

# Newsline



Released August 20, 2004

July 2004

127

## Unemployment Down Sharply in July

South Carolina's unemployment rate dropped rather sharply from 6.6% in June to 6.0% in July, the State Employment Security Commission reported today. The household survey used to tally the numbers reported reductions in job losers, job leavers, and unemployed re-entrants to the labor force. The only group that increased was unemployed new entrants to the labor force. An increase in new entrants during July usually indicates students and graduates are entering the labor market looking for jobs.

According to the monthly industry survey, nonfarm jobs in the state tumbled 32,100 in July. This drop is typical for this time of year as state and local schools release nonfaculty staff for the summer recess. Overall, Government posted a loss of 25,400 jobs over the month. The closing of private schools for the summer resulted in a 1,500-job reduction in Educational Services. Retail Trade cut 2,000 jobs, likely reflecting a post July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday lull. State manufacturers cut 1,100 from their payrolls.



S. C. Employment Security Commission Roosevelt T. Halley, Executive Director

P. O. Box 995, Columbia, South Carolina 29202 (803) 737-2617



**WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT  
JULY 2004**

Industry	JULY 2004	JUNE 2004	JULY 2003	NET CHANGE MONTH AGO	NET CHANGE YEAR AGO
<b>Total Nonag. Employment.....</b>	<b>1,816,600</b>	<b>1,848,700</b>	<b>1,786,800</b>	<b>-32,100</b>	<b>29,800</b>
Natural Resources & Mining .....	4,500	4,500	5,100	0	-600
Construction .....	115,100	115,800	112,900	-700	2,200
Manufacturing .....	270,600	271,700	274,800	-1,100	-4,200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities .....	350,500	352,400	346,700	-1,900	3,800
Information .....	25,900	26,200	26,700	-300	-800
Financial Activities .....	94,600	94,900	94,300	-300	300
Professional and Business Services .....	193,500	193,800	188,400	-300	5,100
Educational and Health Services .....	184,300	185,200	171,800	-900	12,500
Leisure and Hospitality .....	210,300	211,100	204,500	-800	5,800
Government .....	301,100	326,500	295,600	-25,400	5,500

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATES RANKED BY COUNTY  
(Unadjusted)  
JULY 2004**

Rank	County	Unemployment Rate		
		July 2004	June 2004	Change
1	MARION .....	20.2	17.3	2.9
2	MARLBORO .....	19.6	22.0	-2.4
3	FAIRFIELD .....	15.8	14.1	1.7
	WILLIAMSBURG .....	15.8	16.2	-0.4
5	UNION .....	14.5	15.2	-0.7
6	CHESTER .....	14.4	15.5	-1.1
7	DILLON .....	13.8	14.0	-0.2
8	CHESTERFIELD .....	11.9	13.0	-1.1
9	BARNWELL .....	11.4	12.3	-0.9
	GEORGETOWN .....	11.4	12.6	-1.2
11	McCORMICK .....	11.2	10.3	0.9
12	LANCASTER .....	10.7	11.1	-0.4
13	LAURENS .....	10.6	8.7	1.9
14	ORANGEBURG .....	10.2	10.9	-0.7
15	GREENWOOD .....	10.1	10.5	-0.4
16	CLARENDON .....	9.6	9.2	0.4
17	HAMPTON .....	9.5	10.0	-0.5
18	ABBEVILLE .....	9.4	8.8	0.6
	DARLINGTON .....	9.4	9.7	-0.3
20	OCONEE .....	9.2	8.0	1.2
21	CHEROKEE .....	9.0	9.7	-0.7
22	LEE .....	8.8	9.4	-0.6
23	SUMTER .....	8.7	8.3	0.4
24	YORK .....	8.2	8.4	-0.2
25	FLORENCE .....	8.1	8.7	-0.6
	SPARTANBURG .....	8.1	8.9	-0.8
27	COLLETON .....	7.5	7.9	-0.4
28	AIKEN .....	6.9	7.1	-0.2
	CALHOUN .....	6.9	7.0	-0.1
30	ALLENDALE .....	6.7	7.1	-0.4
	NEWBERRY .....	6.7	6.8	-0.1
32	KERSHAW .....	6.6	6.8	-0.2
33	ANDERSON .....	6.3	6.0	0.3
	SALUDA .....	6.3	6.1	0.2
35	PICKENS .....	5.5	5.7	-0.2
36	BAMBERG .....	5.0	5.2	-0.2
37	CHARLESTON .....	4.9	5.5	-0.6
	JASPER .....	4.9	5.1	-0.2
39	BERKELEY .....	4.8	4.7	0.1
	RICHLAND .....	4.8	5.1	-0.3
41	EDGEFIELD .....	4.7	4.2	0.5
42	GREENVILLE .....	4.2	4.5	-0.3
43	DORCHESTER .....	4.0	4.3	-0.3
44	HORRY .....	3.6	4.1	-0.5
45	BEAUFORT .....	3.3	3.6	-0.3
46	LEXINGTON .....	3.2	3.5	-0.3

**LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT BY LABOR MARKET AREA**

July 2004

AREA:	LABOR FORCE			UNEMPLOYMENT			% OF LABOR FORCE		
	July 2004	June 2004	July 2003	July 2004	June 2004	July 2003	July 2004	June 2004	July 2003
ABBEVILLE	11,660	11,800	12,200	1,100	1,040	1,300	9.4	8.8	10.7
AIKEN	71,410	70,470	70,500	4,920	4,970	7,560	6.9	7.1	10.7
ALLEDALE	3,920	4,060	4,010	260	290	280	6.7	7.1	7.1
ANDERSON	88,690	89,070	86,400	5,560	5,330	6,540	6.3	6.0	7.6
BAMBERG	9,990	9,840	8,820	500	510	600	5.0	5.2	6.8
BARNWELL	9,480	9,530	10,450	1,080	1,170	1,260	11.4	12.3	12.0
BEAUFORT	62,060	63,180	60,550	2,040	2,260	1,940	3.3	3.6	3.2
BERKELEY	77,190	75,970	71,420	3,710	3,600	3,850	4.8	4.7	5.4
CALHOUN	7,340	7,290	7,120	500	510	580	6.9	7.0	8.2
CHARLESTON	186,380	184,800	172,430	9,100	10,180	9,390	4.9	5.5	5.4
CHEROKEE	28,100	28,520	27,130	2,540	2,770	2,580	9.0	9.7	9.5
CHESTER	13,560	13,500	15,100	1,950	2,090	2,620	14.4	15.5	17.3
CHESTERFIELD	19,610	20,520	20,510	2,330	2,680	2,850	11.9	13.0	13.9
CLARENDON	12,840	13,400	13,150	1,230	1,230	1,380	9.6	9.2	10.5
COLLETON	14,950	15,190	15,220	1,120	1,200	1,380	7.5	7.9	9.1
DARLINGTON	28,870	30,270	29,310	2,720	2,930	3,160	9.4	9.7	10.8
DILLON	12,990	12,850	12,810	1,800	1,800	1,890	13.8	14.0	14.7
DORCHESTER	57,070	56,390	53,030	2,290	2,430	2,650	4.0	4.3	5.0
EDGEFIELD	11,850	11,620	11,700	550	490	1,000	4.7	4.2	8.6
FAIRFIELD	8,920	8,770	9,540	1,410	1,230	1,810	15.8	14.1	18.9
FLORENCE MSA	68,000	69,100	65,180	5,520	6,040	5,800	8.1	8.7	8.9
GEORGETOWN	26,460	27,370	27,090	3,020	3,440	3,310	11.4	12.6	12.2
GREENVILLE	207,800	209,910	201,110	8,730	9,370	9,890	4.2	4.5	4.9
GREENWOOD	31,210	31,920	32,670	3,160	3,350	3,720	10.1	10.5	11.4
HAMPTON	7,960	8,030	7,950	760	810	1,020	9.5	10.0	12.8
HORRY/MYR BCH MSA	124,000	122,380	116,410	4,470	5,040	4,610	3.6	4.1	4.0
JASPER	10,510	10,690	10,300	520	550	540	4.9	5.1	5.3
KERSHAW	24,560	24,810	24,700	1,620	1,690	2,090	6.6	6.8	8.5
LANCASTER	26,590	26,570	28,110	2,830	2,940	3,250	10.7	11.1	11.6
LAURENS	26,180	25,630	27,510	2,790	2,240	3,520	10.6	8.7	12.8
LEE	9,310	9,410	9,080	820	890	890	8.8	9.4	9.8
LEXINGTON	129,960	128,320	125,660	4,180	4,440	4,700	3.2	3.5	3.7
McCORMICK	3,740	3,770	4,050	420	390	620	11.2	10.3	15.4
MARION	15,410	15,340	14,410	3,120	2,660	2,640	20.2	17.3	18.3
MARLBORO	11,930	12,680	12,810	2,340	2,790	2,840	19.6	22.0	22.1
NEWBERRY	20,110	19,920	19,220	1,350	1,350	1,520	6.7	6.8	7.9
OCONEE	25,790	26,690	27,320	2,370	2,150	2,930	9.2	8.0	10.7
ORANGEBURG	42,810	42,750	42,350	4,390	4,670	5,580	10.2	10.9	13.2
PICKENS	58,460	59,030	58,160	3,230	3,390	5,100	5.5	5.7	8.8
RICHLAND	174,790	172,720	168,210	8,350	8,800	8,160	4.8	5.1	4.8
SALUDA	10,660	10,520	9,610	670	640	740	6.3	6.1	7.7
SPARTANBURG	139,230	141,610	134,130	11,240	12,670	11,170	8.1	8.9	8.3
SUMTER MSA	46,010	46,800	47,500	4,000	3,900	4,160	8.7	8.3	8.7
UNION	13,510	13,630	13,510	1,960	2,070	1,960	14.5	15.2	14.5
WILLIAMSBURG	15,290	15,610	15,280	2,410	2,530	3,030	15.8	16.2	19.9
YORK	98,090	97,250	94,500	8,060	8,200	9,240	8.2	8.4	9.8
CHAS MSA	320,640	317,160	296,870	15,110	16,210	15,900	4.7	5.1	5.4
COLA MSA	304,750	301,030	293,880	12,540	13,240	12,860	4.1	4.4	4.4
GRNV MSA	522,280	528,130	506,930	31,280	33,530	35,280	6.0	6.3	7.0

\*Seasonally adjusted data for South Carolina given in thousands.

<b>*South Carolina</b>	<b>2,067.3</b>	<b>2,064.9</b>	<b>2,011.3</b>	<b>125.0</b>	<b>136.8</b>	<b>144.7</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.2</b>
------------------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	------------	------------	------------