Augusta, GA-SC, Area Economic Summary

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 www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm.

Unemployment rates for the nation and selected areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Aug-21</th>
<th>Aug-22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta area</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aiken Co., SC</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burke Co., GA</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Co., GA</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond Co., GA</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Augusta area, first quarter 2022
(U.S. = $1,374; Area = $1,041)

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

Over-the-year changes in employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Aug. 2022</th>
<th>Change from Aug. 2021 to Aug. 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total nonfarm</td>
<td>243.8</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining, logging, and construction</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade, transportation, and utilities</td>
<td>44.3</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial activities</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and business services</td>
<td>34.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and health services</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure and hospitality</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>43.1</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over-the-year change in the **prices paid by urban consumers** for selected categories

**12-month percent change in CPI-U, August 2022**

- All items: 22.6%
- Food: 11.5%
- Energy: 11.4%

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

Over-the-year changes in the **selling prices received by producers** for selected industries nationwide

**12-month percent changes in PPI**

- General freight trucking: 9.6%
- Hospitals: 11.5%
- Textile product mills: 12.8%
- Construction laborers: 11.4%
- Customer service representatives: 11.0%
- Retail salespersons: 10.2%

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

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

**Average annual expenditures, United States and South region, 2021**

- All items: $11,729
- Food: $7,873
- Energy: $5,452
- South region: $10,244
- United States: $22,624

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

Average hourly wages for selected occupations

**Occupation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Augusta area</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All occupations</td>
<td>$23.22</td>
<td>$28.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and operations managers</td>
<td>45.53</td>
<td>55.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountants and auditors</td>
<td>34.89</td>
<td>40.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered nurses</td>
<td>34.82</td>
<td>39.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction laborers</td>
<td>19.51</td>
<td>21.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer service representatives</td>
<td>16.17</td>
<td>18.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail salespersons</td>
<td>12.78</td>
<td>15.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private industry, June 2022</th>
<th>South Atlantic (1)</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total compensation</td>
<td>$36.02</td>
<td>$38.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>26.03</td>
<td>27.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total benefits</td>
<td>9.98</td>
<td>11.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid leave</td>
<td>2.68</td>
<td>2.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>1.37</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental pay</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>1.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>2.41</td>
<td>2.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement and savings</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally required benefits</td>
<td>2.68</td>
<td>2.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The states that compose the South Atlantic census division are: DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, and WV.

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

Over-the-year changes in wages and salaries

**12-month percent changes in ECI**

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