



Economic Overview

Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time



Demographic Profile.....	3
Employment Trends	5
Unemployment Rate	5
Wage Trends	6
Cost of Living Index	7
Industry Snapshot	8
Occupation Snapshot	10
Industry Clusters	12
Education Levels.....	13
Gross Domestic Product	14
Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time Regional Map	16
Region Definition.....	17
FAQ.....	18

Demographic Profile

The population in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time was 1,824,994 per American Community Survey data for 2020-2024.

The region has a civilian labor force of 875,423 with a participation rate of 60.9%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time, 30.7% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 37.3% in the nation.

The median household income in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time is \$66,019 and the median house value is \$225,006.

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time	South Carolina	USA	Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time	South Carolina	USA
Demographics						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	1,824,994	5,296,225	334,922,499
Male	48.5%	48.7%	49.5%	885,015	2,577,725	165,808,018
Female	51.5%	51.3%	50.5%	939,979	2,718,500	169,114,481
Median Age ²	—	—	—	38.3	40.2	38.9
Under 18 Years	22.6%	21.4%	22.0%	412,164	1,135,421	73,517,834
18 to 24 Years	9.9%	9.1%	9.1%	180,880	483,726	30,597,362
25 to 34 Years	13.3%	12.8%	13.7%	242,735	680,500	45,806,540
35 to 44 Years	12.7%	12.5%	13.2%	232,210	661,884	44,237,292
45 to 54 Years	12.0%	12.0%	12.2%	219,348	637,500	40,743,799
55 to 64 Years	12.6%	13.2%	12.7%	230,261	697,793	42,386,044
65 to 74 Years	10.3%	11.4%	10.2%	187,710	606,031	34,092,907
75 Years and Over	6.6%	7.4%	7.0%	119,686	393,370	23,540,721
Race: White	53.7%	63.3%	61.0%	980,462	3,353,230	204,142,876
Race: Black or African American	35.3%	24.8%	12.2%	644,957	1,314,322	40,919,547
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.4%	0.4%	0.9%	6,948	20,586	3,095,754
Race: Asian	2.0%	1.8%	6.0%	35,782	94,377	19,937,283
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	873	2,847	631,517
Race: Some Other Race	2.6%	2.8%	7.1%	47,261	148,144	23,884,085
Race: Two or More Races	6.0%	6.8%	12.6%	108,711	362,719	42,311,437
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	6.1%	7.4%	19.3%	111,754	390,376	64,759,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	1,896,100	5,570,274	341,784,857
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.8%	1.3%	0.6%	14,355	67,427	2,104,586
People per Square Mile ⁴	—	—	—	157.2	185.3	96.7
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	60.9%	60.1%	63.3%	875,423	2,560,429	170,199,520
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	80.6%	81.8%	83.2%	548,732	1,603,381	108,100,165
Work from Home	10.2%	11.5%	15.1%	85,369	279,633	24,042,489
Armed Forces Labor Force	1.7%	0.9%	0.5%	24,146	38,968	1,293,756
Veterans, Age 18-64	7.3%	5.8%	4.1%	78,484	180,036	8,225,965
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	73.5%	74.6%	77.1%	57,705	134,250	6,341,643
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$66,019	\$69,324	\$80,734
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$35,764	\$39,236	\$44,673
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	26.4	25.6	26.4

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time	South Carolina	USA	Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time	South Carolina	USA
Commute via Public Transportation	0.3%	0.4%	3.2%	2,489	8,682	5,157,401
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	9.1%	9.2%	9.8%	84,079	245,858	17,001,659
High School Graduate	28.2%	27.2%	24.8%	260,822	729,291	42,949,236
Some College, No Degree	21.5%	20.1%	18.9%	198,510	536,932	32,726,555
Associate's Degree	10.5%	10.4%	9.2%	97,396	279,054	15,888,163
Bachelor's Degree	19.0%	21.0%	23.1%	176,033	562,363	40,059,314
Postgraduate Degree	11.7%	12.1%	14.2%	107,714	324,179	24,548,748
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	811,671	2,443,039	143,775,355
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ^{2,5}	—	—	—	\$225,006	\$259,000	\$332,700
Homeowner Vacancy	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	4,451	13,436	796,730
Rental Vacancy	6.2%	8.3%	5.5%	14,263	54,614	2,645,644
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	29.8%	28.1%	34.8%	214,311	595,868	45,017,354
Owner-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	70.2%	71.9%	65.2%	503,715	1,522,121	84,210,142
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	6.6%	5.7%	8.4%	47,486	121,059	10,793,323
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	15.5%	14.1%	12.5%	273,364	725,690	40,735,661
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	12.7%	10.5%	12.1%	91,018	222,674	15,572,114
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%	24,084	64,358	4,441,917
Disconnected Youth ³	2.9%	3.0%	2.4%	2,932	8,543	430,721
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	41.9%	38.0%	33.9%	160,221	403,600	23,651,363
Uninsured	9.5%	9.6%	8.4%	167,747	500,927	27,734,911
With a Disability, Age 18-64	12.8%	12.2%	10.9%	136,022	377,162	21,803,902
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	44.5%	44.9%	48.5%	60,526	169,348	10,583,510
Foreign Born	4.9%	5.8%	14.1%	89,009	305,101	47,349,078
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	2.6%	3.2%	8.6%	44,423	157,982	27,139,643

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2020-2024, unless noted otherwise

2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

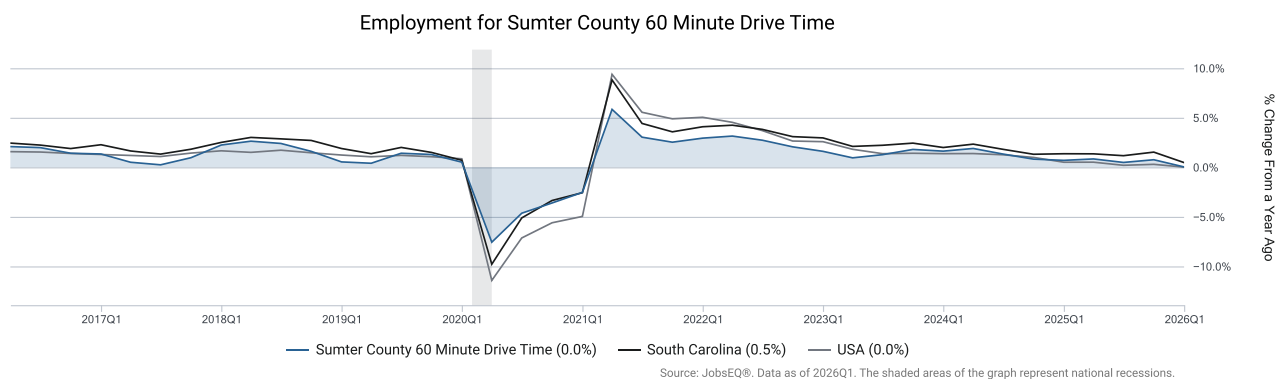
3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census Population Estimate for 2025, annual average growth rate since 2015.

5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.

Employment Trends

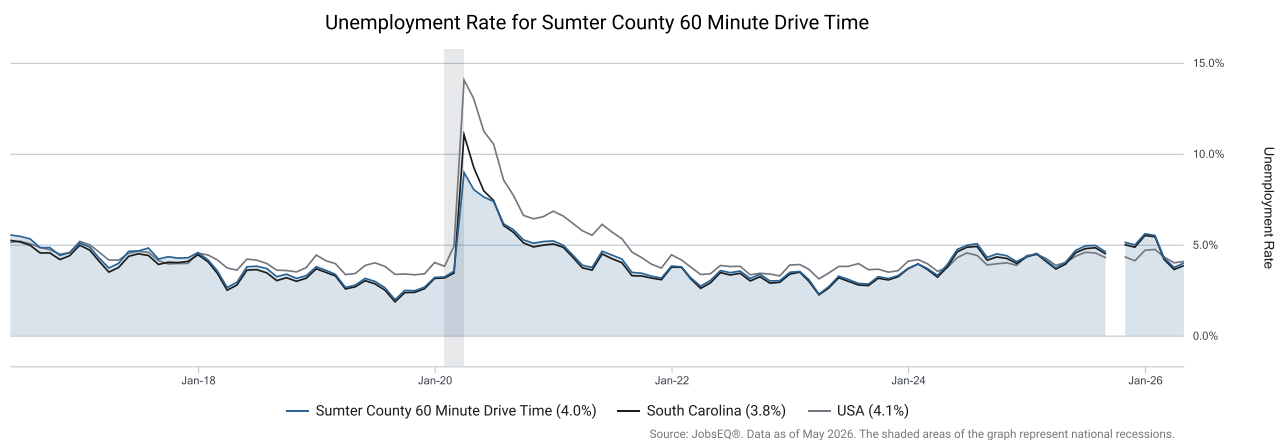
As of 2026Q1, total employment for the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time was 762,591 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2026Q1, employment increased 0.0% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q1.

Unemployment Rate

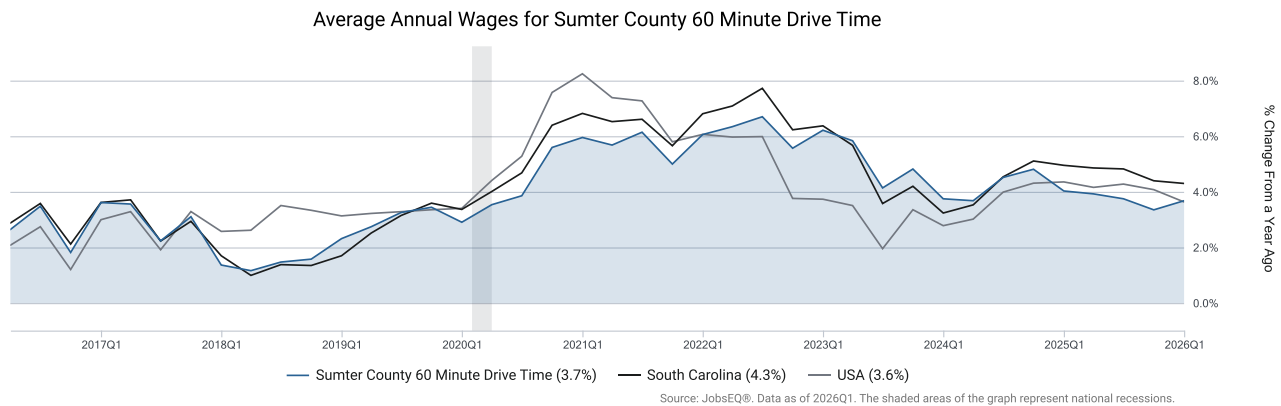
The unemployment rate for the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time was 4.0% as of May 2026. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 4.1%. One year earlier, in May 2025, the unemployment rate in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time was 4.0%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through May 2026.

Wage Trends

The average worker in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time earned annual wages of \$58,628 as of 2026Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 3.7% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$77,110 in the nation as of 2026Q1.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 11.5% lower in Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time than the U.S. average.

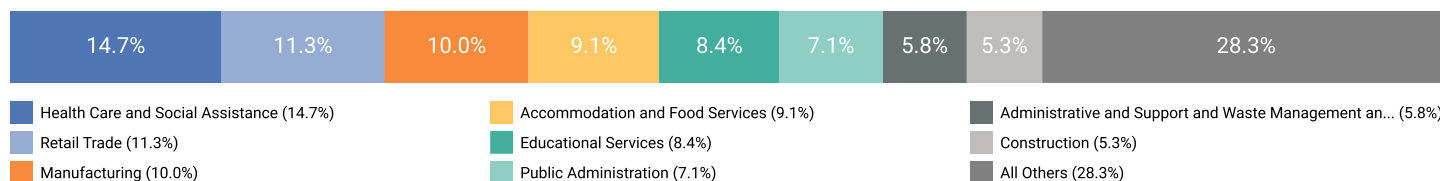
	Cost of Living Information		
	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time	\$58,628	88.5	\$66,214
South Carolina	\$62,567	91.0	\$68,727
USA	\$77,110	100.0	\$77,110

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)
Data as of 2026Q1
Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2026Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 111,905 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (86,061 workers) and Manufacturing (76,271). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Public Administration (LQ = 1.52), Utilities (1.43), and Manufacturing (1.30).

Total Workers for Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2026Q1
Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q1.

Sectors in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time with the highest average wages per worker are Utilities (\$111,794), Information (\$95,721), and Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$95,408). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Health Care and Social Assistance (+16,966 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+12,025), and Educational Services (+6,475).

Over the next 1 year, employment in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time is projected to expand by 5,152 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services with a +1.3% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+1,092 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+543), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+472).

Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time, 2026Q1¹

NAICS	Industry	Current			5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	111,905	\$62,873	0.94	16,966	3.3%	12,177	5,539	5,545	1,092	1.0%
44	Retail Trade	86,061	\$37,312	1.18	2,587	0.6%	11,897	5,283	6,304	310	0.4%
31	Manufacturing	76,271	\$77,816	1.30	2,398	0.6%	7,828	3,035	4,488	304	0.4%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	69,337	\$23,058	1.05	12,025	3.9%	12,574	5,347	6,684	543	0.8%
61	Educational Services	64,009	\$56,140	1.03	6,475	2.2%	6,226	2,916	3,113	197	0.3%
92	Public Administration	54,167	\$61,933	1.52	1,359	0.5%	5,073	2,104	2,809	160	0.3%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	44,594	\$42,450	0.98	-1,424	-0.6%	5,221	2,160	2,825	236	0.5%
23	Construction	40,268	\$71,667	0.88	3,422	1.8%	3,775	1,337	1,991	447	1.1%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	37,941	\$53,606	0.98	5,914	3.4%	4,339	1,792	2,240	307	0.8%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	37,021	\$39,948	1.14	3,950	2.3%	4,442	1,837	2,321	284	0.8%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	36,970	\$92,632	0.67	5,761	3.4%	3,392	1,173	1,747	472	1.3%
52	Finance and Insurance	31,118	\$88,531	1.04	562	0.4%	2,701	1,056	1,451	195	0.6%
42	Wholesale Trade	23,415	\$85,205	0.84	2,530	2.3%	2,468	934	1,347	186	0.8%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	11,246	\$61,958	0.85	1,328	2.5%	1,165	512	561	92	0.8%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	10,500	\$27,503	0.65	2,797	6.4%	1,634	644	870	121	1.1%
51	Information	8,266	\$95,721	0.58	433	1.1%	786	267	422	97	1.2%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7,356	\$54,190	0.80	-1,174	-2.9%	875	453	424	-2	0.0%
22	Utilities	5,756	\$111,794	1.43	-749	-2.4%	521	195	301	25	0.4%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	5,110	\$95,408	0.43	-241	-0.9%	458	169	247	42	0.8%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	1,079	\$84,173	0.41	475	12.3%	105	36	61	9	0.8%
99	Unclassified	201	\$44,906	0.20	186	66.5%	24	10	12	2	0.8%
Total - All Industries		762,591	\$58,628	1.00	65,578	1.8%	86,786	36,357	45,277	5,152	0.7%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2026Q1

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

Exits and transfers are approximate estimates based upon occupation separation rates.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 89,340 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (70,985 workers) and Sales and Related Occupations (70,796). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Protective Service Occupations (LQ = 1.27), Production Occupations (1.21), and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations (1.13).

Occupation groups in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$123,900), Legal Occupations (\$104,800), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$102,300). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.9% among Legal Occupations to 8.5% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.3% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (+599 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+496). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (12,848 jobs) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (9,749).

Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time, 2026Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Current						5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	89,340	\$46,800	1.07	4,886	4.4%	2,562	-249	-0.1%	9,720	4,610	5,139	-28	0.0%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	70,985	\$43,800	1.09	6,174	7.1%	3,389	7,777	2.3%	9,555	3,849	5,106	599	0.8%
41-0000	Sales and Related	70,796	\$47,400	1.07	5,188	6.0%	5,486	1,726	0.5%	9,476	4,334	5,008	134	0.2%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	67,380	\$30,600	1.07	6,266	7.7%	4,462	10,802	3.6%	13,344	5,719	7,129	496	0.7%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	49,037	\$102,300	1.06	1,076	1.9%	9,345	6,334	2.8%	3,185	1,449	1,285	450	0.9%
51-0000	Production	48,500	\$50,000	1.21	3,115	5.2%	1,344	-55	0.0%	5,416	2,132	3,156	128	0.3%
11-0000	Management	46,203	\$123,900	0.77	1,284	2.3%	4,326	7,218	3.5%	4,084	1,369	2,266	449	1.0%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	43,900	\$59,000	1.05	1,479	3.1%	2,405	4,378	2.1%	4,076	1,944	1,964	167	0.4%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	41,394	\$84,500	0.83	1,600	3.1%	2,169	5,662	3.0%	3,643	1,281	1,992	370	0.9%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	35,133	\$36,300	0.92	1,938	4.7%	2,015	6,665	4.3%	5,567	2,634	2,492	441	1.3%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	33,173	\$58,100	1.13	1,588	3.9%	2,600	2,099	1.3%	3,285	1,291	1,686	308	0.9%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	30,495	\$55,100	0.89	2,203	5.6%	1,167	1,868	1.3%	2,837	1,013	1,487	336	1.1%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	24,229	\$36,200	0.97	1,887	6.2%	1,210	111	0.1%	3,475	1,568	1,759	148	0.6%
33-0000	Protective Service	21,486	\$49,500	1.27	864	3.6%	1,029	1,424	1.4%	2,325	911	1,339	75	0.3%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	19,949	\$36,400	1.00	1,509	6.2%	543	3,455	3.9%	3,542	1,402	1,978	162	0.8%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	17,417	\$100,000	0.72	807	3.5%	1,722	1,841	2.3%	1,201	388	589	225	1.3%

Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time, 2026Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Current						5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
21-0000	Community and Social Service	15,639	\$56,100	1.07	529	3.1%	1,714	1,527	2.1%	1,576	657	779	139	0.9%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	12,393	\$98,000	1.02	319	2.1%	1,177	1,402	2.4%	953	325	502	126	1.0%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	9,598	\$63,100	0.73	528	4.7%	699	1,119	2.5%	988	403	517	69	0.7%
23-0000	Legal	6,799	\$104,800	1.05	145	1.9%	385	486	1.5%	453	163	254	36	0.5%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	5,715	\$85,700	0.82	310	4.6%	548	469	1.7%	551	121	388	43	0.7%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	3,031	\$43,000	0.70	293	8.5%	60	-481	-2.9%	432	197	238	-3	-0.1%
Total - All Occupations		762,591	\$59,400	1.00	43,987	4.8%	50,357	65,578	1.8%	89,738	37,760	47,052	4,926	0.6%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2026Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

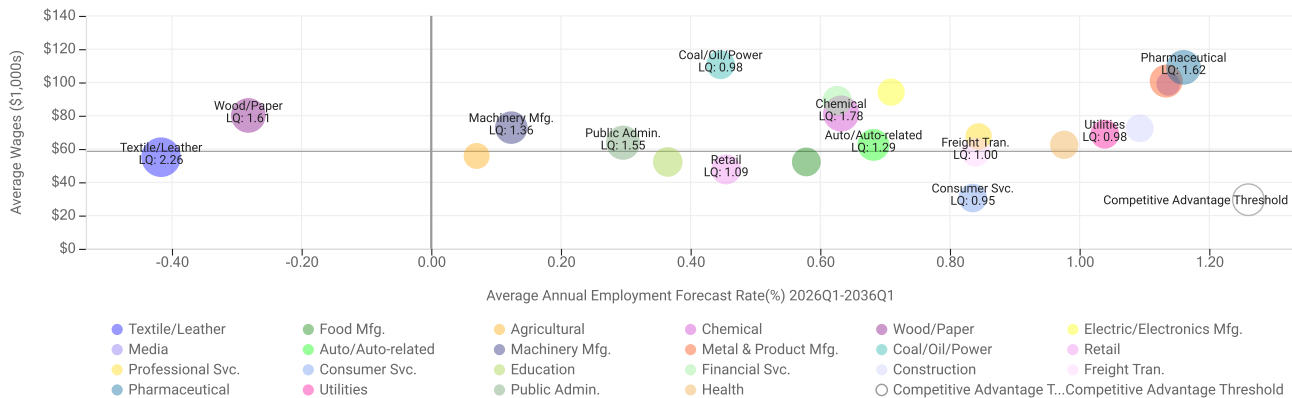
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2025Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2026 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time with the highest relative concentration is Textile/Leather with a location quotient of 2.26. This cluster employs 3,120 workers in the region with an average wage of \$55,079. Employment in the Textile/Leather cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.4% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time as of 2026Q1



Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2025Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time is projected to grow 0.7% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.8% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.9% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.8% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels

Doctoral or professional degree (\$165,000)



Master's degree (\$87,100)



Bachelor's degree (\$94,100)



Associate's degree (\$63,600)



Postsecondary non-degree award (\$50,400)



High school diploma or equivalent (\$51,100)



Some college, no degree (\$43,700)



None (\$34,100)



All Levels (\$59,400)



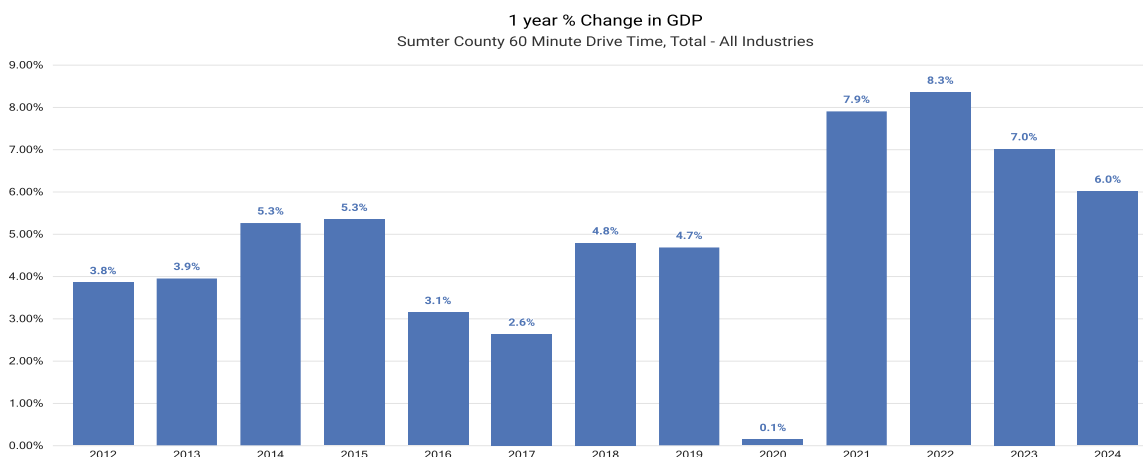
Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2026Q1

Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2026Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2024, nominal GDP in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time expanded 6.0%. This follows growth of 7.0% in 2023. As of 2024, total GDP in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time was \$100,053,214,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2024.

Of the sectors in the Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2024, \$13,705,598,000. The next-largest contributions came from Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$12,390,059,000); Health Care and Social Assistance (\$10,237,245,000); and Retail Trade (\$7,613,929,000).

GDP (in \$ millions)

Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time, 2024

Manufacturing (31)

\$13,706

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53)

\$12,390

Health Care and Social Assistance (62)

\$10,237

Retail Trade (44)

\$7,614

Public Administration (92)

\$6,096

Educational Services (61)

\$5,946

Finance and Insurance (52)

\$5,545

Wholesale Trade (42)

\$5,251

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54)

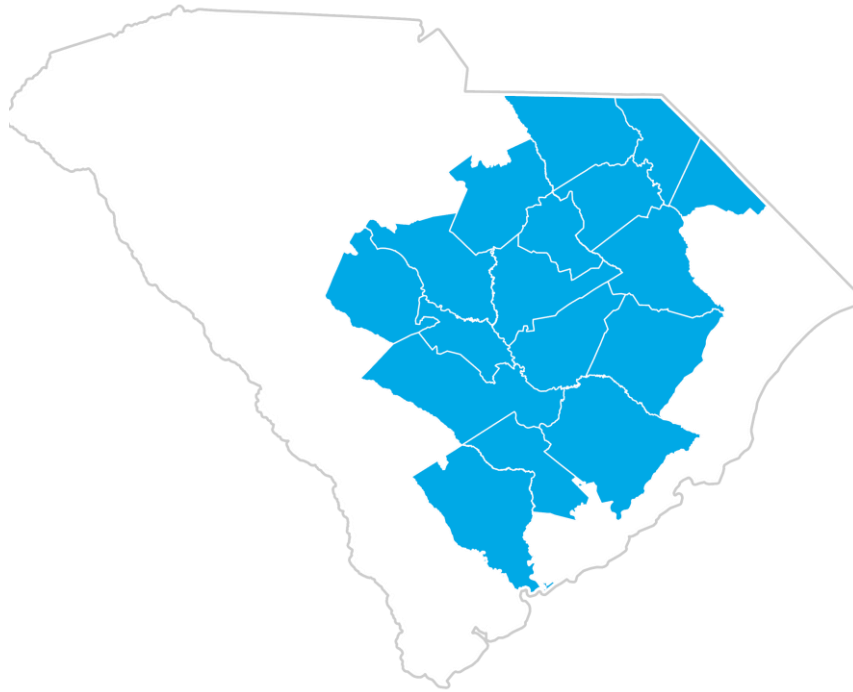
\$5,197

Construction (23)

\$4,960

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2024.

Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time Regional Map



Region Definition

Sumter County 60 Minute Drive Time is defined as the following counties:

Berkeley County, South Carolina	Kershaw County, South Carolina
Calhoun County, South Carolina	Lee County, South Carolina
Chesterfield County, South Carolina	Lexington County, South Carolina
Clarendon County, South Carolina	Marlboro County, South Carolina
Colleton County, South Carolina	Orangeburg County, South Carolina
Darlington County, South Carolina	Richland County, South Carolina
Dillon County, South Carolina	Sumter County, South Carolina
Dorchester County, South Carolina	Williamsburg County, South Carolina
Florence County, South Carolina	

FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

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