S.C.'s economy on upswing recently

Six of the seven major economic indicators improved for the state of South Carolina during the last few months, reports the USC Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

In a report entitled "South Carolina Economic Indicators" the state's economic growth is said to be "in general better than that found at the national level."

Economic indicators that improved in South Carolina during September include increases in non-farm placements and total manufacturing accessions. "These two indicators," the reports says, "suggest heavy hiring by employers in anticipation of increased demands for their goods."

The report further reveals that initial claims for unemployment insurance in South Carolina went down 25 per cent in September while manufacturing layoffs declined sharply.

"The rate of insured unemployment also dropped to its lowest level since March, 1970," the report continues, "and unemployment insurance benefits continued their trend downward from the highs of the early part of the year."

The one unfavorable major indicator found in the state's economy was a decline in the average manufacturing work week. This, the report notes, suggests that there is still considerable excess capacity in industry.

The report also reveals that general improvement was shown in five of seven incidental economic indicators. South Carolina textile employment, for example, improved slightly to hold the dramatic recovery made by the textiles industry in August. Durables manufacturing, the report says, also continued to recover slowly in September.

Silent testimony

Even umbrellas were ineffective for keeping students dry and warm during Friday's "snowstorm." This and many more unsuccessful attempts at warmth and dryness were not even needed by the afternoon.

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