



INTRODUCTION TO LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

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EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

| Month | Employed ¹ | Unemployed ¹ | Unemployment Rate |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| February 2020 | 2,249,353 | 67,120 | 2.9% |
| April 2020 | 2,042,032 (-207,321) | 268,537 (+201,417) | 11.6% (+8.7 percentage pts) |
| May 2022 (preliminary) | 2,322,089 | 79,162 | 3.3% |
| NET CHANGE (May 2022 vs February 2020) | +72,736 | +12,042 | +0.4 percentage pts |

| April 2020 – May 2022 | SCWOS Jobs Posted |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 280,057 returned to work | 114,000+ |

| Location | Unemployment Rate |
|----------------|-------------------|
| United States | 3.6% |
| Georgia | 3.0% |
| North Carolina | 3.4% |

Source: Current Population Survey / Local Area Unemployment Statistics, seasonally adjusted; SC Works Online Services

SOUTH CAROLINA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

► **INDUSTRIES:** The largest industries in terms of employment in the state, as of May 2022, are:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 19.5% |
| Public Administration | 16.6% |
| Professional and Business Services | 13.5% |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 12.0% |
| Manufacturing | 11.7% |
| Education and Health Services | 11.5% |
| Financial Activities | 5.2% |
| Construction | 4.7% |
| Other Services | 3.7% |
| Information | 1.3% |

Source: Current Employment Statistics, seasonally adjusted
 Note: Data are preliminary.

SOUTH CAROLINA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

► **OCCUPATIONS**: The largest occupations in terms of employment in the state are:

| Occupation Group | Percent of Emp. | Occupation Group | Percent of Emp. |
|--|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Office and Administrative Support | 13.9% | Healthcare Support | 3.6% |
| Sales and Related | 10.3% | Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance | 3.1% |
| Transportation and Material Moving | 9.7% | Protective Service | 2.2% |
| Food Preparation and Serving Related | 9.5% | Computer and Mathematical | 2.0% |
| Production | 8.6% | Personal Care and Service | 1.9% |
| Healthcare Practitioners and Technical | 6.2% | Architecture and Engineering | 1.9% |
| Management | 5.5% | Community and Social Service | 1.5% |
| Educational Instruction and Library | 5.1% | Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media | 0.9% |
| Installation, Maintenance, and Repair | 4.4% | Legal | 0.7% |
| Business and Financial Operations | 4.3% | Life, Physical, and Social Science | 0.5% |
| Construction and Extraction | 3.9% | Farming, Fishing, and Forestry | 0.2% |

Source: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2021

SOUTH CAROLINA AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS BY ECONOMIC SECTOR

| Economic Sector | May 2020 | May 2022 | Change |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------|
| Total Private | \$882.54 | \$965.31 | +9.4% |
| Goods Producing | \$1,092.64 | \$1,250.31 | +14.4% |
| Construction | \$1,101.06 | \$1,224.55 | +11.2% |
| Manufacturing | \$1,085.07 | \$1,266.31 | +16.7% |
| Private Service Producing | \$826.00 | \$894.22 | +8.3% |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | \$767.25 | \$854.12 | +11.3% |
| Financial Activities | \$1,183.49 | \$1,254.53 | +6.0% |
| Professional and Business Services | \$1,048.32 | \$1,246.90 | +18.9% |
| Education and Health Services | \$838.43 | \$936.68 | +11.7% |
| Leisure and Hospitality | \$369.92 | \$433.58 | +17.2% |
| Other Services | \$915.04 | \$765.83 | -16.3% |

Source: Current Employment Statistics, DEW/U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted. May 2022 data are preliminary.

WHAT IS LMI?

- ▶ Labor market information (LMI) consists of data, statistics, and analysis related to employment and the workforce including:
 - labor supply and demand
 - wages and income
 - labor force and unemployment figures
 - employment projections
 - labor force demographics

- ▶ All material produced by DEW's LMI Division is publicly available at <https://scworkforceinfo.com> (better website coming soon!)

WHO USES LMI?

- ▶ Workers and jobseekers might want to know how many people are employed in a particular industry or occupation and how much they make, as would their current or potential employers.

- ▶ But there are many others interested in LMI:
 - elected officials and other policymakers
 - education professionals
 - economic developers
 - academic researchers
 - media outlets

LMI PROGRAMS

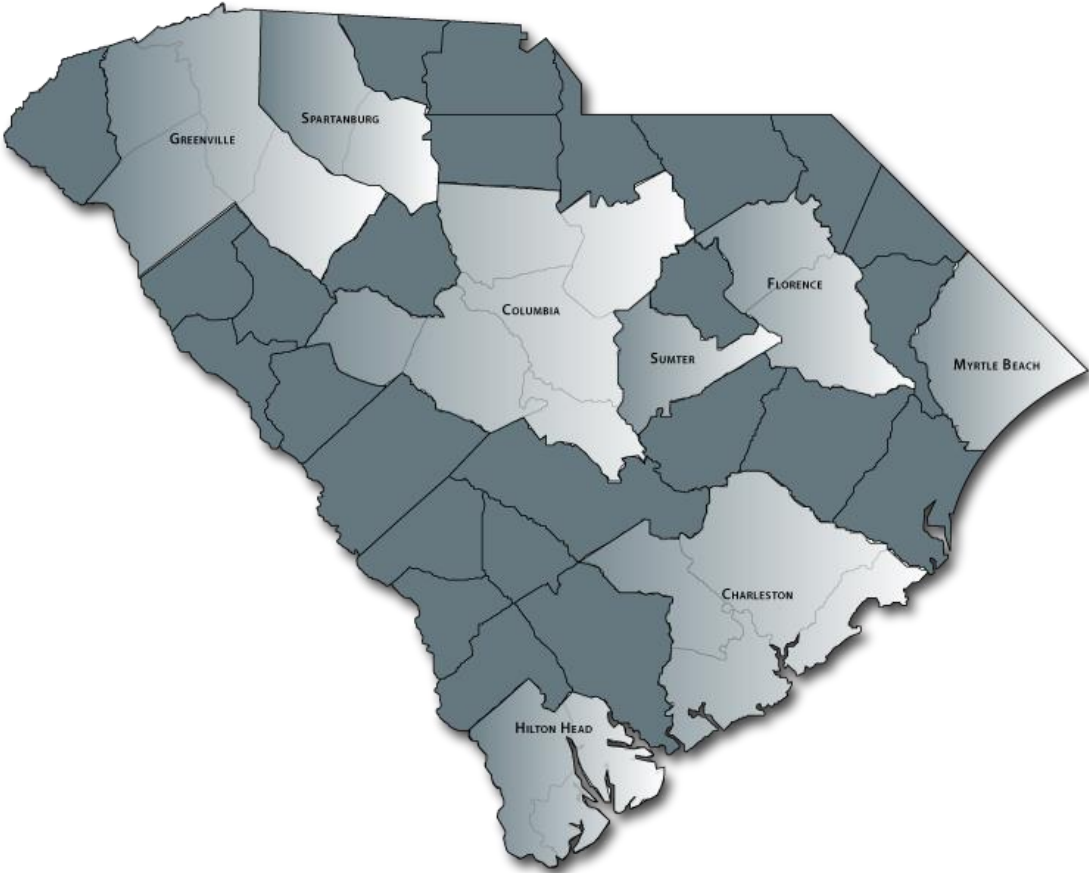
- ▶ LMI operates four programs that are funded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, part of the U.S. Department of Labor. These are:
 - Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)
 - Current Employment Statistics (CES)
 - Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)
 - Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS)

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

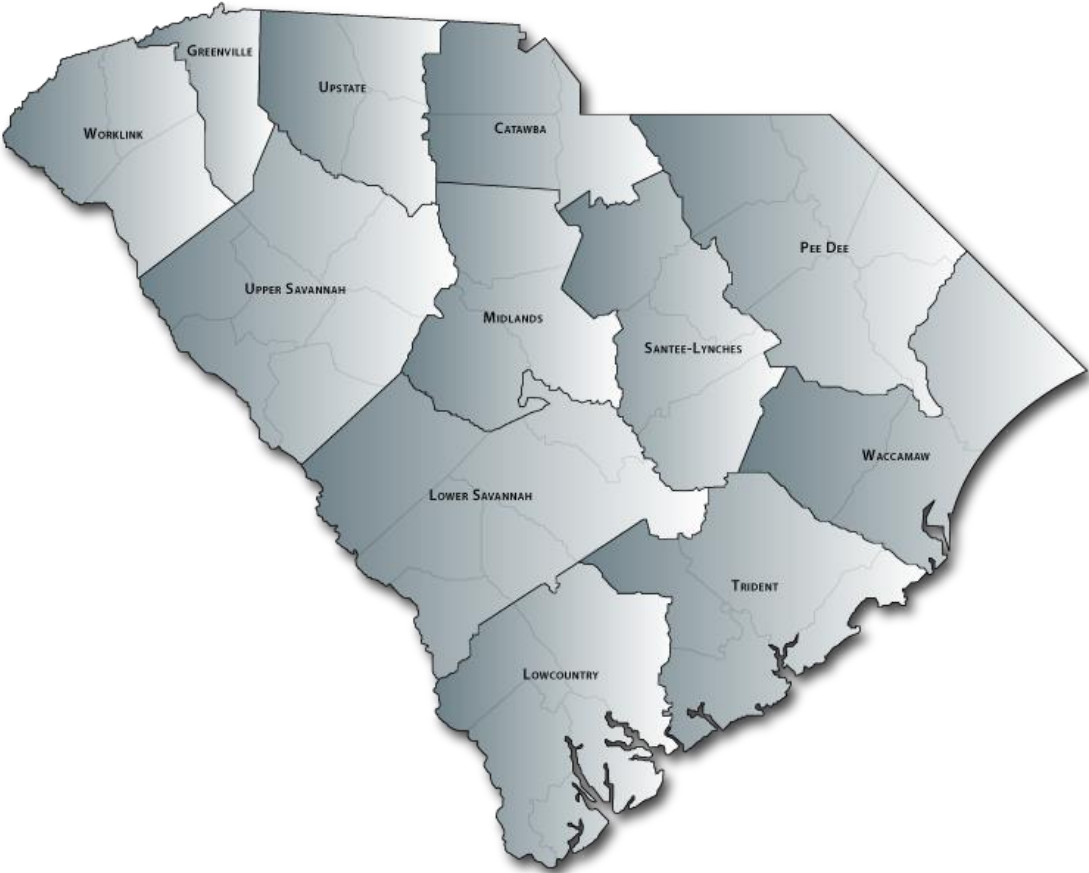
- ▶ LAUS data tell us how many people are employed and how many people are unemployed.
- ▶ Someone is “unemployed” if they don’t have a job, are able to work, and have actively searched for a job in the past four weeks.
- ▶ The sum of these two figures is the labor force, and the share of the labor force that is unemployed is the unemployment rate.
- ▶ These data are produced statewide and for metropolitan areas, workforce development areas, counties, and municipalities with at least 25,000 people.
- ▶ <https://jobs.scworks.org/laus> or <https://bls.gov/lau/>

BACKGROUND ON GEOGRAPHY

Metropolitan Statistical Areas



Workforce Development Areas



CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

- ▶ CES data provide information on the number of filled jobs and their average wage every month.
- ▶ This is available at the state and metropolitan area level and can include substantial detail by industry.
- ▶ Note that these numbers may not always tell the same story: LAUS is a survey of households; CES is a survey of businesses.
- ▶ Together, data from these programs form the Employment Situation press release and the monthly Trends publication put out by DEW that summarizes current economic conditions.
- ▶ <https://jobs.scworks.org/ces> or <https://bls.gov/sae/>

QUARTERLY CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

- ▶ QCEW is just what it sounds like: A quarterly record of all businesses in the Unemployment Insurance system, how many people they employ, how much they pay, and what industries they are in.
- ▶ If this sounds a lot like CES, you're not wrong, but it takes a lot longer to do a census than a survey because LMI staff often need to follow up with employers to receive detailed data.
- ▶ QCEW data are available at the state, metropolitan area, workforce development area, and county level.
- ▶ <https://jobs.scworks.org/qcew> or <https://bls.gov/cew/>

OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES STATISTICS

- ▶ Unlike CES and QCEW, this data set provides information on payroll and salary by occupation rather than industry.
- ▶ It's very important to know the difference: Industry is the kind of work your employer does, while occupation is the work you do.
- ▶ It is published only once per year, again because it requires a lot of manual data collection and processing.
- ▶ OEWS figures are available at the state, metropolitan area, and workforce development area level.
- ▶ <https://jobs.scworks.org/oews> or <https://bls.gov/oes/>

WORKFORCE INFORMATION GRANT

- ▶ LMI receives a Workforce Information Grant (WIG) from the Employment and Training Administration, also part of the U.S. Department of Labor.
- ▶ This funding supports many additional products, including:
 - short- and long-term employment projections by industry and occupation (<https://jobs.scworks.org/indprj>, <https://jobs.scworks.org/occprj>)
 - labor supply and demand (<https://lmi.dew.sc.gov/lmi%20site/HWOL.html>)
- ▶ WIG staff also produce reports on topics of interest to LMI customers ... and that means you!

TRENDS

- ▶ The monthly Trends publication is a great resource for getting a handle on the most recent LAUS and CES data in detail.
- ▶ There is also a featured article every month that provides meaningful analysis of economic data from LMI and elsewhere on a topical item.
- ▶ The current issue and recent past issues of Trends are online at: <https://www.dew.sc.gov/data-and-statistics/data-trends-issues>

COMMUNITY PROFILES

- ▶ These reports offering provides a summary of all LMI available data for a given community.
- ▶ Profiles are available at the state, metropolitan area, workforce development area, and county level.
- ▶ You might need to dig a little deeper to find the exact number you're looking for, but the profiles are a great starting point.
- ▶ Profiles are available online at <https://lmi.dew.sc.gov>.

CONTACT US!

- ▶ If you need help finding data about our state's workforce, whether it's on our website or not, please don't hesitate to contact LMI.
- ▶ Email address: lmicustomerservice@dew.sc.gov

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!