



INTRODUCTION TO LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Dr. Bryan Grady, Labor Market Information Director

South Carolina Education + Business Summit – June 27, 2022

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

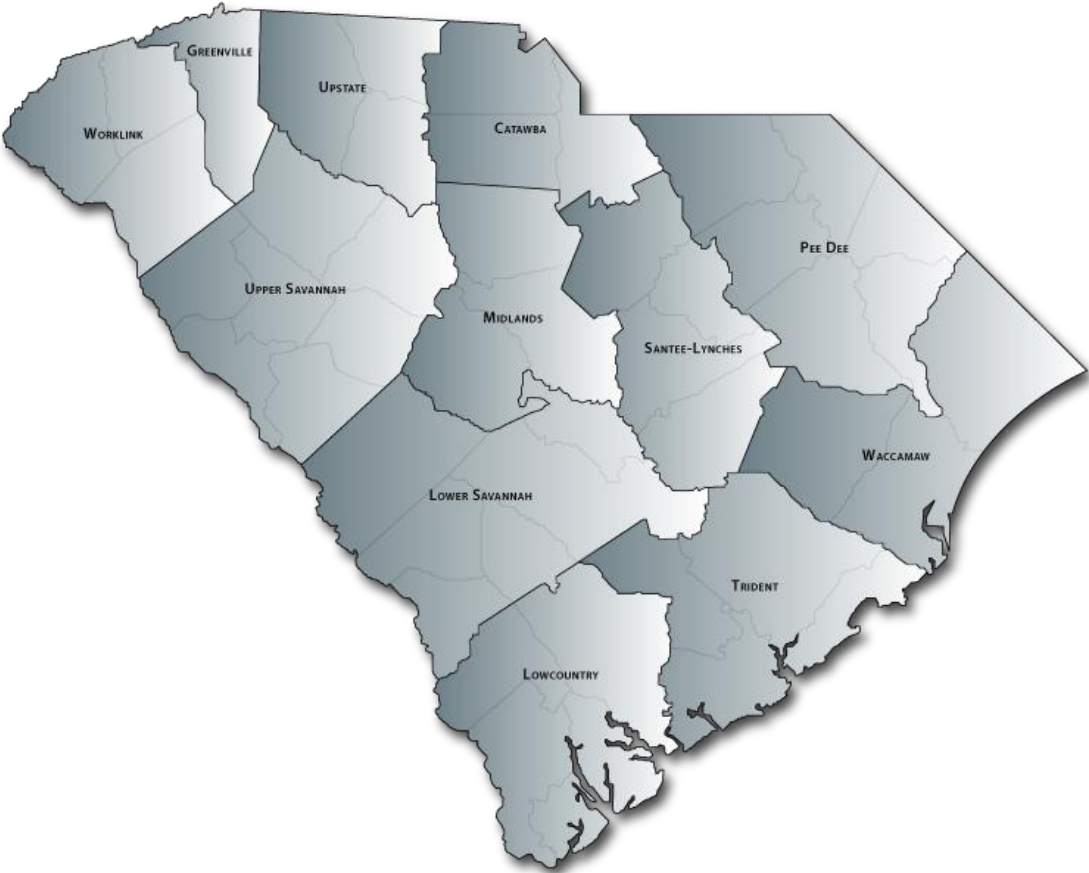
- ▶ LAUS data tell us how many people are employed and how many people are unemployed.
- ▶ Someone is “unemployed” if they don’t have a job, are able to work, and have actively searched for a job in the past four weeks.
- ▶ The sum of these two figures is the labor force, and the share of the labor force 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!