

# Charleston, SC, Area Economic Summary

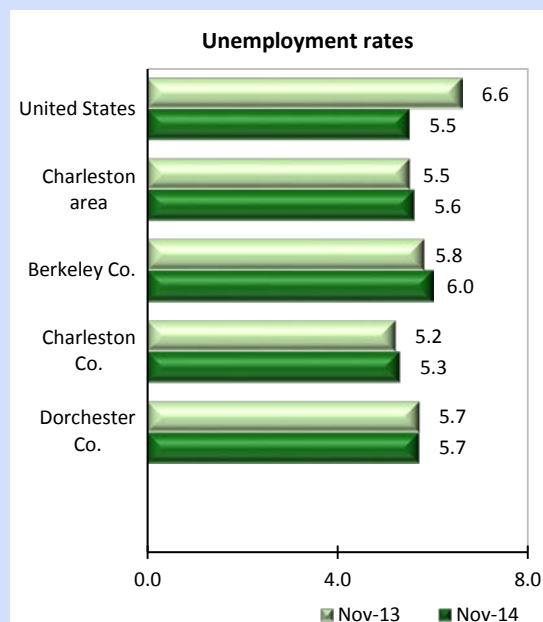


Updated January 05, 2015

[www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)

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](http://www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm).

## Unemployment rates for the Charleston area, selected area counties, and the nation



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

## Average weekly wages for all industries by county

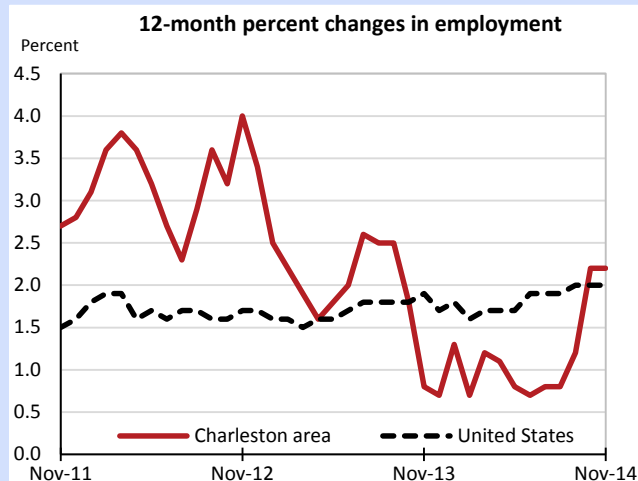
### Charleston area, 2nd quarter 2014

(U.S. = \$940; Area = \$810)



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

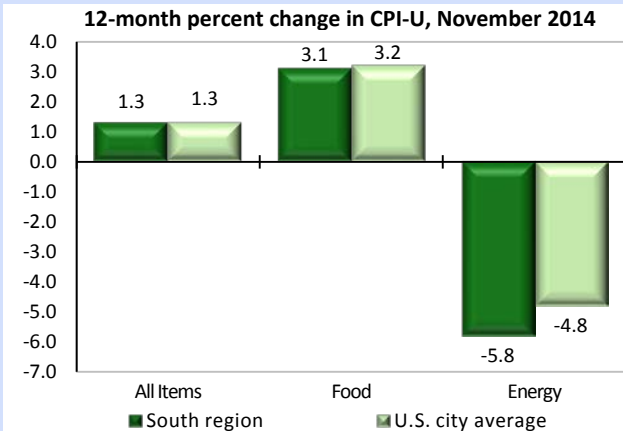


Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

Charleston area employment (numbers in thousands)	Nov. 2014	Change from Nov. 2013 to Nov. 2014	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	319.5	6.8	2.2
Mining, logging, and construction	14.4	-0.7	-4.6
Manufacturing	25.1	1.1	4.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	61.4	1.6	2.7
Information	5.3	0.1	1.9
Financial activities	12.9	0.1	0.8
Professional and business services	47.9	3.0	6.7
Education and health services	37.7	1.6	4.4
Leisure and hospitality	39.7	0.6	1.5
Other services	13.0	0.1	0.8
Government	62.1	-0.7	-1.1

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

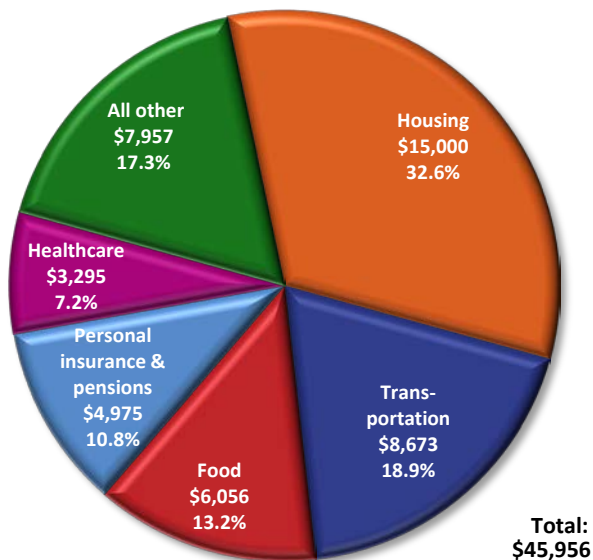
Over-the-year change in the prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories



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

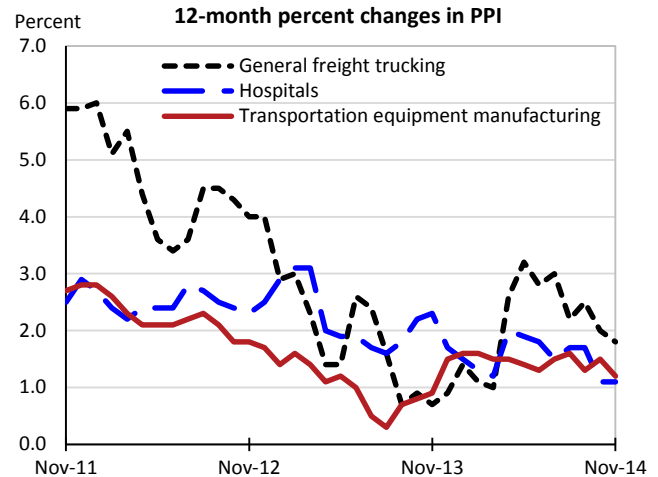
Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

**South Region average annual expenditures 2013**



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

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



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

Average hourly wages for selected occupations

Occupation	Charleston area	United States
Total, all occupations	\$20.25	\$22.33
General and operations managers	50.21	55.81
Registered nurses	32.16	33.13
Accountants and auditors	28.92	34.86
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	19.36	19.68
Medical assistants	15.42	14.80
Construction laborers	13.47	16.84
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	12.90	12.83
Retail salespersons	11.52	12.20
Cashiers	9.45	9.82
Waiters and waitresses	9.42	10.04
Cooks, fast food	8.81	9.07

Source: U.S. BLS, Occupational Employment Statistics, May 2013.

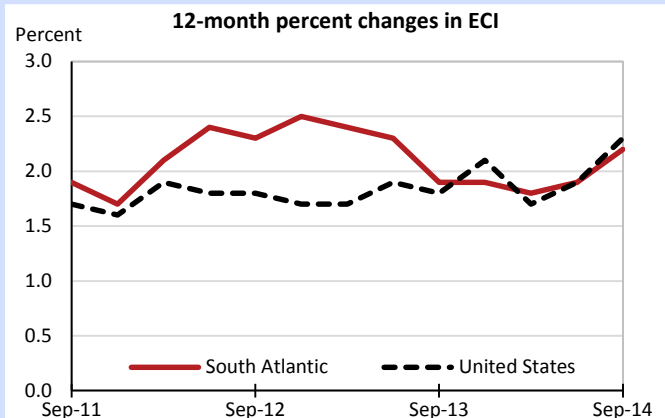
Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

Private industry, September 2014	South Atlantic (1)	United States
Total compensation	\$28.09	\$30.32
Wages and salaries	20.02	21.18
Total benefits	8.07	9.14
Paid leave	1.95	2.10
Vacation	1.01	1.09
Supplemental pay	0.74	0.86
Insurance	2.16	2.50
Retirement and savings	1.02	1.23
Legally required benefits	2.20	2.45

(1) South Atlantic includes DC, DE, 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



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