



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Robert Bouyea
(803) 737-2623
rbouyea@dew.sc.gov

**Embargoed until 9a.m.
March 14, 2016**

South Carolina's Employment Situation January 2016

Employment Growth Continues, Unemployment Rate Remains Unchanged

South Carolina's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in January remained unchanged at 5.5 percent from December 2015. However, the number of people working increased by 10,853, setting a new record of 2,149,850.

The state's labor force increased by 11,070 to 2,274,500 people. Unemployment rose slightly by 217 people from December to January, bringing the number of unemployed to 124,650.

Since January 2015, employment gains totaled 50,114, and the level of the unemployed decreased by 22,128 people. Also over the past year, the labor force has grown by 27,986.

Nationally, January's unemployment rate was 4.9 percent.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted¹)

January's seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payrolls decreased by 10,100 over the month to 2,025,100. Government led the industry increases (+1,500), followed by Construction (+1,100); Education and Health Services (+900); Manufacturing (+400); and Financial Activities (+200).

Decreases occurred in Professional and Business Services (-4,500); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-3,900); Leisure and Hospitality (-3,500); and Other Services (-2,000). Information (-300) reported a small decrease.

Since January 2015, seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 43,200. Supporting this overall increase were Professional and Business Services (+10,300); Education and Health Services (+9,400); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+6,000); Government (+5,700); Construction (+5,000); Manufacturing (+4,300); Leisure and Hospitality (+1,800) and Financial Activities (+600). Other Services remained the same. Information decreased since last year (-100).

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted²)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment decreased (-44,300) from December 2015 to January 2016 for a total of 1,944,200. A lone industry saw growth: Mining, Logging and Construction (+100). Over-the-month decreases included Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-15,500); Professional and Business Services (-11,200); Leisure and Hospitality (-6,400); Government (-5,300); Education and Health Services (-2,000); and Other Services (-2,000). Smaller losses were reported in Manufacturing (-900); Financial Activities (-600); and Information (-500).

Since January 2015, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs in South Carolina were up 49,400. Most industries marked strong annual gains including Professional and Business Services (+9,800); Education and Health Services (+9,200); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+8,000); Mining, Logging and Construction (+5,600); Construction (+5,400); Leisure and Hospitality (+5,000); Government (+4,700); and Manufacturing (+4,500). Additional growth was seen in Financial Activities (+1,700); Other Services (+1,000); and Mining and Logging (+200). The only industry reporting a loss was Information (-100).

¹Seasonally 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.

²Not Seasonally Adjusted: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have not been removed from these data.

###

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide
January 2016**

| Industry | January 2016 | December 2015 | January 2015 | December 2015 to January 2016 | | January 2015 to January 2016 | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | # Change | % Change | # Change | % Change |
| Total Nonfarm Employment | 2,025,100 | 2,035,200 | 1,981,900 | -10,100 | -0.50% | 43,200 | 2.18% |
| Construction | 89,700 | 88,600 | 84,700 | 1,100 | 1.23% | 5,000 | 5.90% |
| Manufacturing | 238,300 | 237,900 | 234,000 | 400 | 0.17% | 4,300 | 1.84% |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 385,200 | 389,100 | 379,200 | -3,900 | -1.01% | 6,000 | 1.58% |
| Information | 26,700 | 27,000 | 26,800 | -300 | -1.12% | -100 | -0.37% |
| Financial Activities | 97,200 | 97,000 | 96,600 | 200 | 0.21% | 600 | 0.62% |
| Professional and Business Services | 268,000 | 272,500 | 257,700 | -4,500 | -1.68% | 10,300 | 4.00% |
| Education and Health Services | 240,600 | 239,700 | 231,200 | 900 | 0.37% | 9,400 | 4.07% |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 238,200 | 241,700 | 236,400 | -3,500 | -1.47% | 1,800 | 0.76% |
| Other Services | 73,100 | 75,100 | 73,100 | -2,000 | -2.74% | 0 | 0.00% |
| Government | 364,000 | 362,500 | 358,300 | 1,500 | 0.41% | 5,700 | 1.59% |

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide
January 2016**

| Industry | January 2016 | December 2015 | January 2015 | December 2015 to January 2016 | | January 2015 to January 2016 | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | # Change | % Change | # Change | % Change |
| Total Nonfarm | 1,994,200 | 2,038,500 | 1,944,800 | -44,300 | -2.17% | 49,400 | 2.54% |
| Mining and Logging | 4,100 | 4,100 | 3,900 | 0 | 0.00% | 200 | 5.13% |
| Mining, Logging and Construction | 92,600 | 92,500 | 87,000 | 100 | 0.11% | 5,600 | 6.44% |
| Construction | 88,500 | 88,400 | 83,100 | 100 | 0.11% | 5,400 | 6.50% |
| Manufacturing | 237,900 | 238,800 | 233,400 | -900 | -0.38% | 4,500 | 1.93% |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 381,500 | 397,000 | 373,500 | -15,500 | -3.90% | 8,000 | 2.14% |
| Information | 26,500 | 27,000 | 26,600 | -500 | -1.85% | -100 | -0.38% |
| Financial Activities | 96,800 | 97,400 | 95,100 | -600 | -0.62% | 1,700 | 1.79% |
| Professional and Business Services | 261,400 | 272,600 | 251,600 | -11,200 | -4.11% | 9,800 | 3.90% |
| Education and Health Services | 239,000 | 241,000 | 229,800 | -2,000 | -0.83% | 9,200 | 4.00% |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 223,300 | 229,700 | 218,300 | -6,400 | -2.79% | 5,000 | 2.29% |
| Other Services | 73,000 | 75,000 | 72,000 | -2,000 | -2.67% | 1,000 | 1.39% |
| Government | 362,200 | 367,500 | 357,500 | -5,300 | -1.44% | 4,700 | 1.31% |

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas January 2016

| INDUSTRY TITLE | January 2016 | December 2015 | January 2015 | December 2015 to January 2016 | | January 2015 to January 2016 | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | # | % | # | % |
| | | | | Change | Change | Change | Change |
| Statewide | 2,025,100 | 2,035,200 | 1,981,900 | -10,100 | -0.50% | 43,200 | 2.18% |
| Charleston/North Charleston MSA | 339,500 | 337,800 | 328,700 | 1,700 | 0.50% | 10,800 | 3.29% |
| Columbia MSA | 390,800 | 390,800 | 380,100 | 0 | 0.00% | 10,700 | 2.82% |
| Florence MSA | 86,100 | 87,200 | 85,400 | -1,100 | -1.28% | 700 | 0.82% |
| Sumter MSA | 39,000 | 39,000 | 38,700 | 0 | 0.00% | 300 | 0.78% |

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas January 2016

| INDUSTRY TITLE | January 2016 | December 2015 | January 2015 | December 2015 to January 2016 | | January 2015 to January 2016 | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | # | % | # | % |
| | | | | Change | Change | Change | Change |
| Statewide | 1,994,200 | 2,038,500 | 1,944,800 | -44,300 | -2.17% | 49,400 | 2.54% |
| Charleston/North Charleston MSA | 333,600 | 338,000 | 322,500 | -4,400 | -1.30% | 11,100 | 3.44% |
| Columbia MSA | 386,300 | 393,900 | 377,100 | -7,600 | -1.93% | 9,200 | 2.44% |
| Florence MSA | 85,800 | 88,000 | 84,400 | -2,200 | -2.50% | 1,400 | 1.66% |
| Greenville MSA | 400,800 | 410,700 | 390,800 | -9,900 | -2.41% | 10,000 | 2.56% |
| Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA | 73,400 | 74,900 | 71,000 | -1,500 | -2.00% | 2,400 | 3.38% |
| Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA | 146,500 | 151,600 | 141,400 | -5,100 | -3.36% | 5,100 | 3.61% |
| Spartanburg MSA | 144,100 | 147,000 | 138,800 | -2,900 | -1.97% | 5,300 | 3.82% |
| Sumter MSA | 39,000 | 39,400 | 38,500 | -400 | -1.02% | 500 | 1.30% |

Note: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

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

| AREA | | January 2016 | | | | December 2015 * | | | | January 2015 * | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| | | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL | UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%) | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL | UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%) | LABOR FORCE | EMPLOY- MENT | UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL | UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%) |
| Allendale County | ↑ | 2,708 | 2,438 | 270 | 10.0 | 2,965 | 2,701 | 264 | 8.9 | 3,004 | 2,609 | 395 | 13.1 |
| Bamberg County | ↑ | 5,381 | 4,852 | 529 | 9.8 | 5,710 | 5,225 | 485 | 8.5 | 5,701 | 5,008 | 693 | 12.2 |
| Marion County | ↑ | 12,764 | 11,507 | 1,257 | 9.8 | 13,107 | 11,887 | 1,220 | 9.3 | 12,950 | 11,444 | 1,506 | 11.6 |
| Marlboro County | ↑ | 9,588 | 8,645 | 943 | 9.8 | 10,267 | 9,341 | 926 | 9.0 | 9,978 | 8,903 | 1,075 | 10.8 |
| Orangeburg County | ↑ | 36,239 | 32,902 | 3,337 | 9.2 | 38,897 | 35,547 | 3,350 | 8.6 | 38,470 | 33,893 | 4,577 | 11.9 |
| Williamsburg County | ↑ | 12,881 | 11,709 | 1,172 | 9.1 | 13,377 | 12,239 | 1,138 | 8.5 | 13,180 | 11,795 | 1,385 | 10.5 |
| Georgetown County | ↑ | 25,364 | 23,190 | 2,174 | 8.6 | 26,264 | 24,208 | 2,056 | 7.8 | 25,553 | 23,131 | 2,422 | 9.5 |
| Dillon County | ↑ | 12,538 | 11,520 | 1,018 | 8.1 | 12,927 | 11,919 | 1,008 | 7.8 | 12,749 | 11,519 | 1,230 | 9.6 |
| Lee County | ↑ | 6,458 | 5,932 | 526 | 8.1 | 6,571 | 6,077 | 494 | 7.5 | 6,561 | 5,919 | 642 | 9.8 |
| Horry County | ↑ | 131,308 | 120,957 | 10,351 | 7.9 | 132,362 | 122,914 | 9,448 | 7.1 | 129,761 | 117,437 | 12,324 | 9.5 |
| Barnwell County | ↑ | 8,333 | 7,680 | 653 | 7.8 | 8,978 | 8,344 | 634 | 7.1 | 8,925 | 8,034 | 891 | 10.0 |
| Fairfield County | ↑ | 10,253 | 9,453 | 800 | 7.8 | 10,288 | 9,526 | 762 | 7.4 | 10,043 | 9,172 | 871 | 8.7 |
| Chester County | ↑ | 13,684 | 12,647 | 1,037 | 7.6 | 13,951 | 12,948 | 1,003 | 7.2 | 13,781 | 12,473 | 1,308 | 9.5 |
| Clarendon County | ↑ | 12,995 | 12,043 | 952 | 7.3 | 13,370 | 12,437 | 933 | 7.0 | 13,157 | 12,001 | 1,156 | 8.8 |
| Hampton County | ↑ | 8,117 | 7,524 | 593 | 7.3 | 8,563 | 7,976 | 587 | 6.9 | 8,610 | 7,783 | 827 | 9.6 |
| McCormick County | ↑ | 3,452 | 3,203 | 249 | 7.2 | 3,647 | 3,425 | 222 | 6.1 | 3,586 | 3,268 | 318 | 8.9 |
| Darlington County | ↑ | 29,968 | 27,850 | 2,118 | 7.1 | 29,776 | 27,736 | 2,040 | 6.9 | 30,093 | 27,564 | 2,529 | 8.4 |
| Union County | ↑ | 11,783 | 10,966 | 817 | 6.9 | 11,809 | 11,047 | 762 | 6.5 | 11,695 | 10,606 | 1,089 | 9.3 |
| Colleton County | ↑ | 16,815 | 15,712 | 1,103 | 6.6 | 17,412 | 16,368 | 1,044 | 6.0 | 16,883 | 15,578 | 1,305 | 7.7 |
| Abbeville County | ↑ | 10,331 | 9,657 | 674 | 6.5 | 10,818 | 10,219 | 599 | 5.5 | 10,515 | 9,709 | 806 | 7.7 |
| Cherokee County | ↑ | 23,377 | 21,849 | 1,528 | 6.5 | 24,207 | 22,822 | 1,385 | 5.7 | 23,734 | 21,772 | 1,962 | 8.3 |
| Sumter County | ↑ | 44,898 | 41,970 | 2,928 | 6.5 | 43,903 | 41,105 | 2,798 | 6.4 | 44,306 | 40,955 | 3,351 | 7.6 |
| Calhoun County | ↑ | 6,966 | 6,529 | 437 | 6.3 | 7,040 | 6,630 | 410 | 5.8 | 6,940 | 6,382 | 558 | 8.0 |
| Edgefield County | ↑ | 10,680 | 10,011 | 669 | 6.3 | 10,771 | 10,101 | 670 | 6.2 | 10,659 | 9,936 | 723 | 6.8 |
| Florence County | ↑ | 65,171 | 61,194 | 3,977 | 6.1 | 64,348 | 60,515 | 3,833 | 6.0 | 64,624 | 59,783 | 4,841 | 7.5 |
| Lancaster County | ↑ | 36,282 | 34,092 | 2,190 | 6.0 | 35,554 | 33,564 | 1,990 | 5.6 | 34,762 | 32,241 | 2,521 | 7.3 |
| Laurens County | ↑ | 30,476 | 28,671 | 1,805 | 5.9 | 30,589 | 28,940 | 1,649 | 5.4 | 30,119 | 27,849 | 2,270 | 7.5 |
| Oconee County | ↑ | 34,610 | 32,558 | 2,052 | 5.9 | 35,730 | 33,801 | 1,929 | 5.4 | 34,553 | 32,316 | 2,237 | 6.5 |
| Chesterfield County | ↑ | 21,234 | 20,004 | 1,230 | 5.8 | 21,928 | 20,764 | 1,164 | 5.3 | 21,401 | 19,914 | 1,487 | 6.9 |
| Greenwood County | ↑ | 30,994 | 29,189 | 1,805 | 5.8 | 32,550 | 30,884 | 1,666 | 5.1 | 31,785 | 29,473 | 2,312 | 7.3 |
| Aiken County | ↑ | 73,622 | 69,474 | 4,148 | 5.6 | 73,859 | 69,930 | 3,929 | 5.3 | 73,611 | 68,768 | 4,843 | 6.6 |
| Kershaw County | ↑ | 29,090 | 27,452 | 1,638 | 5.6 | 28,762 | 27,219 | 1,543 | 5.4 | 28,106 | 26,198 | 1,908 | 6.8 |
| Pickens County | ↑ | 56,163 | 53,082 | 3,081 | 5.5 | 56,401 | 53,560 | 2,841 | 5.0 | 55,009 | 51,472 | 3,537 | 6.4 |
| Richland County | ↑ | 198,976 | 188,453 | 10,523 | 5.3 | 197,429 | 187,298 | 10,131 | 5.1 | 192,191 | 180,040 | 12,151 | 6.3 |
| Beaufort County | ↑ | 70,417 | 66,746 | 3,671 | 5.2 | 67,909 | 64,570 | 3,339 | 4.9 | 68,450 | 64,109 | 4,341 | 6.3 |
| Saluda County | ↑ | 8,853 | 8,397 | 456 | 5.2 | 8,892 | 8,482 | 410 | 4.6 | 8,781 | 8,252 | 529 | 6.0 |
| Spartanburg County | ↑ | 141,150 | 133,810 | 7,340 | 5.2 | 139,602 | 132,731 | 6,871 | 4.9 | 136,393 | 127,585 | 8,808 | 6.5 |
| Berkeley County | ↑ | 93,405 | 88,624 | 4,781 | 5.1 | 91,580 | 87,133 | 4,447 | 4.9 | 89,619 | 83,943 | 5,676 | 6.3 |
| Dorchester County | ↑ | 72,331 | 68,641 | 3,690 | 5.1 | 70,998 | 67,548 | 3,450 | 4.9 | 69,339 | 65,053 | 4,286 | 6.2 |
| Newberry County | ↑ | 18,848 | 17,887 | 961 | 5.1 | 19,077 | 18,213 | 864 | 4.5 | 18,650 | 17,538 | 1,112 | 6.0 |
| York County | ↑ | 126,169 | 119,724 | 6,445 | 5.1 | 124,813 | 118,864 | 5,949 | 4.8 | 121,824 | 113,998 | 7,826 | 6.4 |
| Anderson County | ↑ | 88,693 | 84,224 | 4,469 | 5.0 | 88,433 | 84,335 | 4,098 | 4.6 | 86,535 | 81,187 | 5,348 | 6.2 |
| Jasper County | ↑ | 11,502 | 10,945 | 557 | 4.8 | 11,236 | 10,732 | 504 | 4.5 | 11,203 | 10,516 | 687 | 6.1 |
| Greenville County | ↑ | 241,706 | 230,437 | 11,269 | 4.7 | 239,587 | 229,218 | 10,369 | 4.3 | 233,769 | 220,628 | 13,141 | 5.6 |
| Lexington County | ↑ | 145,294 | 138,677 | 6,617 | 4.6 | 143,030 | 136,839 | 6,191 | 4.3 | 139,069 | 131,484 | 7,585 | 5.5 |
| Charleston County | ↑ | 197,946 | 188,949 | 8,997 | 4.5 | 194,466 | 186,245 | 8,221 | 4.2 | 189,282 | 178,764 | 10,518 | 5.6 |
| Charleston - North Charleston MSA | ↑ | 363,682 | 346,214 | 17,468 | 4.8 | 357,044 | 340,926 | 16,118 | 4.5 | 348,240 | 327,760 | 20,480 | 5.9 |
| Columbia MSA | ↑ | 399,432 | 378,961 | 20,471 | 5.1 | 395,441 | 375,994 | 19,447 | 4.9 | 385,130 | 361,528 | 23,602 | 6.1 |
| Florence MSA | ↑ | 95,139 | 89,044 | 6,095 | 6.4 | 94,124 | 88,251 | 5,873 | 6.2 | 94,717 | 87,347 | 7,370 | 7.8 |
| Greenville -Anderson- Mauldin MSA | ↑ | 417,038 | 396,414 | 20,624 | 4.9 | 415,010 | 396,053 | 18,957 | 4.6 | 405,432 | 381,136 | 24,296 | 6.0 |
| SEASONALLY ADJUSTED | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| South Carolina | — | 2,274,500 | 2,149,850 | 124,650 | 5.5 | 2,263,430 | 2,138,997 | 124,433 | 5.5 | 2,246,514 | 2,099,736 | 146,778 | 6.5 |

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Countries 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 benchmarking process.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
— Unemployment Rate =