



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

South Carolina's Employment Situation April 2018

Unemployment rate declines to 4.2 percent, employment continues record climb

South Carolina's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 4.2 percent in April, down from 4.4 percent in March as the number of employed reached a new all-time high.

The number of individuals working across the state inched upward in April by 318 people to a record level of 2,225,570. Unemployment decreased in April by 4,157 to a level of 97,922, resulting in the state's labor force declining by 3,839 to 2,323,492.

Since April of 2017, the seasonally adjusted labor force has grown by 15,916 people, and employment gains totaled 16,266. The level of unemployed declined by approximately 350 people.

Nationally, the unemployment rate edged down to 3.9 percent from March's rate of 4.1 percent. Similar to the state, driving the national rate lower was a decline in the labor force as fewer people looked for work.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted¹)

Seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payrolls remained the same from March 2018 to April 2018 with an employment level of 2,119,800.

- The state's job count rose in the sectors of Manufacturing (+900); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+600); Education and Health Services (+600); Other Services (+600); and Government (+200).
- The industries recording job losses during the month were Construction (-1,300); Leisure and Hospitality (-1,200); Financial Activities (-200); Professional and Business Services (-100); and Information (-100).

From April 2017 to April 2018, South Carolina's economy has added 35,500 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.

- Industries with gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+8,600); Education and Health Services (+6,400); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,000); Professional and Business Services (+4,300); Manufacturing (+3,600); Other Services (+3,800); Government (+3,200); and Information (+300).
- The Construction (-1,400) and Financial Services (-400) sectors were the only industries reporting declines over the year.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted²)

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 9,200 from March 2018 to April 2018 for a total of 2,122,400.

- Industries showing gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+7,500); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,200); Manufacturing (+900); Education and Health Services (+400); Government (+600); and Other Services (+300).
- Mining and Logging remained constant.
- The industries recording declines during the month were Construction (-1,200); Professional and Business Services (-300); Information (-100); and Financial Activities (-100).

Since April 2017, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 33,000 overall in South Carolina.

- Industries marking annual gains were Leisure and Hospitality (+8,200); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,500); Education and Health Services (+6,700); Manufacturing (+3,600); Other Services (+3,300); Professional and Business Services (+2,400); Government (+2,400); Information (+200); and Mining and Logging (+100).
- The industries that reported a job decline were Construction (-700) and Financial Activities (-700).

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.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide
April 2018**

Industry	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	March 2018 to April 2018		April 2017 to April 2018	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,119,800	2,119,800	2,084,300	0	0.00%	35,500	1.70%
Construction	100,200	101,500	101,600	-1,300	-1.30%	-1,400	-1.38%
Manufacturing	243,100	242,200	239,500	900	0.37%	3,600	1.50%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	403,800	403,200	396,800	600	0.15%	7,000	1.76%
Information	27,700	27,800	27,400	-100	-0.36%	300	1.09%
Financial Activities	101,100	101,300	101,500	-200	-0.20%	-400	-0.39%
Professional and Business Services	280,200	280,300	275,900	-100	-0.04%	4,300	1.56%
Education and Health Services	251,600	251,000	245,200	600	0.24%	6,400	2.61%
Leisure and Hospitality	260,800	262,000	252,200	-1,200	-0.46%	8,600	3.41%
Other Services	79,100	78,500	75,300	600	0.76%	3,800	5.05%
Government	367,800	367,600	364,600	200	0.05%	3,200	0.88%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

**Statewide
April 2018**

Industry	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	March 2018 to April 2018		April 2017 to April 2018	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,122,400	2,113,200	2,089,400	9,200	0.44%	33,000	1.58%
Mining and Logging	4,400	4,400	4,300	0	0.00%	100	2.33%
Construction	100,000	101,200	100,700	-1,200	-1.19%	-700	-0.70%
Manufacturing	243,000	242,100	239,400	900	0.37%	3,600	1.50%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	401,500	400,300	394,000	1,200	0.30%	7,500	1.90%
Information	27,600	27,700	27,400	-100	-0.36%	200	0.73%
Financial Activities	100,700	100,800	101,400	-100	-0.10%	-700	-0.69%
Professional and Business Services	277,400	277,700	275,000	-300	-0.11%	2,400	0.87%
Education and Health Services	252,600	252,200	245,900	400	0.16%	6,700	2.72%
Leisure and Hospitality	264,900	257,400	256,700	7,500	2.91%	8,200	3.19%
Other Services	78,800	78,500	75,500	300	0.38%	3,300	4.37%
Government	371,500	370,900	369,100	600	0.16%	2,400	0.65%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted April 2018

Area	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	March 2018 to April 2018		April 2017 to April 2018	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	2,119,800	2,119,800	2,084,300	0	0.00%	35,500	1.70%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	357,000	357,400	351,300	-400	-0.11%	5,700	1.62%
Columbia MSA	397,300	397,400	398,200	-100	-0.03%	-900	-0.23%
Florence MSA	88,900	88,900	87,900	0	0.00%	1,000	1.14%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	422,100	422,500	414,400	-400	-0.09%	7,700	1.86%
Hilton Head-Bluffton-Beaufort MSA	80,600	80,200	78,700	400	0.50%	1,900	2.41%
Myrtle Beach MSA	169,200	170,200	165,400	-1,000	-0.59%	3,800	2.30%
Spartanburg MSA	156,600	155,500	152,300	1,100	0.70%	4,300	2.82%
Sumter MSA	39,500	39,300	39,000	200	0.51%	500	1.28%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Not Seasonally Adjusted April 2018

Area	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	March 2018 to April 2018		April 2017 to April 2018	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	2,122,400	2,113,200	2,089,400	9,200	0.44%	33,000	1.58%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	356,500	356,400	352,700	100	0.03%	3,800	1.08%
Columbia MSA	398,400	397,400	398,200	1,000	0.25%	200	0.05%
Florence MSA	89,400	89,400	88,100	0	0.00%	1,300	1.48%
Greenville MSA	421,600	421,700	414,000	-100	-0.02%	7,600	1.84%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	81,000	79,400	79,200	1,600	2.02%	1,800	2.27%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	171,300	165,900	168,400	5,400	3.25%	2,900	1.72%
Spartanburg MSA	156,800	155,600	152,500	1,200	0.77%	4,300	2.82%
Sumter MSA	39,800	39,400	39,200	400	1.02%	600	1.53%

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		April 2018				March 2018				April 2017			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
				LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)
Fairfield County	↓	9,861	9,279	582	5.9	10,073	9,271	802	8.0	9,869	9,365	504	5.1
Bamberg County	↓	5,104	4,842	262	5.1	5,187	4,829	358	6.9	5,190	4,844	346	6.7
Allendale County	↓	2,723	2,586	137	5.0	2,768	2,573	195	7.0	2,696	2,529	167	6.2
Marion County	↓	12,366	11,764	602	4.9	12,535	11,701	834	6.7	12,507	11,642	865	6.9
Lee County	↓	6,356	6,056	300	4.7	6,415	6,043	372	5.8	6,397	6,031	366	5.7
Williamsburg County	↓	12,377	11,795	582	4.7	12,605	11,795	810	6.4	12,209	11,531	678	5.6
Orangeburg County	↓	34,439	32,884	1,555	4.5	35,076	32,880	2,196	6.3	34,838	32,744	2,094	6.0
Marlboro County	↓	9,201	8,796	405	4.4	9,361	8,803	558	6.0	9,042	8,505	537	5.9
Barnwell County	↓	8,050	7,715	335	4.2	8,169	7,696	473	5.8	8,025	7,588	437	5.4
Chester County	↓	13,491	12,931	560	4.2	13,667	12,910	757	5.5	13,427	12,738	689	5.1
Clarendon County	↓	12,299	11,810	489	4.0	12,471	11,774	697	5.6	12,259	11,593	666	5.4
Dillon County	↓	12,514	12,015	499	4.0	12,670	11,984	686	5.4	12,361	11,734	627	5.1
Georgetown County	↓	25,514	24,566	948	3.7	25,807	24,402	1,405	5.4	24,802	23,578	1,224	4.9
Colleton County	↓	16,864	16,274	590	3.5	17,128	16,292	836	4.9	16,592	15,927	665	4.0
Sumter County	↓	43,483	41,970	1,513	3.5	44,074	41,887	2,187	5.0	43,999	41,901	2,098	4.8
Union County	↓	11,705	11,292	413	3.5	11,840	11,257	583	4.9	11,618	11,116	502	4.3
Horry County	↓	143,862	139,040	4,822	3.4	142,524	135,285	7,239	5.1	144,152	138,129	6,023	4.2
Darlington County	↓	29,361	28,387	974	3.3	29,860	28,443	1,417	4.7	29,664	28,326	1,338	4.5
Abbeville County	↓	10,004	9,691	313	3.1	10,185	9,718	467	4.6	10,078	9,682	396	3.9
Calhoun County	↓	6,685	6,475	210	3.1	6,767	6,462	305	4.5	6,830	6,526	304	4.5
Florence County	↓	64,749	62,730	2,019	3.1	65,823	62,968	2,855	4.3	65,283	62,595	2,688	4.1
Lancaster County	↓	38,968	37,765	1,203	3.1	39,471	37,723	1,748	4.4	38,758	37,191	1,567	4.0
Cherokee County	↓	24,044	23,319	725	3.0	24,398	23,344	1,054	4.3	23,975	22,983	992	4.1
Greenwood County	↓	30,539	29,627	912	3.0	31,030	29,686	1,344	4.3	30,832	29,610	1,222	4.0
Laurens County	↓	29,990	29,088	902	3.0	30,474	29,176	1,298	4.3	29,985	28,856	1,129	3.8
Hampton County	↓	8,215	7,976	239	2.9	8,251	7,896	355	4.3	8,097	7,787	310	3.8
Kershaw County	↓	28,559	27,736	823	2.9	28,912	27,715	1,197	4.1	29,153	27,994	1,159	4.0
Edgefield County	↓	10,644	10,349	295	2.8	10,682	10,224	458	4.3	10,558	10,140	418	4.0
Richland County	↓	196,559	191,035	5,524	2.8	199,278	191,222	8,056	4.0	200,322	193,125	7,197	3.6
Chesterfield County	↓	21,445	20,871	574	2.7	21,701	20,858	843	3.9	21,421	20,593	828	3.9
McCormick County	↓	3,363	3,273	90	2.7	3,416	3,274	142	4.2	3,361	3,231	130	3.9
Oconee County	↓	34,185	33,262	923	2.7	34,699	33,306	1,393	4.0	33,755	32,535	1,220	3.6
York County	↓	133,338	129,720	3,618	2.7	134,866	129,665	5,201	3.9	132,319	127,766	4,553	3.4
Aiken County	↓	75,441	73,466	1,975	2.6	75,694	72,732	2,962	3.9	74,677	72,082	2,595	3.5
Anderson County	↓	89,045	86,719	2,326	2.6	90,493	87,041	3,452	3.8	89,060	86,082	2,978	3.3
Pickens County	↓	56,213	54,749	1,464	2.6	57,218	54,967	2,251	3.9	56,289	54,337	1,952	3.5
Beaufort County	↓	74,289	72,406	1,883	2.5	74,155	71,280	2,875	3.9	74,186	71,614	2,572	3.5
Berkeley County	↓	97,282	94,863	2,419	2.5	98,735	95,149	3,586	3.6	98,268	94,971	3,297	3.4
Newberry County	↓	18,257	17,795	462	2.5	18,424	17,733	691	3.8	18,307	17,705	602	3.3
Saluda County	↓	8,681	8,466	215	2.5	8,720	8,395	325	3.7	8,798	8,502	296	3.4
Spartanburg County	↓	146,117	142,477	3,640	2.5	147,449	142,041	5,408	3.7	145,215	140,301	4,914	3.4
Dorchester County	↓	73,324	71,540	1,784	2.4	74,420	71,746	2,674	3.6	74,079	71,603	2,476	3.3
Jasper County	↓	12,275	11,984	291	2.4	12,251	11,807	444	3.6	12,197	11,819	378	3.1
Lexington County	↓	145,614	142,173	3,441	2.4	147,252	142,178	5,074	3.4	148,057	143,543	4,514	3.0
Greenville County	↓	246,193	240,413	5,780	2.3	250,017	241,358	8,659	3.5	246,456	238,678	7,778	3.2
Charleston County	↓	202,662	198,172	4,490	2.2	205,545	198,739	6,806	3.3	204,409	198,146	6,263	3.1
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	373,268	364,575	8,693	2.3	378,700	365,634	13,066	3.5	376,756	364,720	12,036	3.2
Columbia MSA	↓	395,959	385,164	10,795	2.7	401,002	385,243	15,759	3.9	403,029	389,055	13,974	3.5
Florence MSA	↓	94,110	91,117	2,993	3.2	95,683	91,411	4,272	4.5	94,947	90,921	4,026	4.2
Greenville -Anderson- Mauldin MSA	↓	421,441	410,969	10,472	2.5	428,202	412,542	15,660	3.7	421,790	407,953	13,837	3.3
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,323,492	2,225,570	97,922	4.2	2,327,331	2,225,252	102,079	4.4	2,307,576	2,209,304	98,272	4.3

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

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

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
- Unemployment Rate =