For Immediate Release

South Carolina's Employment Situation
April 2016

Employment Growth Maintains Momentum
Unemployment Rate Inches Upward

The number of people working in South Carolina increased to a new record in April 2016, rising by 7,268 to 2,181,923.

During the month, the number of people in the labor force rose by 10,245 bringing the total to 2,316,224. This increase pushed the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate up from 5.7 percent in March to 5.8 percent in April. Over the month, unemployment rose by 2,977 to 134,301.

Since April 2015, employment gains totaled 72,447 people, and the level of the unemployed has decreased by 6,634. In the last year, the labor force has grown 65,813 people.

Nationally, April's unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.0 percent.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted[1])
Seasonally adjusted nonfarm payrolls in April increased by 900 over March to a record level of 2,040,500. Financial Activities (+1,900) led the increases followed by Manufacturing (+1,600); Leisure and Hospitality (+1,200); and Professional and Business Services (+1,000). Growth also was seen in the Government (+200) and Information (+100) sectors. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-2,000); Other Services (-1,400); Construction (-900); and Education and Health Services (-800) experienced downturns.

Compared to April 2015, seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs were up 53,200. Industries showing job growth were Professional and Business Services (+14,300); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+8,100); Education and Health Services (+7,600); Leisure and Hospitality (+5,600); and Construction (+5,600). Increases were also felt in Manufacturing (+4,900); Government (+3,200); Financial Activities (+2,400); Other Services (+1,200); and Information (+100).

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted[2])
With an increase of 16,100, not seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment improved from March to April 2016, reaching a total of 2,050,700. As the tourist season ramped up, growth was concentrated in Leisure and Hospitality (+8,700). Additional gains were seen in Professional and Business Services (+3,800); Financial Activities (+1,800); Manufacturing (+1,700); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+700); Government (+500); and Construction (+300). Fewer jobs were added in Information (+100)

and Education and Health Services (+100). Mining and Logging remained the same while Other Services (-1,600) saw a decline.

Since April 2015, not seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs were up 53,900. Strong annual gains came from Professional and Business Services (+14,400); Education and Health Services (+8,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,600); Construction (+6,800); Government (+4,800); Manufacturing (+4,300); Leisure and Hospitality (+4,200); Financial Activities (+2,100); Other Services (+700); and Mining and Logging (+200). Information was unchanged.

[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 <u>not</u> been removed from these data.

###

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
April 2016

Industry	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	March 2016 to April 2016 # Change	% Change	April 2015 to April 2016 # Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	*2,040,500*	*2,039,600*	*1,987,300*	*900*	*0.04%*	*53,200*	*2.68%*
Construction	91,300	92,200	85,700	-900	-0.99%	5,600	6.53%
Manufacturing	239,200	237,600	234,300	1,600	0.67%	4,900	2.09%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	390,200	392,200	382,100	-2,000	-0.51%	8,100	2.12%
Information	26,600	26,500	26,500	100	0.38%	100	0.38%
Financial Activities	99,200	97,300	96,800	1,900	1.92%	2,400	2.48%
Professional and Business Services	271,100	270,100	256,800	1,000	0.37%	14,300	5.57%
Education and Health Services	240,700	241,500	233,100	-800	-0.33%	7,600	3.26%
Leisure and Hospitality	241,000	239,800	235,400	1,200	0.50%	5,600	2.38%
Other Services	74,600	76,000	73,400	-1,400	-1.88%	1,200	1.63%
Government	362,500	362,300	359,300	200	0.06%	3,200	0.89%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
April 2016

Industry	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	March 2016 to April 2016 # Change	% Change	April 2015 to April 2016 # Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	*2,050,700*	*2,034,600*	*1,996,800*	*16,100*	*0.79%*	*53,900*	*2.70%*
Mining and Logging	4,100	4,100	3,900	0	0.00%	200	5.13%
Construction	91,900	91,600	85,100	300	0.33%	6,800	7.99%
Manufacturing	239,000	237,300	234,700	1,700	0.72%	4,300	1.83%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	388,000	387,300	380,400	700	0.18%	7,600	2.00%
Information	26,500	26,400	26,500	100	0.38%	0	0.00%
Financial Activities	98,700	96,900	96,600	1,800	1.86%	2,100	2.17%
Professional and Business Services	271,900	268,100	257,500	3,800	1.42%	14,400	5.59%
Education and Health Services	242,800	242,700	234,000	100	0.04%	8,800	3.76%
Leisure and Hospitality	244,800	236,100	240,600	8,700	3.68%	4,200	1.75%
Other Services	74,400	76,000	73,700	-1,600	-2.11%	700	0.95%
Government	368,600	368,100	363,800	500	0.14%	4,800	1.32%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
April 2016

Area	April 2016	March 2015	April 2015	March 2016 to April 2016 # Change	% Change	April 2015 to April 2016 # Change	% Change
Statewide	*2,040,500*	*2,039,600*	*1,987,300*	*900*	*0.04%*	*53,200*	*2.68%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	338,800	339,100	330,800	-300	-0.09%	8,000	2.42%
Columbia MSA	392,100	391,600	382,100	500	0.13%	10,000	2.62%
Florence MSA	87,500	87,500	86,000	0	0.00%	1,500	1.74%
Sumter MSA	39,700	39,600	38,600	100	0.25%	1,100	2.85%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Not Seasonally Adjusted
April 2016

Area	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	March 2016 to April 2016 # Change	% Change	April 2015 to April 2016 # Change	% Change
Statewide	2,050,700	2,034,600	1,996,800	16,100	0.79%	53,900	2.70%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	340,200	337,100	332,100	3,100	0.92%	8,100	2.44%
Columbia MSA	392,200	391,500	382,300	700	0.18%	9,900	2.59%
Florence MSA	87,500	87,700	86,500	-200	-0.23%	1,000	1.16%
Greenville MSA	407,000	405,800	397,700	1,200	0.30%	9,300	2.34%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	76,800	75,700	74,300	1,100	1.45%	2,500	3.36%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	160,800	155,300	157,100	5,500	3.54%	3,700	2.36%
Spartanburg MSA	145,800	145,700	141,400	100	0.07%	4,400	3.11%
Sumter MSA	39,900	39,800	38,800	100	0.25%	1,100	2.84%

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

AREA		April 2016				March 2016				April 2015			
		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)
Allendale County	↓	2,772	2,521	251	9.1	2,730	2,463	267	9.8	2,690	2,369	321	11.9
Marion County	↓	13,152	11,999	1,153	8.8	13,054	11,848	1,206	9.2	12,729	11,502	1,227	9.6
Bamberg County	↓	5,509	5,030	479	8.7	5,475	4,945	530	9.7	5,401	4,888	513	9.5
Marlboro County	↓	9,814	8,971	843	8.6	9,770	8,882	888	9.1	9,646	8,699	947	9.8
Orangeburg County	↓	37,210	34,112	3,098	8.3	37,015	33,721	3,294	8.9	37,027	33,416	3,611	9.8
Williamsburg County	↓	13,147	12,102	1,045	7.9	13,119	11,980	1,139	8.7	12,586	11,503	1,083	8.6
Lee County	↓	6,590	6,081	509	7.7	6,548	6,023	525	8.0	6,380	5,846	534	8.4
Barnwell County	↓	8,593	7,943	650	7.6	8,508	7,844	664	7.8	8,531	7,779	752	8.8
Dillon County	↓	12,858	11,893	965	7.5	12,707	11,715	992	7.8	12,500	11,407	1,093	8.7
Fairfield County	↓	10,377	9,602	775	7.5	10,387	9,593	794	7.6	10,044	9,300	744	7.4
Chester County	↓	13,836	12,860	976	7.1	13,846	12,806	1,040	7.5	13,540	12,430	1,110	8.2
Clarendon County	↓	13,391	12,463	928	6.9	13,243	12,270	973	7.3	12,981	12,000	981	7.6
Georgetown County	↓	26,133	24,336	1,797	6.9	25,900	23,908	1,992	7.7	24,995	23,075	1,920	7.7
Union County	↓	11,913	11,105	808	6.8	12,001	11,118	883	7.4	11,643	10,732	911	7.8
Hampton County	↓	8,360	7,811	549	6.6	8,231	7,654	577	7.0	8,242	7,519	723	8.8
Calhoun County	−	7,084	6,641	443	6.3	7,057	6,614	443	6.3	6,895	6,424	471	6.8
Darlington County	↓	30,282	28,368	1,914	6.3	30,564	28,430	2,134	7.0	29,908	27,801	2,107	7.0
Sumter County	↓	45,627	42,767	2,860	6.3	45,696	42,688	3,008	6.6	44,423	41,515	2,908	6.5
Cherokee County	↓	24,012	22,538	1,474	6.1	24,059	22,439	1,620	6.7	23,445	21,782	1,663	7.1
McCormick County	↓	3,548	3,330	218	6.1	3,529	3,290	239	6.8	3,452	3,218	234	6.8
Colleton County	↓	17,302	16,282	1,020	5.9	17,170	16,084	1,086	6.3	16,625	15,484	1,141	6.9
Abbeville County	↓	10,644	10,030	614	5.8	10,630	9,957	673	6.3	10,475	9,774	701	6.7
Horry County	↓	140,212	132,130	8,082	5.8	137,514	128,352	9,162	6.7	137,614	128,585	9,029	6.6
Lancaster County	↓	36,868	34,727	2,141	5.8	36,817	34,574	2,243	6.1	35,798	33,580	2,218	6.2
Edgefield County	↓	10,915	10,289	626	5.7	10,727	10,067	660	6.2	10,698	10,079	619	5.8
Florence County	↓	66,280	62,506	3,774	5.7	66,834	62,763	4,071	6.1	65,598	61,374	4,224	6.4
Laurens County	↓	30,905	29,189	1,716	5.6	31,101	29,170	1,931	6.2	30,501	28,373	2,128	7.0
Kershaw County	↓	29,466	27,888	1,578	5.4	29,574	27,870	1,704	5.8	28,682	27,012	1,670	5.8
Chesterfield County	↓	21,834	20,681	1,153	5.3	21,669	20,438	1,231	5.7	21,270	20,013	1,257	5.9
Greenwood County	↓	31,945	30,242	1,703	5.3	31,908	30,017	1,891	5.9	31,396	29,442	1,954	6.2
Aiken County	↓	75,212	71,288	3,924	5.2	74,380	70,211	4,169	5.6	74,276	70,073	4,203	5.7
Oconee County	↓	35,497	33,650	1,847	5.2	35,401	33,365	2,036	5.8	34,176	32,295	1,881	5.5
Pickens County	↓	56,978	54,043	2,935	5.2	57,323	54,115	3,208	5.6	55,694	52,586	3,108	5.6
Beaufort County	↓	73,587	69,839	3,748	5.1	72,856	69,020	3,836	5.3	71,190	67,330	3,860	5.4
Richland County	↓	201,272	191,253	10,019	5.0	202,821	192,020	10,801	5.3	196,193	185,608	10,585	5.4
Berkeley County	↓	94,913	90,299	4,614	4.9	95,032	90,111	4,921	5.2	92,808	87,844	4,964	5.3
Spartanburg County	↓	142,342	135,353	6,989	4.9	143,238	135,642	7,596	5.3	138,633	130,821	7,812	5.6
York County	↓	128,259	122,015	6,244	4.9	128,285	121,622	6,663	5.2	124,778	118,077	6,701	5.4
Dorchester County	↓	73,465	69,966	3,499	4.8	73,584	69,777	3,807	5.2	71,827	68,051	3,776	5.3
Anderson County	↓	89,915	85,653	4,262	4.7	90,412	85,786	4,626	5.1	87,958	83,320	4,638	5.3
Saluda County	↓	8,952	8,531	421	4.7	8,860	8,379	481	5.4	8,633	8,193	440	5.1
Jasper County	↓	12,092	11,537	555	4.6	11,904	11,318	586	4.9	11,705	11,119	586	5.0
Newberry County	↓	19,299	18,407	892	4.6	19,228	18,154	1,074	5.6	18,566	17,577	989	5.3
Greenville County	↓	245,203	234,320	10,883	4.4	246,524	234,814	11,710	4.8	239,625	227,996	11,629	4.9
Charleston County	↓	201,720	193,110	8,610	4.3	201,454	192,209	9,245	4.6	197,019	187,806	9,213	4.7
Lexington County	↓	147,306	140,942	6,364	4.3	147,927	141,051	6,876	4.6	143,371	136,634	6,737	4.7
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	370,098	353,375	16,723	4.5	370,070	352,097	17,973	4.9	361,654	343,701	17,953	5.0
Columbia MSA	↓	404,457	384,857	19,600	4.8	406,626	385,527	21,099	5.2	393,818	373,171	20,647	5.2
Florence MSA	↓	96,562	90,874	5,688	5.9	97,398	91,193	6,205	6.4	95,506	89,175	6,331	6.6
Greenville -Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↓	423,001	403,205	19,796	4.7	425,360	403,885	21,475	5.0	413,778	392,275	21,503	5.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↑	2,316,224	2,181,923	134,301	5.8	2,305,979	2,174,655	131,324	5.7	2,250,411	2,109,476	140,935	6.3

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

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

**2015 substate estimates will be revised at the conclusion of the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual bechmarking process.

↑   Unemployment Rate Up
↓   Unemployment Rate Down
−   Unemployment Rate =