

From: Fairwell, Adrienne <AFairwell@dew.sc.gov>

To: Fairwell, AdrienneAFairwell@dew.sc.gov

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Subject: SC's Employment Situation News Release: Rate drops and is the closest South Carolina has been to the national rate since 2002

Attachments: image001.emz

Nov 2013 Press Release FINAL.PDF

Stanton Statement.doc

Please see the latest news release on South Carolina's employment situation for November 2013 as well as a statement from Director Cheryl M. Stanton attached and below.

South Carolina's Employment Situation November 2013

Rate drops and is the closest South Carolina has been to the national rate since 2002

In November, the state's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate declined significantly to 7.1 percent from the October rate of 7.5 percent. The number of unemployed persons was 152,584, a decrease of approximately 10,230, and employed persons increased by 6,343 from October to November to a total of 2,000,756. The labor force was estimated at 2,153,340 people, reflecting a decline of 3,887.

Since November 2012, the unemployment rate has decreased by 1.5 percent, and the estimated number of unemployed people has declined by 34,674. Over the same period, 19,991 people found work, and 14,683 people left the labor force.

The national unemployment rate for November was estimated at 7.0 percent down from 7.3 percent in October.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted¹)

With an increase of over 4,600 since last month, November's seasonally-adjusted, non-farm payrolls reached a year-high level of 1,907,100. This was the sixth over-the-month increase since May 2013.

- The largest gains were in Government (+1,800); Leisure and Hospitality (+1,300); and Educational and Health Services (+1,100). Additional gains occurred in Professional and Business Services (+700); Manufacturing (+600); and Other Services (+200).
- Industry declines were reported in Financial Activities (-600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-200); and Information (-200). Construction had a minimal decline of 100.

Since November of 2012, seasonally-adjusted, non-farm jobs were up 34,100.

- Healthy gains were noted in Professional and Business Services (+7,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+6,300); Construction (+4,800); Leisure and Hospitality (+4,700); Education and Health Services (+4,100); Government (+4,000); and Manufacturing (+3,600).
- Declines were seen in Other Services (-1,800) and Information (-400).

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted²)

Not seasonally-adjusted, non-farm payroll employment in November increased by 4,300 since October to 1,912,600, which is typical in November as the trade industry begins its seasonal hiring. Sizeable gains were

felt in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,600); Government (+2,700); Manufacturing (+1,100); and Education and Health Services (+900). Leisure and Hospitality continued its normal summer downturn in employment with a decline of (-2,300). Also experiencing declines were Professional and Business Services (-1,200); Financial Activities (-700); and Construction (-700). Since November 2012, not-seasonally adjusted, non-farm jobs were up 34,500 overall in South Carolina's workforce.

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.

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

SC Department of Employment and Workforce

Executive Director Cheryl M. Stanton's Statement on State's November 2013 Unemployment Rate

"Today's announcement is just another testament of the focus the state has on putting people back to work and driving down South Carolina's unemployment rate," said DEW Executive Director Cheryl M. Stanton. "This is the first time since July 2008 that the state's total employment reached over two million, and though we are happy to see the unemployment rate go down, we recognize that we still have a lot of work to do. In the year ahead, DEW will continue its efforts to facilitate matching available workers to available job openings and ensuring South Carolinians have the resources they need to increase their skills."

Adrienne R. Fairwell, APR

Director of Information Services

SC Department of Employment and Workforce

1550 Gadsden St.; PO Box 995; Columbia, SC 29202

O: 803.737.2623; F: 803.737.2832; TTY 711

Web: [DEW](#); Twitter: [@SCDEWinfo](#); Blog: [Palmetto Workforce Connections](#)

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