For Immediate Release
December 16, 2016

South Carolina's Employment Situation
November 2016

Employment Exceeds 2.2 Million for the First Time

South Carolina's employment level in November surpassed 2.2 million people for the first time in state history, as the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.4 percent from 4.7 percent in October.

November's unemployment rate is the lowest in nearly 16 years. November's decrease marks the seventh consecutive month the unemployment rate has dropped.

Employment increased by 7,528 in November to a record level of 2,200,101, while the number of unemployed declined by 6,275 to 102,075, the lowest level since June 2001. This resulted in an increase in the labor force of 1,253 to 2,302,176.

Since November 2015, the number of employed has increased 63,450, and the labor force has increased by 41,366. The number of unemployed fell by 22,084.

Nationally, the November jobless rate decreased to 4.6 percent from 4.9 percent in October.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted[1])
November's seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll level increased by 12,500 from October to a level of 2,070,800.

Industries recording increases were Professional and Business Services (+3,600); Construction (+2,500); Leisure and Hospitality (+2,400); Manufacturing (+2,100); Government (+1,300); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+600); Education and Health Services (+600); and Information (+400). Other Services remained unchanged, while Financial Activities (-1,000) declined.

Compared to a year ago, seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 45,300. Growth was noted in Professional and Business Services (+13,200); Education and Health Services (+8,700); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+6,000); Manufacturing (+5,400); Construction (+4,900); Leisure and Hospitality (+3,700); Government (+2,300); and Financial Activities (+1.400). Reporting declines were Information (-500) and Other Services (-100).

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted[2])

The not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment in November reported an over-the-month increase of 13,200 to a level of 2,080,200. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities rose by 6,000 jobs.

Professional and Business Services (+3,100); Manufacturing (+2,400); Government (+2,300); Construction (+800); Education and Health Services (+500); Other Services (+400); and Information (+300), while Mining and Logging remained firm.

Nonfarm employment loss occurred in the Leisure and Hospitality (-1,600) and Financial Activities (-1,000) sectors.

In comparison to previous year, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 45,400 overall. Over-the-year growth was recorded in Professional and Business Services (+13,400); Education and Health Services (+8,800); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+6,000); Manufacturing (+5,400); Construction (+4,800); Leisure and Hospitality (+3,700); Government (+2,200); Financial Activities (+1,400); and Mining and Logging (+300). Information (-500) and Other Services (-100) saw marginal declines.

> [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.
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> [2]**Not Seasonally Adjusted**: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have not been removed from these data.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
November 2016

Jobs by Industry	November 2016	October 2016	November 2015	October 2016 to November 2016 # Change	October 2016 to November 2016 % Change	November 2015 to November 2016 # Change	November 2015 to November 2016 % Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	*2,070,800*	*2,058,300*	*2,025,500*	*12,500*	*0.60%*	*45,300*	*2.24%*
Construction	93,400	90,900	88,500	2,500	2.68%	4,900	5.54%
Manufacturing	241,900	239,800	236,500	2,100	0.87%	5,400	2.28%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	393,000	392,400	387,000	600	0.15%	6,000	1.55%
Information	26,600	26,200	27,100	400	1.50%	-500	-1.85%
Financial Activities	97,800	98,800	96,400	-1,000	-1.02%	1,400	1.45%
Professional and Business Services	282,900	279,300	269,700	3,600	1.27%	13,200	4.89%
Education and Health Services	248,600	248,000	239,900	600	0.24%	8,700	3.63%
Leisure and Hospitality	244,200	241,800	240,500	2,400	0.98%	3,700	1.54%
Other Services	73,700	73,700	73,800	0	0.00%	-100	-0.14%
Government	364,300	363,000	362,000	1,300	0.36%	2,300	0.64%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
November 2016

Jobs by Industry	November 2016	October 2016	November 2015	October 2016 to November 2016 # Change	October 2016 to November 2016 % Change	November 2015 to November 2016 # Change	November 2015 to November 2016 % Change
Total Nonfarm	*2,080,200*	*2,067,000*	*2,034,800*	*13,200*	*0.64%*	*45,400*	*2.23%*
Mining and Logging	4,400	4,400	4,100	0	0.00%	300	7.32%
Construction	92,700	91,900	87,900	800	0.87%	4,800	5.46%
Manufacturing	242,500	240,100	237,100	2,400	1.00%	5,400	2.28%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	398,100	392,100	392,100	6,000	1.53%	6,000	1.53%
Information	26,500	26,200	27,000	300	1.15%	-500	-1.85%
Financial Activities	98,500	99,500	97,100	-1,000	-1.01%	1,400	1.44%
Professional and Business Services	284,400	281,300	271,000	3,100	1.10%	13,400	4.94%
Education and Health Services	250,500	250,000	241,700	500	0.20%	8,800	3.64%
Leisure and Hospitality	238,500	240,100	234,800	-1,600	-0.67%	3,700	1.58%
Other Services	74,000	73,600	74,100	400	0.54%	-100	-0.13%
Government	370,100	367,800	367,900	2,300	0.63%	2,200	0.60%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)
November 2016

Area	November 2016	October 2016	November 2015	October 2016 to November 2016		November 2015 to November 2016	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	*2,070,800*	*2,058,300*	*2,025,500*	*12,500*	*0.60%*	*45,300*	*2.24%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	348,100	346,400	337,400	1,700	0.49%	10,700	3.17%
Columbia MSA	394,400	395,200	389,200	-800	-0.20%	5,200	1.34%
Florence MSA	87,200	86,900	86,800	300	0.34%	400	0.46%
Sumter MSA	39,100	39,400	39,000	-300	-0.77%	100	0.26%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)
November 2016

Area	November 2016	October 2016	November 2015	October 2016 to November 2016		November 2015 to November 2016	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	*2,080,200*	*2,067,000*	*2,034,800*	*13,200*	*0.64%*	*45,400*	*2.23%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	349,700	346,600	338,900	3,100	0.89%	10,800	3.19%
Columbia MSA	399,100	397,600	393,700	1,500	0.38%	5,400	1.37%
Florence MSA	88,100	87,300	87,700	800	0.92%	400	0.46%
Greenville MSA	415,600	414,100	408,500	1,500	0.36%	7,100	1.74%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	76,300	76,500	75,200	-200	-0.26%	1,100	1.46%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	155,600	155,900	153,800	-300	-0.19%	1,800	1.17%
Spartanburg MSA	148,000	147,600	146,000	400	0.27%	2,000	1.37%
Sumter MSA	39,400	39,300	39,300	100	0.25%	100	0.25%

Note: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

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

AREA		November 2016 LABOR FORCE	November 2016 EMPLOY-MENT	November 2016 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	November 2016 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	October 2016 LABOR FORCE	October 2016 EMPLOY-MENT	October 2016 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	October 2016 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	November 2015 LABOR FORCE	November 2015 EMPLOY-MENT	November 2015 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	November 2015 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
Marion County	↓	12,892	11,930	962	7.5	13,024	11,886	1,138	8.7	12,715	11,527	1,188	9.3
Bamberg County	↓	5,464	5,058	406	7.4	5,518	5,015	503	9.1	5,322	4,818	504	9.5
Allendale County	↓	2,736	2,536	200	7.3	2,738	2,515	223	8.1	2,683	2,423	260	9.7
Orangeburg County	↓	36,958	34,302	2,656	7.2	37,572	34,055	3,517	9.4	36,251	32,826	3,425	9.4
Marlboro County	↓	9,657	9,016	641	6.6	9,687	8,943	744	7.7	9,470	8,584	886	9.4
Williamsburg County	↓	12,894	12,139	755	5.9	12,971	12,056	915	7.1	12,814	11,647	1,167	9.1
Barnwell County	↓	8,454	7,960	494	5.8	8,465	7,902	563	6.7	8,256	7,616	640	7.8
Chester County	↓	13,715	12,927	788	5.7	13,852	12,970	882	6.4	13,529	12,550	979	7.2
Fairfield County	↓	10,226	9,648	578	5.7	10,321	9,668	653	6.3	10,201	9,436	765	7.5
Lee County	↓	6,435	6,072	363	5.6	6,461	6,056	405	6.3	6,368	5,890	478	7.5
Calhoun County	↓	7,047	6,674	373	5.3	7,133	6,686	447	6.3	6,953	6,536	417	6.0
Dillon County	↓	12,601	11,931	670	5.3	12,695	11,852	843	6.6	12,442	11,460	982	7.9
Clarendon County	↓	13,137	12,453	684	5.2	13,164	12,383	781	5.9	12,896	12,001	895	6.9
Georgetown County	↓	25,539	24,218	1,321	5.2	25,611	24,102	1,509	5.9	25,338	23,300	2,038	8.0
Darlington County	↓	29,711	28,192	1,519	5.1	29,894	28,161	1,733	5.8	29,755	27,817	1,938	6.5
Horry County	↓	133,423	126,915	6,508	4.9	134,811	127,742	7,069	5.2	133,229	124,364	8,865	6.7
Sumter County	↓	43,952	41,796	2,156	4.9	44,403	41,986	2,417	5.4	44,090	41,324	2,766	6.3
Cherokee County	↓	23,738	22,640	1,098	4.6	23,775	22,510	1,265	5.3	23,105	21,684	1,421	6.2
Edgefield County	↓	10,716	10,222	494	4.6	10,726	10,158	568	5.3	10,580	9,928	652	6.2
Union County	↓	11,686	11,153	533	4.6	11,783	11,173	610	5.2	11,665	10,891	774	6.6
Hampton County	↓	8,162	7,795	367	4.5	8,202	7,776	426	5.2	8,084	7,512	572	7.1
Colleton County	↓	17,154	16,414	740	4.3	17,160	16,303	857	5.0	16,768	15,758	1,010	6.0
Kershaw County	↓	29,275	28,021	1,254	4.3	29,506	28,076	1,430	4.8	28,950	27,402	1,548	5.3
Lancaster County	↓	36,481	34,914	1,567	4.3	36,876	35,021	1,855	5.0	35,921	33,926	1,995	5.6
Florence County	↓	64,880	62,133	2,747	4.2	65,205	62,043	3,162	4.8	65,199	61,352	3,847	5.9
Greenwood County	↓	31,757	30,413	1,344	4.2	31,735	30,198	1,537	4.8	30,745	29,049	1,696	5.5
McCormick County	↓	3,485	3,339	146	4.2	3,492	3,313	179	5.1	3,420	3,205	215	6.3
Abbeville County	↓	10,525	10,090	435	4.1	10,526	10,015	511	4.9	10,268	9,651	617	6.0
Chesterfield County	↓	21,625	20,765	860	4.0	21,648	20,651	997	4.6	21,163	20,000	1,163	5.5
Laurens County	↓	30,668	29,441	1,227	4.0	30,889	29,483	1,406	4.6	30,380	28,717	1,663	5.5
Pickens County	↓	56,777	54,509	2,268	4.0	57,080	54,590	2,490	4.4	55,999	53,142	2,857	5.1
Richland County	↓	200,092	192,127	7,965	4.0	201,515	192,567	8,948	4.4	197,785	187,590	10,195	5.2
Aiken County	↓	73,675	70,769	2,906	3.9	73,750	70,344	3,406	4.6	72,450	68,521	3,929	5.4
Beaufort County	↓	71,442	68,729	2,713	3.8	72,549	69,268	3,281	4.5	70,671	67,343	3,328	4.7
Oconee County	↓	35,195	33,842	1,353	3.8	35,230	33,645	1,585	4.5	34,306	32,466	1,840	5.4
Spartanburg County	↓	141,299	135,917	5,382	3.8	142,352	136,182	6,170	4.3	139,593	132,654	6,939	5.0
York County	↓	127,526	122,674	4,852	3.8	128,520	123,049	5,471	4.3	125,260	119,188	6,072	4.8
Anderson County	↓	89,609	86,382	3,227	3.6	90,274	86,527	3,747	4.2	88,304	84,170	4,134	4.7
Berkeley County	↓	95,056	91,650	3,406	3.6	95,350	91,404	3,946	4.1	92,447	87,998	4,449	4.8
Dorchester County	↓	73,677	71,014	2,663	3.6	73,885	70,819	3,066	4.1	71,715	68,213	3,502	4.9
Jasper County	↓	11,795	11,385	410	3.5	11,933	11,451	482	4.0	11,738	11,222	516	4.4
Saluda County	↓	8,885	8,575	310	3.5	8,951	8,586	365	4.1	8,837	8,420	417	4.7
Greenville County	↓	244,723	236,315	8,408	3.4	246,398	236,718	9,680	3.9	240,806	230,219	10,587	4.4
Newberry County	↓	19,157	18,497	660	3.4	19,159	18,407	752	3.9	18,659	17,785	874	4.7
Lexington County	↓	146,393	141,617	4,776	3.3	147,491	141,897	5,594	3.8	144,718	138,470	6,248	4.3
Charleston County	↓	202,421	196,024	6,397	3.2	202,947	195,415	7,532	3.7	197,013	188,678	8,335	4.2
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	371,154	358,688	12,466	3.4	372,182	357,638	14,544	3.9	361,175	344,889	16,286	4.5
Columbia MSA	↓	401,918	386,662	15,256	3.8	404,917	387,480	17,437	4.3	397,444	377,854	19,590	4.9
Florence MSA	↓	94,591	90,325	4,266	4.5	95,099	90,204	4,895	5.1	94,954	89,169	5,785	6.1
Greenville -Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↓	421,777	406,647	15,130	3.6	424,641	407,318	17,323	4.1	415,489	396,248	19,241	4.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↓	2,302,176	2,200,101	102,075	4.4	2,300,923	2,192,573	108,350	4.7	2,260,810	2,136,651	124,159	5.5

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

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

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
– Unemployment Rate =