



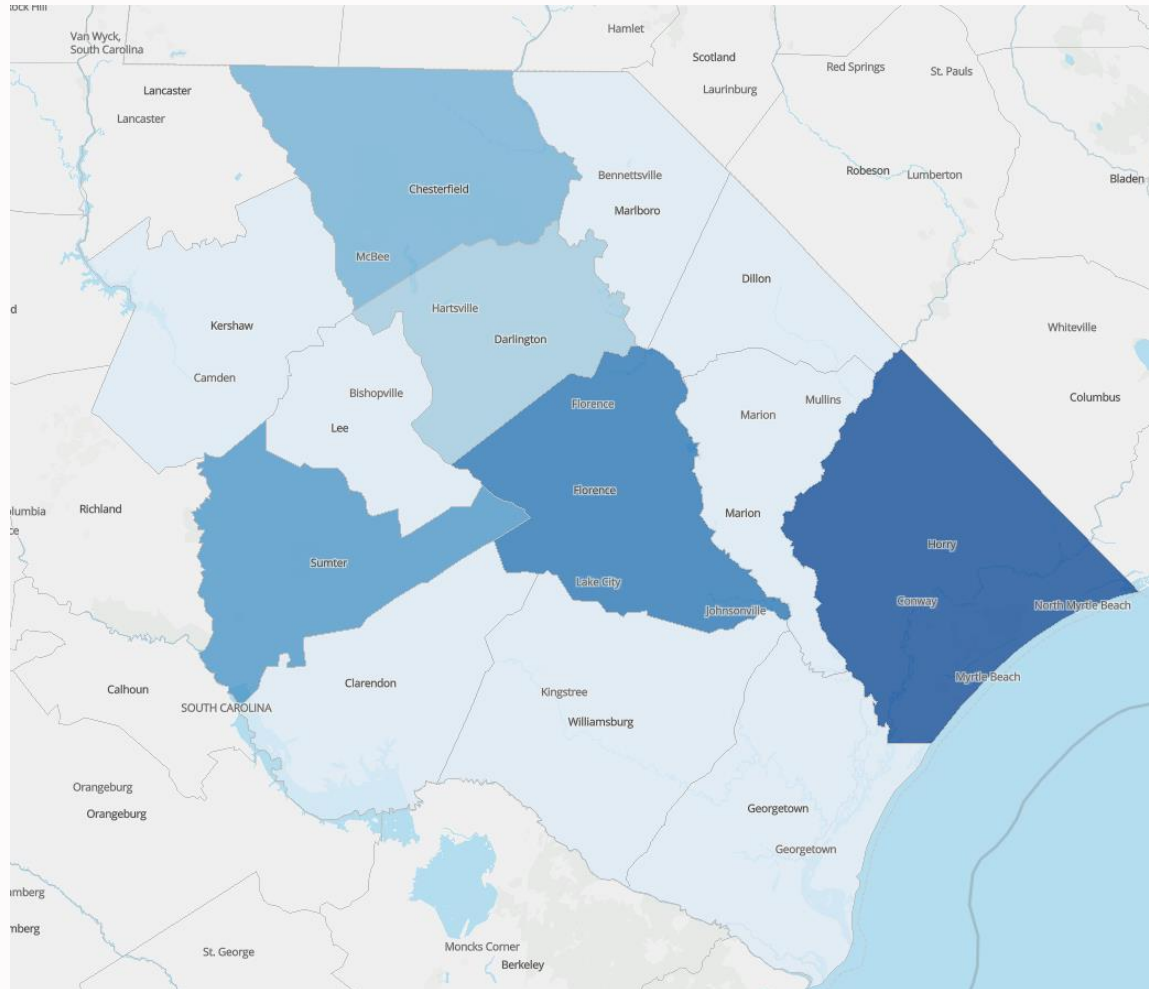
SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF  
**Employment and Workforce**  
*“The Workforce Agency”*

SC's Pee Dee WIOA Stats and Future Projects

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March 31, 2023

# Pee Dee LMI Stats, Overview



## Quick Facts: Pee Dee as of December 2022

**Population: 1,005,618**  
**Labor Force: 416,138**  
**Employed: 400,207**  
**Unemployed: 15,931**  
**Unemployment rate: 3.8%**

## Quick Facts: South Carolina as of December 2022

**Population: 5,282,634**  
**Labor Force: 2,377,471**  
**Employed: 2,300,110**  
**Unemployed: 77,361**  
**Unemployment rate: 3.2%**

Source: Labor Insight (Lightcast) 2022 data

# Pee Dee Fastest Growing Occupations

Fastest Growing Job	2021 Jobs	2023 Jobs	Change in Jobs	2021 Median Hourly Earnings
Retail Sales Persons	14,613	15,252	639	\$11.47
Cooks, Restaurants	5,519	6,148	629	\$13.10
Waiters and Waitresses	8,213	8,747	534	\$9.35
Stockers and Order Fillers	6,808	7,284	476	\$13.05
Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,264	9,669	405	\$9.65
General and Operations Managers	7,250	7,599	349	\$33.28
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Drivers	5,531	5,805	274	\$21.44
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	8,992	9,260	268	\$13.90
Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	530	762	232	\$19.00
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	3,873	4,096	223	\$15.07

Note: Half of these occupations are in the Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations category.

Possible reasons:  
 –high turnover  
 –new business developments  
 –seasonal opportunities

Source: Labor Insight (Lightcast) 2022 data

# Pee Dee Top Industries by Current Employment

Industry	2022 Jobs	2023 Jobs	% Change	Avg. Earnings
Government	58,353	58,486	0%	\$69,670
Retail Trade	53,842	54,633	1%	\$38,539
Accommodation and Food Services	52,043	53,227	2%	\$26,539
Health Care and Social Assistance	40,020	41,046	3%	\$63,757
Manufacturing	37,971	38,797	2%	\$76,435
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	19,053	19,608	3%	\$42,935
Construction	17,268	17,442	1%	\$62,981
Transportation and Warehousing	12,431	12,958	4%	\$55,378
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	9,877	10,162	3%	\$75,564
Finance and Insurance	9,803	9,999	2%	\$39,731

Note: The industry with the highest growth is Educational Services with a 5% change from 2022-2023 (2,747 jobs in 2022 to 2,885 jobs in 2023).

Note: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting is the only industry that had a decrease in growth (-2%) from 2022-2023.

Source: Labor Insight (Lightcast) 2022-2023 data

# Pee Dee Region Top 10 Jobs Data

In-Demand Job	Current Job Openings	Projected Job Growth	Average Hourly Wage
Postsecondary Teachers	231	20%	\$41.84
Sales Representatives of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, and Travel	166	16%	\$26.48
Medical and Health Services Managers	154	28%	\$49.76
Food Service Managers	144	17%	\$27.63
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	135	30%	\$28.45
Human Resource Specialists	132	15%	\$27.97
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	127	20%	\$32.73
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	123	16%	\$26.45
Management Analysts	102	16%	\$40.50
Financial Managers	96	26%	\$57.37

The Top 10 In-Demand Jobs for the Pee Dee WIOA region were compiled based on the following criteria:

1. Greater than Pee Dee 2018-2028 growth of 13.91%
2. Greater than Pee Dee 2021 average hourly wage of \$24.93
3. Greater than 90 job openings in 2022

Source: Labor Insight (Lightcast) 2022 data

# Palmetto Business Barometer Survey Plug

The SC Chamber of Commerce and SC DEW have joined in a collaborative effort to launch a monthly survey series referred to as the Palmetto Business Barometer Survey.

The survey measures responses from various South Carolina businesses on topics such as, but not limited to:

- financial expectations
- staffing concerns
- remote work flexibility
- general company conditions

The survey is available to take at the beginning of the month for a short time, and results are processed and published at the end of said month.

The survey can be found at the SC Chamber of Commerce website.

# SC Labor Force Participation Task Force

SC DEW collaborated with SC Council of Competitiveness (SC Competes) and representatives of multiple state agencies, businesses, and institutes of higher education to launch the SC Labor Force Participation Task Force

The purpose of the SC Labor Force Participation Task Force is to explain why there is a deficit of participants in the workforce compared to the surplus of jobs available across the state.

The task force will be able to target which specific industries are struggling the most, determine the economic factors at play, and discover which demographics of our population are missing from the workforce.

*Source: SC DEW website*

# Pee Dee Labor Force Participation Rate Rankings

(as of December 2022)

County	Rank (out of all SC counties)	LFPR
Chesterfield	3	61.1%
Clarendon	36	49.2%
Darlington	8	58.8%
Dillon	7	59.0%
Florence	11	58.3%
Georgetown	40	48.0%
Horry	41	47.4%
Kershaw	22	53.4%
Lee	29	52.1%
Marion	19	53.9%
Marlboro	45	42.2%
Sumter	32	50.9%
Williamsburg	44	44.4%

Source: SC DEW website



# Labor Force Participation Rate vs. Unemployment Rate

**Labor Force Participation Rate:** identifies the percentage of work-eligible people who are currently working or are actively looking for work.

**Unemployment Rate:** identifies the percentage of people in the labor force who do not have jobs and are actively searching for work.

While low unemployment rates indicate a thriving workforce, low labor force participation rates can be indicative of a structurally weak job market.

# Cause and Effect of Low Labor Force Participation Rates

## Potential factors causing low labor force participation rates:

- Increased dependent care
- Fear of getting COVID
- Higher unemployment benefits
- Desire for higher wages reducing interest in low-paying jobs
- Higher pace of retirements due to an aging population
- Slower population growth
- Skills-to-qualification mismatch

## Result of low labor participation rates:

- Slowed growth of gross domestic product (GDP)
- Higher tax rates

Source: Q.ai. *“Unemployment is Low, But So Is The Labor Force Participation Rate – What’s Going On In The U.S. Labor Market.” Forbes. 2023*

# Other Resources

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) website: <https://www.bls.gov/>

Census Bureau website: <https://data.census.gov/>

For LMI requests:

- Email: [imicustomerservice@dew.sc.gov](mailto:imicustomerservice@dew.sc.gov)

Visit our LMI Website: <https://jobs.scworks.org/vosnet/lmi/default.aspx?plang=E>

- Community Profiles
- Labor Market Dashboards
- CES, LAUS, QCEW, OEWS Reports
- Trends
- Lots more!

Source: SC DEW website

# Questions?

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