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*For Immediate Release: November 2, 2016*  
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## North Carolina’s September County and Area Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** —Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 95 of North Carolina’s counties in September, increased in two, and remained unchanged in three. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.5 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.6 percent. All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount at 7.0 percent experienced the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 3.8 percent. The September not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.8 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
<b>September</b>	56	44	0
<b>August (Revised)</b>	40	60	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in all 100 counties. All 15 metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in September by 60,287 to 4,623,326, while those unemployed decreased 9,771 to 231,744. Since September 2015, the number of workers employed statewide increased 124,718, while those unemployed decreased 24,872.

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, November 18, 2016 when the state unemployment rate for October 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  
September 2016*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	4,855,070	231,744	4.8				
ALAMANCE	78,175	3,485	4.5	JOHNSTON	90,595	3,928	4.3
ALEXANDER	17,526	715	4.1	JONES	4,585	229	5.0
ALLEGHANY	4,685	233	5.0	LEE	26,131	1,418	5.4
ANSON	10,747	585	5.4	LENOIR	27,920	1,442	5.2
ASHE	12,830	542	4.2	LINCOLN	41,423	1,894	4.6
AVERY	7,786	345	4.4	MCDOWELL	21,372	929	4.3
BEAUFORT	20,389	1,082	5.3	MACON	15,674	751	4.8
BERTIE	8,586	532	6.2	MADISON	9,849	441	4.5
BLADEN	14,802	940	6.4	MARTIN	9,690	598	6.2
BRUNSWICK	49,979	2,924	5.9	MECKLENBURG	573,845	26,390	4.6
BUNCOMBE	134,926	4,900	3.6	MITCHELL	6,295	369	5.9
BURKE	39,549	1,885	4.8	MONTGOMERY	11,799	600	5.1
CABARRUS	98,668	4,291	4.3	MOORE	39,393	1,871	4.7
CALDWELL	35,360	1,778	5.0	NASH	43,779	2,799	6.4
CAMDEN	4,596	217	4.7	NEW HANOVER	116,524	5,167	4.4
CARTERET	32,447	1,512	4.7	NORTHAMPTON	7,870	553	7.0
CASWELL	9,705	505	5.2	ONSLow	64,403	3,386	5.3
CATAWBA	74,695	3,448	4.6	ORANGE	76,298	2,962	3.9
CHATHAM	33,819	1,356	4.0	PAMLICO	5,412	269	5.0
CHEROKEE	11,265	577	5.1	PASQUOTANK	17,256	990	5.7
CHOWAN	5,562	337	6.1	PENDER	26,500	1,338	5.0
CLAY	4,178	200	4.8	PERQUIMANS	5,126	297	5.8
CLEVELAND	46,418	2,467	5.3	PERSON	18,436	937	5.1
COLUMBUS	22,722	1,321	5.8	PITT	88,134	4,497	5.1
CRAVEN	41,827	2,075	5.0	POLK	8,767	404	4.6
CUMBERLAND	127,885	7,699	6.0	RANDOLPH	68,207	3,114	4.6
CURRITUCK	12,750	553	4.3	RICHMOND	16,771	1,119	6.7
DARE	21,907	940	4.3	ROBESON	50,572	3,452	6.8
DAVIDSON	80,068	3,661	4.6	ROCKINGHAM	42,004	2,233	5.3
DAVIE	20,150	879	4.4	ROWAN	65,137	3,472	5.3
DUPLIN	26,718	1,333	5.0	RUTHERFORD	24,921	1,538	6.2
DURHAM	160,386	6,882	4.3	SAMPSON	29,855	1,544	5.2
EDGECOMBE	22,866	1,890	8.3	SCOTLAND	11,660	988	8.5
FORSYTH	181,692	8,369	4.6	STANLY	29,191	1,308	4.5
FRANKLIN	29,763	1,447	4.9	STOKES	22,299	998	4.5
GASTON	105,371	5,538	5.3	SURRY	33,938	1,532	4.5
GATES	5,252	249	4.7	SWAIN	7,460	355	4.8
GRAHAM	3,262	217	6.7	TRANSYLVANIA	14,169	638	4.5
GRANVILLE	29,147	1,204	4.1	TYRRELL	1,677	101	6.0
GREENE	9,615	440	4.6	UNION	114,185	4,641	4.1
GUILFORD	260,321	12,863	4.9	VANCE	18,085	1,287	7.1
HALIFAX	20,786	1,580	7.6	WAKE	555,091	22,173	4.0
HARNETT	51,462	2,759	5.4	WARREN	7,318	507	6.9
HAYWOOD	28,612	1,207	4.2	WASHINGTON	4,989	321	6.4
HENDERSON	52,212	2,102	4.0	WATAUGA	28,209	1,105	3.9
HERTFORD	9,286	560	6.0	WAYNE	54,282	2,935	5.4
HOKE	19,440	1,209	6.2	WILKES	30,405	1,375	4.5
HYDE	2,249	136	6.0	WILSON	36,892	2,878	7.8
IREDELL	83,326	3,731	4.5	YADKIN	17,923	729	4.1
JACKSON	19,339	871	4.5	YANCEY	7,643	366	4.8

*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	September 2016	August 2016	September 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	September 2016	August 2016	September 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	4.8	5.0	5.4	-0.2	-0.6	JOHNSTON	4.3	4.5	4.9	-0.2	-0.6
ALAMANCE	4.5	4.8	5.0	-0.3	-0.5	JONES	5.0	5.1	5.7	-0.1	-0.7
ALEXANDER	4.1	4.5	4.7	-0.4	-0.6	LEE	5.4	5.7	6.7	-0.3	-1.3
ALLEGHANY	5.0	5.1	5.4	-0.1	-0.4	LENOIR	5.2	5.4	6.0	-0.2	-0.8
ANSON	5.4	5.9	6.4	-0.5	-1.0	LINCOLN	4.6	4.6	5.2	0.0	-0.6
ASHE	4.2	4.5	5.3	-0.3	-1.1	MCDOWELL	4.3	4.6	5.0	-0.3	-0.7
AVERY	4.4	4.8	5.1	-0.4	-0.7	MACON	4.8	5.1	5.3	-0.3	-0.5
BEAUFORT	5.3	5.6	6.3	-0.3	-1.0	MADISON	4.5	4.9	5.1	-0.4	-0.6
BERTIE	6.2	6.4	6.8	-0.2	-0.6	MARTIN	6.2	6.8	7.4	-0.6	-1.2
BLADEN	6.4	6.7	7.7	-0.3	-1.3	MECKLENBURG	4.6	4.7	5.1	-0.1	-0.5
BRUNSWICK	5.9	5.7	6.7	0.2	-0.8	MITCHELL	5.9	6.0	6.3	-0.1	-0.4
BUNCOMBE	3.6	3.9	4.0	-0.3	-0.4	MONTGOMERY	5.1	5.2	5.3	-0.1	-0.2
BURKE	4.8	5.1	5.4	-0.3	-0.6	MOORE	4.7	5.0	5.4	-0.3	-0.7
CABARRUS	4.3	4.6	4.9	-0.3	-0.6	NASH	6.4	6.8	7.0	-0.4	-0.6
CALDWELL	5.0	5.3	5.8	-0.3	-0.8	NEW HANOVER	4.4	4.7	5.1	-0.3	-0.7
CAMDEN	4.7	5.3	5.2	-0.6	-0.5	NORTHAMPTON	7.0	7.3	7.4	-0.3	-0.4
CARTERET	4.7	4.7	5.4	0.0	-0.7	ONslow	5.3	5.4	5.8	-0.1	-0.5
CASWELL	5.2	5.5	5.9	-0.3	-0.7	ORANGE	3.9	4.5	4.2	-0.6	-0.3
CATAWBA	4.6	4.9	5.2	-0.3	-0.6	PAMLICO	5.0	5.1	5.9	-0.1	-0.9
CHATHAM	4.0	4.3	4.5	-0.3	-0.5	PASQUOTANK	5.7	6.2	6.7	-0.5	-1.0
CHEROKEE	5.1	5.4	6.0	-0.3	-0.9	PENDER	5.0	5.2	5.7	-0.2	-0.7
CHOWAN	6.1	6.5	7.2	-0.4	-1.1	PERQUIMANS	5.8	6.3	6.5	-0.5	-0.7
CLAY	4.8	5.1	5.8	-0.3	-1.0	PERSON	5.1	5.4	6.3	-0.3	-1.2
CLEVELAND	5.3	5.6	6.0	-0.3	-0.7	PITT	5.1	5.7	5.8	-0.6	-0.7
COLUMBUS	5.8	6.1	7.1	-0.3	-1.3	POLK	4.6	4.9	4.9	-0.3	-0.3
COLUMBUS	5.0	5.1	5.7	-0.1	-0.7	RANDOLPH	4.6	4.8	5.3	-0.2	-0.7
CRAVEN	5.0	5.1	5.7	-0.1	-0.7	RICHMOND	6.7	6.9	7.5	-0.2	-0.8
CUMBERLAND	6.0	6.3	7.0	-0.3	-1.0	ROBESON	6.8	7.3	8.0	-0.5	-1.2
CURRITUCK	4.3	4.6	5.0	-0.3	-0.7	ROCKINGHAM	5.3	5.5	6.2	-0.2	-0.9
DARE	4.3	4.2	4.7	0.1	-0.4	ROWAN	5.3	5.5	5.7	-0.2	-0.4
DAVIDSON	4.6	4.9	5.3	-0.3	-0.7	RUTHERFORD	6.2	6.6	7.3	-0.4	-1.1
DAVIE	4.4	4.6	4.8	-0.2	-0.4	SAMPSON	5.2	5.6	5.6	-0.4	-0.4
DUPLIN	5.0	5.4	5.5	-0.4	-0.5	SCOTLAND	8.5	8.9	9.8	-0.4	-1.3
DURHAM	4.3	4.5	4.8	-0.2	-0.5	STANLY	4.5	4.7	5.0	-0.2	-0.5
EDGECOMBE	8.3	8.5	9.1	-0.2	-0.8	STOKES	4.5	4.9	5.1	-0.4	-0.6
FORSYTH	4.6	4.9	5.2	-0.3	-0.6	SURRY	4.5	4.8	5.1	-0.3	-0.6
FRANKLIN	4.9	5.1	5.4	-0.2	-0.5	SWAIN	4.8	4.9	6.3	-0.1	-1.5
GASTON	5.3	5.3	5.6	0.0	-0.3	TRANSYLVANIA	4.5	4.8	5.0	-0.3	-0.5
GATES	4.7	5.2	5.2	-0.5	-0.5	TYRRELL	6.0	6.2	7.4	-0.2	-1.4
GRAHAM	6.7	7.1	9.8	-0.4	-3.1	UNION	4.1	4.4	4.6	-0.3	-0.5
GRANVILLE	4.1	4.4	4.7	-0.3	-0.6	VANCE	7.1	7.3	8.1	-0.2	-1.0
GREENE	4.6	5.0	5.4	-0.4	-0.8	WAKE	4.0	4.2	4.4	-0.2	-0.4
GUILFORD	4.9	5.3	5.6	-0.4	-0.7	WARREN	6.9	7.0	8.0	-0.1	-1.1
HALIFAX	7.6	7.8	8.6	-0.2	-1.0	WASHINGTON	6.4	6.9	8.0	-0.5	-1.6
HARNETT	5.4	5.8	6.2	-0.4	-0.8	WATAUGA	3.9	4.7	4.3	-0.8	-0.4
HAYWOOD	4.2	4.4	4.8	-0.2	-0.6	WAYNE	5.4	5.6	5.7	-0.2	-0.3
HENDERSON	4.0	4.3	4.4	-0.3	-0.4	WILKES	4.5	4.7	5.4	-0.2	-0.9
HERTFORD	6.0	6.5	6.6	-0.5	-0.6	WILSON	7.8	8.1	9.4	-0.3	-1.6
HOKE	6.2	6.5	7.5	-0.3	-1.3	YADKIN	4.1	4.4	4.6	-0.3	-0.5
HYDE	6.0	6.4	6.5	-0.4	-0.5	YANCEY	4.8	5.1	5.2	-0.3	-0.4
IREDELL	4.5	4.7	5.1	-0.2	-0.6						
JACKSON	4.5	5.1	5.2	-0.6	-0.7						

Not Seasonally Adjusted

September 2016 data are preliminary, while August 2016 data have been monthly revised and September 2015 data have been annually revised.

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**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**  
*Preliminary Data for  
September 2016*

<b>Metropolitan Statistical Area</b>	<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>Rate</b>
ASHEVILLE	225,599	8,650	3.8
BURLINGTON	78,175	3,485	4.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,259,171	58,706	4.7
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	288,939	12,137	4.2
FAYETTEVILLE	147,325	8,908	6.0
GOLDSBORO	54,282	2,935	5.4
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	370,532	18,210	4.9
GREENVILLE	88,134	4,497	5.1
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	167,130	7,826	4.7
JACKSONVILLE	64,403	3,386	5.3
NEW BERN	51,824	2,573	5.0
RALEIGH	675,449	27,548	4.1
ROCKY MOUNT	66,645	4,689	7.0
WILMINGTON	143,024	6,505	4.5
WINSTON-SALEM	322,132	14,636	4.5

<b>Micropolitan Statistical Area</b>	<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>Rate</b>
ALBEMARLE	29,191	1,308	4.5
BOONE	28,209	1,105	3.9
BREVARD	14,169	638	4.5
CULLOWHEE	19,339	871	4.5
DUNN	51,462	2,759	5.4
ELIZABETH CITY	26,978	1,504	5.6
FOREST CITY	24,921	1,538	6.2
HENDERSON	18,085	1,287	7.1
KILL DEVIL HILLS	23,584	1,041	4.4
KINSTON	27,920	1,442	5.2
LAURINBURG	11,660	988	8.5
LUMBERTON	50,572	3,452	6.8
MARION	21,372	929	4.3
MOREHEAD CITY	32,447	1,512	4.7
MOUNT AIRY	33,938	1,532	4.5
NORTH WILKESBORO	30,405	1,375	4.5
OXFORD	29,147	1,204	4.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	39,393	1,871	4.7
ROANOKE RAPIDS	28,656	2,133	7.4
ROCKINGHAM	16,771	1,119	6.7
SANFORD	26,131	1,418	5.4
SHELBY	46,418	2,467	5.3
WASHINGTON	20,389	1,082	5.3
WILSON	36,892	2,878	7.8

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**  
*Preliminary Data for  
September 2016*

<b>Combined Statistical Area</b>	<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>Rate</b>
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	239,768	9,288	3.9
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,334,780	62,481	4.7
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	209,557	13,348	6.4
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	804,777	37,863	4.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	108,523	5,579	5.1
HICKORY-LENOIR	188,502	8,755	4.6
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	84,271	4,085	4.8
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,089,213	46,353	4.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	132,193	9,700	7.3

*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	September 2016	August 2016	September 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.8	4.1	4.3	-0.3	-0.5
BURLINGTON	4.5	4.8	5.0	-0.3	-0.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	4.7	4.9	5.2	-0.2	-0.5
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	4.2	4.5	4.7	-0.3	-0.5
FAYETTEVILLE	6.0	6.3	7.1	-0.3	-1.1
GOLDSBORO	5.4	5.6	5.7	-0.2	-0.3
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.9	5.2	5.6	-0.3	-0.7
GREENVILLE	5.1	5.7	5.8	-0.6	-0.7
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	4.7	5.0	5.3	-0.3	-0.6
JACKSONVILLE	5.3	5.4	5.8	-0.1	-0.5
NEW BERN	5.0	5.1	5.7	-0.1	-0.7
RALEIGH	4.1	4.3	4.5	-0.2	-0.4
ROCKY MOUNT	7.0	7.4	7.7	-0.4	-0.7
WILMINGTON	4.5	4.8	5.2	-0.3	-0.7
WINSTON-SALEM	4.5	4.9	5.2	-0.4	-0.7

Metropolitan Statistical Area	September 2016	August 2016	September 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	4.5	4.7	5.0	-0.2	-0.5
BOONE	3.9	4.7	4.3	-0.8	-0.4
BREVARD	4.5	4.8	5.0	-0.3	-0.5
CULLOWHEE	4.5	5.1	5.2	-0.6	-0.7
DUNN	5.4	5.8	6.2	-0.4	-0.8
ELIZABETH CITY	5.6	6.0	6.4	-0.4	-0.8
FOREST CITY	6.2	6.6	7.3	-0.4	-1.1
HENDERSON	7.1	7.3	8.1	-0.2	-1.0
KILL DEVIL HILLS	4.4	4.3	4.9	0.1	-0.5
KINSTON	5.2	5.4	6.0	-0.2	-0.8
LAURINBURG	8.5	8.9	9.8	-0.4	-1.3
LUMBERTON	6.8	7.3	8.0	-0.5	-1.2
MARION	4.3	4.6	5.0	-0.3	-0.7
MOREHEAD CITY	4.7	4.7	5.4	0.0	-0.7
MOUNT AIRY	4.5	4.8	5.1	-0.3	-0.6
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.5	4.7	5.4	-0.2	-0.9
OXFORD	4.1	4.4	4.7	-0.3	-0.6
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	4.7	5.0	5.4	-0.3	-0.7
ROANOKE RAPIDS	7.4	7.7	8.3	-0.3	-0.9
ROCKINGHAM	6.7	6.9	7.5	-0.2	-0.8
SANFORD	5.4	5.7	6.7	-0.3	-1.3
SHELBY	5.3	5.6	6.0	-0.3	-0.7
WASHINGTON	5.3	5.6	6.3	-0.3	-1.0
WILSON	7.8	8.1	9.4	-0.3	-1.6

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

Combined Statistical Area	September 2016	August 2016	September 2015	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	3.9	4.1	4.3	-0.2	-0.4
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	4.7	4.9	5.2	-0.2	-0.5
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	6.4	6.7	7.5	-0.3	-1.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	4.7	5.0	5.3	-0.3	-0.6
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	5.1	5.7	5.9	-0.6	-0.8
HICKORY-LENOIR	4.6	4.9	5.3	-0.3	-0.7
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	4.8	5.0	5.6	-0.2	-0.8
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	4.3	4.5	4.8	-0.2	-0.5
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	7.3	7.6	8.3	-0.3	-1.0

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

*September 2016 data are preliminary, while August 2016 data have been monthly revised and September 2015 data have been annually revised.*

**NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS**  
**Preliminary Data for September 2016**

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BUNCOMBE	134,926	4,900	3.6%	1	PAMLICO	5,412	269	5.0%	51
ORANGE	76,298	2,962	3.9%	2	ALLEGHANY	4,685	233	5.0%	52
WATAUGA	28,209	1,105	3.9%	3	DUPLIN	26,718	1,333	5.0%	53
WAKE	555,091	22,173	4.0%	4	JONES	4,585	229	5.0%	54
CHATHAM	33,819	1,356	4.0%	5	CALDWELL	35,360	1,778	5.0%	55
HENDERSON	52,212	2,102	4.0%	6	PENDER	26,500	1,338	5.0%	56
UNION	114,185	4,641	4.1%	7	PERSON	18,436	937	5.1%	57
YADKIN	17,923	729	4.1%	8	MONTGOMERY	11,799	600	5.1%	58
ALEXANDER	17,526	715	4.1%	9	PITT	88,134	4,497	5.1%	59
GRANVILLE	29,147	1,204	4.1%	10	CHEROKEE	11,265	577	5.1%	60
HAYWOOD	28,612	1,207	4.2%	11	LENOIR	27,920	1,442	5.2%	61
ASHE	12,830	542	4.2%	12	SAMPSON	29,855	1,544	5.2%	62
DARE	21,907	940	4.3%	13	CASWELL	9,705	505	5.2%	63
DURHAM	160,386	6,882	4.3%	14	GASTON	105,371	5,538	5.3%	64
JOHNSTON	90,595	3,928	4.3%	15	ONSLOW	64,403	3,386	5.3%	65
CURRITUCK	12,750	553	4.3%	16	BEAUFORT	20,389	1,082	5.3%	66
MCDOWELL	21,372	929	4.3%	17	CLEVELAND	46,418	2,467	5.3%	67
CABARRUS	98,668	4,291	4.3%	18	ROCKINGHAM	42,004	2,233	5.3%	68
DAVIE	20,150	879	4.4%	19	ROWAN	65,137	3,472	5.3%	69
AVERY	7,786	345	4.4%	20	HARNETT	51,462	2,759	5.4%	70
NEW HANOVER	116,524	5,167	4.4%	21	WAYNE	54,282	2,935	5.4%	71
ALAMANCE	78,175	3,485	4.5%	22	LEE	26,131	1,418	5.4%	72
STOKES	22,299	998	4.5%	23	ANSON	10,747	585	5.4%	73
IREDELL	83,326	3,731	4.5%	24	PASQUOTANK	17,256	990	5.7%	74
MADISON	9,849	441	4.5%	25	PERQUIMANS	5,126	297	5.8%	75
STANLY	29,191	1,308	4.5%	26	COLUMBUS	22,722	1,321	5.8%	76
TRANSYLVANIA	14,169	638	4.5%	27	BRUNSWICK	49,979	2,924	5.9%	77
JACKSON	19,339	871	4.5%	28	MITCHELL	6,295	369	5.9%	78
SURRY	33,938	1,532	4.5%	29	CUMBERLAND	127,885	7,699	6.0%	79
WILKES	30,405	1,375	4.5%	30	TYRRELL	1,677	101	6.0%	80
RANDOLPH	68,207	3,114	4.6%	31	HERTFORD	9,286	560	6.0%	81
LINCOLN	41,423	1,894	4.6%	32	HYDE	2,249	136	6.0%	82
DAVIDSON	80,068	3,661	4.6%	33	CHOWAN	5,562	337	6.1%	83
GREENE	9,615	440	4.6%	34	MARTIN	9,690	598	6.2%	84
MECKLENBURG	573,845	26,390	4.6%	35	RUTHERFORD	24,921	1,538	6.2%	85
FORSYTH	181,692	8,369	4.6%	36	BERTIE	8,586	532	6.2%	86
POLK	8,767	404	4.6%	37	HOKE	19,440	1,209	6.2%	87
CATAWBA	74,695	3,448	4.6%	38	BLADEN	14,802	940	6.4%	88
CARTERET	32,447	1,512	4.7%	39	NASH	43,779	2,799	6.4%	89
CAMDEN	4,596	217	4.7%	40	WASHINGTON	4,989	321	6.4%	90
GATES	5,252	249	4.7%	41	GRAHAM	3,262	217	6.7%	91
MOORE	39,393	1,871	4.7%	42	RICHMOND	16,771	1,119	6.7%	92
SWAIN	7,460	355	4.8%	43	ROBESON	50,572	3,452	6.8%	93
BURKE	39,549	1,885	4.8%	44	WARREN	7,318	507	6.9%	94
CLAY	4,178	200	4.8%	45	NORTHAMPTON	7,870	553	7.0%	95
YANCEY	7,643	366	4.8%	46	VANCE	18,085	1,287	7.1%	96
MACON	15,674	751	4.8%	47	HALIFAX	20,786	1,580	7.6%	97
FRANKLIN	29,763	1,447	4.9%	48	WILSON	36,892	2,878	7.8%	98
GUILFORD	260,321	12,863	4.9%	49	EDGECOMBE	22,866	1,890	8.3%	99
CRAVEN	41,827	2,075	5.0%	50	SCOTLAND	11,660	988	8.5%	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](http://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](http://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](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm).

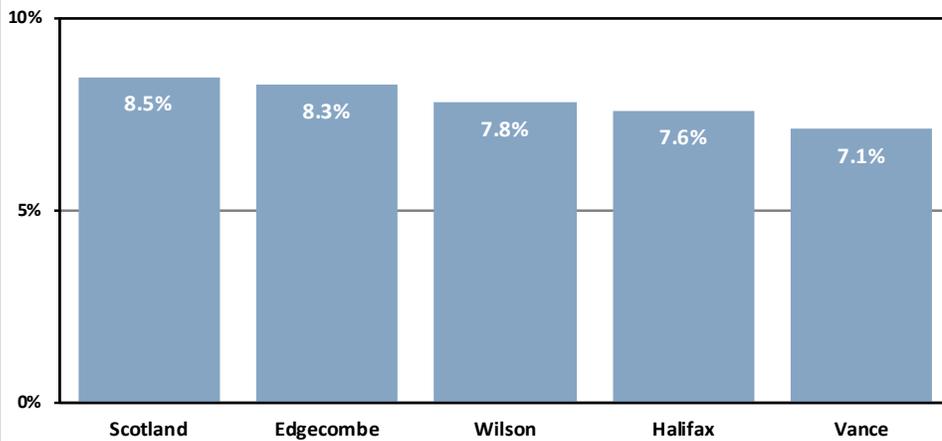
### **Release Dates**

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, November 18, 2016 when the state unemployment rate for October 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 September 2016\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

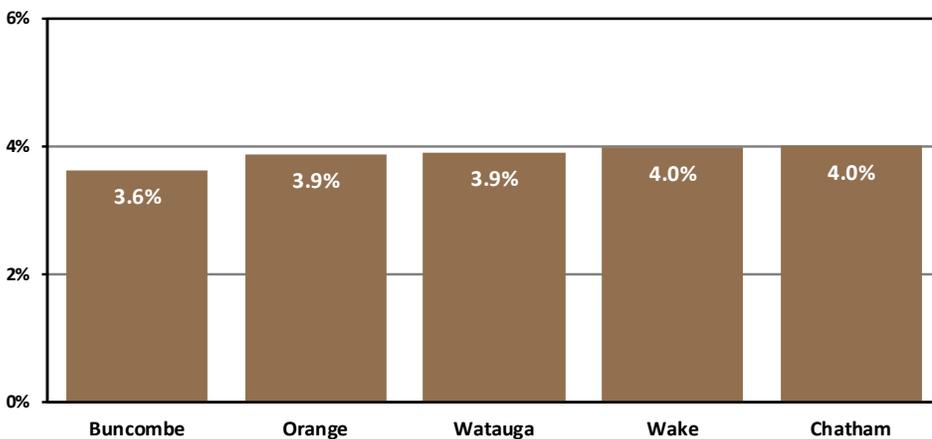


North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 4.8 percent in September. This was 0.3 of a percentage-point decrease from September's revised rate, and 0.6 of a percentage point decrease over the year.

Over the month, the unemployment rate decreased in 95 counties, while increasing in two and remaining unchanged in three. Forty-seven counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 4.8 percent rate.

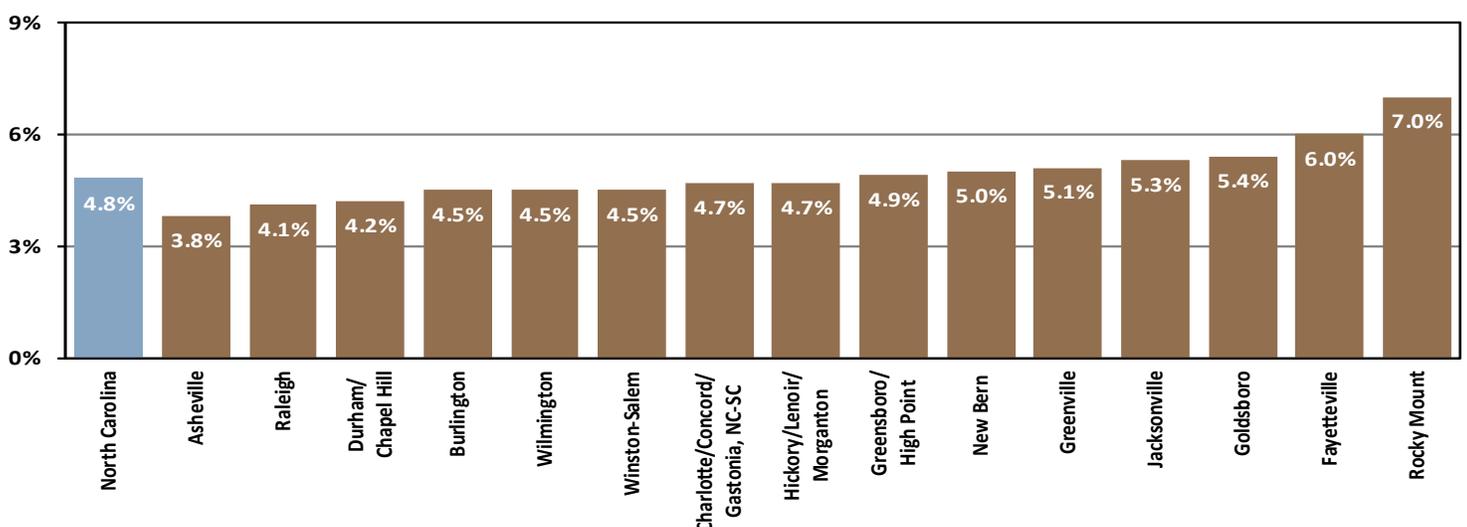
Scotland County recorded September's highest unemployment rate at 8.5 percent, followed by Edgecombe at 8.3 percent, Wilson at 7.8 percent, and Halifax at 7.6 percent. Buncombe County had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.6 percent, followed by Orange & Watauga at 3.9 percent.

## Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates September 2016\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Unemployment rates decreased in all of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Rocky Mount MSA had the highest unemployment rate in September at 7.0 percent, followed by Fayetteville at 6.0 percent. Asheville reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 3.8 percent, followed by Raleigh, 4.1 percent, Durham/Chapel Hill, 4.2 percent and Burlington, Wilmington & Winston Salem, 4.5 percent.

## Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates September 2016\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



\*All September 2016 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 3.8%  
 Total Nonfarm | 188,200  
 Monthly Change | (2,700) 1.5%  
 Yearly Change | (4,300) 2.3%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	0.6%
Information	-100	-5.6%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	900	2.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-0.7%
Other Services	-100	-1.3%
Government	2,000	8.6%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-1.2%
Manufacturing	-100	-0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,000	2.9%
Information	-100	-5.6%
Financial Activities	-100	-1.6%
Professional & Business Services	900	5.0%
Education & Health Services	2,200	6.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	300	1.1%
Other Services	200	2.7%
Government	100	0.4%

## Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 4.5%  
 Total Nonfarm | 60,100  
 Monthly Change | (200) 0.3%  
 Yearly Change | (700) 1.2%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300	-2.5%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	1.7%
Education & Health Services	100	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-1.4%
Other Services	-100	-4.8%
Government	500	7.6%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	1.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	5.3%
Professional & Business Services	300	5.3%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

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



UN Rate | 4.7%  
 Total Nonfarm | 1,130,800  
 Monthly Change | (-1,900) -0.2%  
 Yearly Change | (22,400) 2.0%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	400	0.7%
Manufacturing	-1,000	-1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100	0.0%
Information	-300	-1.1%
Financial Activities	300	0.3%
Professional & Business Services	-3,000	-1.5%
Education & Health Services	900	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	-4,700	-3.5%
Other Services	500	1.3%
Government	5,100	3.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	3,900	6.8%
Manufacturing	-700	-0.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	6,400	2.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	3,100	3.7%
Professional & Business Services	4,000	2.1%
Education & Health Services	1,800	1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,700	2.2%
Other Services	1,600	4.2%
Government	-400	-0.3%

## Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 4.2%  
 Total Nonfarm | 305,100  
 Monthly Change | (3,600) 1.2%  
 Yearly Change | (8,300) 2.8%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-1.3%
Manufacturing	-100	-0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-700	-1.9%
Information	-200	-4.4%
Financial Activities	-100	-0.7%
Professional & Business Services	800	1.9%
Education & Health Services	500	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	700	2.6%
Other Services	100	0.9%
Government	2,700	4.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	4.1%
Manufacturing	-600	-2.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	800	2.2%
Information	-100	-2.2%
Financial Activities	100	0.7%
Professional & Business Services	3,500	9.0%
Education & Health Services	2,500	4.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	700	2.6%
Other Services	400	3.5%
Government	700	1.0%

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

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 6.0%  
 Total Nonfarm | 130,100  
 Monthly Change | (1,700) 1.3%  
 Yearly Change | (2,700) 2.1%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	2.3%
Manufacturing	-100	-1.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	0.8%
Information	-100	-7.1%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-200	-1.5%
Education & Health Services	100	0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-1.3%
Other Services	100	2.2%
Government	1,800	4.8%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-100	-1.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,000	4.2%
Information	-100	-7.1%
Financial Activities	-100	-2.6%
Professional & Business Services	1,300	10.8%
Education & Health Services	200	1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-1.3%
Other Services	100	2.2%
Government	600	1.5%

## Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 5.4%  
 Total Nonfarm | 42,500  
 Monthly Change | (500) 1.2%  
 Yearly Change | (300) 0.7%

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	600	7.2%

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	-2.2%

## Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 4.9%  
 Total Nonfarm | 362,700  
 Monthly Change | (2,000) 0.6%  
 Yearly Change | (5,800) 1.6%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	0.7%
Manufacturing	100	0.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-600	-0.8%
Information	-200	-4.1%
Financial Activities	-100	-0.6%
Professional & Business Services	200	0.4%
Education & Health Services	600	1.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	-600	-1.8%
Other Services	-100	-0.8%
Government	2,600	6.3%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	700	5.0%
Manufacturing	600	1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,400	3.3%
Information	-200	-4.1%
Financial Activities	-200	-1.1%
Professional & Business Services	1,500	2.9%
Education & Health Services	2,000	4.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-800	-2.4%
Other Services	300	2.4%
Government	-500	-1.1%

## Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 5.1%  
 Total Nonfarm | 79,100  
 Monthly Change | (1,400) 1.8%  
 Yearly Change | (200) 0.3%

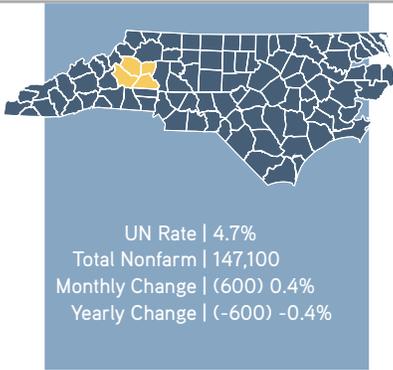
Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	500	8.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200	-1.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-100	-1.4%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	500	5.3%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	700	2.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	1.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100	-0.9%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	3.6%
Professional & Business Services	200	2.9%
Education & Health Services	-200	-2.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	400	4.2%
Other Services	-100	-4.6%
Government	-200	-0.7%

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

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

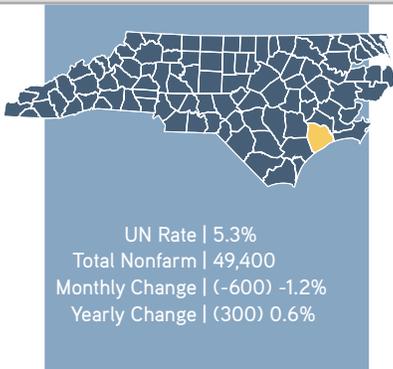
## Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100	-0.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-2.9%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-3.9%
Other Services	-100	-2.0%
Government	1,300	6.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-200	-0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	1.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	3.0%
Professional & Business Services	-200	-1.5%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-3.9%
Other Services	100	2.1%
Government	-300	-1.3%

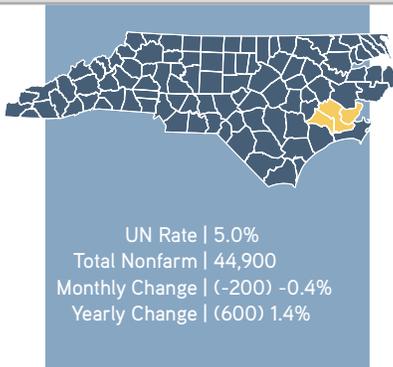
## Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



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	300	2.1%

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	300	2.1%

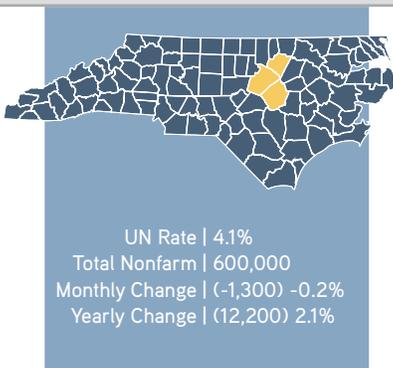
## New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



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	300	2.2%

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%

## Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-200	-0.6%
Manufacturing	100	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-700	-0.7%
Information	-500	-2.4%
Financial Activities	200	0.7%
Professional & Business Services	-1,700	-1.4%
Education & Health Services	-800	-1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,700	-2.5%
Other Services	400	1.7%
Government	3,600	3.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-1,000	-3.0%
Manufacturing	-700	-2.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	3,700	3.6%
Information	200	1.0%
Financial Activities	100	0.3%
Professional & Business Services	4,600	4.1%
Education & Health Services	800	1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,300	3.5%
Other Services	1,400	6.1%
Government	800	0.8%

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

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 7.0%  
 Total Nonfarm | 57,000  
 Monthly Change | (1,700) 3.1%  
 Yearly Change | (0) 0.0%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	800	8.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	2.5%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	100	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-3.5%
Other Services	*	
Government	600	5.8%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-200	-8.7%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	900	7.9%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	200	3.7%
Education & Health Services	100	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	1.8%
Other Services	*	
Government	100	0.9%

## Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 4.5%  
 Total Nonfarm | 123,400  
 Monthly Change | (400) 0.3%  
 Yearly Change | (1,800) 1.5%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300	-1.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-1.9%
Professional & Business Services	300	2.0%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-400	-1.9%
Other Services	100	2.0%
Government	800	3.6%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-300	-5.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200	-0.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-1.9%
Professional & Business Services	-100	-0.6%
Education & Health Services	400	2.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,600	8.5%
Other Services	200	4.1%
Government	300	1.3%

## Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2016



UN Rate | 4.5%  
 Total Nonfarm | 261,600  
 Monthly Change | (3,300) 1.3%  
 Yearly Change | (2,500) 1.0%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-400	-1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.2%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-0.8%
Professional & Business Services	1,400	4.0%
Education & Health Services	-600	-1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-0.8%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.1%
Manufacturing	100	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	0.9%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300	0.8%
Education & Health Services	2,100	4.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-2.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

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

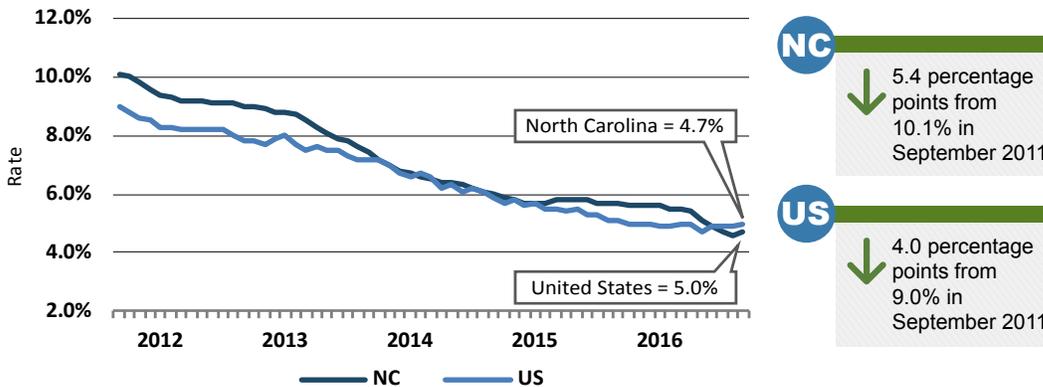
Over the month, net industry employment increased in 11 of 15 MSAs. Durham-Chapel Hill had the largest net employment increase with 3,600, followed by Winston-Salem, 3,300; Asheville, 2,700; Greensboro-High Point, 2,000; and Fayetteville & Rocky Mount, 1,700. Rocky Mount experienced the greatest percentage increase at 3.1 percent, followed by Greenville, 1.8 percent; Asheville, 1.5 percent; Fayetteville & Winston-Salem, 1.3 percent; and Durham-Chapel Hill & Goldsboro, 1.2 percent. 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 13 of 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase at 22,400, followed by Raleigh, 12,200; Durham/Chapel Hill 8,300; Greensboro/High Point, 5,800; and Asheville, 4,300. Durham-Chapel Hill had the greatest percentage increase at 2.8 percent, followed by Asheville, 2.3 percent; Fayetteville & Raleigh, 2.1 percent; and Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC, 2.0 percent.

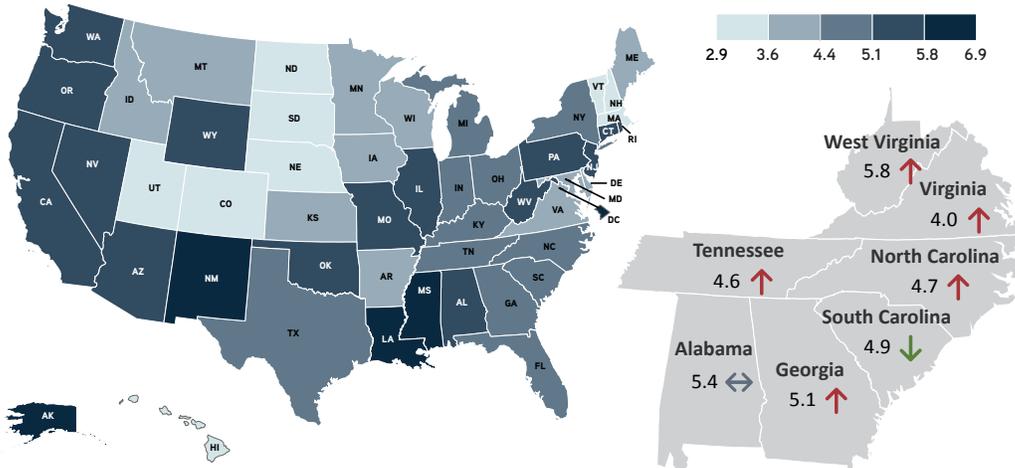


North Carolina's economic expansion continued to march along through September. Nothing indicates a short-term reversal. Most indicators, such as employed residents, jobs, housing permits, and labor force participation all improved over the previous month. The only sustained negative trend comes from Manufacturing; where hours worked have now declined for 19 straight months when compared to the same period last year. Historically, this was indicative of decreased consumer and business spending, and thus weakening economic conditions. However, due to changes in technology and manufacturing processes, the reduction in labor hours may not have the same impact.

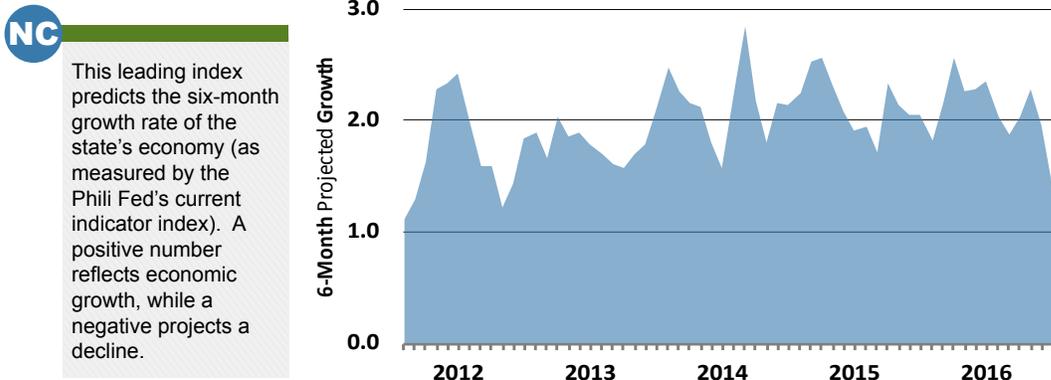
## Unemployment Rate Trend



## Unemployment Rate Comparison



## Philadelphia Federal Reserve Leading Indicators for North Carolina



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

\*All data produced in this publication are based off September 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** 4.7%

**US** 5.0%

**Unemployment Rate Change**

↑ 0.1      ↑ 0.1

**Change in Employed**

↑ 7,559 (0.2%)    ↑ 354,000 (2.2%)

**Change in Unemployed**

↑ 5,671 (2.6%)    ↑ 90,000 (1.1%)

**Labor Force Participation Rate**

↑ 0.1 to 61.0%    ↑ 0.1 to 62.9%

## Data

### Industry Employment

4,337,300 Total Nonfarm Jobs  
 ↑ 9,700 over the month  
 ↑ 82,600 over the year

### Initial UI Claims

15,882 Individuals Filing  
 ↓ 055 over the month  
 ↓ 2,705 over the year

### Real Taxable Retail Sales

↑ \$55.1M over the month  
 ↑ \$648.3M over the year

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

### Residential Building Permits

↑ 1.6% over the month  
 ↑ 20.6% over the year

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

### Job Postings

↑ 0.1% over the month  
 ↓ 9.3% over the year

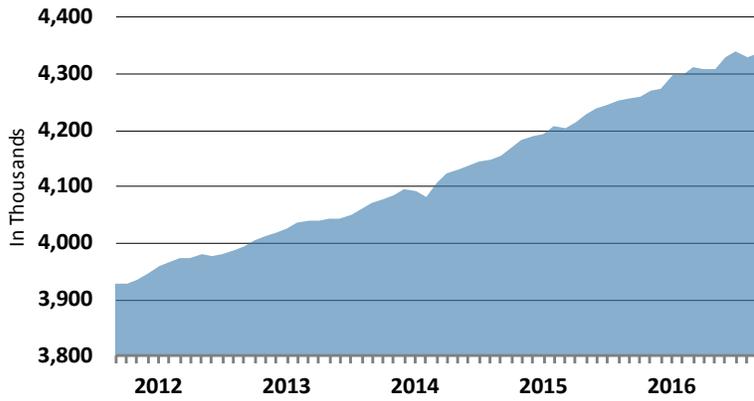
Source: The Conference Board  
 Help Wanted Online

### Manufacturing Hours Worked

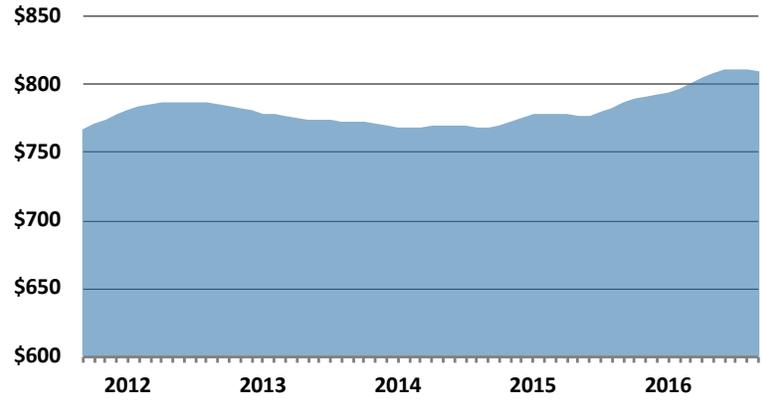
↓ 0.2% over the month  
 ↓ 0.2% over the year

Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

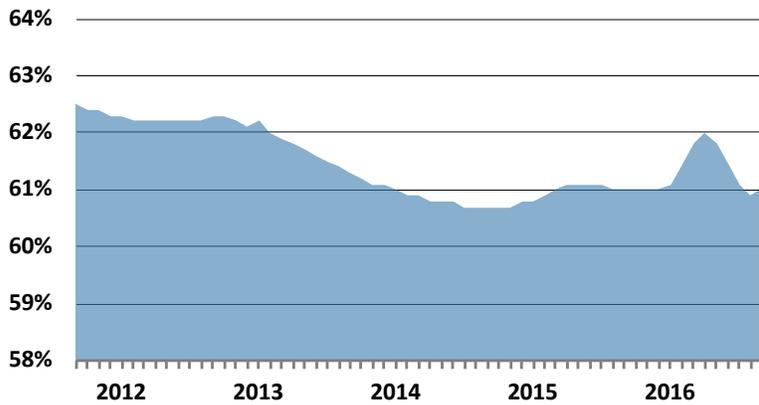
## Total Nonfarm Jobs



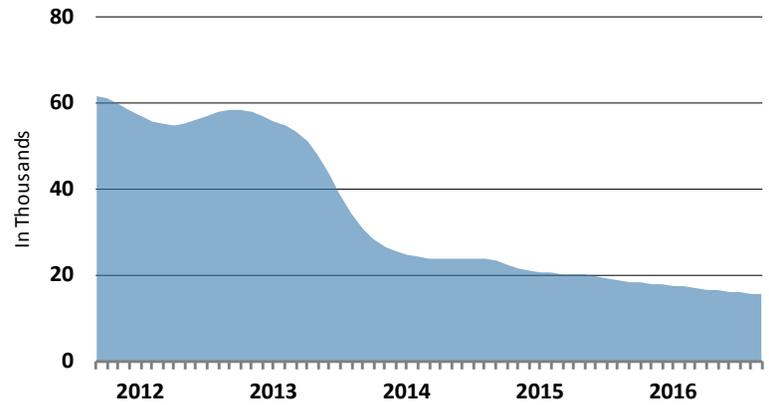
## Average Real Weekly Earnings (Private Nonfarm Sector)



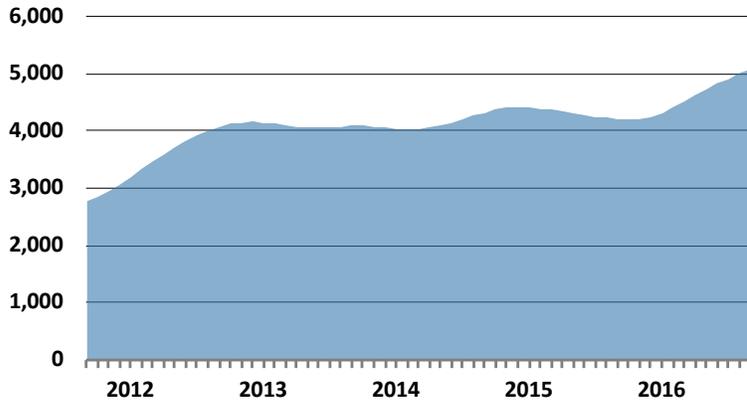
## Labor Force Participation Rate



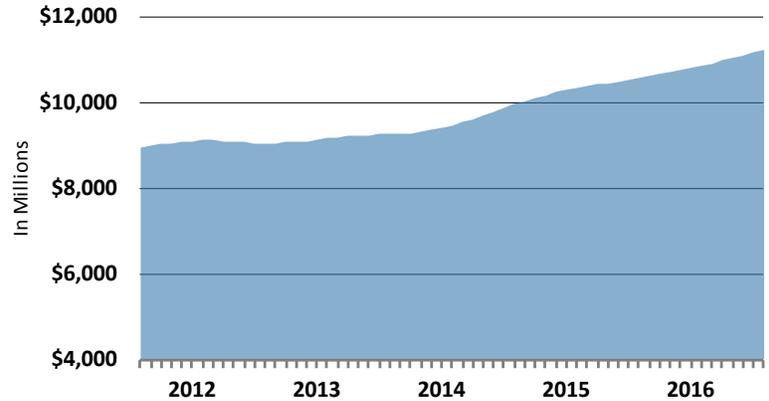
## Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



## Residential Building Permits



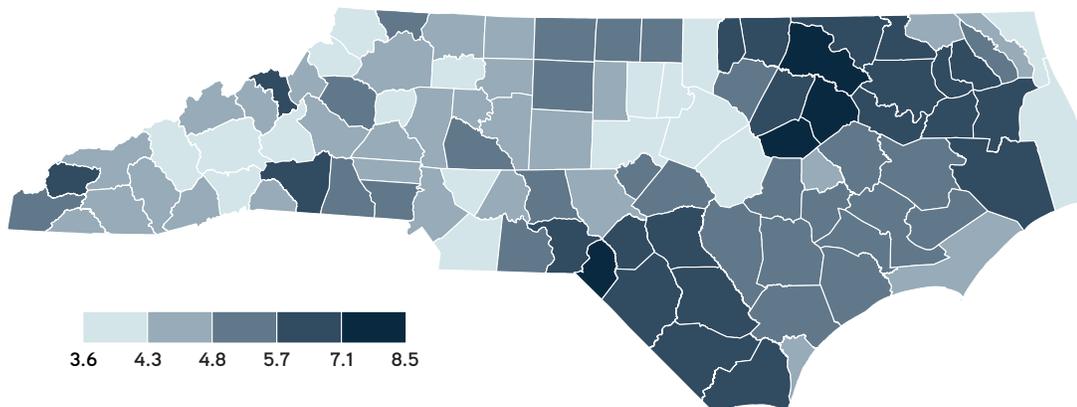
## Real Taxable Retail Sales



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

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

## Unemployment Rate By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Lowest	
Buncombe	3.6%
Orange	3.9%
Watauga	3.9%
Wake	4.0%
Chatham	4.0%
Highest	
Scotland	8.5%
Edgecombe	8.3%
Wilson	7.8%
Halifax	7.6%
Vance	7.1%

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