

INSIGHTS

Volume 4: Issue 10 November 2014

SC Department of Employment and Workforce

Business Intelligence Department

Economic Indicators

November 2014 - Seasonally Adjusted (SA)

	United States	SC
Labor Force	156,397,000	2,197,756
Employed	147,287,000	2,051,511
Unemployed	9,110,000	146,245
Unemployed Rate	5.8%	6.7%

Average Hours & Earnings

	United States (SA)	SC (Unadj.)
Manufacturing		
Avg. Weekly Earnings	\$1,025.86	\$785.34
Avg. Weekly Hours	41.1	42.2
Avg. Hourly Wage	\$ 24.96	\$ 18.61

Top Job Growth by MSA (SA)

	Over Month % Change	Over Year % Change
Anderson MSA	1.18%	1.92%
Spartanburg MSA	0.98%	2.03%
Sumter MSA	0.77%	1.29%
Myrtle Beach MSA	0.56%	3.78%

Employment to Population Ratio (SA)

	2014	2013
U.S. Population Ratio	59.2%	58.6%
S.C. Population Ratio	54.5%	54.3%

Labor Force Participation Rate (SA)

	Nov	Oct	% Change
U.S. Participation Rate	62.8%	62.8%	0.0%
S.C. Participation Rate	58.3%	58.3%	0.0%

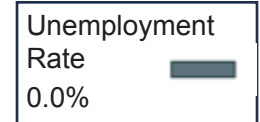
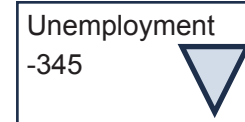
United States Consumer Price Index

12-Month CPI	1.3%
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HIGHLIGHTS

- Labor force level sets new record
- Employment sets new record
- 19 counties record lower unemployment rates, while 11 remained unchanged
- Seasonally adjusted, non-farm payrolls increased by 14,200

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



Labor Force Rises for Fifth Consecutive Month – New Record Set Employment Sets New Record

November's seasonally adjusted statewide unemployment rate remained unchanged in November at 6.7 percent. The labor force (those employed and those unemployed actively seeking work) set a new record of nearly 2,197,760 people. The number of employed people set a new record of approximately 2,051,500 people.

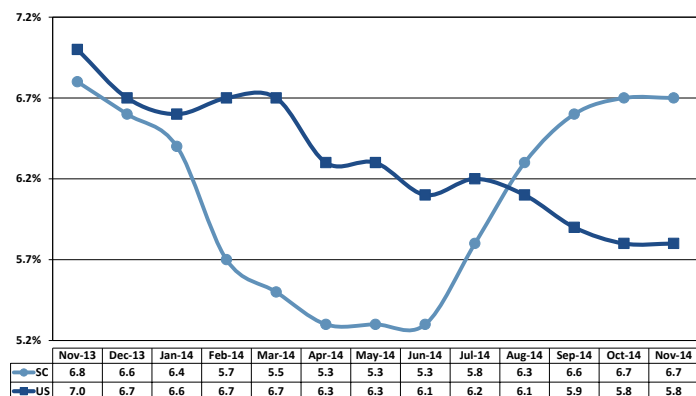
During November, the estimated number of employed people increased by nearly 5,900. The number of unemployed was assessed at about 146,250, marking a modest decrease of nearly 350 people. Monthly labor force estimates increased by almost 5,570 people.

Over the year, 28,660 people found work. The number of unemployed people decreased by nearly 1,070, as the unemployment rate declined 0.1 percentage point. Approximately 27,600 people entered the labor force when compared to November 2013.

Nationally, over the month, the November unemployment rate remained at 5.8 percent.

South Carolina has marked continued improvement over the year. The number of people working has increased by about 1.4 percent, and the state's labor force has increased by 1.3 percent to record levels. Looking toward 2015, we remain upbeat about employment opportunities for job seekers.

Unemployment Rates in South Carolina and The United States
November 2013 – November 2014 Seasonally Adjusted



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 2013 benchmark. To subscribe to *Insights*, please email bidcustomerservice@dew.sc.gov or to provide feedback please click on the [BID Customer Feedback Form](#).

State Unemployment Rates

District Of Columbia	7.4
Mississippi	7.3
California	7.2
Georgia	7.2
Rhode Island	7.1
Oregon	7.0
Nevada	6.9
Arizona	6.8
Tennessee	6.8
Michigan	6.7
<u>South Carolina</u>	<u>6.7</u>
Alaska	6.6
Connecticut	6.5
Louisiana	6.5
Illinois	6.4
New Jersey	6.4
New Mexico	6.4
West Virginia	6.3
Washington	6.2
Alabama	6.0
Delaware	6.0
Kentucky	6.0
New York	5.9
Arkansas	5.8
Florida	5.8
Massachusetts	5.8
North Carolina	5.8
<u>United States</u>	<u>5.8</u>
Indiana	5.7
Maine	5.7
Maryland	5.6
Missouri	5.6
Wisconsin	5.2
Pennsylvania	5.1
Ohio	5.0
Virginia	5.0
Texas	4.9
Wyoming	4.5
Oklahoma	4.4
Iowa	4.3
Kansas	4.3
Montana	4.3
Vermont	4.3
Colorado	4.1
New Hampshire	4.1
Hawaii	4.0
Idaho	3.9
Minnesota	3.7
Utah	3.6
South Dakota	3.3
Nebraska	3.1
North Dakota	2.7

South Carolina Ranked 10th Highest of 51 in November

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 41 states and the District of Columbia experienced decreases in their unemployment rates, three states had increases, and six states remained unchanged. In November, South Carolina's 6.7 percent rate ranked 10th highest out of 51. In the Southeast region, South Carolina's rate remained lower than Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee.

The most significant over-the-month percentage increase in employment occurred in Vermont (1.2 percent), followed by Hawaii at 0.9 percent and Delaware, South Carolina, and Wisconsin at 0.7 percent. The largest decrease in employment was in West Virginia at -0.7 percent, followed by Mississippi at -0.4 percent and Kansas, South Dakota, and Wyoming at -0.3 percent each.

Over the year, nonfarm employment increased in 48 states and the District of Columbia. The largest over-the-year increase occurred in North Dakota at 4.8 percent, followed by Texas at 3.9 percent, and Utah at 3.4 percent. Alaska experienced an over-the-year decline of -0.4 percent, followed by Mississippi at -0.1 percent.

November Unemployment Rate by County

Not seasonally adjusted county unemployment rates were mixed in November. Over the month, 19 counties showed decreases in their unemployment rates. Eleven counties saw no change, and 16 counties experienced rate increases.

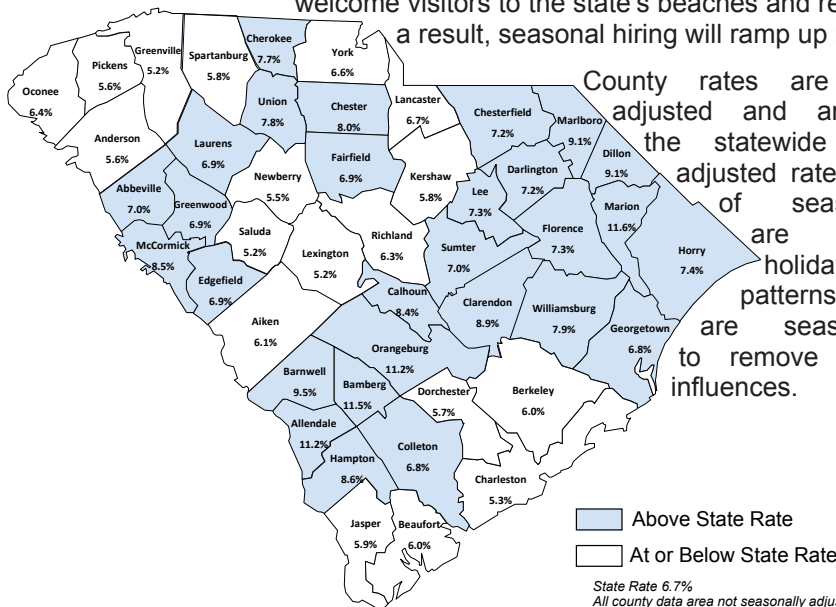
Since November 2013, 34 of 46 county unemployment rates have declined. Marlboro and Barnwell counties have marked the greatest declines at 1.8 percentage points each.

All 46 counties have seen employment growth since a year ago with Greenville County experiencing the biggest expansion: nearly 3,700 people finding work.

As the holiday period peaks in late December, seasonal and part-time employment will begin to decrease as retailers, distribution centers and couriers wind down their activities. County employment levels, especially in areas where retail commerce has a large presence, will reflect this. However, in a little over 90 days, the coastal areas will welcome visitors to the state's beaches and recreation areas. As a result, seasonal hiring will ramp up related to tourism.

Highest County Unemployment Rate		Lowest County Unemployment Rate	
Marion	11.6%	Greenville	5.2%
Bamberg	11.5%	Lexington	5.2%
Allendale	11.2%	Saluda	5.2%
Orangeburg	11.2%	Charleston	5.3%
Barnwell	9.5%	Newberry	5.5%

County rates are not seasonally adjusted and are derived from the statewide not seasonally adjusted rate. Some examples of seasonal influence are school terms, holidays, and weather patterns. Statewide rates are seasonally adjusted to remove these types of influences.



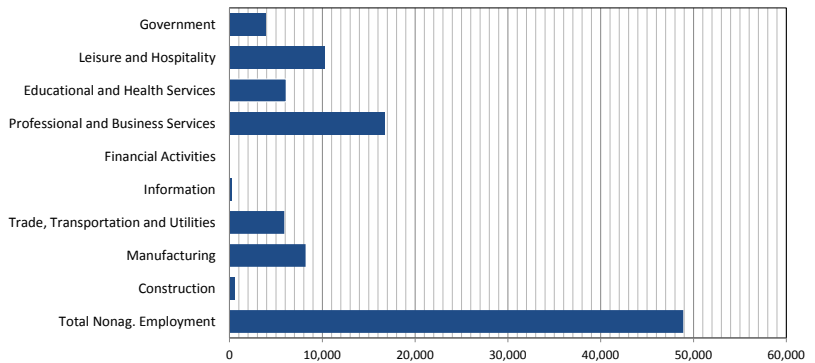
Employment Changes by County September 2014 through November 2014

County	Employment			Net Change From	
	Nov 2014	Oct 2014	Sep 2014	Oct '14 - Nov '14	Sep '14 - Oct '14
Abbeville	10,191	10,227	10,067	-36	160
Aiken	72,641	73,005	72,034	-364	971
Allendale	2,892	2,915	2,865	-23	50
Anderson	83,266	83,329	82,533	-63	796
Bamberg	5,128	5,166	5,087	-38	79
Barnwell	7,495	7,532	7,410	-37	122
Beaufort	62,484	62,697	61,595	-213	1,102
Berkeley	81,973	82,717	82,063	-744	654
Calhoun	5,986	6,008	5,980	-22	28
Charleston	168,940	170,473	169,125	-1,533	1,348
Cherokee	23,603	23,674	23,300	-71	374
Chester	13,655	13,710	13,504	-55	206
Chesterfield	17,554	17,627	17,351	-73	276
Clarendon	11,184	11,248	11,082	-64	166
Colleton	15,909	16,003	15,747	-94	256
Darlington	27,931	27,920	27,868	11	52
Dillon	11,504	11,590	11,433	-86	157
Dorchester	65,542	66,137	65,614	-595	523
Edgefield	10,255	10,306	10,169	-51	137
Fairfield	9,349	9,384	9,341	-35	43
Florence	58,563	58,542	58,431	21	111
Georgetown	27,661	27,898	27,652	-237	246
Greenville	220,362	220,972	219,223	-610	1,749
Greenwood	28,791	28,884	28,393	-93	491
Hampton	7,126	7,170	7,049	-44	121
Horry	118,092	121,097	124,442	-3,005	-3,345
Jasper	10,127	10,162	9,983	-35	179
Kershaw	27,587	27,688	27,561	-101	127
Lancaster	31,436	31,546	31,050	-110	496
Laurens	28,260	28,338	28,114	-78	224
Lee	7,473	7,535	7,467	-62	68
Lexington	128,673	129,148	128,553	-475	595
McCormick	3,034	3,052	3,006	-18	46
Marion	10,129	10,212	10,134	-83	78
Marlboro	10,265	10,298	10,156	-33	142
Newberry	17,366	17,411	17,194	-45	217
Oconee	29,871	29,981	29,532	-110	449
Orangeburg	36,002	36,237	35,726	-235	511
Pickens	54,586	54,737	54,304	-151	433
Richland	171,853	172,488	171,693	-635	795
Saluda	8,405	8,437	8,398	-32	39
Spartanburg	131,475	131,649	130,250	-174	1,399
Sumter	40,974	41,174	40,821	-200	353
Union	10,773	10,808	10,648	-35	160
Williamsburg	14,421	14,518	14,348	-97	170
York	105,411	105,671	104,244	-260	1,427

South Carolina Nonfarm Employment Trends for November - Seasonally Adjusted

In November 2014, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 14,200 from October. The hike in employment was primarily due to growth in Professional and Business Services (+4,500); Leisure and Hospitality (+3,200); Government (+2,100); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+2,000); Manufacturing (+1,100); Financial Activities (+1,000); Information (+700); and Other Services (+500). Industries reporting declines were Education and Health Services (-700) and Construction (-200).

**South Carolina Job Changes by Industry
November 2013 - November 2014 (SA)**

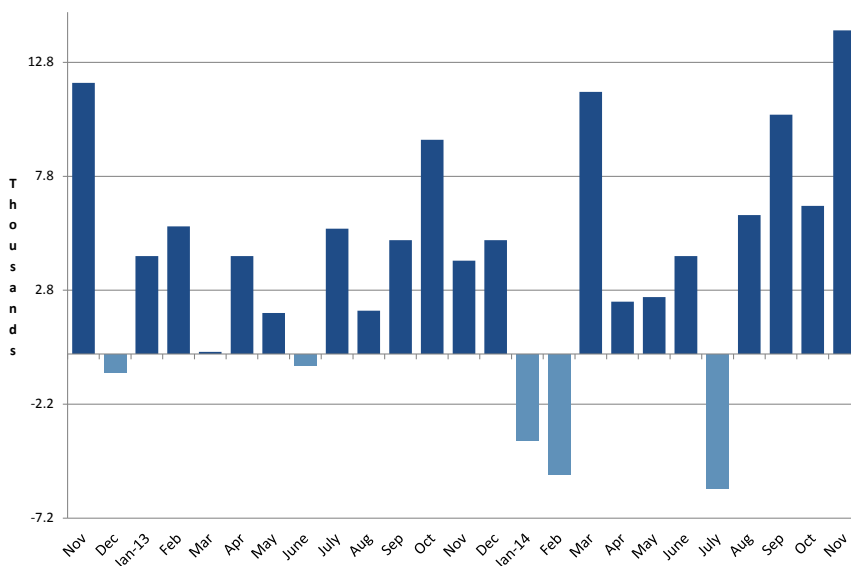


Over-the-year growth in nonfarm employment was at 48,900. The industry reporting the largest gain since November 2013 was Professional and Business Services (+16,800). Leisure and Hospitality followed with a growth of (+10,300); slightly below that was Manufacturing (+8,200). Additional gains were seen in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+5,900); Education and Health Services (+4,300); and Government (+3,900), while Construction and Information added an over-the-year increase of (+600) and (+300) respectively. Financial Activities remained flat. Other Services industry saw a decline of (-1,300).

Nearly all of the Metropolitan Statistical Areas saw a seasonally adjusted over-the-month increase in employment. Columbia had the largest increase (+1,400). Spartanburg increased employment (+1,300) as Greenville followed (+1,100). Additional gains were also in Anderson (+800) and Myrtle Beach (+700). Florence and Sumter both saw over-the-month increases (+300). The Metropolitan Statistical Area which saw a decline in employment was Charleston (-500).

Every Metropolitan Statistical Area saw seasonally adjusted payroll employment growth. The most prominent growth was in Greenville with a net of 9,700, followed by an increase in Charleston (+6,200); Myrtle Beach (+4,700); and Columbia (+4,500). Additional increases were seen in Spartanburg (+2,700); Florence (+1,700); and Anderson (+1,300). Modest growth was reported in Sumter (+500).

**SC Total Nonfarm Jobs
2012 -2014**



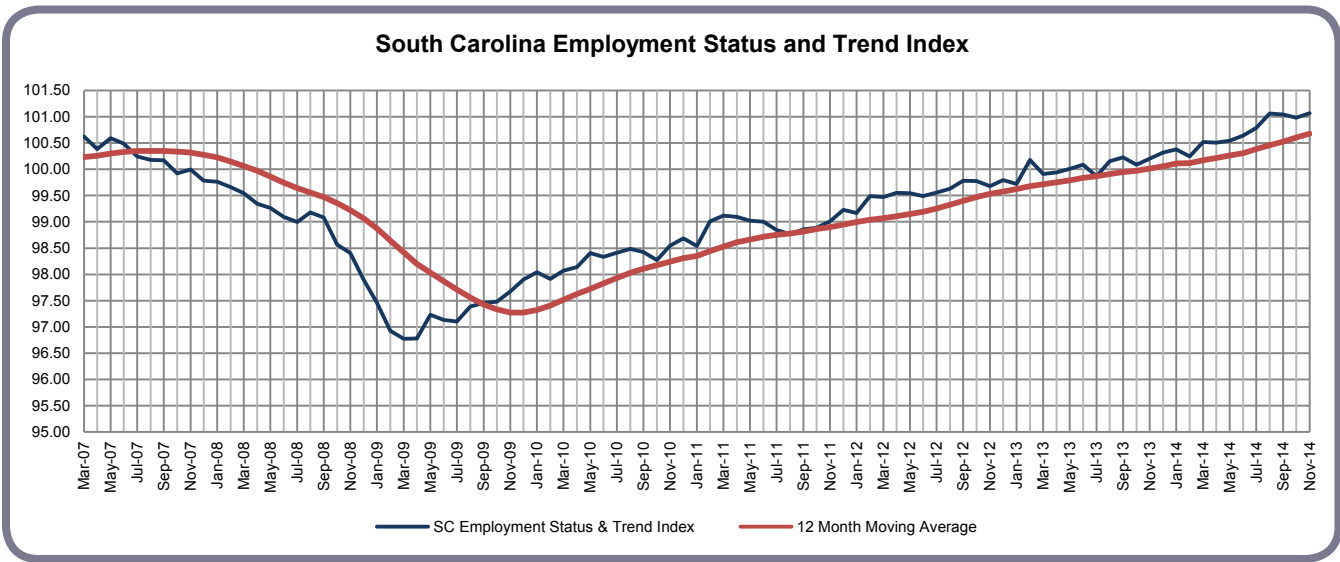
To see the monthly not seasonally adjusted data series, go to www.SCWorkforceInfo.com (Employment and Wage Data section)

South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index Moves Up

After a decline last month, the South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index (SCESTI) moved up 0.08 points at the end of November. A healthy 3.19 percent jump of the Manufacturing Average Weekly Working Hours, coupled with a 0.36 percent gain of the Conference Board's US Employment Trend Index were the main contributing factors for SCESTI's advance this month. Hindering SCESTI from better gains for the month were a sharp drop of 5.74 percent in the Conference Board's US Consumer Confidence Index, a 2.99 percent rise of the number of Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance and a 1.24 percent loss of the Conference Board's SC Help Wanted Online Ads.

Compared with 12 months ago, SCESTI and all five of the index components managed advancements. SCESTI was 0.86 percent higher than it was in November 2013. The greatest advances are seen in the Unemployment Insurance Initial Claims and the Conference Board's US Consumer Confidence Index, improving 36.05 and 25.99 percent respectively. The Conference Board's SC Help Wanted Online Ads and its US Employment Trends Index were also higher than November 2013, rising 7.63 and 6.58 percent respectively. The Manufacturing Average Weekly Working Hours climbed by 1.45 percent.

The ability of SCESTI to make a strong turnaround after a brief downturn over the past two months and the fact that the index had been moving above the 12-month moving average for 39 consecutive months (since August 2011) indicate steady improvements for the employment situation in South Carolina for the next three to six months.



Employment of Disabled South Carolinians

Disability is a matter of perception. If you can do just one thing well, you're needed by someone.

–Martina Navratilova

South Carolina ranks 23rd in the country in the number of citizens who are disabled, and the disabled labor force ranks 28th. With a disabled unemployment rate of 4.9 percent, South Carolina is 41st in the nation: the lowest is in the District of Columbia (4.1 percent), the highest in North Dakota (13.1 percent). South Carolina ranks 46th in the labor force participation rate for people with disabilities.

The non-disabled population in South Carolina holds an unemployment rate of 9.3 percent (2011-2013 Census data). Disabled citizens have a much lower unemployment rate (for the same time period): 4.9

Table 1: Labor Force Statistics of Non-Disabled and Disabled Populations in SC, 2013

Non-Disabled		Disabled	
Total Population 18-64 years	2,874,389	Total Disabled Population 18-64 years	357,895
In the labor force:		In the labor force:	
Employed	2,129,370	Employed	126,545
Unemployed	1,899,514	Unemployed	100,871
	229,856		25,674
Not in labor force	745,019	Not in labor force	231,350
Unemployment rate	9.3	Unemployment rate	4.9
Labor Force Participation Rate	74.1	Labor Force Participation Rate	35.4

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2013 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

percent. However, as you can see in Table 1, the labor force participation rate for the disabled is 35.4 percent compared to the non-disabled labor force participation rate of 74.1 percent. This shows that while the participation is low for our disabled labor force, employment is high.

Characteristics of the disabled labor force include the type of disability. The US Census Bureau uses six categories as shown in Table 2. Ambulatory difficulty affects the most (40.6 percent) of those disabled citizens who are employed. Forty-five percent of those employed with a disability have a cognitive disability, and for those who are out of the labor force altogether, ambulatory disabilities are the highest category (63.5 percent).

(63.5 percent).

Table 3: Annual Wages in SC by Disability Status, 2013

Total:	26,818
With a disability:	19,382
Male	22,598
Female	16,743
No disability:	27,291
Male	32,072
Female	22,953

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2013 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

Wages earned in 2013 (Table 3) show that those who have a disability earn much less than those without a disability: about 41 percent less. As there is a disparity between males and females without a disability, disabled women earn less than disabled men.

Many of South Carolina's top 10 counties with the highest overall unemployment rates also have the highest unemployment rates for the disabled labor force, as shown in Table 4. Urban counties, such as Richland, Charleston and Greenville, have higher disabled labor force participation rates (Table 5), as do the nearby counties (Lexington, Dorchester and Berkeley).

Table 2: Employment Status by Type of Disability in SC, 18-64 Years Old, 2013

<i>Of those Employed with a disability:</i>	100,871	
With an ambulatory difficulty	40,958	40.6%
With a hearing difficulty	29,726	29.5%
With a cognitive difficulty	27,369	27.1%
With a vision difficulty	21,383	21.2%
With an independent living difficulty	15,094	15.0%
With a self-care difficulty	9,277	9.2%
<i>Of those Unemployed with a disability:</i>	25,674	
With a cognitive difficulty	11,562	45.0%
With an ambulatory difficulty	10,357	40.3%
With an independent living difficulty	6,188	24.1%
With a vision difficulty	5,947	23.2%
With a hearing difficulty	4,599	17.9%
With a self-care difficulty	2,500	9.7%
<i>Of those Not in the Labor Force with a disability:</i>	231,350	
With an ambulatory difficulty	146,933	63.5%
With a cognitive difficulty	105,488	45.6%
With an independent living difficulty	104,565	45.2%
With a self-care difficulty	57,700	24.9%
With a vision difficulty	39,396	17.0%
With a hearing difficulty	34,351	14.8%

Note: Percentage totals do not add to 100 since one person can have more than one disability.

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2013 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

Table 4: Top Counties by Unemployment Rate, 2013

Clarendon
Marion
Barnwell
Darlington
Colleton
Dillon
Union
Fairfield
Orangeburg
Marlboro

Table 5: Top Counties by Labor Force Participation Rate, 2013

Lexington
York
Dorchester
Charleston
Richland
Berkeley
Greenville
Jasper
Beaufort
Horry

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2013 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates