

Columbia, SC — #4 of 8: metropolitan unemployment rate (August 2026)

**metropolitan unemployment
rate (August 2026): 4.2%**

Based on August 2026 BLS data

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THE DATA

4.2%

metropolitan unemployment rate (August 2026)

Columbia's unemployment rate is 4.2% — among the lowest in South Carolina.

This figure places Columbia as the fourth-lowest in the state among its eight metropolitan areas. The data reflects sustained job growth and labor market stability, even as national indicators show softening in housing demand.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics, August 2026 (seasonally unadjusted, metropolitan) • ALEX Intelligence computation

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-27-columbia-sc-lab-bls-unemp-rate-msa>



Photo: Fee Fi Foe Fum · CC BY 3.0 · Wikimedia Commons

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a serene lake scene. In the foreground, there's a grassy bank. A wooden structure, possibly a dock or a small bridge, extends into the water. The water is calm with gentle ripples. In the background, there are trees and a sky filled with soft, white clouds. A semi-transparent dark red rectangle is positioned in the upper left corner, containing the number '01' in a light pink, serif font.

01

Labor Strength Drives Market Resilience

The persistence of low unemployment in Columbia suggests that household formation and rental demand remain resilient. This dynamic supports continued price stability and inventory turnover, even amid national affordability constraints. The Midlands is not merely surviving — it is adapting through labor-market strength.

02

Contrast with National Trends

Yet Columbia's local labor market appears insulated. This divergence underscores why regional analysis is critical: what is a risk nationally may be a structural advantage locally.



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