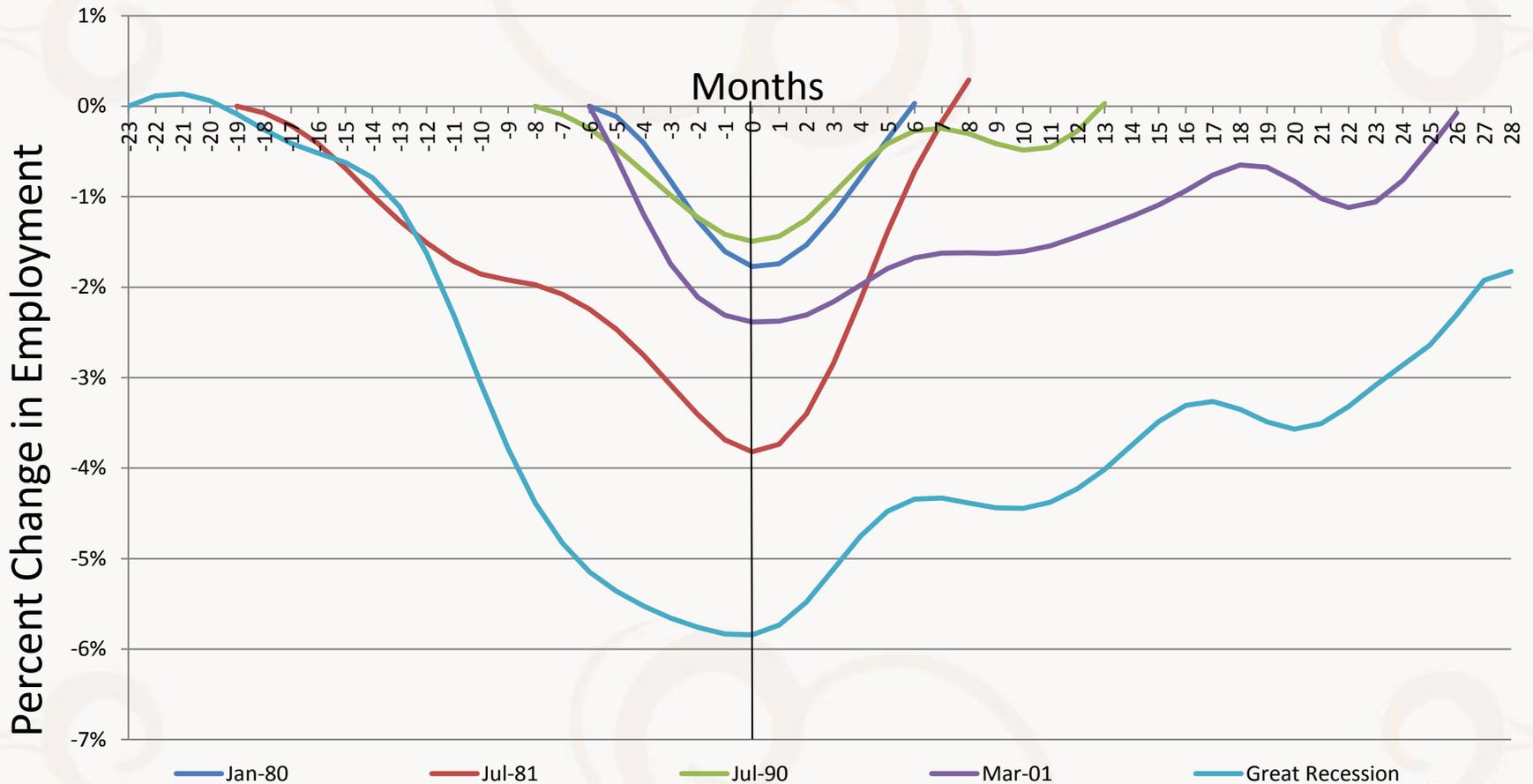


Economic and Labor Market Trends

OVERVIEW OF NC'S ECONOMY

THRIVE
in NORTH
CAROLINA

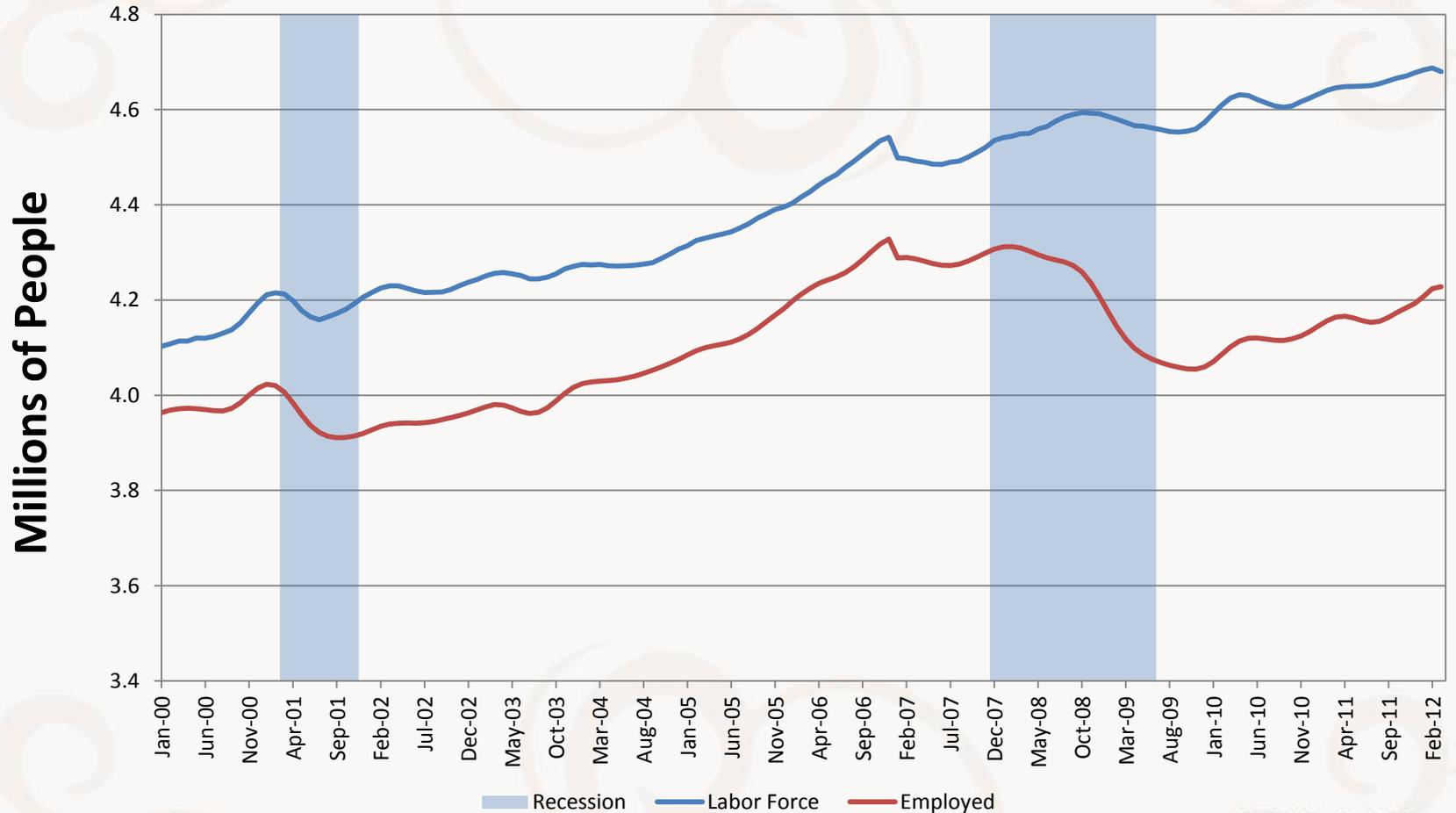
North Carolina Percent Employment Loss by Recession



Labor Force Definition

- Labor Force is defined as the civilians non-institutional population that are employed or unemployed.
 - Employment is measured on the 12th of each month.
 - Unemployed workers are workers that are available to work and have sought employment during the last 4 weeks.

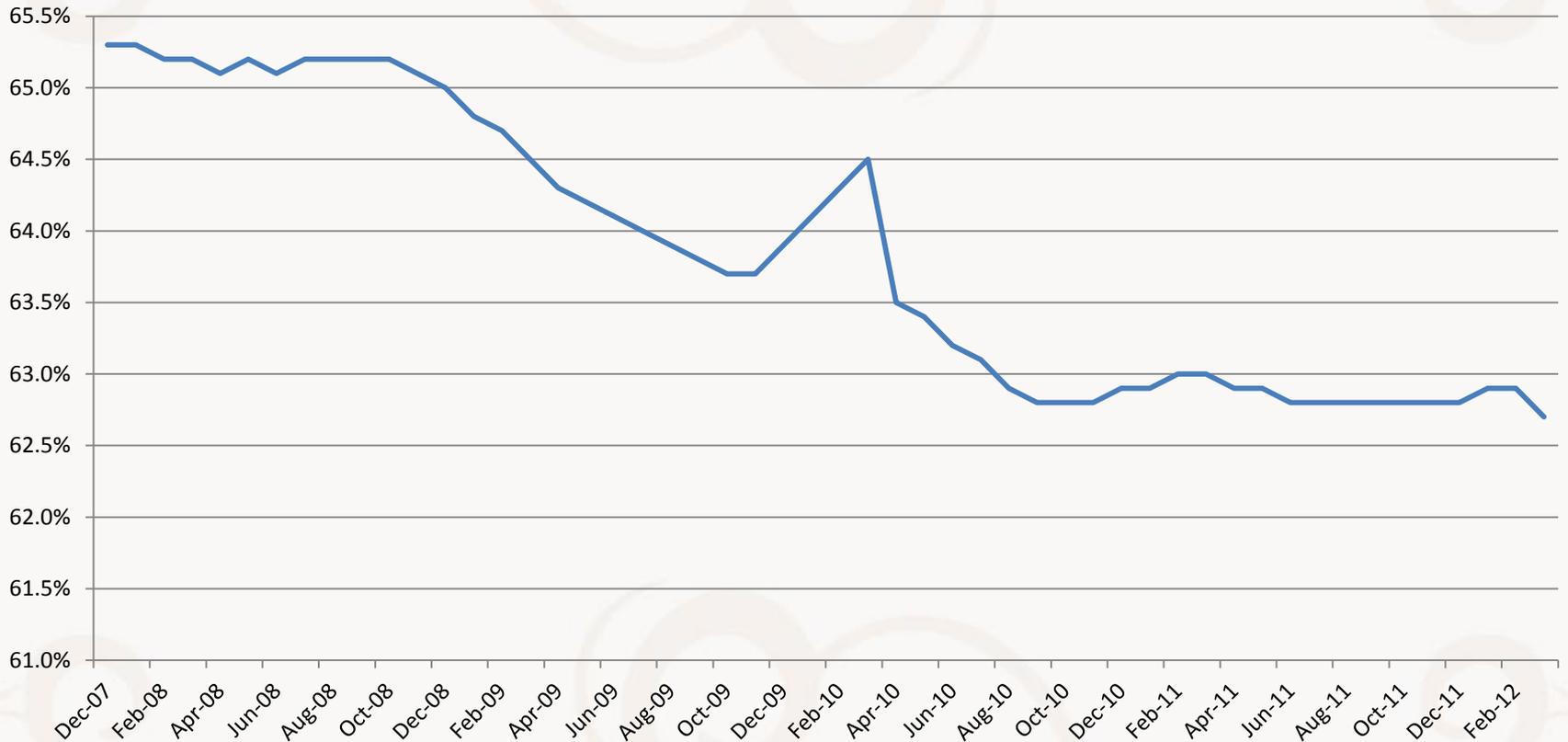
North Carolina Labor Force Trends



THRIVE
in NORTH CAROLINA

Labor Force Participation Rate

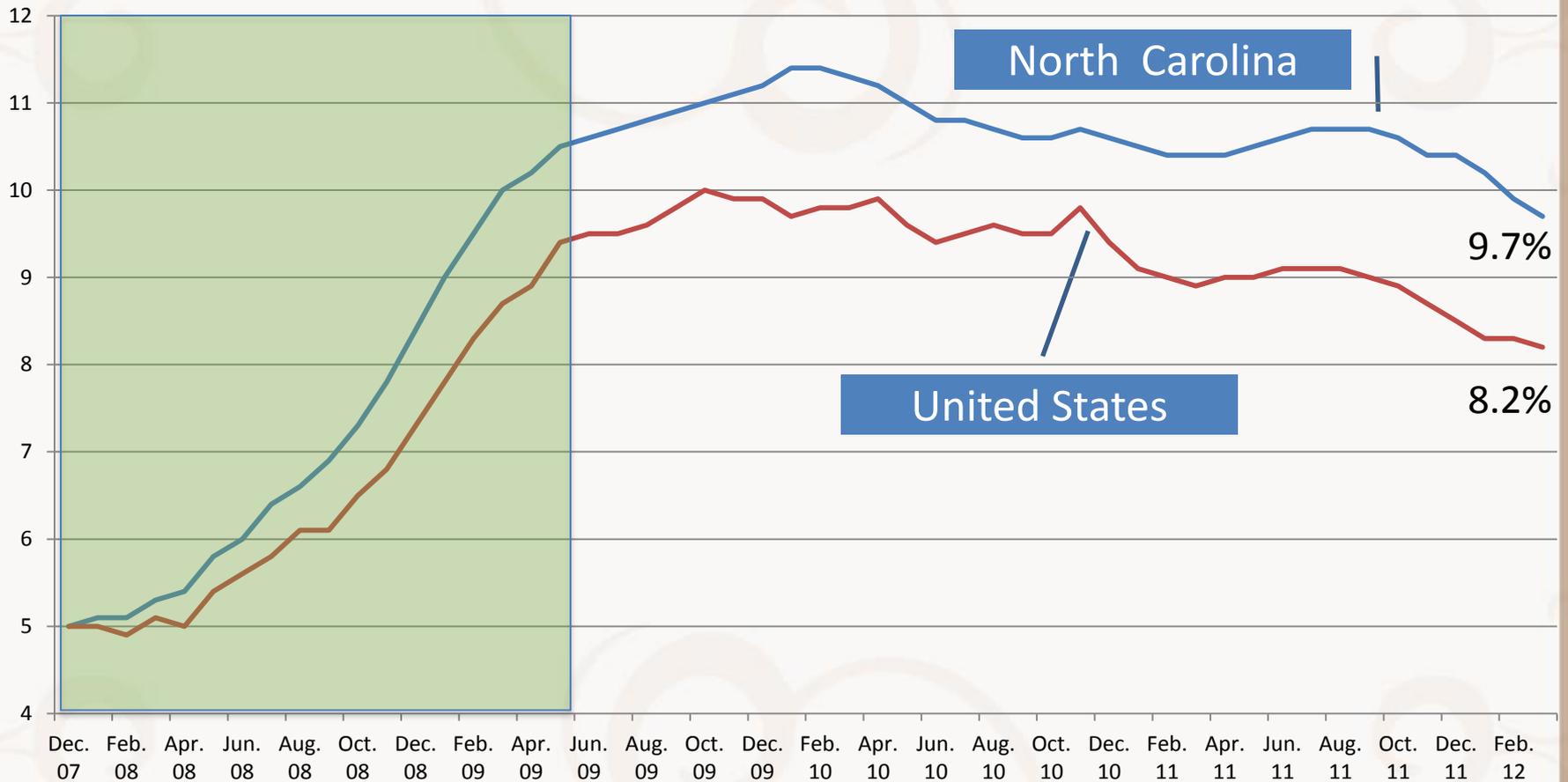
Start of Recession to Present



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CAROLINA

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate

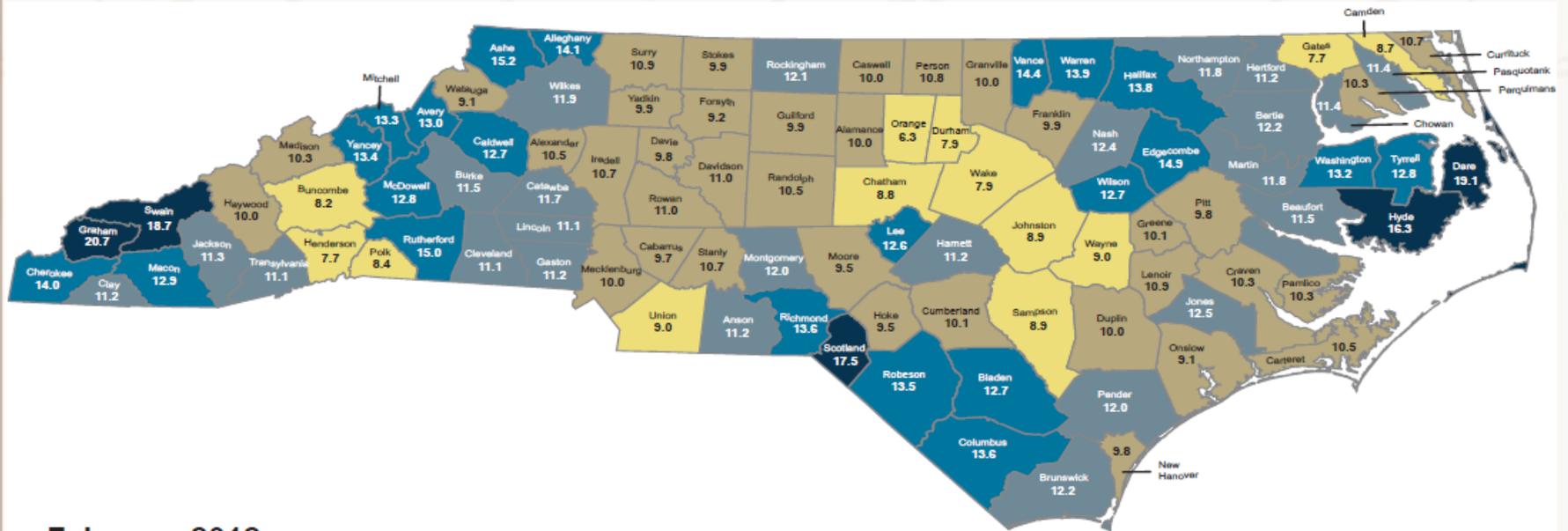
Dec. 2007 – Mar. 2012 (Start of Recession to Present)



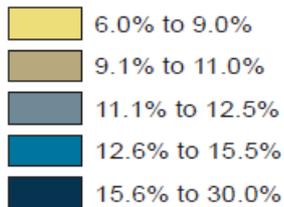
 Recession

THRIVE
in NORTH CAROLINA

County Unemployment Rates



February 2012



- ▲ 10 Counties Higher Than Previous Month
- ▼ 84 Counties Lower Than Previous Month
- ≡ 6 Counties Same as Previous Month

**North Carolina Rate 10.1%
Not Seasonally Adjusted**

Note: February 2012 data are preliminary.
Prepared by North Carolina Department of Commerce, Labor and Economic Analysis Division 4_2012

T H R I V E
in **NORTH
CAROLINA**

Unemployment by Ed Attainment, Gender & Race/Ethnicity

National Data:

Educational Attainment	Participation Rate		Unemployment Rate	
	Apr. 11	Apr. 12	Apr. 11	Apr. 12
Less than high school diploma	45.5	45.2	14.6	12.5
High school graduates, no college	60.4	59.2	9.7	7.9
Some college or associate degree	69.6	69	7.5	7.6
Bachelor's degree and higher	77	76.2	4.5	4

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

NC Data (2010):

Population Group	Unemployment Rate
Total	10.9%
Men	11.7%
Women	9.1%
White	8.7%
African American	17.4%
Asian	8.0%
Hispanic/Latino	10.7%

Educational Attainment	Unemployment Rate
Total	10.9%
Less than high school diploma	13.5%
High school graduates, no college	9.0%
Some college or associate degree	6.9%
Bachelor's degree and higher	3.5%

African American men particularly high at 22.0%

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

THRIVE
in NORTH CAROLINA

Key Points Regarding NC Employment

- Recent decline in unemployment rate is a good sign for the economy, but is tempered by the lower Labor Force Participation Rate.
 - If the Participation Rate remained at its December 2007 level, there would be nearly 200 thousand more unemployed workers.
- Unemployment rate will remain relatively high even when sustained employment growth occurs
 - Stronger employment growth will encourage workers to re-enter the labor force.
- There are Alternate Measures of Unemployment that expand the definition for Unemployed Workers. A commonly reported measure is the Labor Underutilization Rate.
 - Labor Underutilization Rate = 17.9%

NC Nonfarm Employment Trends by Supersector

Sector	Start of Recession (3/12 compared to 12/07)	
	Change	% Change
Mining & Logging	(1,400)	-20.3%
Construction	(79,500)	-31.5%
Manufacturing	(95,800)	-18.0%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	(45,300)	-5.8%
Information	(3,100)	-4.3%
Financial Activities	(11,000)	-5.1%
Professional & Business Services	9,500	1.9%
Education & Health Services	23,200	4.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	(1,700)	-0.4%
Other Services	(20,700)	-11.8%
Government	8,000	1.2%
Total Nonfarm Employment	(517,800)	-12.4%

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Economy at a Glance Data, Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

T H R I V E
in **NORTH
CAROLINA**

NC Manufacturing

- Has experienced largest employment decline of any Supersector since the recession.
- Industry has seen 15 consecutive months of year-over-year growth.
 - This is the first year-over-year growth since 1998.
 - Mainly due to Durable Goods Manufacturing such as Fabricated Metal Products and Transportation Equipment

National Trends

- Nonfarm payroll employment changed little (-169,000) in April, and the unemployment rate fell from 8.2% in March to 8.1% in April.
- Retail sales rose (0.8%) in March compared to February. General Merchandise purchases fell.
- Real GDP increased at an annual rate of 2.2% in the first quarter of 2012.
- New orders for manufactured goods fell in March while shipments and inventories increased.
- Sales of new single-family houses down 7.1% from last month and 7.5% higher than a year ago.
- Disposable personal income and personal consumption expenditures both increased in March.

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