

# **Economic Overview**

# **Lower Savannah**

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## Demographic Profile

The population in the Lower Savannah was 311,097 per American Community Survey data for 2018-2022.

The region has a civilian labor force of 140,600 with a participation rate of 56.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in the Lower Savannah, 25.6% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 36.5% in the nation.

The median household income in the Lower Savannah is \$57,231 and the median house value is \$161,649.

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

		Percent		Value				
	Lower Savannah	Central WIOA	South Carolina	Lower Savannah	Central WIOA	South Carolina		
Demographics								
Population (ACS)	_	_	_	311,097	1,472,574	5,212,774		
Male	48.1%	48.4%	48.7%	149,720	712,795	2,537,456		
Female	51.9%	51.6%	51.3%	161,377	759,779	2,675,318		
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	41.6	38.8	40.1		
Under 18 Years	21.4%	22.3%	21.6%	66,527	328,558	1,127,062		
18 to 24 Years	8.8%	9.9%	9.1%	27,299	145,561	475,338		
25 to 34 Years	11.9%	12.9%	12.9%	37,168	189,710	671,642		
35 to 44 Years	11.5%	12.9%	12.4%	35,863	189,540	647,392		
45 to 54 Years	11.6%	12.4%	12.2%	36,061	182,743	634,490		
55 to 64 Years	14.1%	12.8%	13.3%	43,865	188,663	693,281		
65 to 74 Years	12.3%	10.3%	11.3%	38,396	152,100	589,960		
75 Years and Over	8.3%	6.5%	7.2%	25,918	95,699	373,609		
Race: White	53.9%	58.4%	64.1%	167,740	859,380	3,339,447		
Race: Black or African American	38.8%	31.3%	25.3%	120,841	460,613	1,318,630		
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	697	4,166	16,823		
Race: Asian	0.9%	2.2%	1.7%	2,920	32,276	89,723		
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	101	735	3,642		
Race: Some Other Race	1.3%	2.1%	2.7%	4,165	31,215	142,798		
Race: Two or More Races	4.7%	5.7%	5.8%	14,633	84,189	301,711		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	5.2%	6.4%	7.1%	16,211	94,137	368,900		
Population Growth								
Population (Pop Estimates) <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	314,926	1,508,775	5,373,555		
Population Annual Average Growth <sup>4</sup>	-0.1%	1.0%	1.2%	-197	14,611	60,709		
People per Square Mile <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	80.6	191.9	178.7		
Economic								
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	56.0%	62.2%	60.2%	140,600	727,909	2,513,298		
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	79.0%	82.5%	81.6%	85,574	458,599	1,577,860		
Work from Home	7.9%	11.1%	10.0%	10,079	76,107	237,424		
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.3%	1.0%	0.9%	757	12,086	39,412		
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.6%	6.2%	5.8%	10,062	55,236	180,043		
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	69.5%	73.0%	74.3%	6,993	40,341	133,696		
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	\$57,231	\$68,035	\$66,818		
Per Capita Income	_	_	_	\$31,862	\$37,634	\$37,993		
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	_	_	_	26.8	26.0	25.6		
Commute via Public Transportation	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	548	3,357	10,086		
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64								
No High School Diploma	11.5%	8.7%	9.6%	17,584	65,492	254,842		
High School Graduate	32.3%	25.2%	27.4%	49,388	189,086	724,281		
Some College, No Degree	19.7%	20.4%	20.2%	30,095	153,368	534,191		

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

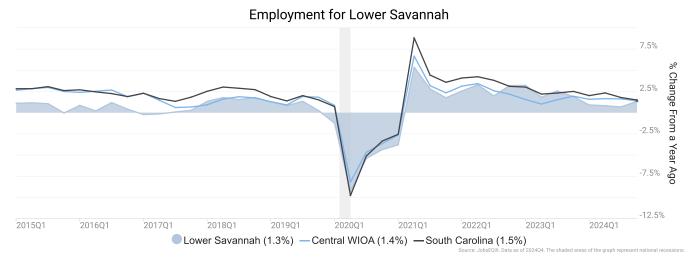
		Percent		Value				
	Lower Savannah	Central WIOA	South Carolina	Lower Savannah	Central WIOA	South Carolina		
Associate's Degree	11.0%	10.3%	10.5%	16,799	76,963	276,602		
Bachelor's Degree	16.0%	21.9%	20.6%	24,475	164,609	544,605		
Postgraduate Degree	9.6%	13.5%	11.8%	14,616	101,138	312,284		
Housing								
Total Housing Units	_	_	_	147,750	650,253	2,401,638		
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) <sup>2,5</sup>	_	_	_	\$161,649	\$230,885	\$236,700		
Homeowner Vacancy	1.3%	0.9%	1.0%	1,182	3,712	15,717		
Rental Vacancy	5.5%	5.1%	8.3%	1,916	9,166	54,196		
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	26.6%	28.8%	28.6%	32,861	167,506	591,532		
Owner-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	73.4%	71.2%	71.4%	90,611	414,589	1,478,858		
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	7.5%	5.7%	5.7%	9,289	33,187	117,832		
Social								
Poverty Level (of all people)	18.2%	14.2%	14.2%	55,094	202,140	719,720		
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	15.6%	11.0%	10.5%	19,221	63,895	217,015		
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	4,237	18,506	64,573		
Disconnected Youth <sup>3</sup>	3.7%	2.8%	2.9%	598	2,309	8,046		
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	48.3%	39.1%	38.4%	29,670	120,231	404,096		
Uninsured	9.6%	8.9%	10.0%	29,335	128,324	510,757		
With a Disability, Age 18-64	13.2%	11.6%	12.0%	23,504	100,850	366,706		
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	39.1%	44.1%	42.6%	9,184	44,522	156,318		
Foreign Born	2.9%	5.3%	5.6%	8,975	78,599	293,556		
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	1.8%	2.5%	3.0%	5,246	35,181	150,169		

Source: JobsEQ®

<sup>1.</sup> American Community Survey 2019-2023, 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 2023, annual average growth rate since 2013.
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**

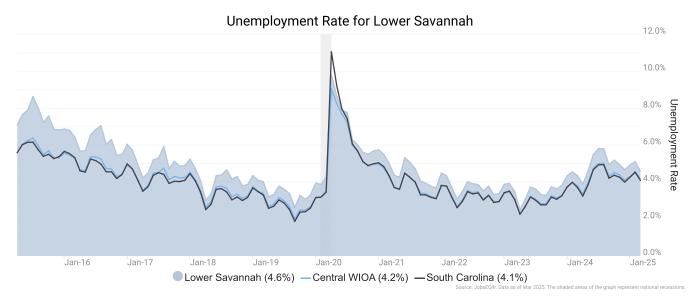
As of 2024Q4, total employment for the Lower Savannah was 119,742 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2024Q4, employment increased 1.3% in the region.



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 2024Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q4.

### **Unemployment Rate**

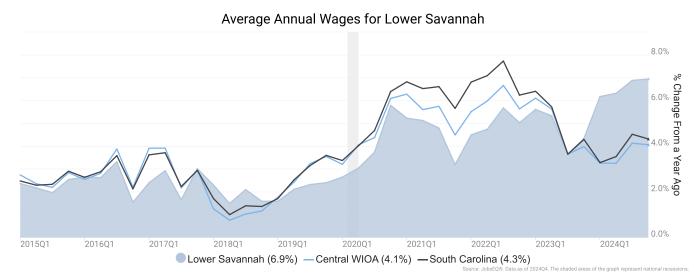
The unemployment rate for the Lower Savannah was 4.6% as of March 2025. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 4.3%. One year earlier, in March 2024, the unemployment rate in the Lower Savannah was 4.3%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through March 2025.

## Wage Trends

The average worker in the Lower Savannah earned annual wages of \$56,955 as of 2024Q4. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.9% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$73,145 in the nation as of 2024Q4.



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 2024Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q4.

# **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 17.2% lower in Lower Savannah than the U.S. average.

### **Cost of Living Information**

	Cost of Living Index					
	<b>Annual Average Salary</b>	(Base US)	<b>US Purchasing Power</b>			
Lower Savannah	\$56,955	82.8	\$68,776			
Central WIOA	\$58,260	90.1	\$64,678			
South Carolina	\$58,950	92.8	\$63,558			
USA	\$73,145	100.0	\$73,145			

Source: <u>JobsEQ®</u> Data as of 2024Q4

Cost of Living per COLI, data as of 2024Q3, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

### **Industry Snapshot**

The largest sector in the Lower Savannah is Manufacturing, employing 17,255 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Health Care and Social Assistance (15,185 workers) and Retail Trade (13,362). 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 Manufacturing (LQ = 1.83), Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (1.72), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (1.69).

Total Workers for Lower Savannah by Industry



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 2024Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q4.

Sectors in the Lower Savannah with the highest average wages per worker are Utilities (\$99,936), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$91,236), and Manufacturing (\$84,356). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+1,977 jobs), Health Care and Social Assistance (+1,232), and Construction (+436).

Over the next 1 year, employment in the Lower Savannah is projected to expand by 452 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services with a +1.2% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+119 jobs), Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (+94), and Construction (+79).

### Lower Savannah, 2024Q41

			Current	5-Year History							
			Avg Ann		Empl		Total			Empl	Ann %
NAICS	Industry	Empl	Wages	LQ	Change	Ann %	Demand	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Growth
31	Manufacturing	17,255	\$84,356	1.83	-1,449	-1.6%	1,742	641	1,099	3	0.0%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	15,185	\$46,320	0.84	1,232	1.7%	1,601	676	806	119	0.8%
44	Retail Trade	13,362	\$31,577	1.15	281	0.4%	1,786	766	1,058	-38	-0.3%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	12,476	\$78,283	1.72	270	0.4%	1,513	567	852	94	0.8%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	10,402	\$20,400	1.00	209	0.4%	1,897	787	1,061	50	0.5%
23	Construction	9,148	\$76,991	1.28	436	1.0%	862	289	494	79	0.9%
61	Educational Services	9,046	\$45,219	0.94	-486	-1.0%	869	383	464	22	0.2%
92	Public Administration	5,794	\$57,791	1.03	-121	-0.4%	534	212	318	4	0.1%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	5,283	\$29,440	1.03	116	0.4%	631	245	355	30	0.6%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	5,252	\$91,236	0.60	1,977	9.9%	489	157	267	65	1.2%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	5,138	\$58,517	0.86	301	1.2%	571	226	331	14	0.3%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	2,433	\$48,243	1.69	-154	-1.2%	285	141	157	-12	-0.5%
42	Wholesale Trade	2,174	\$60,918	0.49	407	4.2%	214	81	136	-3	-0.1%
52	Finance and Insurance	1,908	\$70,066	0.41	-702	-6.1%	162	60	97	5	0.3%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,792	\$26,267	0.71	174	2.1%	282	105	158	18	1.0%
22	Utilities	1,007	\$99,936	1.62	-49	-1.0%	73	32	55	-15	-1.5%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	994	\$47,967	0.47	109	2.3%	98	42	53	3	0.3%
51	Information	685	\$62,621	0.30	-70	-1.9%	59	22	38	-1	-0.1%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	271	\$78,135	0.14	132	14.3%	24	8	14	1	0.4%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	135	\$78,991	0.31	-14	-1.9%	14	4	8	1	1.1%
	Total - All Industries	119,742	\$56,955	1.00	2,597	0.4%	13,448	5,351	7,645	452	0.4%

Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2024Q4

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

L. 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 2024Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q4. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

### **Occupation Snapshot**

The largest major occupation group in the Lower Savannah is Transportation and Material Moving Occupations, employing 13,539 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (12,378 workers) and Production Occupations (11,643). 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 Production Occupations (LQ = 1.80), Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (1.31), and Construction and Extraction Occupations (1.29).

Occupation groups in the Lower Savannah with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$110,200), Legal Occupations (\$103,700), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$98,600). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.6% among Legal Occupations to 10.5% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in the Lower Savannah 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 Healthcare Support Occupations (+66 jobs) and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (+65). 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 (1,947 jobs) and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (1,671).

#### Lower Savannah, 2024Q41

			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
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	13,539	\$44,300	1.31	1,047	6.8%	555	818	1.3%	1,736	636	1,035	65	0.5%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	12,378	\$42,900	0.89	607	4.2%	454	-575	-0.9%	1,313	591	765	-42	-0.3%
51-0000	Production	11,643	\$49,000	1.80	871	6.8%	275	-819	-1.4%	1,258	461	807	-10	-0.1%
41-0000	Sales and Related	10,078	\$42,600	0.97	758	6.4%	884	-208	-0.4%	1,333	591	774	-31	-0.3%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	9,969	\$28,700	1.02	930	7.7%	723	51	0.1%	1,992	843	1,104	45	0.5%
11-0000	Management	8,426	\$110,200	0.91	187	2.1%	764	994	2.5%	733	253	430	51	0.6%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	6,867	\$54,200	1.29	491	6.4%	192	44	0.1%	645	219	365	60	0.9%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	6,330	\$89,700	0.88	128	1.7%	1,763	819	2.8%	408	184	179	45	0.7%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	5,890	\$56,600	0.91	184	3.0%	305	-300	-1.0%	524	235	268	20	0.3%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	5,368	\$56,000	1.15	236	3.7%	419	146	0.6%	498	193	274	31	0.6%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	5,196	\$33,500	0.92	275	4.6%	352	461	1.9%	795	335	393	66	1.3%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	4,860	\$80,900	0.63	181	3.2%	448	521	2.3%	430	136	260	34	0.7%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	3,876	\$34,600	0.98	317	6.4%	219	-109	-0.6%	533	220	298	15	0.4%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	3,196	\$33,300	1.03	207	5.8%	103	166	1.1%	571	208	338	24	0.8%
33-0000	Protective Service	2,494	\$45,900	0.96	128	4.3%	125	-148	-1.1%	273	105	160	8	0.3%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	2,174	\$98,600	1.15	55	2.5%	342	134	1.3%	163	54	92	17	0.8%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	1,927	\$54,200	0.86	64	3.2%	191	-38	-0.4%	185	75	98	13	0.7%

### Lower Savannah, 2024Q41

			Current					5-Year History				1-Year Forecast		
soc	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	1,781	\$92,400	0.47	78	3.5%	198	360	4.6%	124	40	66	18	1.0%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	1,291	\$60,200	0.59	61	4.5%	119	14	0.2%	135	54	75	6	0.5%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	1,059	\$85,600	0.97	43	4.2%	177	293	6.7%	106	17	79	10	1.0%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	834	\$42,600	1.21	100	10.5%	9	-18	-0.4%	116	49	73	-5	-0.6%
23-0000	Legal	567	\$103,700	0.57	10	1.6%	19	-8	-0.3%	35	14	20	2	0.3%
	Total - All Occupations	119,742	\$55,000	1.00	6,957	5.1%	8,637	2,597	0.4%	13,916	5,513	7,951	452	0.4%

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2024Q4 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

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

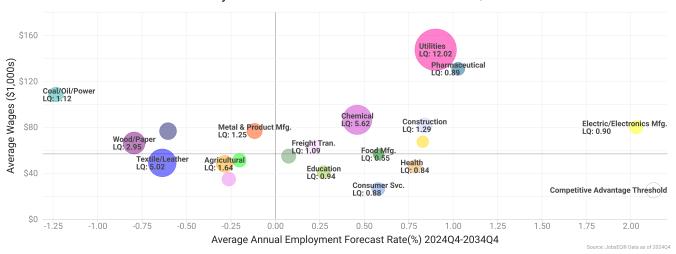
Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2024Q3, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q4. Wages by occupation are as of 2024 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 Lower Savannah with the highest relative concentration is Utilities with a location quotient of 12.02. This cluster employs 6,685 workers in the region with an average wage of \$147,346. Employment in the Utilities cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.9% per year over the next ten years.

### Industry Clusters for Lower Savannah as of 2024Q4

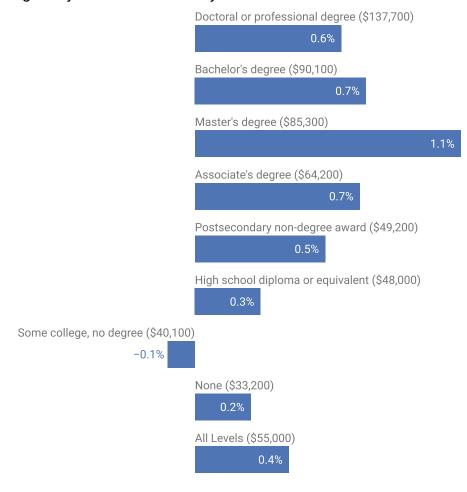


Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2024Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q4. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from 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 Lower Savannah is projected to grow 0.4% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.6% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.7% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.7% per year.

### Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels

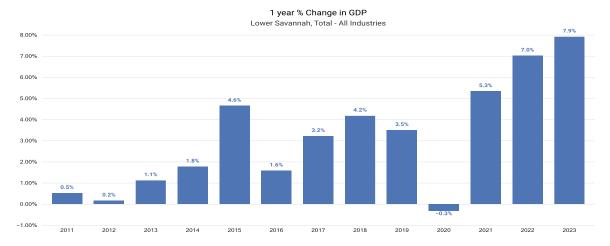


Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2024Q4

Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2024Q4. 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 2023, nominal GDP in the Lower Savannah expanded 7.9%. This follows growth of 7.0% in 2022. As of 2023, total GDP in the Lower Savannah was \$13,589,987,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2023.

Of the sectors in the Lower Savannah, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2023, \$2,792,034,000 The next-largest contributions came from Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (\$1,676,351,000); Construction (\$1,214,298,000); and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$1,078,092,000).

### GDP (in \$ millions)

Lower Savannah, 2023

Manufacturing (31)

\$2,792

Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (56)

\$1,676

Construction (23)

\$1,214

Health Care and Social Assistance (62)

\$1,078

Retail Trade (44)

\$1,025

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53)

\$806

Educational Services (61)

**\$**730

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54)



Transportation and Warehousing (48)

\$616

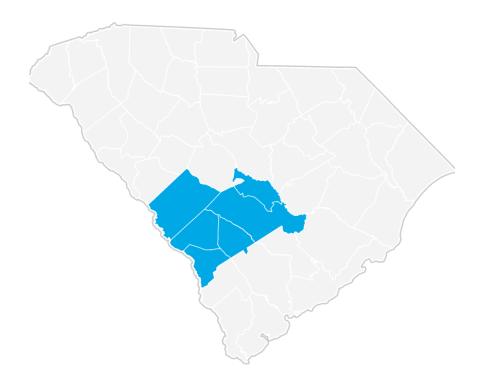
Public Administration (92)

\$597

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2023.



# Lower Savannah Regional Map



# **Region Definition**

### Lower Savannah is defined as the following counties:

Aiken County, South Carolina	Barnwell County, South Carolina
Allendale County, South Carolina	Calhoun County, South Carolina
Bamberg County, South Carolina	Orangeburg County, South Carolina
Central WIOA is defined as the following counties:	
Aiken County, South Carolina	Fairfield County, South Carolina
Allendale County, South Carolina	Lancaster County, South Carolina
Bamberg County, South Carolina	Lexington County, South Carolina
Barnwell County, South Carolina	Orangeburg County, South Carolina
Calhoun County, South Carolina	Richland County, South Carolina
Chester County, South Carolina	York 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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