North Carolina Labor Market Conditions

November 2018

United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates November 2017–November 2018 (Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted**)



**US data are not smoothed.

North Carolina Total Nonfarm Employment November 2017–November 2018 (Seasonally Adjusted)



Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries November 2017 Compared to November 2018 (Seasonally Adjusted)

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.6 percent in November, remaining unchanged from the previous month and falling 0.9 of a percentage point from November 2017. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed fell by 4,294 (2.4%). The civilian labor force decreased by 879 (>-0.1%) to 4,991,328.

Nationally, November's unemployment rate was 3.7 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 5,975,000, while the civilian labor force was 162,770,000.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,537,900) increased 3,400 (0.1%) since October 2018 and increased 100,700 (2.3%) since November 2017.¹ Private sector employment grew over the month by 3,100 (0.1%) and 96,900 (2.6%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Trade, Transportation & Utilities (4,800; 0.6%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Information (700; 0.9%), Financial Activities (600; 0.2%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (300; 0.1%), Government (300; <0.1%), Education & Health Services (200; <0.1%), and Manufacturing (100; <0.1%). Professional & Business Services (1,700; 0.3%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Construction (1,500; 0.7%), and Other Services (400; 0.3%).

Since November 2017, Trade, Transportation & Utilities added the largest number of jobs (25,600; 3.1%), followed by Professional & Business Services (23,300; 3.7%), Education & Health Services (14,100; 2.3%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (9,000; 1.8%), Financial Activities (8,600; 3.7%), Construction (7,200; 3.4%), Manufacturing (6,400; 1.4%), Government (3,800; 0.5%), and Information (3,300; 4.1%). Mining & Logging (300; 5.2%) and Other Services (300; 0.2%) reported a overthe-month decrease.

¹It is important to note that industry employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns. Seasonal adjustment factors are applied to the data. However, these factors November not be fully capturing the seasonal trend. Therefore, when interpreting the changes in industry employment, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in both the seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted series.



*N.C. current month data are preliminary, while all other seasonally adjusted data have undergone annual revision. U.S. data have undergone annual revision.

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The November 2018 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,581,000 was 14,700 (0.3%) more than the October 2018 revised employment level of 4,566,300. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Trade, Transportation & Utilities had the largest overthe-month increase in employment at 21,400 (2.5%), followed by Government (4,700; 0.6%), Manufacturing (1,700; 0.4%), Education & Health Services (1,600; 0.3%), and Information (1,300; 1.6%). Leisure & Hospitality Services experienced the largest employment decrease at 5,700 (1.1%), Professional & Business Services (4,100; 0.6%), Construction (3.300; 1.5%), Other Services (1,600; 1.1%), and Financial Activities (1,300; 0.5%).

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 88,900 (2.3%) jobs. Trade, Transportation & Utilities experienced the largest employment increase at 26,100 (3.1%), followed by Professional & Business Services (24,000; 3.8%), Education & Health Services (14,700; 2.4%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (9,000; 1.9%), Financial Activities (8,900; 3.8%), Government (4,100; 0.5%), and Information (3,200; 4.0%). Other Services (1,100; 0.7%) reported the only over-theyear decrease.

The Goods Producing sector grew by 11,600 (1.7%) jobs over the year. Manufacturing had the largest increase with 6,000 (1.3%), followed by Construction (5,900; 2.8%). Mining & Logging reported a loss of 300 (5.2%).

Amongst manufacturing industries, Fabricated Metal Product had the largest net over-the-year increase at 2,100. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Computer & Electronic Product, 1,100; Electrical Equipment, Applicance, & Component, 800; and Food, 200.

Furniture & Related Product had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 600 in November 2018. Other industries with decreases were: Apparel, 500; Beverage & Tobacco Product, 500; Textile Mills, 400; Chemical, 100; Printing & Related Support Activities, 100; and Wood Product, 100.

Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in November decreased 12 minutes from October's revised rate of 34.5. Average Hourly Earnings fell by \$0.22 to \$25.04, as Average Weekly Earnings decreased by \$12.60 to \$858.87.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in November decreased 12 minutes from the revised rate of 34.5 in November 2017. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.84 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$23.97.

Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains November 2017–November 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Selected Service Industries With Job Gains November 2017–November 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)





