

## **AGENCY INTRODUCTION**

#### MISSION AND VISION

The S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) remains steadfast in its mission to serve South Carolina through the efficient delivery of "an effective, customer-driven workforce system that facilitates financial stability and economic prosperity for employers, individuals, and communities." Our agency not only fulfilled this mission, but also enjoyed a strong economic year with low unemployment, economic growth, and record-breaking numbers of individuals working every month since February 2023.

This report includes agency updates, program launches, and data to illustrate the successes of our agency. Some examples from the July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 fiscal year include how DEW has:



Implemented provisions of Act No. 67 of 2023, the Statewide Education and Workforce Development Act, which brought new responsibilities to DEW, including the transition of the Coordinating Council for Workforce Development (CCWD) and the Regional Workforce Advisors (RWAs) from the S.C. Department of Commerce to the agency. By placing the RWAs at DEW, the Act directly connects RWAs with experienced business consultants, economists, workforce specialists, and others already at our agency whose daily focus is workforce development. The Act also gives the CCWD more tools and subject matter experts, who are a vital link between education and work.



William Floyd
Executive Director
S.C. Department of Employment
and Workforce



Launched SC@Work: Road Trips, a rural initiative that brought job fairs and career services directly to 27 of our most rural and underserved areas across the state. Nearly 900 jobseekers came out to meet employers, update resumes, conduct work searches, and apply online for jobs in the Career Coach at these events. More than 500 employers and community partners were there to network and hire individuals, as well as provide attendees everything from free healthcare services to economic aid opportunitie. These events took place in 17 rural counties and increased the accessibility of DEW's services to those jobseekers who can benefit from them the most.



Announced that South Carolina's Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax rates decreased or remained the same for employers in 2024. This is the third year in a row that the agency, the General Assembly, and the Governor have been able to lower UI taxes thanks to prudent planning and a robust economy.

## **AGENCY INTRODUCTION**

#### MISSION AND VISION



Joined Governor McMaster in delivering his proclamation declaring September as Workforce Development Month in South Carolina for the first time ever in 2022 at a joint press conference with our agency, held at the Michelin plant in Lexington. There were more than 200 job fairs and workshops, dozens of visits by the Career Coach and the Be Pro Be Proud mobile workshop, discussion forums and roundtables, and weekly labor market information webinars produced throughout the month to recognize the observance. DEW also released a notice of funding opportunity with award amounts of up to \$25,000 for faith-based and community organizations to apply to set up Connection Points at their locations, which connect the public with free access to computers and DEW resources for unemployment insurance claimants and general jobseekers.

In September 2023, our agency announced Workforce
Development Month with Governor McMaster for the second
year in a row. We celebrated with even more events, including
the rural road trips and the inaugural Workforce
Champion Award.



Welcomed new members to the agency's executive staff, including: Diana Goldwire, Assistant Executive Director for Employment Services; Ryan Millwood, Chief Information Officer; Adam McJunkin, Chief Information Security Officer; Steven Jordan, Chief Legal Officer Counsel; and Charles Appleby, Senior Advisor to the CCWD.

Both our monthly unemployment rates and weekly initial claims have remained low, which has allowed the agency to focus on reemployment and expanding our workforce. DEW has experienced many successes involving reemployment, restoring the trust fund, deepening relationships with employers, providing claimant and employer services, and more.

The agency's vision, "to be viewed as an efficient, transparent, customer-friendly partner in providing quality workforce solutions," is achieved due to the dedication and professionalism of our talented team of public servants. DEW is committed to supporting claimants, connecting jobseekers and employers, and innovating through technology and continuous process improvement to provide the highest quality resources to claimants and employers.

## **CONTENTS**

PRIMARY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES	5
AGENCY EMPLOYEE COUNTS	6
UI DIVISION	6
Trust Fund	
Reemployment	
Return to Work	
Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Program	
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES	8
Wagner-Peyser	
Job Fairs and Hiring Events	
Weekly Job Matching	
Be Pro Be Proud SC	
SC@WORK: Road Trips	
Veterans Program	
Veterans Portal	
Rapid Response	
Personalized Employer Plan	
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT The Task Force	12
Workforce Development Month	
EV Workforce Study	
Streamlining Service Delivery	
Performance Accountability	
Participants Served	
Low Levels of Participation	
Program Year 2022 — Annual Performance Summary	
Wagner-Peyser	
LABOR MARKET INFORMATION Workforce Innovation Grant TRENDS	18
LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS	19



# PRIMARY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

#### AGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND DIVISIONS



#### **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

A federally mandated program that provides financial assistance to eligible workers who become unemployed through no fault of their own. This division also sets the tax rates for employers, collects the UI taxes, accepts unemployment claims, and makes rulings on those claims.



#### **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

This division works to bring employers and job seekers together through hiring events, specialized training and pilot projects to name a few examples. Employment Services also oversees weekly job matches in which they match the skills and location of UI claimants to local businesses looking to hire individuals with those skills, and these claimants receive texts, emails, and referrals through our SC Works Online Services (SCWOS) job database with details about positions they matched with and how to apply.



#### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Focuses on innovative approaches to workforce development. This division also operates federal training programs and evaluates the efficiency of those programs for authorized trainers in the state



#### LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LMI gathers employment statistics, job forecasts, wages, demographics and other data to help various stakeholders understand today's complex workforce.

## **AGENCY EMPLOYEE COUNTS**

The S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, as of June 30, 2023, had a total of 648 employees:

- 621 Full-Time Employees
- 9 Temporary Grant Employees
- 18 Temporary Employees

These employees staff the Unemployment Insurance, Employment Services, Workforce Development, and Labor Market Information divisions, as well as other departments that provide support to those divisions.

### **UI DIVISION**

The agency's Unemployment Insurance (UI) Division is responsible for the administration of the State's Unemployment Compensation Program, providing timely and accurate payment of unemployment benefits, reemployment services, and effective collection mechanisms to maintain UI Trust Fund solvency in an effort to serve South Carolinians as they transition from unemployment to reemployment.

In coordination with the U.S. Department of Labor, UI is a state-administered federal program designed to provide unemployment benefits to eligible workers who become unemployed through no fault of their own while they actively search for suitable work. In accordance with S.C. Code of Laws, Title 41, and S.C. Code of Regulations, Chapter 47, South Carolina employers are responsible for financing the UI program through quarterly tax contributions, payable to the state's UI Trust Fund. The program allows recipients of UI benefits to maintain purchasing power, thereby easing the serious effects of unemployment on individual households, the community and the state.

#### TRUST FUND

For the Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023), the trust fund maintained its statutorily required level of reserves sufficient to withstand an average recession. The unadjusted UI Trust Fund balance as of June 30, 2023, was \$1,554,293,460. The trust fund is above its adequate balance as of June 30, 2023, and there will be no trust fund rebuilding process required for 2024.

For a detailed assessment of the health of the state's UI Trust Fund, the Agency's "FY 2023 Trust Fund Annual Assessment Report" is made available as Appendix A.







#### REEMPLOYMENT

All unemployment insurance claimants are placed in one of the following two reemployment programs. Both programs are operated in SC Works Centers across the state.

#### **Return to Work**

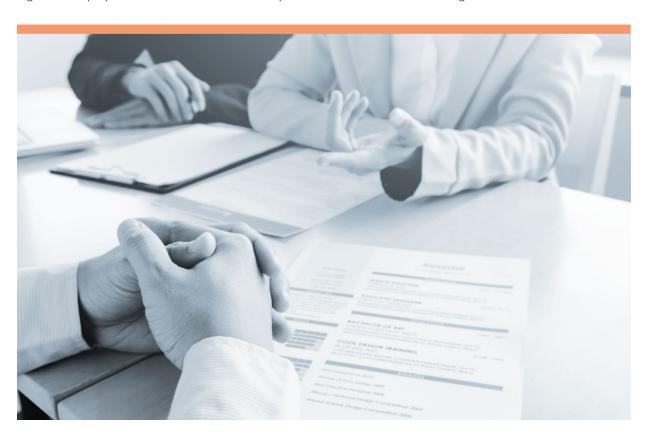
According to the U.S. Department of Labor's Quarterly UI Data information, compared to 2019, the average time a UI claimant remains on UI benefits has declined in South Carolina, suggesting quicker returns to work and less reliance on government benefits. Between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the average UI benefit duration was 10.2 weeks. This compares favorably with the average duration between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019, of 12.4 weeks.

#### Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Program

The Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program is designed to address individual reemployment needs of UI claimants and aims to prevent and detect improper UI payments. RESEA serves as a bridge between Unemployment Insurance and Employment Services for ex-military members and out-of-work claimants, with the goal of reducing duration of unemployment and protecting the integrity of the UI Trust Fund. Services include:

- direct communication with DEW representatives
- labor market information
- one stop orientations
- development of personalized employability plan
- referrals to training
- unemployment compensation eligibility reviews

As of June 30, 3023, the South Carolina's RESEA program performed well nationwide. The program ranked eighth for highest reemployment success rate in the country and ranked first in the Atlanta region.



## **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

#### **WAGNER-PEYSER**

Wagner-Peyser establishes the One Stop delivery system to give South Carolinians access to employment services. The chart below shows successful achievement of Program Year goals from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 (PY '22):

#### WAGNER-PEYSER QUARTERLY REPORT

	<b>GOAL FOR PY '22</b>	ACTUAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
Employment Q2	61.5%	73.0%	118.7%
Employment Q4	60.7%	69.1%	113.8%
Median Earnings	\$4,984	\$7,078	142.0%

#### JOB FAIRS AND HIRING EVENTS

In PY '22, there were 973 hiring events held statewide with 3,288 employers participating. Additionally, there were individual hiring events for specific companies that are typically held in local SC Works centers. Our agency also recognized the need for virtual job fairs and negotiated a plan to provide a virtual job fair platform for all local workforce development areas throughout the state. Each of the local areas can utilize this virtual job fair platform on an unlimited basis. Job fairs can now be in-person, virtual, or hybrid events at absolutely no cost to employers or jobseekers.



#### **WEEKLY JOB MATCHING**

To directly help these and other industries, our agency implemented Weekly Job Matches. The skills, experience, and location of UI claimants are matched with businesses in their area looking for workers with those skills. The claimants are then sent messages in the form of emails and texts with information about those positions and where to apply. In 2022, the agency sent a total of 4,193,459 messages to help match jobseekers to employers.

#### **BE PRO BE PROUD SC**

The Be Pro Be Proud SC mobile workshop visits schools and events, offering exposure to available careers in trade, along with information about the skills needed and training resources available. Stepping inside the 53-foot mobile workshop, participants experience nine in-demand professions, which offer engagement through: a heavy equipment simulator, forklift simulator, diesel technology, commercial driving simulator, construction technology, utility bucket station, welding simulators, and computer numerical control (CNC) operations.

Be Pro Be Proud is a public-private partnership, supported by the Associated Industries of South Carolina Foundation (AISCF) and DEW.

Be Pro Be Proud visited 106 cities in PY' 22. 12,207 students and 326 other guests attended the 106 Be Pro, Be Proud events held at schools, fairs, career centers, and conventions during the year.



#### **SC@WORK: ROAD TRIPS**

This year, DEW launched a new initiative to meet SC jobseekers where they are – in their hometowns. SC@Works Road Trips are a collaboration among DEW, SC Works, partner agencies, and employers to take DEW services and SC Works programs on the road directly to jobseekers in rural communities. The goal is to reach jobseekers with barriers to employment, such as transportation, that prevent them from accessing regional workforce development services. The state-of-the-art Career Coach mobile unit, which is a traveling, wheelchair-accessible SC Works center, has ten workstations for job-seeking activities, provides wi-fi and printer capabilities, and has staff available to assist users and facilitate job searches. It is an extension of the services provided through SC Works Centers across the state.









#### **VETERANS PROGRAM**

SC Works centers across the state have staff — Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) representatives and Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVER) — who are trained to assist military jobseekers and their families to find civilian employment.

Through the support and assistance from our DVOPs and LVERs, veterans are able to receive priority employment services.

#### **VETERANS PERFORMANCE REPORT**

	<b>GOAL FOR PY '22</b>	ACTUAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
Employment Q2	50.0%	59.7%	119.4%
Employment Q4	48.0%	62.7%	130.6%
Median Earnings	\$5,160	\$7,715	149.5%

#### **VETERANS PORTAL**

DEW launched its SC Works Veterans Portal in April 2022, which is a one-stop directory for South Carolina's veterans to be able to search for jobs, locate nearby SC Works centers for resume and networking assistance, learn about training and education opportunities, and take advantage of a myriad of resources on their jobseeking journey. The Veterans Portal, available at veterans.scworks.org, is a user-friendly and helpful platform that makes it easier for veterans to transition into civilian life. Veterans benefit from the search engine that filters job opportunities matching their military skills by keyword, location, or military occupation code. The website also features veteran-focused hiring events and a page for the Honoring Investments in Recruiting and Employing (HIRE) Vets Program, which highlights employers in the state that hire veterans and offer them professional development opportunities.

#### RAPID RESPONSE

The state Rapid Response team works closely with local staff to coordinate and facilitate management meetings and group information sessions and assist with reemployment services. During group information sessions, state and local staff provide information about reemployment services and Unemployment Insurance. It is through these sessions that affected workers are connected with the SC Works system. If a layoff is trade-impacted, Trade Adjustment Assistance staff are involved in the coordination and facilitation of rapid response activities.

During the program year, 374 rapid response activities were provided to a total of 210 South Carolina companies.

- 229 management Meetings
- 107 group Information Sessions
- 38 on-Site Services
- 2,458 total Attendees

#### PERSONALIZED EMPLOYER PLAN

The agency and the representatives in the SC Works centers work with individual employers to develop a plan to obtain appropriate employees. The assigned employer team works with the employer to determine the best path forward for recruiting and identifying skills for their open positions. These plans can include the job match program, virtual job fairs, recall assistance, hiring events, and screening services, among other personalized services.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Workforce Development Division focuses on innovative and collaborative approaches to workforce development through partnerships with state and local boards, as well as other agencies and organizations throughout the state.

#### THE TASK FORCE

The Labor Force Participation Rate Task Force formed in March 2022 as a collective effort among DEW, the S.C. Council on Competitiveness, other state agencies, businesses, and institutes of higher education. The Task Force members included leaders from academia, research, and business who conducted a multifaceted analysis of South Carolina's labor market. DEW held public briefings during the first quarter of 2023 to share the results.

The first project, conducted by Millan Chicago LLC, surveyed individuals who had vanished from unemployment insurance (UI) employment and wage records, administered by DEW during the pandemic. Specifically, these people appeared in the data in 2019, filed for UI benefits in 2020, but were not present in the data in 2021. The survey aimed to understand what happened to that population of more than 150,000 people; in particular, how many of those individuals left the labor force, how many might be interested in returning, what barriers to employment they faced, and what might lead them to rejoin the workforce. More than 6,000 people responded to the survey. The findings showed that 46 percent of respondents were working in some capacity, but as contractors or sole proprietors, and other types of work that are excluded from UI wage records. Another 26 percent said they were not pursuing employment due to caregiving responsibilities, health-related issues, retirement, or educational pursuits. That left 28 percent of respondents who were not working but indicated that they could be. The survey results showed that the greatest barriers preventing individuals from rejoining the workforce were low-paying jobs, health and disability concerns, gaps in employment history which lowered their chances of being hired, and lack of reliable transportation and childcare.

A second project, conducted by Chmura Economics and Analytics, ran a broad-based analysis to identify the causes of our state's low labor force participation rate. A primary takeaway was the profound impact that South Carolina's aging population has on the labor force participation rate issue. Between 1994 and 2019, the share of our state's population aged 65 or older nearly doubled. This alone explains the decline in most of South Carolina's labor force participation rate. However, the Chmura analysis also identified other causes from the academic literature and potential policy levers for bringing people into the labor force, such as the need for accommodations for people with disabilities to be gainfully employed.

#### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH**

Governor Henry McMaster delivered his proclamation declaring September as Workforce Development Month in South Carolina for the first time in 2022 at a joint press conference at the Michelin tire plant in Lexington, SC. Events included more than 200 job fairs and workshops, dozens of visits by the Career Coach and the Be Pro Be Proud mobile workshop, discussion forums and roundtables, and weekly labor market information webinars. DEW also awarded amounts of up to \$25,000 for faith-based and community organizations to set up Connection Points at their locations, which gave free access to computers and DEW resources for unemployment insurance claimants and general job seekers.

#### EV WORKFORCE STUDY

In response to the Executive Order is 2022-10-12, the agency conducted an evaluation of the state's existing and anticipated electric vehicle (EV) related workforce availability and capacity and recommended strategies for building a workforce for projected EV-related occupations. The Evaluation and Analysis of the Electric Vehicle Workforce in South Carolina highlights industries that currently support the EV ecosystem and are expected to grow and expand as adoption of electric vehicles continues. It provides a list of EV-related occupations, current and projected job openings, and the number of postsecondary program completions for each occupation. The comparison of job openings to postsecondary program completions shows a potential undersupply of workers in several key occupations including:

- industrial engineers
- software developers
- automotive service technicians and mechanics
- logisticians

The report details worker availability and offers a list of potential workforce development strategies that could be deployed at state, regional, or local levels. The report is available for download <u>here</u> or scan the QR code below.

#### STREAMLINING SERVICE DELIVERY

In South Carolina, the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) brings together six core programs that are administered by four state agencies, each with their own case management system. These systems are not currently integrated, which presents service delivery, data collection, and reporting challenges. While the State has established expectations for participant and client co-enrollment and referrals, the lack of integration prevents partner programs and participants from experiencing the full benefit of these efforts. During the program year, the State Workforce Development Board led a feasibility study to evaluate options for achieving a more cohesive case management system. The recommendations resulting from the feasibility study will inform the procurement of a new case management system with integration capabilities, which will improve the customer experience, and facilitate data sharing and more comprehensive reporting.





#### PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY

#### **Participants Served**

During PY'22, South Carolina served 3,656 adults, 490 dislocated workers, and 1,487 youth participants through WIOA-funded programs in our 12 Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs).

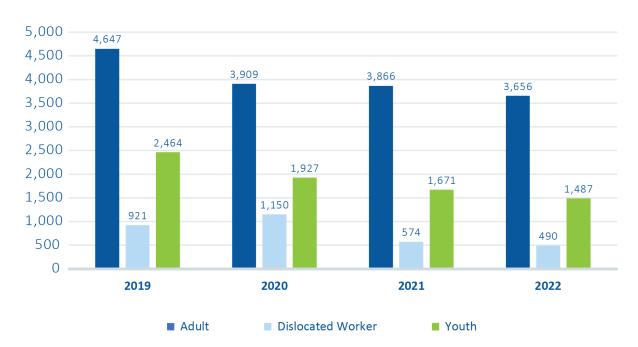
#### Low Levels of Participation

Participation in all Title I programs continues to decline, despite strategic and targeted outreach efforts at the state and local levels. There are a few possible reasons for this decline:

- Funding from the S.C. General Assembly has resulted in free tuition for many students who earn a credential at one of the state's technical colleges.
- The state is experiencing record-high employment levels and an unemployment rate below the national average.
- Employers have modified hiring requirements making it easier to enter employment without participating in programs like WIOA.

In PY'23, the state will continue with its efforts to bring awareness to the SC Works system and the resources and services available to job seekers and employers. Using Governor's Reserve Funds, the state will launch new SC Works outreach and local areas will refresh their centers with new signage. Additionally, DEW will launch a targeted Rural Outreach Initiative that will focus on engagement in rural communities.

#### **WIOA PARTICIPANTS SERVED PY'19 - PY'22**



The chart below reflects Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth program performance for Program Year 2022:

#### PROGRAM YEAR 2022 - ANNUAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY (QUICK REFERENCE)

WorkLink					Pee Dee				
Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score	Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overa Indicate Score
Employment Rate Q2	112.5%	106.2%	107.5%	108.7%	Employment Rate Q2	108.3%	97.3%	102.9%	102.8%
Employment Rate Q4	108.2%	110.3%	114.0%	110.8%	Employment Rate Q4	101.0%	92.2%	109.1%	100.79
Median Earnings	131.2%	128.7%	125.5%	128.5%	Median Earnings	131.8%	134.6%	154.9%	140.49
Credential Rate	108.9%	129.2%	98.7%	112.3%	Credential Rate	109.8%	97.4%	77.2%	94.8%
Measurable Skill Gains	156.0%	138.4%	140.3%	144.9%	Measurable Skill Gains	142.1%	132.0%	111.2%	128.59
	123.3%	122.6%	117.2%			118.6%	110.7%	111.1%	
Upper Savannah					Lower Savannah				
Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score	Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overa Indicat Score
Employment Rate Q2	96.8%	108.7%	83.2%	96.2%	Employment Rate Q2	115.4%	119.1%	116.2%	116.9
Employment Rate Q4	106.2%	94.7%	90.6%	97.2%	Employment Rate Q4	108.6%	106.6%	112.3%	109.2
Median Earnings	114.3%	116.1%	126.0%	118.8%	Median Earnings	119.3%	148.0%	96.3%	121.2
Credential Rate	94.7%	138.7%	91.3%	108.2%	Credential Rate	125.7%	122.0%	104.4%	117.49
Measurable Skill Gains	92.0%	98.6%	96.0%	95.6%	Measurable Skill Gains	156.3%	173.3%	128.1%	152.69
	100.8%	111.3%	97.4%			125.0%	133.8%	111.4%	
Upstate					Catawba				
Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score	Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overa Indicat Score
Employment Rate Q2	107.4%	91.2%	99.9%	99.5%	Employment Rate Q2	107.0%	110.6%	112.8%	110.19
Employment Rate Q4	107.6%	108.3%	112.1%	109.3%	Employment Rate Q4	105.5%	99.4%	109.1%	104.7
Median Earnings	152.7%	134.3%	141.2%	142.7%	Median Earnings	145.4%	125.3%	127.2%	132.69
Credential Rate	108.0%	108.4%	106.8%	107.7%	Credential Rate	89.3%	117.3%	82.7%	96.4%
Measurable Skill Gains	124.8%	134.4%	127.5%	128.9%	Measurable Skill Gains	136.5%	121.0%	149.4%	135.6
	120.1%	115.3%	117.5%			116.7%	114.7%	116.2%	

Greenville					Santee-Lynches				
Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score	Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score
Employment Rate Q2	106.6%	100.2%	106.5%	104.4%	Employment Rate Q2	104.9%	89.1%	109.7%	101.3%
Employment Rate Q4	108.3%	113.6%	122.7%	114.9%	Employment Rate Q4	102.1%	102.5%	104.7%	103.1%
Median Earnings	121.2%	139.9%	89.3%	116.8%	Median Earnings	128.8%	63.9%	129.8%	107.5%
Credential Rate	123.1%	125.9%	62.3%	103.7%	Credential Rate	106.0%	111.3%	99.3%	105.5%
Measurable Skill Gains	134.8%	122.2%	126.72%	127.9%	Measurable Skill Gains	124.9%	139.4%	99.0%	121.1%
	118.8%	120.3%	101.5%			113.3%	101.2%	108.5%	

Midlands				Waccamaw					
Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score	Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score
Employment Rate Q2	97.9%	92.9%	97.2%	96.0%	Employment Rate Q2	106.1%	99.2%	105.2%	103.5%
Employment Rate Q4	97.0%	95.9%	105.7%	99.5%	Employment Rate Q4	103.3%	106.0%	123.6%	111.0%
Median Earnings	108.8%	117.0%	153.2%	126.3%	Median Earnings	113.3%	87.1%	147.1%	115.9%
Credential Rate	127.3%	90.0%	88.2%	101.8%	Credential Rate	101.3%	101.3%	101.9%	101.5%
Measurable Skill Gains	120.7%	151.8%	138.8%	137.1%	Measurable Skill Gains	149.3%	123.5%	126.8%	133.2%
	110.3%	109.5%	116.6%			114.7%	103.4%	120.9%	

Trident				Lowcountry					
Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score	Indicator/Program	Title I Adult % of Goal	Title I DW % of Goal	Title I Youth % of Goal	Overall Indicator Score
Employment Rate Q2	114.2%	123.1%	108.4%	115.3%	Employment Rate Q2	108.2%	101.0%	95.2%	101.5%
Employment Rate Q4	106.4%	103.8%	118.2%	109.5%	Employment Rate Q4	108.6%	116.8%	107.4%	110.9%
Median Earnings	120.3%	104.7%	135.4%	120.1%	Median Earnings	127.0%	124.9%	198.7%	150.2%
Credential Rate	117.9%	115.1%	99.8%	110.9%	Credential Rate	123.1%	110.3%	121.8%	118.4%
Measurable Skill Gains	122.1%	150.1%	116.3%	129.5%	Measurable Skill Gains	141.3%	128.6%	108.2%	126.0%
	116.2%	119.4%	115.6%			121.6%	116.3%	126.3%	

The assessment reflects performance across programs and negotiated indicators. To pass performance a Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA) must:

- Have an Overall Program Score (across all indicators) of at least 90 percent
- Have an Overall Indicator Score (across Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs) of at least 90 percent
- Have an individual indicator percentage of at least 50 percent

Color Coding PASS FAI

#### **WAGNER-PEYSER**

South Carolina met or exceeded PY'22 Wagner-Peyser (WP) negotiated performance goals. The chart below provides actual performance for PY'21 and '22.

	Pro	ogram Year 20	21	Program Year 2022				
	Employment Q2	Employment Q4	Median Earnings	Employment Q2	Employment Q4	Median Earnings		
Negotiated Goal	68.5%	68.0%	\$4,750	61.5%	60.7%	\$4,984		
Percent of Goal — State	93.7%	96.2%	126.1%	118.7%	113.8%	142.0%		
Percent of Goal — WorkLink	88.3%	94.0%	126.0%	118.7%	111.9%	135.8%		
Percent of Goal — Upper Savannah	94.2%	95.7%	117.3%	123.1%	118.9%	139.2%		
Percent of Goal — Upstate	101.5%	100.6%	142.1%	128.1%	124.2%	146.7%		
Percent of Goal — Greenville	92.8%	100.0%	150.1%	117.6%	115.0%	160.6%		
Percent of Goal — Midlands	93.1%	94.7%	112.8%	115.9%	110.7%	132.4%		
Percent of Goal — Trident	89.3%	89.9%	155.6%	118.9%	108.9%	163.2%		
Percent of Goal — Pee Dee	93.7%	98.4%	120.0%	116.6%	113.2%	135.0%		
Percent of Goal — Lower Savannah	96.2%	99.6%	119.4%	116.4%	117.1%	136.4%		
Percent of Goal — Catawba	96.1%	99.3%	139.6%	117.2%	105.9%	163.5%		
Percent of Goal — Santee-Lynches	94.7%	96.9%	110.8%	113.3%	110.4%	125.7%		
Percent of Goal — Waccamaw	94.6%	96.0%	119.3%	122.8%	116.0%	131.3%		
Percent of Goal — Lowcountry	86.7%	86.6%	104.0%	112.8%	112.4%	134.7%		

## LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

The Labor Market Information (LMI) Division produces a wide array of data, statistics, and analysis related to employment and workforce in South Carolina. This includes labor supply and demand, wages and income, labor force and unemployment figures, employment projections, and labor force demographics. There are many consumers of LMI products, including workers and jobseekers, employers, elected officials and other policymakers, education professionals, and economic developers, as well as academic researchers and the media. LMI materials are available at scworkforceinfo.com. LMI staff also provide trainings, responses to data requests, and presentations centered on the state's workforce.

The LMI Division operates four programs that are funded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, part of the U.S. Department of Labor:

- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) produce data on how many people are employed and how
  many people are unemployed, i.e., any individual who doesn't have a job and is actively looking for one.
  The sum of these two figures is the labor force, and the share of the labor force that is unemployed is the
  unemployment rate.
- Current Employment Statistics (CES) provide information on the number of filled jobs and their average wage every month, as well as some detail by industry. Note that these numbers may not always tell the same story: LAUS is a survey of households, while CES is a survey of businesses. LAUS and CES data are published monthly by DEW in our Employment Situation press release.
- The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) is a record of all businesses in the Unemployment Insurance system, how many people they employ, how much they pay, and what industry they are in. This information is more comprehensive than CES but not as timely.
- Occupational Employment and Wages Statistics (OEWS) provide information on payroll and salary by occupation rather than industry. These data are published annually.

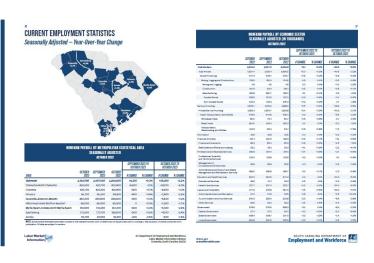
#### WORKFORCE INNOVATION GRANT

LMI receives a Workforce Innovation Grant from the Employment and Training Administration, also part of the Department of Labor. This funding supports many additional products, including short- and long-term employment projections by industry and occupation, data on company staffing patterns, information on current job openings and job candidates, as well as occasional reports on topics of interest to LMI customers.

#### **TRENDS**

LMI publishes a monthly report, South Carolina Data Trends, which summarizes the data discussed here and provides analysis on economic topics of interest. Current and previous issues are available on the DEW website at dew.sc.gov/labor-market-information/data-trends-issues. LMI also regularly updates our community profiles portal, which provide an array of information about our state, its counties and metropolitan areas, and 12 workforce development areas. Community Profiles are available at Imi.dew.sc.gov.





# LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Department makes the following legislative recommendation to improve efficiency, promote integrity, and provide relief to employers who come into compliance with the law:

• Amend Section 41-31-60 (B) to provide relief to employers who are placed into the penalty Tax Class 20 because unpaid unemployment taxes have resulted in an active lien. Currently, employers must pay at the Tax Class 20 rate if they have an active tax lien. The proposed amendment would incentivize good faith repayment by allowing employers to make payments on their outstanding debt under an approved installment payment plan while also paying at their normal tax rate.

