



PAT McCRORY
Governor

JOHN E. SKVARLA, III
Secretary

For Immediate Release: June 1, 2016
For More Information, Contact: Kim Genardo/919.814.4610

North Carolina’s April County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH —Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 95 of North Carolina’s counties in April, increased in three, and remained unchanged in two. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 9.5 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.7 percent. Fourteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases and one remained unchanged. Among the Metro areas, Rocky Mount at 7.6 percent experienced the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 3.9 percent. The April not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 5.0 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
April	38	62	0
March (Revised)	20	77	3

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 94 counties, increased in two, and remained unchanged in four. All 15 metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in April by 170 to 4,614,275 while those unemployed decreased 18,743 to 243,285. Since April 2015, the number of workers employed statewide increased 106,280, while those unemployed decreased 16,928.

It is important to note that employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns; therefore, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in the not seasonally adjusted estimates.

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, June 17, 2016 when the state unemployment rate for May 2016 will be released.

This information may be accessed on the Commerce website at <http://www.nccommerce.com/lead>



NORTH CAROLINA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Statewide and County Data for
April 2016

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	4,857,560	243,285	5.0				
ALAMANCE	79,129	3,685	4.7	JOHNSTON	90,724	4,118	4.5
ALEXANDER	17,753	758	4.3	JONES	4,627	225	4.9
ALLEGHANY	4,506	236	5.2	LEE	26,361	1,601	6.1
ANSON	10,946	633	5.8	LENOIR	28,019	1,571	5.6
ASHE	12,390	586	4.7	LINCOLN	41,630	1,939	4.7
AVERY	7,518	403	5.4	MCDOWELL	21,802	1,022	4.7
BEAUFORT	20,240	1,194	5.9	MACON	15,062	820	5.4
BERTIE	8,734	597	6.8	MADISON	9,798	469	4.8
BLADEN	15,049	1,020	6.8	MARTIN	9,680	650	6.7
BRUNSWICK	49,927	2,998	6.0	MECKLENBURG	576,331	27,153	4.7
BUNCOMBE	133,761	4,944	3.7	MITCHELL	6,322	389	6.2
BURKE	39,998	1,971	4.9	MONTGOMERY	11,906	586	4.9
CABARRUS	99,225	4,496	4.5	MOORE	39,149	1,908	4.9
CALDWELL	35,790	1,896	5.3	NASH	43,577	3,003	6.9
CAMDEN	4,732	256	5.4	NEW HANOVER	114,857	5,317	4.6
CARTERET	31,584	1,627	5.2	NORTHAMPTON	7,949	615	7.7
CASWELL	9,759	531	5.4	ONSLow	64,800	3,549	5.5
CATAWBA	75,453	3,569	4.7	ORANGE	76,032	3,116	4.1
CHATHAM	33,719	1,374	4.1	PAMLICO	5,446	279	5.1
CHEROKEE	11,185	635	5.7	PASQUOTANK	17,712	1,125	6.4
CHOWAN	5,681	371	6.5	PENDER	26,211	1,383	5.3
CLAY	4,040	220	5.4	PERQUIMANS	5,280	338	6.4
CLEVELAND	47,199	2,601	5.5	PERSON	18,424	1,002	5.4
COLUMBUS	22,693	1,435	6.3	PITT	87,710	4,753	5.4
CRAVEN	42,022	2,188	5.2	POLK	8,909	385	4.3
CUMBERLAND	128,490	8,096	6.3	RANDOLPH	68,533	3,280	4.8
CURRITUCK	12,861	669	5.2	RICHMOND	16,924	1,178	7.0
DARE	20,106	1,319	6.6	ROBESON	52,561	3,822	7.3
DAVIDSON	79,938	3,800	4.8	ROCKINGHAM	42,195	2,339	5.5
DAVIE	20,124	904	4.5	ROWAN	65,520	3,603	5.5
DUPLIN	27,183	1,458	5.4	RUTHERFORD	24,881	1,707	6.9
DURHAM	159,600	7,030	4.4	SAMPSON	30,200	1,570	5.2
EDGECOMBE	22,863	2,068	9.0	SCOTLAND	12,022	1,143	9.5
FORSYTH	181,343	8,721	4.8	STANLY	29,351	1,360	4.6
FRANKLIN	29,784	1,514	5.1	STOKES	22,277	1,043	4.7
GASTON	105,563	5,399	5.1	SURRY	33,833	1,624	4.8
GATES	5,277	262	5.0	SWAIN	6,787	464	6.8
GRAHAM	3,139	289	9.2	TRANSYLVANIA	13,620	651	4.8
GRANVILLE	29,019	1,258	4.3	TYRRELL	1,579	133	8.4
GREENE	9,699	490	5.1	UNION	114,910	4,901	4.3
GUILFORD	261,006	13,261	5.1	VANCE	18,098	1,335	7.4
HALIFAX	20,921	1,716	8.2	WAKE	554,649	23,020	4.2
HARNETT	51,106	2,916	5.7	WARREN	7,304	533	7.3
HAYWOOD	28,401	1,243	4.4	WASHINGTON	4,950	371	7.5
HENDERSON	51,800	2,099	4.1	WATAUGA	27,344	1,260	4.6
HERTFORD	9,338	617	6.6	WAYNE	55,022	3,023	5.5
HOKE	19,589	1,306	6.7	WILKES	30,143	1,440	4.8
HYDE	2,131	200	9.4	WILSON	36,615	3,203	8.7
IREDELL	83,856	3,951	4.7	YADKIN	17,945	768	4.3
JACKSON	18,585	1,015	5.5	YANCEY	7,223	371	5.1

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

North Carolina Department of Commerce
 Labor & Economic Analysis Division
 Local Area Unemployment Statistics
 (919) 707-1500

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	5.0	5.4	5.5	-0.4	-0.5	JOHNSTON	4.5	4.9	4.9	-0.4	-0.4
ALAMANCE	4.7	5.0	5.0	-0.3	-0.3	JONES	4.9	5.2	5.5	-0.3	-0.6
ALEXANDER	4.3	4.7	4.8	-0.4	-0.5	LEE	6.1	6.4	7.1	-0.3	-1.0
ALLEGHANY	5.2	6.2	6.0	-1.0	-0.8	LENOIR	5.6	5.7	6.4	-0.1	-0.8
ANSON	5.8	6.1	6.2	-0.3	-0.4	LINCOLN	4.7	5.0	5.1	-0.3	-0.4
ASHE	4.7	5.9	5.8	-1.2	-1.1	MCDOWELL	4.7	5.2	5.3	-0.5	-0.6
AVERY	5.4	6.0	6.0	-0.6	-0.6	MACON	5.4	6.2	6.3	-0.8	-0.9
BEAUFORT	5.9	6.2	6.3	-0.3	-0.4	MADISON	4.8	5.5	5.2	-0.7	-0.4
BERTIE	6.8	7.2	7.1	-0.4	-0.3	MARTIN	6.7	7.1	7.4	-0.4	-0.7
BLADEN	6.8	7.1	7.6	-0.3	-0.8	MECKLENBURG	4.7	5.0	5.2	-0.3	-0.5
BRUNSWICK	6.0	6.7	6.6	-0.7	-0.6	MITCHELL	6.2	7.0	6.7	-0.8	-0.5
BUNCOMBE	3.7	4.2	4.1	-0.5	-0.4	MONTGOMERY	4.9	5.3	5.4	-0.4	-0.5
BURKE	4.9	5.3	5.5	-0.4	-0.6	MOORE	4.9	5.5	5.4	-0.6	-0.5
CABARRUS	4.5	4.9	4.9	-0.4	-0.4	NASH	6.9	6.9	7.4	0.0	-0.5
CALDWELL	5.3	5.7	6.1	-0.4	-0.8	NEW HANOVER	4.6	5.1	4.9	-0.5	-0.3
CAMDEN	5.4	5.8	5.4	-0.4	0.0	NORTHAMPTON	7.7	7.8	7.1	-0.1	0.6
CARTERET	5.2	5.9	5.7	-0.7	-0.5	ONSLow	5.5	5.9	5.6	-0.4	-0.1
CASWELL	5.4	5.8	6.1	-0.4	-0.7	ORANGE	4.1	4.5	4.1	-0.4	0.0
CATAWBA	4.7	5.1	5.3	-0.4	-0.6	PAMLICO	5.1	5.8	5.8	-0.7	-0.7
CHATHAM	4.1	4.4	4.3	-0.3	-0.2	PASQUOTANK	6.4	7.0	6.9	-0.6	-0.5
CHEROKEE	5.7	6.2	6.0	-0.5	-0.3	PENDER	5.3	5.7	5.7	-0.4	-0.4
CHOWAN	6.5	7.0	6.8	-0.5	-0.3	PERQUIMANS	6.4	6.7	6.7	-0.3	-0.3
CLAY	5.4	6.2	5.6	-0.8	-0.2	PERSON	5.4	5.9	6.6	-0.5	-1.2
CLEVELAND	5.5	5.7	6.2	-0.2	-0.7	PITT	5.4	5.6	5.7	-0.2	-0.3
COLUMBUS	6.3	6.8	7.1	-0.5	-0.8	POLK	4.3	4.8	4.8	-0.5	-0.5
COLUMBUS	5.2	5.7	5.9	-0.5	-0.7	RANDOLPH	4.8	5.2	5.4	-0.4	-0.6
CUMBERLAND	6.3	6.7	7.0	-0.4	-0.7	RICHMOND	7.0	7.4	7.3	-0.4	-0.3
CURRITUCK	5.2	6.1	5.4	-0.9	-0.2	ROBESON	7.3	7.7	8.3	-0.4	-1.0
DARE	6.6	9.4	6.6	-2.8	0.0	ROCKINGHAM	5.5	6.0	6.3	-0.5	-0.8
DAVIDSON	4.8	5.1	5.2	-0.3	-0.4	ROWAN	5.5	5.6	5.7	-0.1	-0.2
DAVIE	4.5	4.8	4.7	-0.3	-0.2	RUTHERFORD	6.9	7.5	7.6	-0.6	-0.7
DUPLIN	5.4	5.7	5.5	-0.3	-0.1	SAMPSON	5.2	5.5	5.8	-0.3	-0.6
DURHAM	4.4	4.7	4.7	-0.3	-0.3	SCOTLAND	9.5	9.6	10.5	-0.1	-1.0
EDGEcombe	9.0	8.9	9.6	0.1	-0.6	STANLY	4.6	5.0	5.1	-0.4	-0.5
FORSYTH	4.8	5.2	5.1	-0.4	-0.3	STOKES	4.7	5.1	5.0	-0.4	-0.3
FRANKLIN	5.1	5.3	5.7	-0.2	-0.6	SURRY	4.8	5.2	5.1	-0.4	-0.3
GASTON	5.1	5.4	5.8	-0.3	-0.7	SWAIN	6.8	8.6	7.6	-1.8	-0.8
GATES	5.0	5.3	5.1	-0.3	-0.1	TRANSYLVANIA	4.8	5.6	5.0	-0.8	-0.2
GRAHAM	9.2	10.9	13.1	-1.7	-3.9	TYRRELL	8.4	10.3	9.2	-1.9	-0.8
GRANVILLE	4.3	4.7	4.7	-0.4	-0.4	UNION	4.3	4.7	4.5	-0.4	-0.2
GREENE	5.1	5.0	5.4	0.1	-0.3	VANCE	7.4	7.4	8.4	0.0	-1.0
GUILFORD	5.1	5.4	5.5	-0.3	-0.4	WAKE	4.2	4.4	4.4	-0.2	-0.2
HALIFAX	8.2	8.4	8.4	-0.2	-0.2	WARREN	7.3	7.6	8.2	-0.3	-0.9
HARNETT	5.7	6.1	6.4	-0.4	-0.7	WASHINGTON	7.5	7.9	8.6	-0.4	-1.1
HAYWOOD	4.4	5.0	5.0	-0.6	-0.6	WATAUGA	4.6	5.2	4.6	-0.6	0.0
HENDERSON	4.1	4.6	4.4	-0.5	-0.3	WAYNE	5.5	5.8	5.9	-0.3	-0.4
HERTFORD	6.6	7.1	6.7	-0.5	-0.1	WILKES	4.8	5.3	5.5	-0.5	-0.7
HOKE	6.7	6.9	8.0	-0.2	-1.3	WILSON	8.7	8.2	10.0	0.5	-1.3
HYDE	9.4	13.3	8.3	-3.9	1.1	YADKIN	4.3	4.7	4.7	-0.4	-0.4
IREDELL	4.7	5.1	5.2	-0.4	-0.5	YANCEY	5.1	5.8	5.6	-0.7	-0.5
JACKSON	5.5	6.4	5.6	-0.9	-0.1						

Not Seasonally Adjusted

April 2016 data are preliminary, while March 2016 data have been monthly revised and April 2015 data have been annually revised.

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Local Area Unemployment Statistics
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METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
April 2016

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	223,760	8,755	3.9
BURLINGTON	79,129	3,685	4.7
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,265,998	60,803	4.8
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	287,775	12,522	4.4
FAYETTEVILLE	148,079	9,402	6.3
GOLDSBORO	55,022	3,023	5.5
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	371,734	18,880	5.1
GREENVILLE	87,710	4,753	5.4
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	168,994	8,194	4.8
JACKSONVILLE	64,800	3,549	5.5
NEW BERN	52,095	2,692	5.2
RALEIGH	675,157	28,652	4.2
ROCKY MOUNT	66,440	5,071	7.6
WILMINGTON	141,068	6,700	4.7
WINSTON-SALEM	321,627	15,236	4.7

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	29,351	1,360	4.6
BOONE	27,344	1,260	4.6
BREVARD	13,620	651	4.8
CULLOWHEE	18,585	1,015	5.5
DUNN	51,106	2,916	5.7
ELIZABETH CITY	27,724	1,719	6.2
FOREST CITY	24,881	1,707	6.9
HENDERSON	18,098	1,335	7.4
KILL DEVIL HILLS	21,685	1,452	6.7
KINSTON	28,019	1,571	5.6
LAURINBURG	12,022	1,143	9.5
LUMBERTON	52,561	3,822	7.3
MARION	21,802	1,022	4.7
MOREHEAD CITY	31,584	1,627	5.2
MOUNT AIRY	33,833	1,624	4.8
NORTH WILKESBORO	30,143	1,440	4.8
OXFORD	29,019	1,258	4.3
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	39,149	1,908	4.9
ROANOKE RAPIDS	28,870	2,331	8.1
ROCKINGHAM	16,924	1,178	7.0
SANFORD	26,361	1,601	6.1
SHELBY	47,199	2,601	5.5
WASHINGTON	20,240	1,194	5.9
WILSON	36,615	3,203	8.7

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
April 2016

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	237,380	9,406	4.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,342,548	64,764	4.8
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	212,662	14,367	6.8
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	806,323	39,425	4.9
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	107,950	5,947	5.5
HICKORY-LENOIR	190,796	9,216	4.8
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	83,679	4,319	5.2
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,087,516	48,284	4.4
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	131,925	10,605	8.0

Not Seasonally Adjusted
Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
MULTICOUNTY SMALL LABOR MARKET AREA
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES**

Metropolitan Statistical Area	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.9	4.4	4.3	-0.5	-0.4
BURLINGTON	4.7	5.0	5.0	-0.3	-0.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	4.8	5.1	5.3	-0.3	-0.5
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	4.4	4.7	4.6	-0.3	-0.2
FAYETTEVILLE	6.3	6.7	7.2	-0.4	-0.9
GOLDSBORO	5.5	5.8	5.9	-0.3	-0.4
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	5.1	5.5	5.6	-0.4	-0.5
GREENVILLE	5.4	5.6	5.7	-0.2	-0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	4.8	5.2	5.5	-0.4	-0.7
JACKSONVILLE	5.5	5.9	5.6	-0.4	-0.1
NEW BERN	5.2	5.7	5.9	-0.5	-0.7
RALEIGH	4.2	4.5	4.5	-0.3	-0.3
ROCKY MOUNT	7.6	7.6	8.1	0.0	-0.5
WILMINGTON	4.7	5.2	5.1	-0.5	-0.4
WINSTON-SALEM	4.7	5.1	5.1	-0.4	-0.4

Metropolitan Statistical Area	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	4.6	5.0	5.1	-0.4	-0.5
BOONE	4.6	5.2	4.6	-0.6	0.0
BREVARD	4.8	5.6	5.0	-0.8	-0.2
CULLOWHEE	5.5	6.4	5.6	-0.9	-0.1
DUNN	5.7	6.1	6.4	-0.4	-0.7
ELIZABETH CITY	6.2	6.7	6.6	-0.5	-0.4
FOREST CITY	6.9	7.5	7.6	-0.6	-0.7
HENDERSON	7.4	7.4	8.4	0.0	-1.0
KILL DEVIL HILLS	6.7	9.5	6.8	-2.8	-0.1
KINSTON	5.6	5.7	6.4	-0.1	-0.8
LAURINBURG	9.5	9.6	10.5	-0.1	-1.0
LUMBERTON	7.3	7.7	8.3	-0.4	-1.0
MARION	4.7	5.2	5.3	-0.5	-0.6
MOREHEAD CITY	5.2	5.9	5.7	-0.7	-0.5
MOUNT AIRY	4.8	5.2	5.1	-0.4	-0.3
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.8	5.3	5.5	-0.5	-0.7
OXFORD	4.3	4.7	4.7	-0.4	-0.4
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	4.9	5.5	5.4	-0.6	-0.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	8.1	8.2	8.1	-0.1	0.0
ROCKINGHAM	7.0	7.4	7.3	-0.4	-0.3
SANFORD	6.1	6.4	7.1	-0.3	-1.0
SHELBY	5.5	5.7	6.2	-0.2	-0.7
WASHINGTON	5.9	6.2	6.3	-0.3	-0.4
WILSON	8.7	8.2	10.0	0.5	-1.3

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES**

Combined Statistical Area	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	4.0	4.5	4.4	-0.5	-0.4
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	4.8	5.1	5.3	-0.3	-0.5
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	6.8	7.1	7.6	-0.3	-0.8
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	4.9	5.3	5.3	-0.4	-0.4
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	5.5	5.7	5.8	-0.2	-0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR	4.8	5.2	5.4	-0.4	-0.6
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	5.2	5.7	5.8	-0.5	-0.6
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	4.4	4.8	4.8	-0.4	-0.4
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	8.0	7.9	8.6	0.1	-0.6

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for April 2016

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BUNCOMBE	133,761	4,944	3.7%	1	CALDWELL	35,790	1,896	5.3%	51
HENDERSON	51,800	2,099	4.1%	2	AVERY	7,518	403	5.4%	52
CHATHAM	33,719	1,374	4.1%	3	DUPLIN	27,183	1,458	5.4%	53
ORANGE	76,032	3,116	4.1%	4	CAMDEN	4,732	256	5.4%	54
WAKE	554,649	23,020	4.2%	5	PITT	87,710	4,753	5.4%	55
UNION	114,910	4,901	4.3%	6	PERSON	18,424	1,002	5.4%	56
ALEXANDER	17,753	758	4.3%	7	CASWELL	9,759	531	5.4%	57
YADKIN	17,945	768	4.3%	8	MACON	15,062	820	5.4%	58
POLK	8,909	385	4.3%	9	CLAY	4,040	220	5.4%	59
GRANVILLE	29,019	1,258	4.3%	10	JACKSON	18,585	1,015	5.5%	60
HAYWOOD	28,401	1,243	4.4%	11	ONSLow	64,800	3,549	5.5%	61
DURHAM	159,600	7,030	4.4%	12	WAYNE	55,022	3,023	5.5%	62
DAVIE	20,124	904	4.5%	13	ROWAN	65,520	3,603	5.5%	63
CABARRUS	99,225	4,496	4.5%	14	CLEVELAND	47,199	2,601	5.5%	64
JOHNSTON	90,724	4,118	4.5%	15	ROCKINGHAM	42,195	2,339	5.5%	65
WATAUGA	27,344	1,260	4.6%	16	LENOIR	28,019	1,571	5.6%	66
NEW HANOVER	114,857	5,317	4.6%	17	CHEROKEE	11,185	635	5.7%	67
STANLY	29,351	1,360	4.6%	18	HARNETT	51,106	2,916	5.7%	68
ALAMANCE	79,129	3,685	4.7%	19	ANSON	10,946	633	5.8%	69
LINCOLN	41,630	1,939	4.7%	20	BEAUFORT	20,240	1,194	5.9%	70
STOKES	22,277	1,043	4.7%	21	BRUNSWICK	49,927	2,998	6.0%	71
MCDOWELL	21,802	1,022	4.7%	22	LEE	26,361	1,601	6.1%	72
MECKLENBURG	576,331	27,153	4.7%	23	MITCHELL	6,322	389	6.2%	73
IREDELL	83,856	3,951	4.7%	24	CUMBERLAND	128,490	8,096	6.3%	74
ASHE	12,390	586	4.7%	25	COLUMBUS	22,693	1,435	6.3%	75
CATAWBA	75,453	3,569	4.7%	26	PASQUOTANK	17,712	1,125	6.4%	76
DAVIDSON	79,938	3,800	4.8%	27	PERQUIMANS	5,280	338	6.4%	77
WILKES	30,143	1,440	4.8%	28	CHOWAN	5,681	371	6.5%	78
TRANSYLVANIA	13,620	651	4.8%	29	DARE	20,106	1,319	6.6%	79
RANDOLPH	68,533	3,280	4.8%	30	HERTFORD	9,338	617	6.6%	80
MADISON	9,798	469	4.8%	31	HOKE	19,589	1,306	6.7%	81
SURRY	33,833	1,624	4.8%	32	MARTIN	9,680	650	6.7%	82
FORSYTH	181,343	8,721	4.8%	33	BLADEN	15,049	1,020	6.8%	83
JONES	4,627	225	4.9%	34	BERTIE	8,734	597	6.8%	84
MOORE	39,149	1,908	4.9%	35	SWAIN	6,787	464	6.8%	85
MONTGOMERY	11,906	586	4.9%	36	RUTHERFORD	24,881	1,707	6.9%	86
BURKE	39,998	1,971	4.9%	37	NASH	43,577	3,003	6.9%	87
GATES	5,277	262	5.0%	38	RICHMOND	16,924	1,178	7.0%	88
GREENE	9,699	490	5.1%	39	ROBESON	52,561	3,822	7.3%	89
GUILFORD	261,006	13,261	5.1%	40	WARREN	7,304	533	7.3%	90
FRANKLIN	29,784	1,514	5.1%	41	VANCE	18,098	1,335	7.4%	91
GASTON	105,563	5,399	5.1%	42	WASHINGTON	4,950	371	7.5%	92
PAMLICO	5,446	279	5.1%	43	NORTHAMPTON	7,949	615	7.7%	93
YANCEY	7,223	371	5.1%	44	HALIFAX	20,921	1,716	8.2%	94
CARTERET	31,584	1,627	5.2%	45	TYRRELL	1,579	133	8.4%	95
SAMPSON	30,200	1,570	5.2%	46	WILSON	36,615	3,203	8.7%	96
CURRITUCK	12,861	669	5.2%	47	EDGEcombe	22,863	2,068	9.0%	97
CRAVEN	42,022	2,188	5.2%	48	GRAHAM	3,139	289	9.2%	98
ALLEGHANY	4,506	236	5.2%	49	HYDE	2,131	200	9.4%	99
PENDER	26,211	1,383	5.3%	50	SCOTLAND	12,022	1,143	9.5%	100

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

North Carolina Department of Commerce
Labor & Economic Analysis Division
Local Area Unemployment Statistics
(919) 707-1500

Technical Notes

This release presents labor force and unemployment estimates from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. The LAUS program is a federal-state cooperative endeavor.

Labor force and unemployment--from the LAUS program

Definitions. The labor force and unemployment estimates are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The LAUS program measures employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who had a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as bad weather, labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on lay-off expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The labor force is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

Method of estimation. Statewide estimates are produced using an estimation algorithm administered by the BLS. This method, which underwent substantial enhancement at the beginning of 2005, utilizes data from several sources, including the CPS, Current Employment Statistics (CES), and state unemployment insurance (UI) programs. Substate estimates are produced using the "LAUS Handbook Method", which is also based on data from several sources. Each month, census division estimates are controlled to national totals, and state estimates are then controlled to their respective division totals. Substate estimates are controlled to their respective state totals. For more information about LAUS estimation procedures, see the BLS website at www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.htm

Revisions. Labor force and unemployment data for the previous month reflect adjustments made in each subsequent month, while data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year. The monthly revisions incorporate updated model inputs, while the annually revised estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on February 28, 2013. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available online at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample surveys, administrative data, and modeling and, thus, are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability--that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data also are subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can

be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the specific estimation processes used.

Model-based error measures for seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data and for over-the-month and over-the-year changes to LAUS statewide estimates are available online at www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm.

Release Dates

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, June 17, 2016 when the state unemployment rate for May 2016 will be released.

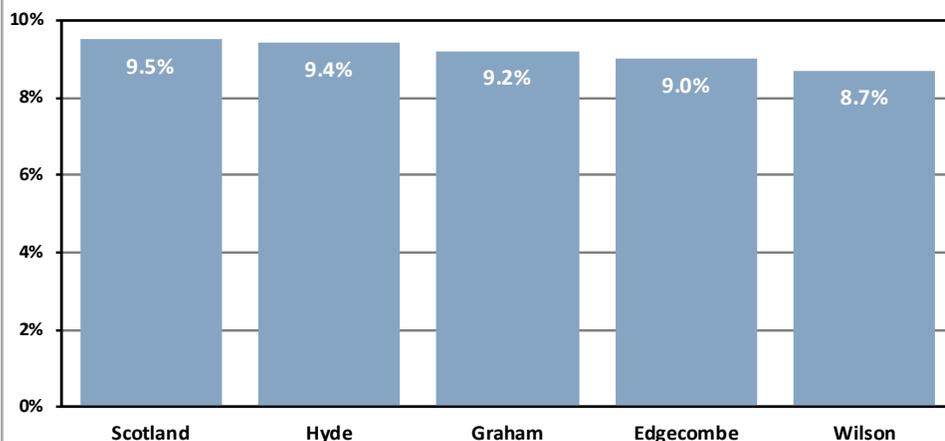
The complete 2016 data release schedule can be accessed at:

<http://www.nccommerce.com/lead/research-publications/schedule-of-release-dates>

Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates

April 2016*

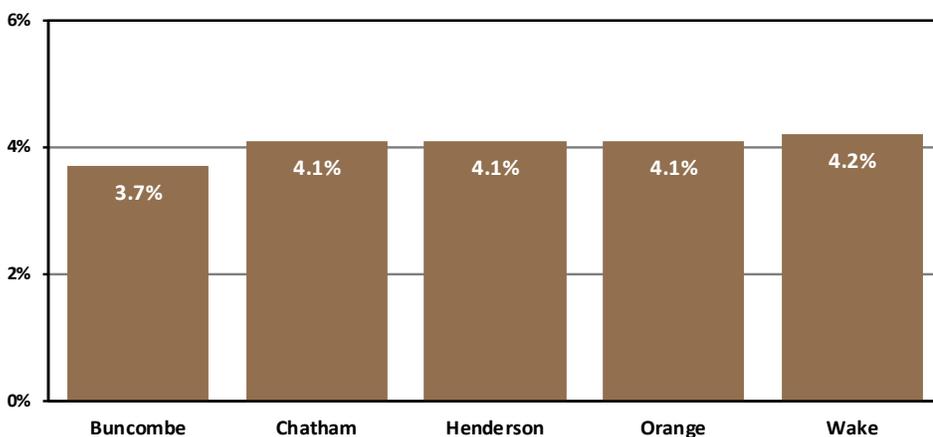
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates

April 2016*

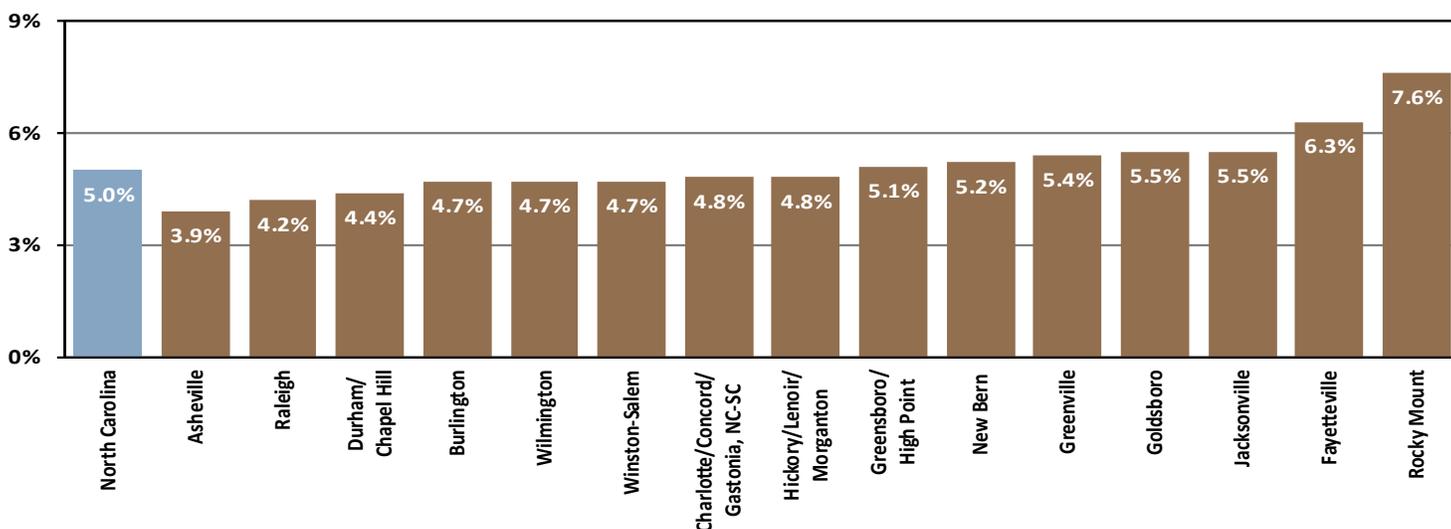
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates

April 2016*

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 5.0 percent in April. This was 0.4 of a percentage-point decrease from March's revised rate, and 0.5 of a percentage-point decrease over the year.

Over the month, the unemployment rate decreased in 95 counties, while increasing in three and remaining unchanged in two. Thirty-eight counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 5.0 percent rate.

Scotland county recorded April's highest unemployment rate at 9.5 percent, followed by Hyde at 9.4 percent, Graham at 9.2 percent, Edgecombe at 9.0 percent, and Wilson at 8.7 percent. Buncombe County had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.7 percent, followed by Chatham, Henderson & Orange at 4.1 percent, and Wake at 4.2 percent

Unemployment rates decreased in 14 of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Rocky Mount MSA had the highest unemployment rate in April at 7.6 percent, followed by Fayetteville at 6.3 percent. Asheville reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 3.9 percent, followed by Raleigh, 4.2 percent and Durham/Chapel Hill, 4.4 percent.

*All April 2016 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016

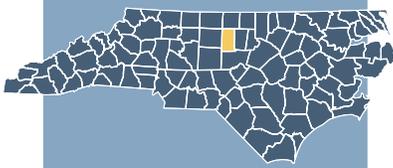


UN Rate | 3.9%
 Total Nonfarm | 185,600
 Monthly Change | (2,000) 1.1%
 Yearly Change | (3,700) 2.0%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	2.6%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	0.9%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	500	2.7%
Education & Health Services	400	1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	300	1.2%
Other Services	100	1.3%
Government	200	0.8%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.3%
Manufacturing	100	0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,100	3.2%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-1.7%
Professional & Business Services	1,200	6.6%
Education & Health Services	1,200	3.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%
Other Services	300	4.1%
Government	-200	-0.8%

Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 4.7%
 Total Nonfarm | 60,800
 Monthly Change | (1,000) 1.7%
 Yearly Change | (1,600) 2.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	4.2%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	500	8.8%
Education & Health Services	100	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	200	2.9%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	100	1.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	3.5%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	700	12.7%
Education & Health Services	400	3.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-1.4%
Other Services	100	5.0%
Government	100	1.4%

Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 4.8%
 Total Nonfarm | 1,129,700
 Monthly Change | (9,200) 0.8%
 Yearly Change | (32,200) 2.9%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	900	1.6%
Manufacturing	-1,000	-1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,500	0.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	400	0.5%
Professional & Business Services	3,800	2.0%
Education & Health Services	-300	-0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,300	2.7%
Other Services	300	0.8%
Government	300	0.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	3,900	7.1%
Manufacturing	-300	-0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,700	2.6%
Information	600	2.3%
Financial Activities	3,900	4.7%
Professional & Business Services	10,700	5.9%
Education & Health Services	800	0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	6,300	5.2%
Other Services	1,200	3.2%
Government	-600	-0.4%

Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 4.4%
 Total Nonfarm | 301,700
 Monthly Change | (1,900) 0.6%
 Yearly Change | (4,900) 1.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.4%
Manufacturing	-100	-0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100	-0.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	0.7%
Professional & Business Services	600	1.5%
Education & Health Services	100	0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	900	3.4%
Other Services	100	0.9%
Government	200	0.3%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	4.2%
Manufacturing	-900	-3.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.3%
Information	200	4.7%
Financial Activities	-100	-0.7%
Professional & Business Services	2,100	5.5%
Education & Health Services	500	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,200	4.6%
Other Services	800	7.5%
Government	700	1.0%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All April 2016 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 6.3%
 Total Nonfarm | 129,400
 Monthly Change | (400) 0.3%
 Yearly Change | (1,600) 1.3%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-100	-1.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-2.6%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	100	0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	300	2.1%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	100	0.3%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-2.2%
Manufacturing	100	1.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	1.7%
Information	-100	-7.1%
Financial Activities	-200	-5.1%
Professional & Business Services	1,100	9.2%
Education & Health Services	600	4.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-700	-4.6%
Other Services	100	2.2%
Government	400	1.0%

Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 5.5%
 Total Nonfarm | 42,800
 Monthly Change | (200) 0.5%
 Yearly Change | (700) 1.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	100	1.1%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	-100	-1.1%

Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 5.1%
 Total Nonfarm | 361,600
 Monthly Change | (3,200) 0.9%
 Yearly Change | (5,200) 1.5%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	500	0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	900	1.2%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	500	0.9%
Education & Health Services	100	0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	800	2.6%
Other Services	100	0.8%
Government	300	0.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	500	3.6%
Manufacturing	400	0.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,600	3.6%
Information	-200	-4.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	3,300	6.5%
Education & Health Services	1,000	2.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-2,100	-6.2%
Other Services	200	1.6%
Government	-500	-1.1%

Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 5.4%
 Total Nonfarm | 78,000
 Monthly Change | (-300) -0.4%
 Yearly Change | (-400) -0.5%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	3.3%
Manufacturing	-300	-5.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	1.1%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	-200	-0.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-3.1%
Manufacturing	-200	-3.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200	3.0%
Education & Health Services	-400	-4.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	300	3.2%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	-200	-0.7%

*Data not collected for these industrial sectors. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All April 2016 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 4.8%
 Total Nonfarm | 148,000
 Monthly Change | (900) 0.6%
 Yearly Change | (1,600) 1.1%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	1.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	0.8%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	400	3.2%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	2.9%
Manufacturing	-200	-0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,100	4.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-2.9%
Professional & Business Services	600	4.7%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	200	1.6%
Other Services	200	4.4%
Government	-300	-1.3%

Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 5.5%
 Total Nonfarm | 49,500
 Monthly Change | (600) 1.2%
 Yearly Change | (-100) -0.2%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	100	0.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	-100	-0.7%

New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 5.2%
 Total Nonfarm | 44,800
 Monthly Change | (200) 0.5%
 Yearly Change | (900) 2.1%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	200	1.4%

Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 4.2%
 Total Nonfarm | 596,200
 Monthly Change | (2,500) 0.4%
 Yearly Change | (19,700) 3.4%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-700	-2.1%
Manufacturing	-400	-1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	0.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-0.3%
Professional & Business Services	100	0.1%
Education & Health Services	300	0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,200	3.3%
Other Services	-200	-0.8%
Government	900	0.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	0.6%
Manufacturing	-300	-0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	4,000	3.9%
Information	600	3.1%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	5,800	5.4%
Education & Health Services	2,700	3.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	4,900	7.7%
Other Services	1,300	5.7%
Government	500	0.5%

*Data not collected for these industrial sectors. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All April 2016 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 7.6%
 Total Nonfarm | 55,900
 Monthly Change | (-600) -1.1%
 Yearly Change | (-500) -0.9%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-700	-6.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	100	1.8%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	200	3.7%
Other Services	*	
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-300	-13.0%
Manufacturing	-200	-2.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	3.5%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	300	5.7%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-1.8%
Other Services	*	
Government	200	1.9%

Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 4.7%
 Total Nonfarm | 120,800
 Monthly Change | (2,600) 2.2%
 Yearly Change | (1,700) 1.4%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.5%
Manufacturing	100	1.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	1.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	1.9%
Professional & Business Services	300	2.0%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,600	9.4%
Other Services	100	2.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	3.1%
Manufacturing	-200	-3.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	1.9%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	400	2.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	600	3.3%
Other Services	300	6.4%
Government	300	1.3%

Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2016



UN Rate | 4.7%
 Total Nonfarm | 259,100
 Monthly Change | (-200) -0.1%
 Yearly Change | (1,300) 0.5%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-100	-0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200	-0.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-400	-1.2%
Education & Health Services	-300	-0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	500	2.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	700	2.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600	1.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-800	-2.3%
Education & Health Services	1,400	2.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-2.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

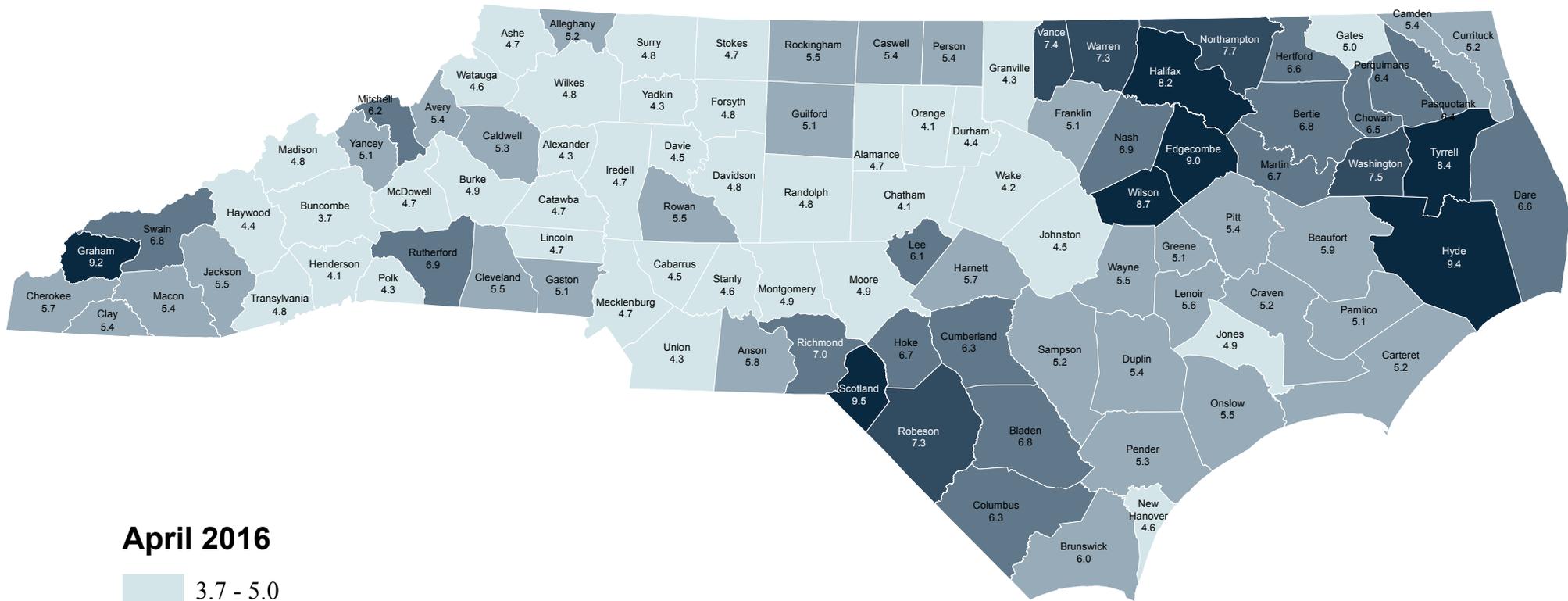
Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All April 2016 data are preliminary.

Over the month, net industry employment increased in 12 of 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase with 9,200, followed by Greensboro/High Point, 3,200; Wilmington, 2,600; and Raleigh, 2,500. Wilmington experienced the greatest percentage increase at 2.2 percent, followed by Burlington, 1.7 percent; Jacksonville, 1.2 percent; and Asheville, 1.1 percent. Rocky Mount (600; 1.1%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Greenville (300; 0.4%) and Winston-Salem (200; 0.1%). It is important to note that employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns; therefore, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in the not seasonally adjusted series.

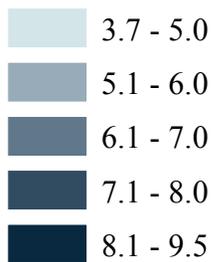
Over the year, employment rose in 12 of 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase at 32,200, followed by Raleigh, 19,700; Greensboro/High Point, 5,200; Durham/Chapel Hill, 4,900; and Asheville, 3,700. Raleigh had the greatest percentage increase at 3.4 percent, followed by Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC, 2.9 percent; and Burlington, 2.7 percent. Decreases were reported in Rocky Mount (500, 0.9%), Greenville (400; 0.5%) and Jacksonville (100; 0.2%).

North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

April 2016



April 2016

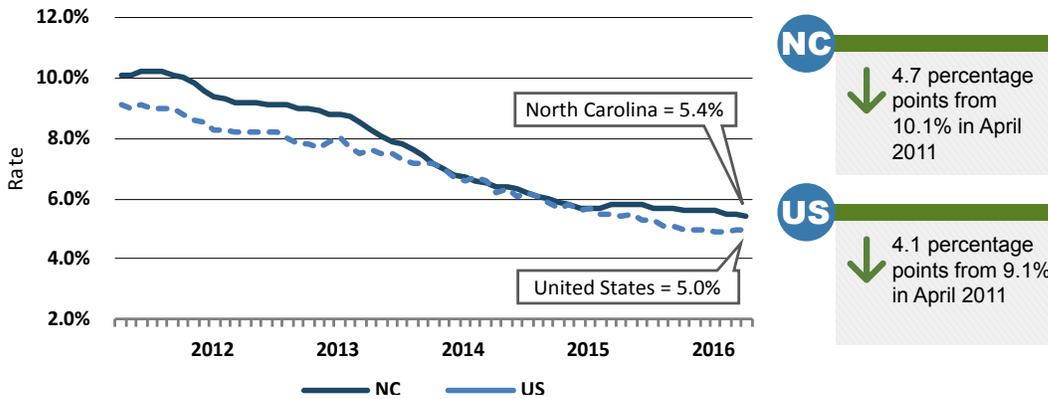


- ^ 3 Counties Higher Than Previous Month
- ✓ 95 Counties Lower Than Previous Month
- = 2 Counties Same as Previous Month

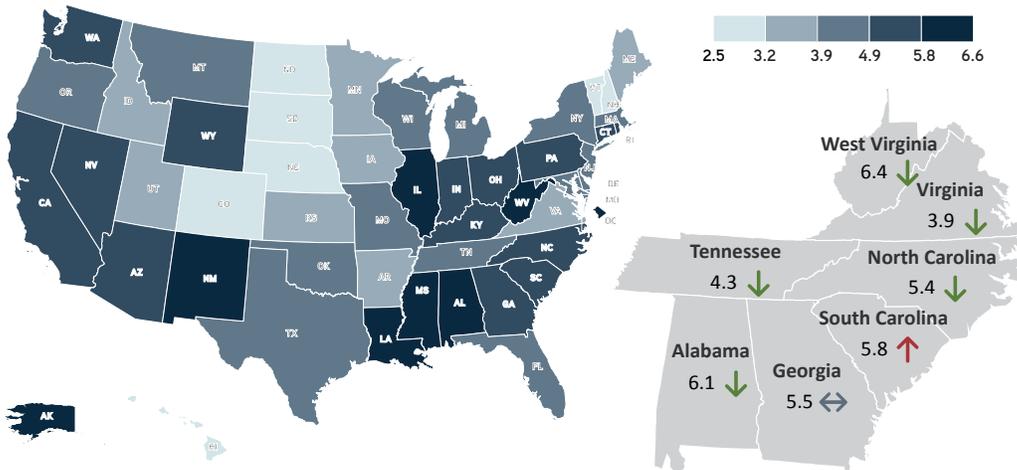
North Carolina Rate 5.0%
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Slow and steady growth continues for North Carolina's economy. In April, the unemployment rate, as well as the actual number of unemployed people, reached seasonally adjusted lows unseen since the 2nd quarter of 2008. Even measures that have struggled at times over the past few years grew in April. The labor force participation rate inched up for the fourth straight month; and housing permits and average weekly wages rose modestly.

Unemployment Rate Trend



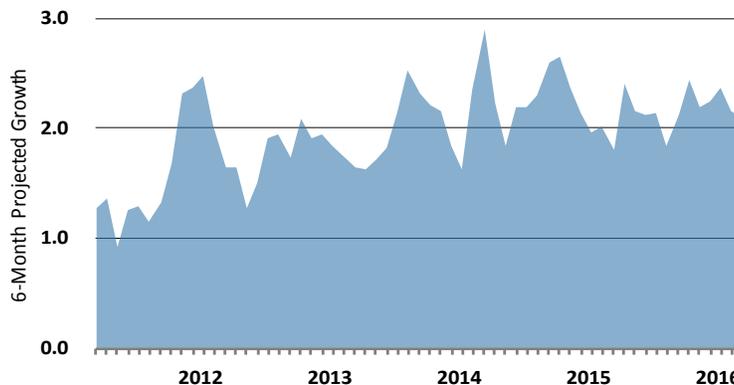
Unemployment Rate Comparison



Philadelphia Federal Reserve Leading Indicators for North Carolina

NC

The Philly Fed Index dipped slightly in March but still remained strong – forecasting solid growth for the next six months.



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Note: March 2016 data most current available.

*All data produced in this publication are based off April 2016 figures, are generated by LEAD, and have been seasonally adjusted and/or smoothed unless otherwise stated. Dollar amounts have been adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index.

NC 5.4%

US 5.0%

Unemployment Rate Change

↓ 0.1 ↔ 0.0

Change in Employed

↑ 20,245 (0.4%) ↓ 316,000 (0.2%)

Change in Unemployed

↓ 1,357 (0.5%) ↓ 46,000 (0.6%)

Labor Force Participation Rate

↑ 0.2 to 62.0% ↓ 0.2 to 62.8%

Data

Industry Employment

4,311,500 Total Nonfarm Jobs

↑ 1000 over the month

↑ 95,600 over the year

Initial UI Claims

16,355 Individuals Filing

↓ 560 over the month

↓ 4,118 over the year

Real Taxable Retail Sales

↑ \$471.8M over the month

↑ \$515.6M over the year

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: March 2016 data most current available at time of release.

Residential Building Permits

↑ 0.4% over the month

↑ 1.7% over the year

Source: United States Census Bureau
Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

Job Postings

↓ <0.1% over the month

↑ 0.1% over the year

Source: The Conference Board
Help Wanted Online

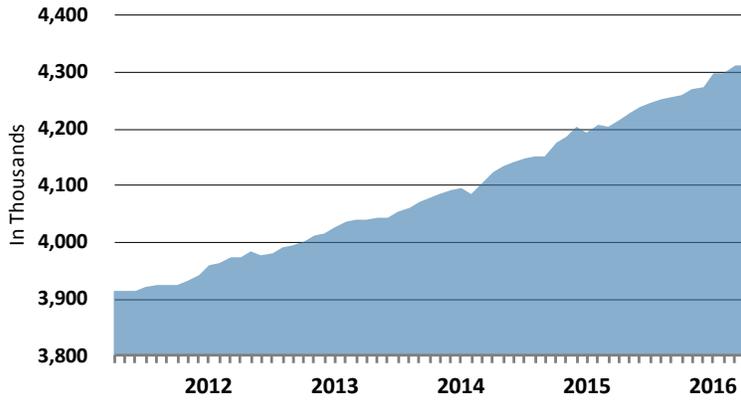
Manufacturing Hours Worked

↑ 1.2% over the month

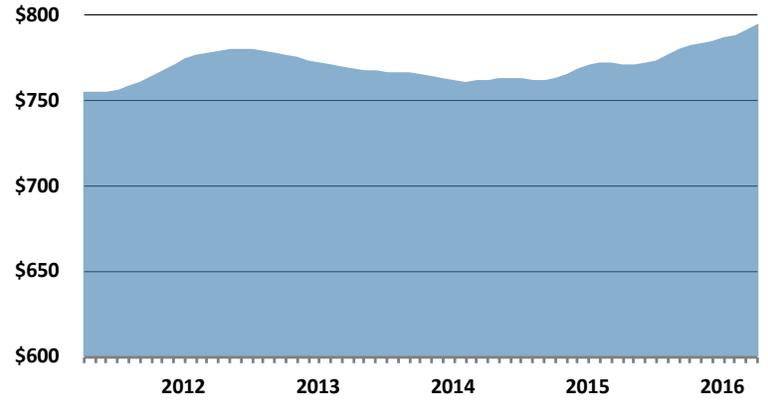
↓ 0.7% over the year

Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

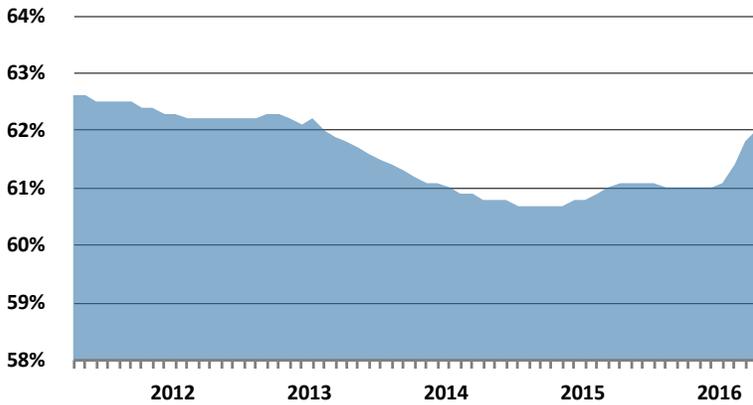
Total Nonfarm Jobs



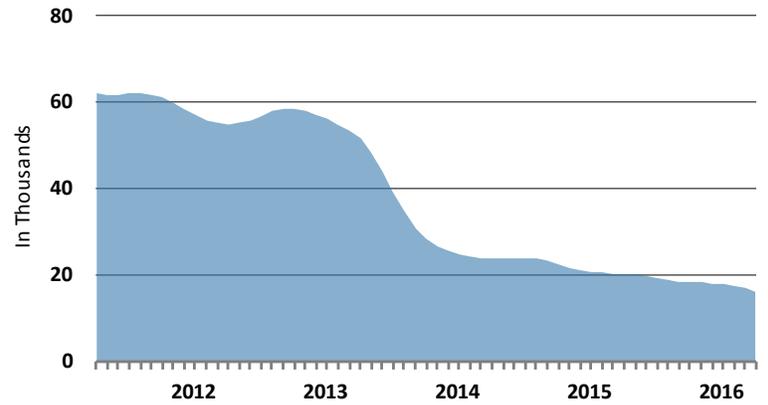
Average Real Weekly Earnings (Private Nonfarm Sector)



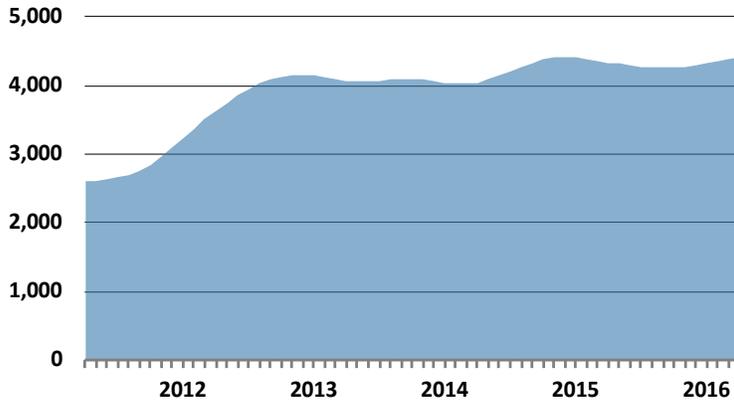
Labor Force Participation Rate



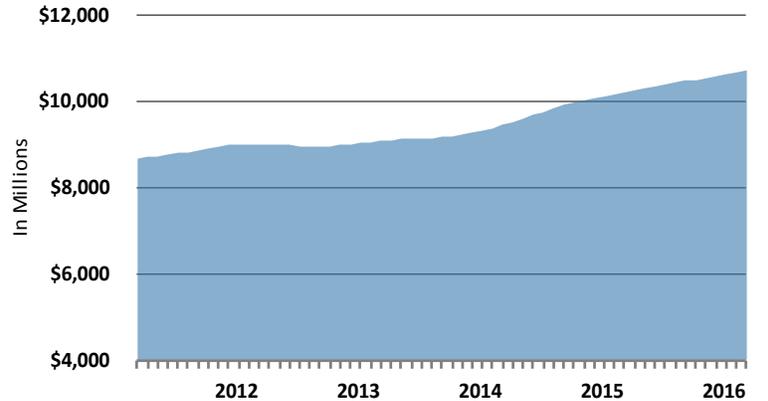
Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



Residential Building Permits



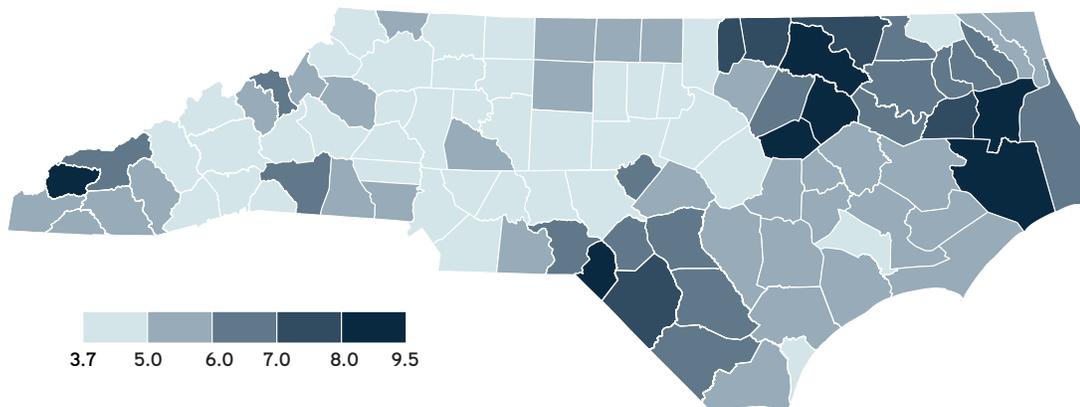
Real Taxable Retail Sales



Source: United States Census Bureau
Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: March 2016 data most current available at time of release.

Unemployment Rate By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Lowest	
Buncombe	3.7%
Henderson	4.1%
Chatham	4.1%
Orange	4.1%
Wake	4.2%
Highest	
Scotland	9.5%
Hyde	9.4%
Graham	9.2%
Edgecombe	9.0%
Wilson	8.7%

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