

Economic Overview And Outlook: South Carolina

JOBS

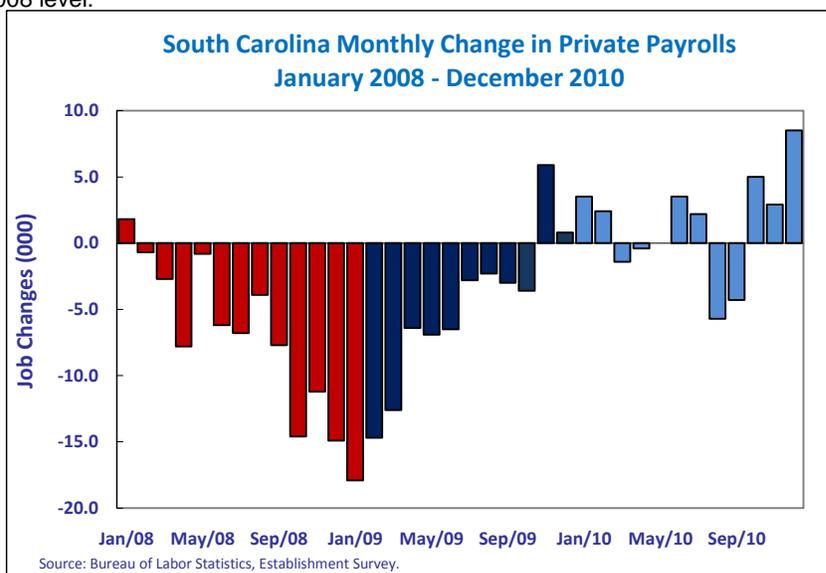
- Nationwide, the private sector gained jobs in each month of 2010.
- The President's Council of Economic Advisers estimates that investments made through the Recovery Act have boosted employment in South Carolina by 43,000 jobs through the 3rd quarter of 2010.
- In South Carolina, private sector employment fell by 9.1 percent from December 2007 to December 2009. In 2010, private sector employment grew by 1.1 percent.
- In South Carolina, employees in the construction, manufacturing, and professional and business services sectors faced the largest job losses (as a percent of employment within an industry) over the recession. In 2010, the following sectors in South Carolina experienced the greatest employment increases: financial activities; manufacturing; and other services.*
- As the economy recovers from the Great Recession, service-providing industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2008 and 2018, with the largest gains in professional and business services, education, health care and social assistance, and State and local government. Within the goods-producing sector of the economy, only the construction industry is projected to add jobs above its 2008 level.

EMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in South Carolina was 10.7 percent in December 2010, up 5.1 percentage points from December 2007, but down from its most recent peak of 12.5 percent reached in January 2010.
- 232,000 South Carolina residents were counted among the unemployed in South Carolina during December 2010.

EARNINGS

- Between the start of the recession in the 4th quarter of 2007 and the 3rd quarter of 2009, inflation-adjusted total personal income in the United States declined 2.2 percent. Most recently, in the 3rd quarter of 2010, total personal income remained 0.2 percent below the 4th quarter 2007 peak.
- Real per capita personal income (in 2005 \$) in South Carolina was \$29,877.00 in the 3rd quarter of 2010, up from \$29,872.50 in the 3rd quarter of 2008.



HOUSING

- National home prices, including distressed sales, saw a decrease of 5.1 percent in November 2010 from November 2009 compared to a 3.4 percent decrease in October. In South Carolina, home prices saw a decrease of 2.0 percent in November 2010 from November 2009 following October's year over year decrease of 1.8 percent.
- The median price of single-family homes in South Carolina was \$135,855 in the second quarter of 2010, compared to \$180,176 nationwide.
- As of the 3rd quarter of 2010, 3.6 percent of all mortgages, including 10.5 percent of subprime mortgages, were in foreclosure in South Carolina.
- Housing starts in South Carolina totaled 13,240 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2010, a decrease of 9.7 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes South Carolina, sales of new single-family homes totaled 165,000 units in November 2010, an increase of 5.8 percent from October. Sales of existing single-family homes increased 10.0 percent to 1,760,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2010.

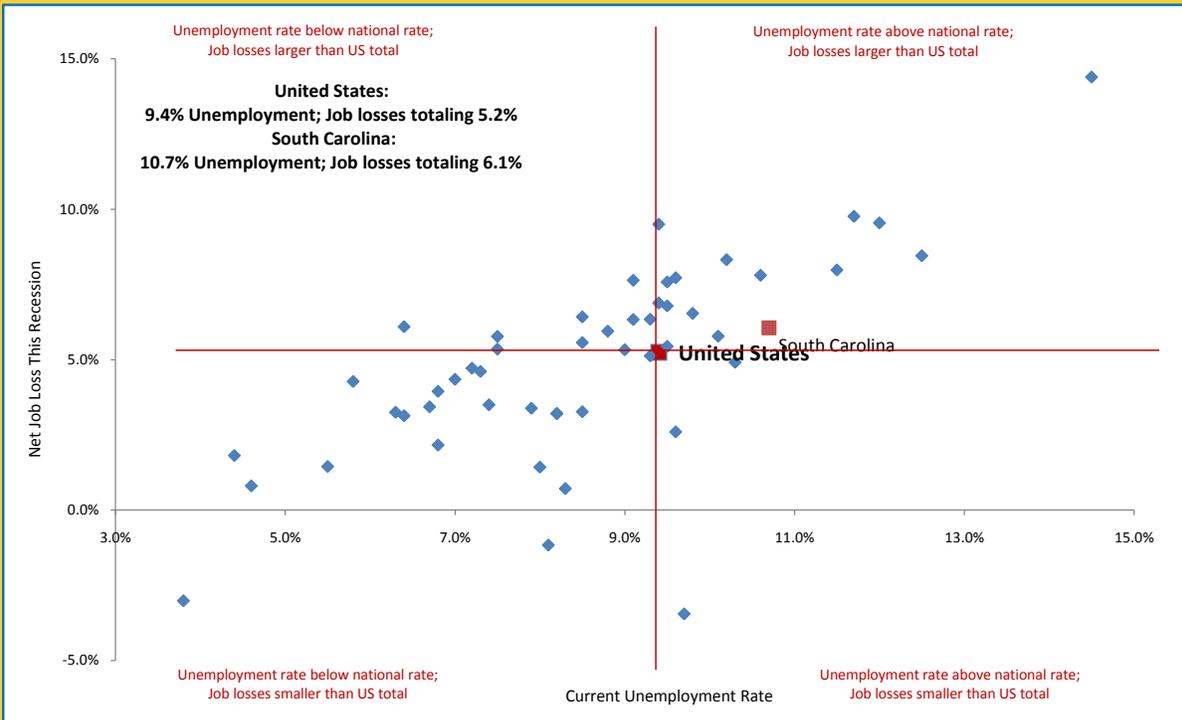
* For South Carolina-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the South Carolina office: <http://www.sces.org/lmi/news/news.asp>

How Does South Carolina Compare To Other States?

Workers across the country have been hard hit by the Great Recession. This chart allows you to compare South Carolina to other states using two metrics.

The current unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor market conditions faced by residents, while the proportion of jobs lost within South Carolina over the course of the recession (shown along the vertical axis) measures the toll the recession has taken on the job supply in South Carolina.

States falling in the upper right quadrant have lost a disproportionate share of jobs, relative to the total United States, and have unemployment rates higher than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower left quadrant have both lower unemployment rates and lower job losses (or even gains) than the national average.



STATE QUICK FACTS

		South Carolina	United States
Unemployment Rates	December 2008	9.4%	7.3%
	December 2009	12.4%	9.9%
	December 2010	10.7%	9.4%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2009	8.4%	7.1%
Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2009	10.1%	8.9%
Median Household Income	2007	\$ 45,738	\$ 51,965
	(2009 \$) 2009	\$ 41,101	\$ 49,777
Poverty Rate	2007	14.1%	12.5%
	2009	13.7%	14.3%
No Health Insurance	2007	16.4%	15.3%
	2009	17.0%	16.7%