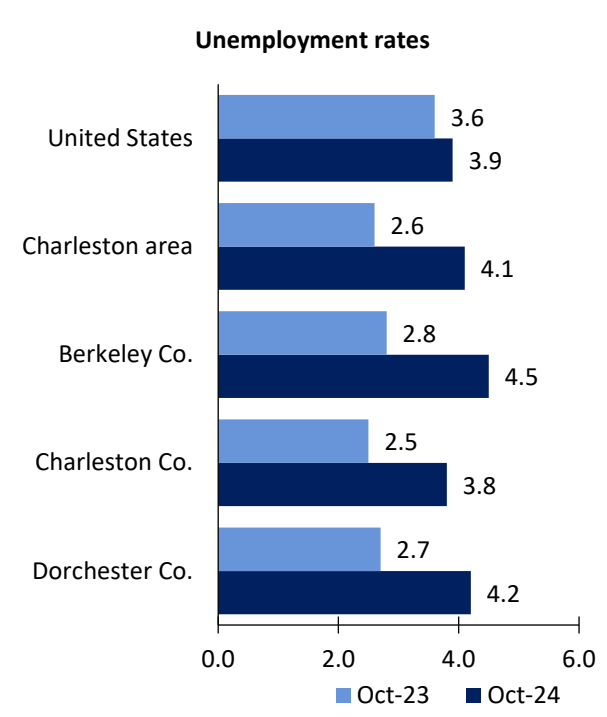


# Charleston, SC, Area Economic Summary

Updated November 27, 2024

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>.

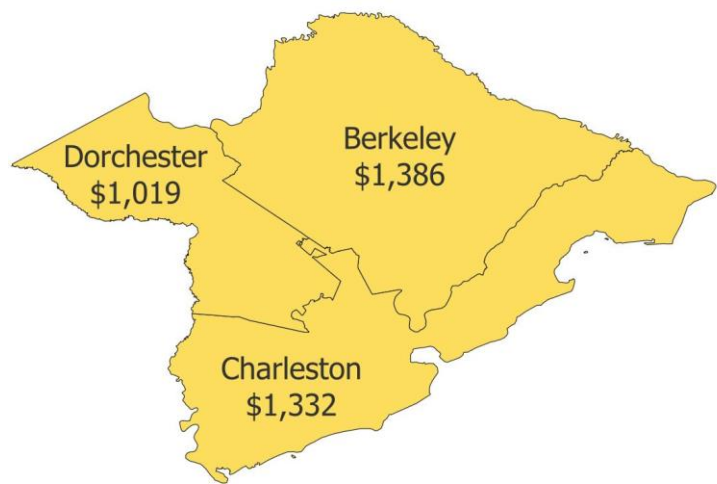
## Unemployment rates for the nation and selected areas



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

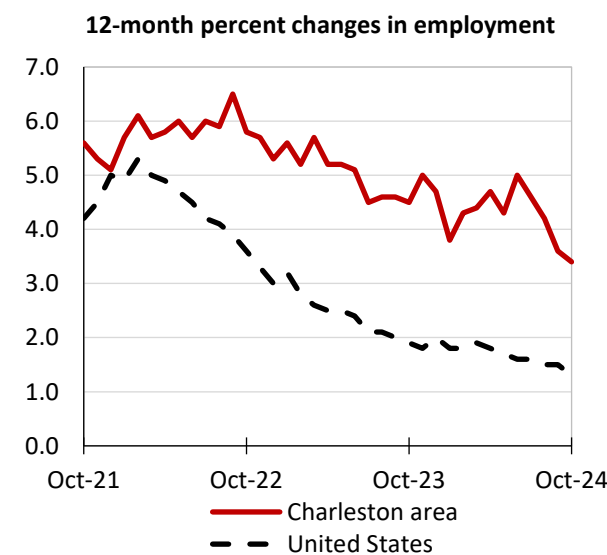
## Average weekly wages for all industries by county

**Charleston area, first quarter 2024**  
(U.S. = \$1,527; Area = \$1,308)



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

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



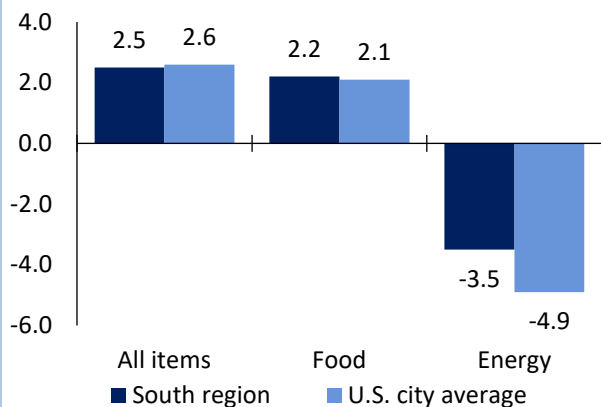
Source: U.S. BLS, Current Employment Statistics.

Charleston area employment (number in thousands)	Oct. 2024	Change from Oct. 2023 to Oct. 2024	
		Number	Percent
Total nonfarm	434.3	14.4	3.4
Mining, logging, and construction	24.9	2.2	9.7
Manufacturing	34.8	1.3	3.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	79.0	2.4	3.1
Information	8.5	0.7	9.0
Financial activities	21.8	0.3	1.4
Professional and business services	69.5	0.9	1.3
Education and health services	50.3	1.8	3.7
Leisure and hospitality	55.6	1.0	1.8
Other services	17.1	0.4	2.4
Government	72.8	3.4	4.9



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

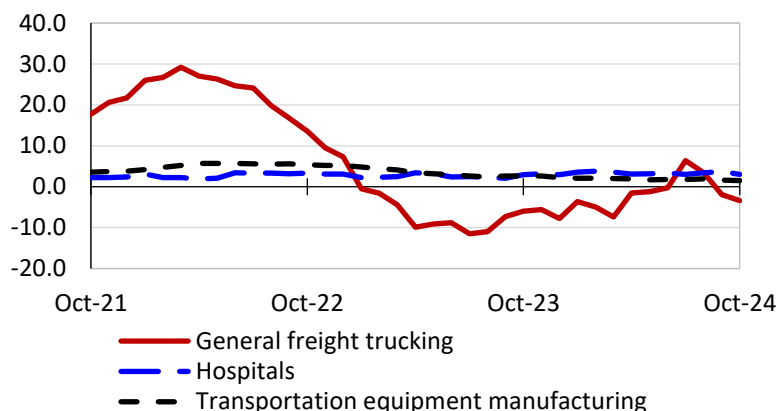
**12-month percent change in CPI-U, October 2024**



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

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

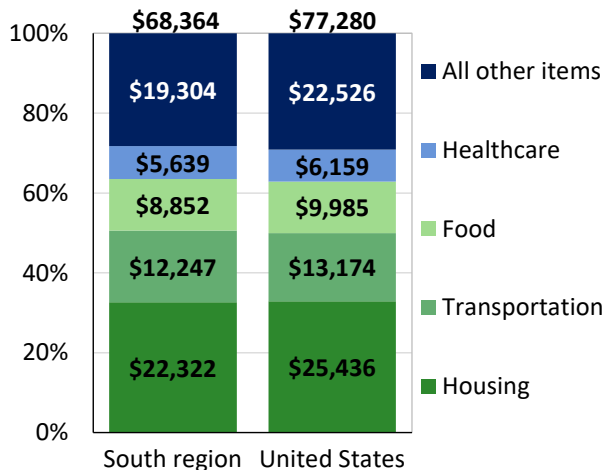
**12-month percent changes in PPI**



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

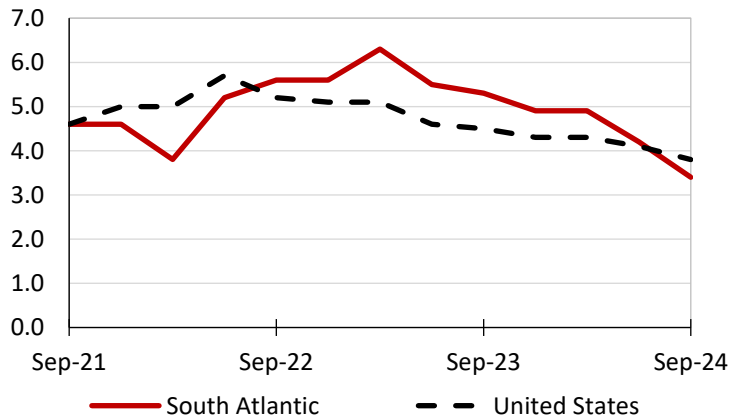
Private industry, June 2024	South Atlantic	United States
Total compensation	\$40.81	\$43.94
Wages and salaries	29.30	30.90
Total benefits	11.51	13.04
Paid leave	3.11	3.30
Vacation	1.62	1.69
Supplemental pay	1.46	1.76
Insurance	2.78	3.24
Retirement and savings	1.21	1.52
Legally required benefits	2.95	3.22

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.