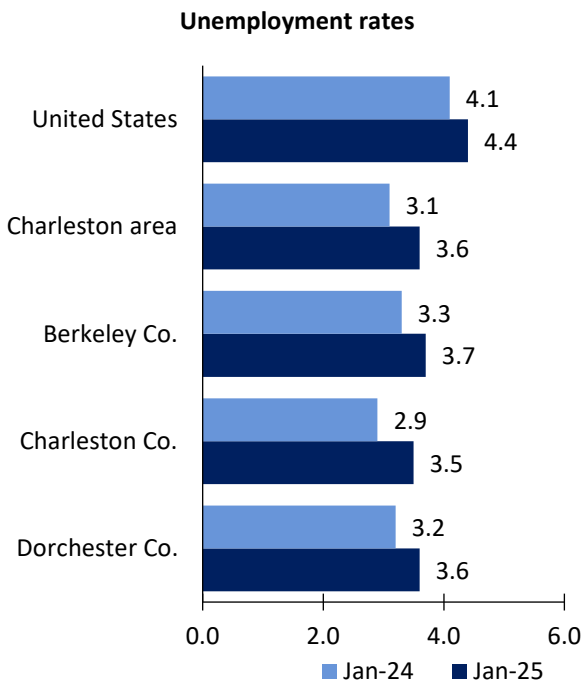


# Charleston, SC, Area Economic Summary

Updated March 21, 2025

This summary presents a sampling of economic information for the area; supplemental data are provided for regions and the nation. Subjects include **unemployment, employment, wages, prices, spending, and benefits**. All data are not seasonally adjusted and some may be subject to revision. Area definitions may differ by subject. For more area summaries and geographic definitions, see <https://www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm>.

## Unemployment rates for the nation and selected areas



Source: U.S. BLS, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.

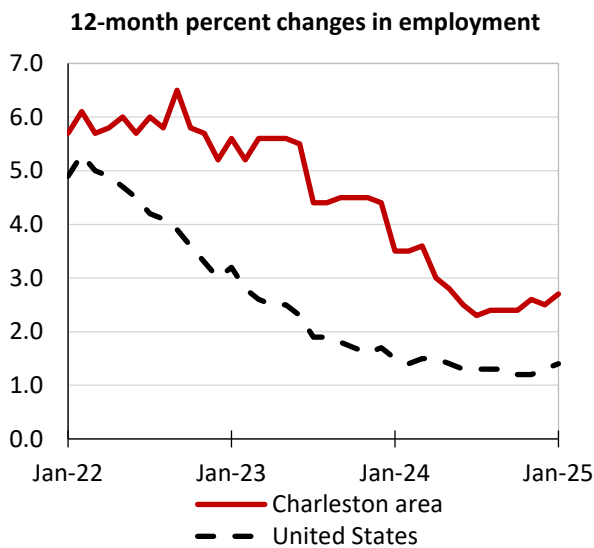
## Average weekly wages for all industries by county

**Charleston area, third quarter 2024**  
(U.S. = \$1,394; Area = \$1,248)



Source: U.S. BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

## Employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector, over-the-year changes



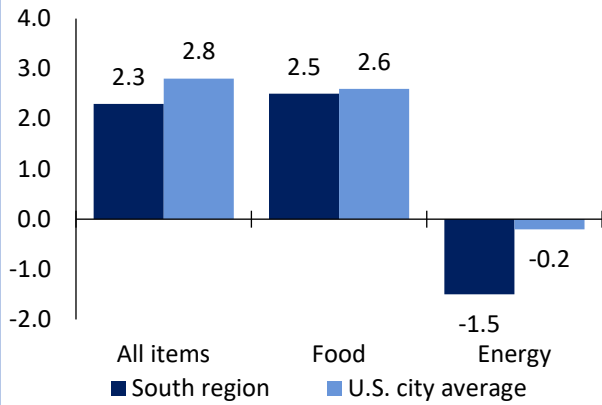
| Charleston area employment<br>(number in thousands) | Jan. 2025 | Change from Jan.<br>2024 to Jan. 2025 |         |
|---|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------|
|   |           | Number                                | Percent |
| Total nonfarm                                       | 424.2     | 11.0                                  | 2.7     |
| Mining, logging, and construction                   | 24.4      | 1.9                                   | 8.4     |
| Manufacturing                                       | 34.8      | 0.4                                   | 1.2     |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities                | 77.1      | 1.7                                   | 2.3     |
| Information   | 8.0       | 0.1                                   | 1.3     |
| Financial activities                                | 21.6      | 1.2                                   | 5.9     |
| Professional and business services                  | 66.8      | -0.2                                  | -0.3    |
| Education and health services                       | 51.3      | 2.7                                   | 5.6     |
| Leisure and hospitality                             | 51.9      | -0.3                                  | -0.6    |
| Other services                                      | 16.5      | 0.4                                   | 2.5     |
| Government  | 71.8      | 3.1                                   | 4.5     |

Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.



Prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories, over-the-year change

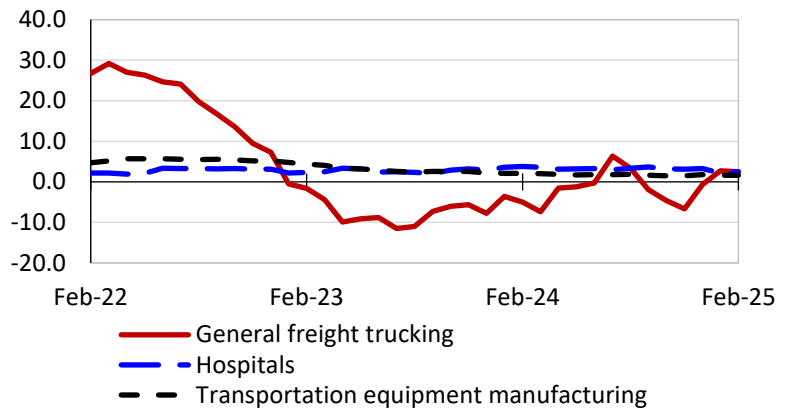
**12-month percent change in CPI-U, February 2025**



Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.

Selling prices received by producers for selected industries nationwide, over-the-year change

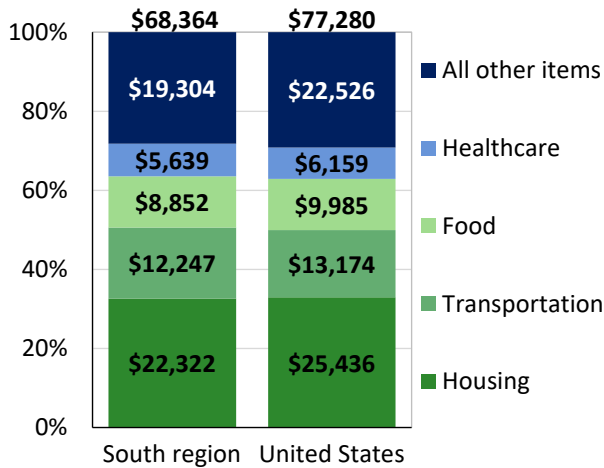
**12-month percent changes in PPI**



Source: U.S. BLS, Producer Price Index.

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

**Average annual expenditures, 2023**



Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Expenditure Survey.

Average hourly wages for selected occupations, May 2023

| Occupation                      | Charleston area | United States |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| All occupations                 | \$28.29         | \$31.48       |
| General and operations managers | 55.05           | 62.18         |
| Registered nurses               | 41.35           | 45.42         |
| Accountants and auditors        | 40.12           | 43.65         |
| Construction laborers           | 19.98           | 23.69         |
| Medical assistants              | 19.95           | 20.84         |
| Retail salespersons             | 15.70           | 17.64         |

Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics.

Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

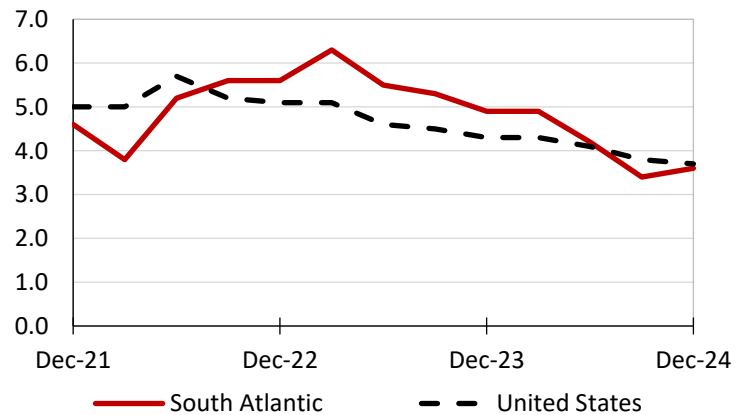
| Private industry, December 2024 | South Atlantic | United States |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Total compensation              | \$41.19        | \$44.67       |
| Wages and salaries              | 29.51          | 31.47         |
| Total benefits                  | 11.68          | 13.20         |
| Paid leave                      | 3.07           | 3.38          |
| Vacation                        | 1.57           | 1.71          |
| Supplemental pay                | 1.68           | 1.84          |
| Insurance                       | 2.73           | 3.22          |
| Retirement and savings          | 1.27           | 1.52          |
| Legally required benefits       | 2.91           | 3.24          |

Map of Census Regions and Divisions

Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

Changes in wages and salaries over-the-year

**12-month percent changes in ECI**



Source: U.S. BLS, Employment Cost Index.