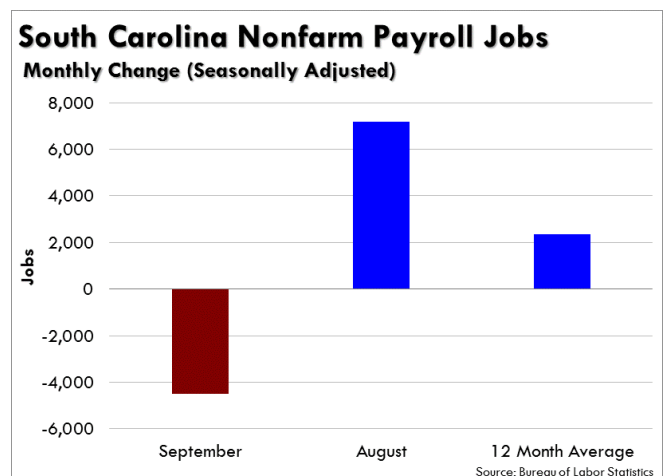
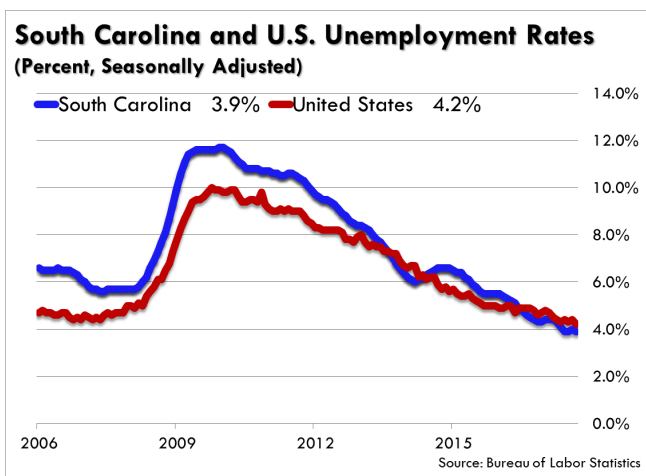


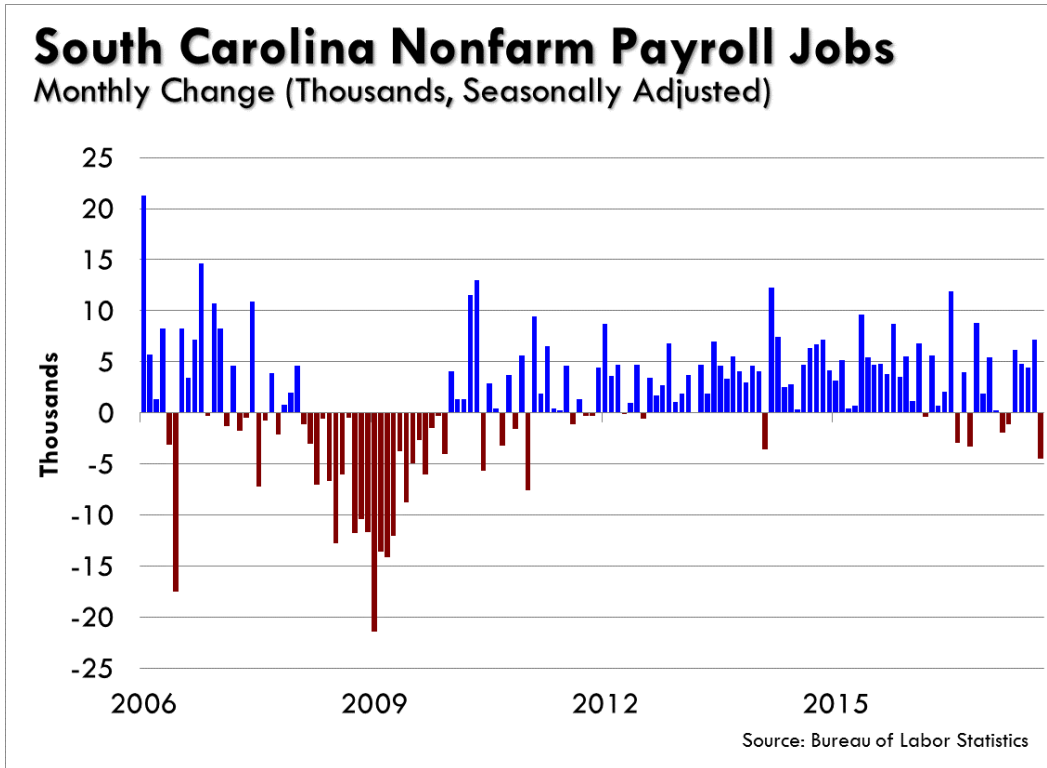


October 23, 2017

Summary

- **South Carolina lost 4,500 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 3.9 percent in September** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, South Carolina added 28,100 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.6 percentage point from 4.5 percent.
- **In September, South Carolina's private sector lost 2,300 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 23,300 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed South Carolinians fell by 1,641 in September**, and over the past year 39,183 South Carolinians found jobs.
- South Carolina's **labor force participation rate increased to 58.8 percent** from 58.7 percent in September. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.2 percent in September**. State employment and unemployment data for October is scheduled for release on November 17, 2017. The national employment situation report for October will be released on Friday, November 3, 2017.





South Carolina Payroll Employment

South Carolina lost 4,500 jobs, or 0.21 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during September. In the prior month, South Carolina added 7,200 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in South Carolina increased by 28,100, or 1.36 percent. South Carolina nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

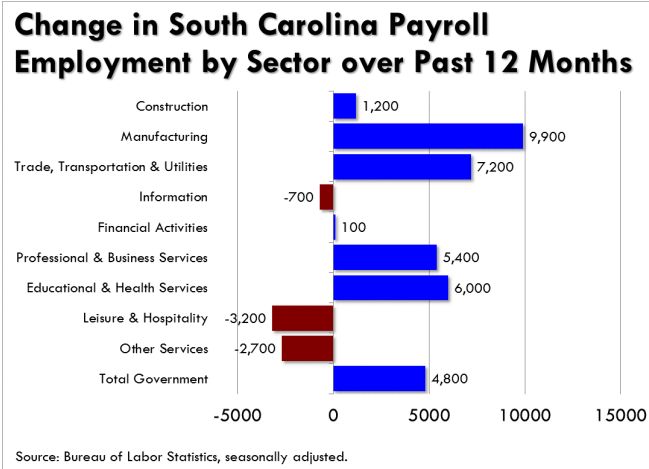
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls decreased by 33,000 jobs in September, or 0.02 percent. Over the 12-month period ending September 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 1,777,000 jobs, or 1.23 percent. South Carolina ranks 29th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During September, South Carolina's private-sector lost 2,300 jobs, or 0.13 percent. The private-sector in South Carolina added 4,700 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in South Carolina increased by 23,300, or 1.37 percent. South Carolina private-sector payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs decreased by 40,000 jobs in September, or 0.03 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 1,756,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.43 percent. South Carolina ranks 26th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during September were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+4,300) and Construction (+2,300). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Professional & Business Services (-4,300) and Leisure & Hospitality (-3,200).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Manufacturing (+9,900) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+7,200). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (-3,200) and Other Services (-2,700).



South Carolina Labor Force Statistics

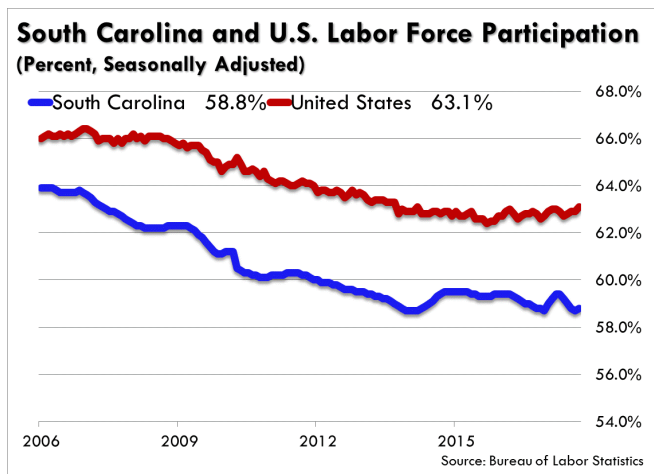
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in South Carolina rose to 58.8 percent in September from 58.7 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 45 have a higher labor force participation rate than South Carolina. The labor force participation rate in South Carolina is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina was 62.7 percent in October 2007. The series high for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina occurred in July 1993 when the labor force participation rate hit 67.0 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 58.7 percent in August 2017. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.2 percentage point to 63.1 percent in September, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the South Carolina civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 56.5 percent in September from 56.4 percent the



prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 44 have higher employment-to-population ratios than South Carolina. The employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina is 0.3 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina was 59.1 percent in October 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina occurred in May 1990 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 63.8 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 53.6 percent in April 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in May 2010 when the employment-to-population ratio was 53.6 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.3 percentage point to 60.4 percent in September. That rate was 0.6 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

