8	9.4	7.0
SALUDA	9,372	9,268	9,313	922	855	682	9.8	9.2	7.3
SPARTANBURG MSA	139,902	139,589	139,085	17,462	16,871	10,949	12.5	12.1	7.9
SUMTER MSA	42,948	43,116	42,941	5,958	5,930	4,234	13.9	13.8	9.9
UNION	12,274	12,221	11,797	2,530	2,492	1,435	20.6	20.4	12.2
WILLIAMSBURG	15,422	15,240	15,545	2,475	2,316	1,791	16.0	15.2	11.5
YORK	109,819	109,847	107,611	17,271	16,887	8,408	15.7	15.4	7.8
<b>Multi County MSAs</b>									
CHAS MSA	322,346	320,186	322,382	32,153	30,844	20,993	10.0	9.6	6.5
COLA MSA	378,488	375,551	375,224	36,293	34,859	25,713	9.6	9.3	6.9
FLORENCE MSA	97,516	97,658	95,240	12,107	11,649	8,325	12.4	11.9	8.7
GRNV MSA	320,277	320,443	321,232	34,486	33,483	21,976	10.8	10.4	6.8
<b>South Carolina*</b>	<b>2,173.5</b>	<b>2,171.6</b>	<b>2,172.7</b>	<b>263.0</b>	<b>253.2</b>	<b>170.2</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>

\* Seasonally Adjusted