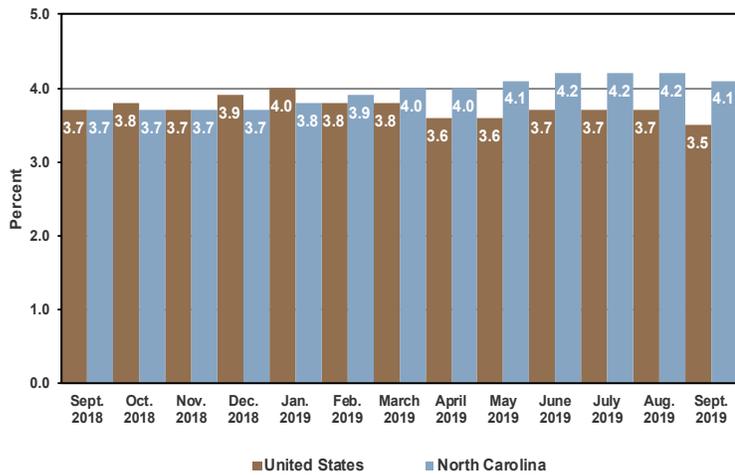


United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates September 2018–September 2019 (Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted**)



**US data are not smoothed.

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in September, decreasing 0.1 of a percentage point from the previous month and increasing 0.4 of a percentage point from September 2018. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 3,817 (1.8%). The civilian labor force grew by 8,033 (0.2%) to 5,119,950.

Nationally, September's unemployment rate was 3.5 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 5,769,000, while the civilian labor force was 164,039,000.

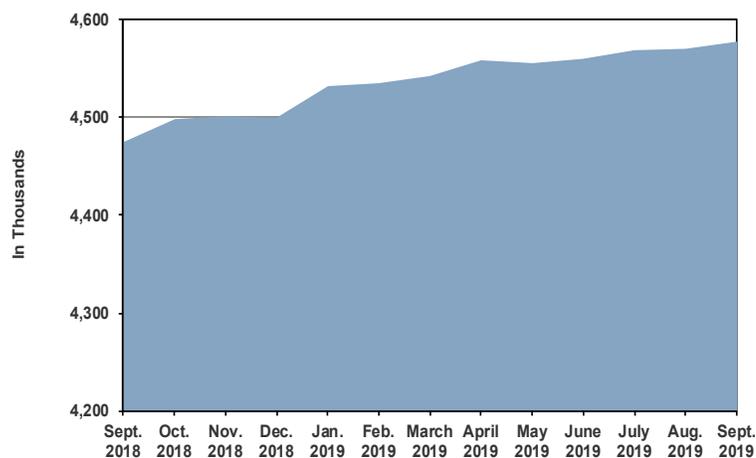
Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,578,000) increased 8,000 (0.2%) since August 2019 and increased 102,700 (2.3%) since September 2018.¹ Private sector employment grew 8,200 (0.2%) over the month and increased 99,900 (2.7%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Trade, Transportation & Utilities (3,900; 0.5%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (3,800; 0.7%), Professional & Business Services (2,100; 0.3%), Education & Health Services (1,700; 0.3%), Other Services (900; 0.6%), Financial Activities (400; 0.2%), and Information (300; 0.4%). Manufacturing (4,200; 0.9%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Construction (700; 0.3%), and Government (200; >-0.1%). Mining & Logging remained unchanged over the month.

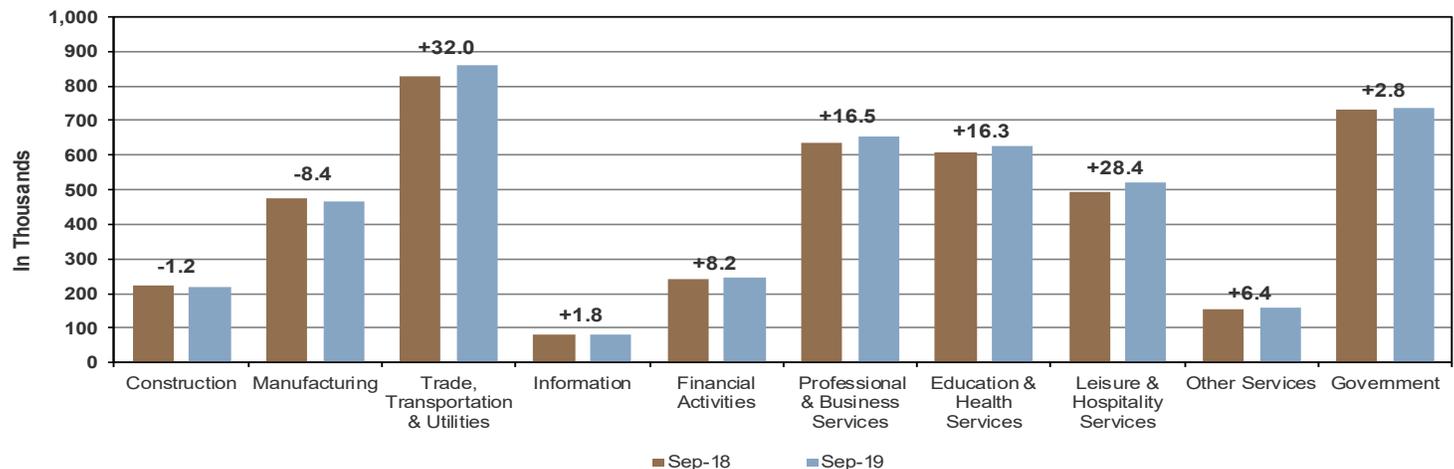
Since September 2018, Trade, Transportation & Utilities added the largest number of jobs (32,000; 3.9%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (28,400; 5.8%), Professional & Business Services (16,500; 2.6%), Education & Health Services (16,300; 2.7%), Financial Activities (8,200; 3.4%), Other Services (6,400; 4.2%), Government (2,800; 0.4%), and Information (1,800; 2.3%). Manufacturing (8,400; 1.8%) reported the largest decrease, followed by Construction (1,200; 0.5%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%).

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 may 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.

North Carolina Total Nonfarm Employment September 2018–September 2019 (Seasonally Adjusted)



Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries September 2018 Compared to September 2019 (Seasonally Adjusted)



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

North Carolina Labor Market Conditions

The September 2019 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,582,600 was 9,200 (0.2%) higher than the August 2019 revised employment level of 4,573,400. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Government had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 35,000 (5.0%) followed by Education & Health Services (6,100; 1.0%). Leisure & Hospitality Services (18,800; 3.5%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Manufacturing (3,800; 0.8%), Financial Activities (2,400; 1.0%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (2,000; 0.2%), Professional & Business Services (2,000; 0.3%), Other Services (1,200; 0.8%), Construction (1,200; 0.5%) and Information (500; 0.6%). Mining & Logging reported no change over the month.

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 108,400 (2.9%) jobs. Trade, Transportation & Utilities experienced the largest employment increase at 29,800 (3.6%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (26,700; 5.4%), Education & Health Services (17,100; 2.8%), Professional & Business Services (15,300; 2.4%), Financial Activities (8,500; 3.5%), Other Services (5,700; 3.7%), Government (3,300; 0.5%), and Information (2,000; 2.5%).

The Goods Producing sector fell by 9,100 (1.3%) jobs over the year. Manufacturing had the largest decrease with 7,300 (1.5%), followed by Construction (1,800; 0.8%). Mining & Logging reported no change.

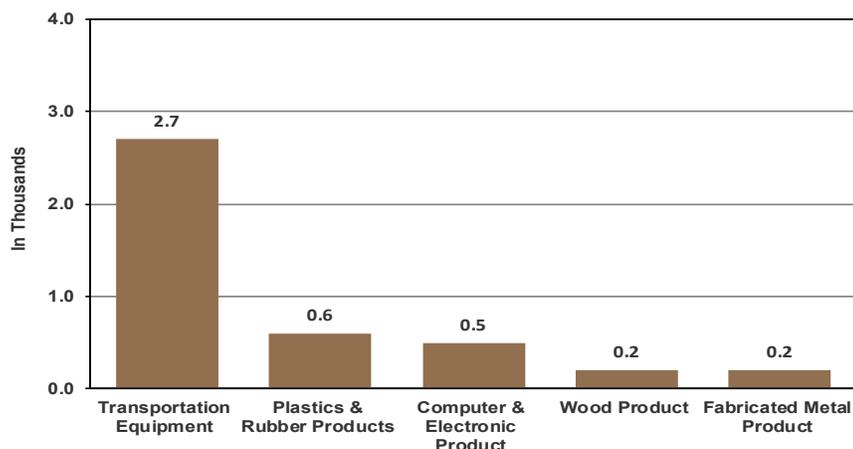
Amongst manufacturing industries, Transportation Equipment had the largest net over-the-year increase at 2,700. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Plastics & Rubber Products, 600; Computer & Electronic Product, 500; Wood Product, 200; Fabricated Metal Product, 200; Machinery, 200; and Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component, 200.

Food had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 3,000 in September 2019. Other industries with decreases were: Textile Mills, 1,400; Furniture & Related Product, 600; Apparel, 500; Printing & Related Support Activities, 400; Chemical, 300; Textile Product Mills, 200; and Beverage & Tobacco Product, 100.

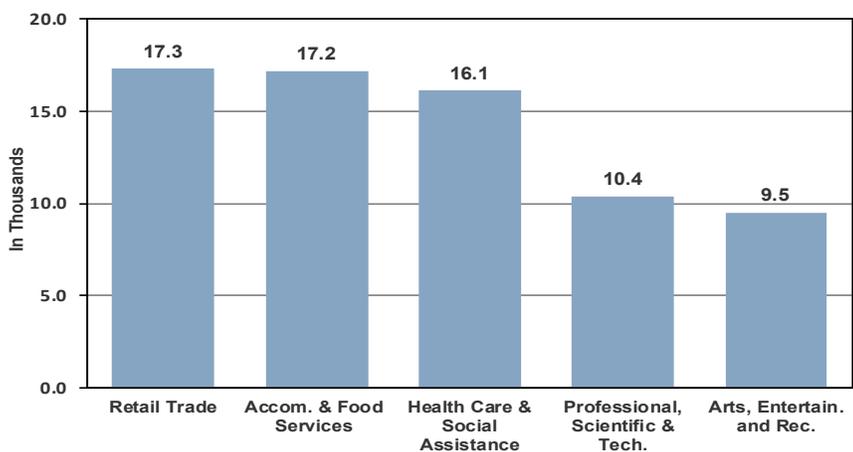
Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in September increased 12 minutes from August's revised rate of 34.3. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.14 to \$25.59, as Average Weekly Earnings increased by \$9.92 to \$882.86.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in September increased 30 minutes from the revised rate of 34.0 in September 2018. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.06 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$14.84.

Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains
September 2018–September 2019
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Selected Service Industries With Job Gains
September 2018–September 2019
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Total Private Average Weekly Wage
September 2016–September 2019
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

