

# INSIGHTS



Volume 6: Issue 5 June 2016

SC Department of Employment and Workforce

Business Intelligence Department

## At A Glance

- Unemployment Rate Declines to 15 Year Low ..... 1
- South Carolina Ranked 16th Highest of 50 States in June ..... 2
- June Unemployment Rate by County ..... 2
- South Carolina Nonfarm Employment Trends for June - Seasonally Adjusted ..... 3
- Employment Changes by County ..... 4
- South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index Declines ..... 5
- South Carolina Regional Commuting Patterns ..... 6
- South Carolina Regional Commuting Patterns - Continued ..... 7

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

## Economic Indicators

June - Seasonally Adjusted (SA)

	United States	SC
Labor Force	158,880,000	2,310,772
Employed	151,097,000	2,185,181
Unemployed	7,783,000	125,591
Unemp. Rate	4.9%	5.4%

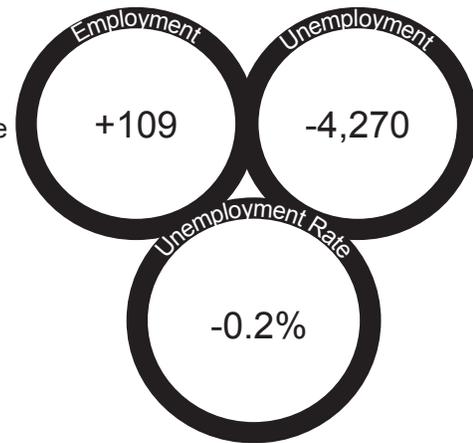
## Unemployment Rate Declines to 15 Year Low

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased in June to 5.4 percent from 5.6 percent in May, marking its lowest level since July 2001.

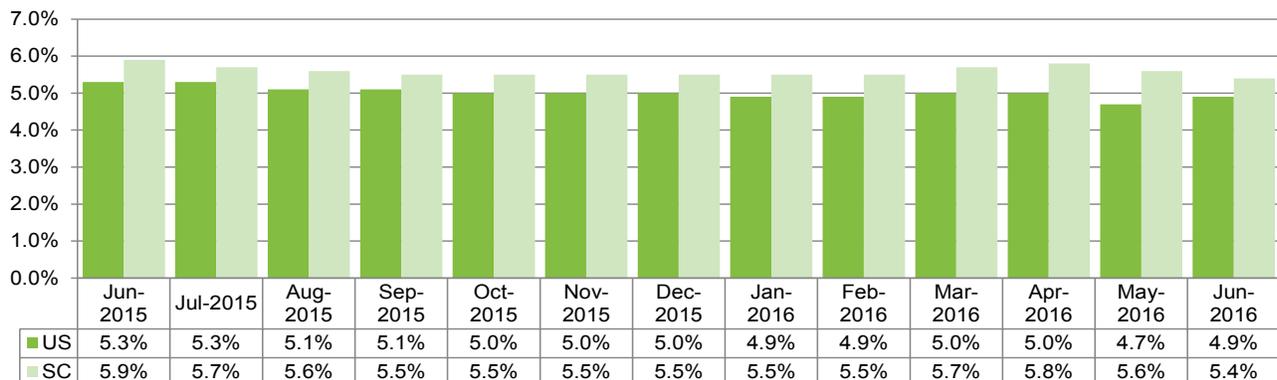
South Carolina's employment level reached another historic high with 2,185,181, gaining slightly in June as 109 people found work.

The number of unemployed decreased in June by nearly 4,270 to 125,591, which pushed the labor force down by 4,161 to 2,310,772 people. Over the year, 67,545 job seekers found work, and the level of unemployed individuals decreased by an estimated 7,250. Since June 2015, the labor force has grown by nearly 60,295 people.

Nationally, the unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage point to 4.9 percent in June as many people entered the labor force. The state's unemployment rate has averaged 5.6 percent for the first six months of 2016.



South Carolina vs US Unemployment Rate  
Jun 2015 - Jun 2016



*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 2015 benchmark. To subscribe to *Insights*, please email [bidcustomerservice@dew.sc.gov](mailto:bidcustomerservice@dew.sc.gov) or to provide feedback please click on the [BID Customer Feedback Form](#).



### South Carolina Nonfarm Employment Trends for June - Seasonally Adjusted

In June 2016, seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payrolls increased by 5,200 over the month, to reach a record high level of 2,051,100.

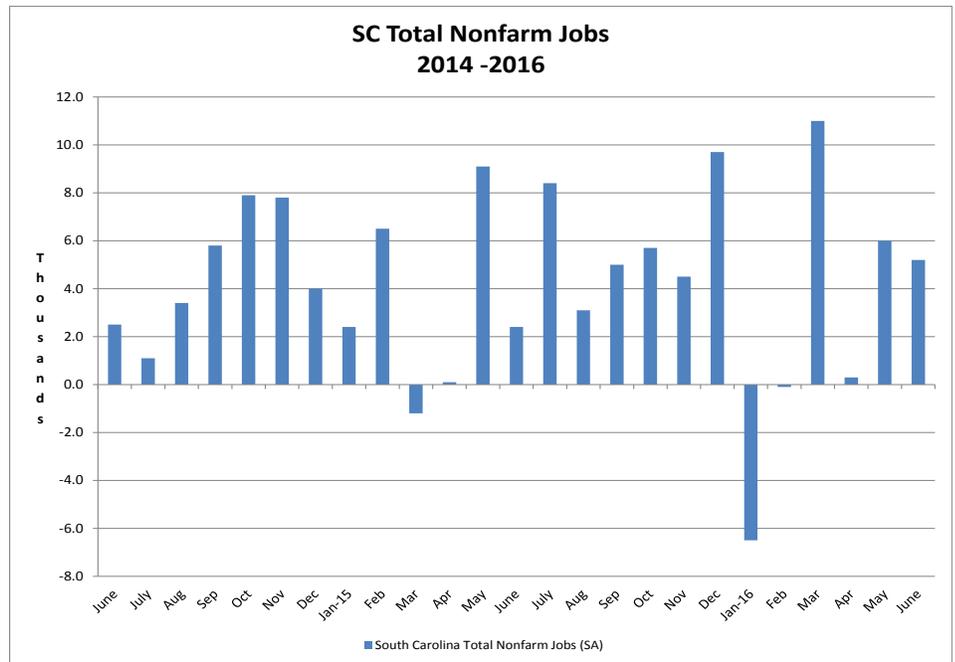
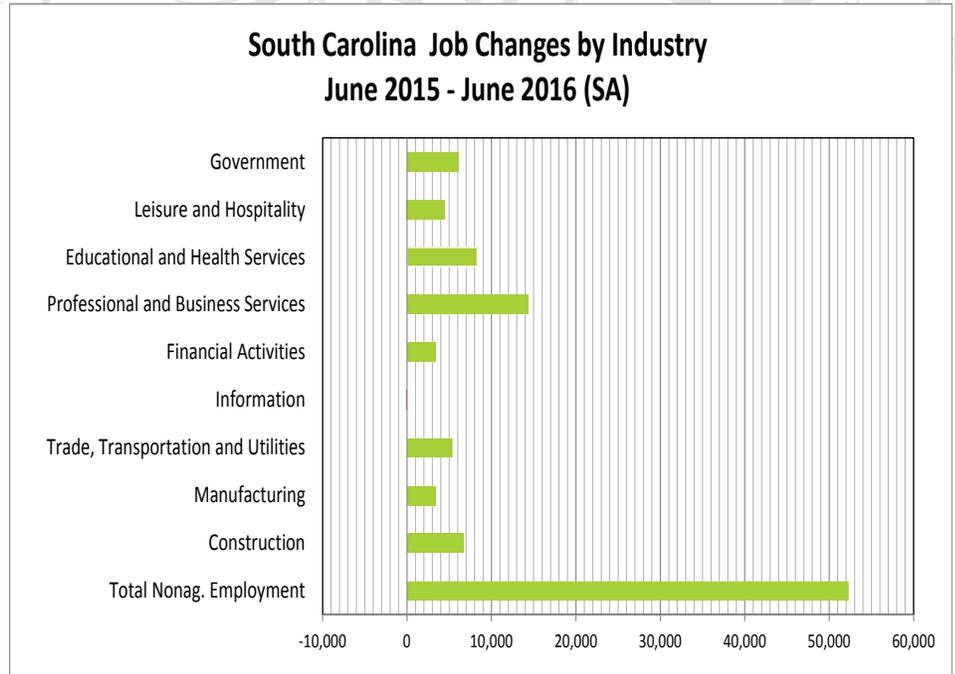
The increase in employment was primarily due to gains in Professional and Business Services (+3,200); Government (+2,600); and Financial Activities (+1,400).

Additional growth was seen in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+200); Education and Health Services (+200); and Information (+100). Industries reporting declines were Manufacturing (-700); Leisure and Hospitality (-700); Other Services (-700); and Construction (-400).

Over-the-year growth in nonfarm employment was up 52,300 with large upturns in Professional and Business Services (+14,300); Education and Health Services (+8,300); Construction (+6,700); Government (+6,100); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+5,400); Leisure and Hospitality (+4,500); Manufacturing (+3,400); Financial Activities (+3,400); and Other Services (+200). Information (-100) saw a slight dip in employment.

Over the month, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm payroll employment in the state's Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) marked strong job growth in Charleston (+2,100) and Columbia (+1,300). However, nonfarm payroll employment decreased in Sumter (-400) and Florence (-200).

Nearly every MSA saw seasonally adjusted payroll employment growth compared to last year. Most noticeable growth was in Charleston (+10,300) and Columbia (+8,400), followed by Florence (+1,600). Sumter remained the same.



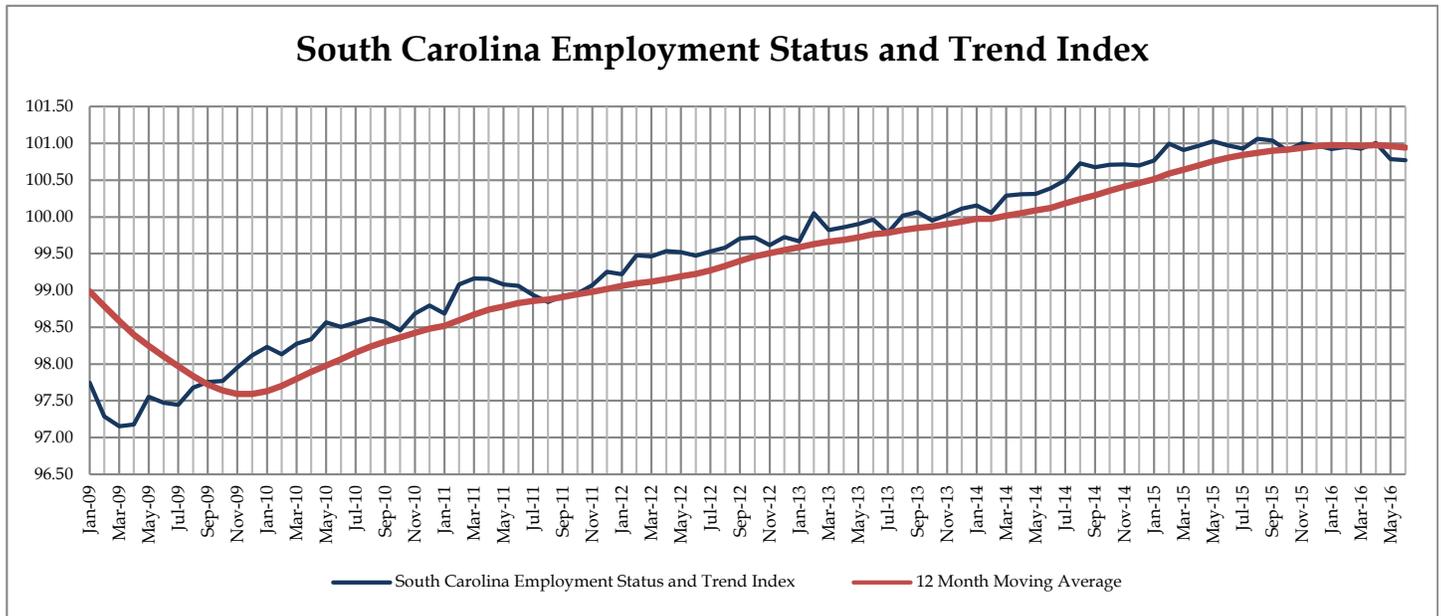
Economic Indicators (June 2016)		
Top Job Growth by MSA (SA)		
	Over Month % Change	Over Year % Change
Charleston MSA	0.61%	3.10%
Columbia MSA	0.33%	2.18%
Florence MSA	-0.23%	1.87%
Sumter MSA	-1.03%	0.00%

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

Employment Changes by County  
April 2016 through June 2016

County	Employment			Net Change From	
	Jun 2016	May 2016	Apr 2016	May '16 - Jun '16	Apr '16 - May '16
Abbeville	9,988	9,979	10,009	9	-30
Aiken	70,872	70,420	71,228	452	-808
Allendale	2,590	2,557	2,515	33	42
Anderson	86,045	85,966	85,833	79	133
Bamberg	5,102	5,056	5,017	46	39
Barnwell	7,968	7,920	7,926	48	-6
Beaufort	72,366	70,770	69,938	1,596	832
Berkeley	91,374	90,459	90,099	915	360
Calhoun	6,707	6,682	6,640	25	42
Charleston	195,399	193,703	192,694	1,696	1,009
Cherokee	22,432	22,386	22,487	46	-101
Chester	12,997	12,895	12,857	102	38
Chesterfield	20,835	20,738	20,644	97	94
Clarendon	12,562	12,500	12,439	62	61
Colleton	16,377	16,306	16,244	71	62
Darlington	28,533	28,528	28,383	5	145
Dillon	12,076	11,980	11,870	96	110
Dorchester	70,829	70,124	69,813	705	311
Edgefield	10,320	10,237	10,281	83	-44
Fairfield	9,670	9,638	9,601	32	37
Florence	62,459	62,639	62,536	-180	103
Georgetown	24,730	24,460	24,299	270	161
Greenville	235,228	235,053	234,813	175	240
Greenwood	30,222	30,129	30,180	93	-51
Hampton	8,064	7,927	7,803	137	124
Horry	138,619	134,322	132,367	4,297	1,955
Jasper	11,937	11,729	11,552	208	177
Kershaw	28,064	27,979	27,885	85	94
Lancaster	35,033	34,802	34,719	231	83
Laurens	29,384	29,350	29,250	34	100
Lee	6,145	6,109	6,074	36	35
Lexington	141,445	141,160	140,929	285	231
McCormick	3,316	3,311	3,322	5	-11
Marion	12,171	12,057	11,987	114	70
Marlboro	8,990	8,946	8,947	44	-1
Newberry	18,697	18,539	18,373	158	166
Oconee	33,745	33,631	33,599	114	32
Orangeburg	34,270	34,117	34,034	153	83
Pickens	54,233	54,224	54,155	9	69
Richland	191,323	191,016	191,235	307	-219
Saluda	8,810	8,717	8,530	93	187
Spartanburg	134,812	134,748	135,282	64	-534
Sumter	42,191	42,339	42,769	-148	-430
Union	11,062	11,061	11,099	1	-38
Williamsburg	12,178	12,118	12,077	60	41
York	122,789	122,087	121,986	702	101

## South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index Declines



Following a 0.22 point decline in May, the South Carolina Employment Status and Trend Index (SCESTI), which is an aggregate of eight labor-market indicators, notched a small decline of another 0.02 points in June, falling from the May value of 100.79 to an ending June value of 100.77. Underlying SCESTI components moved in varying directions for the month of June. Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance rose again in June to a non-seasonally adjusted average of 343 claims per week, following a May increase of 298 claims per week. Average Manufacturing Weekly Hours for May were revised upward to 42.5, but subsequently fell in June by 0.3 hours to 42.2 hours per week. The Conference Board’s Help Wanted Online data series declined for the second month in a row to 57,900 available jobs online in the state of South Carolina. Finally, the Conference Board’s US Employment Trend Index and its US Consumer Confidence Index both posted increases for the month, gaining 1.7 and 4.8 percentage points, respectively.

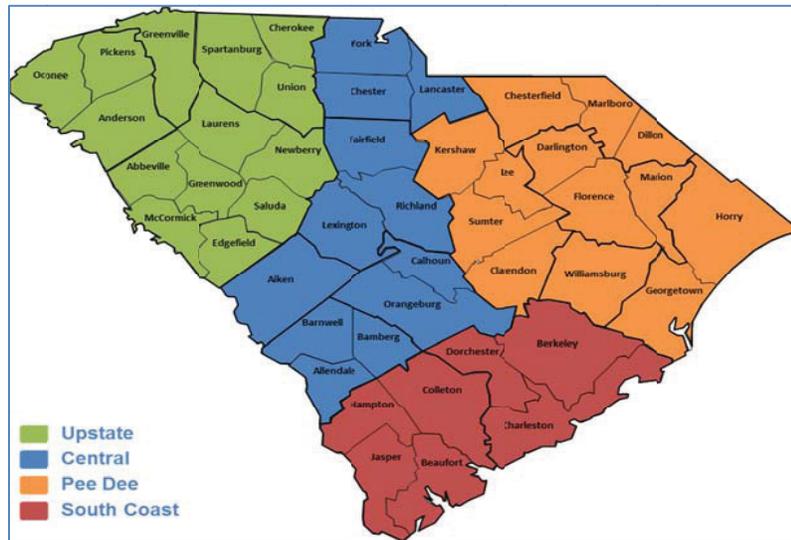
Versus one year ago, the SCESTI is 0.2 point lower, with one component higher (the US Employment Trends Index), three components negatively weighing down the index (US Consumer Confidence Index, Initial Claims for the Unemployment Insurance, and SC Help Wanted Online job vacancies), and one component virtually unchanged (SC Average Manufacturing Weekly Hours). Of these, the SC Help Wanted Online series has witnessed the largest, continued decline, falling from a high of 72,500 in November 2015 to a three-year low of 57,900 in June. While SCESTI’s June decline is small, it follows a larger May drop after an eight-month period of relative index “flatness.”

# South Carolina Regional Commuting Patterns

## An In-depth Analysis of the State's Workforce – Commuting Flow

In the fall of 2015, South Carolina's State Workforce Development Board approved a regional system for workforce planning in accordance with the federal law *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA)*. Commuting patterns were part of the information used to determine the regional system. This article focuses on the flow of workers to jobs within and between regions.

**Figure 1 - South Carolina WIOA Regions**



### Upstate Region

#### Commuting Patterns

- In 2013, the Upstate region had nearly 562,000 jobs and 572,000 working residents.
- Upstate had over 10,000 more working residents than jobs.
- Over 477,000 people lived and worked in the region.
- Nearly 95,000 of the region's residents worked outside of the Upstate.
- Almost 85,000 workers commuted into the Upstate from outside of the region.

#### Inflow/Outflow Report

##### Selection Area Labor Market Size (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	561,905	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area	572,057	101.8%
Net Job Inflow (+) or Outflow (-)	-10,152	-

##### In-Area Labor Force Efficiency (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Living in the Selection Area	572,057	100.0%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	477,110	83.4%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	94,957	16.6%

##### In-Area Employment Efficiency (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	561,905	100.0%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	477,110	84.9%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	84,795	15.1%

# South Carolina Regional Commuting Patterns

An In-depth Analysis of the State's Workforce – Commuting Flow

## Central Region

### Commuting Patterns

- In 2013, the Central region had nearly 517,000 jobs and 508,000 working residents.
- Central had over 8,600 more jobs than working residents.
- Over 365,000 people lived and worked in the region.
- Nearly 143,000 of the region's residents worked outside of the Central.
- Over 151,000 workers commuted into the Central from outside of the region.

### Inflow/Outflow Report

#### Selection Area Labor Market Size (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	516,591	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area	507,954	98.3%
Net Job Inflow (+) or Outflow (-)	8,637	-

#### In-Area Labor Force Efficiency (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Living in the Selection Area	507,954	100.0%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	365,185	71.9%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	142,769	28.1%

#### In-Area Employment Efficiency (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	516,591	100.0%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	365,185	70.7%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	151,406	29.3%

## Pee Dee Region

### Commuting Patterns

- In 2013, the Pee Dee region had nearly 300,000 jobs and 340,000 working residents.
- Pee Dee had over 40,000 more working residents than jobs.
- Over 246,000 people lived and worked in the region.
- Nearly 94,000 of the region's residents worked outside of the Pee Dee.
- Over 53,000 workers commuted into the Pee Dee from outside of the region.

### Inflow/Outflow Report

#### Selection Area Labor Market Size (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	299,531	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area	339,988	113.5%
Net Job Inflow (+) or Outflow (-)	-40,457	-

#### In-Area Labor Force Efficiency (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Living in the Selection Area	339,988	100.0%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	246,214	72.4%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	93,774	27.6%

#### In-Area Employment Efficiency (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	299,531	100.0%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	246,214	82.2%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	53,317	17.8%

## South Coast Region

### Commuting Patterns

- In 2013, the South Coast region had nearly 345,000 jobs and 348,000 working residents.
- South Coast had over 3,000 more working residents than jobs.
- Nearly 289,000 people lived and worked in the region.
- Over 59,000 of the region's residents worked outside of the South Coast.
- Almost 56,000 workers commuted into the South Coast from outside of the region.

### Inflow/Outflow Report

#### Selection Area Labor Market Size (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	344,622	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area	347,705	100.9%
Net Job Inflow (+) or Outflow (-)	-3,083	-

#### In-Area Labor Force Efficiency (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Living in the Selection Area	347,705	100.0%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	288,635	83.0%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	59,070	17.0%

#### In-Area Employment Efficiency (Primary Jobs)

	2013	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	344,622	100.0%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	288,635	83.8%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	55,987	16.2%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau, 2015. OnTheMap Application. Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program. <http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>