

# **Economic Overview**

# Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time

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# Demographic Profile

The population in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time was 834,297 per American Community Survey data for 2017-2021.

The region has a civilian labor force of 396,888 with a participation rate of 60.6%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time, 31.7% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.1% in the nation.

The median household income in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time is \$52,586 and the median house value is \$150,514.

## Summary<sup>1</sup>

		Percent		Value				
	Sumter County			Sumter County				
	30 Minute Drive Time	South Carolina	USA	30 Minute Drive Time	South Carolina	USA		
Demographics								
Population (ACS)	_	_	_	834,297	5,078,903	329,725,481		
Male	48.3%	48.7%	49.5%	402,882	2,474,059	163,206,615		
Female	51.7%	51.3%	50.5%	431,415	2,604,844	166,518,866		
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	36.8	39.8	38.4		
Under 18 Years	22.4%	21.9%	22.5%	186,608	1,109,803	74,234,075		
18 to 24 Years	11.9%	9.1%	9.2%	99,130	461,929	30,339,089		
25 to 34 Years	13.6%	13.0%	13.8%	113,841	660,600	45,360,942		
35 to 44 Years	12.1%	12.3%	12.9%	101,040	623,443	42,441,883		
45 to 54 Years	12.0%	12.6%	12.6%	100,488	638,085	41,631,458		
55 to 64 Years	12.5%	13.5%	13.0%	104,455	683,546	42,829,413		
65 to 74 Years	9.6%	11.1%	9.6%	80,304	561,298	31,590,619		
75 Years and Over	5.8%	6.7%	6.5%	48,431	340,199	21,298,002		
Race: White	47.9%	65.7%	68.2%	399,349	3,334,961	224,789,109		
Race: Black or African American	44.4%	26.2%	12.6%	370,598	1,328,691	41,393,012		
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%	1,366	15,595	2,722,661		
Race: Asian	2.0%	1.6%	5.7%	16,375	83,441	18,782,924		
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	723	4,545	615,557		
Race: Some Other Race	2.0%	2.2%	5.6%	16,837	109,896	18,382,796		
Race: Two or More Races	3.5%	4.0%	7.0%	29,049	201,774	23,039,422		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	4.4%	6.0%	18.4%	36,995	306,230	60,806,969		
Population Growth								
Population (Pop Estimates) <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	839,514	5,282,634	333,287,557		
Population Annual Average Growth <sup>4</sup>	0.2%	1.1%	0.6%	1,702	56,361	1,940,990		
People per Square Mile	_	_	_	185.4	175.7	94.3		
Economic								
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	60.6%	60.2%	63.4%	396,888	2,444,002	166,672,597		
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	80.1%	81.3%	82.5%	246,817	1,548,075	106,173,534		
Armed Forces Labor Force	2.2%	0.9%	0.5%	15,030	35,688	1,196,529		
Veterans, Age 18-64	7.1%	6.0%	4.4%	35,785	183,279	8,848,937		
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	72.1%	75.0%	77.0%	25,790	137,422	6,809,906		
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	\$52,586	\$58,234	\$69,021		
Per Capita Income	_	_	_	\$29,829	\$32,823	\$37,638		
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	_	_	_	23.5	25.3	26.8		
Commute via Public Transportation	0.7%	0.5%	4.2%	2,582	11,032	6,472,373		

#### Summary<sup>1</sup>

Percent Value **Sumter County Sumter County** 30 Minute Drive 30 Minute Drive Time South Carolina USA Time **South Carolina** USA **Educational Attainment, Age 25-64** No High School Diploma 9 4% 10.2% 10 3% 39,430 266,056 17,756,046 High School Graduate 27.5% 28.1% 25.3% 115,387 731,241 43,535,564 Some College, No Degree 21.6% 20.5% 20.1% 90,781 534,926 34,637,141 Associate's Degree 9.3% 41,084 9.8% 10.7% 278,119 15,944,395 Bachelor's Degree 19.4% 19.7% 22.0% 81,596 513,078 37,890,674 Postgraduate Degree 12.3% 10.8% 51,546 282,254 22,499,876 13.1% Housing **Total Housing Units** 369,469 2,325,248 139,647,020 \$150,514 Median House Value (of owner-occupied units)<sup>2</sup> \$181,800 \$244,900 Homeowner Vacancy 1.5% 1.4% 1.2% 3,226 19,258 1,021,651 Rental Vacancy 5.7% 8.7% 5.7% 7,075 56,828 2,674,125 Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units) 35.8% 29.7% 35.4% 114,965 586,430 43,858,831 Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied 7.2% 5.8% 8.3% 23,114 115,534 10,349,174 Units) Social Poverty Level (of all people) 17.4% 14.5% 12.6% 138,752 718,345 40,661,636 Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP 13.5% 10.7% 11.4% 43,377 211,210 14,105,231 Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population) 1.4% 1.2% 1.3% 12,049 63,346 4,425,322 Disconnected Youth<sup>3</sup> 2.8% 2.9% 2.5% 1,496 7,835 432,389 Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children) 79,780 410,901 46.1% 39.7% 34.0% 23,909,672 Uninsured 9.8% 10.5% 8.8% 78,375 521,410 28,489,142

13.2%

40.4%

4.2%

2.0%

12.0%

39.6%

5.2%

2.8%

10.3%

44.2%

13.6%

8.2%

64,908

26,206

35,168

15,406

Source: JobsEQ®

Foreign Born

With a Disability, Age 18-64

Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)

With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size

20,537,729

9,068,973

44,844,808

25,535,259

359,036

142,194

263,917

132,701

American Community Survey 2017-2021, unless noted otherwise

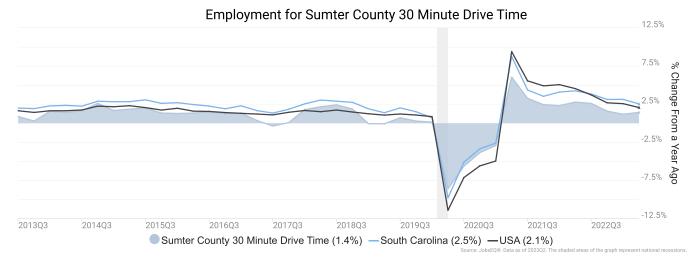
<sup>2.</sup> Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

<sup>3.</sup> 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.

<sup>4.</sup> Census Population Estimate for 2022, annual average growth rate since 2012. Post-2019 data for Connecticut counties are imputed by Chmura.

# **Employment Trends**

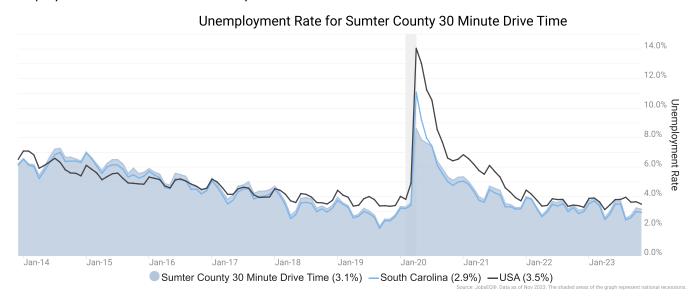
As of 2023Q2, total employment for the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time was 403,607 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2023Q2, employment increased 1.4% in the region.



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 2023Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q2.

# **Unemployment Rate**

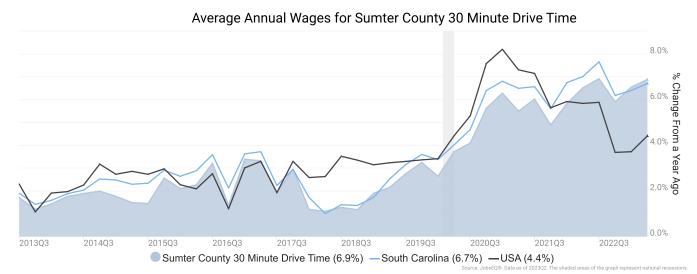
The unemployment rate for the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time was 3.1% as of November 2023. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 3.5%. One year earlier, in November 2022, the unemployment rate in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time was 3.1%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through November 2023.

# Wage Trends

The average worker in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time earned annual wages of \$54,571 as of 2023Q2. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.9% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$70,318 in the nation as of 2023Q2.



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 2023Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q2.

# **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 8.4% lower in Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time than the U.S. average.

## **Cost of Living Information**

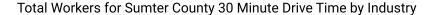
	Cost of Living Index						
	Annual Average Salary	(Base US)	<b>US Purchasing Power</b>				
Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time	\$54,571	91.6	\$59,581				
South Carolina	\$56,304	93.3	\$60,377				
USA	\$70,318	100.0	\$70,318				

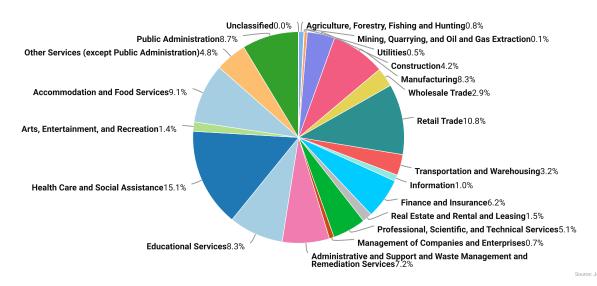
Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2023Q2

Cost of Living per COLI, data as of 2023Q3, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

# **Industry Snapshot**

The largest sector in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 60,944 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (43,590 workers) and Accommodation and Food Services (36,845). 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 = 1.89), Finance and Insurance (1.55), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (1.13).





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 2023Q1 with preliminary

Sectors in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time with the highest average wages per worker are Utilities (\$108,296), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$84,230), and Finance and Insurance (\$83,569). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+3,097 jobs), Transportation and Warehousing (+3,058), and Manufacturing (+3,020).

Over the next 1 year, employment in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time is projected to contract by 115 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Management of Companies and Enterprises with a +0.7% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+323 jobs), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+110), and Finance and Insurance (+66).

## Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time, 2023Q21

			Current		5-Year History						
			Avg Ann		Empl		Total			Empl	Ann %
NAICS	Industry	Empl	Wages	LQ	Change	Ann %	Demand	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	60,944	\$63,323	1.05	22	0.0%	6,584	2,882	3,379	323	0.5%
44	Retail Trade	43,590	\$35,548	1.08	1,117	0.5%	5,883	2,636	3,510	-263	-0.6%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	36,845	\$20,842	1.06	-729	-0.4%	6,404	2,914	3,527	-38	-0.1%
92	Public Administration	35,002	\$56,357	1.89	-1,501	-0.8%	3,387	1,430	2,036	-79	-0.2%
61	Educational Services	33,688	\$51,935	1.05	-1,072	-0.6%	3,239	1,570	1,739	-70	-0.2%
31	Manufacturing	33,643	\$71,245	1.03	3,020	1.9%	3,458	1,350	2,302	-194	-0.6%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	29,087	\$38,697	1.13	387	0.3%	3,500	1,426	2,083	-8	0.0%
52	Finance and Insurance	25,038	\$83,569	1.55	1,185	1.0%	2,412	886	1,460	66	0.3%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	20,488	\$84,230	0.69	3,097	3.3%	1,962	683	1,169	110	0.5%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	19,404	\$32,546	1.13	-499	-0.5%	2,341	979	1,362	0	0.0%
23	Construction	16,983	\$61,205	0.70	-20	0.0%	1,635	597	1,061	-24	-0.1%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	12,914	\$51,803	0.64	3,058	5.6%	1,578	621	919	38	0.3%
42	Wholesale Trade	11,862	\$82,585	0.78	652	1.1%	1,267	484	829	-46	-0.4%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	6,031	\$59,325	0.84	289	1.0%	636	279	345	13	0.2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	5,814	\$25,866	0.74	-220	-0.7%	904	367	505	31	0.5%
51	Information	3,931	\$76,918	0.48	-1,088	-4.8%	402	139	249	14	0.4%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	3,262	\$46,267	0.63	-465	-2.6%	394	183	230	-19	-0.6%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	2,959	\$82,614	0.47	-511	-3.1%	299	103	176	20	0.7%
22	Utilities	1,852	\$108,296	0.91	-5	-0.1%	159	64	113	-18	-1.0%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	245	\$78,037	0.17	-43	-3.2%	26	8	17	0	0.1%
99	Unclassified	29	\$67,393	0.03	29	n/a	3	1	2	0	0.0%
	Total - All Industries	403,607	\$54,571	1.00	6,702	0.3%	46,379	19,411	27,083	-115	0.0%

Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2023Q2

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

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 2023Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

# **Occupation Snapshot**

The largest major occupation group in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 57,485 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (37,222 workers) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (33,900). 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 = 1.42), Legal Occupations (1.39), and Community and Social Service Occupations (1.24).

Occupation groups in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$108,100), Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$95,200), and Legal Occupations (\$92,400). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.2% among Legal Occupations to 5.5% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time is expected to be Computer and Mathematical Occupations with a +1.1% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+164 jobs) and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+135). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Office and Administrative Support Occupations (6,786 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (6,249).

#### Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time, 2023Q21

			Current					5-Year l	History		1-Year Forecast			
soc	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	57,485	\$42,000	1.18	1,664	3.1%	1,942	-1,473	-0.5%	6,296	3,014	3,772	-490	-0.9%
41-0000	Sales and Related	37,222	\$43,700	1.04	1,557	4.2%	2,695	646	0.4%	4,820	2,208	2,787	-174	-0.5%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	33,900	\$27,100	1.04	1,811	5.5%	1,581	-1,250	-0.7%	6,220	2,866	3,383	-29	-0.1%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	31,973	\$38,700	0.90	1,721	5.3%	1,334	3,491	2.3%	4,488	1,684	2,751	53	0.2%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	28,678	\$95,200	1.22	398	1.5%	3,566	274	0.2%	1,831	869	827	135	0.5%
11-0000	Management	26,261	\$108,100	0.86	378	1.5%	2,676	3,032	2.5%	2,303	746	1,470	87	0.3%
51-0000	Production	23,394	\$44,100	1.03	1,035	4.4%	531	566	0.5%	2,472	991	1,649	-169	-0.7%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	22,574	\$73,200	0.88	433	2.0%	1,480	2,148	2.0%	2,082	687	1,318	77	0.3%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	21,452	\$58,000	1.00	486	2.3%	1,260	-545	-0.5%	1,886	955	954	-24	-0.1%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	17,148	\$32,400	0.96	555	3.4%	814	718	0.9%	2,637	1,091	1,381	164	1.0%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	15,836	\$51,200	1.01	310	2.1%	1,042	666	0.9%	1,534	581	945	8	0.0%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	13,404	\$47,200	0.73	610	4.8%	386	-535	-0.8%	1,320	473	844	2	0.0%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	12,800	\$32,000	0.97	593	4.9%	530	-247	-0.4%	1,703	792	921	-10	-0.1%
33-0000	Protective Service	12,188	\$41,700	1.42	356	3.4%	551	-530	-0.8%	1,312	579	760	-27	-0.2%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	10,338	\$31,900	1.04	435	4.3%	263	-50	-0.1%	1,841	728	1,072	41	0.4%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	9,627	\$89,500	0.74	165	1.8%	1,867	757	1.7%	804	224	479	101	1.1%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	8,918	\$49,300	1.24	140	1.6%	935	-340	-0.7%	910	356	514	40	0.4%

## Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time, 2023Q21

			Current					5-Year History				1-Year Forecast		
soc	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	5,610	\$82,800	0.86	80	1.5%	496	261	1.0%	427	156	262	9	0.2%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	5,475	\$54,900	0.73	195	3.6%	332	52	0.2%	589	241	341	7	0.1%
23-0000	Legal	4,610	\$92,400	1.39	50	1.2%	189	33	0.1%	334	145	172	16	0.4%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	3,291	\$72,700	0.93	59	1.9%	402	46	0.3%	320	75	237	8	0.2%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	1,424	\$38,200	0.59	67	4.8%	42	-217	-2.8%	215	71	152	-7	-0.5%
	Total - All Occupations	403,607	\$53,800	1.00	13,099	3.4%	24,912	7,502	0.4%	46,392	19,534	26,990	-133	0.0%

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2023Q2 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

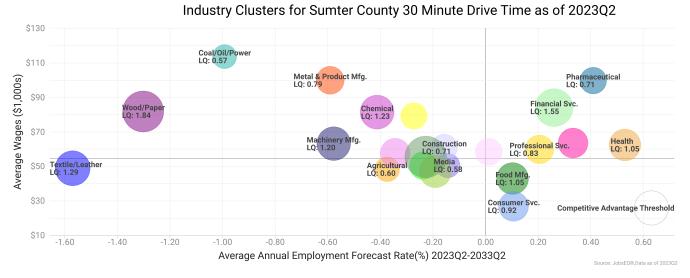
- 1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.
- 2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

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 2023Q1, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q2. Wages by occupation are as of 2023 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.

<sup>3.</sup> 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.

# **Industry Clusters**

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time with the highest relative concentration is Public Admin. with a location quotient of 1.90. This cluster employs 35,002 workers in the region with an average wage of \$55,398. Employment in the Public Admin. cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.2% per year over the next ten years.

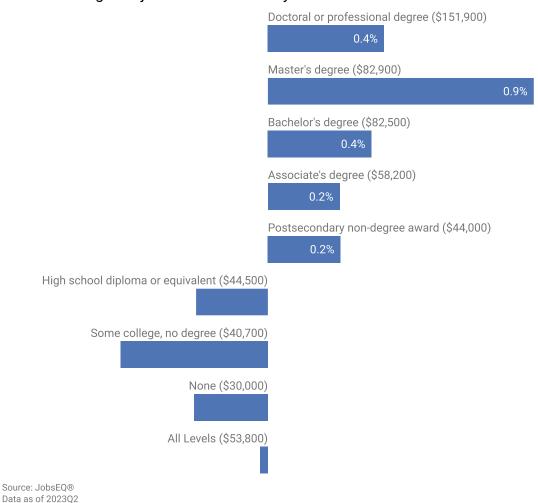


Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2023Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from 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 30 Minute Drive Time is projected to contract 0.0% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.4% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.4% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.2% per year.

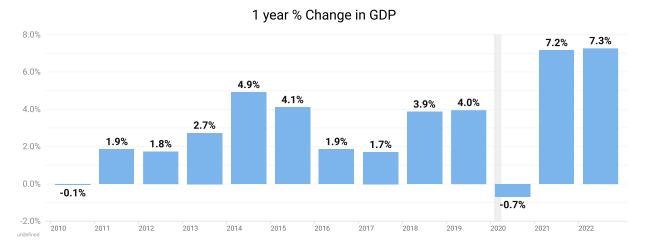
## Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels



Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2023Q2. 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 2022, nominal GDP in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time expanded 7.3%. This follows growth of 7.2% in 2021. As of 2022, total GDP in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time was \$48,149,808,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

Of the sectors in the Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2022, \$5,661,697,000 The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$5,584,913,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$5,382,209,000); and Finance and Insurance (\$4,449,698,000).

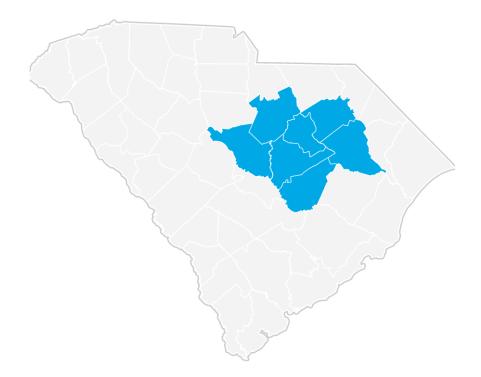
# GDP (in \$ millions)

Manufacturing (31)

\$5,662 Health Care and Social Assistance (62) \$5,585 Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53) \$5,382 Finance and Insurance (52) \$4,450 Public Administration (92) \$3,627 Retail Trade (44) \$3,230 Educational Services (61) \$3,065 Wholesale Trade (42) \$2,714 Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54) \$2,499 Unclassified (99) \$1,887

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

# Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time Regional Map



# Region Definition

## Sumter County 30 Minute Drive Time is defined as the following counties:

Clarendon County, South Carolina	Lee County, South Carolina					
Darlington County, South Carolina	Richland County, South Carolina					
Florence County, South Carolina	Sumter County, South Carolina					
Kershaw 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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