#1 of 6: 12-month change in the county unemployment rate (September 2026)

Laurens County leads SC in unemployment drop

12-month change: -1.2% · Source: ALEX Intelligence, 2026

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THE DATA

-1.2%

12-month change in the county unemployment rate (September 2026)

Laurens County recorded the steepest decline in unemployment among Upstate counties over the past year.

This -1.2% drop marks a significant shift in labor market dynamics, signaling that Laurens County is outperforming its peers in job creation and workforce retention. This trend underscores a broader regional resilience in the Upstate, even as national labor metrics show stagnation.



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Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, September 2026 (county, seasonally unadjusted) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-23-upstate-sc-lab-bls-unemp-rate-chg-12m-county

01

Unemployment decline signals hidden momentum

For real estate, this means rising tenant demand, stronger rental markets, and increased confidence in long-term property value appreciation—especially in commercial and mixed-use zones adjacent to major corridors.

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02

Resilience in the middle tier is the Upstate's edge

For investors and policymakers, this signals a strategic opportunity: prioritize support for mid-tier counties not as afterthoughts, but as core drivers of regional stability and long-term value.

Real Estate Strategy & Intelligence Leader. Democratized Blue Ocean Strategist & Operator.

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