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South Carolina's Employment Situation
July 2016

Unemployment Rate Drops to 5.2 Percent,
Lowest Rate Since June 2001

South Carolina's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July dropped to its lowest level since June 2001. The rate decreased to 5.2 percent in July from 5.4 percent in June.

Over the month, unemployment declined by 4,858 to 120,788, while employment declined by 2,430 people to 2,182,646. This resulted in a decrease in the labor force of 7,288 people to a total of 2,303,434. July's numbers registered the third consecutive monthly decrease in the unemployment rate.

Over the year, the unemployment rate fell 0.5 percentage points from 5.7 percent, with the number of unemployed down 8,310. The number of people employed increased by 60,603, and the labor force rose by 52,293.

Nationally, the unemployment rate remained the same from June to July at 4.9 percent.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted[1])
July's seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payrolls increased by 2,700 over the month to a record level of 2,053,300.

The most prominent increases were in Professional and Business Services (+2,300) and Government (+2,100). Growth was also reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+800); Education and Health Services (+400); and Financial Activities (+100). The industries marking declines included Manufacturing (-1,000); Construction (-900); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-500); Other Services (-400); and Information (-200).

This month's seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up by 46,100 compared to July 2015. Upswings in employment were recorded in Professional and Business Services (+14,400); Education and Health Services (+8,000); Government (+7,400); Construction (+5,500); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+3,400); Financial Activities (+3,400); Leisure and Hospitality (+3,000); and Manufacturing (+1,700). Other Services (-500) and Information (-400) fell slightly.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted[2])
With a drop of 14,200, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment in July hit a level of 2,053,100. Traditionally, decreases in employment during the summer months are due to seasonal layoffs and school closings.

Employment gains were noted in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+400); Leisure and Hospitality (+400); and Financial Activities (+100). Job loss occurred in Government (-11,200); Manufacturing (-1,500); Education and Health Services (-900); Other Services (-600); Construction (-600); Professional and Business Services (-200); and Information (-100). Mining and Logging remained the same.

Since July 2015, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 45,400 overall with growth in Professional and Business Services (+14,900); Education and Health Services (+7,200); Government (+7,200); Construction (+5,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+3,800); Leisure and Hospitality (+3,100); Financial Activities (+2,400); Manufacturing (+2,200); and Mining and Logging (+200). Employment fell in Other Services (-900) and Information (-500).

> **[1]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.
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> **[2]Not Seasonally Adjusted**: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have <u>not</u> been removed from these data.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
July 2016

Industry	July 2016	June 2016	July 2015	June 2016 to July 2016 # Change	June 2016 to July 2016 % Change	July 2015 to July 2016 # Change	July 2015 to July 2016 % Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	*2,053,300*	*2,050,600*	*2,007,200*	*2,700*	*0.13%*	*46,100*	*2.30%*
Construction	92,300	93,200	86,800	-900	-0.98%	5,500	6.34%
Manufacturing	237,900	238,900	236,200	-1,000	-0.42%	1,700	0.72%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	390,300	390,800	386,900	-500	-0.13%	3,400	0.88%
Information	26,200	26,400	26,600	-200	-0.76%	-400	-1.50%
Financial Activities	100,200	100,100	96,800	100	0.10%	3,400	3.51%
Professional and Business Services	276,400	274,100	262,000	2,300	0.83%	14,400	5.50%
Education and Health Services	243,300	242,900	235,300	400	0.16%	8,000	3.40%
Leisure and Hospitality	241,300	240,500	238,300	800	0.33%	3,000	1.26%
Other Services	73,200	73,600	73,700	-400	-0.55%	-500	-0.68%
Government	368,000	365,900	360,600	2,100	0.57%	7,400	2.05%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
July 2016

Industry	July 2016	June 2016	July 2015	June 2016 to July 2016 # Change	June 2016 to July 2016 % Change	July 2015 to July 2016 # Change	July 2015 to July 2016 % Change
Total Nonfarm	*2,053,100*	*2,067,300*	*2,007,700*	*-14,200*	*-0.69%*	*45,400*	*2.26%*
Mining and Logging	4,200	4,200	4,000	0	0.00%	200	5.00%
Construction	93,600	94,200	87,800	-600	-0.64%	5,800	6.61%
Manufacturing	238,000	239,500	235,800	-1,500	-0.63%	2,200	0.93%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	392,800	392,400	389,000	400	0.10%	3,800	0.98%
Information	26,600	26,700	27,100	-100	-0.37%	-500	-1.85%
Financial Activities	100,700	100,600	98,300	100	0.10%	2,400	2.44%
Professional and Business Services	277,800	278,000	262,900	-200	-0.07%	14,900	5.67%
Education and Health Services	240,000	240,900	232,800	-900	-0.37%	7,200	3.09%
Leisure and Hospitality	254,400	254,000	251,300	400	0.16%	3,100	1.23%
Other Services	73,300	73,900	74,200	-600	-0.81%	-900	-1.21%
Government	351,700	362,900	344,500	-11,200	-3.09%	7,200	2.09%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)
July 2016

Area	July 2016	June 2015	July 2015	June 2016 to July 2016		July 2015 to July 2016	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	*2,053,300*	*2,050,600*	*2,007,200*	*2,700*	*0.13%*	*46,100*	*2.30%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	344,600	342,400	334,800	2,200	0.64%	9,800	2.93%
Columbia MSA	393,900	393,100	385,700	800	0.20%	8,200	2.13%
Florence MSA	87,000	87,500	86,100	-500	-0.57%	900	1.05%
Sumter MSA	39,500	39,000	38,900	500	1.27%	600	1.54%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)
July 2016

Area	July 2016	June 2016	July 2015	June 2016 to July 2016		July 2015 to July 2016	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	*2,053,100*	*2,067,300*	*2,007,700*	*-14,200*	*-0.69%*	*45,400*	*2.26%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	345,600	345,300	335,200	300	0.09%	10,400	3.10%
Columbia MSA	390,500	393,100	381,800	-2,600	-0.66%	8,700	2.28%
Florence MSA	86,200	87,500	85,000	-1,300	-1.49%	1,200	1.41%
Greenville MSA	406,000	409,300	400,300	-3,300	-0.81%	5,700	1.42%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	79,900	79,400	77,100	500	0.63%	2,800	3.63%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	169,700	168,600	164,900	1,100	0.65%	4,800	2.91%
Spartanburg MSA	142,400	145,200	140,800	-2,800	-1.93%	1,600	1.14%
Sumter MSA	39,200	39,400	38,500	-200	-0.51%	700	1.82%

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

AREA		July 2016 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)	June 2016 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)	July 2015 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)
Bamberg County	↑	5,726	5,123	603	10.5	5,674	5,111	563	9.9	5,618	4,957	661	11.8
Orangeburg County	↑	37,844	34,242	3,602	9.5	37,802	34,313	3,489	9.2	37,819	33,168	4,651	12.3
Allendale County	↓	2,878	2,613	265	9.2	2,864	2,594	270	9.4	2,853	2,525	328	11.5
Marlboro County	↓	9,875	8,982	893	9.0	9,921	9,004	917	9.2	9,713	8,705	1,008	10.4
Marion County	↓	13,374	12,194	1,180	8.8	13,390	12,176	1,214	9.1	13,123	11,844	1,279	9.7
Chester County	↑	14,004	12,871	1,133	8.1	14,089	12,975	1,114	7.9	13,694	12,533	1,161	8.5
Williamsburg County	↓	13,244	12,182	1,062	8.0	13,280	12,193	1,087	8.2	12,973	11,830	1,143	8.8
Barnwell County	↑	8,667	7,980	687	7.9	8,648	7,978	670	7.7	8,543	7,747	796	9.3
Fairfield County	↓	10,530	9,697	833	7.9	10,518	9,671	847	8.1	10,311	9,432	879	8.5
Lee County	↓	6,698	6,169	529	7.9	6,698	6,152	546	8.2	6,560	6,000	560	8.5
Dillon County	↓	13,069	12,126	943	7.2	13,070	12,092	978	7.5	12,877	11,763	1,114	8.7
Clarendon County	↓	13,536	12,591	945	7.0	13,557	12,582	975	7.2	13,250	12,203	1,047	7.9
Darlington County	↓	30,570	28,497	2,073	6.8	30,711	28,542	2,169	7.1	30,275	27,943	2,332	7.7
Union County	↓	11,728	10,940	788	6.7	11,904	11,059	845	7.1	11,687	10,762	925	7.9
Georgetown County	↓	26,521	24,781	1,740	6.6	26,570	24,743	1,827	6.9	25,936	24,002	1,934	7.5
Cherokee County	↓	23,843	22,305	1,538	6.5	24,056	22,456	1,600	6.7	23,423	21,713	1,710	7.3
Calhoun County	–	7,189	6,729	460	6.4	7,165	6,707	458	6.4	7,067	6,539	528	7.5
Sumter County	↓	45,217	42,336	2,881	6.4	45,333	42,295	3,038	6.7	44,532	41,391	3,141	7.1
Hampton County	↓	8,687	8,140	547	6.3	8,642	8,066	576	6.7	8,600	7,852	748	8.7
Abbeville County	↓	10,572	9,935	637	6.0	10,660	10,000	660	6.2	10,396	9,642	754	7.3
Edgefield County	↓	11,066	10,397	669	6.0	11,037	10,334	703	6.4	10,768	10,129	639	5.9
Colleton County	↓	17,384	16,370	1,014	5.8	17,457	16,394	1,063	6.1	17,084	15,837	1,247	7.3
Kershaw County	↓	29,885	28,139	1,746	5.8	29,831	28,066	1,765	5.9	29,129	27,370	1,759	6.0
McCormick County	↓	3,508	3,303	205	5.8	3,529	3,319	210	6.0	3,440	3,205	235	6.8
Florence County	↓	65,908	62,148	3,760	5.7	66,455	62,479	3,976	6.0	65,331	60,951	4,380	6.7
Lancaster County	↓	36,759	34,648	2,111	5.7	37,208	34,973	2,235	6.0	36,038	33,727	2,311	6.4
Greenwood County	↓	31,923	30,138	1,785	5.6	32,130	30,259	1,871	5.8	31,331	29,257	2,074	6.6
Laurens County	↓	31,080	29,332	1,748	5.6	31,180	29,372	1,808	5.8	30,708	28,752	1,956	6.4
Pickens County	↓	57,255	54,073	3,182	5.6	57,673	54,212	3,461	6.0	56,496	53,031	3,465	6.1
Chesterfield County	↓	21,978	20,773	1,205	5.5	22,151	20,848	1,303	5.9	21,539	20,160	1,379	6.4
Oconee County	↓	35,643	33,687	1,956	5.5	35,863	33,779	2,084	5.8	34,834	32,742	2,092	6.0
Aiken County	↓	75,384	71,277	4,107	5.4	75,202	70,965	4,237	5.6	74,014	69,567	4,447	6.0
Spartanburg County	↓	140,992	133,378	7,614	5.4	142,808	134,777	8,031	5.6	139,651	131,254	8,397	6.0
Richland County	↓	202,271	191,535	10,736	5.3	202,704	191,337	11,367	5.6	198,243	186,493	11,750	5.9
Horry County	↓	147,593	139,971	7,622	5.2	146,476	138,301	8,175	5.6	144,101	135,347	8,754	6.1
Anderson County	↓	90,452	85,870	4,582	5.1	90,860	86,011	4,849	5.3	89,186	84,231	4,955	5.6
York County	↓	127,811	121,291	6,520	5.1	129,396	122,576	6,820	5.3	125,146	118,090	7,056	5.6
Beaufort County	↓	76,768	72,986	3,782	4.9	76,167	72,218	3,949	5.2	74,294	70,183	4,111	5.5
Berkeley County	↓	96,806	92,149	4,657	4.8	96,403	91,409	4,994	5.2	94,208	89,018	5,190	5.5
Dorchester County	↓	74,987	71,425	3,562	4.8	74,675	70,855	3,820	5.1	73,079	68,988	4,091	5.6
Jasper County	↓	12,581	11,984	597	4.7	12,539	11,915	624	5.0	12,145	11,503	642	5.3
Newberry County	↓	19,716	18,792	924	4.7	19,717	18,717	1,000	5.1	19,272	18,217	1,055	5.5
Saluda County	↓	9,349	8,914	435	4.7	9,277	8,811	466	5.0	9,100	8,640	460	5.1
Greenville County	↓	246,062	234,701	11,361	4.6	247,188	235,134	12,054	4.9	242,537	230,257	12,280	5.1
Charleston County	↓	205,770	196,734	9,036	4.4	205,016	195,473	9,543	4.7	199,801	189,913	9,888	4.9
Lexington County	↓	148,148	141,656	6,492	4.4	148,371	141,457	6,914	4.7	144,963	137,816	7,147	4.9
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	377,563	360,308	17,255	4.6	376,094	357,737	18,357	4.9	367,088	347,919	19,169	5.2
Columbia MSA	↓	407,372	386,670	20,702	5.1	407,866	386,049	21,817	5.3	398,813	376,290	22,523	5.6
Florence MSA	↓	96,478	90,645	5,833	6.0	97,166	91,021	6,145	6.3	95,606	88,894	6,712	7.0
Greenville -Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↓	424,849	403,976	20,873	4.9	426,901	404,729	22,172	5.2	418,927	396,271	22,656	5.4
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED South Carolina	↓	2,303,434	2,182,646	120,788	5.2	2,310,722	2,185,076	125,656	5.4	2,251,141	2,122,043	129,098	5.7

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

2015 substate estimates will be revised at the conclusion of the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual bechmarking process.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up

↓ Unemployment Rate Down

– Unemployment Rate =